



Holiday Gift Guide
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The Lakeville Journal

Small Business Spotlight, Page A8

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



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Housatonic FFA members unload the delivery of Christmas trees from Burton, Vermont, at Housatonic Valley Regional High School Nov. 20.

We gather together

A homeless family's story

By Jennifer Almquist

Here in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut, where the first frost comes early, and black bears hibernate, the woods are inhabited by hundreds of people sleeping rough.

There has been a 14% rise in homelessness in Connecticut since 2022. There are now 482 "people in need of homeless response systems", according to Connecticut Coordinated Access Network (CAN), many of them senior citizens.

Cristina and Ricardo Garcia asked a simple question, "Why is there no place in the world for us?"

The Garcias, with their 22-year-old daughter Kayla, are a family who spend each night sleeping in a tent city in Waterbury. They take a bus in the morning to the Gathering Place in Torrington for warmth and showers, then eat their meals together at the Community Soup Kitchen in town. Their fierce desire to stay together as a family has its genesis in years of suffering, deprivation, substance abuse, pris-



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Cristina and Kayla Garcia shared their story with The Lakeville Journal Nov. 19.

on, and escape.

Family is all that matters to them. It is all they have.

"My daughter is shy, so speak quietly to her," Cristina whispered, explaining further that Kayla and

her sister Jessica, who is 18, are on the autism spectrum. Cristina and her girls escaped years ago from her abusive husband. Her girls were then taken from her when they were 12 and 14. Cristina, who has been clean for two years, suffered from substance use disorder. It has been six years since Cristina has seen Jessica.

Her daughter Kayla, her long braids tucked under a watch cap, was wearing headphones to mask out loud shouts of men heatedly discussing the mistreatment of criminals. Kayla's expressive brown eyes gave away her discomfort. The homeless resource center was packed with women and men in from the November cold; some on cellphones, some waiting with their towels for a warm shower, others quietly sipping hot coffee.

The Gathering Place in Torrington is a daytime drop-in center for the 482 homeless neighbors who live in Litchfield County,

See HOMELESSNESS, Page A10

Holiday cheer spruces up with arrival of trees at Housatonic FFA

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic FFA chapter took delivery of 825 Christmas trees Wednesday morning, Nov. 20 at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

The trees were supplied by Richard Lebreque of Burton, Vermont.

Lebreque also donated a mechanical tree-netting device he fashioned some years ago from, among other things, a rototiller transmission.

Students hustled to unload and

arrange the trees. The process was smooth and quick.

Burton said he's been delivering trees to the Housatonic FFA for 18 or 20 years (he wasn't quite sure).

The initial orders were for 150 to 200 trees, he added.

The Housatonic FFA invites the community to wreath production nights on Wednesday, Dec. 4, and Thursday, Dec. 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

The FFA store opens Saturday, Nov. 30, and will stay open through Friday, Dec. 20.

HVRHS students shown the danger of invasives – and how to fight them

By Alec Linden

SHARON — A group of students from Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) were given a tour of the Northwest Corner's past and future forests at the Sharon Land Trust's (SLT) Hamlin Preserve on a chilly November afternoon.

Noted North Canaan environmentalist and photographer Tom Zetterstrom, who recently earned an award for his advocacy, led the group around the property with the intention of demonstrating a living case study in invasive plant management. This was no casual visit — the students were there to prepare for a multi-national environmental education competition



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

Tom Zetterstrom shows off the newly-crowned champion apple tree to the Envirothon Team.

called Envirothon.

Envirothon is an annual contest that draws teams from schools and youth organizations across the U.S. and Canada to demonstrate their capacity in addressing environmental issues. The assembled group of aspiring environmentalists, forest managers and outdoor stewards was HVRHS's team, who meet weekly to learn about the pressing issues facing today's landscapes and to equip themselves for the upcoming competition.

Team leader David Moran, who is the agriscience and technology education director at HVRHS, said he tries to get the group out in the field as much as possible. "Local experts offer informative mentor-

ship for the students which I think is the best part of the program," Moran said.

"We're in a classroom sometimes, though," he admitted.

Moran has been directing HVRHS's Envirothon program for 22 years, out of which HVRHS has represented Connecticut in the finals 10 times. "We've been to some beautiful places," he said.

The team is prepping for 2025's contest, which will be held in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, in July. In order to qualify for the finals, the team must first beat out other Connecticut teams and win the state competition.

See INVASIVES, Page A10

Coalition discusses CT farmland resilience

By Taylor Plett

HARTFORD — Farmers, advocates, and public officials peppering the political scale gathered over lunch Wednesday, Nov. 13, to discuss the future of Connecticut farming at the Working Lands Alliance (WLA) annual meeting. The perspective they seemed to

share: the conditions for farmers and farmland are critical, and they signal a need for strategies beyond traditional preservation.

"One of the things I'm focused on this year is resiliency," said U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) in a speech at the meeting. "We've had some devastating storms in Connecticut that really hurt our farms [...] and we have to be clear about the fact that the systems of support that we have today are just

not sufficient."

Murphy emphasized the mounting impacts of "climate shock" while other speakers highlighted the difficulties of farmland access, an aging farmer population, and a dearth of federal support for small and mid-sized farms.

While the litany of challenges may look unique in 2024, Connecticut farmland has faced pre-

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Regional

Durst lists 1,946 acres for sale in Pine Plains and Milan, N.Y.

By Patrick Grego
The New Pine Plains Herald

This story was originally published in The New Pine Plains Herald.

In a move that could reshape the future of Pine Plains and its surrounding communities, The Durst Organization has listed its expansive property for \$36 million. Put on the market on Oct. 14, the former Carvel estate spans 1,490 acres in Pine Plains and 456 acres in Milan, and has long been at the center of debates over land use and preservation.

"We have decided to list the property for sale as we are currently focused on our New York City portfolio, specifically the development of Halletts Point in Astoria, Queens," Alexander Durst, principal and chief development officer at The Durst Organization, told the Herald. "Another property owner may be able to realize the full potential of this remarkable property. The Durst family has a longstanding appreciation for the Hudson Valley and we will continue to be a part of the community."

The Durst Organization is one of the oldest family-run commercial and residential real estate companies in New York state. Established in 1915, its portfolio includes the New York City properties of One World Trade Center and The Bank of America Tower.

The company owns approximately 2,633 acres of land in Pine Plains, representing about 13% of the town's total acreage, according to Dutchess County tax records.

The Dursts initially purchased the 1,900-acre core of the listed property from the estate of the late ice cream magnate Thomas Carvel, in 2002 for \$7.78 million.

After the initial acquisition, The Durst Organization expanded its holdings in Pine Plains, purchasing an additional 711 acres between 2015 and 2019 for nearly \$6 million. The property is owned by two limited liability companies: 1133 Taconic LLC and Stissing Mountain Properties LLC.

In the late 1960s, Thomas Carvel launched an ambi-

tionous development known as the All-American Sports City after acquiring several parcels of farmland in Pine Plains. His vision included a golf course, clubhouse, lake and 500 homes. While the lake, golf course, clubhouse and 16 homes were built, the broader project stalled and remained incomplete at the time of Carvel's death in 1990. In the decades that followed, the property's infrastructure — including roads, water, and wastewater systems — fell into disrepair due to neglect, ultimately leaving it in a deteriorated state by the time it was sold.

While the listed property encompasses the original Carvel property, it does not include 685 additional acres in Pine Plains that remain under Durst ownership. Separately, in early October, the company listed another property, featuring a historic 19th-century farmhouse on 65 acres at 115-133 Mount Ross Road, for \$599,000.

The company touts the Carvel property as a "sanctuary offering endless possibilities," with potential uses including a family compound, corporate retreat, or winery. The listing highlights the property's views of the Catskills and Stissing Mountain, as well as its remaining structures — following the demolition of several houses and barns over the years — which include four single-family homes, a two-family residence, and an office and warehouse facility.

Over the past two decades, The Durst Organization has put forward three development proposals for the Carvel

property and its expanded holdings. While each plan was scaled back in response to public concerns, the company worked to incorporate community feedback and adjust its vision accordingly. The final plan, submitted in 2020, envisioned a 2,700-acre "eco resort" including open space, farmland, outdoor recreation areas, and 237 residential lots in Pine Plains, along with 51 lots in Milan. While the project received preliminary approval from the Pine Plains Zoning Board, it went no further.

The first proposal, in 2003 was for a 951-unit residential development centered around Lake Carvel and prompted Pine Plains to impose a moratorium on development and, eventually, to implement zoning laws for the first time.

The new zoning code, passed in October 2009, included some of the strictest regulations in Dutchess County, limiting building sizes and preventing large-scale commercial projects. The Dursts returned in 2011 with a revised plan for 591 units, in compliance with the new zoning code, but in the face of public opposition, and the stock market collapse of 2011, that proposal lay dormant for nearly seven years.

In the first half of 2018, The Durst Organization tried to revive the project, hosting two public meetings at the Pine Plains Community Center to receive feedback from residents. In June 2018, the company presented a new proposal, a "conservation subdivision," that included plans to restore the

golf course Carvel had built in the 1960s and construct 281 homes, placed in small clusters, around a central "recreation-oriented resort."

In April 2020, The Durst Organization submitted pre-sketched plans for the conservation subdivision to the Planning Board. This stage focused on determining the maximum number of residential lots permitted under Pine Plains zoning laws, with the Dursts proposing 223 lots.

By June 2020, the Planning Board had unanimously endorsed the pre-sketch plan, which designated more than 50% of the land — about 1,397 acres — as open space. The designated areas included wetlands, steep slopes and buffer zones around water bodies. This approval allowed The Durst Organization to proceed with developing a formal subdivision plan, which would undergo a full environmental review before any final decisions were made.

However, after the property was listed Monday afternoon, Oct. 14, it seems as though the back and forth has come to an end — for now.

"The Pine Plains countryside is an oasis in the Hudson Valley," Durst said. "With 1,946 acres of land in an ideal location and unmatched natural beauty, the property offers the opportunity to create something special."

As for what kind of buyer would purchase a property of this size? "It's going to range," said listing agent Larry Havens. "I don't want to set any limitations on that."

In The Journal this week

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LEGALS.....A4	CALENDAR.....B4
OBITUARIES.....A5	SPORTS.....B5
OPINION.....A6	CLASSIFIEDS.....B5-6

Online This Week

Turkey Olympics

Students at HVRHS held the annual Turkey Olympics Monday, Nov. 25, to kick off Thanksgiving week. 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.

Failure to appear

On Thursday, Nov. 14, at approximately 11 a.m., Moses Maillet, 50, of Amenia, New York, was extradited from Massachusetts for three outstanding Failure to Appear warrants issued by the Torrington Courthouse. All three warrants' bond totaled \$150,000 cash/surety.

Unsafe passing

On Thursday, Nov. 14, at approximately 11 a.m., Samip Patel, 24, of Torrington, was westbound on Route 44 in Norfolk in a 2014 Toyota Camry and slowed due to a turning ahead. William Hester, 65, of Winsted, who also was traveling westbound on Route 44 in a 2017 Nissan Frontier, attempted to pass the Toyota,

striking the vehicle in a front to rear manner. Both vehicles sustained minor damage and were able to be driven from the scene. Hester was issued a written warning for unsafe passing.

Trailer strikes vehicle

On Friday, Nov. 15, at approximately 9:30 a.m., Malik Johnson, 26, of Brooklyn, New York, was making a left turn onto Route 7 from Route 44 in North Canaan in a 2023 Freightliner truck when the trailer it was towing struck an unoccupied 2016 Chevrolet Express van on the eastbound shoulder. The owner of the Chevrolet was Kelly Carter, 56, of Canaan. There were no injuries.

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

Seeking senior volunteers in North Canaan

NORTH CANAAN — New Opportunities Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) will be at Douglas Library in North Canaan Friday, Dec. 6 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Senior volunteers (55+) are being sought who are

interested in volunteering to help children (K to 3) read at North Canaan Elementary School.

For further info, contact Karen Stevens at New Opportunities, Inc., by calling (860) 482-9749 x 617 or email kstevens@newoppinc.org.

Ski Swap and Sale returns Dec. 7

LAKEVILLE — Salisbury Winter Sports Association's annual SWSA Ski Swap and Sale returns Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Lakeville Hose Company.

As always the sale will include a huge display of new winter sports equipment and clothing including ski hats, gloves, goggles, socks, as well as downhill and cross country skis boots and bindings. Snow shoes, parkas and other winter wear will also be on display at discount prices.

Of course there will be the usual inventory of used equipment: skates from \$2 and up, skis and snowboards starting around \$50 and ski boots for \$10 and up.

Have equipment to sell? Used eligible equipment includes downhill skis, boots and poles; cross country skis, boots and poles; ice skates, hockey equipment (but no sticks), snowboards and boots and snow shoes. No clothing.

