



Special, Inside

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THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025 \$3.00

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



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Memorial Day events scheduled in NWCT

By Mia Barnes

Memorial Day, May 26, will be celebrated with a variety of community events in each of the six Region One towns.

In North Canaan, parade participants line up at Town Hall starting at 10 a.m. and step off at 10:30 a.m. The parade will conclude at the Doughboy statue with a ceremony to follow. Six new flag poles were installed at the Doughboy ahead of the event. Each one represents a branch of service. Following the ceremony, VFW Couch Pipa Post 8751 will unveil two new monuments: one for victims of Agent Orange and another for Purple Heart recipients.

The parade in Falls Village will begin promptly at 9:45 a.m., with the lineup beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Lee H. Kellogg School. From there, participants will proceed down to the Falls Village Town

See MEMORIAL DAY, Page A10

Past vs. Present

Housatonic Valley Regional High School varsity baseball and softball teams took on Mountaineers of yesteryear Saturday, May 17. Above, Pete Foley, Class of 1988, extends for the ball as Chris Race, sophomore, slides into third base. The lighthearted games made for a morning of memorable moments. Full story on Page A8.

FFA open house showcases agriculture and the advantage of hands-on learning

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic FFA open house was Wednesday, May 14, and the Housatonic Valley Regional High School grounds were alive with students giving demonstrations, judges solemnly taking notes, and the general public wandering around wide-eyed.

Out on the oval lawn there were assorted horses, including Dixie, a four-year-old registered Palomino quarter horse mare belonging to lifetime FFA member Gloria Tatsapaugh.

Beatrice Gifford, a 9th grader from Kent, was interested in the retraining of racehorses once they have left competition.

She said that fully half of such animals — and there are thousands of



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Beatrice Gifford set up a display on the HVRHS lawn to present equipment used in horse racing at the FFA open house May 14.

them — retire at age five or younger. Retraining them involves a different diet, different equipment such as saddles and horseshoes, and a different mentality for both horse and human.

She said she is currently retraining a racehorse. “I’m a bit of a horse

Hazmat scare prompts FBI investigation

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — Employees at the Becton, Dickinson and Company facility in North Canaan were evacuated Thursday, May 15, after a hazmat scare.

A package that arrived at the facility was identified as suspicious due to an “unusual address,” said Ken LeClerc, emergency response coordinator for DEEP. Details of the contents of the package have not been released.

Emergency authorities were notified of a potential hazmat incident and several agencies responded, including the FBI, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, state police, area fire departments and ambulances.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

BD’s facility in North Canaan manufactures syringes.

The facility was locked down and about 300 employees entered decontamination protocol, requiring them to leave clothing behind and shower before going home.

See BD, Page A10

Lime Rock Park seeks permit to reroute traffic during upcoming NASCAR event

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — At a special meeting Thursday, May 15, the Board of Selectmen tabled the issue of approving a permit for traffic rerouting on Route 112 Friday and

Saturday, June 27 to 28.

Lime Rock Park is hosting a weekend of NASCAR events. In anticipation of a large crowd, estimated between 12,000 at 15,000 in attendance, LRP has asked to have one-way traffic on Route 112 (Lime Rock Road) from Route 7 to White Hollow Road and the main track entrance between 10 a.m.

and 1 p.m. and again between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on both days.

Tom Burke, Director of Facility Safety at Lime Rock Park, told the selectmen that this option was chosen because it does not involve detours on local roads. At their regular monthly meeting Monday, May 5, the selectmen had expressed dismay and concern at an earlier

proposal to route traffic over narrow and windy Brinton Hill Road.

Burke said there will be at least two electronic variable message boards used and traditional “hard” signs. And there will be state troopers deployed to assist motorists.

nerd.”

Daniel Moran, a sophomore from Norfolk, showed interested parties the 14-foot Starcraft boat he and his brother are refurbishing. It’s a work in progress and currently doesn’t have seats.

He said it’s his grandfather’s boat, bought new in 1974.

So far the floor has been taken up, leaks have been patched, new seats obtained, and a new(er) engine mounted.

“We want to keep it as long as we can,” he said.

Nathan Young, a freshman from Cornwall, is involved in the family maple syrup business. He had samples of this year’s product, which was on the darker, richer side of the maple syrup spectrum.

He said the family made 35 gallons of syrup this year, which is right in the middle of the business’ historic range of between 20 and 50 gallons per year.

“It was a late season,” he explained. “The taps only went out in January.”

Sasha McCue, a senior from North Canaan, was highly informative about Jack Russell terriers. She has one, formally named “Princess” but nicknamed “Fifi.”

She said the dogs are known for hunting foxes.

They are bold and active, and willing, even eager to go under-

See NASCAR, Page A10

See FFA, Page A10



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Our Towns



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO
Jessica Serna, left, chooses spring plantings at Douglas Library’s annual plant and book sale on Saturday, May 17, in North Canaan.

Leafing through deals at Douglas Library

By Robin Roraback

NORTH CANAAN — The Friends of the Library in North Canaan held its yearly plant sale at the Douglas Library on Main Street Saturday, May 17.

A \$5 a bag book sale was also held in the upstairs rooms of the library, which had many enticing titles for both adults and children.

Librarian Norma DeMay said of the plant sale, “It’s been going on for fifteen to twenty years.” The plants made a colorful display outside the library’s front door.

Eileen Fox, president of the Friends of the Library, explained, “We get plants from Freund’s Farm Market and Housatonic Valley Regional High School.”

The Vo-Ag department of Housatonic Valley Regional High School brought geraniums, while Freund’s brought hanging baskets and a variety of vegetable plants.

Bunny McGuire, a member of the Friends of the Library and chair of the library’s board added, “Other plants and flowers are donated by volunteers and friends.”

The plant sale was bustling.

Linda Twordusky was upstairs minding the book sales and providing bags to book browsers. “It’s a great way to clear out books and make room for new arrivals.”

She was also busy, saying there had been “quite a few people up,” and that the books are “always five dollars a bag.” The sale is on whenever the library is open.

One browser commented that he “goes around to seven states to used book sales.” He gets them “Just to read. If I don’t like them, I donate them to a church.” He said he currently has 3,000 mysteries and 1,500 old novels at his house.

Book browsers happily found old favorites or “new” books to read and filled their bags.

Back at the busy plant sale, Bunny McGuire reminisced about her father bringing her to the library every week in the summer to fill a bag with books to read.

“I love libraries,” McGuire said.

Proceeds from the sales benefit the library.

Cannabis moratorium continues in Kent

By Alec Linden

KENT — The Planning and Zoning Commission voted at its May 8 meeting to extend its current moratorium on recreational cannabis licenses in town, which is set to expire at the end of May 2025.

The extension will prohibit the authorization of any application to install a business selling cannabis products through Dec. 1, 2025.

The motivation behind the extension is to provide the Board of Selectmen time to draft and approve an ordinance surrounding cannabis retail licenses.

Commissioner Sarah Chase, who chairs the Cannabis Regulation Subcommittee, noted that a discussion on a potential ordinance is on the BOS June 4 special meeting agenda.

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Gold Dog condo public hearing extended again in Sharon

By Alec Linden

SHARON — Planning and Zoning granted a second continuation of the public hearing for a town center housing development on Hospital Hill Road as the Commission awaits a third-party engineering review.

The plans, which are available for public viewing at the Land Use Office during regular hours or by appointment, detail 12 duplex buildings for 24 total condo units arranged around a 24-foot-wide driveway.

At the prior public hearing session, project engineer George Johannesen of Allied Engineering requested a continuation as sewer and hydrology reports were incomplete at the time.

Johannesen returned to the Town Hall meeting room floor at P&Z’s May 14 meeting with those reports, alongside a 53-item presentation responding to a review presented at the March 10 opening of the public hearing by Artel Engineering’s Dainius Virbickas. That report was commissioned by 71 Hospital Hill Road residents Pablo Cisilino and Silvina Leone, who oppose the project.

Johannesen outlined numerous adjustments and additions to the plans due to criticisms and suggestions detailed by Artel, including an overhaul of its Stormwater Management Report, added erosion control measures and infrastructure adjustments, such as the addition of a guardrail on the downhill side of a cul-de-sac. The new plans also implement sidewalks at the request of P&Z during an earlier iteration of the public hearing.

Eleven of the buildings are approximately 1,800 square feet and are arrayed opposite each other on either side of the driveway. A smaller building of approximately 1,350 square feet is positioned at the end of the cul-de-sac, which is now planned to be supported by a riprap slope per the Artel report’s suggestions.

The plot spans an eight acre stretch of sparse forest and wetlands between Hospital Hill Road and Amenia Road, of which three and a half acres of disturbance are planned. If approved, construction would likely begin in the fall and last approximately two years.

Cisilino, as in the previous hearing sessions, expressed frustration at what he described as unpreparedness on the part of the applicant, Gold Dog LLC. “This pattern of behavior itself warrants denial of the application,” he said during the public comment portion of the hearing.

Speaking outside Town Hall after the meeting, Cisilino found it telling that the Artel report had initiated so many alterations to Gold Dog LLC’s proposal.

The project has been embroiled in controversy since Gold Dog submitted the proposal in January 2025 after withdrawing a previous application in 2023. Many Sharon residents have decried the development as incongruous to the neighborhood and insensitive to neighbors’ concerns.

For its part, the applicant’s attorney Joseph Szerejko said that despite the public outcry, no one approached Gold Dog representatives directly in the early months of the application process. “The applicant and Mr. Johannesen would have been very receptive to comments but didn’t receive any,” he said.

A minority of residents have also spoken out in favor of a diversified housing landscape in Sharon. James Gillespie, who used to live in Sharon, argued that the proposed development “fits a niche.” He wants to move back to the town, and “this fits my category,” he said.

The hearing will continue June 11 at 5 p.m., two days before its 65-day extension is set to expire.



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN
Situated on King Hill Road, this sign is one of many lining Sharon streets in opposition to the development.

Dunkin’ yet to apply for P&Z approval

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — Zoning Enforcement Officer George Martin said May 12 that he has not received an application for a new Dunkin’ location.

The project across from Stop & Shop on Route 44 received approval from the Inland Wetland and Conservation Commission in April. The plan included a roughly 2,000-square-foot rectangular building with 16 parking spots and a drive-thru.

P&Z Chairman Mike O’Connor, who also sits on the IWCC, said the applicants initially submitted the proposal in 2013 and it was approved. The developers decided not to move forward at that time, O’Connor said.

When resubmitted to IWCC in 2025, the plans were the same as the 2013 application aside from the addition of a rain garden.

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Our Towns

\$10K state preservation grant funds historic library’s new roof

By Debra A. Aleksinas

CORNWALL — The aging roof at the historic Hughes Memorial Library in West Cornwall, which evolved from a one-room schoolhouse built in 1845, will soon be replaced thanks to a \$10,000 historic matching grant from Preservation Connecticut in partnership with The 1772 Foundation.

