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

Tackling tech issues in Region One schools

Region-wide policy calls cellphones 'a privilege, not a right'

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Region One Board of Education, voting unanimously, adopted a cellphone policy at its regular monthly meeting Monday, Jan. 6.

The introductory paragraphs of the approved policy read:

"There is a growing body of evidence that suggests student access to cellular telephones and other electronic communication devices may be detrimental to student emotional well being, social development, and academic growth. Therefore, the use of electronic communication devices and other such technology at school (in any school-based environment) is considered a privilege, not a right.

"Students may possess cellular telephones and other wireless communication devices on school property and school-sponsored transportation, provided students adhere to the restrictions contained within this policy. Any unauthorized use of cellular telephones and other wireless communication



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Following a unanimous Board of Education vote Jan. 6, Region One students in grades K-8 must store their cellphones in a designated area for the duration of the instructional school day. For high schoolers, cellphone use is authorized at select times of day.

devices during the instructional school day or at such times as not authorized by the school principal or designee is prohibited, as it disrupts the instructional program or distracts from the educational

environment."

Students in grades K-8 may have phones and devices, but they must be turned off and stored in a designated area during the instructional school day.

High school students must also keep their phones and devices off and stored in designated holders in each classroom. "High school principals may modify the instructional school day to establish other authorized times of use in addition to when students are waiting for the beginning of the instructional school day or waiting for a school bus at the end of the instructional school day, including the designation of areas of the school campus for such use."

The rules are clear about privacy concerns. Under "Unauthorized Use of Devices," the policy forbids "Violation of a student's or other

See PHONES, Page A8

PowerSchool system hack compromises data of R1 students, staff

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Region One Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley announced on Wednesday, Jan. 8, that Region One had experienced a data breach in December 2024.

PowerSchool, a California-based company, holds data from more than 60 million students in North America (according to its website). Its cloud-based system suffered the breach when an unauthorized party gained access to private information.

Brady-Shanley released additional details on Jan. 9, in the form of an emailed letter to all Region One families:

"PowerSchool, our Student Information System provider, has reported that their platform experienced a cybersecurity breach starting on December 22, 2024. According to their officials, an unauthorized party accessed certain PowerSchool SIS customer data using a compromised credential. PowerSchool has assured us that the breach is contained, and there is no ongoing malicious

See DATA BREACH, Page A8

Entry-level workforce falls into hiring crosshairs as new minimum wage surpasses \$16

By Debra A. Aleksinas

NORTH CANAAN — Each summer, Bob Riva looks forward to hiring a half dozen high school students to work the front counters at CA Lindell ACE Hardware.

"I like to bring in those kids from the high school and train them and work with them. They are very cheerful," as they gain entry-level skills and bring their enthusiasm to the job and to customers, said the Canaan business owner.

But the 4.2% increase in the minimum wage, from \$15.69 to \$16.35, that went into effect Jan. 1, has reduced the number of summer jobs Riva will be able to offer to students this year.

"We end up getting a lot of kids, but does it make sense to pay someone in high school that large a minimum wage? It comes down to making decisions that you never had to make before," said Riva.

"You get a little pickier and end



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Cashier Leanne Wilcox, right, rang up customers' purchases at CA Lindell ACE Hardware in Canaan on Saturday. Store co-owner Bob Riva said the state's hourly minimum wage hike to \$16.35, which went into effect Jan. 1, is forcing him to more closely scrutinize prospective employees.

up scrutinizing the people you are paying minimum wage to. We want our employees to make a good living, but the kids don't have a house and are still in school. And for this new minimum wage right now, they'd better be moving, they'd better be doing a good job," said Riva.

Five minimum wage hikes in four years

In 2019, Gov. Ned Lamont signed Public Act 19-4, which implemented five minimum wage increases over four years' time, fol-

See WAGES, Page A8

Kent voters oppose traffic enforcement cameras

By Riley Klein

KENT — A Jan. 7 referendum vote to permit traffic enforcement cameras in Kent failed to pass with 391 "no" votes to 100 "yes" votes.

Kent's proposal was to purchase two traffic cameras to remotely ticket speeders.

Town Hall announced results approximately 20 minutes after polls closed at 8 p.m.

The referendum asked: "Shall the Town of Kent enact the 'TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SAFETY DEVICES' ordinance as on file in the Town Clerk's office, thereby authorizing the deployment of Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices (ATESD) within the Town of Kent at school and pedestrian safety zones and at such other places approved

"We will continue to look at ways to improve pedestrian safety,"

Kent First Selectman
Marty Lindenmayer

by the Connecticut Department of Transportation to monitor and record motor vehicle speeds and to permit the imposition of fines for speed violations of at least 10 miles per hour in excess of the posted speed limit?" (Yes: 100, No: 391)

The follow-up item read: "In the event question #1 is answered in the affirmative, shall the Town

See CAMERAS, Page A8



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Online This Week

Animals in local libraries

Guests flocked to a wildlife event at David M. Hunt Library Jan. 3. A pet portrait workshop at Scoville Memorial Library made for a colorful afternoon Jan. 12. More at lakevillejournal.com

POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

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

Impaired driver arrested

Just before 3 a.m. on Jan. 8, officers found Jonathan Finnerty, 42, of Salisbury slumped over the wheel of his vehicle while parked in the middle of Deely Road in Canaan. He consented to and failed a field sobriety test, after which he was taken into custody. He was charged with Operating While Under the Influence, and was released on a \$1,000 non-surety bond. He is scheduled to appear at Superior Court in Torrington on Jan. 23.

School bus fender-bender

On the afternoon of Jan. 9, a school bus travelling its normal after-school route attempted to make its standard turnaround at the West Cornwall Covered Bridge, however another vehicle was approaching across the bridge, prompting the bus driver to reverse onto Lower River Road in an attempt to

free the roadway. In the process, the bus backed into an unoccupied parked vehicle, a 2023 Volvo XC90 T8 owned by Eiseley Kotchoubey, 39, of Brooklyn, New York. There were no injuries, though both vehicles sustained minor damage.

Slide-out on slick roads

With snowy road conditions on the morning of Jan. 11, Aidan Makowsky, 30, of South Kent lost control of his vehicle traveling northbound on Route 7 near the intersection with Smith Hill Road. in Sharon. The vehicle, a 2012 Infiniti G25, struck the guardrail, and subsequently collided with the embankment alongside the roadway. The vehicle sustained disabling damage, and was towed from the scene. Makowsky was issued a written warning for traveling too fast for conditions.

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

COG examines state legislative session

By Alec Linden

LITCHFIELD — The Connecticut General Assembly is back in session, and Connecticut Council of Small Towns Executive Director Betsy Gara told Northwest Corner leaders she will need their help bringing the voices of the Northwest Corner before state legislature.

Presenting to the region's First Selectmen at the Jan. 9 meeting of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments, Gara had encouraging reports from the Assembly's Jan. 8 rejoining. It was an "optimistic" first day of the legislative session, she said, citing strong cooperation between parties.

There will be "thousands of bills raised" this session, she said, and asked town officials for their contributions in focalizing the important

issues for municipalities and residents alike in the Litchfield Hills.

Gara identified several subjects that will be central to this session, which adjourns on June 4. The question of whether to continue, amend, or abolish the so-called "fiscal guardrails" on the state's budgeting schema will be a key topic, she affirmed. These guardrails were negotiated in 2017 to address fiscal crisis in Connecticut, and have been credited with "positioning Connecticut very well economically" coming out of the pandemic, Gara said. Lawmakers, however, are now debating their utility today, and their future remains uncertain.

Other notable topics on the docket for the 2025 session include education, especially early and special education, climate resili-

ency and affordable housing. Several Selectmen also brought up early voting as a subject worth discussing, with several officials arguing that the benefits of having a two-week early voting period didn't outweigh the costs in November's election.

"I always like coming to these meetings," Gara said. "I learn a lot."

Addressing the group, she referenced a West African idiom about underestimating the ability of mosquitos to

be noticed due to their size. "In this region, we have had a lot of mosquitos," she said, referencing the historical influence that leaders in the Northwest Corner have had on state legislation in spite of their municipalities' smaller stature.

"A lot of First Selectmen have been small town heroes," she continued, appealing to the leaders to be persistent in ensuring their residents' concerns are heard at the state legislative level.

Ohler tapped for CEO of Northwest Connecticut YMCA

TORRINGTON — The Northwestern Connecticut Young Men's Christian Association, Inc. (the Y) has named Brian M. Ohler as its new President and Chief Executive Officer, effective Feb. 3.

Selected by the Y's Executive Committee and approved by the Y's Board of Directors, following a nationwide search, Ohler will succeed Greg Brisco who is retiring on March 31 after more than 21 years.

In his new role Ohler will be responsible for bringing to life the Torrington Railroad Square Sports Center project, continuing the great strides made at the recently purchased YMCA Camp M.O.E. and Tall Timbers Outdoor Center, and ensuring that the Y meets community and member needs as we have done since the Y was opened in 1890.

As CEO, Ohler will lead the Y through branch locations in Torrington, Winsted and Canaan, Early Learning

Childcare Center and four Day Camps, Torrington and Winchester Youth Service Bureaus, Y Housing and Emergency Shelters and YMCA Tall Timbers Outdoor Center.

There will also be a continued effort to ensure that the Y remains a trusted and reliable housing partner, one that acknowledges and embraces the need for more affordable housing and shelter options, as well as fostering the perpetual growth of the Y House.

Ohler serves as the first selectman in North Canaan.

For the last seven years, he worked as regional director for safety and engineering at Hartford HealthCare.

"It's bittersweet to leave the hospital. But this opportunity puts me right back into our Northwest Corner communities. It's an honor to lead such a storied organization, and to help lead the way towards greater expansion and modernization efforts," Ohler stated.

Canaan Child Care Center earns national accreditation

Canaan Child Care Center, located in North Canaan, Connecticut, has earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children — the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children.

The association judges organizations on 10 standards, granting accreditation to im-

prove quality in early education and childcare centers.

Canaan Childcare center is also a School Readiness site, which provides financial support to most of the families who attend. School Readiness slots are available to families in the Region One school district. Contact Director Fran Chapell for more information.

Children's Theater auditions

The Falls Village Children's Theater will hold auditions for its Spring Production of Dinosaurs Before Dark, based on the beloved Magic Tree House book by Mary Pope Osborne. Auditions are open to children in grades K-8, offering both

onstage and backstage roles, on Saturday, Jan. 25 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at 103 Main St, Falls Village. Deadline to sign up is Jan. 17. Performances will be March 28, 29 and 30.

Visit www.thecenteronmain.org/spring-production for more information.

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Danbury Hospital



Our Towns

Newly named Bunny McGuire Park honors local legend

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — In recognition of her decades of service to the community, Bunny McGuire Park was named by the Board of Selectmen Jan. 6.

The newly named park on Main Street officially combines Lawrence Field, the large pavilion, Robert Jacquier Skating Area, the basketball court, the playground and the soon-to-be-created dog park into a single entity.

First Selectman Brian Ohler said this area is North Canaan's "special place." By naming it Bunny McGuire Park, Ohler said, the selectmen were "bestowing upon it the name of someone who embodies all of the good that our beloved town has to offer."

McGuire received an extended round of applause as



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Bunny McGuire stands in the park that now bears her name in North Canaan.

the selectmen unanimously voted to approve the name. She reported she was surprised to see her daughter, who lives in Sharon, attend the North Canaan selectmen's meeting but said it all

made sense once the surprise announcement was made.

"I'm just overwhelmed," remarked McGuire as she thanked the selectmen. "It's such an honor."

McGuire was born in East

Canaan and has served on the North Canaan Beautification Committee for roughly four decades, overseeing maintenance of the Community Arboretum and the seven town-owned garden beds.

Among her long list of civil service positions, McGuire is president of the board at Douglas Library, a volunteer poll worker for elections, on the board at the historical society, a justice of the peace, a regular helper at her church, and for many years worked at North Canaan Elementary School and Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

Ohler described McGuire as, "A person whose name is truly synonymous with service, kindness, civility and generosity."

A formal dedication ceremony will be planned for the spring of 2025.

