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

Salisbury Forum shines light on Northwest CT 'healthcare crisis'

By Alec Linden

FALLS VILLAGE — March's Salisbury Forum brought community healthcare leaders to Housatonic Valley Regional High School for a thoughtful and timely discussion on the Northwest Corner's "healthcare crisis."

Nancy Heaton, who is President and CEO of the Sharon-based Foundation for Community Health, began the discussion by describing the region's healthcare landscape as equally challenging for patients and providers alike.

"Two of the main challenges of providing rural healthcare are low population base and travel distances," Heaton explained, factors which have compounding effects on workforce availability, patient accessibility and many other logistical issues that impact every level of the healthcare process.

"These two factors alone ensure that without innovation, each unit of rural service is likely to be more expensive to deliver than in an urban setting," she emphasized. She further explained that government



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

The panel at the Salisbury Forum March 21 included, from left, State Rep. Maria Horn, D-64, SVNA Home Assistance Director Meghan Kenny, Sharon Hospital President Christina McCullough, Community Health and Wellness Center CEO Joanne Borduas, Foundation for Community Health President Nancy Heaton and it was moderated by Salisbury Forum President Patricia Jenny.

reimbursement programs for service providers, such as Medicaid, often aren't designed with a rural setting in mind.

"These reimbursement rates really have not kept up with costs, and our providers are hurting," Heaton said.

When Heaton opened the floor,

Medicaid emerged as a significant concern shared by the panelists.

Joanne Borduas, CEO of the Community Health and Wellness Center, a Torrington-based federally qualified health center (FQHC) that recently opened a facility in North Canaan, maintained that the future of Medicaid in the current

federal climate is "very concerning."

As an FQHC, Community Health and Wellness Center is obligated to turn no one away, and as such approximately 60% of patients seeking services are on

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PHOTO PROVIDED

Kent Volunteer Fire Department responded to four calls in the span of about five hours, throughout Kent on Friday, March 21. Multiple structures were lost and many residents experienced power outages during the incidents.

Fire razes three buildings in Kent

By Kathryn Boughton
Kent Dispatch

KENT — Years of training came into play Friday, March 21 when, in a chaotic few hours, first responders from across the state all converged on KenMont and KenWood Camps where a fire was greedily consuming two camp buildings.

Responding to the scene were

12 fire departments, fire marshals, state police, the DEEP Forestry Protection division, Eversource, the Litchfield County Fire Coordinator, the Region 5 Rehab Unit from Danbury, the Kent Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary and the Salvation Army Food Truck

In addition to the units responding to the scene, additional mutual aid departments moved into the vacated fire departments' headquarters, providing protection

See FIRE, Page A12

Towns look to tap into new round of grant funding

By Ruth Epstein

It's a never-ending goal for selectmen: find ways to increase revenue for their towns. One helpful source for many towns across the state, including those in the Northwest Corner, is the Small Town Economic Assistance Program, commonly know as a STEAP grant.

Martin Heft, who works with those grants at the state's Office of Policy and Management, explained that these are funds available to

towns that are ineligible to receive Urban Action bonds. They may be used for economic development, community conservation and quality-of-life projects. They must be for capital expenditures, which are those considered to be new construction, expansion, renovation or replacement for an existing facility or facilities.

This year \$30 million has been allotted for the STEAP grants.

See GRANTS, Page A12

Asbestos concern shutter post office

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Patrons of the Salisbury post office found the building closed Monday, March 17 and a warning about asbestos abatement on the locked door.

Postal customers were directed to the Lakeville post office for their mail.

Salisbury Postmaster Lisa Hoage and Salisbury branch employees

were at the Lakeville branch during the week helping manage the sudden influx of mail and customers.

Hoage said the floor of the Salisbury facility has been in poor condition for some time, and it came to a head.

But among the layers of flooring added over the years were materials containing asbestos.

Mail that was waiting for customers on March 17 was still at the

Salisbury building, which was troublesome for some people.

One woman at the Lakeville branch explained to a clerk that she had medications waiting at the Salisbury office. She wasn't too worried, however, saying that she had enough for the time being.

Following the removal and replacement of its flooring, the Salisbury post office reopened to the public on Monday, March 24.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Salisbury Winter Sports Association ski jumper Islay Sheil, right, and teammate Caroline Chor placed first at Junior Nationals.

Sheil soars to ski jumping gold at Junior Nationals

SALISBURY — Team SWSA reached new heights at the 2025 Junior Nationals Ski Jumping competition held in Park City, Utah.

Islay Sheil, 15, of Lakeville, won first place and a gold medal in the team competition with teammate Caroline Chor from the Ford Sayre Ski Club. They competed in the U16 category.

The annual event featured the best jumpers aged 12 to 19 in the U.S.

"Standing on the top of the podium was an unbelievable feeling," Sheil said. "And I was also so happy that Seth was there as part of the coaching staff."

Sheil is the first Salisbury Winter Sports Association

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Our Towns

Construction well underway for Perry Street affordable homes

By Alec Linden

SALISBURY — Concrete foundations of two new affordable homes have been dug and poured on Perry Street, and Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission Chair Jennifer Kronholm Clark is thrilled at the progress.

“It’s really exciting,” she said in a recent interview. “We haven’t had a big construction project like this in a decade at least.”

Kronholm Clark, who also vice chairs the Salisbury Housing Trust, a non-profit that has overseen the addition of 17 affordable home opportunities to Salisbury since 2002, explained that the next steps are relatively straightforward.

The new units are modular homes, meaning they are mostly constructed off-site at a manufacturing facility, then quickly assembled on top of the foundation.

She said that each home will be delivered to town in four pieces, for a total of eight, between April 1 and 3. The units will be staged temporarily at the Lakeville Town Grove until their installation on the 3rd.

The upper portion of Perry Street will be closed for most of the day on the 3rd as the homes are put in place, in a



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

Two affordable homes are being built in Salisbury using modular construction methods.

process involving a “really huge crane” that Kronholm Clark promised will be “automatic.”

Once in the ground, she expects the remainder of the work to be completed quickly and the homes to be move-in ready sometime in May.

The 1,500 square foot, 3 bed and 2 bath houses will be available for purchase only at a price range between \$250,000 and \$280,000 which includes a \$25,000 forgivable down payment assistance loan.

Eligibility requirements for ownership are that the buyer be a first-time homeowner, and that the total

gross household income is below the area median income: \$80,000 for one person, \$91,400 for two, \$102,800 for three, and \$114,200 for four. The Trust will prioritize those in need of a three-bedroom home.

An information session detailing the application and purchase process will be hosted on April 10 at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

The Trust asks that those looking to purchase a home complete a pre-application form by April 15, which may be received by emailing Lindsay Larson at LindsayL@the-housingcollective.org.

The completion of the Perry Street houses will mark a major milestone for the Salisbury Housing Trust, which has been discussing developing affordable housing on the lot since 2013. The site was formerly home to a dry-cleaning service who vacated the property in the 1990s and left “an environmental mess,” according to Kronholm Clark. The land

was then transferred to the town, who approached the Trust about developing affordable housing on the site in order to secure a state-funded grant to clean it up.

She said that the neighbors were congenial and supportive of the plan, with many preferring to see homes on the property rather than an empty brownfield. Kronholm Clark said that she hopes the installation of these new homes demonstrates to the community that affordable housing is a positive presence on Salisbury’s landscape.

A 2024 report from Torrington-based non-profit Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation found that the median home value in Salisbury grew from \$473,369 to \$807,848 between 2017 and 2024.

Ensuring that there are homes available far below that margin is paramount to maintaining the region’s younger workforce, she said.

“It’s important to have these options so that we don’t just become, you know, a community with a bunch of second homeowners,” she maintained.

The Perry Street project is part of a broader regional effort organized by the Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity to bring similar modular homes to several other locations in the county. Two more homes within the program are planned for installation in Salisbury on Undermountain Road, a proposal that has seen some controversy but which Kronholm Clark is optimistic will see broken ground soon after.

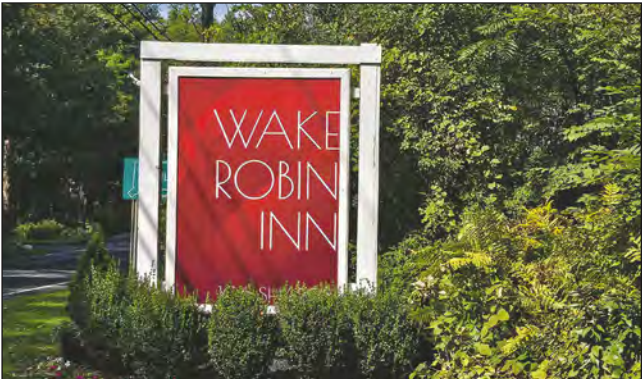


PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Wake Robin Inn is located on Sharon Road in Lakeville.

Neighbors of Wake Robin Inn sue P&Z

By Alec Linden

LAKEVILLE — Angela and William Cruger of Wells Hill Road have filed a lawsuit against Salisbury’s Planning and Zoning Commission, claiming a May 2024 amendment to the town’s zoning regulations was legally invalid.

The Crugers were formally intervenors in a public hearing of an application to expand the Wake Robin Inn that spanned several continuations in late 2024. As intervenors, they argued against the development on the grounds that the area’s ecology would be negatively impacted. The applicant, ARADEV LLC, ultimately withdrew its application in December after the Planning and Zoning Commission indicated it was likely to deny the proposal as it stood.

In January, ARADEV LLC returned before the Commission to hold a pre-application discussion, indicating that the group is likely to reapply with an amended plan.

The Crugers’ representative attorneys, Perley Grimes and Allison Noteware of law outfit Cramer & Anderson LLP, filed the suit against the Commission on Feb. 28, alleging that the Commission acted unlawfully when it changed the town’s zoning regulations to allow hotel development in the “RR1” — Rural Residential One — zone via special permit.

The suit claims that the Commission failed to adequately notify neighbors and the general public of its intention to amend the regulation. Specifically, the appeal states that P&Z acted in violation of Connecticut General Statute 8-8(r), which requires zoning boards to sufficiently publicize hearings and actions. The suit demands that the Superior Court declares the amendments null and void, and that the Commission is ordered to “restore the RR1 regulations in full as in existence prior to May 6, 2024.”

The suit also alleges that the Commission engaged in “spot zoning” by amending the regulation, as ARADEV LLC had requested that P&Z change the regulation several months before they actually did. In the language of the suit, the Commission acted “in favor of [ARADEV LLC] to permit an intensified use incongruous with the residential zone in which it is situated in violation of the law and public policy.”

The suit complains that the amended regulations would “injuriously affect [the Crugers]” by disturbing peace and quiet in the neighborhood and lowering their property values by increasing traffic, augmenting commercial operations at the Inn and raising noise levels in the neighborhood.

The Land Use Office and P&Z have repeatedly denied that they favored the project when amending the regulations. An October memo written by Land Use Administrator Abby Conroy and P&Z Chair Michael Klemens states that the Commission did not deem that the proposed regulation change by ARADEV LLC was acceptable “as it likely constituted spot zoning (a zone change that benefits a single property) and was not broadly applicable to the entire town.”

The letter goes on to affirm that conversations surrounding changing the zoning regulations governing “transient accommodations” had been in progress for years: “Although ARADEV LLC’s request provided the impetus for [P&Z] to initiate a regulation amendment, [P&Z] ultimately adopted their own language which addressed a number of long-standing regulatory problems concerning transient lodging.”

P&Z established a “public notice registry” to notify interested parties of future applications “initiated by P&Z,” such as a regulation change, Klemens and Conroy announced in the letter.



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

These two commercial/office buildings in Lakeville on 195 and 199 Main St., owned and 75% occupied by National Iron Bank, were sold for a total of \$2.05 million. The bank branch will continue to operate at this location.

Salisbury real estate transactions

By Christine Bates

SALISBURY — Three residential and two commercial properties sold in February, bringing the median price of a single family home up to \$947,500, a new record high and a 31% increase over February three years ago.

There are currently 17 houses listed for sale with 12 listed above \$1 million. The summer rental market is starting to activate with 15 furnished summer and seasonal rentals available starting at \$13,000 a month.

February transactions

14 Spruce Drive — 4 bedroom/5 bath ranch on 6.3 acres sold by Caryl J. and Russell J. Riva Jr. to Andrew Foley and Anna Castelo for \$1,850,000.