The West Cornwall Library Association was one of 17 nonprofit organizations statewide to receive grants totaling \$136,818.

Awards ranged from \$1,213 to \$10,000 for eligible projects, such as roof replacement, chimney repairs, security and fire safety, window restoration and masonry repointing.

“The board of directors of the Hughes Memorial Union were thrilled to receive the matching grant from The 1772 Foundation,” said Program Director Libby



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

The historic Hughes Memorial Library will soon be getting a new roof thanks to a \$10,000 matching grant received by the West Cornwall Library Association from Preservation Connecticut in partnership with The 1777 Foundation.

Mitchell.

“The funds will be used to replace the roof of the Hughes Memorial Library and will be matched by board member Pamela Hughes in honor of her grandfather, Frederick Hughes, who donated the building to the organization in 1941.”

The Hughes Memorial

According to the Town of Cornwall website, the Hughes Memorial Library is descended from the Social Library Society in the Town of Cornwall, established Nov. 5, 1806. Originally it was located in homes, the chapel in West Cornwall and then the West Cornwall Fire House. In 1940 the library moved to the West Cornwall School on Lower River Road, which had closed with the opening of the Consolidated School.

Additional Litchfield County grant recipients include the Gunn Memorial Library and Museum in Washington, Connecticut, which received a \$5,220 matching grant for upgrades at The Gunn Memorial Museum. Also, the Merwinsville Hotel Restoration Inc. in the Gaylordsville section of New Milford received a \$10,000 grant for exterior painting at the historic hotel.

Preservation Connecticut is the statewide nonprofit historic preservation organization, established in 1975 by a Special Act of the Connecticut General Assembly as the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation. Its mission is to preserve, protect and promote the buildings, sites, and landscapes that contribute to the heritage and vitality of Connecticut’s communities.

The 1772 Foundation was named in honor of its first restoration project, Liberty Hall in Union, New Jersey, which was built in 1772 and is the ancestral home of the Livingston and Kean families.

The foundation works to ensure the safe passage of historic buildings and farmland to future generations.

New QR codes guide guests of Beckley Furnace

By Ruth Epstein

NORTH CANAAN — The historic Beckley Furnace Industrial Monument has come into the modern age. QR codes have been placed on all the interpretive signs at the site located on Lower Road on the north bank of the Blackberry River.

Christian Allyn, a member of the Friends of Beckley group, explained the codes will assist visitors in learning about all the details of the furnace and its environs.

Volunteer guides for years would welcome guests and give tours, but those numbers have dwindled. “We decided we couldn’t have those Saturday tours because we didn’t have volunteers to lead them. In 2024, five of them were no longer available,” Allyn said.

Recently a crew set out to install the stickers to allow for self-tours of the site, which preserves a 19th-century iron-making blast furnace, which turned iron ore, charcoal and limestone into pig iron.

The QR codes link to webpages on beckleyfurnace.org with text, photos or videos about the history of the site along with maps to guide guests.

The 12 acres were designated a state park in 1946 and was named to the National Register of Historic Places in 1978. Situated in a rural setting, it is a popular tourist destination, where visitors can not only learn the history of the site, but enjoy picnicking and fishing as well.

The main furnace is a large stone structure, 40-foot tall and 30-foot per



PHOTO BY GEOFF BROWN

Three members of the Friends of Beckley install QR codes on interpretive signs at the historic Beckley Furnace site in East Canaan. From left are Charlie Race, president David McCunn and Christian Allyn.

side at the base, gradually sloping to 20 feet at the top. About 100 yards upriver is the dam, a stone structure with a penstock providing access to a turbine chamber. Further downstream are the remnants of two more dams and furnaces, and there are large piles of slag mounded on the south side of the river, which visitors love to collect. For most of the time, the furnace was owned by Barnum & Richardson Co.

The furnace was built by John Adam Beckley in 1847 and continued to operate until 1919. It was the second of three working blast furnaces built at the site; a fourth furnace was under construction in the early years of the 20th century but was never operated. The works successfully adapted to changing conditions, but was unable to compete on scale, and closed in the early 1920s.

The stack was restored by the state in 1999.

History projects on view at Academy

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Time is running out to see the exhibit of student history projects from the recent Troutbeck Symposium at the Salisbury Association’s Academy Building at 24 Main St. in Salisbury. The exhibit closes Saturday, May 31.

There are contributions from Salisbury Central School, the Salisbury School and Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

From Salisbury School there is a look into the story of Absalom Boston, a whaling captain who in 1822 became the first Black captain with an all Black crew operating out of Nantucket.

Another exhibit from Salisbury School deals with the “quiet quota” for Jews at Columbia University.

A group from HVRHS delved into the history of Connecticut rivers and pollution. The rivers are the Housatonic, Naugatuck and

Shepaug. The exhibit also touches on the infamous Love Canal in New York.

Another HVRHS group looked at the similarities between Jim Crow laws in the United States and the Nuremberg race laws in Nazi Germany.

There is a collage from eighth grade students at Salisbury Central School on “the hidden histories of erased Black settlements in America.”

Visitors can take in all this and more during the Academy Building’s hours, which are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Climate change talk May 31

WINSTED — The American Mural Project will host renowned environmentalist, best-selling author and leading voice on climate change Paul Hawken for an evening of bold ideas and meaningful dialogue.

On Saturday, May 31, at 6 p.m., Hawken will take the stage at AMP’s immersive gallery space in Winsted to discuss his new book, “Carbon.” A book signing and audience Q&A will follow.

A long-time advisor to the American Mural Project, Hawken’s talk will explore how reframing carbon can unlock more hopeful, systems-based solutions to the climate crisis.

Tickets are donation-based and can be reserved online at paulhawken-amptalk.eventbrite.com. Guests can also purchase a reserved copy of “Carbon” during online registration for \$28. Seating is general admission and is first come, first served.

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OUR TOWNS

Wetlands commission passes new regulations

By Alec Linden

SALISBURY — The Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission voted to approve a long-awaited revision of its regulations after a brief public hearing on May 12.

Introducing the new regulations draft at the start of the hearing, Land Use Administrator Abby Conroy outlined the history of the IWWC, which began with the adoption of the Connecticut Inland Wetland and Watercourses Act in 1972, after which Salisbury created the Conservation Commission to enact the duties required under that statute.

Conroy explained that one of the major motivations to change the regulations was to reflect the IWWC's separate "statutory responsibilities" from the Conservation Commission since the two were separated in 2020. The current regulations, which date to 2006, "still reflect the Conservation Commission as the entity responsible for the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act," she said.

As outlined in the motion that passed May 12, the major objectives in changing the regulations were to "reflect a new Agency name, align with legislative updates, address concerns that the current upland review area does not adequately protect sensitive resources, remedy inconsistent and unclear terms, and to adopt a more user-friendly fee schedule."

Altering the upland review area — the area near a wetland or waterbody in which development or construction activities may require review from the IWWC — is one of the more significant changes detailed in the revision, and has incited disagreement between the Commission, lakeshore property owners and the various lake associations in town, such as the Twin Lakes Association and the Lake Wononscopomuc Association.

Conroy said that Salisbury's unique topography and relative lack of develop-

ment have made the town a haven for many types of wetlands and watercourses, as well as the unique ecosystems and threatened and endangered species that call them home. As a result, she explained, the IWWC developed a "resource-based approach" which establishes different upland review areas for different types of wetlands or waterbodies, while the current regulations set a universal 75-foot upland review area.

Sensitive wetland habitats, such as fens or vernal pools for example, are given a 300-foot upland review area in the new regulations. "They really are unique resources to themselves; each one is facing different pressures and threats," Conroy said.

The upland review area remains 75 feet for each named lake — Wononscopomuc, Wononkapook, Washining and Washinee — though Chair Vivian Garfein clarified that these numbers are not set in stone.

Should any lake association wish to alter its own number, she explained, it may petition to do so at a later date through a straightforward process.

A raised bill at the current legislative session in Hartford, known as House Bill 7174, has caused concern among residents and commissioners as to the future jurisdictional power of the IWWC. If passed, the new bill would require a minimum 100-foot buffer adjacent to any wetland or watercourse, which would "completely [change] the ballgame as far as jurisdiction goes," explained Conroy at the IWWC's April 14 meeting, a month before the hearing. That aspect of the law is scheduled to take effect on July 1 if approved, the same day the new IWWC regulations are set to be adopted.

At that same meeting, Garfein said that the Commission will just have to wait and see regarding the bill, which is currently awaiting House and Senate vote.

Salisbury approves town, school budgets

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The spending plans for the town and Salisbury Central School were approved unanimously at a town meeting Wednesday, May 14. The vote was 26-0 on both budget items.

The Board of Finance will set the 2025-26 mill rate after a special meeting Wednesday, May 21, at noon.

The municipal budget for 2025-26 has a bottom line of \$9,205,102, an increase of \$575,530 or 6.7%.

The budget for Salisbury Central School is for \$6,897,148, an increase of \$361,209 or 5.53%.

The Region One budget passed at a referendum vote May 6. The town's Region One assessment is \$4,781,093, an increase of \$373,080 or 8.46%.

Total town educa-

OBITUARIES

Denis Rene LaFontan

SOUTH KENT — Denis Rene LaFontan, 81, a lifelong resident of South Kent, passed away peacefully at home on May 6, 2025, surrounded by family.

Born June 25, 1943, at Sharon Hospital, he was the son of the late Andre, Sr. and Elisabeth (Hosslin) LaFontan. He attended Kent Center School and Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

On Jan. 14, 1966, he married Beverly Card, the love of his life. Denis and Beverly were married for 59 wonderful years and Beverly still resides at home.

Denis worked all over Connecticut as a Heavy Equipment Operator, was one of the operators of LaFontan's Humus and ended his career as the owner/operator of South Kent Construction, LLC, retiring in 2005.

Denis was an avid woodsman who appreciated and understood Northwestern Connecticut's forests and wildlife. He was a passionate hunter and fisherman, passing on his love and respect for the outdoors to his children and grandchildren.

Family meant everything to Denis. He loved his home

and there was no place he'd rather be. He enjoyed walks on his nearby parents' property also known as "the mountain." Much of the wood harvested from the "mountain" was used in the wood stove in his basement that kept his family warm all winter. In his later years, Denis enjoyed good conversation out on his porch—especially about recent animals that he or others had seen, like "Boo" the neighborhood bear that Denis had fondly named after numerous sightings.

Denis is survived by two sons and a daughter; Vincent and his wife Maria of Kent, and Lyle and his wife Elaine of Gaylordsville, and Rebecca and her husband Daniel of South Kent. His grandchildren; Olivia, Abigail, Madison, Morgan, Alexandra and Raphael; and two great-grandchildren; Rowan and Harrison.