Condo developers resubmit application for Sharon project

By Alec Linden

SHARON — Gold Dog LLC has reapplied to Planning and Zoning for approval for the construction of a village center residential housing development near Sharon Hospital. The initial application for this project was previously withdrawn in March 2023.

At the Jan. 8, 2025, P&Z meeting the commission voted to accept the application, which encompasses one parcel at 67 Hospital Hill Road and another at 82 Amenia Road, as a single application.

As a condition of approval, the parcels would be merged to form a single property of 8.02 acres, spanning the terrain between the two roads. The vote was not an approval of the application, but rather enabled the commission to review it as a unified project.

The proposed development, which the applicant has labeled "Hospital Hill Village Housing," consists of the construction of a 24-unit condominium on the property, as well as the demolition of an existing single-family home at 67 Hospital Hill Road. The site would be accessed via an entrance across the street from the hospital,

and would be served by municipal sewer and water.

P&Z moved to hold a site visit at 4 p.m. on Feb. 19, which will be weather dependent and open to the public, followed immediately by a public hearing at 5 p.m. at Sharon Town Hall.

Land Use Administrator Jamie Casey called for civility during the public proceedings. "If anybody is out of line, we halt the site visit," Casey said at the Jan. 8 meeting.

The application is available now for public viewing, and may be accessed as a PDF by emailing the Land Use Office at landuse@sharonct.gov, or as a paper copy, which will cost \$10 per page

for black and white and \$15 per page for color. Casey asked that those who wish for a paper copy submit a written request so that the office has time to copy the large document. The public is also invited to visit the Land Use Office during business hours and take pictures of the document.

Casey emphasized that interested civilians will have ample time to review the application, as the public hearing doesn't open until Feb. 19, after which it may continue for an additional 65 days. Planning & Zoning will not be able to review the application until the applicant delivers their presentation at the public hearing.

Trees, power lines brought down by wind

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — Weakened by subfreezing temperatures and dry conditions, trees and electric lines snapped due to sustained winds on Tuesday, Jan. 7, causing power outages and road closure in Cornwall.

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the damage at its

regular meeting that night.

Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department and Cornwall Highway Department first responders were dispatched to clear five roads blocked by trees and branches. A team extinguished a brush fire on Popple Swamp Road caused by a downed electrical line.

Eversource crews responded to outages on Scoville Road and Todd Hill Road.

"Thanks to the fire department, the highway department for being out there in frigid temperatures to deal with all this," said First Selectman Gordon Ridgway.

not sanguine. He said that the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority is wrapping up its activities as of July 1 of this year, two years ahead of the original schedule.

How this affects towns like Salisbury and Sharon, who share a transfer station, is unclear.

"Whatever the solution, we'll be paying for single stream recycling," Rand said, noting that right now the towns pay nothing for it.

Rand said this past year the budget for invasive controls — primarily hydrilla — on the Twin Lakes was double what was originally envisioned. "There's going to be a lot of pressure" for lake management in the upcoming budget.

All the selectmen agreed to keep asking the state Department of Transportation for help curtailing speeding in town.

Salisbury Board of Selectmen prepare for upcoming revaluation

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Board of Selectmen welcomed in the new year Monday, Jan. 6, by going over a list of issues likely to come up.

First Selectman Curtis Rand said budget season is underway, with town department heads and nonprofit organizations starting to submit their funding requests for the fiscal year of 2025-26.

Rand reminded Selectmen Chris Williams and Kitty Kiefer, and the general public, that 2025 is a revaluation year.

He noted that real estate prices have gone up considerably since the COVID-19 pandemic. "We'll see how that affects us and how we keep Salisbury affordable."

"Just because the values go up doesn't mean taxes will go up," he added.

On solid waste, Rand was

Sharon real estate ends year in flurry

By Christine Bates

SHARON — December saw the usual flurry of recorded real estate transfers totaling nine where money changed hands. Seven were single family homes, plus one vacant lot and one commercial property. Three of these sales were closed off market including the largest for \$1.4 million dollars on Dakin Road.

One transfer was recorded without payment for 160 Silver Lake Shores, transferred by an anonymous donor to the Sharon Housing Trust to build an affordable single-family home on 0.37 acres.

The median price of a Sharon single family home sold in 2024 was \$571,000. During the year 50 properties which were listed on the MLS were sold including 43 single family homes and seven pieces of land. These totals do not include off-market sales. At the beginning of January there were 13 houses for sale with seven of them listed at over \$1 million and 10 furnished homes for rent. There are 17 pieces of vacant land available with nine parcels larger than 10 acres.

Recorded Transactions

Dug Road — 2.7 acres of land sold off-market for \$62,000 by Victor Dinapoli to Quincy LLC.

3 Rolling Hills — 3 bedroom/1.5 bath cape sold by Gwen Fulco and Gail Fulco Tantoriski to Robert G. Wilbur for \$411,750.

11 Dakin Road — 59 acres including a two bedroom



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

The renovated 1963 ranch with a garage and barn on 1.08 acres at 114 Sharon Valley Road sold for \$425,000 on Dec. 6.

house sold by Lionel Goldfrank III to Fox Run Associates LLC for \$1.4 million.

107 Main St. — 4 bedroom/2.5 bath home sold by Charles E. Garris Trustee to Shawn Tenbrink and Petro Tammy for \$567,000.

276A Gay St. — 2 bedroom/2 bath ranch sold by Tara Cafiero to Laurence Laforgue and Jorge Otero-Paillos for \$610,000.

200 Low Road — 3 bedroom/2.5 bath home on 11.1 acres sold by Anne Dragger-Minoff to Tangerine LLC for \$680,000.

114 Sharon Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home sold by Kevin J. and Maud Hooogenboom to Matthew Falcone for \$425,000.

441 Route 7 — 4 bedroom/1.5 bath house sold by 2Card Inc to Windway Homes LLC for \$369,000.

29 Low Road — commercial building sold by Anzel Properties LLC to 29 Low LLC for \$812,000.

**Town of Sharon real estate sales recorded as sold between Dec. 1 and Dec. 31, 2024, provided by the Sharon Town Clerk. Property details provided in town tax cards. Note that recorded transfers occur after the actual real estate closing and will also include private sales. Current market activity from Smart MLS. Transfers with no consideration are not included. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Advisor with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.*

DeRisi joins Scoville as children's coordinator

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The new face in the children's section of the Scoville Memorial Library is Kyla DeRisi, who took the job of Children's Services Coordinator in early December 2024.

DeRisi lives in Woodbridge with her husband, Kevin Redline, who is a librarian at Quinnipiac University.

DeRisi worked as an assistant children's librarian at the Woodbridge Library. She holds degrees from Southern Connecticut State University and the Graduate Institute.

DeRisi, an engaging and cheerful person, said in a Jan. 2 interview that she enjoys working with children and families.

"All ages, from the tiniest all the way up."

Asked if she was plan-



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Kyla DeRisi

ning any dramatic changes, she laughed and said no, she was still learning the ropes.

"I found some small, easy ways to open up some space."

Her "Find the Grape" scavenger hunt for youngsters at a New Year's event Dec. 31 was a hit, as the searching children crawled all over the lower part of the library, discovering things such as an entire section of picture books along the way.

A Bank for the Next Generation

To George Whalen IV, relationships are what build community, and lending is a tool that helps people make things happen. He's seen it his whole life — the Bank of Millbrook working together with people like you, in this area that's thrived from his great grandfather's generation to his son's.

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Our Towns

Former NBA player visits HVRHS for lessons on addiction, recovery

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Former college and pro basketball player Chris Herren came to the Region One school district Wednesday, Jan. 8 to talk about addiction and recovery.

Sponsored by Community Health and Wellness, the former Boston Celtics player spent the day at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, holding separate sessions with middle school and high school students, and then an evening talk open to the public.

At the latter, Herren told his harrowing story. He grew up in Fall River, Massachusetts, with an alcoholic father.

He excelled at basketball, and went to Boston College, where he encountered cocaine.

In short order, he was asked to leave BC.

He got a second chance at Fresno State, and played well

enough to be drafted by the Denver Nuggets.

But the partying continued and progressed. After failing a drug test he was sent to his first rehab center, which didn't take.

Nonetheless, in 1999, after finishing college and being drafted by Denver, married and with a son, he seemed to be okay.

Until an old acquaintance came over to his Falls River home with OxyContin pills, looking to make a quick \$20.

Herren said he bought the pill mostly to get rid of the man. He took it almost as an afterthought, and thus began a long downhill trajectory.

By the time he got sober, he had been traded to the Boston Celtics, then cut; arrested numerous times for drug-related offenses; overdosed multiple times and was clinically dead for 30 seconds; and so on.

The beginning of the end came when retired NBA play-



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Chris Herren shared his story with Region One Jan. 8

er Chris Mullin, no stranger to addiction and recovery, arranged for him to go to a hardcore treatment facility.

There were significant bumps in the road still ahead, but as of Aug. 1, 2008, Herren came into recovery and stayed.

His two oldest children, now in their mid-20s, decided to avoid alcohol and drugs

on their own. His youngest child has only known him to be sober.

Herren runs a small rehab center now, and spends 200-250 days per year on the road giving presentations.

"The greatest gift ever is I've been able, for the last 16 years, to be a sane father. I've become the dad I wish I'd had."

Sharon town meeting establishes bridge fund

By Alec Linden

SHARON — Sharon residents and officials voted unanimously to approve a new bridge and road construction fund at a town meeting on Jan. 9. The fund will be initially financed with \$500,000 from the town's Undesignated Fund.

First Selectman Casey Flanagan and Board of Finance Chair Thomas Bartram, who fielded questions at the meeting, both described the principal funding as "seed money." Bartram explained that future capital may come from general levied taxes, state and federal grants, or "potentially floating a bond."

"This is the first conversation to break it to the community that we're serious about fixing these things," Flanagan said, noting that the actual costs of bridge and road maintenance will be "considerably more" than is currently available in the Undesignated Fund.

The newly established fund will be dedicated to repairing and strengthening the water crossings in town between six and 20 feet in length. Bridges over 20 feet are federally controlled, while crossings under six feet are "an unknown," admitted Flanagan, though he maintained that most of that size may be addressed "in house" without the support of the fund.

Questions from the floor primarily focused on the increased frequency of extreme weather due to climate change, and how the fund may protect Sharon's infrastructure against future damages from strong storms.

Flanagan said the firm working with the town, Cardinal Engineering, has extreme weather concerns at the forefront of its methodology.

"We need to be building for climate resiliency," said Flanagan.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
TAX COLLECTOR
TOWN OF
SALISBURY CT

Pursuant to Sec 12-145 of the Connecticut State Statutes, the taxpayers of the Town of Salisbury are hereby notified the third installment of the Grand List October 1, 2023 is due and payable January 1, 2025. Pursuant to Section 12-71b of the Connecticut State Statutes, the Supplemental Motor Vehicle tax is due on January 1, 2025. Payments must be received or postmarked by February 3, 2025. If said Real Estate, Personal Property and Supplemental Motor Vehicle taxes are not paid on or before February 3, 2025, interest at the rate of 1% (18% per year) will be added for each month from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until paid. Minimum interest \$2.00.

Mail to: Tax Collector, P.O. Box 338, Salisbury, CT 06068 or at Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 9am-4pm (Closed for lunch 12:30-1:30) or use the drop box located in the vestibule of the Town Hall, 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday. You may pay by E-Check or Credit Card at www.salisbw.yct.us. Click blue tab View/Pay Taxes. A fee is charged. Dated at Salisbury CT this 11th day of December 2024.

Jean F. Bell
CCMC Tax Collector
Salisbury CT 06068
12-19-24
01-09-25
01-23-25

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF KENT

The second installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and the Motor Vehicle Supplemental tax for the Grand List of 2023 is due and payable January 1, 2025. The second installment of the Real Estate, Personal Property and Motor Vehicle Supplemental tax for the Grand List of 2023 will become delinquent on Tuesday, February 4, 2025.

As soon as the tax becomes delinquent, it shall be subject to interest at the rate of 1.5% per month from January 1, 2025 until the same is paid.