Folks can bring equipment to be sold Friday, Dec. 6, from 4 to 7 p.m. No equipment will be accepted on Saturday. The sale on Saturday will run from 8 to 11 a.m. From 11 a.m. to noon residents can pick up their money or unsold equipment, and any money you make selling your equipment, you keep — SWSA doesn't take a commission.

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

Check them out inside.

- LJMN Media
- Ocean State Job Lot

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Our Towns

Edmundson becomes Hotchkiss Library board president

By Alec Linden

SHARON — The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon's new board president Lorna Edmundson, who assumed the role in September 2024, has charted a course toward progressing the historic institution's reach as it continues to defy the odds of a small town library.

"The big news is that we are bucking the trends," Edmundson said in a recent interview. "Fewer people are using their libraries," she lamented, noting that even though services are free, library usage is down across the country.

In the case of the Hotchkiss Library, though, "everything is up." She said the library has more patrons and more than 200 new library card holders — numbers that have spiked since the completion of the recent renovation.

"We have 184 programs going for adults — I mean, that's an awful lot for a small institution." She added that the library is also hosting 142 children's programs, and that town committees, nonprofits, and other groups are hosting their meetings in the renovated building's new rooms.

The numbers are up, but Edmundson noted that the approximately 1000 active library cards don't cover all the households in town. "We still have a ways to go if we really want to engage everyone," she said.

Accessing the whole community is at the top of Edmundson's priority list as she assumes her new role. She sees the library as a community hub that provides services for the region far beyond loaning books.

"We're responding to

what people are asking for, and they're not asking only for books," she said. She upheld that the library is a resource for healthcare information, a site for residents who don't have internet access to get connected, or a venue for yoga classes and cookbook talks, among other community programming. She also mentioned that the library is now fully accessible to the elderly and disabled — a much needed update to the building's Victorian design.

"It's really meant to pull people together, to educate, and to inform," she said.

After 45 years working in education, both as a university faculty member and as president of three women's colleges, Edmundson sees her new appointment as an appropriate and exciting continuation of her life's work.

"I've always been really committed to educating people and seeing the remarkable things that happen when people have the opportunity to come into touch with new information and ideas," she said.

"The library's mission is so much like that of a college — it's to educate the public," she added.

She comes into the president role after serving six years on the board, during which she chaired the capital campaign to raise money for the building's renovation. Under her leadership, the campaign more than doubled the minimum funding they set out to raise, all of which was necessary to finance the restoration, renovation, and expansion of the library and achieve their vision of being "a true community hub, not just for Sharon, but for the region."



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Pine time

A dozen people came to the Center on Main in Falls Village Thursday night, Nov. 21, to make holiday centerpieces. Audra Leach explained the basics and had the materials ready to go, including white cedar, phragmites, sunflowers, hydrangea, chrysanthemums, rose hips, and hypericum. The event was a fundraiser for the Lee H. Kellogg eighth grade class trip. Left, Andrea Downs got to work on her centerpiece after Leach's briefing on materials and placement.

Falls Village Board of Selectmen awaits proposals for 107 Main St.

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — At the Board of Selectmen's meeting Tuesday, Nov. 12, First Selectman Dave Barger reported there have been

several inquiries about taking over the commercial space at 107 Main St., formerly the Falls Village Cafe. Selectman Judy Jacobs is waiting for proposals. Barger said once a proposal is

decided on the matter will move to a public hearing.

The selectmen appointed Patrick Hafner to the Solar Committee, effective immediately.

The selectmen voted unanimously to request a proposal from Allied Engineering Associates of North Canaan for a salt shed and a grease separator.

The selectmen voted unanimously to have the First Selectman speak with a local electrician to discuss the possibilities of adding proper lighting to the driveway at 107 Main St.

And the selectmen voted unanimously to rehire Emily Peterson as the Recreation Director for a one-year term beginning Dec. 1.

Cornwall achieves top voter turnout rate in state

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — Approximately 90% of Cornwall's electorate turned out in the most recent cycle to cast their votes.

The voting rate was the highest in Connecticut in the 2024 election, announced First Selectman Gordon Ridgway at a meeting of the Board of Selectmen Nov. 19.

"I do believe we get a trophy for that," said Ridgway.

He noted the turnout was "almost identical" to the town's voting rate in the 2016

and 2020 presidential elections, each a hair above 90%.

Ridgway reported a nearly even split between early voters and Election Day voters.

"I think a lot of people did appreciate the early voting."

Per state law, 5% of all voting precincts must have machine totals audited following any election. This year, Cornwall was chosen to be audited.

On Saturday, Nov. 23, the ballots from the audited precincts were matched against the vote totals from the machines. No errors were found.

Sharon Hospital given 'A' safety grade

SHARON — Hospital safety grader Leapfrog Group has granted Sharon Hospital an "A" safety grade.

The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization focused on advancing quality care in American healthcare.

The grade is a reflection

of hospital safety, taking into account infection prevention and harm reduction strategies.

Sharon Hospital has won a number of awards over the past year including a five-star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for the fifth consecutive year.

Canaan food drive collecting donations through December

CANAAN — A food drive will be accepting donations until the end of the year.

The Canaan Child Care Center, Salisbury Rotary Club, NBT Bank in Canaan, Lakeville and Salisbury and Litchfield Bancorp in Lakeville are collaborating on the food drive to provide much needed household essentials to families in our communi-

ties through the months of November and December.

Drop off locations include the organizations above and Stop & Shop in Canaan. Monetary donations can be sent to the Salisbury Rotary Club Foundation at P.O. Box 287, Salisbury, CT 06068. Please contact Fran Chapell at (860) 824-0597 for more information.

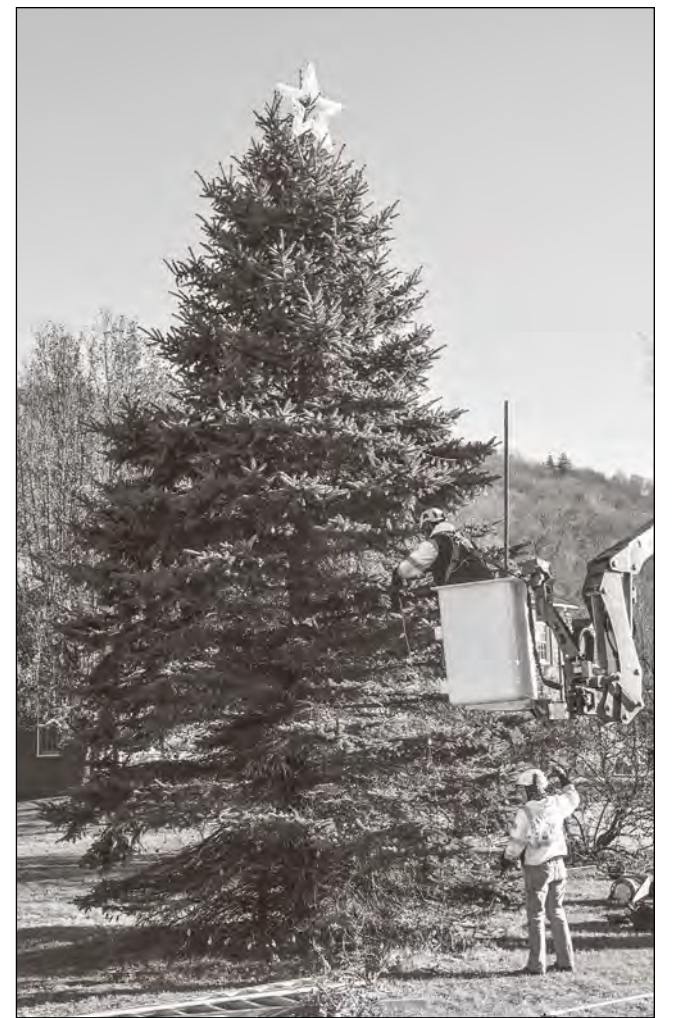


PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Kent's Christmas tree

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on November 18, 2024:

Approved with Conditions - Site Plan Application #2024-0264 by Great Falls Construction, for a single-family residential construction and associated site development in the Lake Protection Overlay District on lot 280 and a driveway passing through lot 300 in

accordance with section 404 of the regulations. The properties are shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 67 as Lot 07 and 07-2 and is located at 280 and 300 Between the Lakes Road. The owner of the properties is 280 BTLR LLC.

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

Town of Salisbury
Planning &
Zoning Commission
Martin Whalen, Secretary
11-28-24 656637

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Our Towns

West Cornwall sewer project testing, surveying resumes

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — Ground testing and surveying around the site of the proposed wastewater treatment center in West Cornwall resumed in November.

WMC Engineers, a consulting firm working with the town on the project, began boring the areas where sewer lines could be located this month. The plans were discussed at a meeting of the Wastewater Management Project in West Cornwall Village Construction Committee Nov. 12.

The proposed site of the treatment plant is in the rear of the plot between the post office and the design studio on Route 128 in West Cornwall.

WMC bored the property in 2023 and found the land feasible for the project. The private landowner has verbally agreed to allow the town to build the treatment plant on the property, likely through an easement and long-term lease.

WMC Engineer Steve McDonnell said the 2024



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Members of the Wastewater Management Project in West Cornwall Village Construction Committee identified the lot between the post office and the design studio as a feasible location for the treatment plant more than two years ago.

surveyors are looking for bedrock beneath roads in the service area and will only be drilling about six feet deep.

“The sewers are very shallow,” said McDonnell, noting the proposed low-pressure system allows for “small diameter” piping.

The WMC crew is using a truck-mounted drilling rig

“on the state route (128) and also a couple of the side roads in the service area,” said McDonnell.

WMC’s survey is expected to be completed by December and will gauge the total amount of ground material that needs to be removed for the project. Once determined, design of the

treatment plant and piping network can begin.

McDonnell estimated the designs will be finalized by spring 2025. The permitting process that follows will take an additional six to nine months before construction can begin. “I’m excited to get this thing moving ahead,” said McDonnell.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Salisbury Selectman Kitty Kiefer at Scoville Memorial Library Nov. 20.

Discovering the history of Salisbury’s houses

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Curious about your house? Want to know about its history?

Salisbury’s Kitty Kiefer gave a group an introductory lesson in researching deeds and titles at the Scoville Memorial Library Wednesday morning, Nov. 20.

Kiefer, a selectman and retired attorney, began with a universal truth about searching records:

“You never know what you’re going to find.”

“You want to nail down the title” when buying real estate to prevent unwelcome legal complications later.

“Always do a title search,” she added. Why?

“Because it’s rarely clear.”

In addition to attorneys and realtors, buyers may find themselves employing title search specialists and surveyors, depending on how muddled the land records are.

With the Salisbury town website on the big screen, Kiefer showed how a search of her last name brought up two pages worth of entries, many in the name of her late father George Kiefer.

Which would seem simple enough, except through the years, George Kiefer was entered into the records with

a middle initial, or no middle initial, or in some other variation.

A buyer might need a surveyor to get firm boundaries on a piece of property, especially if the old records define the boundaries using landmarks that no longer exist.

“You’ll get ‘from the stone wall to the chestnut tree to the middle of the stream,’ said Kiefer. “Walls crumble, trees fall down, and streams change course.”

Adding to the fun, real estate records are organized by town in Connecticut.

This is also not as straightforward as it might seem.

For example, the difference between the Town of North Canaan (aka Canaan) and the Town of Canaan (aka Falls Village) can cause difficulties when researching real estate.

Researchers will likely become familiar with probate records — wills in particular.

It takes perseverance and practice to navigate between the town clerk, the assessor, the tax collector and the probate court.

“They all impact your real estate,” Kiefer said.

After a half hour overview, Kiefer took the group over to Town Hall to see how it’s done in person.

Salisbury selectmen approve list of town government appointments

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The following appointments were approved at the Nov. 4 meeting of the Salisbury Board of Selectmen.

Town Clerk (one year term)
Kristine Simmons

Animal Control Officer
Lee Sohl
Jim Sohl, Asst.

Conservation Commission (four year term)
Tom Blagden
Susan Rand

Director of Health (one-year term)
Torrington Area Health District

Economic Development Committee (one year term)
Robert Schaufelberger

Grove Advisory Committee (one year term)
Maggie Crain
Anne Day
George DelPrete
Megan Foley
Anthy Hellmers
Elyse Harney Morris
Kristen Neary-Marks
Jacqueline Rice
Rhonda Rinninsland
Charles Brown, Chairman

Historic District Commission (five year term)
Arek Feredjian, Alternate

Historic District Commission Advisory Board (one year term)
Candace Cuniberti
Elyse Harney

Northwest Council of Governments (one year term)
Curtis G. Rand
Christian E. Williams
Katherine Kiefer

Pathways Committee (three year term)
Pat Hackett
Jerry Stanton

Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission (three year term)
Jim Dresser
Lee Sullivan

Salisbury Sharon Resource Recovery Authority (one year term)
Ed Reagan, Alternate

Salisbury Fire Commission (one year term)
John Mongeau, Chairman
Cynthia Hoage, Treasurer
Donald Reid, Jr., Commissioner
Rick Roger, Commissioner
James Wood, Commissioner
Lawrence Hoage, Maintenance Supervisor

Scenic Roads Committee (one year term)
Kay Key
Margaret Vail
Christian Williams

Transfer Recycling Advisory Committee (four year term)
Ed Reagan

Tree Warden (two year term)
Mat Kiefer

Water Gate Keeper (one year term)
Rodney Webb
Fred Schmidt

Water Pollution Control Authority (five-year term)
Emily Egan

Wildlife Management Officer (two year term)
Rodney Webb

Correcting Errors

We are happy to correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We are also happy to correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning.