The family is planning a private burial. Memorial donations may be made to the First Congregational Church of Kent, 97 North Main St. Kent, CT 06757.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Shirley Ruth Christinat

NORTH CANAAN — Shirley Ruth Christinat, 80, of North Canaan, passed away peacefully at home, surrounded by her loving family, on March 27, 2025.

Born on July 21, 1944, in Winsted, Shirley was the daughter of the late George and Hazel (Barnes) Tisserand.

A devoted caregiver, Shirley began her career working as a CNA at Noble Horizons and Geer, and later provided private duty care to local families. She went on to serve over 30 years as a visiting nurse with the Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association (SVNA).

Shirley found joy in the little things — relaxing in the sun, reading a good book with her cats curled up on her lap, sipping iced coffee, and handing out treats to the neighborhood dogs from her front porch. She loved decorating her home for every holiday, a tradition her family will always fondly remember.

She cherished adventures with her grandchildren, including trips to the beach and afternoons at amusement parks. Her yearly

getaways to Florida were a personal highlight, enjoying Disney with family or simply soaking up the sun.

One of her most special memories in recent years was a trip to her happy place — Misquamicut Beach — with her son Wayne. Despite not feeling her best, she was determined to go and the two shared a day they would never forget.

She is survived by her son, Wayne Christinat; her granddaughter, Tara Tazzara and her husband, Jeff Tazzara, and their sons, Colton and Cason Tazzara; her granddaughter, Courtney Parker and her husband Shane Parker; her sister, Theresa Kelley; and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her husband, George Christinat; her son, Christopher Christinat; her brother, George Tisserand; and her sisters, Ethel Warner, Jody Bush, and Margaret (Peggy) Murphy.

Though she may be gone from our sight, Shirley's love and light remain — in every sunny day, every page turned, and every memory shared.

Donna Aakjar

The family of Donna Aakjar invites you to join them on Saturday, May 31, 2025, at 10:30 a.m. in the Hollenbeck Room of Geer Village, located at 77 South Canaan Road North Canaan, CT 06018, for a short service, some lunch and to share memories of Donna.

Joan Anderson Turnure

Joan Anderson Turnure, 91, died after a long illness on May 3, 2025, at Noble Horizons in Salisbury, CT. She was the loving widow of Michael DeBurbure Turnure.

A memorial service will be held at St. John's Church in Salisbury on June 1, at 1:00PM, followed by a reception at The White Hart Inn.

To view the whole obituary please visit www.kennyfuneralhomes.com.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Elizabeth C. Zucco

CANAAN — The Lord welcomed Liz home Sunday, May 4, 2025, after leading a long life of faithful service, to Him and to us. She loved life and people. While living in Dunnellon, Florida for her waning years, she remained attached to her roots in Canaan, Connecticut.



Though small in stature, Liz was big in heart. After a successful long career as a hairdresser, she remained active and involved. A consummate homemaker, baker, cook, reader and world traveler, Liz enjoyed her several Pomeranians, especially Queen Sheba and Sweet Pea, her final pups. Her hobbies included crocheting, gardening, walking and picking flowers for the table. Liz's service to others included being a Life Lioness, a Daughter of Isabella, a VFW Auxiliary Life Member, a VA Gainesville Hospital Volunteer as

well as service ministries of bereavement and bingo at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church.

Her survivors include sisters, Stephanie Togninalli (Louis), and Elsie Zucco (Oliver) and many nieces and nephews, grand, great grand, and great great grand nieces

and nephews, and her loving, longtime companion, Walter J. Fleck. In Heaven, Liz will join her beloved husband of over 40 years, Frank J. Zucco, parents, Alice and Dazzi Colli, and sisters Anna Smith, and Mary Tyler.

A 10:30 a.m. Funeral Mass will be held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, May 23, 2025. Services will be held and she will be interred with Frank in the St. Joseph's Catholic Church Cemetery in Canaan, Connecticut at a later date. Elizabeth appreciated the love, prayers, and support she received throughout her life.

Send obituaries to editor@lakevillejournal.com

 Worship Services Week of May 25, 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	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
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	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 You-Tube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290
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	Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons Sunday, June 15 at 10:30 a.m. 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
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	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 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	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!
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	St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality
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	Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org
The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building	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!

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CHRISTOPHER E. RYAN, SR. RYANFHCT.COM JONATHAN J. RYAN

EDITORIAL

The news feed

About a year ago, we dropped off some just published copies of The Millerton News for patrons at Irving Farm's coffee shop on Main Street in Millerton. It was a Wednesday morning. The papers were fresh off the press, having been driven to The Lakeville Journal offices in Falls Village from Pittsfield, Massachusetts, where they are printed on the presses of The Berkshire Eagle.

Inside Irving Farm, a few papers were placed on tables for anyone to read. A few people reach out to glance at the paper, maybe even pull it closer to read some part of it, then return to their phone. Some will flip through pages, but only to return to their digital news source. Swipe. Swipe. And swipe.

The News, The Journal and The Eagle all thrive today because of readers who want to know what's happening in their own local communities. Yet it's a growing fact of life that news readers are turning more and more to digital sources for that news. According to a report this month from the Pew Research Center, while Americans continue to see value in local news, they also prefer news websites or social media to print newspapers — and by a wide margin. From 2018 to 2024, the preference of news websites or social media as Americans' news sources grew from 37% to 48%. Print newspapers declined from 13% to 9%, and television dropped from 41% to 32%. Radio inched up from 8% to 9%.

The News and The Journal are as committed to providing a weekly print product. Our 'Local Matters' motto aligns with the Pew Research Center's finding that the vast majority of Americans see local news as important to the community. In a recent poll, only 15% of respondents answered that local news was either 'not too important' or 'not at all important.'

We also embrace a digital future with enthusiasm. We've upgraded our websites and continue a push to keep fresh posts coming on our social media pages. We strive to get news to you when it happens and where and when you want to read it.

The Pew report notes that most people say local journalists are "in touch" with their communities and perform well at "reporting the news accurately." In fact, roughly two out of three readers surveyed said local news was being reported accurately, that the most important stories and issues were being covered, that journalists were transparent about their reporting and were keeping an eye on local political leaders.

A relatively small percentage of consumers of local news — 15% — reported that they paid for local news in the past year, and 63% believe that local news outlets are doing well or "somewhat well" financially, even though thousands of newspapers have folded over the past two decades.

We remain a thriving local news source because of the support of our readers, advertisers and donors. Even as readers' relationship with the delivery of news changes — long gone is the ubiquitous youngster on a bicycle tossing papers on your doorstep — we celebrate the fact that readers see value in what we deliver.

And we are optimistic about the future. This summer, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News will sponsor eight journalism interns from high schools and colleges. Demand for these paid positions has steadily grown, and is another indication that local news — in print or online — is here to stay.

So keep that phone charged.



YOUR NEWS

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Opinion



The views expressed here are not necessarily those of The Lakeville Journal and the Journal does not support or oppose candidates for public office.

We accept gifts, grants and sponsorships from individuals and organizations for the general support of our activities, but our news judgments are made independently and not on the basis of donor support.

Deadline for letters is Monday at 10 a.m. Send to publisher@lakevillejournal.com Include name, town and phone number.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The ACLU and the preservation of democracy

Many of us are searching for ways we can protect and preserve our democracy under the onslaught of the past 100 days, as President Donald Trump has tested every limit, abused every power, and exploited every loophole to silence dissent, disenfranchise marginalized communities, and erode our rule of law.

We recently attended a talk given by the American Civil Liberties Union of Connecticut. The ACLU is a nonprofit civil rights organization founded in

1920. It advocates for and defends individual liberties and civil rights through litigation, lobbying, and public education. The ACLU is in courts and communities across the country to protect everyone's rights. We were delighted to learn of their effectiveness.

In the first 100 days of the Trump administration, it filed 110 legal actions. More than 1 million ACLU community members have taken action since Election Day, more than 14,000 have been trained as volunteers, and

more than 150 Know Your Rights trainings have been held across the country.

With a small staff of just 17, the folks here in Connecticut have been working hard to protect our residents. They are focusing on issues both national and specific to Connecticut, such as protecting our personal data, having the shield law include telehealth, protecting Medicare and Social Security, strengthening the Trust Act, working to fully fund the implementation of the Connecticut Voting

Rights Act, early voting, and no-excuse absentee voting and protecting foreign students with valid visas from deportation. They could use all the help they can get.

I know I came away from their talk feeling that there are positive actions I can take to help preserve our precious democracy.

We are not powerless with the help of the ACLU! You can learn more here www.acluct.org.

Mary Close Oppenheimer
Salisbury

Why do billionaires attack the most vulnerable?

Our president is a billionaire as are many of the people advising him and in his cabinet. It is curious why people who have so much money would spend so much time attacking programs which help the most vulnerable.

Cutting programs like Meals on Wheels for the elderly will hurt seniors who do not have enough money for food. Cutting the Head-

Start program would hurt young children with working parents who need instruction to prepare them for kindergarten. Cutting the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, means many families will need to go to food pantries to put food on the table.

The administration is pushing for more private school vouchers paid for by

taxes raised to support public schools. This leaves our public schools short of funds for educating our children. The administration is trying to make huge cuts to Medicaid, used by almost one million people in Connecticut. Medicaid funds patients in nursing homes, hospitals, and is the only healthcare available for millions of vulnerable

Americans.

They want to cut Medicaid to fund a huge tax cut for the billionaires including for those in the administration. It is puzzling why these billionaires need a tax break, would they even notice the difference to their bottom line?

Lizbeth Piel
Sharon

Streamlined DOT process draws praise

In Hartford last week a history making event happened. I refer to the U.S. Department of Transportation and state DOT signing a cooperative agreement.

The agreement's purpose will allow a projected time saved of six weeks for major projects. There are 90 infrastructure projects in the hopper. Some are: The Gold Star Bridge, the rapid transit system in New Haven and the Metro-North Railroad customer service.

The U.S. DOT touted the agreement as "the first of its kind in the nation."

The streamlined process involves bringing multiple federal agencies (the federal Highway Dept, federal Transit Administration and federal Railroad Administration) collaborating with the Connecticut DOT, the Connecticut State Historical Preservation Office, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

The agreement delegates

certain responsibilities to the state DOT to evaluate historical properties and delve into potential impacts with the 1966 National Preservation Act — a common sense approach to regulation and state rights. Time and costs of projects can escalate when applications pass from agency to agency and include public comment delays.

Deputy U.S. Transportation Secretary Steven Bradbury heralded the agreement's efficient solution to streamlining the regulatory process. State DOT Commissioner Garritt Eucalitto praised the collaboration and support from U.S. DOT which will ultimately reduce project costs.

This first in the nation partnering adds to U.S. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy's 100 Days of Accomplishment and President Trump's Golden Age of America crusade.

Joe Agli

Kent

Kudos to sports photog

From a retired photojournalist: I realize that Riley Klein is the managing editor, but he is also an excellent

sports photographer. Keep him shooting.