94 Salmon Kill Road — 3 bedroom/4 bath home on 28 acres sold by Ann Torre Bates to Michael S. Shuster and Deborah A. Morel for

\$3,675,000.

199 and 195 Main St. — Occupied commercial buildings sold by National Iron Bank to 144 MSEH LLC for \$710,325 and \$1,330,675 respectively.

19 Railroad St. — office building/garage on 0.74 acres sold by Laurie A. Grusauski to Sharon Electric Company LLC for \$425,000.

23 Chatfield Drive — 2 bedroom/1.5 bath ranch sold by Anna L. Kuba to Mary Patricia Walsh for \$525,000.

**Town of Salisbury real estate transfers recorded as sold between Feb. 1 and Feb. 28, 2025, provided by the Salisbury Town Clerk. Transfers without consideration are not included. Current market data courtesy of Smart MLS and Info Sparks. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby’s International Realty, Licensed in Connecticut and New York.*

DEEP denies Cornwall’s composting grant

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — Communal composting plans have hit a snag in Cornwall.

“We got a letter from the [Department of Energy and Environmental Protection] saying their compost grant was oversubscribed and due to the tough competition, they could not award us a grant for our efforts to establish a composting program here in town,” said First Selectman Gordon Ridgway.

The denial is the most recent setback in a multi-year effort to start composting at the Transfer Station.

The selectmen discussed next steps at a meeting of the Board on March 18.

“We’re not coming up

with a quick solution at the Transfer Station,” said Ridgway. “This makes the need for people to compost at home that much more real.”

Selectman Jennifer Markow revisited the idea of a bucket program in which the town would purchase specialized bins to be distributed for home composting.

Ridgway said there is money in the Transfer Station budget that could be used for such a program, but he wanted to get feedback from the Conservation Commission.

“They were talking about doing a survey,” said Ridgway.

Discussion will resume at the selectmen’s next meeting Tuesday, April 1, at 7:30 p.m.

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PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Mike Mangini’s new office is on the second floor of the Canaan Union Depot building.

Union Station’s newest tenant

By Patrick L. Sullivan

NORTH CANAAN — Physical therapist Mike Mangini has shifted operations to a new space on the second floor of the Canaan Union Depot building at 75 Main St. in North Canaan.

The new space has plenty of room and ample

parking outside, he said.

The waiting room is actually in the hallway, where there are two comfortable armchairs for clients.

Mangini noted that when clients are finished with their session, they can drop in at the New England Accordion Museum on the first floor.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

North Canaan Elementary School is at 90 Pease St.

Board of Finance hears municipal, education spending plans

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — First Selectman Brian Ohler, North Canaan Elementary School Principal Beth Johnson and Region One Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley presented 2025-26 spending plans to the Board of Finance March 19.

Education spending is up while municipal spending is down.

Ohler showed that town costs are down by \$15,705, or -0.4%, to a new total of \$3,227,232.

The largest increases to municipal line items in 2025-26 went to emergency services, with a \$20,000 hike to ambulance operation costs and \$40,000 more to the fire department’s equipment fund. These were offset by reductions in a number

of areas, including a \$30,000 savings in bulky waste costs at the Transfer Station and a reduced first selectman’s salary, down by \$24,000 to match the amount the other two selectman receive annually — \$6,500.

North Canaan Elementary School spending is up to a total of \$4,810,475.49, a hike of \$274,362.79, or 6.05%, compared to last year’s budget.

Region One’s assessment for North Canaan in 2025-26 is up to \$5,636,433.12, an increase of \$70,510.12, or 1.27%.

Combined education spending plans total \$10,446,908.61, up by \$344,872.91, or 3.41%, compared to 2024-25.

The Board of Finance will hold a budget workshop April 2 at 7 p.m. in Town Hall to discuss spending plans.

Scoville Library talk yields tips on how to start self-publishing

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Lakeville Journal’s Natalia Zukerman gave a presentation, “Introduction to Self-Publishing and Indie Publishing” at the Scoville Memorial Library Sunday, March 23.

Zukerman has published her own books and collaborations with other writers and artists, even going so far as to set up her own publishing company, Armature Publishing.

Zukerman, who is also a musician, said she came to self-publishing and independent publishing through her experience putting out her music.

She said she has released eight recordings, three on an independent label and five on her own.

So when it came time to investigate the possibilities of self-publishing, her approach was similar.

She said big publishers, like big record labels, might give a writer or musician an advance.

“But you have to pay it back.”

The pros of self-publishing are “no gatekeepers.”



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Natalia Zukerman, editor of Compass at The Lakeville Journal, presented tips on how to break into the independent publishing industry March 23.

The speed of production is up to the author.

And the author retains complete creative control over things like book design and artwork.

The cons are:

Some out-of-pocket expense, depending on how elaborate the author gets.

No support team “unless you build one.”

And the possible stigma of using what used to be called a “vanity press,” although this has diminished significantly in the last couple decades.

Zukerman said when preparing a manuscript, “editing is your friend.” Also on the friends list are friends or acquaintances who are willing to read the manuscript with a critical eye.

Zukerman shared her experience creating books with a number of computer-based tools, and said that many of them are simple to use.

“There are programs where you literally drag your manuscript from the desktop.”

Then there is printing the book. Again there are numerous options, ranging from having a few copies run up at your local Staples, to a printer that did an excellent job on one of Zukerman’s collaborations.

The catch was each book cost \$25 to make, and the cover price was \$30.

Zukerman said one avenue to explore is using crowdfunding for the out-of-pocket expenses. She used Kickstarter for one book, and it worked out, although she admitted to having boxes of the book in her basement.

Zukerman went through getting a book listed on IngramSpark, which is used by independent bookstores, obtaining an International Standard Book Number (ISBN), and making sure the work has proper copyright protection.

And she talked about marketing the book through social media and reviews, Facebook and Google ads, and promotions such as giveaways or virtual events.

Throughout the presentation, as she outlined various options, she stressed that self-publishing gives all the control to the writer, who can do as much or as little as desired.

Promoting your own book “takes some chutzpah,” she said.

“If this is a toe-curling, vomity thing for you, don’t do it.”

Zukerman asked for a show of hands from the full house in the library’s Wardell Room. “How many writers? Illustrators? Photographers?” “Copy editors,” said someone.

“Right!” said Zukerman. “We have a publishing company right here!”

To find out more, visit www.armaturepublishing.com

Sharon BOF receives budget proposals

By Alec Linden

SHARON — The Board of Selectmen and Board of Education presented their proposed 2025/2026 budgets to the Board of Finance at its March 18 regular meeting.

Municipal spending in Sharon is up to \$5,267,193, an increase of \$295,986, or 5.95%, from last year.

First Selectman Casey Flanagan went through the town’s spending plan line by line, noting areas of significant increase, such as a \$104,388, or 5.83%, growth in highway spending and a \$65,900, or 50.69%, rise in ambulance funds. There were several wage adjustments for town employees, alongside a 4% cost-of-living adjustment for all employees except the unionized Road Crew workers.

Sharon Center School Principal Carol Tomkalski reviewed the BOE’s proposal for fiscal year 2025-26.

The total proposed budget for Sharon Central School is \$4,234,490, which is down \$93,899, or 2.17%, from last year’s budget.

Corrections

We correct errors in news stories when they are brought promptly to our attention.

Managing Invasives: A Series of Workshops

SATURDAY, MARCH 29TH • 10 am – noon

Sharon Land Trust Hamlin Preserve on route 341

Tom Zetterstrom will discuss invasive plant management, exhibit the work done at the preserve, and demonstrate the use synthetic herbicide with a Buckthorn Blaster applicator.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH • 10 am – noon

Sharon Town Hall

Bethany Sheffer of Audubon and Mike Nadeau, native landscape expert, will present a PowerPoint on invasives and answer questions on plant identification and control. (Rain date April 6th)

SATURDAY, APRIL 19TH • 10 am – noon

Sharon Land Trust, Benton Hill Preserve

Tim Hunter, of the Sharon Land Trust, will conduct a discussion about land restoration and the plans for bringing the Benton Hill property into ecological balance by planting native plants; if time allows, he will provide a demonstration.

SATURDAY, MAY 17TH • 10 am – noon

Meristem, 169 Bowne Road in Sharon

Bethany Sheffer and Mike Nadeau will demonstrate invasive plant control without herbicides and show how to foster the growth of native plants to create habitat and beauty. (Rain date May 18th)

These workshops are sponsored by The Sharon Energy and Environment Commission, Sharon Audubon, The Sharon Conservation Commission, and the Sharon Land Trust



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LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission

03-27-25

03-27-25

Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on March 17, 2025:

Approved - Subject to conditions recommended by the Town consulting engineer, Site Plan Application #2025-0276 by Robert Stair, for a residential addition in the Lake Protection Overlay District in accordance with section 404 of the Regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor’s Map 58 as Lot 17 and is located at 127 Washinee Heights Road, Salisbury. The Owner of the property is 127 WHR LLC.

Town of Salisbury
Planning &
Zoning Commission
Martin Whalen, Secretary

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF WILLIAM J. ZIBLUK Late of Norfolk (25-00041)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated February 18, 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:
Carol Flament
c/o Julia McCarthy
Brown

Law Offices of Julia M. Brown, LLC, 934 Chase Parkway, Waterbury, CT 06708

Megan M. Foley
Clerk

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JAMES F. CASEY Late of Canaan (25-00077)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated March 14, 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:
Daniel Casey
c/o Anthony Carmine Palumbo, Anthony C. Palumbo, LLC, 25 N. Main Street, 2 FL, P.O. Box 841, Kent, CT 06757

Megan M. Foley
Clerk
03-27-25

OBITUARIES

Thomas Ditto

ANCRAMDAL — Thomas Ditto of Ancramdale, born Thomas David DeWitt Aug. 11, 1944 in New York City changing his surname to Ditto at marriage, passed peacefully on Pi Day, March 14, 2025. He was a husband, father, artist, scientist, Shakespeare scholar, visionary, inventor, actor, mime, filmmaker, clown, teacher, lecturer, colleague, and friend. Recipient of numerous grants, awards and honors in both the arts and sciences, a Guggenheim and NASA Innovative Advanced Concepts fellow, he was a creative genius beyond his time. In addition to authoring scores of papers, he held several patents and invented the first motion capture system and the Ditto-scope, a radically new kind of telescope. He was a pioneer in computer generated video, film, and performance.

When not hard at work, he was always there to help when needed and he knew how to bring smiles to faces. He loved his family and pets and was supportive of his wife's cat rescue work.

He is survived by wife Beverly (Botto), son David, sister Alice Pero and nieces



and nephews in the extended family. He was predeceased by his parents David and Madlyn Dewitt and sister Peggy.

Memorial contributions may be made to any of the following non-profits.

Collaborative Cats Inc. PO Box 88, Ancramdale, NY 12503 www.collaborativecats.org

Eba inc. dance theatre company, PO Box 145, Albany, NY 12201 www.eba-arts.org

Wave Farm transmission arts WGXC 90.7 FM PO Box 13 Acra, NY 12405 www.wavefarm.org

American Astronomical Society 1667 K Street NW, Suite 800 Washington DC 20006 www.aas.org

American Cancer Society 2678 South Road, Suite 103, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. www.cancer.org

A Celebration of Life memorial service will take place at a future date and will be announced on the funeral home website. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Ave., Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Jack Burcroff

CORNWALL — Jack Burcroff of Cornwall, passed away in March, 2025. He was born on April 20, 1951, in Fayetteville, New York to Ann (Schlect) Burcroff and the late Walter Burcroff, both of whom were students at Cornell University at the time of his birth. His family moved to Salisbury in 1955, where Jack excelled at everything he did.

As a boy scout, he achieved "Order of the Arrow" which was the highest honor the scouts had at the time. At 16, he was named Paper Boy of the Year for delivering the Waterbury Republican, and as a senior in high school he was chosen as Scholar-Athlete of the Year. After attending the University of Western Michigan, he started a business restoring antique cars. The business thrived and after three years he and his companion, Bev Hoffman, bought a house in Plainwell, Michigan, adding a garage where he worked on vehicles. In addition, he was a Certified Master Mechanic and a Certified Master Plumber. Jack delighted in working the gardens around his house, despite having had to work in his family's garden while growing up.