Kent Dispatch propels into future with rebrand, launches sustainability campaign

Kent News, Inc., the non-profit publisher of Kent’s trusted independent news source, has reached a milestone transition.

The publication formerly known as The Kent Good Times Dispatch will now operate as The Kent Dispatch, marking a new era in its commitment to the Kent community.

The streamlined name reflects the organization’s growth as an organization and reinforces its dedication to delivering reliable, in-depth news coverage to Kent’s residents.

“Our rebranding is more than just shortening the name,” said Andrea Schoeny, president of Kent News, Inc.

“It’s a reflection of our mission to grow with our readership and deliver impactful stories that keep Kent informed and engaged.”

The Kent Dispatch launched digitally Oct. 12, 2023, with its name paying homage to the town’s original Kent Good Times Dispatch newspaper, which was a staple in the community from 1952 to 2009.

Born during the COVID-19 pandemic in response to an expressed need for community-centered news, The Kent Dispatch has quickly established itself as a modern, vital news source for Kent and the surrounding areas.

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REGIONAL

Bard College at Simon's Rock closes

By Heather Bellow
The Berkshire Eagle

GREAT BARRINGTON — An online petition by a student trying to save the livelihoods of Bard College at Simon's Rock faculty has gained 912 signatures since it was first released on Tuesday, Nov. 19.

And another student is working on a campaign to establish a fund that employees of the school who lose jobs and health insurance can draw from.

After the Nov. 19 announcement that the school would close its early college at the end of spring semester, employees and students have been grappling with the news, attending frequent meetings and trying to help those whose jobs are likely on the chopping block.

There is much sorrow, anger and frustration in the atmosphere, students said.

"It's been really, really sad," said Isabella Zeisset, 18, a sophomore, who started the Change.org petition asking Bard to renew faculty contracts. "The students are really worried about the faculty."

Numerous faculty contacted by The Eagle said it is too early to talk about what's happening.

And, the students said, it is also too painful. Many longtime faculty and staff at the school are facing layoffs as the school moves its entire operation to Bard's new Massena Campus at Annandale-On-Hudson, N.Y.

It's a move that Bard has been mulling for several years.

Bard said in its announcement and on its website that faculty positions will not be transferred from Simon's Rock, and that they have to apply anew for any available teaching slots.

A spokesperson for Bard has not answered specific questions the number of positions at the New York campus, about 40 miles southwest of Great Barrington.

Rumors are flying through campus about these numbers, students and other sources told The Eagle. The Bard website showed roughly 50 job openings as



COURTESY OF THE BERKSHIRE EAGLE

The closure of Bard's campus at Simon's Rock has left faculty facing an uncertain future.

of Thursday evening.

A Simon's Rock spokesperson said the school currently has 238 employees. It was unclear exactly how many staff and faculty may lose their jobs.

Those who do get rehired at Bard could lose seniority in terms of benefits. It will be up to the discretion of Bard, the website says.

For these reasons and more the announcement on Tuesday rattled the entire campus and town, given Simon's Rock's immense economic and cultural significance in town since the 1960s.

School officials cited declining enrollment as a primary reason.

Students who continue on will transfer to the new Bard campus in the fall to finish their studies. Summer housing will be available "on a limited basis and prioritized for students with the greatest need," the school website says.

The school is one of Great Barrington's largest employers. And over the decades its students have worked and shopped at businesses in town. Many returned to the town later to raise families and open businesses.

"It's a huge deal," said Erik Bruun, who owns SoCo Creamery downtown and

has employed Simon's Rock Students. "And once you start pulling back the layers of the impacts, [the closing] really almost affects every element of the community. It's a great loss."

"The school made a big difference," Bruun said, "in a lot of people's lives."

But Bruun, who wrote about the school in the 1980s when he worked as an Eagle reporter, remembers that the school has long struggled with money.

"It was sort of touch and go in the 80s," Bruun said. And apparently also for the last "several years," according to the school's website.

The school's board of overseers and college administration "have been working to find a solution for a path forward for Simon's Rock... after it became clear that the current state of enrollment and fundraising was not sustainable"

The school, as a nonprofit, did not pay property taxes and has not made any payments in lieu of taxes, according to the town.

Another big question is what will happen to the campus. It will be sold, but the question is to whom and for what. Great Barrington residents have floated a variety of ideas, such as affordable housing and even as the new location for a Monument Mountain Regional High School, which could cost around \$140 million to rebuild.

In response to questions, Bard spokeswoman Liz Benjamin said that there are no offers currently on the table to buy the campus or any part of it.

The Kilpatrick Athletic Center will carry on with its regular programming through the end of summer. "More information will be shared as it becomes available," she said.

The Daniel Arts Center, Benjamin added, "will honor all performances and rental agreements through the end of 2025 summer season."

There are various other

campus programs, including a farming program, whose fate is uncertain.

Bard has not responded to the student petition. Benjamin said that school officials are aware of it, and that "this situation is developing, but faculty and staff will have the opportunity to apply for positions at the new campus."

Some petition supporters expressed their concerns and anger in comments.

"Shameful," wrote one. "The school knew full well and hid this from us when our daughter started a few months ago. At the least they should offer the teachers the new jobs and allow all students to enter Bard full time ASAP."

"The faculty at the Rock," wrote another, "are the school's heart and soul. I was there twenty years ago and can attest to the lifelong impact of the incredible professors I had back then."

The petition's author, Zeisset, said she has "deep connection" to the school. Her parents met at Simon's Rock when they were students. She will continue to Bard next fall, but worries about the employees and faculty here. She hopes the petition will help pressure Bard to hire them.

"A lot have dedicated half their lives to Simon's Rock," Zeisset said. "Just the idea of leaving their life's work behind has been really difficult."

Salem Lockney, a junior, said she's working on the fundraising aspect of this for the employees. A professor is helping her figure out the "ethics" conundrum of who would be able to draw money from a fund and how much.

"I'm not sure what that looks like yet," said Lockney, 18, who also attended the pre-college Simon's Rock Academy. "I have so much anger about the whole thing and I wanted to do something about it."

"The staff and faculty," Lockney said, "have really changed my life."

OBITUARIES

Catherine Jazzo

BANTAM — Catherine Jazzo, 77, of Bantam, CT, passed away Nov. 18, 2024, at Charlotte Hungerford Hospital surrounded by her family.

Catherine was born Jan. 6, 1947, in Yonkers, New York, to the late Joseph and Edythe (Parry) Jazzo.

She was a volunteer EMT and firefighter for the Kent Volunteer Fire Department. She later pursued a career as a paramedic. In 1999 she relocated to Las Vegas, Nevada, where she was employed as a security guard until her retirement in 2013.

She is survived by her son Christopher (June) Shine, daughters Sharon (Mark) Shine and Michelle (James) O'Sullivan, her three grand-

children, Andrew (Fara) Shine, James and Andrea O'Sullivan and a bonus grandson Liam Sweeney and siblings Joseph and Alice, many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister Barbara Leslie.

A memorial service will be held at Saint Andrews Parish in Kent, on Dec. 7, at 10:30 am with a reception to follow at the Fire and Drum Inn, Kent, CT.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Kent Community Fund at PO Box 262, Kent, CT 06757 or the Oliver Wolcott Library at PO Box 187, Litchfield, CT 06759.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.



Worship Services

Week of December 1, 2024

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

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www.christchurchsharon.org

St. John's Episcopal Church
12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT
SUNDAY SERVICE
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In-Person and on YouTube
www.stjohnssalisbury.org
860-435-9290

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Rabbi Jon Haddon
845-373-8264
info@congbethdavid.org

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

The Sharon United Methodist Church
112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green
Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care
No Sunday School in Summer
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-364-5634
sharonumc5634@att.net

Falls Village Congregational Church
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How The Weekly Portion Relates to ME!
Thursday 11:30 AM - Women's Tea & Torah
Saturday 9:30 AM - Shabbat Services
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Smiles on Seniors | CTeen | YJP

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Millerton, NY 12546
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of each month at 5:00 P.M.
518-789-3138

Voters reject Millbrook Central School funds

By Leila Hawken
The Millerton News

AMENIA — Residents voted to reject Capital Project plans for repairs and upgrades throughout the Central School District's buildings at a special referendum vote held on Tuesday, Nov. 19.

Plans developed over the past three years by local officials in conjunction with BBS Architects of Patchogue, New York, were described in public forums, mailings, and available for viewing on the district's website. Three separate but contingent propositions were developed, designed to be a clear and effective description of the district's need for repair and code compliance while upgrading for the future.

"The results of our recent Capital Project vote are truly disappointing," said district superintendent Caroline Hernandez Pidala, commenting on the referendum on Thursday, Nov. 21.

Proposition 1, with a vote count of 242 Yes and 287 No,

came the closest to success, addressing repairs to Elm Drive School and the Middle School. All three propositions involved improvements to the heating and ventilation systems throughout the district with the Middle School to gain roof and window replacement.

The margin for Proposition 2 (Alden Place School repair) was greater with 222 voting Yes and 308 voting No. Similarly Proposition 3 (High School repair) was defeated by a margin of 219 voting Yes and 310 voting No.

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EDITORIAL
Thanksgiving

'On that best portion of a good man's life, his little, nameless, unremembered acts of kindness and love.'

—William Wordsworth

As autumn comes to a close and the holiday season rushes in with all its annual appeal, people in our communities begin to exhibit a communal spirit that shows off the best in all of us. Thanksgiving marks the start of this time of reflection. There are parades on our Main Streets, bringing neighbors together to stand in the cold and wave at passing fire trucks and floats. Family get-togethers that often include friends and those alone during the holiday become celebrations of much more than roast turkey and pumpkin pie. The holiday unites us as families, neighbors and as members of a community.

We take the time to embrace those close to us as well as reach out to those in need.

Last week's Page One article about Beverly Becker in North Canaan, who has been the driving force behind 17 years of Thanksgiving community dinners in the Northwest Corner, provided a heartwarming example of 'kindness and love.' With help from many churches and volunteers, Beverly's dedicated team will again serve up a free Thanksgiving Day dinner at Pilgrim House in North Canaan. She said she got the idea for community dinners when she "heard a priest read a passage about giving to people you don't know and expecting nothing in return."

In this week's edition, on Page One, we tell the story of a homeless family of four that is living in a tent in the woods, huddled up during our cold nights under blankets, jackets and sleeping bags. For the Garcia family, the Gathering Place in Torrington, a drop-in center for homeless, is a place to get warm and wash clothes. The family gets meals at the Community Soup Kitchen in Torrington. It should not be overlooked that homelessness in Connecticut has risen by 14% in the last two years.

In 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving to be a national holiday — to encourage people to unite in gratitude — the nation was engaged in the Civil War. Lincoln wished to "heal the wounds of the nation, and to restore it...to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility, and union."

As we come together this Thanksgiving, let us be grateful for all that we have, and that includes living in community that can come together and care about everyone, one that shares its bounty with the less fortunate and the lonely and unites us all in gratitude.

We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

With gratitude

We are grateful, too, to our many readers, advertisers, supporters and donors. Without you, we would not be able to continue our mission of helping members of our communities make more informed and inspired decisions through our comprehensive news and arts coverage. Enclosed in this week's edition is a pre-addressed envelope and appeal letter. With your continued support, we will be able to serve our communities for years to come. Please give generously.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Time to speak up to Congress to save lives

Excellent pointers for civil discourse, needed now more than ever. ('Civil discourse needed more than ever' by Marshall Collins, The Lakeville Journal, Nov. 13, 2024). It works well when we speak to our members of Congress, guiding them to critical legislation after we elect them. Currently they are working on passing 'The End TB Now Act in the House,' that could save millions of lives. Already passed by the Senate, this bill directs USAID to focus on the areas where this number one infectious disease is causing

the most harm. By dealing with tuberculosis globally we are protecting us locally. TB still shows up in America like the recent case in an Atlanta high school, where 300 staff and students needed to be tested after one positive case. So why not pick up the phone and call 202-224-3121, ask your representative to push for passage of this life-saving legislation, when we talk to those who represent us, they listen.

