

The Lakeville Journal

Small Business Spotlight, Page A9

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

MIRA enters agreement for sale of Torrington Transfer Station

Regional efforts to create a public option for municipal solid waste contracts are back to square one.

By Riley Klein

TORRINGTON — USA Waste & Recycling's \$3.25 million offer to purchase the Torrington Transfer Station was conditionally accepted by the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority Dissolution Authority at a meeting of its board of directors May 14.

Torrington Transfer Station was one of two facilities in the state, along with Essex Transfer Station, that was still owned by MIRA-DA following the closure of the Hartford trash-to-energy plant in 2022. Municipalities in these service areas were given until July 1, 2027, to establish alternative solid waste contracts.

The Northwest Hills Council of Governments has been working for more than a year to create a

regional resource authority using the Torrington Transfer Station as a central hub for hauling. This public option was approved by MIRA-DA with a non-binding agreement in February 2025 and NHCOC expected to take over the facility by June 30, 2025.

The cost over the next two years for the public option was estimated by MIRA-DA board members at \$2.9 million.

Days before a scheduled public hearing May 19 in Torrington to finalize the formation of the Northwest Regional Resource Authority, MIRA-DA accepted an offer from USA and entered into a term sheet for the private company to purchase the transfer station.

During public comment of

See MIRA, Page A12



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Day of Remembrance

Communities around the Northwest Corner paid tribute to fallen military service members on Memorial Day, May 26. Above, Nicholas Gandolfo, veteran of the Korean War, salutes as Cora Grandy sings the National Anthem at North Canaan's ceremony Monday morning. For more coverage of Memorial Day, turn to Page A10.

Hotchkiss Library Gala emphasizes community strength

By Alec Linden

SHARON — Supporters of the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon gathered at the Sharon Country Club during fine May weather for its annual fundraising gala for a celebration of free and public access to information.

A well-dressed crowd began filling the elegant interior of the club just after 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 17, stopping by the wooden bar for a glass of wine or a cocktail and milling about the light-filled banquet room.

Guests chit-chatted as servers zipped about the room, offering sliders, arancini and an array of other hors d'oeuvres. Gala-goers occasionally braved the throng gathered around the silent auction table located in the airy screened porch a few steps below, where they found an array of local artists' work and regional experiences, including a bowl made from black walnut wood by Sharon Town Clerk Linda Amerighi and an afternoon spectating the shearing of the library's Executive Director Gretchen Hachmeister's own flock of Shetland sheep.

Hotchkiss Library Board President Lorna Edmundson noted that many of this year's auction items were donated by library patrons themselves, emblematic of Sharon's



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

Hotchkiss Library Gala attendees await the next auction item at Sharon Country Club Saturday, May 17.

deep pool of artistic talent. Librarians Kathy Amiet and Kate Seabury staffed the busy table, which was framed by sweeping views of passing storm clouds above the Taconic Hills.

Sharon resident Jill Drew, who serves on several town committees and boards, said that while many communities support their local libraries, the Hotchkiss Library "does a wonderful job of making people feel welcome."

Shortly after 6 p.m., Edmundson took the floor to kick off the night's live auction, echoing Drew's sentiment: "It's a true celebration of community and generosity."

The live auction saw the sale of

an etching from legendary American artist and Sharon homeowner Jasper Johns for \$11,000, a piece from accomplished painter Gail Rothschild go to a \$2,000 bid, and vintage Angela Cummings earrings selling for \$4,000.

A lively paddle raise ensued, but not before Hachmeister offered a more urgent message to the gala attendees. "Libraries protect the freedom to read and they protect our access to information which is so important right now," she said, noting that 70% of the library's yearly operating income is supplied through philanthropic donations.

See GALA, Page A12

Advocates take action to protect birds from avian flu

By Debra A. Aleksinas

This is a bad year to be a bird. And particularly so for rare and endangered species.

With the 2025 spring migration in full swing, a deadly strain of bird flu known as Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, or HPAI, is ramping up, and that has Litchfield County conservation and rehabilitation centers, as well as state and federal wildlife experts, on high alert.

As the deadly virus hitches a ride with migratory birds, disease is spread through droppings along their seasonal travels. Raptors tend to get infected by consuming sick prey, while waterfowl risk exposure from other birds or the ingestion of virus shed in water.