Christopher Little
Norfolk

Think Local: We Do

Local Matters

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Viewpoint

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

125 years ago —
May 1900

Last Sunday the new Sunday School room of the Methodist Episcopal church was formally dedicated by the laying of the corner stone. The ceremony took place in front of the new building immediately after the close of the morning service, and a goodly number were present to witness the interesting services.

LIME ROCK — Mark-etman Geo. McCoy has an attractively appearing wagon upon the road every week day. He is building up a large trade in his line. Our citizens appreciate having a good market in the place.

On Thursday, while visiting Mrs. Charles Dakin, Mrs. Geo. Lamb was taken suddenly and violently ill. Dr. Miller of Millerton was called and Mr. Lamb summoned from New Haven. At this writing there is but little change in her condition.

They say Hobson is coming home from the Phillipines completely cured of his kissing mania.

SHARON — The firemen in full uniform, with their new hook and ladder truck, made a very fine showing on Monday evening. We have just cause to be proud of our fire company. The truck was made in Amenia and is similar to the one in that place.

The song of the lawn mower is heard in the land.

Have you noticed how neat and tempting the park is looking these days?

J.M. Miller is right on deck with a large lot of summer lap robes and horse blankets, from 50 cents upwards.

Frank Wright Jr. of Hotchkissville has taken a position in the jack knife room at the Holley M'fg Co.

CHAPINVILLE — The upper wall of the dam has been removed and tileing has been put in to carry off the waste water in the old mill race.

100 years ago —
May 1925

The body of William Ostrander, Sergeant Co. M, 102nd Inf., who was killed in action in France, arrived in Salisbury Monday. Sgt. Ostrander will be buried at Salisbury Sunday afternoon May 24 at 3 p.m. standard time.

The Dutchess Auto and Supply Co. of Millerton has delivered a new Buick estate bodied car to Mr. Lyman Sage of Sharon.

The road oiling machine has been oiling the state highways in this section.

A slight frost was reported early Tuesday morning.

Mr. John Robert Taylor has purchased from Mrs. Marion Jefferis a portion of the old Bissell farm comprising three fields adjoining Mr. Taylor's present holdings. The part of the Bissell property now acquired by Mr. Taylor includes all the frontage on the highway to Mt. Riga which highway is now known as Robbins Road.

Mr. Ralph Bertone and family, who occupy rooms in the telephone building, had

a rather exciting experience early Wednesday morning. About 3 o'clock Mr. Bertone was awakened by the smell of burning kerosene. Arising he went to the kitchen and found the oil hot water heater all ablaze. He threw on ashes to smother the flames, but the blaze grew worse. He rushed over to The Gateway and aroused Landlord Lawrence, who answered at once, bringing with him a fire extinguisher, which he applied so effectively that the fire was soon out. Aside from some smoking up of the kitchen there was no damage. It might be well to christen these fire fighters Bath Robe Co. No. 1.

The tent worms are very much in evidence in orchards and along the highways, especially where there are wild cherry trees.

Jacob Wevatoski has purchased the old school grounds at Ore Hill. He also purchased the office building used by the Salisbury Iron Corp. and will move it to his newly purchased lot.

50 years ago —
May 1975

Russell Ottey of Lakeville landed an 8½ pound bass early this week in Lake Wononscopomuc.

Salisbury dog warden Hezekiah Goodwin is a patient in Sharon Hospital after suffering a broken leg. While he is recuperating, dog problems should be reported to the selectmen's office or after 5 p.m. to Thomas Tweed.

The Lime Rock Protection Committee seems to have won a battle in its lengthy war against Lime Rock Park. In a letter mailed Tuesday to James Haynes, manager of the race track, Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission reported that its attorney agreed with the Protection Committee that zoning regulations have been violated at the track. P&Z chairman John Brock said that the track management must limit camping on the grounds, must plant trees to form a buffer zone and must not allow planes or helicopters to land at the track.

One of Sharon's young citizens, Jennifer Prindle, was presented with the prize for her entry of the winning design in the Sharon Heritage '76 contest. The design is for an emblem to be used during the Bicentennial activities.

A new riding stable is opening up in Canaan. Laura Freund of East Canaan has established her stable behind the Blackberry River Inn and will be open for business seven days a week throughout the summer and fall. Miss Freund currently has seven horses in her stables, but expects to have five more in the near future, with another five or ten to arrive next month.

The Gary Duntz family of Falls Village lost their home and many of their possessions Monday morning in a fire. The alarm was received at about 9 a.m. sending Falls Village firemen rushing to the scene. The blaze was under control within an hour. Mrs. Duntz and her two young children were all away from the house at the time of the blaze. The house belonged to Mrs. Hillard Alston of Falls Village.

First Selectman Leo Segalla has a different kind of

party planned for Canaan residents this week. Mr. Segalla has called on his fellow townspeople to join him in a "rock picking party" to clear stones from the former Lawrence Playground. The town is in the process of preparing the field for a recreation center for the community.

Edward W. Manasse, Falls Village attorney, was admitted May 12 to practice before the United States Supreme Court. Proposed by Robert Bork, solicitor general of the United States, Mr. Manasse was admitted during a ceremony before the Supreme Court in Washington, D.C. Manasse, a former Sharon resident, is associated with the firm Smith, Cornell, Smith and Mettling in Torrington.

The World Ministries Committee of the First Church of Christ, Cornwall, will have a public information meeting Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the church to discuss the possibility of the town's adopting a Vietnamese refugee family. The idea of bringing such a family to Cornwall grew from the church's interest in and financial support of Vietnamese orphans and the fact that for a number of years the church school supported a Vietnamese boy, Tri, through the Foster Parents program. That program is no longer operating in Vietnam because of the change of government there.

KENT — Town Clerk Marian Pacocha reminds the owners of one or more hives of bees that they should be registered annually with her office on or before the first day of October. The registration fee is only 25 cents. Those failing to register may be fined not more than \$5 under Section 22-89 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Evidently inflation hasn't hit beekeeping.

25 years ago —
May 2000

Forty-six members of a Tri-State contingent joined the throng of Million Mom Marchers Sunday on the Mall in Washington, D.C., to advocate for gun control legislation.

A new lease has been signed that will allow the towns of Salisbury and Sharon to use property owned by The Hotchkiss School as a transfer station until the year 2020.

Have you noticed what strange weather we seem to be having? In the past two weeks alone there have been days so hot it seemed like July, followed by snowflakes and hailstones. Then last Friday a horrendous thunderstorm and lightning that hit a tree on Wells Hill Road in Lakeville knocked out a gas pump at PATCO, also in Lakeville, disrupted reception at WQQQ and frightened dogs and other animals. Then this week, just after many people had planted annuals over the weekend, there was quite a heavy frost on Tuesday morning. Does anyone else feel we are living on a roller coaster?

Trump administration vs. Harvard

In a battle that may take years to play out fully, Harvard, the nation's oldest university is standing up to punitive demands by the Trump administration that it says threaten to destroy its whole reason for being. In so doing, Harvard has become an unlikely hero.

In early April, the Trump administration sent Harvard a letter containing a long list of demands that they said, if unmet, would result in the withdrawal of billions of dollars of federal funding promised for a large assortment of projects mostly in scientific and medical research. After careful consideration, Harvard's president, Dr. Alan Garber representing Harvard's governing body, the Harvard Corporation, wrote the Trump administration a polite but strong letter refusing these demands. Along with countless cheers from academics and others from all across the country, a furious Trump quickly announced that he would have the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) terminate Harvard's tax exempt status (not realizing that for the IRS to do so at the President's direction would be strictly illegal). These retaliatory moves would be a devastating financial blow to what had always been one of the most financially secure universities in the country.

Although Harvard has been cheered on by educational institutions and individuals all over the country, no other university has dared to take a position along with Harvard in strongly defying Trump's extremely overbearing demands. The only other Ivy League university to take a public stance is Columbia who acquiesced to nearly all the administration's demands several weeks earlier.

The administration has placed much of its case for punishing Harvard on exaggerated claims that the University was guilty of antisemitism. But the only documented antisemitism that the administration has cited exists at an individual not an institutional level.

As Jonathan Chait wrote in a recent issue of The Atlantic "The Republicans use of antisemitism as a justification to extend political control

OCCASIONAL OBSERVER MAC GORDON

over universities has nothing to do with protecting Jews and everything to do with undermining liberal democracy."

Trump did receive an Ivy League bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania but he nurses a grudge against most elite universities, thinking them more politically "liberal" than he would wish.

Trump did receive an Ivy League bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania but he nurses a grudge against most elite universities thinking them more politically "liberal" than he would wish. The controls he has wanted to place on Harvard, especially the college (politics is less active in many of the graduate schools) are more closely related to college life and teaching. Most of the research grants, in medicine and the sciences are miles away from academic or political controversy.

The Trump administration's list of demands that Harvard essentially relinquish control of its hiring of personnel including professors, student admissions, and many other matters was so offensively presented that even administration officials tried to "walk it back" by saying that it was just a preliminary draft. But Harvard's president wrote back a very polite but firm letter refusing the terms of the demands and saying that he considered several (if not all) of them to not

only be crippling but unconstitutional.

A May 6 letter from the Secretary of Education, Linda McMahon to Dr. Garber was even more negative and insulting than the earlier one from the administration and it stated that unless Harvard made many changes that the administration demanded there would be no more federal money going to the university whatsoever.

It doesn't stop. On May 16 the Trump administration announced a series of investigations including one by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission into whether Harvard had discriminated against "white, Asian, male or heterosexual applicants. . ." Several other such investigations have begun.

Meanwhile, what about all the other colleges and universities that were quick to congratulate Harvard for its courage in standing up to the Trump administration's unreasonable demands? Where are they now, especially other Ivy League universities that the administration has issued more hate-filled rhetoric and nasty threats to? All of the Ivy League schools except for Dartmouth and Yale have been threatened by Trump; now other colleges such as Haverford are being attacked by the House Education Committee and its leading interrogator Rep. Elise Stefanik (whose brutal questioning last year was considered by many to be responsible for the resignations of the then presidents of Harvard, Penn, and Columbia).

What's next for Harvard? The future looks troubled. Few think Harvard's tax-free status will be successfully challenged but the various grants may be stifled just by delaying them. Harvard's endowment is mostly in encumbered accounts and cannot be easily drawn upon like a checking account. Whatever happens Harvard is likely to have a few very difficult years ahead.

Architect and landscape designer (and Harvard graduate) Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

'Round and Round We Go'

Correcting Errors

We correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We also correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning. Notice of such error must be given to us after the first run of the advertisement.

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Haley Leonard, Class of 2024, watches cautiously as former teammate Daniela Brennan, senior, inches toward home.



Sam Foley, Class of 2018, and Nathan Young, freshman, shared some laughs during a burst of rain.