Bills may be viewed and paid online by going to the Tax Collector's page on the Town of Kent website at

www.townofkentct.org.

There are two options for online payment: credit card or electronic check.

The Tax Collector's office will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. There is a red drop box next to the

front door of the Town Hall for payments. Payments are also welcome through the mail at P. O. Box 311, Kent, Connecticut 06757.

Deborah Devaux CCMC
Tax Collector
12-19-24
01-09-25
01-23-25

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 January 6, 2025:

Approved with Condition - Site Plan Application #2024-0272 by owner Peter Whitmore, for interior modifications to create an accessory apartment in accordance with section 208 of the regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 36 as Lot 20 and is located at 22 Robin Hill Lane, Salisbury.

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
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
STEPHEN J. GETZ
Late of Norfolk
(24-00505)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 17, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Peter Coffeen

c/o Mary M Ackerly
Murtha Cullina, LLP
782 Bantam Road
P.O. Box 815
Bantam, CT 06750
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF JOHN J.
ROCHE
Late of Massachusetts
(06-0131SA)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 17, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Judith J. Stackpole
c/o Paul H Burnham
Gregory & Adams, PC
190 Old Ridgefield Road
Wilton, CT 06897
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
MARION H.
BERGLUND
Late of North Canaan
(24-00485)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 19, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Thomas A. Berglund
c/o Jeffrey L Coploff
Trevenen & Coploff, LLC
18 Titus Road
Washington Depot, CT
06794

Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
ROSABEL GENITO
Late of Salisbury
(24-00510)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District

of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 19, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Deborah Denito
c/o Louise F Brown
Ackerly Brown, LLP
5 Academy Street
P.O. Box 568
Salisbury, CT 06068
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF ELLA
CLARK
Late of West Cornwall
AKA Ella L. Clark
(24-00492)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 19, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Cristina Moore Mathews
c/o Linda M Patz
Drury, Patz & Citrin, LLP
7 Church Street
P.O. Box 101
Canaan, CT 06018
Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
DOROTHY RIVKIN
Late of Taconic
(24-00506)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 31, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciaries are:
Nina Rivkin and Richard A. McGriff
c/o Emiy D Vail, Vail & Vail, LLC, 5 Academy Street, PO Box 568, Salisbury, CT 06068

Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
KENNETH P. TOWLE
Late of Norfolk
(24-00518)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 31, 2025, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Richard Towle
Kevin F Nelligan
c/o The Law Offices of
Kevin F. Nelligan, LLC, 194
Ashley Fls Rd., PO Box 776,
Canaan, CT 06018
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
LEON H. VERETTO
Late of North Canaan
(24-00515)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 19, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Leon F. Veretto
c/o Ellen C Marino,
Ellen C Marino, 596 Main
Street, Winsted, CT 06098
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
DUNCAN H MAGINNIS
Late of Salisbury
(24-00527)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated January 2, 2025, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such

claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Ogden P. Starr
c/o Emily D. Vail
Vail & Vail, LLC
5 Academy Street
PO Box 568
Salisbury, CT 06068
Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF ANN
BEIZER
Late of North Canaan
(24-00498)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 31, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Lance Kurt Beizer
c/o Stephen K Gellman
Shipman & Goodwin
LLP
One Constitution Plaza
Hartford, CT 06103
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
01-16-25

NOTICE TO
CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
JOAN H. WALLACE
Late of Lakeville
(24-00493)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated December 31, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciaries are:
Elizabeth Ainslie
Wallace
and George E. Wallace
c/o Mary M Ackerly
Murtha Cullina, LLP
782 Bantam Road
P.O. Box 815
Bantam, CT 06750
Megan M. Foley
Clerk
01-16-25

OBITUARIES

Florence Eugenia Cooper

NORFOLK — Florence Eugenia Cooper died on Sunday, Dec. 15, 2024, at the age of 92 at Geer Lodge in Canaan, Connecticut where she had been a resident for 2 1/2 years. She also spent a couple of days a week at the home of her daughter, the artist Hilary Cooper and her husband Chris Crowley, in Lakeville.



Florence (née Muhas) was born and grew up in Brooklyn, New York, the daughter of Greek immigrants. She went to local public schools and then to college at Barnard where she was mentored by Professor of Religion Ursula Niebuhr, wife of the philosopher Reinhold Niebuhr, who urged her to go to her alma mater St Hugh's College, Oxford University where she earned a D. Phil degree. Later, she received an M.A. in foreign policy with a specialty in China, at the London School of Economics.

Florence met her future husband, Kenneth Cooper, a Diplomatic Courier, in Athens where she was visiting and he was passing through. Ken grew up in Kansas, served in submarines at the end of World War II, and graduated from the University of Kansas under the G.I. Bill. Shortly after his marriage to Florence in 1958, he became a Foreign Service Officer and served as such for the rest of his professional life. His service brought the family to Frankfurt, Belgrade, Karachi, London, Washington D.C., Manila and finally Hong Kong. Their sixty-year marriage was the center and the joy of both their lives from the start to Ken's death in 2018. Florence was bookish and a

little shy. Ken had an easy social charm. They both had wonderful senses of humor. They had two children, Hilary, born in late 1958, and Christopher "Topher", born in 1960.

Florence wanted to work but that was not so easy in the 1960s and 70s, even for a gifted and lavishly educated woman. During the Washington assignment she searched for a job in vain (how many words can you type per minute was the usual question.) At the suggestion of a friend, she met with a remarkable woman who had started the Women's Rights Movement, Ruth Bader Ginsberg. Through that organization she found work at the State Department. When Ken was posted to Manila, she was given a commission as a consular officer issuing visas, often to young brides of servicemen at Subic Naval and Clark Air bases. She also ran the fraud unit which was a colorful challenge.

The single and central sadness of their lives was the loss of Topher of a traumatic brain injury in 2004. Shortly afterwards the couple moved to Norfolk to be near Hilary, opening a new chapter in their lives. One day Hilary brought Florence along to the Yale Art School community drawing group run by Sam Messer, who immediately gave her a pad and pencil. Florence demurred, and he said, "either you draw or take your clothes off and model!" She started drawing and never stopped, also becoming a sculptor. The drawing group and the Yale Norfolk community were a central joy and she and Hilary continued to attend sessions right up until last summer.

Violet Leila Woods

MILLERTON — Violet Leila Woods, 95, passed away peacefully on Jan. 1, 2025, in Mesa, Arizona. She was born on Jan. 23, 1929, in Brooklyn, New York. Following birth, Violet resided in Millerton, New York, where she lived until moving to Jacksonville, Florida following her retirement. She was preceded in death by her husband, Norman Woods; her parents, Henry George Rice and Eurie Marion Rice; her ten siblings; Audrey, Glendon, Joseph, George, Robert, Gordon, Beulah, Marion, Edith, and Betty. Violet, more commonly known as "Vi" lived a long, fulfilling, and wonderful life spent with family and friends.



Day to day, Violet spent time playing sudoku puzzles and was an avid reader, finding joy in exchanging books with friends. She also found great joy playing bingo, pinnacle, poker, and had a lifelong passion for knitting and crocheting, which she learned from her mother. Many friends or relatives have received sweaters, blankets, and afghans handmade by Vi. Her handmade gifts truly touched the lives of many.

She is survived by her children; Karan, Dianne (George), Ron, and Donna, children of her late husband, Sandy and Paul. She leaves behind her grandchildren, James II (Melissa), Jenna (Kevin), Joey, and Matthew (Jenna), as well as her three great-grandchildren; Bailey, James III, Georgie and many nieces and nephews. Her love and generosity will be missed by all who knew her.

Violet will be cremated in Arizona. Her celebration of life will be held on Jan. 26 at the Arlington Lions Club, starting at 1 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to the Arlington Lions Club in her memory. Donations can be made through their website at www.jaxarlingtonlionsclub.com/ or by check made to Arlington Lions Club, at 6523 Commerce St., Jacksonville, FL 32211.

Frederick Ralph Scoville II

WEST CORNWALL — Frederick Ralph Scoville II, 72, of 243 Town St., died Jan. 7, 2025, at the Waterbury Hospital surrounded by his loving family. Fred was the husband of 45 years to Lynn (Pollard) Scoville. Fred was born in Torrington, son of the late Ralph and Thalia (Hicock) Scoville.



Fred spent his whole life in West Cornwall. He attended Cornwall Consolidated and Housatonic Valley Regional High School. The only time he left was to attend the University of Connecticut for animal science. After school he came home to work with his father on the family farm taking over full-time in 1996 milking dairy cattle and selling hay. His life passion was the farm. He could always be found tinkering on equipment or surveying the neighborhood on his golf cart. The only thing that rivaled the farm was his love of his family. His wife, sons, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren meant the world to Fred.

After changing the farm from a dairy operation to all beef in 2006, Fred went to work for the Town of Cornwall Public Works, where he got to keep up on the town chatter. He was a founding member of the Cornwall Agricultural Commission and looked forward to the local Ag Fair each year. His expertise in judging maple syrup was unparalleled! He was

regularly seen around town giving "sage" advice to many local farmers.

In addition to his wife, Fred will be deeply missed by his sons, Stephen and Frederick R. Scoville III (Katherine) of West Cornwall. His sisters: Grace Kanderfer (Peter) of New Hartford; Elizabeth Cleaveland of Bloomfield; and Maria Bonetti (Walter) of East Canaan. Fred leaves behind his two grandchildren, Abbe Lynn and Frederick Ralph Scoville IV of West Cornwall. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Fred was predeceased by his infant sister, Priscilla, brother and sister-in-law Ralph and Marta Scoville of Denville, New Jersey.

Funeral services will be held on Jan. 18, 2025, at the West Cornwall Meeting House at 11 a.m. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours.

The family has requested that you come as you are and the way Fred knew and loved you. No fancy dress, no need to impress, just come as YOU.

Memorial donations in Fred's memory may be sent to the Cornwall Agriculture Advisory Committee Scholarship Fund, 26 Pine Street West Cornwall, CT 06796. Arrangements are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. Canaan, CT 06018.

Shelea Lynn Hurley

WASSAIC — Shelea Lynn "Shalay" Hurley, 51, a longtime area resident, died peacefully on Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025, at Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, following a lengthy illness. Her husband, Michael, was at her bedside when Shalay was called home to be with God.

Born April 19, 1973, in Poughkeepsie, she was the daughter of the late Roy Cullen, Sr. and Joann (Miles) Antoniadis of Amsterdam, New York. Shalay was a graduate of Poughkeepsie High School class of 1991. On July 21, 2018 in Dover Plains, New York she married Michael P. Hurley. Michael survives at home in Wassaic.

Shalay was a beautiful soul who would do anything for anyone. She enjoyed crafting, making wreaths, spending time with her husband Michael and playing with their dog Autumn. Shalay was a longtime member of Faith Bible Chapel of Shekomeko in Millerton, where she made many friends over the years.

In addition to her husband Michael, her mother Joann (Nick) and her dog Autumn, Shalay is survived by three children, Rebekah Anto-

niadis, Brittany Holton (Tyler) and Jimmy Antoniadis; three brothers, Thomas Cullen, Roy Cullen, Jr. and Shaun Cullen; four grandchildren, Ioannia, Adaline, Aubrey and Chandler and several aunts and uncles and many friends. In addition to her father, Roy Sr., Shalay was predeceased by her daughter, Savannah, her foster parents, Mr. & Mrs. Murphy, her grandparents, several uncles and her dear in-laws, James and Shirley Hurley.

Calling hours took place on Saturday, Jan. 11, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY. A funeral service was held at 12 p.m. at the funeral home. Pastor William Mayhew officiated. A private burial will take place at Amenia Island Cemetery in Amenia, NY at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Kidney Fund, 900 Walt Whitman Road, Suite 304, Melville, NY 11747. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Shalay's memory, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Send obituaries to johnc@lakevillejournal.com

In Loving Memory of Jeffery Jay Petkovich

May 12, 1968 to January 20, 1990

May the wings of Heaven blow softly and whisper in your ear How much we Love and Miss you and Wish that you were here.