When Bev died in a motorcycle accident, he sold his business and moved back to Northwest Connecticut to be near his family. Back in Connecticut, Jack enjoyed seeing friends, playing golf, volleyball and softball, motorcycling, bowling, and sitting in for many poker games with a terrific group of friends. Jack was known for his extensive knowledge of just about anything. To say that Jack knew his trivia is putting it mildly. He could talk knowledgeably and in great detail about anything from car engines to electrical systems to world history. For a while he was even in the running to appear on Jeopardy. Jack was also very musical. As a teen, he organized a band called The Counts, which played Herb Alpert-style music. Jack was the saxophonist in the band. He taught himself guitar and had a giant collection of music. A good sound system was

very important to him. Jack was the devoted caretaker at Cream Hill Lake in Cornwall for many years, and Cream Hill Lake is where a memorial service will be held at a later date.

Jack was predeceased by his father, Walter Burcroff and his sisters, Ellen Burcroff and Amy Burcroff Reel. Jack is survived by his mother Ann Burcroff of Montpelier, Vermont, his brothers, Larry Burcroff and his wife Jen of Lakeville, Connecticut and Erik Burcroff and his partner Joan Wattman of Plainfield, Massachusetts, his brother-in-laws David Reel of Lakeville, Connecticut and Robert Anderson of Sharon, Connecticut, and many beloved nieces and nephews. We will all miss Jack's beaming welcome and easy companionship.

Send obits to editor@lakevillejournal.com

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

Remember

The Lakeville Journal Company offers free online subscriptions to our website, tricornernews.com, for active duty military personnel from the Tri-state region. For more information or to set up a subscription, contact Sandra Lang at circulation@lakevillejournal.com or 860-435-9873, ext. 301.

Winifred Anne Carriere

SHARON — Winifred Anne Carriere passed away on March 6, 2025, at the age of 87. A resident of Sharon for many years, she later retired to Ancramdale, New York.

Born in New Haven to writers Albert Carriere and Winifred Osborn, Anne grew up in New York City. Raised in a Quaker family, she attended Friends Seminary, and The University of Wisconsin. Anne studied American Architectural History through Bard College's University Without Walls. For her degree, she wrote a comprehensive history of the architecture of Sharon during its first hundred years.

Anne worked as an editor for her mother's publication Professional Florist Magazine. She also served as Public Relations Director for South Street Seaport Museum, and later, as a legal secretary at the firms Paul Weiss and Coudert Brothers.

A writer throughout her life, Anne produced numerous short stories and poems. Her work was published in The New York Times, The New Yorker, and The Herald Tribune. Best known is Anne's children's book "Jennifer's Walk" published by Golden Books in 1973, and illustrated by her then-husband New Yorker magazine cover artist Arthur Getz. The book was inspired by the outdoor adventures of their young daughter.

Anne was an activist. She participated in the anti-nu-

clear movement, volunteering for the campaign Ground Zero. Upon retirement she founded the non-profit community service organization Ancramdale Neighbors Helping Neighbors. She helped develop the somatic non-violence method, Aiki-AVP, editing its first training manual.

Anne served as a Trustee for Fifteenth Street Quaker Meeting in New York City, and later served on various committees of the Bulls Head-Oswego Quaker Meeting in Clinton Corners, New York.

Anne was passionate about nature, and always preferred to be outdoors. She was an avid hiker, long-distance swimmer, cross-country skier, canoeist, and flower gardener.

She also was a voracious reader, and loved poetry, classical music, and humorous wordplay.

Anne is survived by her husband, William "Bill" Leicht of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, her son, Kurt Gubrud of Canaan, and her daughter, Sarah Getz of Sharon.

The family wishes to thank the staff of The Meadows, the memory care division of Brookmeade in Rhinebeck, for their compassionate care of Anne during her final years.

A memorial gathering will take place this spring at the Bulls Head-Oswego Quaker Meetinghouse with a date to be announced.



Sign of spring

37 Year Memory of Lynn and Gregg Lamay March 26, 1988

Another year has come and gone
Another year to miss you.
Another year will come and go
Where we will have to wish you
Never had your lives cut short
Never left us here
Wishing that we had more time
A week, month, a year.
But I guess we should be grateful
Grateful for what we had
Grateful for the memories that
Will forever last
In our hearts in our thoughts
You will forever be
Our love and recollection
Of you both will never leave.

We Love you Lynn,
We Love you Gregg,
Your sister and aunt Ruth,
Your nieces and cousins
Bobbie-Jo and Ruthanne

Ilene Tetenbaum

SALISBURY — Ilene Tetenbaum, 94, passed away peacefully at her home in Salisbury, on March 14, 2025. Ilene will be remembered for her unwavering devotion to her large family and her elegance.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Ilene was the daughter of Samuel Abrams and Blanche Brave Abrams.

She studied at the University of Maryland. While in Baltimore, Ilene met her future husband, Stanley, on a blind date. They married in 1948 and raised three sons, Stefan, Robert, and David.

Ilene loved to read and immerse herself in Jewish traditions and gardening. She was active in her synagogue and owned a florist shop called the House of Flowers.

Ilene and Stanley moved to New York City in 1978 and relished their vacation house on the Twin Lakes in Salisbury, which ultimately became their permanent home. Ilene volunteered at the Scoville Library and was involved in numerous writing workshops and book groups.

Ilene loved being in the Berkshires where she created beautiful gardens that were enjoyed by her family and friends.

After 47 wonderful years together, Stanley passed away in 1995. Sometime later, Ilene met Irwin Leff, her future partner, who passed in 2017.

Ilene is predeceased by her dear brother, Paul Abrams. She is survived by her three children, Stefan (Stella), Robert (Roxana) and David (Anne); and eight grandchildren Olympia (Marshall), Roland (Jackie), Max (Jin), Lauren (David), Adam (Lowell), Michele (Brandon), Paul and Claire, and eight great grandchildren.

A celebration of Ilene's life will be held this spring in Salisbury, Connecticut.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury, CT. www.scovillelibrary.org/about-us/support.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.



Worship Services Week of March 30, 2025

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

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

North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC
Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people
172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT
Worship services Sundays at 10 am
www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational
860-824-7232

FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH
is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan
Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm
www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org

Congregation Beth David
A reform Jewish Synagogue
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

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

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

The 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

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

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

Canaan United Methodist Church
2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT
8:00AM - Worship Service
2nd & 4th Sunday
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse
860-824-5534
canaanct-umc.com
canaanctumc@gmail.com
We hope you will join us!

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

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

Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT
Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons
Sunday, April 13 at 10:30 a.m.
Can Chaos Have a Silver Lining?
For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialoi@gmail.com
All are Welcome

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

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

The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall
Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m.
Trinity Retreat Center Chapel
Lower River Road, West Cornwall
in person and on zoom
Warm fellowship following service
All Are Welcome!
www.allsaintscornwall.org
Rev. Mary Gates!

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
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Sunday Worship - 11am
Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM
(860) 824-5685
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www.promisedlandbaptist.org

All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church
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Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M.
Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M.
During Lent, Presanctified Liturgy
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM
and Akathist to the Virgin Mary
Fridays at 6:30 PM
Special Services Online
Rev. John Kreta
860-824-1340 | allsaintsofamerica.us

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CHRISTOPHER E. RYAN, SR

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JONATHAN J. RYAN

Don't end student aid to punish universities

At Columbia University's Irving Medical Center, the Hammer Building has twenty stories of laboratories, lecture halls, classrooms, and a library. By day it is bustling but even at 2 AM lights are on in some of the labs. That means a Ph.D student or a post-doctoral fellow, say in immunology or embryology, is working. Our student may be watching embryonic cardiac muscle cells bound to a plastic petri dish. Under her microscope, they beat. After a day of classes teaching a histology lab for medical students, and preparing her cells she is tired, but the sight of individual heart cells beating in unison is mesmerizing. How do they do that?

Across the street, surgeons, cardiologists, and anesthesiologists in the Milstein Hospital are transplanting a heart—such operations don't wait for morning. The patient's distended heart has been removed and a machine pumps oxygenated blood to his lungs and body. Soon the vessels of the new heart have been sutured to the patient's vessels, and the transplanted heart starts to beat. These physicians and nurses form one of the great cardiology departments in the world.

The graduate student's experiments are basic research—not directed to curing a disease, but to understanding a process. She and her thesis advisor had an idea about how rhythmic beats were established—they did experiments asking whether their idea was feasible and wrote a grant application to the NIH, which has a program for early exciting results. Months later an NIH study section, a jury of 15 of her older peers, was convinced. The funds would be forwarded to the university, and our young researcher will have a fellowship for three years and money for supplies; she can concentrate on the fundamental properties of heart cells. One day she will meet the cardiologists and surgeons at a seminar; they will talk and ask her to come to their group meeting to think about how her ideas can push clinical improvements.

I have a friend at the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago who is the Chair of its program in cancer research. He sent me the statistics on improvements in breast cancer treatments, including a branch running clinical trials. These trials are about to be curtailed.

Twenty years ago, the idea was that aggressive treatment — more chemo, more radiation, and surgery would produce longer survival. That was often an illusion. Now, because of detailed knowledge about how cell division is controlled, the discovery of oncogenes fifty years ago, and advances in genomics and chemistry, the survival times of women with advanced breast cancer are much better. Pharmaceutical companies large and small are vital to this effort but basic research and training researchers and physicians is

THE BODY SCIENTIFIC

RICHARD KESSIN

the function of universities.

The idea that basic research gives rise to clinical progress has had many prophets and apostles, among them Louis Pasteur in the 19th century and Vannevar Bush in the 20th. Bush wrote a classical book called The Endless Frontier about basic science as a precursor to medical or other progress. He was President Roosevelt's Chief Science advisor and was asking about how the basic science investments of World War II (penicillin, radar, and computers) could be channeled to solve civilian problems. He and Roosevelt opened a new path for research. In many of branches of science and medicine and agriculture investigator-initiated research provides the footing for practical advances.

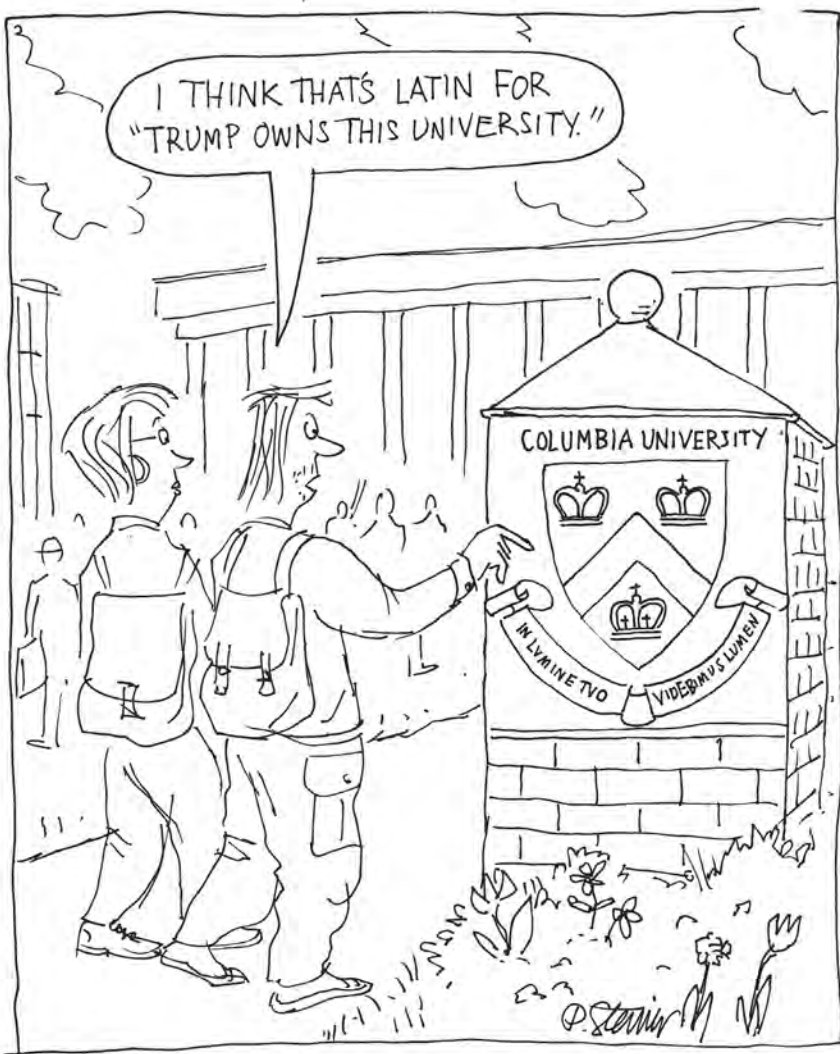
Graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and junior faculty drive this progress in basic science and engineering departments. I was their Associate Dean at Columbia. They are some of the most energetic and directed people I have met. Many have wanted to do research since high school, and they will spend four of five years getting a PhD or a little less for a Master's. They will go on to run their own labs, work in industry, create start-ups, and work in public health.