While most bird populations can survive bird flu's devastating impact, rare and endangered birds face a threat to the long-term survival of their species.

Logan Connor knows that well.



PHOTO COURTESY RIPLEY WATERFOWL CONSERVANCY

This white-headed duck at the Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy in Litchfield has an endangered conservation status.

He's the director of aviculture at the Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy in Litchfield, a conservation breeding facility which focuses on maintaining genetic diversity for responsible introduction into the wild.

Connor, a Litchfield County native and third-generation bird breeder, is responsible for the well-being of one of the largest collections of rare and endangered waterfowl in North America: 90 species totaling more than 600 birds from around the world.

He is currently working in tandem with a team of state and

See BIRDS, Page A12



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In The Journal this week

REGIONALA2

SPORTSA9

LEGALSA2

MEMORIAL DAY A10

OUR TOWNSA3,5

OUR TOWNS..... A11

OBITUARIESA5

COMPASS B1-4

OPINION.....A6

OUR TOWNS.....B5

VIEWPOINT.....A7

CLASSIFIEDS.....B5-6

Online This Week

Cornwall continues wastewater planning
The committee overseeing planning of the proposed sewer facility in West Cornwall is considering firms to design the plant. More at lakevillejournal.com

POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

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

Handicap permit stolen after car break-in

On May 17 between 2 a.m. and 4:10 p.m., a vehicle belonging to Linda Peet, 81, of 9 Shepard Lane in Norfolk was broken into at her home. The only thing missing from the vehicle was a handicap parking permit pass. Peet reported minor damage to the driver door, apparently from the effort to gain entry. Anyone who may have observed suspicious activity in the area during that time frame or has surveillance footage of the area is encouraged to contact Troop B at 860-626-1820 or Trooper DaSilva #915 by email at joshua.dasilva@ct.gov regarding case #2500183239.

Car strikes errant stone

On the evening of May 17, Michael Wood, 46, of Millerton, New York, was driving south on Under Mountain Road in Salisbury in a rental Nissan Rogue when the vehicle struck a large stone in the roadway, damaging the undercarriage and disabling the vehicle. No one was injured in the accident, though the Rogue was towed from the scene.

Repeat trespass, harassment case

Troopers were dispatched to an Upper Main Street residence in Sharon on the evening of May 18 on the report of an active disturbance. After investigating the situation, troopers arrested

Esperanza Acevedo, 31, of Poughkeepsie, New York for third degree criminal trespass and second degree breach of peace. Acevedo had reportedly returned to a residence where he had previously been told by a trooper and by a victim that he could not return to. Upon arrest, Acevedo shouted obscenities and lunged at the victim but no contact was made. He was released on a \$5,000 non-surety bond and scheduled to appear at Torrington Superior Court on June 2. Three days later, on the morning of May 21, Acevedo was arrested again on Upper Main Street in Sharon for first degree criminal trespass and second degree breach of peace. This time, he was released on a \$5,000 cash bond and scheduled another court date of May 22.

Cow struck in Sharon

On the evening of May 20, William Grella of Sheffield, Massachusetts, was traveling northbound on Gay Street in Sharon when he collided with a cow belonging to White Tail Farm. By the time officers arrived on the scene, the cow had reportedly returned to its farm. Grella's Tesla sustained minor damage and was able to be driven from the scene. White Tail Farm was contacted regarding the incident. No enforcement action was issued.

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

HVA accepted into international conservation program

CORNWALL — The Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) has been named to the Salazar Center for North American Conservation's Peregrine Accelerator for Conservation Impact 2025 cohort.

This international program is designed to scale the impact of innovative, place-based strategies that address biodiversity loss, enhance ecological connectivity and strengthen community resilience.

Through funding, mentorship and collaboration with organizations throughout the North Atlantic region of the U.S. and Canada, this six-month program will expand the reach and effectiveness of Follow the Forest, HVA's initiative that brings together over 50 partners to protect and connect core forests across Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts, and Vermont.

This Accelerator fosters collaboration across borders, Indigenous territories, and

ecological boundaries. HVA joins the 2025 cohort alongside seven additional organizations leading transformative conservation efforts in North America. HVA staff will participate in a retreat on Prince Edward Island in early June to kick off the program.

"Follow the Forest is about working across natural, political and organizational boundaries to protect the connections that sustain life," stated Tim Abbott, HVA's conservation director, in a press release May 19. "The Peregrine Accelerator is an exciting opportunity to elevate this work and strengthen the partnerships that make it possible."