Past players prevail over present

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — Housatonic varsity baseball and softball teams hosted Mountaineers of years past for alumni games Saturday, May 17.

Grads ranged from the Class of 1988 to the Class of 2024. Alumni teams won both games, 17-3 in baseball and 7-4 in softball.

Lots of laughs ensued. The baseball game began first, around 10 a.m. Bobby Chatfield, Class of 2007 and current head coach of the varsity team, started the game on the mound for the alumni.

Willy Yahn, Class of 2014 player who was drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in 2017, fouled out in his first at bat. The high-flying ball was caught near the dugout by freshman first baseman Nathan Young.

“If anyone is gonna get me out it’ll be Nate,” Yahn said as he stared down Young on the walk back.

Will Perotti, Class of 2012, got hit by two pitches while at bat. “He’s gotta work after this. Rub some dirt on it,” said an alumni teammate.

The alumni built a 14-run lead by the sixth inning. As a last resort, the student athletes cleared the dugout and sent both the varsity and junior varsity squads into the outfield to play defense in the seventh.

“This oughta be fun,” said an umpire.

The alumni offense was stopped by the 22-man lineup and the game ended 17-3.

Softball began later in the morning with the return of the battery of pitcher Emma Crane, Class of 2023, and catcher Tori Dodge, Class of 2022.

The duo that followed them, Anne Moran, Class of 2024, and Madison Dewitt, senior, faced off as opponents for the first time.

Kaleigh Selino, Class of 2011 and current coach of the varsity team, played for the alumni despite giving birth three weeks ago. While in a pickle between second and third base, the ball ricocheted off her helmet as she safely returned to second.

“It’s cause of all those sprints you make ‘em run,” said a player from the dugout.

There was some confusion over the score at the end of the game. Some varsity players were under the impression they were down by 10 runs. The alumni denied this and put forth a score of 7-3.

“It’s 7-4,” an umpire declared. “Actually, it might be 7-5,” he clarified. “Because,” he continued, “No, it’s 7-4.”

Players and spectators concluded the event with eats from Nibbles N’ Noms food truck.



Kylie Leonard, senior, slides into third base during the alumni softball game.



The varsity dugout had a good time heckling the alumni baseball players.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Perfect game

Brody Ohler threw a perfect game Thursday, May 15. The pitcher for the Northwest Connecticut Steve Blass Little League Majors Pirates began the game against the Tri-Town Majors Yankees with an immaculate inning, striking out the side on nine pitches. Throughout the match, which ended after four innings by mercy rule, Ohler threw 12 strikeouts and surrendered zero walks, hits or runs. The Pirates won 13-0.

HVRHS alum shows out for Husky baseball

By Riley Klein

Caleb Shpur, Housatonic Valley Regional High School Class of 2019, had a career day at the plate May 3.

Representing the UConn Huskies, Shpur went 7-for-7 at bat with six RBI and a home run in the 29-10 win against Villanova University. It was the first seven-hit game for a Husky since 1979 when Dennis Donovan achieved the feat against Iona University.

Shpur is from East Canaan and plays for UConn

as the starting center fielder. He is a second-year graduate student.

He previously played baseball while completing his undergrad degree at Endicott College. And before that he was a varsity captain for the Mountaineers under HVRHS coach Darryl Morhardt.

In 2025, Shpur played 54 games, recorded a batting average of .356 and stole 42 bags on 48 attempts. UConn qualified for the Big East tournament as the second seed.

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BD

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

BD’s facility resumed operations on Sunday, May 18.

LeClerc said Thursday, “The package was opened inside the building and what we’re looking at is primarily a potential airborne contaminant.”

“At this time, two individuals have been transported to a nearby hospital as a precaution,” a release from DEEP said Thursday afternoon. “Approximately 300 to 350 personnel at the facility are undergoing a decontamination process as a precautionary measure. DEEP has deployed a contractor to the site to manage the decontamination operation, including shower trailers and the safe collection for clothing for those exiting the facility.”

The FBI transported the package from BD to the state laboratory in Rocky Hill.

Friday, May 16, North Canaan First Selectman Brian Ohler released an update stating the CT Department of Public Health “received negative PCR test results

for Anthrax, Burkholderia Species, Plague, Tularemia, and Smallpox. In addition to those biological tests, a negative Ricin test result was also confirmed. A Day 1 culture test was then performed, which has also resulted in ‘no growth.’”

Ohler added, “While we are still waiting for an exact identity of the substance, we are being told by state DEEP officials that there is no threat to the public, or to the surrounding area near the facility.” Additional lab results were released on Saturday, which confirmed no culture growth on the sample.

The health department cleared BD to reopen its facility and operations resumed at the medical manufacturing company Sunday.

Details of the FBI investigation have been limited. The agency confirmed that reopening the facility will not interfere with the investigation.

FFA

Continued from Page A1

ground into a nest or burrow. They are also known for hunting snakes, but she doubted Princess — or Fifi — would be enthusiastic. “If she sees a snake she’ll run.”

Taylor Green, a junior from Kent, has a sister, and her sister had a problem.

She explained to judge Denny Jacobs that conventional soaps made her sister’s skin break out in hives.

The family had a female goat handy, and the goat had lost a baby prematurely and thus had extra milk.

So Taylor did some research and came up with a recipe for a soap based on goat milk. It also has beef tallow, olive oil, lye and coconut oil.

Mixing it up, especially the lye, required protective gear.

A month into the experiment, the sister has reported no hives or other negative effects, and says the soap makes her skin softer.

Khyra McClennon, a senior from Amenia, New York, was introduced to beignets, a delicate pastry, during a trip to New Orleans.

“I ate them for breakfast, lunch and dinner.”

She had a regular version and a gluten and sugar free version on hand, plus a history of the delicacy to ponder between chews.



Above, Nathan Young talks maple syrup. Left, Denny Jacobs learns about goat milk soap from Taylor Green.

Chris Kinsella, a judge, tried the regular version and pronounced it delicious.

Travis Barber, a 9th grader from Cornwall, was stationed somewhat out of the main drag of activity. That’s because there were some trees nearby, and his topic was how to prune trees.

Turns out this is more complicated than the standard Harry Homeowner might think.

Barber said cutting dead branches is obvious. Less so are branches that cross over other branches. These should go because they tend to rub together and open up the bark, which then allows diseases and insects to get in. The standard tools are loppers, pruners, hand saws and pole saws.

The phrase “semen gun” was prominent on Hayden Bachman’s display. The soph-



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Hayden Bachman recently gained certification in artificially inseminating cows.

omore from Falls Village said she and several classmates, plus HVRHS teacher Rene Boardman, recently gained certification in artificially inseminating cows.

With a reduced scale model of a cow, she demonstrated how the process works. It’s very tricky and it seemed to a casual observer that there were a lot of things that could

go wrong. Bachman said cattle semen is readily available from commercial sources.

She said the process gives the dairy farmer control over genetics.

It’s also safer than relying on the traditional method, which involves bulls that are notoriously unpredictable and highly irritable animals.

NASCAR

Continued from Page A1

Public comment was negative. Victor Germack said the entire idea seemed unreasonable to him, and Michael Klemens, who chairs the Planning and Zoning Commission, voiced concern about what he called “programmatic creep” at the track.

Sarah Wolf, who lives on White Hollow Road, wanted to know how people in the neighborhood were supposed to go about their usual business during the periods of one-way traffic on Route 112.

First Selectman Curtis Rand asked if the track’s representatives had been in touch with the neighbors. Burke said no, because they are waiting on final approval before informing the neighbors.

“That’s a lot of pressure on me,” Rand replied, adding he is wary of signing off on the plan without much input from the public.

He also questioned why he has to sign off on the plan at all, since the traffic disruptions take place on a state highway. He said he was going to inquire with the

state Department of Transportation.

Selectman Kitty Kiefer pointed out that there is another event Thursday, June 26, that the selectmen could not discuss because it was not on the special meeting agenda. By state law special meeting agendas cannot be modified, whereas regularly scheduled meeting agendas may be amended at the start of a meeting.

The Lime Rock Park website lists the Thursday event as a “Pit Stop Party and Hauler Parade” at the White Hart Inn in Salisbury, with details to come.

Selectman Chris Williams said that while it doesn’t help the immediate situation, the town and track need to consider the town’s infrastructure, or lack thereof, when planning events that draw large crowds.

Ultimately the selectmen agreed to table the matter and resume at another special meeting. Rand said he was going to consult the town attorney in the interim.

The selectmen will have another special meeting Wednesday, May 21, at 2 p.m.

MEMORIAL DAY

Continued from Page A1

Green, where a ceremony with a guest speaker will be held. Immediately following the ceremony, community members are invited to the new cafe, “Off The Trail,” where refreshments and treats will be provided from various organizations.

The town of Sharon will offer its annual parade starting at the Shopping Center at 10 a.m. Prior to Memorial Day, on Saturday and Sunday, The Voice of Arts “Fine Arts Festival” will run from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Town Green.

In Salisbury, community members will gather to watch the parade that begins at 10 a.m. Kicking off at Scoville Memorial Library, the parade marches along Route 41 via Main Street and ends at the Salisbury cemetery to honor veterans.

Cornwall starts a day of memorials with a service at the North Cornwall cemetery at 9 a.m. The Seamans Memorial in West Cornwall will follow at 10 a.m. The parade marches through Cornwall Village at 11 a.m., concluding with a ceremony at the green and a carnival on Bolton Hill Road. New this year will be a military flyover and a rededication of 13 Revolutionary War veteran graves. Bill Dinneen and Warren Stevens

refurbished the grave markers and will lead the ceremony on Sunday, May 25.

Beginning at 9:30 a.m., the Kent annual parade will kick off a day of activities. The parade will move from Kent Center School to Elizabeth Street, along Route 341 to the Veterans Memorial next to Swift House, and then back to Main Street where it will proceed north to the Community House. Throughout the route, wreaths will be laid to memorialize and honor those who have died in service. Proclamations and declarations, such as the Gettysburg Address will be read, “Taps” will be played, and 21 gun salute will be fired off. After the parade, the Kent Lions Club will provide ice cream at the Community House. Community members are also invited to attend the Land Trust picnic from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the Land Trust field located on route 7, south of town. The picnic will offer a BBQ Lunch, live music, outdoor crafts and games, wildlife discovery, and pollinator awareness activities. Weather dependent, guests are encouraged to look to the sky for a military jet flyover. In case of rain, festivities will be moved indoors to the Kent Community House, still beginning at 9:30 a.m.



PHOTO BY MIA BARNES

Six new flag poles representing the branches of service were installed behind the Doughboy this year.