If the Trump administration rips vetted research projects from researchers in at least 60 universities from Arizona State to Vanderbilt, on the grounds that the university administration failed to address antisemitism adequately, they will be punishing the wrong people. There are other ways to deal with that problem, which I do not deny. These kids want to work on serious problems and there is no reason to destroy their dreams.

The grant application structure has been in place since the 1950s. It is very expensive but it works because it mobilizes individual imagination. If it is hijacked, research will stop, the number of graduate and master's students will decrease, research will stop clinical trials will be cancelled—an age of scientific optimism and progress will be wasted. Cancer, bird flu, Ebola, measles, TB and many other catastrophes will continue when they could have been stopped.

Editor's Note: On Friday, March 21, Columbia conceded to Trump administration demands, though it remained unclear whether the concessions would be enough to reclaim federal monies.

Richard Kessin is Emeritus Professor of Pathology and Cell Biology at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center. He was Associate Dean of the PhD programs hosting 450 students.



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. Include town and phone number. Letters are subject to condensation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Honoring doctors

This Sunday (March 30) marks an important occasion in the field of healthcare as we acknowledge and honor physicians everywhere on National Doctors' Day. In celebration of this annual observance, I would like to take a moment to honor the dedication, skill and unwavering commitment of our local physicians in the Sharon community. By providing high-quality health care to our friends, neighbors and family, these professionals we've come to know and trust play a pivotal role in safeguarding our health and way of life. On behalf of myself and the team at Sharon Hospital, I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation for the tireless efforts of our local physicians.

Christina McCulloch, MBA, BSN, RN President, Sharon Hospital

If it works, don't mess with it

If you want to get out of your bubble and meet the world, go to the public facing offices of government. My wallet was stolen at Kennedy airport on my way to meet family in London so on my return to the U.S. I had occasion to visit both the Social Security Office (Torrington) and the Department of Motor Vehicles (Danbury).

First, of course, I had to use my computer to locate these offices and find out what they would require, did I need to actually visit them or could I transact my business from home, and in either case, what documents did I need to have? Social Security could be done on the computer but was most effectively dealt with in person, and a new license required a trip to DMV. Fortunately, though I am in my nineties, I still drive and have a car. Here is my report from the front lines.

Our Social Security Office is staffed by efficient and

kind people. They are used to dealing with the desperate, those with only this income, or those who need that additional money to make it month to month. I had made an appointment online but arrived early. The office was about the size of a classroom, neat and clean, and after registering I took a seat. There were several people before me, but I was in and out, temporary papers in hand, before my actual appointment time. Of course, this is our money, which has been taken out of our wages over our lifetime of work, but that is of no relevance if we can't receive it!

The CT DMV was a much bigger operation and had a more sophisticated arrangement, but it too worked efficiently. I was handed a number when I entered and took a seat in a large horse-shoe shaped waiting area surrounded by windows

behind which staff resolved problems. Almost all the seats were filled. Here the clientele was working people, all eager to get back to the job. After about 40 minutes my number was assigned to a window. The agent took my photo and pointed out that I could replace the existing document but it was expiring shortly and I had a choice of how long to renew it for, a tough decision. I left with a shiny new card that adds eight years to my life.

The old saying, "Don't mess with something that works" comes to mind as the DC chainsaw massacre unwinds. It's our government, state and federal, and we should be applauding it for working as well as it does, definitely not trashing its functions.

Betty Krasne

Kent

Thanking samaritans

I would like to thank all the drivers who waited patiently after my car accident in Lakeville in front of the Dry Cleaners around 4 p.m. on Wednesday. Upon impact, my car was pushed across the opposing lane. I was so fortunate there were no pedestrians walking in front of the former Chinese restaurant

or oncoming cars. Everyone waited until the involved cars got into the PO parking lot before proceeding. There was no honking, just quiet patience. No pressure on frazzled nerves! I am so grateful. Thank you.

Jo Loi

Lakeville

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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

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Viewpoint

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

125 years ago — March 1900
SALISBURY — Work upon the Library is nearing completion, for which the patrons will be thankful, as they have greatly missed the privileges which this fine institution affords.

Master Vincent Whyland of Salisbury has been confined to the house for the past two weeks, owing to a severe cut on the knee cap by an ax.

Mr. Fitch Landon of Sharon is very low with no hopes of recovery. Mr. Donnell of West Cornwall is attending him as nurse.

The Millerton Telegram and Lakeville Journal \$2.00 per year, club rate.

Peter Everts will move into a part of William Peabody's house. W.F. Everts will still occupy his mother's house instead of his new cottage on Bostwick Hill.

The H.J. Bissell Co. has a nice line of hose, not for fire fighting, but simply for the ladies, gents and children to wear. If you don't believe it read their adv.

Dudley J. Paine, formerly conductor on the C.N.E. road, has sold his interest in the Hotel Central at Winsted and will hereafter be the landlord of a hotel at New Hartford having recently purchased the same.

Much to the regret of the entire district, at Amesville, Miss Esther A. Frink, who has so acceptably taught the higher room in school there has resigned her position, and will leave there this week.

The Holley Mf'g. Co. is making some slight alterations at the factory. A board partition has been built along one side of the hallway and some new flooring is being laid. There is a demand for more room at the factory, which is good evidence of business activity.

The changing of the passenger train conductors on the C.N.E. has been more or less rapid lately and many of the old familiar conductors are gone from the line and new men are running in their places. Edward Skelly now runs the morning train, Mr. Cole the 10:51 train, Theodore Shook and Charles Beckwith the 12 o'clock and 3:12 trains.

I.W. Sanford was in Chapinville on Tuesday to look over the ground preparatory to making a survey for the Scoville Family's new electric light plant. We understand that the new plant will stand in place of the old furnace and will be operated by water power from the lake instead of steam as at present. The lights are now supplied by a system of storage batteries which, after being charged by the dynamo, will last for several days.

100 years ago — March 1925
A long, honorable and useful life was brought to a close at Lakeville on Friday, March 20th, 1925, by the peaceful death of William Kane in the seventy ninth year of his age. He was born in New York on February 14th, 1847. His father and mother having died, he went to Sheffield, Mass., when he

was ten years old where he lived in the home of Mr. Andrew Bartholomew. At twenty one years of age he entered the employ of E.W. Spurr at Falls Village. In 1872 Mr. Kane came to Lakeville to live, taking charge of the coal and lumber business. His home was his chief joy and it was always his wish that it should be shared with those less fortunate than himself. He loved his fellow men without regard to position as was so beautifully expressed by one who had been in his employ and came to pay his last bit of respect and said "He be no like my boss, he be like my father." A long life has ended, but its influence will continue through the years, and our sense of indebtedness for his help and example will continue to increase.

Miss Lena McComnie who has been at her home in Shelton for several weeks is once more on duty at the local Western Union office.

Louis Rudman has installed a new electric refrigerator and cooling system at his meat market, doing away with the use of all ice.

LIME ROCK — Alfred Dunn and lady friend of Hartford spent Sunday with his mother here.

50 years ago — March 1975
"We are listening," Adela Eads repeatedly assured a large and vocal crowd of nearly 300 persons Monday night at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. The 5:30 p.m. meeting had originally been set in the school library as a budget workshop for the HVRHS board. But Mrs. Eads, board chairman, announced a shift to the auditorium as the size of the crowd became evident. The large turnout was prompted by the board's announcement on March 12 of a decision to reduce the high school teaching staff by 4.4 positions. Most of those in the auditorium appeared to oppose such a cutback. Speaker after speaker won applause for protesting the move.

Devotees of Dr. Josephine Evarts spoke with their hearts Saturday night in telling their affection and gratitude for the plain-talking physician who has become a much-admired institution in the Harlem Valley and Northwest Connecticut. Some 500 persons attended the dinner at The Hotchkiss School in Lakeville sponsored by Sharon's Hamilton Lodge No. 54, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, to honor the woman who has been a healer, counselor to young and old alike, humorous philosopher and fighter for righteous causes over two generations. A succession of speakers described her contributions to the community as a doctor, citizen and quiet supporter of the arts.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Seasonal shift

Don Mayland of Lakeville declared "ice out" on Lake Wononscopomuc as of March 18. "We had ice cover on the lake for 61 days, which is about the average over the last 20 years. I was told that the ice, at its thickest was 13 inches thick," he wrote.

Sensible care for our own landscape

We have learned so much during the past fifty years. Can you remember when it was cool to smoke? How about not wearing seatbelts or not protecting yourself from the sun? We have learned a lot about a lot of things, but why haven't we learned more about taking care of our own property?

The idea of the lawn goes back to Britain when the sign of affluence was sheep; the more you had, the richer you were. All those sheep cropped pastures close to the ground, and the large grazed pastures became symbols of ownership and wealth. When settlers came to America, most of them poor, they brought with them the notion of the close cropped property as a mark of status.

Fast forward to World War II. The USA and the Allies were waging war in jungles, where the enemy could easily hide. The brand new Pentagon was searching for a way to expose the enemy. The answer was defoliants, known today as herbicides. Luckily, the war ended before these chemical concoctions were used en masse, although Agent Orange was sprayed profusely in Viet Nam. But after the wars, the big chemical companies had a product with no market. What to do? Make the lowly dandelion the new enemy! TV commercials depicted the dandelion flower as a lion with bared teeth. The residential use of herbicides was popularized and sold to the newly affluent middle class. Those fierce, yellow flowers spoiled the look of the lush green sward we call the American Lawn.

Today, the number one irrigated crop in America is lawn: 60 million acres of it, by some estimates. Per year, over 2.5 million tons of fertilizer, 80 million pounds of

SHARON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION

MIKE NADEAU

pesticides – that's 10 times more than farmers use – and 8 billion gallons of water per day is used to maintain those acres of grass we call lawns. That doesn't count what is used for tree and shrub maintenance. No wonder the backroom joke about lawns among pesticide companies is "rugs on drugs".

Think of it: we water and fertilize the lawn so we can mow it more often! We apply insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides to create a monoculture. But nature tends toward maximum diversity. Are the dandelion and its "weed" companions really worth all that trouble and expense? And we haven't even discussed the health implications of these chemicals for our kids, pets, butterflies, squirrels, not to mention on our water supply..

There are alternatives to the hubristic "landcare as usual" model. It starts with the same question very young minds ask: why? Why is a dandelion "bad"? Why does my lawn have grubs? Why is my lawn so boring? If we ask ourselves questions like these, we find that most, if not all, of the toxic products marketed to us are unnecessary. A dandelion is known as a "biodynamic accumulator" – a plant with a tap root that solubilizes minerals from deep down in the soil and deposits them on top via their leaves that die back each fall. Grubs love bluegrass roots. Plant fescue grasses instead. The term "lawn

weed" is a pejorative name for anything that is not lawn grass. But those of us over 60 grew up in yards containing numerous species of plants. Today we have a biodiversity crisis. One of the major causes is the campaign we have waged against weeds in our lawns. So now, Homegrown National Park, Audubon, Pollinator Pathway, No-Mow May, Xerces Society, and so many other organizations beg you to reconsider using toxic pesticides and synthetic fertilizers. Our kids, pets, animals, birds, bees, and other life forms are depend on an ecologically healthy and toxic free environment.

I have a simple ask: think for yourself when your land-care company solicits you with their Four-Step program or asks you to renew your contract for pesticide and herbicide application. There is an alternative world of landcare professionals eager to help you get your property off drugs. They offer a more natural aesthetic that is healthier for you and better for all of us. A good place to start is www.organiclandcare.net. Type in your zip code to find a professional in your area. Join with environmental organizations in and around the northwest corner that are staging workshops during March, April and May to explain the alternatives. Ask your landscaper to attend these workshops and sign up for the 4-day Course in Organic Land Care on the website above. Together, we can make the "rugs on drugs" lawn a thing of the past.