Willie Dickerson
Snohomish, WA

Thanks for All Saints clothing drive success

On behalf of the members of All Saints of America Orthodox Church, I wish to sincerely thank our local community for helping to make our recent clothing giveaway such a success. We received approximately 1200 items of donated clothes! On the day of the giveaway 99 people came to the church to find wonderful warm coats,

jackets, hats, scarves, blankets and much more. All left over items were brought to shelters in Winsted and Torrington. Thanks again to all who contributed. We feel so blessed to belong to such a caring community.

Hope Mongeau
Church council member
Salisbury



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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Need to investigate Wake Robin plan

Where is the leadership in Salisbury when projects that appear to be based on undisclosed economics are allowed to sail through the planning and zoning? For those wondering why there are "save Lakeville" lawn signs sprouting like weeds, imagine the weekly traffic and noise from a Lime Rock track level event held on the grounds of the Wake Robin Inn behind St. Mary's church. It isn't a fair comparison because traffic comes and goes during the whole day at Lime Rock

but imagine 500 wedding celebrants and 100 servers converging all at once on a 13-acre site in the middle of a residential neighborhood and you get a good idea of what the impact will be.

The backers of the plan have proposed building a 10,000 ft sq. event space which is sufficient for 500 guests, a dance area, band and bar. Given the current cost of construction, the only way to convince investors to pay for this is to guarantee you are going to fill the venue and fill it repeatedly. In

fact, the cost of this project, not disclosed but I believe it will be substantial, and the 100 employees it projects it will need makes no financial sense unless the backers already have the employees to run it and the celebrants to fill it.

Any rational investor would look at this project and ask how it would compete with The Interlaken and The White Hart? They would ask where the 100 employees are going to come from? The only answer to this from an investor's per-

spective is that the developer already has a hook into large celebrant groups and captive employees. Someone in leadership in this town needs to investigate what's really going on with the Wake Robin project. They need to recognize it makes no financial sense, is far too large to fit into our sewer system and avoid huge negative impacts to the residential neighborhood with traffic, noise and light.

Theodore Rudd O'Neill
Lakeville

How can robots reduce our carbon footprint?

Dear EarthTalk: Is it true that using robots can help us reduce our carbon footprint? This sounds great but what are the tradeoffs of increased utilization of robots?
-- Robert Pardue, Reno, NV

EARTHTALK
RODDY SCHEER
AND DOUG MOSS

settings, where they improve efficiency and help cut down carbon emissions. A 2022 study found that the use of robots in manufacturing has enhanced carbon emission reduction efforts across 35 countries. By automating repetitive tasks, robots can help reduce errors and improve the overall energy efficiency of production processes.

However, the environmental benefits of robots come with significant tradeoffs. Most robots rely on batteries made from lithium and cobalt, which are not evenly distributed around the world. Mining these materials is resource-intensive and often leads to environmental degradation. The extraction process consumes large amounts of energy, releases air pollutants and can contaminate local water supplies.

Once in use, robots—like any other technology—are subject to wear and tear. When they break or become outdated, they add to the growing problem of electronic waste. The faster pace of production enabled by robots also fuels consumer demand, further increasing waste. And these impacts often hit poorer nations hardest, as they are disproportionately affected by pollution and resource

depletion.

Long term, as robot designs improve and new technologies are developed, some of these challenges may be mitigated. Companies like AI for Good, Echo Tech Daily and Redwood Materials are developing more sustainable robots. But for now, it's important to weigh the benefits

and tradeoffs carefully. While robots hold great promise for helping us reduce our carbon footprint, they are far from a perfect solution.

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Another letter appears on Page A7.

Viewpoint

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

**100 years ago —
November 1924**

Joseph Stanton has purchased a new Hudson coach of O'Loughlin Bros.

SALISBURY — Mrs. Joseph Rix, who formerly lived on Hamlet Hill Farm, died at her home in East Canaan on Nov. 17th and the funeral took place at the home in East Canaan on Nov. 19th. Mrs. Rix was the sister of the late Samuel Miner of this place. Her husband, one son, Philip Rix, and a daughter, Mrs. Lucretia Rix Dibble, survive, who have the sympathy of many friends here.

LIME ROCK — A Christmas Sale of fancy work of all kinds, and also cakes will be held at the home of Mrs. George R. Belcher Jr. (near the barber shop) on Friday afternoon, Dec. 5, from 2 to 5.

SALISBURY — Miss Edna Conary, teacher in our public school, went to Sharon Hospital last Sunday suffering with a troublesome appendix.

The remains of Mrs. Delia Munison Paine of Buchanan, Va., were brought to Miller-ton for interment on Nov. 15th. Owing to the late arrival of the train the committal services at the cemetery took place after dark, the light being furnished by properly placed auto headlights. Mrs. Paine was the widow of the late Platte N. Paine, at one time one of Miller-ton's prominent business men.

LIME ROCK — Work has increased in the Shop, and several men have gone back to work.

One of the infernal pests of modern life is the flat-headed guy that opens his muffler cut out while driving through the streets late at night. It means a pretty weak intellect that will enjoy indulging in that sort of thing.

Mr. Walter Angus next month expects to take a well earned and long deferred vacation, and will visit his old home in Scotland. He expects to sail about the second week in December and will be absent about six weeks.

Lost — Black and tan hound, long ears. No collar. Return to Edward Duell, Salisbury.

The heavy rain of Saturday put an end to the long dry spell and replenished the local water supplies.

The new steam heating plant now being installed at St. Mary's Church is nearing completion. It is expected that steam will be turned on next Sunday morning.

Irving Butler of Miller-ton was before Justice Tuttle last Friday afternoon, charged with stealing corn from James Jones. He was found guilty and paid a fine of \$10 and costs amounting to \$15.61.

**50 years ago —
November 1974**

The general slowdown in American industry finally made itself felt in the Tri-State area this week. Taconic Products of Miller-ton announced it would lay off "slightly more than 10 percent" of its 120-member work force effective next Monday, Dec. 2. Two Lakeville plants, Keuffel

and Esser's Salisbury Products and Lakeville Precision Molding, said Tuesday they had no specific plans for immediate layoffs. But Richard Bell, manager at LPM, said that unless business picked up dramatically, a few people might have to be laid off "within the next month."

A large shopping center has been proposed for a site on the New York side of the Connecticut state line on the south side of U.S. Route 44, east of Millerton. A representative of the developing firm said "it is not something conceived recently. We've had the land under option since July. We're in negotiations with real tenants and have two tenants prepared to sign leases."

Connecticut State Police radios have been installed in Canaan and Norfolk ambulances this week, creating a "vital link" in the communications between ambulances and area hospitals. The installation of the radios stems from a series of meetings last week between State Police Commissioner Cleveland B. Fuessenich and local residents and officials.

A bequest of \$1 million to The Hotchkiss School, the largest single bequest in the school's history, became known last week when the will of the late Arthur Kittredge Watson was accepted in Rockland, Maine, Superior Court. Mr. Watson, who died last July in Norwalk, was a graduate of Hotchkiss and of Yale University, and had served on the boards of trustees of both institutions.

Local dairymen heard first hand this week the dilemma the Dairy-lea Milk Cooperative faces. Dairy-lea directors have voted to assess its 8,000 members some \$18 million to bring the dairy co-op back into the financial black. Each member farmer will be assessed a portion of the \$18 million deficit. Many members have been stunned by the assessment, which will take 60.7 percent of their 1974 milk checks. As of early this week, however, it appeared most area members of Dairy-lea plan to pay their assessments, which average somewhere around \$4,000 to \$5,000, and to stay with the big cooperative, working and hoping for better management and better days. These individual assessments may force some to abandon farming altogether, and all farmers seem to agree dairy farming is not the work to be in today for profit.

Investigators this week have traced two recent fires to accidental causes. Salisbury Fire Marshal Henry Rossire and state trooper Ralph Hazen of the Public Safety Division of the Connecticut State Police joined last week in probing the ruins of a converted barn on Selleck Hill, destroyed by fire Nov. 8, and concluded the blaze's origin was in the structure's electrical wiring. In Canaan, investigators from the state fire marshal's office said a discarded cigarette had probably caused last Tuesday night's major fire at the North Canaan Town Highway Garage. The fire destroyed the building and heavily damaged town trucks.

A late afternoon storm Thursday left two inches of

snow and made roads hazardous. Saturday morning the temperature dropped to a season's low of 13 degrees, and the ground temperature at one point in Lakeville was reported to be a mere 7. Virtually all the snow melted as the temperature rose to 44 on Sunday. Again Monday afternoon snow accumulated about 1½ inches, with the temperature dropping to 18 by Tuesday morning.

A 13-year-old Lakeville youth, Gary Marks of Main Street, accidentally shot himself in the foot with a .22 calibre rifle last Saturday morning. Police report that Gary and his father Alan were setting traps on the John Rand farm on Route 44 when the rifle went off and the youth was struck in the foot. He was treated and released from Sharon Hospital.

The Canaan office of The Lakeville Journal is moving this week to the Canaan Union Depot. The Journal will be found in the waiting room of the station after Monday, Dec. 2. The office has been located in the Phair building on Railroad Street since 1971.

**25 years ago —
November 1999**

SALISBURY — A choice parcel of land will be available to an economically disadvantaged family thanks to a generous gift from Sally Ellsworth to the local chapter of Habitat for Humanity. The two-acre parcel taken from Mrs. Ellsworth's property on Selleck Hill Road may include portions of an open meadow on slightly sloping ground surrounded by pine, white birch, poplar, hemlock, maple and butternut trees.

Those driving through Sharon may notice a slight change in the traffic patterns. The state Department of Transportation put up signs Nov. 18 notifying drivers they can no longer enter Upper Main Street from the north or south ends. Under the plan approved by both selectmen and residents of Upper Main Street, drivers will still be able to exit the street by the library and the Methodist Church, but can only enter at the middle of the Sharon Green in an effort to smooth the traffic flow.

Senior Marci Perotti, Housatonic Valley Regional High School's girls soccer co-captain and four-year varsity midfielder, has been named to the Connecticut Class S All-State team. "She has developed from a hard-working but relatively inexperienced freshman into one of the best overall players in the Berkshire League," said coach Bruce Adams.

We the people and our Constitution

For the 47th GOP President to have won the U.S. Presidential election with a popular vote count of just 2.6 million more than his Democratic competitor is eerily reminiscent of his electoral win in 2016 when he lost the popular vote to Clinton by 3 million popular votes. Elections this century have been tight, underscoring a closely divided nation. In 2024, 2016, 2004 and 2000 the popular vote count difference between GOP and Democratic candidates was but 2% or less— within the margin of error. Washington, Monroe, Lincoln, FDR, Nixon, Reagan and Johnson scored uncontested election landslides — garnishing dominate popular (60%+) and electoral votes. Trump's 49.9 to 48.2 vote win over Harris, 2.6 million votes in a nation of 120 million voters, doth not deem landslide — it's not a majority, it's a plurality.

The 2024 Presidential election outcome seems more of a backlash than landslide. Yes the Senate and the House also went Republican wavelessly—both with skinny wins. A win is a win but a landslide is not a 1.5% vote difference — within the margin of error. Policies and directions, leadership voices and preferences come with a four-year term of office regardless of the count. Yet, a skinny win does not justify upheaval, intentional overturn of governmental, 248-years-of foundations/principles.

Reviewing the election results is apt as the incoming administration's actions are proposed and overturns initiated. At ready to consider are the nominations of Gaetz, Gabbard, Hegseth and Kennedy along with a Trump proposition that the Senate forfeit its Article I constitutional duty, its salient role of providing Advice and Consent:

"[The president] shall nominate, and by and with

OPEN SPACE

KATHY
HERALD-
MARLOWE

the Advice and Consent of the Senate, shall appoint Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls, Judges of the supreme Court, and all other Officers of the United States."

"..the president "shall have Powers, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Senate, to make Treaties, provided two thirds of the Senators present concur."

These early Trump calls lead to stern questioning of the appropriateness, legality of the incoming President's interpretation of voters giving him a "mandate" to uproot the Constitution and any laws that block unfettered powers of his executive office. Advice and Consent is a much intended safeguard to our democracy as are all elements of the Constitution. The Legislative Branch is Article 1 of the Constitution — Congress is solely empowered to enact legislation, set laws that the Executive Branch — led by the President — carries out — executes. The U.S. military is specified to protect/guard against external threats, it is not domestic enforcement — the U.S. armed forces are not the President's personal Generals, Colonels, Master Sergeants, Privates.