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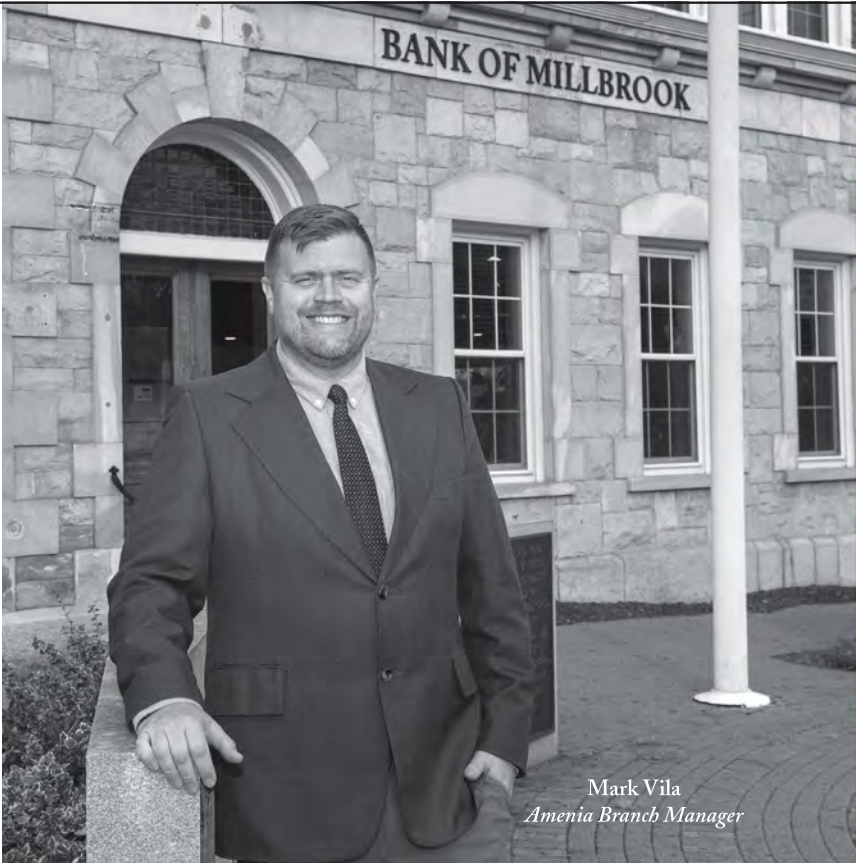
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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

THEATER: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Richard Maltby talks ‘About Time’

‘You think growing older means every-thing you’ve learned will finally pay off,” said Tony Award winning writer-lyricist-director Richard Maltby Jr., “but it turns out, most of what you thought you knew doesn’t apply anymore.”

“About Time,” is Maltby’s third and final entry in a musical trilogy that began in 1977 with “Starting Here, Starting Now,” returned in 1989 with “Closer Than Ever,” and now finds its coda in Chester, Connecticut, at Goodspeed’s Terris Theatre, opening May 24. It’s a musical revue that navigates the terrain of later life with songs about memory, missed chances, adult children, tech-savvy grandkids and more. “About Time” is a gently cosmic, some-times blisteringly funny meditation on the “Third Act.”

Written with longtime collaborator David Shire — Maltby’s college friend turned creative life partner of over six decades — “About Time” is deeply personal. The pair got to test early material at their 65th Yale reunion on the same stage where they wrote and per-formed their first musi-cals. The show then went through iterations and workshops in New York City, with each presen-tation revealing more. “Each time you add a song,” Maltby said, “the whole show changes.”

Of this current cast, which includes Darius de Haas, Lynne Winter-steller, and Olivier nom-inee Issy van Randwyck, Maltby said, “They are breathtaking, and they own the show. It’s the best when a cast is just in love with the show, and they are in love with it.”

Maltby is also direct-ing the production at Terris Theatre because, in many ways, who else could? “These songs are not what they seem,” he said. “If they sound happy, there’s probably something dark under-neath. If they seem sad, there’s a joke hiding inside. I need to pro-tect the words and the meaning.”

There are emotional layers to the show that are revealed slowly, that take time and perhaps repetition to surface. “People used to say if you put the songs in order, it felt like a life story,” said Maltby. “Well, ‘About Time’ is the last chapter. It’s about the strange joy



PHOTO PROVIDED

Richard Maltby

and unexpected confu-sion of seeing your whole life laid out behind you.”

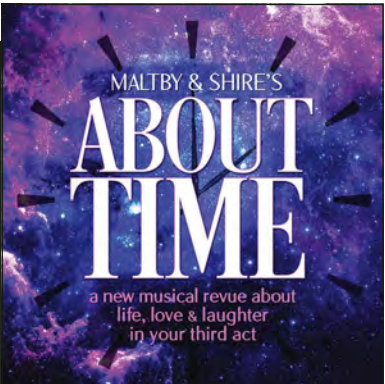
Maltby, of course, has seen the long view be-fore. With “Miss Saigon,” for which Maltby won the Tony for best score in 1991, he revealed the truth of America’s wounded mythology through the lens of the Vietnam War. “Sudden-ly, we weren’t the good guys. John Wayne wasn’t coming over the hill, and our mythology was crushed.” In contrast, “About Time” doesn’t en-gage in overt politics, yet a sense of cultural reck-oning still simmers un-der the surface. “There’s a song called, ‘What Do I Tell the Children?’” explained Maltby, “which is really the dilemma of a grandparent wanting to teach morality to a grandchild, to be the person who sets them on the right path. But when they turn on the news and see that crooks

and charlatans win, how can you tell them that honesty pays? Honesty doesn’t pay. Dishonesty pays these days.”

Goodspeed’s Terris Theatre, which reopened post-COVID with a slimmed-down season, is presenting the per-fect stage for the show that will have just over a three week run. “They haven’t gotten back to a full season yet,” Maltby noted. “But that inti-macy is perfect for this. These songs are surpris-ing. They’re about the things most people don’t write songs about.”

And in true Maltby/ Shire fashion, the music sneaks up on you. “Our shows are subterranean,” he said. “You think they’re about nothing special, then you find yourself crying, and you’re not even sure why.”

Maltby has lived in Lakeville since 1972. “My wife, Barbara and



Show poster for “About Time”

I moved to Lakeville as a summer house and since have built a second house.” His son, David Maltby now lives in the family home. He and his wife, Chelsea Altman are the new co-owners of The Moviehouse in Millerton. “It’s all about storytelling,” Maltby said. “In one way or another, that’s the family busi-ness.”

When pressed on what comes next for “About Time,” Maltby offered the kind of wis-dom only someone with his experience could. “All futures depend on the present,” he laughed. “When you’re growing up, really, for most of your life, you live in the future. Today almost doesn’t matter. It’s about planning for tomorrow. And then at a certain point, you can suddenly see the whole trajectory of your life, from where you started, what hap-pened along the way, and where you’ve arrived. It’s often jarring, sometimes fulfilling, but never what you expected. If I’d set out as a young person, would I have imagined living the life I’m living now?” He shook his head and said, “Not a chance.” “About Time” runs May 24 to June 15. More info at www.goodspeed.org.



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Local authors William and Susan Kinsolving met attendees at a book talk they hosted at the Scoville Memorial Library on May 15.

BOOKS: ROBIN RORABACK

Partners in life and literature

L local authors and married couple William and Susan Kinsolving, each with a new book, gave a book talk at the Scoville Library in Salisbury on May 15.

William Kinsolving, an author of five novels, is also a screenwriter, a Ford Foundation Play-writing Grant recipient, and a critically acclaimed actor and director. His new novel, “Dangerous Times,” delves into the antebellum South, draw-ing sharp parallels to today’s divided world and shedding light on endur-ing truths from then and now. Susan Kinsolving’s

novel, “The Head’s Tail,” is a witty, irreverent romp through the messy world of prep school drama. It is sharp, funny, and thor-oughly entertaining.

Susan is the author of four poetry collections, one of which, “Dailies & Rushes,” was a finalist for The National Book Critics Circle Award. She has taught locally at the Hotchkiss School, as well as at colleges, universi-ties, and a men’s prison.

The evening began with readings from both authors’ books. The Kinsolvings’ cousin, Katy Kinsolving, read

Continued on next page

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LIFESTYLE: CHRISTINE BATES

Trade Secrets is better than ever

Trade Secrets’ “Sunday in the Park” had a record number of gardeners, volunteers, plants, books and antiques on a cool May 17 at Lime Rock Park. By 9:30 a.m., early ticket holders filled the parking lots, enjoyed a quick cup of coffee and a muffin and started inspecting the overwhelming variety of curated antiques, garden ornaments and plants from shy native shade lovers to blooming peonies and even vegetable starts.

The annual destination event that attracts gardeners from as far away as Indiana benefits Project SAGE, a nonprofit organization based in Lakeville that is dedicated to supporting, advocating, guiding and educating victims of relationship violence through a range of services and outreach programs. Over 50 vendors exhibited their wares from French garden chairs and exotic plants to large



PHOTOS BY CHRISTINE BATES
Martha Stewart was busy talking to buyers of her new book “Martha Stewart’s Gardening Handbook.”

stone urns under peaked white tents. Natalie Randall of RT Facts in Kent, who has exhibited since the very first Trade Secrets held at Bunny Williams’s house in Falls Village 25 years ago, observed that there were more vendors and more buyers than ever. Admirers of Martha Stewart, one of the earliest supporters of



Very heavy stone garden ornaments and urns are a specialty of Judy Milne Antiques from Kingston.

the event, waited in a very long line to have a personally signed copy of “Martha Stewart’s Gardening Handbook.” The Sunday sale was preceded by a day of garden tours on Saturday including Bunny Williams’s own garden and other gardens in Salisbury, West Cornwall, and Millbrook. More photos of the event are online at lakevillejournal.com



PHOTO PROVIDED

A hemlock infested with woolly adelgid

Beetle mania

Late last summer I noted in this column the observation of far more purple loosestrife than in years past; some of you concurred. I knew that there had been a biological control in place in the Northwest Corner and the thought, “Is the biocontrol no longer working?” nudged me from time to time over the winter.

Biocontrol is the science of enlisting a natural predator to control a plant or animal that has become invasive and is harming an ecosystem. I had read about one that is being developed — but not yet approved — to curtail phragmites. Given its prevalence and destructiveness to habitat, a biocontrol for phragmites would be a game changer in the United States.

There is already a viable biocontrol against hemlock woolly adelgid, the insect that has been decimating hemlock trees on the east coast, and the scientist working on this biocontrol is right here in Connecticut.

Carole Cheah is an agricultural scientist with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and I spoke with her recently.

The woolly adelgid is a small, aphid-like insect that comes from Japan where it feeds on Hemlock and Spruce trees. It was accidentally introduced in Virginia in



the 1950’s where it found Hemlock trees here to its liking. The woolly adelgid’s telltale white fluff is easy to spot on hemlock stems. It has been decimating trees for years here, and many have already died.

Dr. Cheah has been studying the issue for over 30 years. After her predecessor at the CAES traveled to Japan and brought back the one insect that only feeds on woolly adelgid, the lady beetle (*Sasajiscymnus tsugae*), Carole worked to understand the viability of introducing this insect to the U.S.