You are loved deeply: Mom, Jamie, Nonnie

In Loving Memory of Peter C. Roosa

October 12, 1950 to January 11, 2019

Time slips by and life goes on But from our hearts you're never gone. We think about you always, we talk about you too, we have so many memories but we wish we still had you.

You are deeply loved: Phyllis, Jamie, Nonnie, The Petkovich and Roosa Family

RYAN FUNERAL HOME

255 MAIN STREET • LAKEVILLE, CT 06039

860-435-2700



CREMATIONS • FUNERALS • BURIALS • CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

CHRISTOPHER E. RYAN, SR

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JONATHAN J. RYAN

Worship Services	
Week of January 19, 2025	
<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>	<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Worship, Sundays at 10 am, in-person and streaming www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on YouTube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville Offering companionship along the Way Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9 a.m. Livestream at 10:30 found at www.trinitylimerock.org The Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons Sunday, February 9 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com All Are Welcome</p>
<p>FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>Congregation Beth David A reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264 info@congbethdavid.org</p>	<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>	<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall in person and on zoom Warm fellowship following service All Are Welcome! www.allsaintscornwall.org Rev. Mary Gates!</p>
<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>UCC in CORNWALL Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 www.uccincornwall.org Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>	<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!</p>	<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</p>

For more obituaries, see Page A8

Future of weight loss

More than 40% of Americans are now classified as obese while 75% of adults are either overweight or obese. A new group of drugs called GLP-1 receptor agonists have come on the scene to help in the battle to lose weight. Are they as good as we think?

You may have heard about them or some of their brand names like Zepbound, Wegovy, and Ozempic. The use of these drugs has exploded in popularity to the point where companies like Lilly and Novo Nordisk have had problems keeping up with demand. There is nothing magical about the science behind these drugs. GLP-1 mimics a protein naturally produced by our small intestines. The receptors for these medicines are located across the body. They help us lose weight because receptors in the gastrointestinal tract slow down and send signals to the brain that give us a sense of feeling full.

There are some side effects but nothing too serious for most patients. We are still learning how these medications impact the body. They are currently approved for treating diabetes, obesity, and those with a history of cardiovascular disease in people who are overweight. There are a few drawbacks to these drugs at present.

Typically, GLP-1 agonists are administered as injections in the abdomen, upper arms, outer thighs, or upper buttocks via a syringe and needle or a pre-filled dosing pen. The shots are generally taken once a day or once a week.

For many, this is a big turn-off. Fortunately, you will be able to take tablets soon. The typical weight loss is from 5-15% of body weight over at least 12 months. But GLP-1 is no quick fix. Like exercise, you must stick with it. If you stop taking it, most people regain the weight they lost. And you can't expect to magically lose weight while you continue to eat all that junk food you get.

The second drawback is the expense. These medications' list price is around \$1,000 a month to \$1,400 a month. Without insurance, we are talking \$12,000 plus per year for these drugs. Many insurance plans cover some portion of GLP-1 costs, but the extent of coverage can vary significantly. You probably are wondering whether Medicare covers GLP-1 medications. They do for certain medically accepted indications such as heart attack or cardiovascular disease but not for weight management. To qualify, you must have a BMI of 30 or higher, or 27 or higher with comorbidities like high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or type 2 diabetes. They are currently covered through Part D plans.

Coinurance amounts are pegged to the list price of drugs. As such, Medicare beneficiaries who qualify could still face monthly costs of \$250 to \$430 before they reach the annual out-of-pocket drug spending established by the Inflation

THE RETIRED INVESTOR BILL SCHMICK

Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA cap for out-of-pocket expenses were around \$3,300 in 2024 and will be \$2,000 in 2025. Most retirees living on modest incomes would still find the cost of GLP-1 prohibitive.

In November 2024, the Biden Administration proposed that Medicare and Medicaid cover obesity medications. In doing so, they sidestepped a twenty-year-old piece of legislation that prevented Medicare from covering drugs for 'weight loss.' The new proposal specifies that the drugs would be covered to treat the disease of obesity and prevent related conditions. Those conditions are serious and include diabetes, high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, sleep apnea, fatty liver disease, and arthritis.

The classification would also mean that every state Medicaid program would be required to cover the drugs starting in 2026. Between the two programs, an additional 7.4 million Americans would gain coverage.

An entirely new team of individuals, including a retired congressman, a surgeon, and a talk-show host could play pivotal roles in how the government goes about safeguarding America's health.

The price tag would be high, at least \$36 billion over a decade. However, there are more obesity drugs in the pipeline and prices should fall as competition heats up. Starting in 2025, Medicare will also be able to negotiate a lower price for Wegovy as well as many other popular drugs.

As for the future, the costs and usage of GLP-1 medications could change significantly under the second Trump Administration. An entirely new team of individuals, including a retired congressman, a surgeon, and a talk-show host could play pivotal roles in how the government goes about safeguarding America's health.

Under Robert F. Kennedy, an environmental lawyer, politician, and anti-vaccine organizer, we can expect radically different views and actions in health care, medicine, food safety, and science research. Early indications are that Kennedy, who would run the Department of Health and Human Services, is not a big fan of Ozempic. He does not believe that using popular GLP-1 drugs is ever going to make America healthy again. His remedy would be to provide good food to Americans. He believes that providing three nutritious meals a day to all Americans would solve obesity and diabetes overnight. The problem is that for many Americans the admonition to change your diet, eat less, and exercise more has failed to dent the problem. Why not give the country an avenue that shows a much better chance of success over the long term?

Bill Schmick is a founding partner of Onota Partners, Inc., in the Berkshires.



The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. each Monday. You may email letters to publisher@lakevillejournal.com. Please limit letters to 500 words.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Israel, not Canada, should become the 51st state

President Trump has proposed that Canada become the 51st state, however I believe that a more appropriate selection would be Israel. The benefits to both the U.S. and Israel would be enormous.

As a U.S. state, Israel would no longer have to go it alone for its defense. Not only would it have the full capability and resources of the U.S. military behind it, but all NATO countries as well. Given that seemingly most U.S. politicians in Washington currently consider Israel to have a special relationship with the U.S., typically described as "iron-clad," it seems natural to formalize this relationship with state-

hood and all the attendant benefits

According to the Council on Foreign Relations, Israel has cumulatively received \$310 billion (adjusted for inflation) in U.S. foreign aid. That is a staggering amount, larger than the annual GDP of the vast majority of countries. Imagine that. And just this month, President Biden requested an additional \$8 billion of aid for Israel. You would think that the many uninsured residents of Los Angeles who lost their homes in the recent fires would be a higher priority for this \$8 billion.

Statehood would also enable the U.S. to collect income taxes from Israel,

which would help pay for the defense and other resources that I and other American taxpayers pay to massively fund Israel's military. Israel would save lots of money because they would no longer need to have to spend so much of their GDP on defense, and they would no longer need to require their youth to serve in the military.

The United States' rule of law would also be a great benefit to the residents of Israel, all of whom would be guaranteed equal rights, regardless of religion or ethnicity. Approximately 50% of the population of "greater Israel" (which include the occupied territories) would no longer be second class. The

Palestinian residents would no longer have their land stolen and would no longer be threatened by both the state and vigilante settlers. In the occupied West Bank, they would be able to travel on the same roads and take the same busses as Jews, which is currently not the case. And they would not be subject to the ongoing genocidal slaughter. Immediately, the U.S. could start to restore its reputation of supporting human rights rather than being a complicitous partner in the current holocaust. Wouldn't that be a beautiful thing?

I propose the name of the 51st state to be Holyland.
Lloyd Baroody
Lakeville

The coverup of Joe Biden's decline

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) recently claimed that he only became aware of Joe Biden's severe cognitive decline after Biden's disastrous debate performance with Donald Trump last June.

This is the same line that most Democrats and liberal media are peddling today - that they had no inkling until late in Biden's term that anything was seriously wrong with the doddering old president.

Actually, the whole country knew about Joe's condition back in 2020. The national joke then was that his "basement campaign" wasn't about sheltering from COVID but hiding his cognitive decline from the American people.

After Biden's inauguration, it only got worse. He avoided unscripted forums, gave few press conferences and had early "lids" on his workdays. When he spoke from a teleprompter, he often got mixed up and read the stage directions, then had to be led away because he didn't know where to go. His bewilderment was increasingly obvious.

Whenever right-wing media reported Joe's gaffes, brain freezes, vacant stares, wanderings and stumblings, the entire liberal establishment from the White House to the mainstream press pounced on it as partisan "cheap fakes" from "Faux News."

But it wasn't fake, and we are still learning just how bad Biden's condition really was. The Wall Street Journal recently reported a former Biden aide quoting a national security official in March 2021, just weeks after Biden took office, "He has good days and bad days, and today was a bad day so we're going to address this tomorrow."

It is beyond shocking that a sitting U.S. president was so recurrently gaga that matters of state had to be put off until his "good days." One wonders how many life-and-death decisions Joe made (or failed to make) on his bad days. Did lapses occur during the deadly Afghanistan withdrawal?

Biden's entire senior staff and cabinet must have known what was going on. And there must have been rumors and whispers floating around Congress and news outlets. The debilitating decline of the commander in chief should have been of the highest national concern and priority with full public disclosure and constant news coverage.

Instead, Democrats and liberal media angrily denied that anything was wrong with Joe. They called him one of our greatest presidents ever. They claimed he was "always sharp in the Situation Room," as if he could reverse his deterioration at will.

The Democrats were even running Biden for a second term, risking national se-

curity by hoping he could function in ongoing crises, until that fateful June debate exposed the greatest presidential deception since Woodrow Wilson's debilitating stroke in 1919.

Even now, concerns are dismissed with excuses. Peter Baker of the New York Times recently gaslighted that confronting Biden about his condition would have been too

difficult - like the dilemma children face in taking the car keys away from aged parents.

Except this wasn't the car keys. It was the nuclear codes.

Every enabler who participated in this malfeasance should be ousted. Just how many "bad days" were there?
Mark Godburn
Norfolk

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Viewpoint

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

125 years ago —
January 1900

SHARON — Miss Alma Walton left last Wednesday morning for Brooklyn to take a six months course in stenography at Pratt's Institute. Mr. Walton accompanied her, returning the latter part of the week.

SHARON — Work upon the C.B. Dakin Co.'s store is going on rapidly and the ruins will soon be cleared away. We understand it is Mr. Dakin's intention to erect a temporary building in front of the barn connected with the store and there carry on his business until the store can be rebuilt, which will be but two stories when completed.

'Tis rumored that the Billiard Club in Sharon are to rent the room over Mr. Marckress' jewelry store, also that they will purchase a new pool table.

Ice harvesting has commenced and a good quality of 10 inch ice is being gathered from the lake.

J.M. Miller's stock of trunks and satchels was largely reduced during the holidays, but this week he has received a new lot making the stock complete in the latest styles. Also a large line of horse blankets, fur robes, etc.

The Lady Foresters held their installation of officers on Thursday evening and afterward a social dance was held, which all greatly enjoyed. A very prosperous and growing lodge is this and the members are meeting with great encouragement.

It is not often that the weather is such that golf can be played in January, but this has been a remarkable season. On January 9th Dr. and Mrs. Knight, Mr. Monahan and Mrs. Randall had a very pleasant golf contest on the Golden Gate links.

The residence of Dr. Bissell (the elder) came very nearly going up in flames Tuesday evening. It seems that some work was being done about the gas pipes in the house. At that time there was no gas in the mains and a cap had been taken off a pipe in the south east room up stairs preparatory to putting on a burner. In the meantime the gas had been turned into the mains, and about 5:30 the family noticed the unmistakable odor of escaping gas. They at once commenced a hunt for the leak. Miss May Bissell went up into the room above mentioned and struck a match in order to see the way. In an instant the gas flashed up into her face and all about her. Her mother was near at hand and immediately threw a heavy cloak over her head extinguishing the flames before she was seriously burned. Mrs. Bissell is to be complimented upon her presence of mind. In the meantime the lath between the walls was burning at a lively rate. The hose cart had been run to the scene, but a garden hose had been put into use with good effect and the blaze was put out without the aid of the large hose. There was some slight damage from water, but the outcome of the affair was fortunate.