U.S. citizens may differ on their opinions about the direction of the country, may be staunchly favorable or unfavorable regarding candidates, may consider themselves better off or not now vs. in 2020. Poignant voter testimonies of preferences for one candidate or the other related to the candidates' stated beliefs/policies or their behaviors/language/gestures: dark, be-reaved of fairness or joyfully aspirational. Vast footage of rallies, rally attendees, men

and women on the streets of towns and cities across the continent were showcased on media or online as "the voter." Yet other than Bannon along with a few other political and media has-beens and a squad of 2025 Project advocates, I don't recall massive calls for the fall of the Constitution, the limiting of personal liberties, a loud, lavish brouhaha for a king, a dictator is not recalled. No Down with the Constitution buttons, chants, hats, banners or vehicle signage are remembered or on sale, on a t-shirt.

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

The 2024 election is ended, a new administration -not a wholly new government -is beginning. Let's keep the nation, let's be vocal, attentive. Here is strength and resolve to Thune, to all in the Congress to keep the nation, keep their jobs, abide to their oaths.

Coda: It is Thanksgiving, commencing at the end of each year a month plus of celebrations, cheer across religions and secular citizens alike. These holidays are family/community rich, chalk full of toasts, decorations, music, large and intimate gatherings. Here aligned in abundance is commonality, lyrics extoll good will to all. On rare occasions raven-like unkindnesses of masked, uniformed harm-wishers clutter neighborhoods — small intrusions of hate — loud yet small. Ignore the ugly, stick with the pleasures of the season, Good will to all, joyful holidays, even just spectacular sales.

Kathy Herald-Marlowe lives in Sharon.



PHOTO BY TOM BLAGDEN

Bull Moose in Great Mountain Forest

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

U.S. Post Office delivers

We complain about mail service, but I had a wonderful thing happen this week. There was a plain white envelope without a stamp or return address in my mail. I could see where a stamp had been but it had fallen off. There was a line of symbols across the bottom indicating it had gone through

a post office somewhere. I was surprised and happy to find inside a Christmas card from my grandson who lives in Paris. I don't know at what point the stamp fell off, but I am so happy the envelope was delivered.

Carolyn McDonough
Canaan

More letters appear on Page A6.

Realtor® at Large

Now that things are finally cooling off, the question might be sourcing firewood for the winter months. Here are a few options of outfits that may still have inventory: Morey Brothers Firewood and Triple J Logging in North Canaan, their phone number is 860- 307-4332, Undermountain Logging and Firewood in Falls Village, phone is 860-824-4708 and MBR Firewood also in Falls Village and their phone is 860-671- 3175. Good luck and enjoy your winter fires!



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Our Towns

Wake Robin Inn planners introduce tree plan

By Alec Linden

LAKEVILLE – The public hearing considering the redesign of the Wake Robin Inn has been continued to Dec. 2, following another round of critical commentary from residents at its fourth iteration on Nov. 18.

The major revelation of Monday's meeting is Angela and William Cruger, whose property sits directly across from the Wells Hill Road entrance to the Inn, will now hold intervenor status in the proceedings, and will be represented by attorney Perley Grimes. As intervenors, the Crugers and associated representatives now hold party status, alongside the applicant, Aradev LLC, and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The intervention, which Planning and Zoning Chair Michael Klemens attested was filed on the morning of Nov. 18, is concerned with the ecological ramifications of the project. Specifically, the petition states that the project is "likely to have the effect of unreasonably impairing or destroying the public trust in the natural resources of the state" regarding groundwater quality at the site and in adjacent areas, and in threatening Connecticut-listed plant species that may be present in the affect-

ed terrain.

The intervenors were allotted a section of the meeting to present their arguments, but Grimes stated that consistently changing plans on the part of the developers had delayed the completion of comprehensive surveys of the land. He affirmed that a group of five experts will be prepared to present their findings at the Dec. 2 continuation of the public hearing.

Klemens asked that the experts' reports be filed as soon as possible to ensure all parties have sufficient time to review them before the meeting. Grimes affirmed that the reports will be available promptly.

Attorney Josh Mackey, representing the applicant, criticized the intervenors' petition "coming at the 11th hour," claiming that there will be little time to respond to the findings of the experts.

"It's unfair and its highly prejudicial," he said.

Bill Cruger, speaking in the public comment section, said that the experts' reports will be available with all due speed. "It's not intended to be prejudicial, it's meant to be informative," he said.

For the applicant's part, landscape architect Mark Arigoni of SLR Consulting gave a presentation highlighting recent efforts by the developers to respond

to concerns from the public and P&Z. The report largely focused on an updated tree plan, informed by a survey conducted by Bartlett Tree Experts, who were contracted by Aradev LLC.

The survey assessed the health of approximately 800 trees, from which a map was developed that color-coded each tree in the affected area based on the survey's findings. Arigoni stated that it is their intention to "eliminate the removal of as many trees as feasible," and that they will continue to consult with the arborist through the construction process.

P&Z likewise focused on the tree plan in their commentary, with Klemens requesting that the plan be updated to include common species names alongside taxonomic designations so that the public may engage with the survey more easily. He also asked that an invasive species management program be added to the plans. Other commissioners expressed that they would like to see more specific numbers on how many trees will be removed throughout the construction process.

During the public comment section, residents expressed that their concerns and suggestions from prior meetings had not been met with the updated plan, which

had few alterations in design from those presented at the Oct. 16 meeting.

Freya Block said that the community's concerns, such as dangerous traffic patterns, environmental damage and noise pollution, had not been addressed by Arigoni's presentation. She asked P&Z to consider "the enormity and incongruity of the scale of

this project for this community."

Thomas Muldoon also questioned how such a development would fit within the village dynamic of Lakeville, while also doubting the practical aspects of the project. The development would necessitate a large workforce to move to a region that is difficult to live in on low wag-

es, he argued. "Where's the affordable housing?"

"It's not whether it's a great idea, it's whether it's a legal idea," Klemens responded to Muldoon's concerns.

After the Dec. 2 meeting, the hearing will likely continue to Dec. 10. "We're really going to have to close the hearing on the 10th," Klemens said.

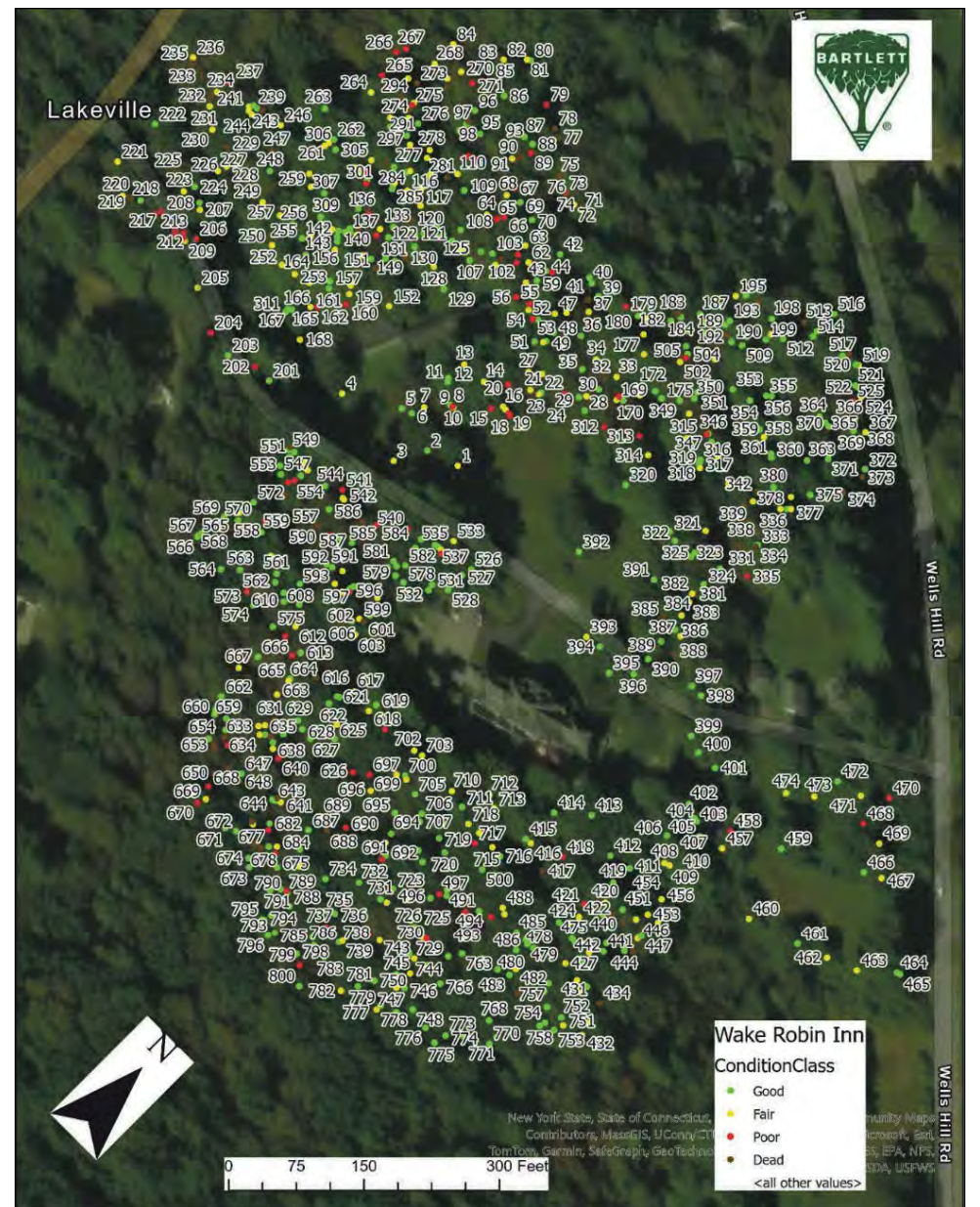


PHOTO PROVIDED

Aradev LLC's map of tree health based on Bartlett Tree Experts' survey.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Michelle Shipp, left, stirs mushroom orzo while Jennifer Markow preps corn muffins.

Cooking up homemade goodness in Cornwall

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — Homemade Meals 2 Go was back in the Cornwall United Church of Christ's kitchen in November preparing dinners and sides. The program was launched this fall by Cornwall Selectman Jennifer Markow and Park and Recreation Chair Michelle Shipp to offer pre-prepared meals

at low or no cost to Cornwall's seniors.

Recipients choose three entrees and three sides to take home and keep in the freezer.

This month's menu includes meatloaf, chicken or mushroom orzo, chicken or vegetable noodle soup, maple roasted Brussel sprouts, roasted potatoes, corn muffins and lemon Romano rice.

Shipp and Markow spent four long days shopping for and cooking the food. They said 55 recipients signed up for December meal pick up.

The program is sponsored by the Cornwall Association and supported by a grant from the Cornwall Foundation. Shipp, Markow and the UCC kitchen are all certified by Torrington Area Health District.

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"I read The Millerton News to help stay connected to the community because that is the role of local journalism to make people aware of resources and wonderful things in their neck of the woods. That's the number one thing that a newspaper should be doing. I think it's important that people have a stake in where they live and have a passion for it. And to build that you need to have someone exploring for them because we can't go out individually and interview everyone that a newspaper can."

DICK HERMANS



"I've lived here for 50 years and I've seen many iterations of the paper and thank God for its survival. Every town needs a paper. The Journal is covering local issues that I would never necessarily know about and they are covering them in depth. It's a critically important form of community knowledge but also creating a community and helping it to thrive."

BARBARA MALTBY

"I love the fact the paper is covering Amenia and you are well on your way to being a great newspaper."

CHRIS KENNAN



"I love The Lakeville Journal because it tells me what is going on in the community and it's an independent newspaper."

KATY KINSOLVING

"I like The Millerton News as a way to find out local news and they publish pictures of my children. There's so much that people can do in our community but only if they have a local news source."

MEGAN MUSGROVE



"I love The Lakeville Journal because it holds our whole community together."

ALEXANDRA PETERS

"I really like The Lakeville Journal because it brings people together and there a lot of good topics that you don't learn anywhere else."

JACKSON MAGYER

"I love The Lakeville Journal because it tells you what happened in town last week and all the wonderful things going on."

PAT JENNY



"I grew up in northwest Connecticut and The Lakeville Journal has always been part of my life and part of my family's life. It has everything you need to know. It's the voice of the community and it is so important to support independent journalism; something that is dying in the United States. That requires people to step up to the plate and support it."

ROBERTA WILLIS

"I read The Lakeville Journal because it keeps me informed about what's going on in our community. It does so without a point of view, one way or another."

MARY TAYLOR

"I love The Lakeville Journal because it's authentic and community oriented."

KRISTY FOSS

"I like the editorial page. I'm thrilled with Natalia Zuckerman's new events newsletter. She's really opening our eyes to what's happening all over our area."

BOBBIE OLSEN

"It's a way to understand how the community works. I've been a devoted Millerton News subscriber and I almost always read it cover to cover. You need to have a source for the facts in age with so many different platforms, so a local newspaper is important."