The Follow the Forest initiative focuses on protecting and connecting core forest acreage across eastern New York, western Connecticut, western Massachusetts and Vermont – an area vital for species movement, ecosystem health, and carbon storage, but threatened by increased development.

Millerton hears call to limit cooperation with ICE officers

By Aly Morrissey
The Millerton News

MILLERTON — The Village of Millerton board of trustees held a special meeting on Wednesday, May 21 that drew an unusually large crowd. Nearly 20 residents and supporters showed up to urge officials to adopt a local law aimed at protecting immigrants, including undocumented community members.

The law, as proposed by meeting attendees, would limit cooperation between local law enforcement and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

While no resolution was reached, Mayor Jenn Najdek agreed to schedule a follow-up special meeting where the public can speak with Village legal counsel and explore the proposal in a more practical, informed setting. The yet-to-be scheduled meeting is expected to take place sometime in June, according to Najdek.

The meeting addressed ongoing ICE activity in the Hudson Valley and throughout the country, primarily reports of arrests made without judicial warrants and alleged misidentifications. Millerton's police department, which operates on a limited, part-time basis, is not typically involved in immigration enforcement, but residents said clear local guidelines are necessary before an event or arrest occurs.

"Our village has a moral imperative to do everything in its power to protect the rights and dignity of immigrants who live and work in our community," said Barbara Graham, a Millerton resident of 14 years.

Graham spearheaded an email to Mayor Jenn Najdek and the village board that secured immigration's place on the agenda. Co-signed by six Millerton residents and 11 supporters, the letter urged the board to "affirm its commitment to justice, constitutional rights, and community trust."

Wearing a homemade lapel pin that read, "Well-being for all beings," Graham read aloud from the group's letter. Najdek then opened the floor for public comment.

"I don't think anybody here is asking the Village to tell the police how to do their job," said Bill Kish of the Town of NorthEast. "What we're asking is that the Village provide clear guidance in the form of local law ... that unless a judicial warrant is provided, the police will not use any of their resources to help."

Eliot Ramos, a village resident, added, "Newcomer or lifelong local, adopting a law that bars our police from collaborating with ICE is an act of partnership and moral leadership that honors due process."

Trustees and community members alike noted the limited effect a law of this nature might have at the local level. Still, the response from meeting attendees was unanimous. Andres Vialpando, who said he was born and raised in Millerton, noted a law would carry weight even as a symbolic gesture.

"I'd be proud to say that my village is standing up for what I would call good and healthy laws," Vialpando said. "I support this initiative, even if it seems like, at some level, it could be unnecessary."

Though the discussion was scheduled for 15 min-



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Barbara Graham, right, speaks to Village trustees, Mayor Jenn Najdek and Millerton Police Chief Joseph Olenik, left, during a May 21 special meeting.

utes, it continued for nearly an hour. Following public comment, Najdek, the four village trustees and Police Chief Joseph Olenik addressed the concerns.

They noted the cost of legal consultation — estimated at \$5,000 according to Najdek — could strain an already tight budget. Officials also noted the potential repercussions of adopting such a law, including the loss of federal funding for infrastructure projects like sidewalks and sewer upgrades.

"We're doing our work, applying for grants, applying for funding, getting projects completed," said Najdek. "My concern is that we're putting a spotlight on us that could impact funding over the next five years. It's a real concern for a village of our size."

Throughout the meeting, questions arose about the legal interplay between local, state and federal jurisdictions. Residents pressed for specifics about what would happen if ICE entered the village. Chief Olenik offered

a limited response.

"At this point in time, I would be assisting them," he said. "I wouldn't be making the arrests, but I would be assisting them with whatever they would need us to do as Village PD."

He added that he would not hinder an investigation or withhold information from the State Police, the Sheriff's Office or ICE.

Weighing the risks and rewards of pursuing such a law, Najdek responded emotionally: "I want to do my job. I want to keep my head down. I want to do the right thing for the village the best I can."

Other items addressed during the special meeting included the approval of \$99,498.99 in vouchers from April and May; the delivery and acceptance of department reports; approval of previous meeting minutes; and a discussion of Express Bill Pay, a new software system that will allow residents to pay utility bills online by credit card or e-check.