Mike Nadeau, chairperson of the Sharon Energy & Environment Commission, has been involved in natural landcare for over 50 years. An educator and fervent student of Nature, Mike offers consultation services at Wholistic Land Care Consulting, LLC.

Lifelong Democrat's wish list

To everyone seeking a donation for any activity involving the democratic party:

Please understand that this 73-year-old lifelong Democrat has no interest in donating money to the current Democratic Party. Why should I support a party that was so out of touch with American citizens that a debacle like the recent election could happen? If, and when, the Democratic Party reorganizes its strategies and communicates them to us all, I might reconsider. On the other hand, if a new party arises that embraces the values (see below) I hold dear, it will be sayonara on a permanent basis.

I am deeply disappointed. By the way, here are my values:

The right to vote. No more gerrymandering. Womens' rights, which includes control of their own bodies, equal pay for equal work, and government support for child-care.

Encouragement of diversity because it makes us stronger (embrace people of color, immigrants, and the gender-diverse).

Environmental protection, the sine qua non of our survival.

A tax structure that narrows the gap between rich and poor.

A not-for-profit universal health plan that assures that every American worker is in good health and can therefore be maximally productive, which would include robust mental health services.

Restructuring of elections

GUEST COLUMN ANNA TIMELL MD

so they can't be bought.

An end to covert interference with the development of other nations.

A continuation of strong support for NATO, Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, the U.N. and other similar efforts at creating peace and mutual support in the world.

An annual audit of how we spend our defense dollars.

Brakes on the American pharmaceutical and chemical industries that are polluting our bodies and environment.

Effective controls on gun ownership that do not penalize hunters. This necessarily would include controls on

the manufacture of guns. Support for police departments that includes better screening (mandatory personality testing), better training in de-escalation techniques, better staffing, and regular debriefings following certain events to explore how they could have been handled better.

Much more support for mass transit.


Universal free college and trade school education.

Support small businesses and prevent economic monopolies.

Support sustainable agricultural practices.


Use of adequately secure technology to allow more direct democracy in answering significant policy questions. Trust the American people.

Anna Timell MD lives in West Cornwall.



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Many questions have come up on the issue of home insurance coverage here in the NW Corner. For example, can your home insurance be affected if your roof is over 15 years old? The answer is yes, but the insurance company needs to give proper notice for cancellation or non-renewal, which will give you time to ask for it to be reinstated or find other coverage. Upon any notice, the first step is to know your rights and a great place to start is at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's website: www.consumerfinance.gov/about-us/newsroom/consumer-advisory-take-action-when-home-insurance-is-cancelled-or-costs-surge. Also good to know is that, as a last resort, you may qualify for homeowners insurance with CT FAIR Plan. For more information, please visit: www.ctfairplan.com/.



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Spring Cleanup

Spring has arrived and that means it's time to tackle some of the many projects we've added to our lists throughout the winter. Whether you need landscaping, gardening, remodeling, building, general spring cleanup or ongoing maintenance, you can count on each of the businesses on this page to assist from start to finish. And when you call, let them know you saw their ad in *your* community weekly newspapers, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News.



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Our Towns

Policy Potluck emphasizes need to protect pollinators

By Ruth Epstein

SHARON — With the arrival of spring comes the lilting sound of songbirds announcing their return. But these creatures are facing harmful impacts from the increasing use of neonicotinoids, a form of pesticide that could endanger their existence, as well as other members of nature.

During a Policy Potluck event at Sharon Audubon on Thursday, March 20, three speakers gave a presentation titled “Neonicotinoids: The New DDT.” Joan Seguin of Greenwich from Connecticut Coalition for Pesticide Reform, Louise Washer, president of Norwalk River Watershed Association, and a member of CPR, and Robert LaFrance of Clinton, director of policy at Audubon CT, spoke with strong conviction about the negative effects of the chemical and how to reduce its presence in the environment.

In her introduction of the trio, Sharon Audubon Center Director Eileen Fielding said, “We are a local center, but are also linked to other teams. We all want to fight for sound environmental policy.”

Washer explained that Connecticut Coalition for Pesticide Reform is made up of more than 40 conservation groups who have banded together to promote organic land management. “We’re all stressed by pollinator decline,” she said, noting the large loss of monarch butterflies, bumble bees and other insects. Insects are needed since they are 96% of the menu of all terrestrial birds. “The use of pesticides



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

The speakers at Thursday’s ‘Policy Potluck’ at Sharon Audubon Center on the topic of neonicotinoids are, from left, Joan Seguin, Robert LaFrance and Louise Washer.

and lawn chemicals are a big part of the problem. They are jeopardizing over 200 threatened and endangered species and impacting access to food chains.” Studies have also shown they can have human health impacts.

She gave the audience ways in which to protect pollinators, which include using native pesticide-free plantings. “Lawns have gone a bit haywire,” she said, pointing out there are 40 million acres of lawn in the United States, which provide no food or shelter for birds and take up 9 billion gallons of water per day, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Fertilizers and toxins put on lawns wash into wetlands, rivers and oceans. There is evidence that neonics used to kill grubs in lawns can be harmful and provide no ben-

efit. Nor do they help seed treatments on new crops.

Washer said tests on these products are done primarily by their manufacturers on a limited population, so their ingredients are not really known.

Seguin talked about the neonics found in Connecticut rivers. A map was displayed showing where samples were taken by environmental groups and the high levels found in several waterways. The only dot shown on the map for the Northwest Corner was for the Salmon River, where, at the time of the test several years ago, found no evidence of the chemical. She said the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, while aware of concerns, has no data on where it’s been applied on state property.

Bills to limit the use of neonics have been submitted to the Connecticut General Assembly, but have never come to a vote. Opposition stems from landscapers, turf managers and golf course operators, who don’t think legislation should be done on a state level.

LaFrance said the federal government is not going to take action on the matter, so it is falling to the states and to organizations such as Audubon. He urged those in attendance to contact their state lawmakers to support legislation (House Bill 6196) calling for restriction of use of neonicotinoids for certain commercial and agricultural applications.

“We need a state law,” said Washer, emphatically. “This is unequivocal. The science is not debatable.”

Checking in on Hawaii’s native bird populations

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Ornithologist George E. Wallace highlighted recent conservation efforts directed at bird species in Hawaii during a presentation at the Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury Thursday, March 13.

Wallace, recently retired from the American Bird Conservancy, also sounded the alarm about cuts in federal funding for such efforts.

Wallace last spoke at the library Dec. 12, 2024, when he said that North America lost about three billion birds between 1970 and 2019.

This time he was reporting progress in Hawaii.

Wallace said the Hawaiian Islands, for conservation purposes, include not just the bigger, inhabited islands but innumerable smaller ones stretching over 1,500 miles.

He said since the first Polynesians made their way to Hawaii between 1,000 and 1,200 years ago, some 95 of 142 native bird species have gone extinct, half of them after the Polynesian arrival.

Of the remaining 47 species, 33 are considered endangered. He added, “11 of those haven’t been seen in decades” and are likely extinct.

The introduction of non-native mammals and plants are part of the problem. These include ginger, guava, mongoose, feral cats, pigs and sheep.

And if that’s not complicated enough, mosquitoes spread an avian malaria.

Wallace said in addition to funding problems, there

is a lack of awareness about the Hawaiian bird situation both on the mainland and in Hawaii.

And because Hawaii is isolated from the lower 48 states, there are no opportunities for cost sharing and co-operation with nearby states.

“Hawaiian birds don’t get a lot of attention.”

Wallace dispelled the gloom somewhat by highlighting some recent conservation programs and their varying degrees of success.

A population of 50 Nihoa millerbirds was established on another island, Laysan, in 2011-12 and not only survived but thrived, with a population of about 300 now.

But Wallace returned to the funding, saying the prospects for continued monitoring are not bright.

The Hawaiian petrel and Newell’s shearwater have also been the focus of conservation efforts, with some success.

But part of the program involved building a 7.8-mile fence to keep out predators.

Wallace said that recent budget cuts meant the only biologist on the staff, who doubled as the maintenance supervisor for the fence, was let go.

Wallace noted that if federal money is not available, the private sector will have to pick up the slack. He was not optimistic about the prospect.

He urged the audience to get involved, perhaps by joining conservation groups such as his erstwhile employer, the American Bird Conservancy.

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Lime Rock revs up for 2025 season of milestones

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — Bucolic Lime Rock Park was abuzz with activity on a recent weekday morning in early March. With less than three months to go before the historic park's 2025 Memorial Day season opener, several new construction projects were underway.

Ground has been broken on a new beer garden, steel beams are shaping a garage condo storage facility and a new pit lane designed to accommodate 36 vehicles and enhance driver safety is taking shape along the main track, along with newly installed fencing and guardrails.

The park, nestled in the heart of Lakeville, is also upgrading corporate entertainment this year by unveiling a series of premium hospitality experiences including private gatherings at the Connecticut circuit which will debut at the highly anticipated NASCAR CRAFTSMAN Truck Series weekend June 27 and 28 and is expected to lure 12,000 to 15,000 guests.

"We are on the cusp of the 2025 season, and April 1st marks the 4th anniversary of our purchase by the LLP and change in ownership," said Dicky Riegel, the park's president and CEO, explained. "I can safely say it's never been in better condition and better shape to host events."

The historic venue, in its 68th year, is expected to reach a major milestone this season as the NASCAR event, which is expected to be one of the largest events in Lime Rock's history, will be broadcast live on the FOX Network to millions of viewers, a first for the iconic venue and its unique 1.53-mile, seven turn road course, according to Jamie Kistner, the park's chief mar-



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Lime Rock Park President and CEO Dicky Riegel inspected progress on the venue's new car storage facility during a tour of the construction in mid-March.

keting officer.

In March, Lime Rock Park named the Laborers' International Union of North America as the official title sponsor of the NASCAR race weekend.

"With LIUNA's support," said Riegel, "We're not just bringing NASCAR back to Lime Rock Park, we're making history."

850-horsepower V8's

Lime Rock will open its 2025 season with the highly anticipated Trans Am Memorial Day Classic, providing a family-picnic atmosphere on the hillsides. The weekend will kick off summer and include an array of racing, plus a car show and beer fest.

The Trans Am Series presented with Pirelli will feature the thunder of 850-horsepower American V8 engines showcased in the premier TA category. The TA2 class revives the muscle car wars of the late 1960s, featuring Ford Mustang, Chevrolet Camaro and Dodge Challenger in a 100-mile race. Import and

domestic sports cars will be highlighted in the XGT, SGT and GT classes.

Park guests are invited to bring their Sunday driver to the popular Royals' Garage Car Show and see if they can take home bragging rights, and possibly a trophy. Proceeds benefit a local charitable organization. The Connecticut Craft Beer Grand Prix will complete the Memorial Day weekend event.

Not to be missed is the 43rd Historic Festival, once again held over Labor Day weekend, Aug. 28 through Sept. 1, beginning with a 17-mile Vintage Race Car and Sports Car Parade on Thursday and on-track action the rest of the weekend.

The 2025 season will wrap up with Lime Rock Park celebrating every generation of the Mazda MX-5 as MiataCon returns Oct. 24 and 25, following a successful second year with over 500 Miatas. Riegel revealed that he will be among the Miata drivers participating in the event.

"We really celebrate the

fact that we are a park and unlike many other racetracks in the world, we don't have ticketed seating here and we intend to keep it that way."

Building new traditions with race fans

In addition to offering a season full of high-octane thrills, including the 2025 arrival of the ARCA Menards Series, Riegel said he is thrilled that the park will be hosting one leg of the GRIDLIFE Festival Tour, the fastest-growing, youngest motorsports event paddock in the world. The festival will feature a three-day format at Lime Rock, August 15 through 17.

Beyond the track, GRIDLIFE blends car culture with live music, offering structured racing, showcasing vehicles from the '80's, '90's and 2000's, and delivering high-energy performances on its musical stages.

Riegel noted that roughly 80 percent of those who at-

tend GRIDLIFE are first-timers to Lime Rock Park.

"It's really more of a community racing group than it is a championship series," drawing younger crowds and family fun, he noted. "We are 68 years old and have a lot of fans, but we do need to build new traditions with new fans to ensure our future."