EDIE GREENWOOD

"I love The Lakeville Journal because it tells you all the news that no one else will tell you."

HELEN ROSS



"I love The Lakeville Journal for telling me what is going on in my community, giving me very factual news and also news about cultural events."

MIKE ABRAM

"I love the police blotter and hearing about all the events happening in our community, and letters to the editor."

CAROL KALIKOW

"I've been reading The Millerton News since we moved here 60 years ago. I check all the latest school board news and other local government meetings. The paper is important for accountability of government and how they spend our money."

JULIE SCHROEDER



"I particularly love the police blotter and I love the letters to the editor. I've written a few myself and it's a way to appreciate the diversity of opinion in our towns."

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"I've been reading it for 48 years. Great news coverage, great editorials."

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"We get it every week. It keeps me in the loop about what is going on up here. I would never not have it."

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"I like The Millerton News and The Lakeville Journal because I'm a great supporter of non-profit news and that's the way to go from here on out. I read everything in the paper."

FRANK FITZMAURICE

"We've lived here for 60 years and the Journal is what you go to for all sorts of information. It's always been a wonderful thing to read each week."

MIMI ESTES

"I love The Lakeville Journal because I am a newspaper junkie. It's local and it's a wonderful way of connecting with the community."

JAY JOLLY

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HOMELESSNESS

Continued from Page A1

Connecticut. The food pantry at Friends in Service to Humanity (FISH) in Torrington serves more than 2,000 people.

There are currently 51 shelter beds in Northwest Connecticut: 16 in Winsted and 35 in Torrington with 5 restricted to veterans. As of today, there will be 30 overflow shelter beds for the winter season.

At the Community Soup Kitchen in Torrington's Trinity Episcopal Church Nov. 19, Cristina folded her family's laundry on the table she had just cleared from the breakfast crowd. She paused to talk and reflect on her difficult journey.

Cristina Garcia: My husband Ricky just started working. He'll be coming home with literally \$72. a week. Sometimes I feel like no one cares. We've been clean for two years. We've had our ups and downs with our kids. My adoptive mom passed away and my dad passed away in a housefire. So, I don't have any family. I had an abusive relationship basically, which I escaped with my daughters because it was very bad. My new husband Ricky and I met here, and we've been together for almost four years. Because of my earlier situation, my kids were taken from me.

Jennifer Almquist: How old were they when they were taken from you?

CG: They were taken away for six years when Kayla was 14.

JA: During that time were you allowed to have any communication, or hear how the girls were doing?

CG: Like I said, I was in an abusive relationship, and he was in charge. Kayla came back to me last January. It was rough. It is hard when you have no family, nothing to fall back on. Family is just me, my husband and my kids. Now there's the Gathering Place, and the soup kitchen people that I consider family. They open their arms to us and have been very good, very kind to us.

JA: Did you have housing at some point?

CG: I did, but I lost my housing voucher because I was out of the household for over 20 days. I was incarcerated due to charges from five years ago. I was legally married, but they wouldn't take in consideration the impact on the girls. The rent was still being paid - it was still being paid the whole time but they took the voucher away. So now it's like, "do you have a lawyer - somebody to step forward?" Nobody comes forward. We didn't appeal. We lost everything, so altogether we've been out on the street since I got out, so in and out, trying to keep the apartment, but we got notice from the city to quit the apartment, so now we're on the streets.

JA: Do the charges on your record mean you have to start all over again to get a housing voucher?

CG: We're just hoping for another voucher.

JA: Is that a lot of pressure when you are trying to stay straight?

CG: It is great to keep my mind straight by volunteering at the Soup Kitchen.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Cristina Garcia, left, working at the Community Soup Kitchen in Torrington.

When we first started coming here, my husband and I kept telling the boss DJ, if you guys need help, just let us know. You're helping us out by giving us breakfast, giving us lunch. Suddenly one day the foundation that helps them provide the food wanted to interview somebody that was coming here. Someone that could explain to them the impacts, and how welcoming it is here. They interviewed me, and since that day I've been volunteering here. I basically go to the Gathering Place in the morning, take the shower and do laundry, come straight here by 9:30. From that time until around 2:30 I work in the kitchen and prep and serve food. I like it because it's community. I love being here just because they are so kind to us. My daughter has a hard time talking to new people or getting to know new people. She has a close relationship with someone here now.

JA: What was her living situation when you weren't with her?

CG: Kayla and Jessica were in foster care. I had no access to anything. Now it's like starting all new, trying to apply for Social Security, Kayla's been denied numerous times, and getting a copy of her birth certificate is expensive. That's what I'm going through right now. She needs help. They say "we can't help" because they don't think she has that many issues because she doesn't hear voices, and she's not, in their minds, crazy like other people. Kayla does have mental health issues. Jessica didn't start talking until she was six. It's just sad that people don't take in consideration what the impact of situations like being in foster care, or being homeless, are on kids. Especially if you're a sensitive kid. Kayla is 22 but her mentality sometimes isn't like her age.

JA: How does Kayla do with the sleeping arrangements and the cold?

CG: No, it's horrible. All you just have is a tent in the world. People take your stuff; you can't trust anybody

-that's just how it is. We have a small U-Haul as a storage unit that is expensive. We had to get rid of most of our stuff. It's just hard, really hard especially with the holidays coming up.

JA: How do you three get warm in your tent?

CG: We layer up with four blankets on, then jackets and sleeping bags. Ricky puts a wooden pallet under the tent, but it's like sleeping on the floor.

JA: What are you doing for Thanksgiving?

CG: The soup kitchen is not open on Thanksgiving. When you're homeless you don't get a break, you don't get time, the days are endless. Holidays are just another day, not like anything special. We can't plan anything. We have no way to cook anything. Every day in the woods, it's just eating out of cans. We may not be able to have a Thanksgiving feast this year, but for Christmas, for my kids and my step kids, there's no hope of getting them something special. Sometimes I just feel like I'm screwed. I just feel like as much as I try, it's like I'm trying for what is not possible. It's hard to keep hoping. These holiday times hurt the most. This is our first holiday back together in six years now that she's back with us. I want am waiting until my youngest is 21 and graduates this June. For her to be allowed to come home, I must have housing. I feel like it might be a lot to ask, but I just want my family back together.

JA: What are you grateful for?

CG: Kayla loves her stepdad, and he's very good to us. He walks up the mountain to work at Target. He walks because he can't drive. We want to get him a bike. Hopefully by December the warming center will reopen. Lori at the Gathering Place helps us so much. She's an amazing person. I had open heart surgery. They put in a pacemaker that needs replacing, but they can't do the surgery and then discharge me to the street, so my surgery is being put off. I have seizures, so I need a calm setting. I'm grateful for Lori because she watches out for us. I have met amazing people through her, like the people in this kitchen, for DJ and Bill, and the opportunity to give back, you know. It's important because I want to make sure I stay on track with my sobriety. Being around positive people helps me. I am trying not to cry. I want to have everyone together for Thanksgiving.

INVASIVES

Continued from Page A1

Each year is hosted by a different state or province, and centers on a unique theme. This year's focus is resilient forests, titled "Roots and Resiliency: Fostering Forest Stewardship in a Canopy of Change."

The flora of the Hamlin Preserve is nothing if not indicative of change. The apex of the tour came when Zetterstrom stopped the group amongst a clearing populated by massive piles of dry brush and several skeletons of trees draped in brown vines. Zetterstrom related that this was the site of a former cedar forest that was completely overcome by invasive bittersweet.

He explained that the site was an example of bittersweet at "full biological potential" — "a monoculture," as he put it. He also pointed out infestations of brush invasives, such as buckthorn and honeysuckle, that dominate ground-level vegetation.

Zetterstrom recited a quotation from Doug Tallamy, Chief Entomologist at the University of Delaware, twice during the outing: "Succession is dead in invasive zones — it moves to a perpetual tangle of invasive vines." Succession is the natural progression of species over time in a forest ecosystem. When invasives proliferate unchecked, Tallamy is saying, the only new species allowed to flourish are more invasives.

While an elegy to the forests of the past, and a potent warning of a potential future, the walk also offered signs of hope. Zetterstrom motioned to a thick forest of white pine with interspersed cedars that extended up the hillside past the clearing. The survival of those trees, he said, is due to the efforts of SLT volunteers, who spent long hours cutting, treating, and clearing massive amounts of bittersweet from the former cedar grove.

"The volunteers cut and treated so many vines that we've already killed the root system," Zetterstrom said of the former bittersweet growth that dominated the canopy. Dead vines still hung from the conifers' limbs, but they will no longer grow.

The Hamlin Preserve is also home to several of Northwest Connecticut's proudest trees, including an apple tree that was recently declared the state champion of its species.

"It had delicious apples, but what else did it have?" Zetterstrom asked the students. "Bittersweet," chimed in several voices as Zetterstrom held up a wrist-thick cross section of vine that had been cut from now-dead bittersweet plant that roped through the tree's limbs.

The apple, though old, will survive for a while longer due to volunteers' efforts in clearing the vine from the tree. A statuesque American Elm (one of few to survive Dutch elm disease), as well as an unusually large paper birch, also thrive on the Preserve thanks to anti-invasive intervention by SLT and its volunteers.

The students were attentive throughout the tour, asking questions and taking samples of bark and other woody material to bring back to the school. They even wanted to bring back a stump of one of the dead cedar trunks that lay in several piles on the Preserve. Zetterstrom dutifully complied, firing up his chainsaw and cutting off a cross-section as the students (safely distanced) watched on.

SLT Executive Director Carolyn Klocker, who joined the excursion with her daughters, said that it was the students that brought her out that afternoon. "It's just inspiring to be out with a group of young people who are excited to learn about all this," she said.

FARMLAND

Continued from Page A1

carity for decades. WLA was formed in 1999 to address the rapid loss of farmland to burgeoning development in the Connecticut River Valley.

At its inception, the idea was to keep farmland preservation at the forefront of policymakers' agendas through cooperative lobbying efforts.

"This group of advocates came together and said, we need to make the farmland preservation program in the state more nimble and have more funding," said Chelsea Gazillo, WLA director and American Farmland Trust (AFT) senior New England policy manager.

Today, that group has grown into a broad-based statewide coalition.

The breadth and vitality of this coalition was on display at the meeting, as Gov. Ned Lamont (D) shared laughs with Keith Bishop, the fifth-generation farmer of Bishop's Orchards in Guilford, whose apple cider adorned the meeting's luncheon tables.

Lamont, who recently oversaw a State Bond allocation of \$9.39 million to farmland preservation efforts, underscored the importance of Connecticut's agricultural heritage.

"I want young people in particular to remember that this is what Connecticut is and was: a great farming community," said Lamont, who hails from a Connecticut farming family himself.

As Lamont and other commenters noted the growing pressures of real estate prices and weather events — "[Connecticut] went from floods to fires in the course of literally three months," said Mason Trumble, deputy commissioner of the CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection — keystone speaker Julia Freedgood argued for solutions that do more than conserve land.

Freedgood, a senior fellow



PHOTO BY TAYLOR PLETT

Governor Ned Lamont (D) underscored the importance of Connecticut's agricultural heritage at the Working Lans Alliance annual meeting Nov. 13.

and senior program advisor for AFT, drew from her new book, Planning Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems: From Soil to Soil, emphasizing the need for "a new policy paradigm" that takes an active role in planning more resilient food systems.

"There has to be a vision of the future, and there has to be a way to manifest that future," she said.

For its part in that vision, WLA proposed a number of policy priorities for the 2025 state legislative cycle.

Gazillo highlighted two in particular: increase the Community Investment Act fee, a real estate transaction fee that supports dairy farm viability, and direct state money to a number of farmland access programs, including down payment assistance for historically marginalized and first-time producers.

"We're optimistic," said Gazillo of WLA's initiatives, though she noted that the upcoming transition in national governance could mean a loss of federal support for farmland protection.

Still, Gazillo maintained that "true change" happens at a smaller scale.

"I still think we can get a lot done at the state level, I still think we can get a lot done locally, and I would just encourage us to not lose hope," she said.

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

THEATER: JENNIFER KRONHOLM CLARK

SOAR presents Matilda Jr.

The Black Box Theater at The Hotchkiss School is a small venue by any measurement, with only around 100 seats. It feels like some sort of miracle when 39 elementary school students manage to not only occupy the living-room sized stage, but execute both choreography and harmony.

The cast and crew of SOAR's production of "Matilda Jr." pulled off such a miracle not once but four times between Nov. 22 and 24. They weathered missing costume pieces, unruly hair, and even the brief illness of the lead actor to deliver an uplifting and fun story of a little girl who not only finds the strength — and telekinetic powers — to stand up for herself, but also inspires her classmates and teacher to do the same.