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LEGAL NOTICES

BAUER FUND AND FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Through grants to colleges, The Bauer Foundation provides indirect scholarship assistance for undergraduate college education to students residing in The Connecticut Regional School District One based on merit and need.

The Bauer Fund operates in the same manner. However, grants from the Fund are limited to students attending either Cornell or Wellesley.

Students attending Cornell or Wellesley should apply to the Fund. All others should apply to the Foundation.

New and returning application forms for the 2025-2026 school year are available at: www.bauerfundfoundation.org.

Completed and fully documented applications must be returned to The Bauer Foundation at PO Box 1784 Lakeville CT 06039-postmarked no later than June 20 2025. Scholarship awards will be announced by August 20 2025.

05-08-25

05-15-25

05-22-25

05-29-25

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2025-0284 by George Johannesen of Allied Engineering for a Structure Less than 50' from a Waterbody and Site Development Activities Including Hardscaping, Landscaping, Stormwater Improvements in the Lake Protection Overlay District at 67 Old CNE Road, Lakeville, Map 40, Lot 30 per Sections 305.2 and 404 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing

will be held on Monday, June 2, 2025 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburyct.us/agendas/. Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to landuse@salisburyct.us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission
Martin Whalen, Secretary
05-22-25
05-29-25

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following actions were taken by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on May 19, 2025:

Approved, subject to Torrington Area Health District Approval - Minor modifications to site development plans associated with Site Plan #2023-0220 by owner Indian Mountain School to renovate interior of assembly area and construct two small additions, approved July 17, 2023. The minor modifications include changes to the floor plan of the dining hall and surrounding areas. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 01 as Lot 20 and is located at 211 Indian Mountain Road, Lakeville.

Approved - Special Permit Application #2025-0281 by Jack Baer of UCE Fine Builders, for vertical expansion of

nonconforming residential structure in accordance with section 503.2 of the regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 39 as Lot 17 and is located at 104 Interlaken Road, Lakeville. The owners of the property are Robert and Robin Easton.

Approved, subject to Torrington Area Health District Approval - Site Plan Application #2025-0288 by owner Indian Mountain School for conversion of faculty housing to dormitory in accordance with section 803.5 of the regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 01 as Lot 20 and is located at 211 Indian Mountain Road, Lakeville.

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

Town of Salisbury
Planning & Zoning Commission
Martin Whalen, Secretary
05-29-25

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF EDWARD R. GEORGE Late of Norfolk (25-00020)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 6, 2025, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
Mary George
c/o Matthew J Lefevre
Law Offices of Matthew Lefevre, ESQ. PC, 38 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT 06105

Beth L. McGuire
Chief Clerk
05-29-25

Our Towns



PHOTO BY NATHAN MILLER

Lime Rock Park will host a NASCAR event June 26-28.

Selectmen approve traffic detour for NASCAR event

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — First Selectman Curtis Rand agreed to sign approvals for changes in traffic patterns and a “hauler parade” for Lime Rock Park’s NASCAR event June 26 to 28 after a lengthy and detailed discussion at a special meeting of the Board of Selectmen Wednesday, May 21.

Lime Rock Park is hosting a weekend of NASCAR events. In anticipation of a larger than usual crowd, park leadership has asked to have one-way traffic on Route 112 — Lime Rock Road — from the junction of Route 7 and Route 112 to White Hollow Road and the main track entrance between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. and one-way traffic in the opposite direction between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday, June 27 and Saturday, June 28.

On Thursday, June 26, there will be a hauler parade. The trucks will form up at Salisbury School and proceed west on Route 44 starting at 4:30 p.m., with state police cars in the lead and bringing up the rear. Westbound traffic on Route 44 will be stopped as the parade gets underway.

Rand expressed frustration with many aspects of the plans. He was critical of park leadership for setting up arrangements with local businesses for the parade prior to coming to the town for a discussion.

Selectman Chris Williams said Lime Rock Park should have come to the town considerably earlier than the first notification a couple of weeks ago.

Selectman Kitty Kiefer said she has not heard anything positive from anyone she has talked to about the plans.

Lime Rock Park President Dicky Riegel and facility safety director Tom Burke, a retired State Police sergeant with Troop B, answered the questions and criticisms as they came.

Burke said there will be 30 state troopers both along the roads and at the track, and there will be 11 variable message boards deployed to alert motorists several days ahead of the events.