These lady beetles are black and the size of a sesame seed. Since they only feed on woolly adelgid, the potential of lady beetle damage to other plants and insects was not an issue, as can be the case with introducing biocontrol. The key to this solution’s viability was, then, rearing the lady beetle for mass production. Even though the beetles overwinter in mild winters, they do still need to be produced in labs. Funding was accessed to set up an operation to research and rear the beetles in Connecticut and, when funding ran out, Jayme Cabrera, founder of

Continued on next page

ART: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Wassaic Project’s summer exhibition now open

‘So It Goes,’ the 2025 summer exhibition at the Wassaic Project opened on May 17 and runs through Sept. 13. The show features work from 43 artists responding to cycles of horror and desensitization.

The title “So it goes” is a nod to Kurt Vonnegut’s

Slaughterhouse-Five. In the book, the phrase appears every time death or tragedy is mentioned, acting as a resigned, almost numb acknowledgment of suffering. In this context, the show uses the phrase to highlight how people become emotionally desensitized

Continued on next page



PHOTO BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Religious textile sculptures by John Brendan Guinan

...book talk Continued from previous page

Susan’s excerpt. Laughter erupted as the reading progressed and the protagonist, Miranda, embroiled herself further and further into a situation filled with “carnal danger.” William brought his book to life with a vivid reading, voicing each character with distinct accents and drawing the audience into the antebellum era. Through his performance, the audience was introduced to his character William Fairfield, aide to a senator, who meets President Zachary Taylor. This meeting brings forth issues of the day, including slavery and the deep divisions of the country. A question-and-answer

period followed the reading where the Kinsolvings were asked about their work habits. Susan answered that William is the disciplined one. William explained, “I go downstairs to my office and shut the door. I don’t hear anything.” He works for six to seven hours a day. Susan admitted she was more disciplined in writing her novel than when she writes poetry. When writing poems, she takes breaks feeling they “are benefitted by absence.” In contrast, “Prose is not benefitted by absence,” and requires a more consistent schedule. She added, “When I finally finished “The Head’s

Tale,” I really missed my characters” and so, she began another novel, which takes place in the 1960’s. William is at work on the next book in the se-

ries of which “Dangerous Times” is the first. It will deal with the time period of 1851-1856 and “James Buchanan, the second worst president of the United States.”

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Clay-baked chubs with the private fishing club

I took a few days off at the start of May to do a standard task and to do something new, in keeping with the theme of the 2025 fishing season, which by an astonishing coincidence is “Do Something New.”

The routine stuff was opening the house, assessing the mouse dropping situation, re-arranging the DVDs into “regular” and “schlock,” and getting humiliated in my home river, the Esopus.

A new season hasn’t really started until I have cast numerous flies, picked with devilish cunning, to Esopus trout that could not possibly care less.

I did avoid the skunk, though. After four hours of flogging a wild rainbow decided to play, taking a brassie soft-hackle that Gary Dodson gave me.

I was also rewarded for my perseverance by the sight of Gary leaping about 18 feet in reverse after almost stepping on a snake curled up on a rock in the shallows. It was a move worthy of a 1970s kung fu movie.

Over the weekend I motored to an undisclosed location in the Catskills, to meet the members of a private fishing club I joined over the winter.

I did not ask directly how the members feel about publicity. I didn’t have to. They don’t like it.

So since the Catskill region is about 5800 square miles and contains six major rivers with innumerable tributaries, I think “the Catskills” is a suitably vague descriptor.

The first day we caravanned from spot to spot stocking trout and greeting the cooperating landowners.

One family put out an incredible spread for us, which was completely wasted on me as I had consumed a convenience



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Gary Dodson had a close encounter with a snake on the Esopus Creek in early May. He was not inclined to inspect the creature more closely.



TANGLED LINES
PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

store burrito earlier in the morning when I realized I was about to faint.

This was a grave tactical error which I will not repeat. However, it did come under the heading of trying something new.

And I didn’t faint.

The members were very welcoming and after the stocking we settled right into talking a lot of fishing guff. As guff goes I’d give it a B, but it was a small sample.

The next day we had a luncheon with the landowners, where I chatted with a fellow who is 90 and used to catch chubs and bake them in river clay in a streamside fire. He was about 10 when he did this. He said they were delicious. I pri-

vately doubted this, but I have learned over the years not to argue with 90 year old gents who allow me to clamber over their property to fish. So it’s official: Clay-baked chubs are a rare and refreshing treat. (This is something new, but I’m not going to try it.)

Over the years I have resisted joining fishing clubs, primarily because of the expense.

But this one I can afford.

It was an abrupt shift from the April steelhead adventure on the Salmon River in and around Pulaski, where I was introduced to plugging, drift boats and guides, and the new and uncomfortable experience of being a complete novice instead of an award-winning fly-fishing writer.

So I think that’s enough novelty for the 2025 season. And it’s only May.

...Wassaic Project

Continued from previous page

to violence, crisis, and trauma. Through humor, ritual, protest, and reflection, the works challenge us to feel what we’ve learned to over-

look.

Wassaic Project is at 37 Furnace Bank Road in Wassaic and is open Thursdays through Sundays all summer.

...beetle mania *Continued from previous page*

Tree Savers in Jermyn, Pennsylvania, continued to rear them. Tree Savers now remains the sole production source of these beetles which are sold to the public. They are delivered in the spring and should be released when received. An arborist is not needed for release.

Biocontrol for hemlock woolly adelgid obviates chemical control, especially important as chemicals containing Imidacloprid and Dinotefuran, used by arborists against woolly adelgid, are also harmful to beneficial insects.

Currently, Tree Savers has a waiting list for

beetles, but last year Dr. Cheah received extra beetles due to over-production by Tree Savers. She released them in the Northwest Corner, specifically in Mohawk Mountain’s Black Spruce bog, at Dean Ravine in Falls Village, around Furnace Brook and at Gold’s Pines.

My final question to Dr. Cheah was about the purple loosestrife re-appearance. She found my observation interesting. It turns out that Donna Ellis, from University of Connecticut, had led the beetle rearing program for loosestrife biocontrol until the USDA funding ended in 2014. Donna

then retired in 2019 and since then, nobody has been working on this invasive plants proliferation.

On a different note, for the second year, The Cornwall Garden Club is hosting a native plant sale where you can add gorgeous native pollinators to your garden at gentle prices. I even grew some from seed! Please join us Saturday, May 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the veranda of The Pink House Restaurant located at 34 Lower River Road in West Cornwall.

Dee Salomon ‘un-gardens’ in Litchfield County.



Photographer Anne Day works with 2024 interns.

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

MAY 22

Ann Kraus: I Collect Clouds

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

Kraus's subject matter of skyscapes explores the intersection of memory, nature, and human emotion, inviting viewers to reflect on the connections between themselves and the environment.

On view May 2 to 30. There will be an art talk on Thursday, May 22, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Worming for Truth: Archival Literary Research with Jeannie Yang

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

Archives store secrets – that's why Hotchkiss senior and MacLeish Scholar Jeannie Yang spent last summer poring over yellowed paper in the basement of Yale's Beinecke Library. Hear about her discoveries of hidden messages in modernist writer Marguerite Young's phantasmagorical novel, Miss MacIntosh, My Darling. Thursday, May 22, 6 to 7 p.m. Registration is required. scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/14509620.

MAY 23

Focus on Sharon: Documenting Through Photography – Opening Reception

Sharon Historical Society & Museum, 18 Main St., Sharon, Conn. sharonhist.org

Friday, May 23 from 5 to 7 p.m. is the opening night for a new photo exhibition highlighting Sharon's history from the 1890s to today. Features rare and newly digitized images. Free admission. Exhibit runs through December 31.

Happy Hour Piano Series: Jennifer Hill

American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn.

Join us in the mural gallery for an early evening of live music, art, and mingling. Piano music starts at 5:30 p.m.

Dazzle Camouflage

Bes, 50 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.

A group show curated by ceramic artist Caitlin Rose Sweet, the show explores how queer artists "use abstraction as a way to weave between legibility and the safety of coded language to create new meanings." The artists in the show work in a variety of media rooted in craft and are all based in the Hudson Valley. Artists: Lukaza Branfman-Verissimo, Saffronia Downing, Alex Patrick Dyck, Maria Molteni, Libby Paloma, Heather Renee Russ, Caitlin Rose Sweet, Becca Van K. Opening Reception Friday, May 23, 5 to 7 p.m.

MAY 24

Frank Rosen: Wood/Art

Souterrain Gallery of the Wish House, 413 Sharon Goshen Tnpk., West Cornwall, Conn.

On Saturday, May 24, 3 to 6 p.m., there will be an opening reception for Frank Rosen: Wood/Art at the Souterrain Gallery of the Wish House with live music by Carol & Nick Duo.

Exhibit open Thursday to Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., through July 20.

Fine Art Festival

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

The Voice of Art is organizing its fifth annual outdoor juried fine art show, "Fine Art Festival" Sharon on the Green (formerly, Litchfield Art Festival). This show is free and

open to the public Memorial Day Weekend: Saturday and Sunday, May 24 and 25, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Fine Art Festival will be a highlight for art collectors and residents from the Tri-State region, New England and beyond.

MAY 26

Memorial Day Community Gathering at Off the Trail Cafe

Off the Trail Cafe, 107 Main Street, Falls Village, Conn.

Refreshments provided from various community organizations. Tour the new space and learn more about the cafe's upcoming opening. This event begins after the Memorial Day parade.

Pine Plains Presbyterian Church Memorial Day Chicken Barbecue

The First United Presbyterian Church of Pine Plains, 3039 Church Street, Pine Plains, N.Y.

The First United Presbyterian Church of Pine Plains will host its Annual Memorial Day Chicken Barbecue on Memorial Day at the Church, 3039 Church Street, Pine Plains. Pick up will be from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The menu will consist of 1/2 a barbecued chicken, cole slaw, potato salad, baked beans, dinner roll, and dessert. Each dinner is \$18, and 25% of the profit after expenses are paid will be donated to local food pantries — the Pine Plains Community Food Locker & Willow Roots. For reservations, call or text the Church at (518) 398-7117.

Last week's WotW

O	N	I	O	N
G	R	A	S	P
C	U	P	P	A
A	P	P	L	E
P	A	P	A	L

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.

1. Humanity's closest cousin

2. Past tense of "type"

3. Formally go out for a job

4. Tiny curious paws

5. Memorial Day symbol of tribute

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MAY 28

All Pro Dads Group

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibraryofsharon.org

Wednesdays, May 21, June 18, 6 to 7 p.m.

Calling all fathers and father figures! Bring your kids (ages 3-12) and join Project SAGE for a free, fun night of pizza and activities. Register online or by phone at 860-364-5041.