SOAR is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to providing enrichment programs to the students of Salisbury Central School. Founded in 2000 by Zena Block, SOAR offers after-school classes, in-school programs, community events and teacher grants. "Matilda Jr." is the third full-scale musical production put on by SOAR, following "Fiddler on the Roof Jr." in 2023 and "Annie Jr." in 2022.

Each year, the number of students signing up for the musical has grown, presenting some logistical challenges. Previous productions included third through eighth graders, but this year the minimum age was raised to fourth grade due to overwhelming interest.

"I'm just thrilled that 39 kids want to do musical theater," said Darcy Boynton, one of the directors of the play and Program Liaison of the Board of Directors. "They don't all fit on the [Salisbury Central School] cafeteria stage, but we squish them in."

Boynton's co-director is Stephanie Hahn, a member of SOAR's Program & Event Committee. The two have worked together on all three productions.

"We didn't even know each other," Hahn said. "But we both said 'yes!'"

Boynton and Hahn are volunteers who have dedicated too many hours to count. They



PHOTOS BY ALY MORRISSEY

both praised Lauren Brown, SOAR's Executive Director and only paid employee, for her support and dedication. And when asked why they said "yes" to such a venture, their answers were similar.

"I've always been a theater person, I love it so much," said Hahn. "To be able to give these kids this experience is just so rewarding."

"I believe so strongly in theater education," Boynton added. "Theater is an essential part of education but it's thought of as extracurricular. It helps with physical skills, emotional skills, and it creates empathetic people. It's a team sport without the competition."

On the subject of teamwork, it's worth mentioning the sheer number of adult and teenage volunteers who jumped in to help. More than 20 individuals are listed in the program, along with a half dozen sponsors and organizations. The families of the performers also committed to a robust rehearsal schedule.

Choosing a play with a large ensemble is key to the program's success.

"Matilda" allowed some of the younger actors to be highlighted as the title character's

Above, Lola Francoline, Elsie Carr, Eloise Vaughn, Sawyer Rose Turner and Alex Philipp face the first day of school at Crunchem Hall in SOAR's production of "Matilda Jr." Below, Maris Jenter performed the title role in SOAR's production of "Matilda Jr."



rebellious classmates. Maris Jenter, a sixth grader, led the way as Matilda, capturing both the humor and the pathos of the role. Jackson Magyar, another sixth grader, stole every scene he was in as the terrifying Agatha Trunchbull. And Mollie Sosin, an eighth grade veteran of all three productions, shined as Miss Honey, using her quite grown up voice to captivate the audience.

"This is a wonderful group of kids who are so supportive of each other," Boynton said. "Their enthusiasm is what pulled it together. They really cared about it."

SOAR is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Learn more about how to support them at soarkids.org.

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PHOTO BY COLLEEN FLYNN

Rural Center Refillery in Pine Plains, N.Y., offers locally sourced products for the home.

LIFESTYLE: COLLEEN FLYNN

Pouring life into sustainability

Rural Center Refillery strives to cut the community's plastic consumption while supporting local businesses.

"Our products cut back on waste, we return the containers to our suppliers, people bring in refillable containers for their own consumption, support local," said Nicole Clanahan, co-founder of Rural Center Refillery, "Over half of our products are made/cultivated here in the Hudson Valley, and overall, they're clean-no dyes, chemicals or synthetics."

Nicole Clanahan and her husband, Corey Clanahan, who are the

co-founders of Rural Center Refillery, founded the company in 2022. The doors to the store located in Pine Plains later opened in February 2023.

"Our mission was to introduce and provide opportunity to our community for sustainable swaps for everyday items," said Clanahan, "Like coffee beans and dish soap."

The refillery focuses on three core values: community, sustainability, and having access to quality products that align with its mission.

They offer small ways to

Continued on next page

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Dec 15 **CHARLIE'S TRAINS MODEL TRAIN DISPLAY**
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Lost in the mail: Tackling the big questions

Let us open the Tangled Lines mailbag and see what the populi is vox-ing about.

Agnes Day of Spore City, Ohio writes:

You keep talking about wet flies. Aren't all flies wet once you cast them into the water?

I could go into a detailed explanation of how the wet fly imitates a transitional stage in an aquatic insects life cycle but I won't, because this is a family newspaper.

I will offer this anecdote:

I was about 14 and fishing Woodland Valley Creek, a tributary of the Esopus in the Catskills. Dries only. I was having some success but occasionally my fly got waterlogged and provoked strikes, especially when I was trying to retrieve it when it was submerged downstream.

I was working a pool right by a cabin. The building was so close to the stream you could fish from the porch. As I puzzled over how to get that fish that was hanging out by the lower part of the pool, the old-timer on the porch was watching me. I didn't realize it.

He scared me out of a year's growth when he spoke up. He asked what fly I was using. "Royal Coachman," I said. He asked if I had a wet version. I replied, Agnes-like, "A what?"

He came off the porch and made his way to



TANGLED LINES
PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

where I was perched at the top of the pool. He borrowed my fingernail clippers and cut off most of the hackle on the Royal and left the white wing.

Then he advised adding a couple of feet of finer tippet, waiting 10 minutes for things to settle down, and flopping the thing into the current, allowing it to swing through the tail out.

I did this and after a couple of false starts caught the fish that had been tormenting me.

Afterwards the old-timer said I should try fishing wet flies upstream just like dries. When I objected that I wouldn't be able to see the fly he said "Yeah but they'll see it, and if they see it they'll let you know soon enough."

Fester Karbunkle of Potzrebie, New Jersey wants to know:

Do you ice fish?

No I do not. Ice fishing involves walking gingerly out on a frozen pond or lake, cutting a hole in the ice, and staring at it for indefinite periods of time.

I want no part of it. Especially the cutting the ice part. The ice is all that is between me and a cold, watery grave AND WOULD YOU PLEASE



PHOTO BY GARY DODSON

A steelhead, one could argue, is a rainbow trout on steroids.

STOP CUTTING THE %\$@# ICE!

Linus J. Scrimshaw of West Cornwall inquires:

What was your best trout in 2024?

This was a difficult year, with way too much rain at some points and none to speak of at others.

So the most satisfying catch was on the East Branch of the Delaware around Margaretville, New York. The stream was very low and I had to hoof it a couple hundred yards through inhospitable terrain until I found a pool deep enough to justify the term.

I could see the trout, and they could see me. So it just turned into a grim battle. Who would give up first?

After considerable time, and several "look but don't eat" moments, I finally got a fat brown on a Bread and Butter nymph fished naked and

alone. (The fly, that is. Not me.)

Then I had to go a couple hundred yards through inhospitable terrain back to where I started. My buddy Gary had wisely stayed put and was yanking a fish in when I fetched up. His fish was better than mine.

Honolulu Jones of East Drizzle, Wyoming objects:

Wait a minute. Didn't you catch a steelhead back in April?

Yes, and you could argue that a steelhead is a rainbow trout on steroids.

But that trip to Pulaski and the Salmon River was so completely out of the usual run of events that I think of it the way other people think of significant milestones, like marriage, or the first arrest.

I forgot half my gear, sprained my wrist turning the knob in the shower, and almost lost an earlobe when a gust of wind blew a size 4 black Woolly Bugger (with rubber legs) back into my personal face.

And after fruitlessly flogging the water for two days, I absently flipped the Bugger into a deep hole, just trying to get some line out, when the steelie loomed up and chowed down.

So no, my first and only steelhead wasn't the best fish of 2024. It was a happy accident and nothing else.

...Refillery

reduce waste by offering candy, dish soap, toothpaste and other day to day items.

"We recently started a local farm CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). We work with over a dozen farms in the area to provide low-cost produce, dairy, baked goods and more. That's probably my favorite product range right now."

The company also offers a variety of gift baskets a customer can create, ranging from \$25 to \$50. The \$25 gift basket includes two treat options, a paper bag to fill, and a jar. These options can range from shower steamers, lip balm, chocolate-covered espresso beans to dried pineapple.

"I also love our selection of locally roasted coffee beans, concentrated laundry detergents and body care products—we carry some amazing local tallow products by Maggie's Delivery Service [Located in Millbrook] which is all the rage right now."

Visit the store located at 2881 Church Street Pine Plains, or visit www.ruralcenterrefillery.com.

Continued from previous page



PHOTO BY COLLEEN FLYNN

Jarred goods available at Rural Center Refillery.

Hunt Library's holiday market

The David M. Hunt Library will host its annual Holiday Pop Up Market from late November until early January 2025.

Local artisans include Under Mountain Botanicals, Beading by Molly, handmade spoons from Andy Jack, ornaments and cats made by Nunwell Glass, Bosco's Best Jams, Saw Mill Maple Syrup, textiles by Meg Musgrove, candles and cards from Rika Laser, pottery by Diane Schapira, and ornaments, toys and textiles made by Gail Allyn. A portion of the proceeds benefit the library.

The library's book sale is available for shopping whenever the library is open.



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COMPASS

COMEDY: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Tangent Theater Company comes to Moviehouse

Tivoli's Tangent Theatre Company teams up with The Moviehouse in Millerton for a special year-end reading of Yasmina Reza's Tony Award-winning play "God of Carnage." This sharp, comedic satire, examining human behavior and parental conflicts, will be presented on Saturday, December 7 at 7 p.m. in Theater

3. Doors open at 6 p.m., with wine, beer, and snacks available in the theater's upstairs lounge.

Featuring a cast of seasoned performers—Jeffrey Doornbos, Molly McClarnon, Audrey Rapoport, and Artistic Director Michael Rhodes—this reading promises a night of thought-provoking laughter. Directed by

Tracy Carney and produced by Andrea Rhodes, the event continues Tangent's tradition of intimate and impactful play readings.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at www.themoviehouse.net

Don't miss this unique collaboration bringing live theater to the heart of Millerton.

PHOTO PROVIDED

BOOKS: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Tom Morrison speaks at Noble Horizons



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Author Tom Morrison, left, and former Lakeville Journal executive editor Cynthia Hochswender discussed Morrison's newest novel, "Who Put the Bots in The Tort\$?" at Noble Horizons Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Author Tom Morrison provided some insight into the creative process behind his series of legal farces at a talk and book signing at Noble Horizons Wednesday, Nov. 20.

Morrison was interviewed by former Lakeville Journal executive editor Cynthia Hochswender about his latest novel, "Who Put the Bots in The Tort\$?" and his interest in writing fiction after a 50-year legal career.

Morrison said he wrote a "spy novel" (his emphasis) when he was in the Air Force after law school.

He didn't know anything about espionage and the manuscript "never saw the light of day."

Many years later, as he contemplated his retirement, the idea of

writing fiction became appealing again.

Only this time he decided to write about something he knew about — lawyers.

Hochswender asked if he had to train himself "not to write a lawyer."

Morrison said he took some pride in developing a clear and concise writing style during his legal career.

"Tell a story that the judge and jury can understand."

He said most of his colleagues appreciated his legal writing style, except one "curmudgeon" who referred to it as "Morrison Newsweek style."

"I took that as a compliment."

Asked if he uses an editor for his fiction, Morrison said no.

He writes the first draft in pencil on legal pads, and then edits

once the manuscript is typed into a computer.

He does have someone who performs copy editing tasks for him.

Hochswender asked about finding an agent and publisher.

Morrison said after he finished the first of the four legal novels, he spent a year sending out inquiries to agents, with no luck.

He then took it to a small publisher he once represented, and they agreed to publish it.

Asked about writers he finds inspiring, Morrison said Joseph Heller's "Catch 22" made a deep impression on him.

He was amazed by the book's energy. "Every page was dripping with parody and satire."

"I'm trying to do to the legal profession what Heller did to the Army Air Corps."

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Items are printed as space permits. Submit calendar items to editor@lakevillejournal.com

NOVEMBER 29

Artist Reception

Southern Gallery of The Wish House, 413 Sharon Goshen Tnpk., West Cornwall, Conn., www.southernartgallery.net

An artist reception for Lori Barker's new exhibit "Spirit of Nature" will take place Friday Nov. 29, from 3 to 6 p.m. to kick off the holiday season in style. "Spirits of Nature" showcases a series of bold and ethereal pieces which holds the presence of nature. The exhibit will be open for viewing through Dec. 31.

NOVEMBER 30

A Night of Art and Banter

Macaire + Kristoph, 406 Sharon Goshen Tnpk., West Cornwall, Conn.

Macaire + Kristoph studio in West Cornwall will host A Night of Art and Banter Nov. 30 from 5 to 8 p.m. Join local artists for a Q&A session and an evening of creativity.

Holiday Market

The Wish House, 413 Sharon Goshen Tnpk., West Cornwall, Conn.

Visit The Wish House Saturday Nov. 30 from 1 to 5 p.m. on the Wish House Lawn in West Cornwall for an Outdoor Holiday Market. For vendors there will be Lynnette's precocious preserves, Pebbles, Michele the plant lady making wreaths, Matt and Marybeth Maybreck (awesome garden sculptures), Mother Tree Remedies, Phil and Cathleen West (woodwork), Ashley Parson crochet, Casaba soaps, and jewelry.