Asked why park representatives had not sent out plans to their immediate neighbors, Riegel said they couldn’t do that until they had an approval. With approval, the track will publi-

cize the information about the traffic flow and the parade.

Riegel also apologized for not coming to the town sooner.

Public comment was uniformly negative.

After an hour or so, Rand asked the selectmen for their opinions.

Kiefer said she would deny both requests.

Williams said he would approve them but reiterated his earlier criticisms.

Rand made up his mind. “I will sign these.” He said he was “going on good faith.”

“But if it comes up again I might easily say no.”



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Built in 1983, this 2,713 square foot house at 136 Wellsford Drive sold for \$1.21 million.

Goshen real estate sales

By Christine Bates

GOSHEN — Real estate sales in Goshen accelerated with six sales recorded in April and one in March after a slow start at the beginning of the year.

Woodridge Lake accounted for all but one of the sales ranging from \$200,000 for a less than one acre lot to \$1.21 million four-bedroom home.

Current active listings include 13 parcels of land and 12 single family homes.

Transactions

136 Wellsford Drive — Woodridge Lake Lot 403 — 4 bedroom/3 bath home sold by Simsbury Capital LLC to William Kissick Jr. for \$1.21 million recorded on March 25.

Sherbrook Drive — Woodridge Lake Lot 505 — 0.92 acres of land sold by Barbara Ann Bosak to Ed & AJ Building and Remodeling LLC for \$200,000 recorded on April 1.

Hageman Shean Road — 3.35 acres of land sold by Gary C. Copeland to Jarrett A. Mazza for \$115,000 recorded on April 10.

20 Sutton Court — Woodridge Lake Lot 33 — 4 bedroom/3 bath home on 1.01 acres sold by Leonard J. Astrauskas to Nicholas and Courtney Hawvermale for \$830,000 recorded on April 11.

By Alec Linden

SALISBURY — The White Hart Inn will once again run its pizza evenings on the lawn this summer, however, the Planning and Zoning Commission has lingering questions as to the permitting status of Provisions, the hotel’s café that runs the popular event.

After some debate regarding Salisbury’s Zoning Regulation 906, which deals with temporary permits, on May 19 the Commission voted to allow the Inn to conduct its outdoor pizza operation for the season. P&Z stipulated this would be the final temporary permit granted to the hotel.

Attorney Emily Vail, representing the Inn, first brought the application to the Commission at its May 5 meeting, where Chair Michael Klemens said that he was disappointed to see an application for a temporary permit. The Inn had been issued one last year, he explained, but was asked to return with an application for a broader special permit that would account for several outstanding issues with parking and the Provisions restaurant should it decide to use the pizza oven again.

Attorney Vail explained

that the Inn was again seeking a temporary permit because site plans were still being drawn for the general application. She added that her client was taking precautions regarding potential fallout from an ongoing litigation against P&Z that would affect its ability to regulate hotels in the “rural-residential 1” zone, which the White Hart Inn is located in.

Klemens advised Vail to speak with P&Z’s lawyer Charles Andrews “out of an abundance of caution,” and to return to P&Z on May 19 to review options.

When Vail appeared before the Commission again on May 19, she said that the Inn would still seek a temporary permit for this summer’s pizza oven operation as it remained the best option after her conversation with Andrews. She also returned with a document that she alleged negated Klemens’ claims on May 5 that Provisions had been developed “entirely without any permits, and site plans.”

She presented a blueprint

of the Provisions kitchen and dining area, which was stamped as received by the Planning and Zoning Commission office on May 13, 2016, and upon which a box for office use titled “Zoning Permit #” was filled in with the letters “NR,” which Vail interpreted to mean “Not Required.”

Land Use Administrator Abby Conroy said she could not accept the document as zoning approval, since there was no signature from the previous zoning enforcement officer, Nancy Brusie, or any other indication of a sign-off from the office.

Commission Secretary Martin Whalen noted that Vail’s reading of “NR” was only an interpretation, to which she conceded that it also could indicate “Not Reviewed.”

Vail reiterated that “the application was submitted for zoning review in 2016”; the Inn had done its due diligence. Still, the Commission continued to question the Inn’s lack of proper documentation.

Members of P&Z agreed that the conversation surrounding the Inn’s proper permitting — much of which revolves around whether Provisions qualifies as a “high-turnover” restaurant and subsequent parking implications — was best left for another time as the focus of the evening’s discussion was the temporary permit for the pizza oven.