From the Millerton Telegram — Jonas Tripp proba-

bly has the oldest horse in town. Old Sorrel Jack, 36 years old — fat as butter, slick as a mink, frisky as a kitten, sound as a dollar, nimble as a colt. Jonas uses him but little, but feeds him on knick-knacks and takes the best care of him for the good he has done.

LIME ROCK — A neat building has been erected near the lower foundry and an acetylene gas plant placed therein. This kind of light is now used in all the shops of the B.R. Co. and is far superior to kerosene lights which have heretofore been used.

100 years ago —
January 1925

One of the heaviest days of the new year for the electrical companies in the state will be January 24, for on that date will occur the long heralded, total eclipse of the sun which will throw over almost the entire state of Connecticut a pall of darkness equivalent to that of 40 minutes after sunset. This darkening of all but one portion of the state will mean that practically that every electric lamp in the state will be turned on for several minutes before and after totality. Having to furnish such a great amount of power at that time of day is as unusual for the electric companies as is the eclipse itself. Such eclipses occur in one locality only once in several centuries.

H. Roscoe Brinton has installed a new radio for W.P. Bishop.

Leonard Hunter was badly burned on the face.

The Chemical Company was called to John H. Garrity's Garage Sunday morning. A pail of gasoline had in some way caught fire, and a lad grabbed the pail and attempted to get it out of doors. It burned his hands and he dropped it. The gas ran down on one of the steam pipes to the furnace in the cellar and created another blaze. Those around the garage got busy with shovels and dirt and soon had the blaze extinguished, therefore the services of the fire company were not needed but they were on the spot ready to operate. One of the firemen Fred Ellis had his face all nicely lathered ready for a shave and when the alarm sounded he responded lather and all. Before he returned from the fire the lather had frozen to his face and Fred had to resort to a thawing out process before he could finish his shave. The affair created considerable excitement for a short time, but fortunately little damage resulted.

George Sylvernale has installed a radio set for Stanley Mather. Stanley can now reach 'em all, and when he puts his neck out through the window he even gets Chili.

50 years ago —
January 1975

Births were way down and deaths were way up in Salisbury in 1974, according to the annual vital statistics compiled by Town Clerk Lila Nash. There were 20 births recorded in town last year, as opposed to 32 in 1973. Marriages, which Mrs. Nash says "always stay about the same," totaled 48 as compared with 46 in the previous year. The most startling change was

in the number of deaths, which jumped from 46 in 1973 to 65 in 1974. Of those deceased, Mrs. Nash said, nine were age 90 or over. It was, unfortunately, "a violent year," with three deaths in auto accidents, one in a motorcycle accident, one in a fire, two by drowning and two by suicide.

Near-zero temperatures came to Northwest Connecticut Wednesday for the first time this season, and it appeared that Lake Wanonscopomuc in Lakeville was finally freezing over. The Lakeville Journal recorded a low of 6 Wednesday morning, but elsewhere in Lakeville there were several reports of an even zero. A ground thermometer in one spot recorded a chilly -10.

Harold Hansen, freshman state senator from Sherman, called this week for a ban on "flip-top" beverage cans and non-returnable beer and soda bottles. Senator Hansen, assuming chairmanship of the Senate Environmental Committee, became the first Senate co-sponsor of legislation which would create such a ban.

The Interlaken Inn asked the Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission Monday night for informal guidance on a proposal to convert eight apartments units now under construction into condominiums for sale.

The Brothers Pizza House in Lakeville now has fully complied with sanitary regulations on disposal of garbage and has been issued its restaurant license, Dr. H.E. Gallup, town health officer, said this week. Dr. Gallup said that a steel bin with a heavy cover has been installed behind the restaurant on Ethan Allen Street so that animals cannot scatter the garbage.

SHARON — Stuart Prindle with his wife Audrey left Monday in their camper for a leisurely six months of travel through the States. They will return home before taking up residence in Florida during the school year.

25 years ago —
January 2000

Although the town of Kent won't be sending any money, it will join a community coalition that will oppose federal legislation designed to improve American Indian recognition and expansion efforts. Kent, which is home to the 400-acre Schaghticoke Indian reservation, was one of nine towns statewide invited to join the coalition formed by the towns of Preston, Ledyard and North Stonington. Sharon was also invited to join the coalition despite not having a reservation within its borders.

A good town with good people is the reason Roma Pizzeria partners chose Canaan as the site for their third restaurant. Plans are to open within the next six weeks. Benny Ajro and brothers Tom and Louie Kolonja are the proprietors of the pizza and Italian eatery that will be situated on Main Street in the former Whistle Stop Cafe storefront. They are promising the best pizza in town — New York style, not baked in a pan, and 40 different varieties.

Owning Greenland — Shopping or invading an unreceptive private residence?

"The people (of Greenland) will benefit tremendously if, and when, it becomes part of our Nation."

—Donald J. Trump,
January 2024

On Jan. 7, in a non-threatening commentary, Trump initially spoke of buying Greenland without specifics on his tact for acquiring two other countries: Panama and Canada. This past week at a press conference, Trump shifted to harsh, warning commentary — he would, if necessary, use military and/or economy force on the three countries he wishes to acquire. Panama has no military, just a police force. Greenland is an autonomous territory of Denmark, a member of NATO. Trump indicated that our neighbor Canada would only be in line for economic corrections.

Initially, Trump had been clear that he wanted to buy Greenland. This monster of an idea wasn't new with Trump. For a hundred and sixty years plus some American of stature has pressed for this acquisition. In 1867, it was considered by Secretary of State William Seward to annex Greenland with Iceland while he negotiated the purchase of Alaska from Russia. In 1910, an exchange of Greenland for U.S. territories was proposed. In 1946, at the close of WWII, an offer was made to Denmark by Secretary of State James Brynes, the \$100 million in gold bullion offer was rejected. In 1917, the U.S. did successfully purchase from Denmark the Danish West Indies — renamed the Virgin Islands — as strategic security for the newly constructed Panama Canal.

Greenland (Kalaallit Nunaat), is the world's largest island, three times the size of Texas, the northernmost undisputed point of land in the Arctic. Greenland is tricky, it is a large rock surface 80% covered by an ice sheet nearly 3,200 meters (2 miles) thick. In Greenland the energy resource is 81% renewables (100% renewables targeted by 2050). Although Greenland and its surrounding seas are rich in difficult-to-extract oil and gas, the government in 2021, banned all future oil and gas exploration. Greenlanders know the impacts of global warming.

Eighty-nine percent of Greenland's population of 56,000 — its heritage and culture — is of Inuit descent, 7.5% are Danes. Towns and cities are clustered along the ice-free southern island tip. Greenland, a Danish territory since 1380, became an autonomous territory in 2008, all Greenlanders are Danish citizens, all Greenlanders are EU (European Union) citizens.

Why Greenland — why sustained U.S. interest over a century and a half? Why heightened rhetoric about its acquisition? The U.S. isn't hooked by the dominant fishing industry — 90% of Greenland's current economy. Rather size, strategic location, proximity are long standing factors joined more recently by the presence of rare mineral and gem deposits.

Greenland's location is key — always as a buffer for U.S. security in the North. More recently its location as a prime trade and transport advantage with waterways

OPEN SPACE

KATHY
HERALD-
MARLOWE

from Asia altered northward by the melting of the Arctic. Being the earth's northernmost land point is advantageous for Greenland as ownership of the Arctic area fumes as an international debate among Russia, the U.S., Canada, Denmark, and Greenland over who owns the North Pole. With acquisition of Greenland, U.S. ownership positioning would be strengthened.

In 2020, Thule Air Base, operating in Greenland since WWII, was transferred to the United States Space Force, newly created in the previous Trump administration, and renamed Pituffik Space Station. This space v air base is described as housing missile warning systems along with space surveillance and control sensors. The U.S.'s northernmost military base has expanded its scope, upping its strategic importance.

The U.S. government, U.S. corporations and U.S. billionaires hold eyes and desires for Greenland. It doth promise to be a green, green land.

Why not Greenland?

'Greenland is ours. We are not for sale and will never be for sale. We must not lose our long fight for freedom.'

—Múte Bourup Eged,
Greenland PM

Without upscale pressures of force, Greenland doesn't present as a receptive audience for acquisition particularly by the U.S. where capitalism holds sway and its diversity conscience is waning. Positioned in the Arctic where global warming is most advanced coupled with a dominant Inuit culture having experienced years of being "lesser" (unequal treatment, access and wages), an indigenous resistance to extractive capitalism is deep

and active in Greenland. Oil and gas extraction is banned, renewables are the energy sources of choice.

In the past, Greenland's icesheet shrank annually and was renewed annually with Arctic snows and cold. In recent years the ice shrinkage hasn't been replaced, warming effects are threatening.

'Ice in the West Antarctic and over Greenland, i.e., ice that's over a rock at the moment, that will raise the level of the sea as it slides into the ocean, putting at risk everyone and everything that lives on the coasts, and includes an enormous percentage of the world's people.'

Bill McKibben

Some here may doubt warming impacts, some may snicker and some may recall recent photos of Americans along the Atlantic coast moving their homes back from a receded shoreline and struggling to obtain home insurance in areas susceptible to ever increasing storms eroding shorelines.

A brouhaha is brewing. It isn't active, but it's surprisingly aggressive, this rumbling of takeovers of nations who have been longtime neighbors and friends. Trump isn't yet President, no real estate slam dunk has been proposed and accepted, no tariffs cited, there is not yet a Trump appointed Ambassador to Denmark — there's a nominee to be confirmed. Trump has dispatched his crack negotiator, skilled Donald Trump Jr., recently for a private visit to Greenland perhaps to smooth talks, lay positive foundations for discussions. Perhaps these talks weren't congenial.

Like other emerging policies and potential aggressive actions suggested by Trump or his forming administration, an acquisition of Greenland, by many possible means, shapes pathways for expanded access and new streams of money for many.

Kathy Herald-Marlowe lives in Sharon.

Status Report

NORTH CANAAN — Subfreezing temperatures allowed for the pavilion's Robert Jacquier Skating Area to open last week. North Canaan Recreation Commission reminded skaters of the rink rules: Ice skates required; Hats or helmets required; No more than 25 skaters at a time; Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult; No eating, drinking, smoking, loitering, dangerous acts, abusive

language, pets, hockey, stick or puck play allowed. Skaters skate at their own risk while the rink is open.

SHARON — A large pony and a small pony were spotted running loose near Dug Road the evening of Jan. 8. A social media effort spread the word and Animal Control Officer Lee Sohl reported the pair was successfully led home by their owner later that night.



Realtor® at Large

Robert Thorson is a professor of Earth Sciences at UCONN and the coordinator of the Stone Wall Initiative, which is a resource for protecting our historic stone walls here in New England. For more information on the Stone Wall Initiative, please visit: stonewall.uconn.edu/about-swi/mission-and-purpose/. Robert makes the case of how important these stone walls are to both the history and culture of New England and highlights the threats to their very existence by the strip mining of existing walls. An excellent article in the Smithsonian Magazine was written by Robert and can be found at www.smithsonianmag.com/travel/how-stone-walls-became-a-signature-landform-of-new-england-180983250/



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WAGES

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lowed by subsequent adjustments tied to the percentage change in the federal Employment Cost Index (ECI).

In making the announcement, Lamont said the new law “ensures that as the economy grows, the wages of low-income workers can grow with it. This is a fair, modest adjustment for workers who will invest their earnings right back into our economy and support local businesses in their communities.”

According to Connecticut Labor Commissioner Dante Bartolomeo, the ECI increased by 4.2% over the 12-month period ending on June 30, 2024, accounting for the 66-cent hourly wage hike on Jan. 1.

“Minimum wage increases help ensure that no Connecticut worker gets left behind,” Bartolomeo said.

From 2022 to 2023, average salaries in Connecticut rose 3.1%, with the state having the fifth-highest average wage in the country, according to the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA).

State officials estimate 10% of the state’s workforce, about 169,000 workers, earn the minimum wage.

More harm than good?

Several Northwest Corner employers described the state’s method for doling out wage increases as burdensome and broken, and that they have little choice but to shift their hiring focus to employees whose productivity levels match the higher minimum wage.