Breakfast with Santa and the Grinch

Cornwall Town Hall, 24 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn.

The Cornwall Consolidated School eighth grade class and Cornwall Park and Recreation invites the community to Town Hall Nov. 30 from 8 to 10 a.m. for Breakfast with Santa and the Grinch. There will be food, a photo op and a raffle. Donations benefit the eighth grade trip to Washington D.C.

DECEMBER 5

Meet Your Greens

Litchfield Distillery, 569 Bantam Rd., Conn.

Come out to Meet Your Greens at Litchfield Distillery on Dec. 5 from 5 to 7 p.m. Co-hosted by Northwest Connecticut Land Conservancy, Friends of Topsmead State Forest, Goshen Land Trust, Lake Waramaug Task Force, Litchfield Land

Trust, Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy, Rivers Alliance of Connecticut, and White Memorial Conservation Center, this informal gathering is an excellent opportunity to get to know others working or volunteering in the conservation field. Open to the public, join us for a chance to exchange news and plant seeds for collaboration.

DECEMBER 6

Young at Heart

Sharon Playhouse, 49 Amenia Rd., Sharon, Conn.

Join us on Friday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. for a one-night-only celebration of the Sharon Playhouse Education Department's boundless creativity and impact. Headlining the evening is "Young at Heart," a brand-new play written by Education & Associate Artistic Director Michael Kevin Baldwin and inspired by the imaginative voices of local elementary school students. The program will run approximately one hour. All seats are \$30 General Admission.

Holiday Party Fundraiser

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

The Douglas Library in North Canaan will hold its annual Holiday Party Fundraiser on Friday, Dec. 6, from 5 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 per person and \$25 a couple. All proceeds benefit the library. There will be a generous buffet of hors d'oeuvres, beverages, wine and desserts. Call (860) 824-7863 for further info.

DECEMBER 7

Copake Grange Holiday Open House

Copake Grange, Copake, N.Y.

3 to 5 p.m. The event promises hot chocolate, cider, holiday treats, music, and tree decoration at the historic Grange Hall. There'll be a CookieFest: bake or bring two dozen of your favorite cookies, sample others at the Open House and take some home with you. Get more information by emailing copakegrange@gmail.com or visit copakegrange.org/events

12X12 Art Show

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

On Saturday Dec. 7 from 5 to 7 p.m., the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village will host the thirteenth edition of 12X12, its annual art exhibition and sale which features over 50 artists this year.

Open Mic

Twelve Moons, Center on Main, 102 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Twelve Moons Coffee House builds community through live music, poetry readings and storytelling on the first Saturday of each month. Doors open at 6 p.m. with open mic performances beginning at 6:30 p.m. Featured Professional Artists play from 8 to 9 p.m. Guests are welcome to bring their own dinner and beverage or enjoy the venue's light refreshments. Saturday, Dec. 7, will feature the duo of George Potts and Gordon Titcomb performing Americana and original tunes.

Monthly Book Sale

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

The Friends of the David M. Hunt Library will host their monthly book sale on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the library. This sale takes place on the first Saturday of each month. New inventory is added each month, including new and used books, cds, dvds, current fiction and mysteries, coffee table books, and more. All of the proceeds from the sale benefit the library. From 10 a.m. to noon the 8th grade of Lee H. Kellogg School will host a bake sale to support a trip to Washington D.C.

IMS Book Fair

The Morehead Athletic Center, 211 Indian Mountain Rd., Lakeville, Conn.

Indian Mountain School's upcoming book fair on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. will be open to the public with readings, book signings, bagels and of course books (great for holiday gifts as well). Book readings and signings will take place at 10 a.m. with Randall De Seve and 11 a.m. with Mieke Ten Have.

DECEMBER 8

Free Movie: Elf

Canaan Colonial Theater, 27 Railroad St., Canaan, Conn.

Bring family for a free matinee at Canaan Colonial Theater, Sunday, Dec. 8 at 2 p.m. Tickets to the free screening can be reserved at www.canaancolonial.com

B	A	Y	O	U
R	U	N	N	Y
M	U	R	K	Y
C	U	R	R	Y
H	U	R	R	Y

Christmas Concert and Movie

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

The Congregational Church of Salisbury, UCC hosts its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, Dec. 8 at 3 p.m. The program, which is suitable for all ages, includes a selection of familiar and new holiday favorites as well as opportunities for audience participation. A special screening of "A Charlie Brown Christmas" will follow, accompanied by a live jazz trio performing the iconic Vince Guaraldi score, featuring a dance performed by the children in our Sunday School class. Doors will open at 2:30 p.m. Admission is free, though donations to support the music ministries of Salisbury UCC are warmly appreciated. A reception of seasonal treats will follow in the parish hall.

A Celtic Christmas by A Taste of Ireland

Warner Theatre, 68 Main St., Torrington, Conn.

On Sunday, Dec. 8, at p.m., see A Celtic Christmas by A Taste of Ireland at the Warner Theatre. Featuring stars from Riverdance and Lord of the Dance, this festive show blends world-class Irish dance, music, and storytelling. Tickets: \$45-\$75. Visit ATasteofIrelandShow.com for details.

DECEMBER 18

A Christmas Carol

Sharon Playhouse, 49 Amenia Rd., Sharon, Conn.

The Sharon Playhouse is thrilled to present its fourth annual Holiday YouthStage production: an inventive twist on "A Christmas Carol," adapted by Doris Baizley and co-directed by Andrus Nichols and Drew Ledbetter. This one-hour production brings the magic of Dickens' classic to life

in an engaging, family-friendly format. "A Christmas Carol" runs in The Bok at the Sharon Playhouse on Wednesday, Dec. 18 through Sunday, Dec. 22, with evening and matinee showtimes. Tickets range from \$20 to \$35.

ONGOING

Art Show

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

The Douglas Library of Canaan is featuring a retrospective of artwork by the late Mary Monnier. The show runs from Nov. 6 through Jan. 15. Monnier was a local artist, with family roots dating back generations. Her artwork reflects her love of people, of nature, and the beauty of the Northwest Corner.

Photography Exhibit

UCC Cornwall Parish House, 8 Bolton Hill Rd. Cornwall, Conn.

Photography by Steve O'Neil will be on display at the Parish House in Cornwall Nov. 10 to Nov. 30. The tribute show called "Thugs and Mugs" contains images taken over ten years at the Cornwall dump.

Sandy Hook Vigil

A candlelight vigil to remember the victims of Sandy Hook and all victims of gun violence will be held Saturday, Dec. 14, from 5 to 6 p.m. in front of The White Hart Inn. The vigil will mark 12 years since the tragedy in Newtown. Please bring your own candle

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Long piece of squared timber
- Emaciation
- "Bewitched" boss Larry
- Combining form meaning "different"
- Current unit equal to 10 amperes
- Older
- Large, stocky lizard
- Ringworm
- Actor Pitt
- Indian hand clash cymbals
- Data at rest
- Jeweled headdress
- Indicators of when stories were written
- Check
- Cigarette (slang)
- Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- Delivered a speech
- A place to bathe
- Postmen deliver it
- Surface in geometry
- More (Spanish)
- ___ and Venzetti
- Exclamation at the end of a prayer
- Hawaiian dish
- Aggressively proud men
- Fellow
- Mark Wahlberg comedy
- Mock
- When you expect to get somewhere
- Songs
- Pair of small hand drums
- Play
- Sword
- Evergreens and shrubs genus
- Filmed
- Italian Seaport
- Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- Pores in a leaf
- U. of Miami mascot is one
- Snakelike fishes
- Pretended to be
- Body part

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16			
17					18					19			
20				21	22			23					
24	25							26					
27	28	29	30				31			32	33	34	
35		36				37				38			
39					40					41			
42				43						44			
45				46						47		48	
49						50				51			
52	53	54				55				56	57	58	59
60						61				62		63	
64						65						66	
67						68						69	

- Relaxing space
- Japanese socks
- Indian city
- Rip
- Icelandic book
- Satisfies
- Where golfers begin
- Small amount
- Snag
- Determine the sum of
- A distinctive smell
- Exposed to view
- Stain or blemish
- Small loop in embroidery
- River herring genus
- Large beer
- Deep, red-brown sea bream
- Partner to cheese
- At a deliberate pace
- Gurus
- Of each
- Angry
- Popular beverage
- Flower cluster
- Blocks
- Those who benefitted from efforts of relatives (slang)
- Polio vaccine developer
- A (usually) large and scholarly book
- Popular soap ingredient
- NBAer Bradley
- Popular movie about a pig
- Musician Clapton
- Not a sure thing
- Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- Father

Nov. 21 Solution

T	W	A	C	A	N	A	C	E						
H	I	N	O	N	E	B	O	Y						
S	P	E	L	L	M	A	M	D	O	R	S	A		
A	I	R	L	I	N	E	E	L	U	T	I	O	N	
D	E	M	I	G	O	D	S	O	C	I	E	T	Y	
A	A	R	A	M	A	I	C	S	E	S	S	I	O	N
G	A	D	A	M	A	I	C	S	E	S	S	I	O	N
O	P	O	S	S	U	M	B	R	O	W	N	I	E	
A	L	G	A	A	E	R	O							
S	A	N	D	A	L	S	I	E	R	R	A	S		
S	T	A	N	N	I	C	E	N	G	R	A	V	E	
C	E	R	E	D	A	B	M	A	I	K	E	N		
E	S	E	R	O	E	N	E	E						
S	S	R	A	N	N	O	D	D						

Sudoku

	6							
2				9				7
3	1							6
				7	4	1		
		6						
				9	4	3		
5	7		4			2		
	4			1		8		
9			3	7				

Nov. 21 Solution

3	1	5	8	7	4	6	2	9
4	9	8	3	6	2	1	7	5
7	2	6	5	9	1	3	4	8
9	4	3	7	8	5	2	1	6
8	7	1	6	2	3	5	9	4
6	5	2	4	1	9	7	8	3
2	6	4	9	3	7	8	5	1
5	3	7	1	4	8	9	6	2
1	8	9	2	5	6	4	3	7

Level: Intermediate

Word of the Week

Hints relate to adjacent five-letter words. Solve to reveal correct letters. Green tiles indicate correctly placed letters in the Word of the Week. Yellow tiles indicate a correct letter in the wrong place. Uncolored tiles indicate letters that do not appear in the WotW.

- Popular pairing for gin
- Penne, linguine, etc.
- Wooden vampire deterrent
- YouTube star Mr. _____
- Happy Thanksgiving



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Sports

Cardinals take on Lions in cross-town showdown

By Lans Christensen

KENT — On Wednesday, Nov. 20, Kent School varsity basketball hosted South Kent School's development team to continue the cross-town rivalry. The game went into double overtime and ultimately ended in an 82-74 win for South Kent.

The match was exciting from the jump. Kent's Nate Howell quickly sank the first basket, but South Kent responded in kind. The first 10 minutes were back and forth, point for point.

South Kent's newly implemented zone defense showed some weakness on the perimeter. Great three pointers by Kent's Walter Kaufman opened up a Lion's lead.

South Kent recovered and the first half ended with only a two-point deficit for the Cardinals.

The second half showcased the evenly matched teams with aggressive attacks and rebounding. With five minutes left, South Kent took the lead 47-45. Back and forth the game marched, and with 17 seconds left in regulation Kent held a two-point lead.

South Kent's Michael Parris nailed the game-tying basket and the fourth quarter ended with a 59-59 tie.

The first overtime, with great shots from Lion's JJ Carter, and Cardinals Lair Hill, ended in another tie 68-68.

Fans, family, players and everyone in the arena was on their feet cheering on both teams.

In the second overtime, South Kent locked down defensively, stealing the ball and reeling in all rebounds. The knocked down big baskets with the game on the line and the Cardinals went on to win a memorable game 82-74.



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Above, Kent School's J.J. Carter leads a fast break down court against the South Kent School, Nov. 20. Below, the paint was congested in the closely contested game, which went into double overtime before South Kent secured an 82-74 victory.



PHOTOS BY NATHAN MILLER

Hotchkiss hosts Millbrook for preseason hoops

The Hotchkiss School opened the 2024-25 girls varsity basketball season with a 50-42 win against Millbrook School in a preseason scrimmage Friday, Nov. 22. Hotchkiss played with high intensity, racking up 32 points by half time with fast breaks and quick plays. Millbrook matched the pace despite the starting five playing the whole 32 minutes, denying Hotchkiss a lead greater than 10 points throughout the game. Millbrook battled in the paint and contested rebounds enough to be competitive, but Hotchkiss's superiority in crashing the boards and running full court plays ultimately won them the game. The match maintained a fast pace despite occasional shot clock mishaps that drew the ire of referees and attending parents alike.



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