MAY 29

Book Discussion with Project SAGE: "Nobody's Victim," by Carrie Goldberg

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

Join the staff of the local non-profit domestic violence agency Project SAGE on Thursday, May 29, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., for an informal discussion of the book "Nobody's Victim," by victims' rights lawyer Carrie Goldberg: a riveting, personal, and empowering book about victim. Registration requested. Books available for loan at the Scoville Library. scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/13748620

MAY 31

TREKKING MEXICO at Stissing Center

2950 Church St, Pine Plains, N.Y.

Saturday, May 31 at 2 p.m. Interactive cultural performance by Mexico

Beyond Mariachi featuring music, dance, and storytelling. Tickets: \$20 adults, \$10 children. Free family workshop at 3:30 p.m.

Details and tickets: thestissingcenter.org

Spring Fest Vendor Market

Lawrence Field, Main St. North Canaan, Conn. www.northcanaaneventscommittee.org

North Canaan's Spring Fest Vendor Market will take play at Lawrence Field Saturday, May 31 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be handmade items, jewelry, candles, baked goods and activities for kids.

Fix-it Pop-up!

The Congregational Church of Salisbury & The Scoville Library, 30 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. www.scovillelibrary.org

Have an item that needs repair? Bring it in on Saturday, May 31, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., for a Fix-it Pop-up! Sign up for an appointment, tell us what kind of repair you need, then carry in your item on May 31, and our expert volunteer fixers will work their magic while you watch and learn. Advance sign-up is requested. scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/14192007

Prelude to a Summer

Eckert Fine Art, 10 Titus Road, Washington Depot, Conn.

On Saturday, May 31, 2 to 5 p.m., Eckert Fine Art presents a summer

preview featuring works by Hunt Slonem and others, including Wessellmann, LeWitt, Rauschenberg, and Forstmann.

Paul Hawken Talk & Book Signing

American Mural Project, 90 Whiting St., Winsted, Conn.

The American Mural Project (AMP) will host renowned environmentalist, best-selling author and leading voice on climate change Paul Hawken for an evening of bold ideas and meaningful dialogue. On Saturday, May 31, at 6 p.m., Hawken will take the stage at AMP's immersive gallery space in Winsted to discuss his new book, Carbon. A book signing and audience Q&A will follow.

Nurturing Nature

Spencertown Academy Arts Center, 790 State Route 203, Spencertown, N.Y.

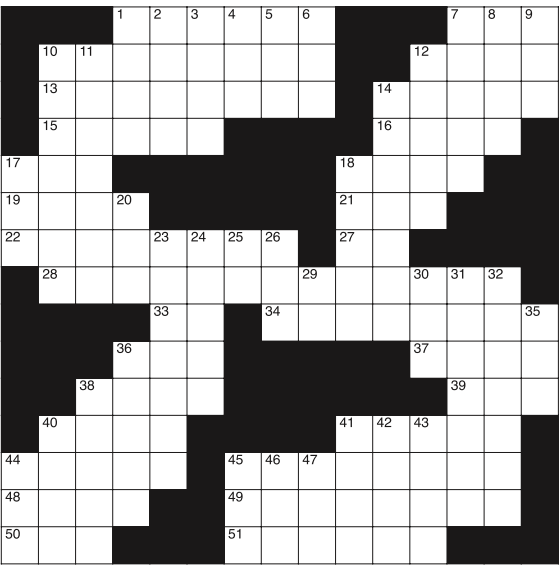
Six women artists explore connections with the natural world through painting, photography, sculpture, ceramics, and wearable art.

On view from May 31 to June 29. There will be an opening reception with live performance on Saturday, May 31, from 4 to 6 p.m. Gallery hours are from Saturday to Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. Free admission.

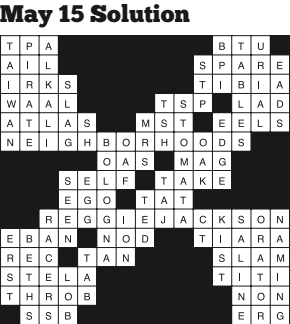
Info: spencertownacademy.org

Brain Teasers

- CLUES ACROSS
- 1. Bring up
 - 7. Child
 - 10. Formal written defense
 - 12. Bangladeshi currency
 - 13. Burial site
 - 14. In the lead
 - 15. Large recesses in a church
 - 16. Count on
 - 17. Defunct phone company
 - 18. Golf scores
 - 19. Afflicts
 - 21. Defensive nuclear weapon
 - 22. Prominence
 - 27. "The Great Lakes State"
 - 28. SoCal ballplayer
 - 33. Location of White House
 - 34. Magnificence
 - 36. Hip hop songstress
 - 37. Capital of Yemen
 - 38. ___ Blyton, children's author
 - 39. Bomb
 - 40. Pancake made of buckwheat flour
 - 41. Pinkish-violet color
 - 44. A way to make right
 - 45. Monument to one buried elsewhere
 - 48. Region south of Dead Sea
 - 49. Acts out against
 - 50. Harsh cry of a crow
 - 51. Formal title for a woman



- 11. Small protuberances
- 12. Equivalent of 100K BTU
- 14. Type of horse
- 17. More (Spanish)
- 18. Argentinian province
- 20. A bad act
- 23. Moving in a circular way
- 24. Battery type
- 25. Atomic #58
- 26. Popular breakfast food
- 29. An alternative
- 30. Tooth caregiver
- 31. A way to conform
- 32. Disfigured men
- 35. Cool!
- 36. Genus of mosses
- 38. Body part
- 40. Kashmiri people
- 41. Round water pot
- 42. Something to purchase
- 43. Emit coherent radiation
- 44. Indicates 10
- 45. Advertising metric
- 46. Pitching stat
- 47. Head movement



Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

May 15 Solution

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

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Our Towns



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Two contestants dove for a ball during a children's event at the library.

Fun and games in Falls Village

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Wednesday, May 7, was a half day for students at the Lee H. Kellogg School, right next door to the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village. A little after noon, 11 children, corralled by Hunt's Brittany Spear-Baron and Jessy Haggard, trooped across the grass to the library. Waiting for them inside was a quick snack of apples and

cheese, a passing of a paper Olympic torch, and then outside for various Olympian activities, starting with the popular "Grab the Ball Before the Other Kid Does" game. One of the children was nursing a shoulder injury and was allowed to spectate — and read — quietly. This worked out well for choosing up teams, as there were an even number of participants.

Quizmaster tests out 'hard trivia'

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — There was a trivia game at the David M. Hunt Library Tuesday evening, May 13. This is not an unusual event. Trivia games are very popular, and the competition can get downright ferocious. But this was a little different. This was "hard trivia." Quizmaster David Parks, assisted by his wife Jean Parks, set a reporter straight prior to the start. "No questions about Michael Jackson," he said firmly. How about characters from recent Disney films? Nope. "I thought there was room in the world for harder trivia," he explained. "And since I'm not taking any money I figured that way no one could complain." The turnout was modest, but there were enough people for four two-person



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

David Parks, left, hosted "hard trivia" at Hunt May 13.

teams, and a couple of extra contestants filtered in once the game was underway. Hunt Library Director Meg Sher kept score. The first question was a stinker and set the tone. Between 1950 and the present day, which month has the most tornado touchdowns? There was hemming. There was hawing. The answers were collected. And nobody got the answer, which was May. "So far I'm winning!" cried one of the players. It got worse.

Which country has the most pyramids? The choices were Sudan, Mexico, Egypt, and Peru. Answer: Sudan. Next up were police radio abbreviations: BOLO, LEO, FTA, PNB, and OIS. "I was a deputy sheriff and I can't remember," observed Greg Bidou. The abbreviation BOLO, or "be on the look out" was easy, but the group struggled with "law enforcement officer," "failure to appear," "pulseless non-breathing," and "officer-involved shoot-

ing." People started breathing easier when asked to define a "lobule of the auricle." Everybody knew that was a \$20 term for "earlobe." What are the three world cities with the largest population? With bonus points for getting them in order, first, second, and third. Answer: 1. Tokyo 2. Delhi and 3. Shanghai. "Did anyone put Falls Village in?" someone asked. And then there was the halftime question. What is a famous saying abbreviated TANSTAAFL? Parks noted that the saying was once the slogan of the Libertarian Party. This was not helpful. The answer: "There Ain't No Such Thing as a Free Lunch." A player said to Parks, "The point of the game is for you to win." With a grin, Parks replied, "Yes."

State doubles grant funding for Sharon affordable housing project

By Alec Linden

SHARON — The Sharon Housing Trust announced on April 28 that a previous grant from the Connecticut Department of Housing of \$1 million had been doubled, enabling the Trust to pursue its plan to develop a four-building, 10-unit affordable rental campus on North Main Street. The group plans to use the funds for beautification and repair projects on the six occupied affordable

rental apartments at 91, 93 and 95 North Main Street, which it bought in 2023, and unify those buildings with the currently unoccupied former town community center building next door as a cohesive affordable housing development. While the Trust does not own the community center, it has an option to lease the building from the town at a rate of \$1 per year for 99 years, which it plans to pursue after the closing of the grant that is anticipated to

occur on June 30. The exterior of the building will remain largely unchanged, but the interior will be redeveloped for the construction of four additional apartments. A preliminary proposal for the project was received positively by the Planning and Zoning Commission, though the Trust must apply for official approval for its completed site plans for the whole development and renovated floor plan for the community center building

before it can begin construction. Landscape designer and Sharon resident Lynden Miller, who is known for the restoration of Central Park's Conservatory Garden among other accomplishments, has donated a landscape design for the proposed campus. Trust President Richard Baumann said that the project's aesthetic presence is important: "Our goal is to make it not only good affordable housing, but a nice little showpiece that the town can

be proud of right there on the main drag." Baumann said that the new funds have made the vision possible since an earlier grant application, submitted by the town for federal money to finance the renovation of the community center, was denied earlier this year due to the program being oversubscribed. The Trust's own application to the DOH had already been approved, but the state responded favorably when the Trust re-petitioned with a proposal for the devel-

opment in its entirety. The DOH approved the amended application, granting the Trust the total amount it had initially sought from both applications. Baumann felt the project will offer some relief to a town where the definition of an affordable housing demographic is rapidly expanding. "People are worried about trades people or folks who run the cash registers, but I think it goes higher and broader than that," Baumann said. "Our need is acute."

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HELP WANTED MUSIC DIRECTOR: Sharon Congregational Church in Connecticut seeks a Music Director to plan, coordinate and develop the music ministry. Responsibilities include weekly worship and holiday services. Weddings and funerals will be at his/her discretion. Director will lead a small group of volunteer musicians instrumentally and vocally in traditional and contemporary Christian music. The Director must be an active Christian and proficient with piano or guitar. Position requires three hours on Sunday and two to four hours prep weekly. Salary range is \$9,000 to \$10,500 commensurate with experience. Three weeks of vacation. Contact email: PastorDawson06@yahoo.com.

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