Before moving on, P&Z Vice Chair Cathy Shyer, who acted as chair in Klemens’ absence at the May 19 meeting, strongly encouraged the Inn to work towards total site plan approval.

“I think we all feel very good about the services the White Hart offers and the community spirit that they’ve built over the years, there’s no question about that,” she said, “but if the paperwork’s not right, I’d love to see it get fixed.”

Vail said that the Inn was taking active steps towards that end, but that the process has been more complicated than simply submitting an application.

Responding to request for comment, Hotel Manager Daniel Winkley stated, “We are grateful to P&Z for supporting our efforts to bring pizza back to the green this year.” He declined to elabo-

P&Z considers reg changes to facilitate new construction

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — At another monthly meeting with no new or pending applications, Cornwall Planning and Zoning Commission resumed discussion of ways to spur development in town.

“This is a big concern,” said Chair Anna Timell during the May 13 meeting.

Timell identified three regulations that could be changed toward this end: minimum setbacks, buildable areas and subdividing lots.

Time was spent discussing restrictions for buildable areas, particularly related to the “rectangular requirement.”

“The current definition of buildable area,” Timell explained, is “a rectangular area of a lot with a minimum dimension of 100-feet per side that contains no wetland soils, water bodies, water courses, utilities or access easements, rights of way or a naturally occurring slope exceeding 25% as measured using two-foot intervals.” All homes must be contained within a rectangle that meets these criteria.

Members of the Buildable Area Subcommittee reviewed proposals that could facilitate home construction.

Commissioner James LaPorta said, “It’d be great if we didn’t have the rectangle because sometimes a corner doesn’t quite fit, but it’s still a buildable area and we could probably put a house there.”

Subcommittee members suggested permitting “any

type of polygon” with a minimum width of 100-feet and a total area of 20,000 square feet, while still adhering to the other buildable area requirements.

“You can have any shape,” LaPorta said, “If you can still have a 100-foot diameter circle that would fit anywhere.”

“It’s not the final solution but it adds to solving this problem” of sparse development in town, said Commissioner Stephen Saccardi.

P&Z requested Land Use Consultant Janel Mullen reframe the definition of a buildable area in accordance with the discussion for review by the Commission.

As for changes to setbacks and subdivisions, differing opinions among commissioners yielded little movement.

Discussion is expected to resume at the next meeting June 10.

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‘1st Tuesday at 7’ summer talks return

FALLS VILLAGE — The Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society’s summer talks series returns on June 3 at 7 p.m. at the South Canaan Meetinghouse, 12 Route 63, Falls Village.

The first presentation will be by Dave Jacobs and Rolf Schneider, featuring a collection of local railroad photos. Both men are avid railroad photographers and experts on railroading in the Northwest Corner.

The free talk will last 45 minutes. Donations appreciated. Refreshments served.



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OBITUARIES

Elizabeth Christinat

NORTH CANAAN — Elizabeth (BJ) Christinat, social worker, activist, and cherished family member and friend, passed away peacefully on May 14, 2025, leaving behind a memory of service, compassion, and love.

Born in North Canaan, on Mother's Day in 1947, Elizabeth dedicated her life to helping others. Influenced by the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, she carried its values throughout her personal and professional life, fighting for those in need.

Elizabeth graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1965 and St. Joseph's College in Hartford in 1969. Her first job was as a fourth-grade teacher at St. James School in Manchester, Connecticut. Throughout the 1970s and 80s, she stayed home to raise a family, yet remained active in local politics and volunteer organizations. After earning a degree in substance abuse counseling in 1991 from Northwestern Connecticut Community College, she worked in the youth program at the Parkside Lodge Treatment Center. She was a facilitator for a domestic violence support group at Susan B. Anthony and a parent aide for the Northwest Center for Family Service & Mental Health in Winsted.

From 2005 until her retirement in 2020, Elizabeth was the social worker for the town of North Canaan. In this role, she provided a lifeline to many families in need. She was committed to

her work and ensuring people received the care, dignity, and support they deserved. Elizabeth managed a thriving Christmas program for the town that rallied donations from across the region, bringing joy and relief to families during the holidays. Her efforts reminded people they were seen, valued, and not alone.