Supporting local causes is a priority

Lime Rock Park is dedicated to strengthening its local communities through charitable work and community partners, said its CEO, who had met earlier in the morning at the infield chalet with representatives from Women's Support Services, a nonprofit domestic violence agency serving the Northwest Corner, to discuss plans for this year's Trade Secrets Rare Plans and Garden Antiques Sale at the park.

Among the community groups with planned events at the park in 2025 are the

Little Guild's Great Country Mutt Show, the Salisbury Rotary Club's Lighting Up Lime Rock Park fireworks display and the Litchfield Hills Highland Games.

Riegel said an estimated 225,000 people visit the park annually to drive, spectate and attend community events.

"We are not just a racetrack. We want to be a venue that is most welcoming, most beautiful and has all the amenities so that people will be comfortable here, have a great time and want to come back."

New garage condos, beer garden

The prior night's downpour caused huge puddles around the worksite where construction on a 20-unit car storage facility is expected to be completed in June, just in time for the big NASCAR event, Riegel explained as he navigated the mud to check on progress.

The garage condos offer secure storage, direct track access and premium owner amenities, overlooking the track's West Bend.

"The drivers can park cars on site instead of trailering them to and from Lime Rock Park on rural roads," said Riegel, who noted that park officials worked closely with the town's Land Use Office on the project.

Another new project in the works merges craftsmanship and camaraderie: a 26-foot by 52-foot beer garden crafted by the Connecticut-based Country Carpenters, which specializes in post and beam construction.

A ceremonial groundbreaking took place in late February, with a ribbon-cutting planned in May.

Hotchkiss sophomore wins junior national squash gold

By Riley Klein

LAKEVILLE — Jude Cha placed first overall in the boys U15 category of the U.S. Squash Junior National Championships in Philadelphia, Pennsylv-

ania, on March 16.

Cha entered the tournament as the No. 2 ranked player. He defeated Vivaan Mehta, of California, in the title match, winning three of five games.

Cha, class of 2028, is the

first squash player in the history of The Hotchkiss School to be crowned a junior national champion.

Hotchkiss senior Oscar Okonkwo also medaled, taking bronze in the boys U19 category.

Triumphant trio wins March 3-on-3 HVRHS basketball tournament

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — Team Kansas claimed undefeated victory in the 3-on-3 basketball tournament at Housatonic Valley Regional High School March 20.

Coinciding with the start of the NCAA tournament, Housatonic hosted its own version of March Madness with eight co-ed trios, each with up to one teacher, facing off in a double-elimination bracket.

Social Studies Teacher Deron Bayer commentated during the 5-minute games, which culminated in a thrilling finale.

Team Kansas' Aiden Miller, Bakary Toure and Jackie Fenn defeated Team UCLA, consisting of Anthony Labbadia, Nick Crodelle and Carmela Egan, to become champions. The title game went into four overtimes.

"We have never before seen a quadruple overtime," exclaimed Bayer.

The event raised \$240 for the class of 2027.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

From left, Aiden Miller, Bakary Toure and Jackie Fenn form Team Kansas, 2025 champions of 3-on-3 hoops.

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Sports



Sophomore Wyatt Bayer will suit up for varsity baseball this spring. Lacrosse begins with a rematch of last year’s championship game between HVRHS and St. Paul.

Swinging into spring sports season at Housatonic

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — With the arrival of warm weather, so too comes a new season of athletics at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

The Mountaineers will field teams in five different sports for the spring season: baseball, softball, lacrosse, tennis and track and field.

Baseball gets the varsity season started with a scrimmage March 31 at home against Wolcott Technical High School. The Mountaineers will be coached by Bobby Chatfield this year. The last time most HVRHS varsity players took to the diamond was in August 2024 when Housy Juniors won the Babe Ruth League District 4 Northwest Connecticut summer baseball championship.

With a surplus of baseball players this year, junior varsity baseball returns to HVRHS. The JV boys, coached by Russell Sears, will get the season started April 5 on the road against Shepaug

Valley High School.

Softball starts April 5 as well with a home game against Shepaug Valley. Coaches Pete Foley and Kaleigh Selino led the team to a 13-9 record and a trip to the Class S tournament last year. The Mountaineers will need to establish a new hurler on the mound after graduating star pitcher Anne Moran in 2024.

Boys and girls tennis begins April 7. The boys, coached by Jeff Tripp, will travel to Lakeview High School for the first meet of the season. At the same time, the girls, coached by Don Drislaine and Mo Kirby-Dore, host Lakeview on the newly refinished courts at HVRHS.

The lacrosse season begins with a rematch of last year’s Western Connecticut Lacrosse Conference girls championship game. HVRHS, coached by Laura Bushey, will travel to play the reigning champs St. Paul Catholic High School in Bris-



Madison Dewitt is one of eight HVRHS senior softballers in the coming season.



Kyle McCarron, front, returns to the track this spring.

tol April 9. St. Paul defeated HVRHS 13-12 in a riveting league final last May.

Track and field is set to start April 22 with a home meet against Lakeview High School. HVRHS, coached by Alan Lovejoy, has a number of decorated athletes returning to the track this year including Kyle McCarron, Ava Segalla and Anthony Labbadia, each of whom competed in the CIAC State Open meet last June. Many more returning runners and jumpers gained state-level experience last year at the CIAC Class S meet in May of 2024.

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HEALTH

Continued from Page A1

Medicaid — services which are at risk.

Borduas explained that Connecticut pays out approximately 30% less than neighboring states for Medicaid services, which means many practices cannot afford to see most Medicaid patients. Borduas warned that if further cuts are made at a national level, then drastic changes will need to be made

in the state’s reimbursement strategy to ensure providers are able to continue to offer their services.

Borduas also chairs non-profit Community Health Center Association of Connecticut, which recently took legal action against the state Department of Social Services for insufficient Medicaid reimbursement.

State Rep. Maria Horn

FIRE

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY KVFD LT. PETER BERNARD

A blown propane tank sits among ash and debris at the scene of the fire in Kent March 21.

for towns whose trucks had gone to Kent.

All of these separate entities melded together in one mass effort to stop the fire before it could destroy even more property or escape into the forest. Controlling the scene and directing individual units’ duties was incident commander Wendell Soule of the Kent Volunteer Fire Department.

“We divide up operations with the chief, a water supply officer and a staging officer,” Kent Fire Chief Alan Gawal explained. “When the first officer arrives, they size up the situation and as higher-ranking officers come in, they decide if they need a second alarm or third alarm. Calling additional companies is based on different factors, including the location and what the water sources are.”

In this instance, pumper trucks pulled water from a nearby lake, conveying it to the fire scene.

The alarm was sounded at 10:05 a.m., according to Gawal. “The first Kent officer was on the scene at 10:12,” he said. “By 11:57, the fire was declared under control.” And by 2 p.m., firefighters were leaving the scene.

Gawal said two 60-foot-by-20-foot camp cabins were fully engulfed in flames at the time the firefighters arrived and that there were “multiple exposures to fire” for 10 other cabins.

Whipping winds of up to 30 mph complicated efforts to control the fire and eventually a third cabin succumbed to the blaze.

The cabins at the camp are heated by propane and Gawal said four of the tanks caught fire with one suffering a BLEVE (Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion). “Shrapnel went into the air when the top blew apart like a bomb,” Gawal said.

Crews were able to shut off the other tanks and Eversource killed the power to electric lines to prevent more explosions.

According to a statement released by the camp, an electrician working in an unused staff cabin inadvertently sparked the blaze. The camp, located at 65 Kenmont Rd., offers co-ed programs for kids aged 7 to 15 during the summer.

Following the incident, camp owner Brad Lerman said, “We at KenMont Ken-

Wood Camps are incredibly grateful for the quick response of the many local fire companies and the many other emergency personnel who quickly responded to this morning’s limited structure fire.”

Gawal added his own note of appreciation to all the other organizations that contributed to the day’s success.

Two Kent firefighters were injured at the scene and received treatment in the hospital.

“One was released, and the other was admitted,” Gawal said, adding that firefighters were waiting for word about the hospitalized firefighter’s condition.

“He is a long-time Kent resident,” the chief said. “Our thoughts and prayers are with that firefighter and his family. We volunteer to do this job, but sometimes I think people don’t realize that it is dangerous.”

He asked residents to send their best wishes to the injured firefighters via the company’s Facebook page. HIPAA regulations prevent releasing identities.

The firefighters left the scene around 2 p.m., but their day was far from over. As that scene was winding down, an accident scene was developing. Route 7 was shut down at 1:30 p.m. at the junction of routes 7 and 341 while emergency crews worked to free a motorist whose car had become entangled in electrical wires brought down by a felled tree.

Eversource was at the scene by 1:52 p.m. and the wires were removed from the car by 1:58 p.m. First responders left the scene 15 minutes later, the motorist having refused hospital transport, and the investigation was turned over to the State Police. Route 7 was reopened.

At 2:31 p.m., Kent Engine 1 reported a possible illegal burn on Schaghticoke Road and asked Litchfield County Dispatch to notify the Connecticut State Police. Shortly thereafter, Kent Engine 2 responded to Schaghticoke Road, but by 2:51 p.m. both trucks responded to Jennings Road where another tree was reported down across the entire road.

A fifth alarm dispatched to Kent School for an automatic alarm in the chapel.

Kathryn Boughton is the editor of Kent Dispatch.

(D-64), who also sat on the panel, shared Borduas’ worry about funding from Washington drying up. She described the situation as “shadow boxing with what might happen at the federal level.”

Other panelists brought up more regionally focused obstructions to adequate and accessible care, with Meghan Kenny citing a lack of affordable housing as prohibitive to maintaining a workforce. Kenny is the director of SVNA Home Assistance and Litchfield County Home Assistance and says her work’s vital role of bringing care to homebound patients is jeopardized by losing employees who are priced out.

Christina McCullough, who is the President of Sharon Hospital, reported that attracting a workforce to the hospital — which she described as a “critical and vital” component of Northwest Connecticut’s healthcare landscape — has proven to be a real challenge, alongside financial insecurity and patient scarcity.

Borduas pointed out that rural healthcare is plain hard work, and doctors in the countryside are often

overworked and burned out. Many younger physicians coming out of medical school are pursuing specialized careers, she reported, while the reservoir for family doctors — especially those willing to live and work in rural communities — is drying up.

While the situation may seem grim, all is not lost, the panelists affirmed. Concluding the Q&A session, which was conducted via anonymous index cards, Heaton chose to read a unique submission: “What can this audience do to help you?”

The entire panel chimed in to respond, with Borduas emphasizing a “strength in numbers and power in advocacy” approach to activism.

Horn encouraged civilians to utilize the modern convenience of remote testimony to make their voices heard in Hartford.

McCullough championed self-education and participation, and Kenny echoed her call for education.

“I do think now, more than ever, people need to be engaged,” said Heaton as a final remark for attendees to chew on as they made their way out of the school and into the cold night.

GRANTS

Continued from Page A1

The most a town can receive each fiscal year is \$1 million. Award amounts will be based on the number of participating municipalities and the number of qualified applications. A 20% municipal match is preferred, but not required. Notification of award winners is expected to take place on April 3.

Once a town is granted the funds, an authorizing referendum vote and/or resolution by the local legislative body needs to be called by the Board of Selectmen in order to authorize the chief elected official to accept such a grant and enter into all contracts and agreements. If an award is approved, the town will be notified which state agency will be assigned to administer it. All grant payments will be made on a reimbursement basis.

Heft noted these are not annual grants, but are dependent on available funds and the governor’s approval.

According to information from OPM, “Any municipality that fails to adopt a plan of conservation and development at least once every 10 years shall be ineligible for discretionary state funding in excess of \$25,000,” unless a special waiver is received.

Region One towns have submitted grant requests for a wide variety of projects.

In Sharon, the money is being sought to help correct a long-standing problem. First Selectman Casey Flanagan said the town is asking for \$1 million to repair River Road, which has been reduced to one lane for about two years due to cracks in the pavement. “Water is seeping underneath and undermining the roadway,” he said. “Heavy rains are causing water to come down and wash away fine materials. We’ve been working with Cardinal Engineering to fix it. It’s not good. If the road washes away, it could trap those in houses beyond that area.”