As a result, the most vulnerable, especially those who may lack on-the-job training and have a lower literacy or disability and are most in need of employment, training and experience, will be negatively impacted.

Others are at risk of losing, or have lost important benefits such as health insurance, food and energy assistance, or even affordable housing because their new raises push them over the maximum income limits to qualify for benefits.

Carolyn Piccirelli, founder of Honeychurch Home in Salisbury, said although her business is not affected by the minimum wage hike as all employees are paid above that level, she supports efforts to increase wages.

However, she said she is aware of people who are being bumped off assistance programs because the latest minimum wage hike put them over the maximum income limit.

“What they have to do is find a work-around like reducing their hours” to maintain assistance, said Piccirelli. “As a result, employers have to hire more people.”

Piccirelli, who is expanding and relocating her business to Lenox, Mass., said she is in favor of a higher minimum wage, even though she feels lawmakers were oblivious to the negative impact the raises would have on small businesses.

“I don’t think any minimum wage is enough, frankly,” she noted. “It’s very common for the government to do things and not consider the fallout. The affected small businesses have to be part of the solution,” she said.

Lindell’s Riva had this warning for Connecticut lawmakers: “You are putting a lot of businesses out of business,” as California did when it raised its hourly minimum wage to \$20. “Now you have many businesses that can’t make the next payroll and the economy hasn’t been strong.”

A better solution, said Riva, would have been to limit the wage increases only



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Ryan Craig, owner of the Berkshire Country Store in Norfolk, said the rising minimum wage has negatively impacted his business, as well as some of his workers.

to workers age 21 and older and reserve a lower minimum wage for those ages 16 to 21, giving that younger age group time to gain experience and hone their work skills.

Minimum Wage Threat

According to the nonprofit Employment Policies Institute (EPI), which focuses on issues that affect entry level employment, research shows that raising the minimum wage hurts the least-skilled and least-experienced job seekers the most, “while having little to no effect on poverty rates.”

The EPI noted that a new survey conducted by CorCom Inc., a data management firm, and Carnegie Mellon University asked economists about their reaction to a \$15 minimum wage. “It finds that 62 percent of U.S.-based economists oppose a \$15 federal minimum wage,” EPI reported.

Three-quarters of respondents (75%) said that a \$15 federal minimum wage “would have harmful effects on youth employment levels” and 81 percent of respondents said that a \$15 minimum wage would make it more difficult for small businesses to stay in business.

Additionally, research conducted by economists from Miami and Trinity University found that as many as 1.2 million jobs could be lost with a \$17 minimum wage

“Sixty-two percent will be among women, and 63 percent will be lost among 16- to 24-year-olds,” EPI reported.

I can’t be a first job anymore?

On a recent weekday in Norfolk’s quaint business center, Berkshire Country Store owner Ryan Craig greeted vendors, met with customers

and assisted his bare-bones staff.

During a quick break, he recalled not so long ago when he had two store locations and 18 employees, 12 of them in Norfolk and a half-dozen in Canaan, which has since closed. Now he has six employees working full- and part-time.

Just days earlier, Berkshire Country Store marked its eighth anniversary, but its owner said he fears for his business’ future, as well as other small businesses in Northwest Corner, with no end in sight to the wage hikes.

“I think small towns are going to be in a world of hurt,” Craig predicted.

“When we opened the minimum wage was less than \$10 an hour. That kind of stayed put for a while, and now it is \$16.35,” he noted. To survive, the entrepreneur has raised costs and reduced hours of operation and staff. But it’s still a struggle, he said.

Like Riva in Canaan, Craig said he has stopped hiring high school students because “I can’t be a first job anymore.”

The Norfolk business owner said he is not against better pay for workers. He just thinks the system for handing out the raises is broken.

“Look at the cost of living here, and the struggle to find employees. They can’t afford to live in Norfolk,” said Craig, whose current staff commutes from Winsted. “And, soon, they may not be able to afford to live in Winsted.”

“If we are giving them a raise and they do better, that would be one thing. But because of the rising minimum wage, some of them are getting pulled off state benefits. So for that \$1 an hour raise,

they are now paying \$500 a month for insurance, and also the deductibles.”

Craig said he feels like workers are being set up to fail.

“I feel like I’m doing something for the employees that is not helping them. And if it’s not helping me, then who is it helping?”

PHONES

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person’s reasonable expectation of privacy by using such devices with photographic capabilities in student locker rooms, restrooms, any other student changing areas, or the classroom, whether such use occurs during the instructional school day or on school property. Cellular telephones and other wireless communication devices may not be utilized to take unauthorized ‘photographs’ or ‘videos’ while on school property, while on school-sponsored transportation or while a student is engaged in school-sponsored activities. Use in a manner that is profane, indecent, obscene, threatening, discriminatory, bullying or harassing language, pictures or gestures.”

There are exceptions. “There is educational value in utilizing cellular telephones or other wireless communi-

cation devices in the classroom when such devices deliver content, and extend, enhance, and/or reinforce a student’s learning process.. The appropriateness of in-class use of these devices consistent with the instructional objectives within instructional time will be determined by the classroom teacher with the approval of the building principal or designee.”

And “Exceptions to the restrictions in this policy, in part or in its entirety, may be made for health, safety and emergency reasons by the principal and/or designee.”

Devices may be confiscated for violations. “Unauthorized use of these devices is grounds for confiscation by school officials, including classroom teachers. Repeated unauthorized use of such devices may lead to disciplinary action and/or behavioral intervention support(s).”

Send news tips to editor@lakevillejournal.com

OBITUARIES

Mary Carroll Marden

SALISBURY — Mary Carroll (“M.C.”) Marden, 80, of New York City, passed away on Dec. 27, 2024, at her weekend home in Salisbury.

M.C. was born Dec. 20, 1944, in Bronxville, New York, daughter of the late Nicholas B. and Kathryn F. Marden. M.C. graduated from Briarcliff High School and received her B.A. in English Literature from Elmira College in 1966. M.C. began her career as a copywriter at Harper and Row Publications and spent most of her professional life working for Time Inc. in New York City,

starting out as a researcher for Time-Life Books and rising to the position of Picture Editor for People Magazine. M.C. was passionate about photography and many of her closest friends were photographers and photo editors she had worked with over the course of her career. M.C. loved traveling and made frequent trips to London and Paris throughout her life, but she also had an enormous love of the American West and spent many summers in Montana with her close friends and family.

M.C. is survived by her

nieces and nephews and her beloved English Cocker Spaniel, Jenny. Her older brothers, Michael and Brice died in 2010 and 2023, respectively.

A memorial service for M.C. will be held at a later date in New York City.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Schwarzman Animal Medical Center, Attn: Development, 510 E. 62nd Street, New York, NY 10065 (www.amcnyc.org/donate).

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Donald Francis ‘Frank’ McNally

MILLERTON — Donald Francis “Frank” McNally Jr., passed away peacefully at Vassar Brothers Medical Center on Wednesday Jan. 8, 2025, after a short illness. Frank was a resident of Millerton since 1996. He was born on Jan. 27, 1955, in Cold Spring, New York, at Butterfield Hospital and was raised in Garrison, New York, where he enjoyed exploring and camping in the wilderness of the Hudson Valley, participating in the Boy Scouts as a bugler, and competing as captain of his high school wrestling team.

He was a graduate of James I. O’Neill High School in Highland Falls class of ‘74 and SUNY Cobleskill class of ‘76 where he majored in animal husbandry, specializing in equine science. He then proudly volunteered for the United States Peace Corps where he accepted an assignment to his host country of the Philippines, where he met his wife. Frank would then pursue his lifelong passion for horses and horseback riding on several horse farms in Dutchess County. Later he would work

for New York state where he would then retire, spending his time caring for animals, reading, fishing and taking photographs. Frank enjoyed a good laugh with family and friends, while also occasionally winning a game of RISK. Frank was an avid reader, often reading several books a week while in the constant company of his cat.

Frank is survived by his wife and best friend, Paz (Alpez) McNally who resides in Millerton, and two sons, Patrick A. McNally and Philipp F. McNally; his daughter in-law, Erin McNally and his beloved grandchildren, Jack and Lila who brought him immeasurable joy in his life. Frank is also survived by his sister, Mary R. (McNally) Gutierrez and her husband Victor and their son Juan, and his brother,

Daniel McNally Sr., and his daughter Jacqueline and son Daniel Jr. He was predeceased by his father Donald F. McNally Sr. and his mother Jacqueline (Adams) McNally.

There are no calling hours. At Frank’s request, cremation has taken place at Poughkeepsie Rural Cemetery in Poughkeepsie. A celebration of Frank’s life will take place in the spring. Memorial Contributions may be made to the NorthEast-Millerton Library, P.O. Box 786, Millerton, NY 12546 or to a local animal shelter of your choice. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family or to plant a tree in Frank’s memory, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

For more obituaries, see Page A5

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DATA BREACH

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activity.”

“To address the breach, PowerSchool collaborated with a cybersecurity firm to communicate with the threat actor and obtained video evidence confirming the destruction of the compromised files. According to PowerSchool, to the best of their knowledge, the data was not shared or duplicated. As a precaution, they have implemented enhanced security protocols to prevent future incidents.”

In a phone interview Saturday, Jan. 11, the superintendent said the data was “demographic” information

such as addresses and phone numbers of students, families and Region One staff.

She reiterated that “to the best of our knowledge” the data has been destroyed.

Asked if Region One will be getting a bill for the cybersecurity firm hired by PowerSchool to deal with the breach, she said no.

She said the breach was part of a much larger international operation.

At the local level, Region One has upgraded its administrative security procedures, she added.

CAMERAS

Continued from Page A1

of Kent appropriate the sum of \$46,296 to purchase two ATEs Devices for deployment within the Town of Kent?” (Yes: 103, No: 388)

Traffic enforcement cameras were approved for use in Connecticut by general assembly vote in June 2023. It is up to municipalities to implement the cameras.

To date, Washington is the

only town in Connecticut to approve use of the devices.

First Selectman Marty Lindenmayer said speeding is an issue in town, particularly near the elementary school, but the voters made it clear that speed cameras are not the solution for Kent.

“We will continue to look at ways to improve pedestrian safety,” said Lindenmayer.

Local Matters

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

CAMP: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Christopher Wadsworth retires after 43 years of service at Camp Sloane

After more than four decades of dedicated service, Chris Wadsworth has retired from his role as director of Camp Sloane YMCA in Lakeville, Connecticut. His retirement marks the end of an era, with Wadsworth having been an integral part of the camp's growth and success since 1978. His tenure, which spans two periods—1978 to 1985 and 1990 to 2024—has been characterized by unwavering commitment, love, and care for the camp's mission and its community.

"Camp Sloane has been my life," said Wadsworth, reflecting on his extensive time at the helm. "I love that place, and it's been so rewarding to help it grow and thrive."

Under Wadsworth's leadership, the camp has maintained its charm and beauty, thanks to his tireless efforts in overseeing its upkeep and operations. Starting out working part-time when he was still in college, Wadsworth learned a lot of his handyman skills on the job. "It's an amaz-



Chris Wadsworth at Camp Sloane.

PHOTO BY NATALIE WADSWORTH

ing place to work. It's a long day and we just go nonstop so it's a pressure cooker, but everyone is there for each other," said Wadsworth.

Wadsworth's dedication to the camp has extended beyond his professional responsibilities. "It's a year-round job, and there's always something to do—whether it's building projects in the winter or preparing for the next season," he explained. "In the fall, we're all exhausted, but it's not too long before we're already thinking about

next summer."

Wadsworth stressed the importance of the support he always received from a remarkable team, including the camp's director Rhino Merrick, executive director Paul "Bear" Bryant, and facilities director Dave Wright. Wadsworth emphasized that the success of the camp has always been a team effort. "We've been very fortunate to have an incredible group of people here," said Wadsworth. "And the community has been amazing.

Our tradespeople have become friends, and the community support has been outstanding. The town of Salisbury has been top-notch to work with."