Elizabeth is survived by her husband of 55 years, Robert Christinat, and their three children. She also leaves behind grandchildren, nieces, nephews, siblings, a foreign exchange student and friends, all of whom she cherished deeply. Many considered her "a second mom" and will attest that her door was always open to anyone.

Family history was important to her, and nothing gave her more comfort in her later years than reminiscing about her mother, Kay Casey, and her grandparents, Pete and Betty Ducillo. Those who knew BJ will remember her laughing, dancing, playing cards, crocheting blankets, advocating for the underdog, and cheering for the Mets and UConn.

She inspired us all with her unwavering dedication to family and friends and a commitment to helping others with passion, courage, and love.

No services are planned at this time. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to: The Connecticut chapter of the Alzheimer's Association 200 Executive Blvd South Southington, CT 06489.

Memorial service

Barbara Breen Victorien

CORNWALL — Barbara (87) a lifelong resident of Cornwall, wife of the late Jacques Victorien, passed away peacefully in her home on January 18, surrounded by her family.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated

at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 7, at St. Bridget's Catholic Church, 7 River Road, Cornwall Bridge. Burial will follow in St. Bridget Cemetery. Kindly visit www.thurstonrowefuneralhome.com to send the family an online condolence.



Kathryn S. Ryan

PINE PLAINS — Katherine S. Ryan, 89, passed away peacefully on May 21, 2025, at Northern Dutchess Hospital surrounded by her loved ones. She was born Jan. 23, 1936. She was the daughter of Mary (Kreig) and Lowell Gilnack.

Katherine graduated from Roosevelt High School in Hyde Park and she went on to marry John F. Ryan in 1957. They moved to Pine Plains where Kathy worked at New York Telephone Company in Poughkeepsie, New York, then transitioned to IBM. Kathy worked for Pine Plains Central School District, Seymour Smith Elementary School first as a teachers assistant then becoming the secretary to the Principal, from which she retired.

Katherine loved her family, friends and community. She was a very talented green thumb and deeply invested in the Pine Plains Garden Club. She was also an active member of the Gallatin Reformed Church. Katherine was known for her cooking and baking talents, she made the best apple pie but there was not much she couldn't whip up in the kitchen. Beyond her cooking Kathy was a traveler, it was not unusual for her and John to get in the car and take a road trip across the country or for the afternoon.

Katherine is survived by her loving husband John, children; Karen (Jerry Rundall), Keith (Susan Robertson Ryan; grandchildren; Morgan Ryan, Mason MacIssac, and Shanee Emanuel. In addition, her sister-in-law, Marie Gilnack, several nieces, nephews and beloved caregiver Debra Blake.

She was predeceased by her siblings; Robert Gilnack, Rosemary Douglas and Bruce Gilnack.

Graveside service will take place at Evergreen Cemetery in Pine Plains, New York on May 31, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. Memorial donations may be made to Pine Plains Fire Company and the Pine Plains Garden Club. To leave a message of condolence for the family, please visit www.peckandpeck.net



Jacqueline Irene Dirck

SHARON — Jacqueline Irene Dirck, affectionately known as Jackie, passed away peacefully on May 20, 2025, in Phoenix, Arizona, at the age of 84. Born on Nov. 19, 1940, in Joplin, Missouri, Jackie lived a life filled with warmth, laughter, and deep devotion to those she loved.

Jackie shared an extraordinary 62-year marriage with her high school sweetheart and beloved husband, Ronald Dirck. Their enduring partnership was a shining example of lifelong love and unwavering support. Together they created a home that radiated joy, a gathering place for family celebrations marked by spirited card games, hearty meals, and heartfelt conversations. Jackie especially treasured quiet afternoons spent with a cocktail in hand, embracing life's simple pleasures with grace and good cheer.

She was a devoted mother to Melissa Dirck Appel and her husband Jeff Appel, and Patrick Dirck and his wife Lisa Dirck. She carried the memory of her son Kevin with enduring love throughout her life. Her legacy continues through her cherished grandchildren; Alexandra, Caroline, Emma, Natalie, Evan, Cooper, Elle, and Tanner. Jackie is also fondly remembered by her sister,

Charlene Barr and brother James Wilson.

A gifted cook with a generous spirit, Jackie found immense joy in bringing people together around the table. Her kitchen was always filled with the comforting aromas of treasured family recipes or exciting new culinary creations-each dish prepared with love and care. These shared meals became cherished traditions that strengthened bonds across generations.