Kent First Selectman Martin Lindenmayer said his town is looking for \$1 million to renovate the Swift House on Maple Street (Route 341 East), which dates back to the 1700s, in order to relocate the social services office and town food bank to that site. “This will give us an opportunity to have the food bank



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

The town of Kent has applied for a STEAP grant to convert the Swift House into social service offices and the food bank.

open more,” he said. There are plans to put another room onto the building. A center room will be used for a common area. He said the food bank’s refrigerators and freezers can be housed there, since the floors have been determined to have adequate weight-bearing features.

In Falls Village, First Selectman David Barger said the town hopes to get a grant of \$977,507 for several projects. These include making improvements to the salt shed and water-oil separator at the town garage, a new trash compactor at the transfer station, as well as a more secure (bear-proof) area at the site, some renovations to the Senior Center, repairs to the Town Hall roof, tree removal, upgrades at the recreation center and money toward replacing two town trucks. He gave high praise to the newly formed grant committee that helped in devising the list.

STEAP grants in Cornwall will go toward façade improvements for buildings owned by businesses or non-profits, said First Selectman Gordon M. Ridgway. “We’ve done this before in three other cycles and it’s really been a big help,” he said. “It’s key to building the local economy, giving jobs to contractors and supporting lumberyards” The upgrades can be to increase energy efficiency, improve landscapes,

SHEIL

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO PROVIDED

From left to right, Coach Seth Gardner, Islay Sheil and Junior National Head Coach Colin Delaney

athlete that has earned gold in the Junior National competition in many years, if ever.

Seth Gardner, a SWSA jumper and coach gained his own notoriety when he was named assistant Junior National coach, a first in recent decades for SWSA.

“Coaching at the Junior National competition for the first time was an extraordinary experience,” Gardner said, “It was inspiring to see

the growth of all of the athletes throughout the week.” He added that he was excited to bring back to Salisbury what he had learned in Park City “to help our athletes grow.”

Each year, the Junior Nationals rotate locations among the five divisions. SWSA will next host the event in 2027.

To learn more about SWSA visit jumpfest.org.

Public Conversations of Consequence

Forgiveness: current challenges and opportunities.

Come to listen, to engage with guest presenters, and to interact with fellow attendees.

Sunday, 30 March, 4:30pm
30 Main Street
(entrance on Library St)

An Open and Affirming Church in a net-zero Meetinghouse

SalisburyUCC.org

COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

HEALTH: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Aimee Davis and Brian Crouse offer whole-person wellness in Millerton

‘We need to be touched, we need to be tended to, and we need to remember who we are and how we are actually doing,’ said massage therapist Aimee Davis, her words echoing softly in the warmly lit loft of the space she shares with Naturopathic Doctor and Acupuncturist, Brian Crouse, in Millerton. In a world that keeps us increasingly disconnected from our bodies, the healing practices of Davis and Crouse offer a sanctuary of care that integrates both physical and energetic restoration. They share a space and a mission of healing, one that embraces the complexity of the body, mind, and spirit.

Davis and Crouse both come from backgrounds rich with both experience and personal transformation. Their paths intersected in Millerton, where they now work alongside each other in a healing space that is as inviting and serene as their practices. At an early age, Davis was inspired by her parents’ work in science and medicine and at 18, she worked in a home for the mentally challenged, most of whom were chair-bound. “I realized then the obvious way that you can connect to another human even if they’re incapable of talking,” said Davis. A licensed massage therapist and intuitive healer, Davis has spent over two decades honing her craft in bodywork, energy healing, and coaching. Her work spans from deep tissue massage to Reiki, chakra balancing, and 4-dimensional healing. Yet, it’s the unique blending of these modalities that makes her approach so effective. “I prefer the mixed pot of whatever a person is, as opposed to just a sports massage or just an energy session,” said Davis, describing her belief in customizing healing practices to meet the distinct needs of every individual.

Brian Crouse’s path to healing also had its own meandering route. “When I was a kid, I just always had this thought I was going to be some kind of doctor/healer and also own a restaurant and also be a bass player,” Crouse recalls with a smile. He has



Aimee Davis and Brian Crouse in their shared office space at 65 Main St. in Millerton.

PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

managed to do all of that and more. After leaving chiropractic school, he owned a restaurant on Long Island for many years, but the call to medicine never left him. When he returned to his studies, he shifted focus a bit, eventually studying both naturopathic medicine and acupuncture. “I saw what food did to people over time,” he said, explaining the pivot that led him to a more holistic approach.

Today, Crouse blends his expertise in naturopathic medicine, acupuncture, and nutritional counseling to address the root causes of health issues. His practice is centered on supporting the body’s innate ability to heal. “As a naturopath, I use natural therapies rather than pharmaceutical drugs,” Crouse explained, emphasizing his belief in the body’s capacity for self-regulation. If there are any fears around acupuncture, Crouse assured, “It doesn’t hurt, and it’s a very relaxing and healing modality.”

Whether it’s Davis’s bodywork or Crouse’s

naturopathic treatments that brings you into their office, both practitioners see patients as unique individuals, deserving tailored care. “It doesn’t have to be all one way or another,” said Crouse. “You don’t have to have a massage every two weeks, but you can combine things that work for you,” added Davis, emphasizing the importance of finding what resonates best for each person. For Crouse, it’s all about offering choices. “I try to guide people to the healing wisdom that’s inside them and reignite it,” he explained, ensuring that his patients are not just passive recipients of treatment, but active participants in their own healing journey.

While their professional lives are grounded in wellness, their personal passions also fuel their work. Brian, an avid musician, still finds time to play bass, even occasionally practicing in the shared office space. His passion for music is just one of the many ways he nurtures his own well-being and creativity,

which he said, “helps me balance the demands of my practice.” Davis, too, finds time to engage in her own self-care and personal growth, and along with her bodywork practice, she also offers women’s circles and relationship coaching. “Everybody needs help,” she acknowledged, understanding that healing, both physical and emotional, is a lifelong journey.

“It’s not a luxury to take care of yourself,” said Davis. “It’s maintenance so you can live longer and feel better.”

“And as a society we’re losing touch with ourselves and our bodies, and this is a way to reconnect,” Crouse added. “Yea,” said Davis. “It’s stressful out there, and we need to come home to the body and each other.”

For more information or to book an appointment with Brian Crouse, call 518-592-1033. For more information or to book an appointment with Aimee Davis, visit connectandbalance.am-tamembers.com or call (860) 248-5452



PHOTO BY MIKE COBB

Eamon O'Leary and friends at the St. Paddy's celebration at the Norfolk Library.

MUSIC: MIKE COBB

The Norfolk Library celebrates 30 years of St. Patrick’s Day

On Saturday, March 22 at 5:30 p.m., Eamon O’Leary and friends entertained a packed house at the Norfolk Library with classic and original Irish folk songs to celebrate the patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick.

Originally from Dublin, O’Leary has lived in New York since the early 1990s. With O’Leary typically playing the bouzouki, a long, lute-like stringed instrument, he was accompanied by Jefferson Hamer on guitar, Brenda Castles on concertina and vocals, Ivan Goff on uilleann pipes, and Liz Hanley on fiddle and vocals.

The band regaled the audience with the stories behind the songs and had the enthusiastic crowd singing along to the chorus of the traditional Irish sea shanty “Across The Western Ocean.” The song speaks to how immigrants fled Ireland’s hardships and set out for America in

search of a better life. “Oh, the times are hard and the wages low Oh, sailor, where are you bound to? The Rocky Mountains are my home Across the western ocean” Now in its 30th year, the St. Patrick’s Day celebration is booked by Norfolk Library events programmer, Eileen Fitzgibbons. As an Irish American, Fitzgibbons was raised with a love of traditional Irish music. “All four of my grandparents were from Ireland, so Irish music is in my soul. I love offering traditional Irish music at the Library. The music is ancient and entertaining. I enjoy how folks of all ages come together in the great hall to share time together. And of course it’s a nod to my ancestors,” Fitzgibbons said. Library associate Jack Dillon presented a

Continued on next page

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FILM: ROBIN RORABACK

Unmasking ‘Holland’ at The Triplex

The Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington offered a special screening of the movie “Holland” on March 22 with the screenwriter of the film, Andrew Sodroski, on hand after the film to answer questions. He is a resident of Berkshire County.

“Holland” stars Nicole Kidman, Matthew Macfadyen, who plays her husband, and Gael Garcia Bernal, who plays her friend. Before the start of the film, Sodroski warned the audience that it would be a “wild and crazy ride” but also “bonkers, twisty, fun.”

“The whole movie is about what you see and don’t see. The surface versus underneath,” said Sodroski.

This film delves deep below the surface into the ways that darkness exists in the worst possible cases. Anyone viewing the film should be aware that at its core is a serious mental illness and should bear that in mind should they decide to watch.



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Ben Elliot, left, Creative Director of Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington and Andrew Sodroski, screenwriter of the movie “Holland” introduce the film at a special screening on March 22. Sodroski warned the audience that the film is, “Bonkers, twisty, fun.” and “a wild and crazy ride.”

The film takes place in Holland, Michigan, which Sodroski chose

because he wanted a “specific place with a specific subculture.” In Holland, they celebrate their Dutch heritage with a yearly festival complete with Dutch costumes, wooden shoes, traditional Dutch dancing, a parade, windmills, and tulips. Sodroski used this surface for a “technicolor experience. A sort of dreamworld which in a little while is ripped away.” He admitted to being influenced by his admiration of David Lynch’s films.

In the movie’s Holland, “Smooth surfaces matter. When you leave your house, you always look presentable.”

...Norfolk Library

Continued from previous page



PHOTO BY MIKE COBB

Festive Abe Lincoln overlooks the gathering at Norfolk Library March 22.

letter from Helena Nolan, the Consul General of Ireland, recognizing and congratulating the Norfolk Library Associated on their 50th anniversary as well as the 30th anniversary of their St. Patrick’s Day concerts.

“The Norfolk Library Associates have truly embodied the spirit of Irish America, valuing knowledge, service, and the betterment of the community. Your deep-rooted commitment to cultural preservation, access to education, and enriching lives echoes the timeless values of generosity and solidarity,” Nolan wrote.

In addition to an hour of lovely music in the idyllic setting of the library’s great hall, the audience was invited to hors d’oeuvres and “Irish

spirits.” With such good cheer, it’s easy to see why the St. Paddy’s Day Celebration is one of the Norfolk Library’s best attended events.

For information on upcoming events, see their site: norfolklibrary.org

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The movie begins with Kidman’s character having lost a pearl earring (calling to mind Dutch painter Vermeer’s “Girl With a Pearl Earring”) and in her search of her perfect house and her husband’s model train shed, she finds indications of his secret life. At first imagining an affair, she finds an even deeper, darker secret.

During the question-and-answer period, Sodroski explained that he wrote the screenplay soon after film school, thirteen years ago. He said that “Holland” was on the Black List, “a list of all the most popular unproduced screenplays which have been bought but never seen,” for many years. These scripts are passed amid other screenwriters, producers, and directors. They vote for the best and “Holland” topped the list in 2013.

Sodroski thought this meant “Holland” would soon be developed into a film, but it took years to find financing, a cast, and a director. “Finally,” he said, “they got Nicole Kidman who brought in director Mimi Cave.”

Sodroski was pleased with the finished film. “It is very, very close to the first draft. The visual world is close. It was like a mind meld with Mimi Cave.” He admitted it can be hard to hand the screenplay over to a director. “They take control,” adding that movies are “always a collaboration with the director, writer, studio, and cast.”

In the end, he said, “You do think about the audience and what experience you want them to have. You’re building a roller coaster and what kind of ride you’re going to give them.”

“Holland” can be seen on Amazon Prime starting March 27.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

A recently-stocked brook trout was willing to play on the Blackberry River.

In search of ambitious fish

SOMEWHERE IN NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT — It took a while but I’m finally on the board for 2025.

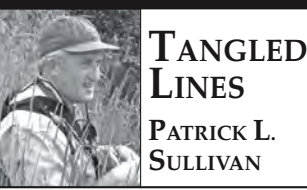
The state stocked the Blackberry on March 13. The stream is typically stocked in the spring at least once more, and usually twice.

Statewide all trout fishing is catch and release until “Opening Day,” which is Saturday, April 12.