Wadsworth officially retired on Dec. 31, 2024, and enjoyed a retirement party the first weekend in January at the Interlaken Inn. "I was humbled by all the nice comments and thoughts. It was really something," he said. In passing the torch to Dave Wright,

Continued on next page

ART: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Telling Stories: a conversation with Dani Shapiro and Laura Karetzky

On Saturday, Jan. 18 at 5:30 p.m., the first in a new series of conversations called "Telling Stories" will take place at Spring Hill Vineyards in New Preston, Conn. Moderated by writer and teacher Maggie Levine, this inaugural session will feature bestselling author Dani Shapiro and Brooklyn-based painter Laura Karetzky in a discussion about their creative processes, storytelling techniques, and the connections between their art forms.

Shapiro, author of eleven books, and the host and creator of the hit podcast "Family Secrets," and Karetzky, known for her narra-

tive-driven paintings, will explore how they weave multiple perspectives and non-linear narratives into their respective works. "The reason I paired Laura with Dani is because Dani's work, even in her fiction, is not linear. She jumps around in time and weaves different perspectives. Laura's narrative paintings do something similar—they often tell multiple

stories through layers and perspectives," said Levine, who founded her newsletter and social platform, ArtWrite, to explore the intersections of art and writing. Levine will guide the conversation, highlighting the common threads between these two artists' practices.

"I was beginning to see the danger in adhering to a single narrative,

hewing to a story," said Shapiro about writing. "The peril wasn't only in getting it wrong, it was a kind of calcification, a narrowing, a perversion of reality that hardened and stilled the spirit."

Continued on next page



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

Erin Ash Sullivan, the evening's featured act, performing her music for a rapt audience.

MUSIC: ALEC LINDEN

Coffee house night brings music and beyond to the Northwest Corner

This year's first installment of the 12 Moons Coffee House open mic and performance kicked off to a packed house despite bracing weather on Saturday, Jan. 4.

"This is the best thing you can do on a freezing evening," said the night's featured performer, singer-songwriter Erin Ash Sullivan. Applause and murmurs of assent filled the vaulted interior of Falls Village's Center on Main.

The event, which is funded entirely by donations, occurs on the first Saturday of each month and has, except for hiatus during the pandemic, been running since 2012. Since taking over in 2022, the night usually draws between 30 and 50 attendants, said John Nowak who organizes 12 Moons with his wife Nancy. "Tonight we have about 60," Nowak said.

The evening's structure followed the standard 12 Moons layout, starting with an open mic session which was then followed by the featured artist taking the stage at 8 p.m.

Nowak explained that he sees the night as a showcase of the deep and thriving music community in the region, as well as a supportive platform for newer performers to showcase their work.

The event has a strong regular following — "We have people who come every month," Nowak said — but continuously draws new participants. "There has always been somebody new for the open mic for two and a half years," Nowak explained, referencing his tenure as the event's organizer.

Saturday evening's open mic showcased the varied and vibrant Northwest Corner talent pool, closing with David Capellaro reciting his own original poetry, a few lilting tunes from local legend George Potts, and a couple of traditional songs performed a cappella by South Kent resident John Milnes Baker, who runs his own folksong night on the second Monday of every month

Continued on next page

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... 12 Moons

Continued from previous page

at the Bulls Bridge Inn. One of Milnes Baker's songs related an amusing tale about a traveler who unwittingly gets wrapped up in a strange barter system involving mink skins in Arkansas. When asked where he found the song, he said he wasn't sure — he's 92, and heard it as a teenager.

He said he grew up on the south shore of Long Island among a rich bal-ladeering culture, and has a good memory for a tune. "I literally know hundreds of songs," he said.

After a short break, it was time for Ash Sullivan to take the stage as the night's featured act. "What we try to do is get local, professional artists to be our featured act — and we have," said Nowak, noting that they now are exploring artists from further afield in New England.

Ash Sullivan, who hails from Harvard, Massachusetts, thanked the crowd and other performers before diving into the set. "This is like the best open mic I've ever been to," she said to cheers from the audience.

The songs Ash Sullivan played stuck close to home, focusing on her hometown, friends,

family, and intimate moments shared between loved ones. She sang about her grandmother, who was cast on the original Broadway staging of Oklahoma but backed out to marry Ash Sullivan's grandfather, and how she wished she could have gotten more stories from her when she had the time. She also sang about motherhood, memories of going to the beach with a difficult teenage friend, and a difficult summer at home after college.

The songs were simultaneously tender and humorous, the vocals primarily accompanied by her finger-picked guitar except for one for which she played the ukulele. "Ukulele players are like vampires — they tend to sire other ukulele players," she said, explaining that her husband's ukulele playing had inspired her to take up the instrument.

She closed with a song about rejoining — and winning — a hometown pie eating contest as an adult after having won it twice as a pre-teen. The refrain encapsulates the air of levity and sentimentality that was consistent throughout her set: "Sweetness brings a sweetness that money just can't buy."

... Wadsworth

Continued from previous page

who has been with Camp Sloane for 15 years, Wadsworth said, "I've worked with Dave for so long, and I know the camp is in great hands."

Looking ahead, Wadsworth plans to spend more time with his family, particularly his wife, who is very active in Falls Village, and his two children, who both had the opportunity to experience camp life. "It was wonderful having my family at the camp. My kids loved it, and I never had to worry about them being embarrassed by their dad working there," he laughed.


Although he seems ready to take a step back, Wadsworth expressed a desire to stay involved in the local community. "I hope to be more active in town now that I have more time," he said, alluding to his future plans to take on handyman projects at his own home and perhaps even lend his skills to local initiatives.

"I'll miss the community, the team, and the work. It's been inspiring, and I'm proud of everything we've accomplished. I know the camp will continue to thrive, and I'm excited to see what's next," said Wadsworth.

Chris Wadsworth's contributions to Camp Sloane are immeasurable, and his legacy will continue to inspire future generations of campers and staff. As he steps into retirement, the community he helped build will remain a testament to his hard work, dedication, and love for Camp Sloane. "I'll miss the community and my coworkers," said Wadsworth, "but I know it's in really good hands. And that's the truth."

For those who want to send a message of thanks, Chris Wadsworth can be reached at cwadsworth@campslope.org.

At The Movies

		SHOWTIMES & TICKETS ▶	
FRI 01/17 > THU 01/23		(518) 789-0022	themoviehouse.net
QUEER	January 19 & 20 Only	THE GOONIES 40th Anniversary	
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ENTERTAINMENT: CAROL KNEELAND

Copake Grange readies for 2025 with an activity-packed calendar

Rita Jakubowski, recording secretary and membership director for the Copake Grange, says the 2025 calendar, already packed with events for all and open to the public, is the result of the group's increasingly diverse membership, up from seven in 2018 to 125 today.

The playlist for a "Love to Dance" Party, on Saturday, Jan. 18, from 7 to 9:30 p.m., the brainchild of Madeline Silverman, will feature songs which contain the words "love" or "dance" with suggestions submitted to tinyurl.com/JanuaryDance. Held several times a year, Jakubowski says, young people come out "in droves" for the party.

Donations of \$5 and items for the Roe Jan Food Pantry and emergency supply cabinet at the Taconic Hills School are appreciated.

Movie Night's "Mississippi Burning" in recognition of Martin



PHOTO BY RITA JAKUBOWSKI

Chili lovers had a feast as they decided on their favorites at the Chili Cook-Off at the Copake Grange. The winner of the next competition, planned for Saturday, Jan. 25 from 5 to 7 p.m., has been a hot topic around town for months.

Luther King Day, is set for Sunday, Jan. 19, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. The movie is free with a \$10 fee for a following meal of soup, salad and bread to help with the historic building's "never ending needs."

Months-long competitive talk of the "legendary" fourth Annual Chili Cook-Off, will be settled on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

when attendees taste samples and vote for the best entry. Chili may be purchased to eat there or take home.

To participate in "Jammin' at the Grange," on Saturday, Jan. 26, from 4 to 5:30 p.m. or the next free Open Mic Night scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 1 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. contact lennybarham@gmail.com "Making Collages" on

Saturday, Feb. 1, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for children seven to 18 will be led by Grange artists Liz Fenamore and Deborah Macheski. The \$5 admission fee will include art supplies.

For more information on the Grange at 628 Empire Rd. near the Clock Tower, go to www.copakegrange.org or email copakegrange@gmail.com.

... stories

Continued from previous page

"I believe that we are experiencing concurrent truths that are in constant flux," said Karetzky. "It's only when I start putting an image down on canvas that I begin to understand the myriad complexities of a particular story. It's through this process that I begin to unearth what I actually think and see."

This conversation will take place at Spring Hill Vineyards, located along the Shepaug River in New Preston. Established in 2006 by Stephanie and Tim Ingrassia, the vineyard is also the site of Spring Hill Arts Gathering, a summer arts festival hosted in the vineyard's gorgeous barn space. The conversation will be hosted

in this same charming barn, offering an intimate setting for this exciting new series.

This free event is open

to the public, with reservations encouraged. For more information and to reserve a seat, visit www.springhillvineyards.com.

springhillvineyards.com/events or email contact@springhillvineyards.com.



PHOTO BY BEOWULF SHEEHAN



PHOTO BY NELSON HANCOCK

Dani Shapiro, left, and Laura Karetzky, above.



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COMPASS

Ungardening in January: Seeds

It is time to think about seeds for spring planting and time to plant seeds that require overwintering to break their dormancy and germinate in the spring. That is my January project, planting the native seeds collected mostly from my garden, the meadow and the woods. I will use the tried-and-true method, re-using plastic gallon jugs which I have saved for this purpose. I cut around the jug, four inches from the bottom, leaving about an inch of the plastic attached so that it hinges open. The bottom is filled with soil and dotted with seed, then I tape the top to the bottom to create a kind of greenhouse. These can be left outside until it starts to warm up, and the tops can then be removed. Be sure to label the jugs in a way that will not succumb to the elements – even Sharpie ink can fade over the winter. I use a wood plant label stake inside the container before I seal it up as well as a tag sealed with clear tape attached to the outside.

I'm also planting seeds directly into the ground



in the meadow. The meadow was not mowed last year so there is an excess of grass and thatch covering the soil. I decided to use the propane weed torch to selectively burn the grass where I want to plant the seed. I waited for a morning after a big rain to start this experiment. Holding the torch steady in one spot for a few seconds created an approximately 5-inch patch of char and bare soil. I then used my boot to push back a bit of the newly uncovered topsoil. Onto this moist exposed soil I pressed a few seeds and then covered it lightly with the soil I had pushed back. My foot tamped it down gently and then I loosely covered the patch with some dry grass. With help, I was able to create about forty of these bare patches into which I planted seeds from six different native plants suited to the sandy riparian soil.

We 'started' the meadow three years ago



PHOTO BY JACQUE SCHILLER

on about an acre of land across the stream from our house simply by not mowing it anymore. We had no idea what would grow. And when it did, it was not impressive; mostly non-native weedy plants took over: sheep sorrel, hawkweed and several non-native grasses. But also some promising signs – a few yarrow, horsetail, evening primrose and wild strawberry. The following year, after a June mow, we planted little bluestem seeds, mostly as they did not need the overwintering that

perennials typically require to germinate; they grew in well. Last spring I spent way too long pulling out the sheep sorrel and planting partridge pea seeds. Over the season I added a few more flowering perennials: Rattlesnake master, Eryngium yuccifolium, Culver's root Veronicastrum, Biennial Gaura, Gaura Oenothera. From these and a few more species I had enough seed to spare for this planting experiment.

On New Years Day I was chatting with Jacque Schiller -about seeds- at a mellow afternoon party in North Cornwall. Jacque had planted a small meadow in the area where the septic system

Straw mulch over seeds protects a meadow planting. New growth will be augmented with plugs in Spring.

of their house which had been replaced. She relayed how she spread seeds- a wildflower seed mix specifically for Connecticut from Urban Farmer - last August after the septic work was complete and planned to augment with native plugs this spring. When I got home, I went on the Urban Farmer website to look at the details of the seed mix she used. I was sad and not surprised to see that about 70% of seeds in this particular mix is from non-native species. The company does offer a native mix for the Northeast which is found alongside the other seeds on offer but does not make a distinction between native and non-native seed for the state-specific mixes.