This is the most ignored law since Prohibition. On Saturday, March 15, I saw anglers taking fish. They weren’t trying to be sneaky, either. Maybe they just don’t realize the regs have changed. And maybe announcing on social media where stocking has occurred isn’t such a great idea.

I feel bad for these fish, frankly. Imagine being a hatchery trout and enjoying ideal temps in your tank, which is the only home you’ve ever known.

Then suddenly you’re shoved in a much smaller, much darker tank and bounced around, only to be dumped into a stream or lake that’s also dark and weird and



TANGLED LINES
PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

has things living in it and is about 20 degrees colder than the home you’ll never see again.

And then you bite something that looks edible and next thing you know you’re in the frying pan.

It’s a depressing prospect for an ambitious fish.

On that Saturday I had time before and after the 2 p.m. performance of “Urinetown” at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. So with the Blackberry mobbed I tippy-toed up a little blue line and got the first fish of 2025, a ferocious eight inch wild brook trout that came up for a size 10 Stimulator after ignoring half a dozen nymphs that would have been much less work.

Then I had to beat it down to Housy for the show.

Afterwards at 5 p.m. or so, the weather had given up even pretend-

Continued on next page



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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

MARCH 27

Troutbeck Symposium: Students as Historians

The Moviehouse, 48 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.

Documentary screenings + Q&A with Michael Morand & Rhonan Mokriski. Films by Salisbury School, Housatonic Valley Regional High School, and Yale University explore overlooked histories and social justice. Free & open to the public. Begins at 10 a.m.

Dine Out for History Adds a Night

Millerton, N.Y.

Millerton's Dine Out for History adds an extra night at Taro's Pizzeria (18 Main St. on Thurs, March 27, 5 to 9 p.m., after bad weather affected its original date. Participating restaurants donate 10% of proceeds to the North East Historical Society.

Upcoming Dates:

March 27 – Taro's Pizzeria

Mention "Dine Out for History" when dining!

French Movie Night

Kent Memorial Library, 32 North Main St., Kent Conn. 6 p.m. "Intouchables" After he becomes a paraplegic an aristocrat hires a young man from the projects to be his caregiver. Free to the public. Registration required. kentmemoriallibrary.org

MARCH 28

Dinosaurs Before Dark

Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. The Falls Village Children's Theater presents Dinosaurs Before Dark, a thrilling adventure based on Mary Pope Osborne's beloved book. Join Jack and Annie as they journey through the prehistoric world. Free performances (donations welcome): Friday, March 28 at 6 p.m., Saturday, March 29 at 6 p.m., and Sunday, March 30 at 11 a.m.

Lunch & Learn: Board & Card Game Social

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org Friday, March 28, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon with Scrabble, Uno, Chess, Checkers, Backgammon, and more. Includes lunch from JAM. Preference given to Sharon residents. Registration required:hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com.

MARCH 29

Saturday Morning Family Series at The CENTER for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck

The CENTER for Performing Arts, 661 Route 308, Rhinebeck, N.Y. www.centerforperformingarts.org

Saturdays at 11 a.m. Tickets: \$10

Hansel and Gretel

Date: Saturday, March 29, at 11 a.m. Tanglewood Marionettes bring the Brothers Grimm classic to life, featuring music from the Humperdinck opera.

The Lustre Kings at Millbrook Library

Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook, N.Y. 4:30 p.m. reception, 5 to 6:30 p.m. concert.

The Lustre Kings bring their rockabilly sound to the Millbrook Arts Group Winter Concert Series. Free and open to the public. RSVP requested at millbrooklibrary.org.

Invasive Species Management Presentation and Workshop

Sharon Town Hall, 63 Main St. Sharon, Conn.; Hamlin Preserve, 19 Stone House Rd. Sharon, Conn.

Sharon Land Trust and partners present a free two-part event on March 29 covering invasive species management and forest restoration. Presentation: 10 to 11:30 a.m. at 63 Main St., followed by a hands-on workshop at Hamlin Preserve.

Native Landscaping in Practice

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

The David M. Hunt Library hosts Native Landscaping in Practice on March 29 at 1 p.m. Beth Romaker of Meadowsapes will share insights on native plants and eco-friendly landscape design, from small gardens to large meadows.

MARCH 30

Music Mountain Winter Concert Series: Helen Sung

Tall Barn at Troutbeck, 515 Leedsville Rd., Amenia, N.Y.

On March 30, at 4 p.m. (doors 3:30 p.m.), jazz pianist Helen Sung presents a solo program blending classical and jazz influences, featuring works by Ellington, Monk, Corea, and her own compositions. Tickets: \$75

Details: musicmountain.org

Public Conversation of Consequence

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

The Congregational Church of Salisbury hosts Public Conversations of Consequence, a discussion series on vital topics. The first session, Forgiveness, is March 30, 4:30 to 6 p.m., featuring four guest speakers.

Trivia for Education!

Falls Village Emergency Services Center, 188 Route 7 S, Falls Village, Conn.

The Falls Village Scholarship Association Presents "Trivia for Education!" on Sunday March 30, 2025, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Falls Village Emergency Services Center. Bring a team or join a table, \$5 per player. Get ready to test your history knowledge with Peter Vermilyea. Proceeds provide scholarships to Falls Village students.

J.T. Rogers: Madagascar – A Reading and Talkback

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

Broadway meets the Berkshires on March 30, 2 to 4:30 p.m., with a reading of Madagascar by Tony-winning playwright J.T. Rogers, followed by a talkback with the author. Directed by Macey Levin.

Repeat Patternmaking

Bes, 50 Main St., Millerton, N.Y. www.shop-bes.com

Sunday, March 30, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Learn the secrets of turning an original drawing into a repeating pattern! Use the simple methods of textile and wallpaper design to create your own acetate stencil that can be used to create seamless patterns on paper, walls, or wherever! No inspiration? No problem- we can supply that too.

MARCH 31

Millbrook Arts Project: BIO-BASED

Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane, Millbrook, N.Y.

BIO-BASED by Loren Eiferman & Henry Klimowicz will be on view from March 31 to April 26, with a reception on Friday, April 4, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Last week's WotW				
E	X	T	R	A
T	I	N	G	E
P	O	E	T	S
S	E	T	U	P
U	P	S	E	T

APRIL 1

What is Tonalism and Why Have I Never Heard of It? with Mary Ann Hollihan

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

Join us at the Scoville Library on April 1 from 5 to 6 p.m. for a rare presentation by Mary Ann Hollihan, curator of Dawn & Dusk: Tonalism in Connecticut, a major exhibition of tonalist paintings currently on view at the Fairfield Art Museum. The exhibition runs until April 12 and has received extremely enthusiastic reviews. Registration is required.

APRIL 2

Walking Challenge

Sharon Town Hall, 63 Main St. Sharon, Conn.

Housatonic Valley Health District is hosting a walking challenge in the month of April. Participants can pick up a free pedometer from Sharon Town Hall to track their steps. Join HVHD April 2 from noon to 1 p.m. at 63 Main St. in Sharon to start the challenge by walking and talking with a nurse.

...schlock and awful

Continued from previous page



CINEPUNX.COM

A scene from "Godmonster of Indian Flats."

show host.

In short, it's almost not bad enough to make the S&A cut. Almost.

Of interest to the ovine community is the utterly baffling "God-monster of Indian Flats" (1973). Sort of a Western, kinda sci-fi, and loaded with sheep, the movie lurches from setting to setting so abruptly the viewer may lose faith in the space-time continuum. But fear not, there is a giant mutant sheep to the rescue. Also some banjo players and a glad-hander named Elbow Johnson, who features early and then disappears completely. No nekkidity, which is a

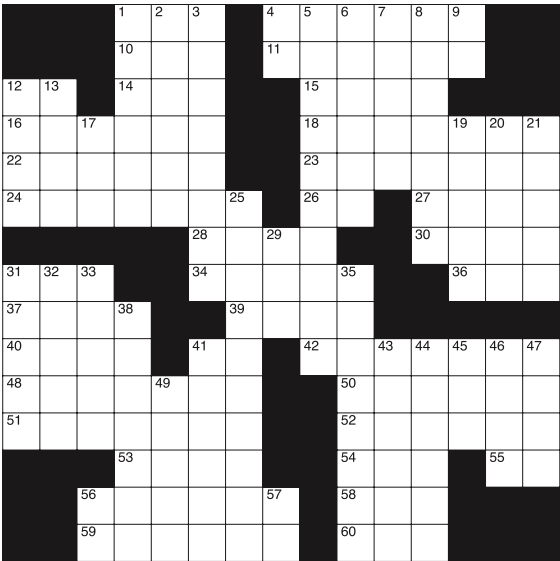
good thing. One of the bad guys looks a bit like Larry Bird but with more chin. Transfer station fans will enjoy this flick for the lengthy scenes featuring waste disposal. My goodness, how far we've come in that department. Baa.

Humble Acknowledgment Department: The Bad Cinema desk hereby admits to stealing the "plot gets in the way of the story" joke from Joe Bob Briggs, which isn't even his real name. We also announce our plans to build a giant statue of Joe Bob Briggs in a spot where everyone can see it but nobody can do anything about it.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

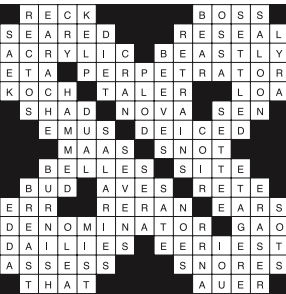
- State in southwestern India
- Pashto
- Corpuscle count (abbr.)
- Supervised release from prison
- Greeting
- Type of drug
- __ Sagan, astronomer
- Every year
- Nasal cavities
- Nova __, province
- In an inactive way
- Cream-colored root
- Nervous system disease
- Guitarist Clapton
- Three came to see Baby Jesus
- Lebowski's nickname
- Play a role
- Not fresh
- Where golfers begin
- Negatives
- Wild goat
- Releasing hormone
- Makes up
- Fastens
- Exists in large numbers
- A connecting word
- A phase of the heartbeat
- Northern Ireland county
- An independent ruler or chieftain
- Pacific sea bream
- Commercial
- Azure
- Doctor of Education
- Protected oneself against loss
- Car mechanics group



- South American hummingbird
- Neither
- Walk with confidence
- Omit when speaking
- Imperial Chinese currency
- A bakery specializing in French pastry
- Talk incessantly
- Ethnic group of Nigeria
- Longtime NY Times film critic
- Beginners
- Makes a trade
- Sleep
- Not moving
- Popular drink: Pina __
- Potential benefits

- A place you can get stuck in
- Ancient Greek City
- Chalcedony
- Rover
- Digraph
- Investment vehicle

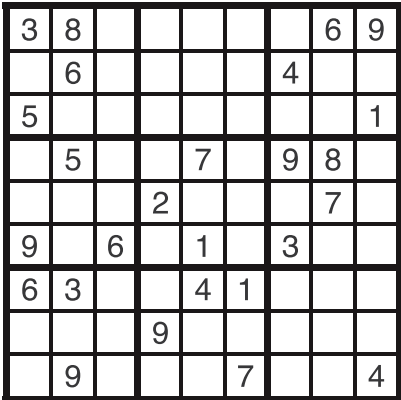
March 20 Solution



CLUES DOWN

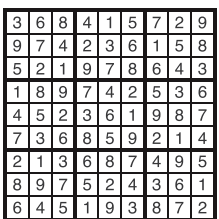
- Pastes for filling crevices
- Acquire
- Heralds
- News group
- Exact copies
- Particles
- Noted 20th C. performer Lena
- Tempted
- Midway between north and east
- Slotted, hinged metal plate

Sudoku



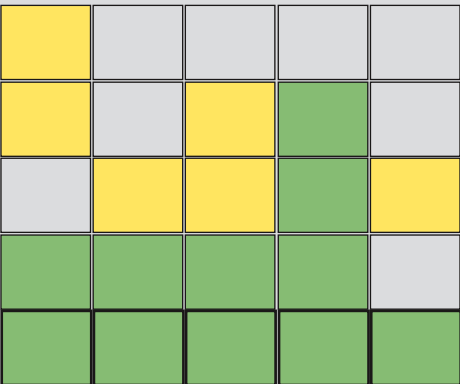
Level: Intermediate

March 20 Solution



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.



- Electronic mail
- Affirmative radio reply
- To concur or share opinions
- Offer a warm welcome
- Color returning to nature

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