I asked Jacque if she thought her meadow was comprised of native plants; yes, she had. Her error is a common one; I too have bought plants thinking that they were native when they were not. Not all wildflowers are native, of course, but the nomenclature

and the way they are sometimes marketed can be confusing to people whose intentions are to plant native. So why is it done? I suspect the wildflower species included in the CT mix are showier than the native alternatives. And perhaps even harder, as there are fewer animals that eat them or their pollen or reproduce on them. Consumers want aesthetic success, and non-natives can do that but they do not deliver on preserving the native habitat and food chain for native insects, birds and even mammals. Moral here: Buy seeds from reliable sources such as native plant specialists. Exchange seeds with people you trust. Read labels well.

If you are looking for native seeds, there will be a native seed exchange Jan. 25 from noon to 3 p.m in the Munger Barn at The Dudley Farm North Guilford, Conn. Organized by national organization The Wild Ones, the event is a bit far away; but will be a worthwhile trip. For more information, go to mountainlaurel.wildones.org/news/

Dee Salomon 'ungardens' in Litchfield County.

LIFESTYLE: KRISTA A. BRIGGS

New rustic wedding venue opens in Pine Plains

A new gathering hall, Mountain View Events, has opened in Pine Plains. The rustic venue, located on Route 82, is slated for use for weddings and events, and features a full commercial kitchen for chefs and caterers, a covered patio, private dressing accommodations for bridal parties with views of Stissing Mountain as a backdrop. Generous parking is available, and the site is able to accommodate up to 250 guests.

Jack Banning, the owner and proprietor of Mountain View Events, is enthusiastic about the venue's opening as well as the rebirth of the venue's space. "We are delighted to bring new life to this wonderful building, which was home to



PHOTO PROVIDED

Festive place settings welcomed guests to a holiday party hosted at Mountain View Events.

the much beloved Lia's Mountain View Restaurant for over forty years, and to provide the local community and beyond with a beautiful and unique space for their events," said Banning.

Mountain View Events is still accepting bookings for 2025. For further information, please visit www.Mountain-View-Events.com or their Instagram: @Mountain-View_Events.

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KRISTY FOSS

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MIKE ABRAM

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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JANUARY 16

ASSEMBLED Exhibition at Mad Rose Gallery

Mad Rose Gallery, 5916 N Elm Ave., Millerton, N.Y.

Join Mad Rose Gallery for ASSEMBLED, a group exhibition featuring six remarkable artists. The reception on January 18 offers a chance to meet the artists and view their diverse works in photography, painting, printmaking, and mixed media. The exhibition will be on view between Jan. 16 and March 2, with an opening reception on Jan. 18 from 3 to 6 p.m.

Gallery hours: Thursday-Sunday, 12 to 5 p.m. (Sat until 6 p.m.) Details: MadRoseGallery.com

The Devil's Element: Phosphorus and a World Out of Balance - Book Talk with author Dan Egan

Lovejoy Auditorium, Cary Institute, Millbrook, N.Y.

On Thursday, Jan. 16 at 7 p.m., in person at Cary's Lovejoy Auditorium or virtually, watch author Dan Egan give a book talk. Phosphorus can be both lethal and life-giving. Can we find a phosphorus balance, so that we can have food on the table and healthy waters? In his latest book, *The Devil's Element: Phosphorus and a World Out of Balance*, Pulitzer Prize finalist Dan Egan investigates the past, present, and future of what has been called "the oil of our time."

Virtual Author Talk

Online.

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, in collaboration with Essex Library Association and Darien Library, to announce a Virtual Author Talk with Betsy Lerner on Thursday, Jan. 16 at 6:30 p.m. Author Betsy Lerner will delve into her debut novel, "Shred Sisters." Spanning two decades, "Shred Sisters" is an intimate and bittersweet story exploring the fierce complexities of sisterhood, mental health, loss and love. If anything is true it's what Amy learns on her road to self-acceptance: No one will love you more or hurt you more than a sister. Register online at yoursessexlibrary.org or by calling the Library at (860) 767-1560.

JANUARY 18

Love to Dance Party

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

On Jan. 18, from 7 to 9:30 p.m., warm up this at the Copake Grange LOVE TO DANCE night (all songs include LOVE or DANCE.) The dance is at 628 Empire Road, Copake, N.Y. (right behind Clock Tower Pub & Grill). Admission is FREE (\$5 suggested donation), refreshments available, BYOB. Guests are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item or hygiene product for donation to the Roe Jan Food Pantry & Taconic Hills Schools' Care Closet

Submit a suggested dance tune that includes the word "LOVE" or "DANCE". Go to tinyurl.com/JanuaryDance

JANUARY 19

Free Movie Night

Colonial Theatre, 27 Railroad St., North Canaan, Conn.

On Jan. 19 there will be a free movie night at the Colonial Theatre. The movie is at 2 p.m. and the doors open at 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by Hunky Hound Handlers. The film is *Eight Below*. Raffle to win a \$10 concession stand gift card.

Heirloom Apple Cultivation, Cider Making & Tasting with Ron Bixby

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

Ron Bixby shares his skills of careful clearing, pruning, replanting, and grafting for 40 years on an orchard, producing organic heirloom fruit. Join us on Sunday, Jan. 19, 2 to 3:30 p.m., to hear the story, packed with knowledge about local apple cultivation, and enjoy a tasting of hard ciders afterwards. Register: scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/13810249

Last week's WotW

R	O	U	N	D
B	A	R	G	E
T	H	R	E	E
V	E	R	S	E
S	E	R	V	E

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.

- Honeycrisp, Red Fuji, etc.
- ____. Set. Go!
- Waterproof fishing boot
- Patterned grip on a tire
- King's iconic vision

WORD OF THE WEEK ©THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

Classic Film Series

Presentation: "Mississippi Burning"

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

On Sunday, Jan. 19, at 3:30 p.m., in conjunction with Martin Luther King Day, Copake Grange will show "Mississippi Burning." This film, based on true events, is a fictionalized version of the FBI's search for the killers of three civil rights workers in the South in 1964. Starring Gene Hackman, Willam Dafoe and Frances McDormand, it was directed by Alan Parker and won an Academy Award for best cinematography. Grange Classic Film Series organizer, Lenny Barham, will provide commentary and insights about the film. Movie admission by donation. Stay after the movie for dinner - soup, salad and dessert for \$10. Vegetarian options available.

JANUARY 20

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Events at Triplex Cinema

Triplex Cinema, Great Barrington, Mass.

On Monday, Jan. 20 at 11:30 a.m. there will be a free community screening of *Selma*, followed by a discussion with activist Shirley Edgerton. On Tuesday, Jan. 21 there will be a *Selma* screening for local 8th grade students, followed by a discussion with Shirley Edgerton.

Tickets and details: thetriplex.org

Sponsored by: Massachusetts Cultural Council, Sheffield, Great Barrington, and New Marlborough Cultural Councils.

JANUARY 21

Knitting Workshop with Bruce Weinstein

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

Calling experienced knitters! Join knitting book author Bruce Weinstein from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 21, to learn slip-stitch color patterns, changing colors every row or other row, and explore how to work these into patterns for scarves, throws, and even sweaters.

To register and learn more, please visit the event page: scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/13566970

Henry James / Paul Cézanne: Literary Seminar with Mark Scarbrough

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

This new literary seminar with Mark Scarbrough meets for eight Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., starting Jan. 21. We'll explore how James and Cézanne traced the move from form to chaos, from

structure to entropy, from certainty to uncertainty that marked the West's entrance into the modern world. Available online and in person. To register and learn more, please visit the event page: scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/13792522

JANUARY 23

Community History of Falls Village Writing Workshop Series

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

On Thursday, Jan. 23 at 11 a.m. the David M. Hunt Library will offer the first session of the Community History of Falls Village Writing Workshop Series. Join writer and Falls Village resident Mark Gozonky for a six month learning by publishing workshop centered around telling Falls Village stories. Beginning in January participants will meet at the library once a month to share ideas and work on their stories in community. Meetings will take place on the fourth Thursday of the month at 11 am. The workshop will culminate in June with a book and a community celebration and reading. This workshop is open to all ages, and writers of all levels and abilities are invited to participate.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- This regulates cortisol production (abbr.)
- People of northern Vietnam
- Employee stock ownership plan
- Regions
- The center of a city
- Hindu serpentine deity
- Roared
- Sun up in New York
- "Sir" in Malaysian
- Shrimp dish
- Muckraker Tarbell
- Apex
- Harmonic effects
- One of Babe Ruth's nicknames
- Groups in organic chemistry
- More pleasant-tasting
- Spring forward
- Noted writer
- Building occupied by monks
- "The world's most famous arena"
- Colorless liquid hydrocarbon
- Long or fast speech
- Things you can eat
- Substance in which magnetic moments are not aligned
- Actor Idris
- I (German)
- Taxes
- Indonesian island
- Nuisance (slang)
- Shawl
- Digits
- Moved on foot quickly
- "For goodness __"
- Facial body part
- Russian river
- Urinates

CLUES DOWN

- Partner to "oohs"
- Scaly water dweller
- Pueblo people of New Mexico
- Music producer Teo
- Greek mythological goddess
- Got together to discuss
- Acquires
- Involve
- Some are tomato-based

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					
49								50		51	52	53	54	55
56								57		58				
59										61				
62											64			

- Old Irish alphabets
- A sheet of glass in a window or door
- Blood poisoning
- A moon of Saturn
- Neither
- Sums
- They follow "A"
- Satisfaction
- People of southeastern Burma
- Small amount
- Guy (slang)
- Sound unit
- Midway between northeast and east
- Affirmative
- Almost at the top
- Extremely slow
- Pearl Jam's debut album
- Influential mid-century playwright
- Martens
- Approval
- Dallas-adjacent Texas city
- African nation
- Dark brown or black
- A place to get caught
- Large-headed, elongated fish
- Type of sword
- Scottish tax or levy

January 9 Solution

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

Sudoku

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

January 9 Solution

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

Level: Intermediate



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Sports

South Kent beats Darrow 69-67 in final seconds

By Lans Christensen

KENT — South Kent School prep basketball remained undefeated at home this season following a late victory over Darrow School Wednesday, Jan. 8.

South Kent's team is under new leadership this year with head coach Craig Carter, who succeeded Raphael Chilliou at the start of the 2024-25 season. Chilliou took an NBA job with the Memphis Grizzlies.

With a travel-heavy schedule to start the year, Carter has led South Kent to a 4-0 record at home and maintained a 4-4 record on the road thus far.

South Kent's roster includes four-star recruit Badara Diakite, a 6'8" wing forward out of Mali, Africa. ESPN ranks Diakite as the second best high school player in Connecticut and top 100 nationwide. He has committed to play NCAA ball at The University of Iowa next year.

Cardinals, from South



Badara Diakite is the second best high school player in Connecticut according to ESPN.

Kent, and Ducks, from New Lebanon, New York, should have been a congenial pair, but the opposite was true and a toughly fought game



Diakite ended the game with a dunk followed by a free throw to seal a late victory for South Kent School against Darrow School Jan. 8.

followed Jan. 8. First half scoring was only modest for both teams. Lots of shots, but very few baskets. With only six minutes left

in the first half, the Darrow Ducks led modestly 17-14. The second half scoring improved with the Ducks establishing a 10-point lead

with 10 minutes remaining. South Kent battled back and cut Darrow's lead to three-points with the score at 57-54 with 4 minutes left.

South Kent's Adam Chiacchia and Diakite came through in a thrilling finish.

With 30 seconds left, Chiacchia cut the lead to one-point then Diakite finished the job on the next possession with a go-ahead dunk to take the lead. A follow-up free throw from Diakite sealed the game and South Kent won 69-67.



Craig Carter has the Cardinals at 8-4 in his first year as head coach of South Kent prep basketball.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Swim season kicks off

Northwestern Regional High School hosted Housatonic Valley Regional High School for a swim meet Friday, Jan. 10. In team totals, Northwestern won 92-38. Northwestern is the reigning Berkshire League swim champion. HVRHS's next home meet is scheduled for Jan. 22 against Shepaug Valley High School at 7 p.m. in The Hotchkiss School's Mars Athletic Center.

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