Jackie also had a tender heart for animals. The loyal companionship of her beloved dogs brought her comfort and joy over the years-offering moments of peace amid life's busy rhythm.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William and Maxine Wilson. Their guidance remained close to Jackie's heart throughout her journey. In honor of Jackie's compassionate nature and giving spirit, the family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to The Susan G. Komen Foundation or The American Cancer Society.

Her light lives on in the hearts of all who knew her. May her memory continue to bring comfort and smiles to those she touched.

A private celebration of life for family and friends will be held at a later date.

An appreciation

Joe Brennan

Our community has lost a treasure with the passing of Joe Brennan.

Joe was more than a restorer of early houses, he was a house whisperer.

His eye for detail was remarkable and his barn full of salvaged materials was unmatched, as was his sheer skill and ingenuity in deploying them. Joe always seemed to come up with just the right hinge, flat panel door or spun glass window, for a particular spot. He was a man who communed with our New

England town through a deep appreciation of its architecture and history. At heart, Joe was a preservationist. For those of us fortunate enough to have encountered Joe's gifts, his memory will be preserved through the enduring beauty of his work. Deepest sympathy to his wife, Chris, who so intuitively complemented his work in the design sphere, and his three children, Kate, Polly, and Josh.

Howard Sobel and Ileene Smith

Memorial service

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.

Send obituaries to editor@lakevillejournal.com

ROBERT F. WRIGHT

June 1, 2009

I can't believe it's been so long, it just does not seem real, that 16 years have come and gone, when your memory is still, so brilliant and so powerful, so present in our hearts, I'm grateful for those memories and knowing that the parts, of who you left behind that became a part of me, makes me feel so close to you and lets me feel so free, I know you did the best you could, I know you were so strong I know that where your soul now rests is where your soul belongs.

We love you Robert, We love you Dad

Your wife Ruth
Your daughters Bobbie-Jo and Ruthanne



RYAN FUNERAL HOME

255 MAIN STREET • LAKEVILLE, CT 06039

860-435-2700



CREMATIONS • FUNERALS • BURIALS • CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE

CHRISTOPHER E. RYAN, SR

RYANFHCT.COM

JONATHAN J. RYAN

Marion J. Pedersen

SHARON — Marion J. (Cookingham) Pedersen of Sharon, passed peacefully on May 20, 2025, at the age of 91.

Born in Pine Plains, New York, she lived a life of love and unwavering strength. She was a devoted mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and wife known for her cooking skills.

Her greatest joy was taking care of and feeding her family. For over 50 years she knew most of the children in Sharon, either by driving them to and from school on the bus or by feeding them lunch in the Sharon Center School cafeteria. She will be missed by so many.

She is survived and missed by her husband of 74 years, Niels (Pete) Pedersen, her two

sons Niels (Peter) Pedersen Jr., and wife Lori of Sharon,

Dennis Pedersen and wife Bonnie of Winchester, and her daughter, Deborah Pedersen of Winsted. She will forever be cherished and remembered by her granddaughters, Hollie Boyuk and husband Michael, Sarah White and husband Michael, five great-grandsons, Dylan and wife Ashley, Brandon, Caleb, Christopher and Jacob, and numerous other family members who will miss her dearly.

Marion was the youngest of 12 children and predeceased by her 11 siblings.

All services are private. Memorial contributions may be made to the donors choice. Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.



Memorial service

Eleanor Sternlof

Eleanor Anne Sternlof (née de Guise) of White Hollow Road passed away on April 25, 2025 at Geer Village in North Canaan, Connecticut. She was 94 and the loving wife of the late Paul William Sternlof, who died on Aug. 12, 2005.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, May 31, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at The Kenny Funeral Home, 41 Main Street, Sharon. Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

 Worship Services Week of June 1, 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	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
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	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 860-455-9496 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!
Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org	
All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us	
Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 3:00 P.M. 518-789-5138	



CREDIT: COURTESY VEROGY

Aerial photo of Enfield Solar One, Connecticut's largest community solar project.

Energy legislation needs work, but solutions are in sight

When SB 1560, An Act Concerning Connecticut's Economy, Electricity Affordability and Business Competitiveness and Establishing the Connecticut Energy Procurement Authority and the Green Bond was posted, it raised eyebrows.

It's not often a comprehensive 80-page energy bill is introduced in a committee other than Energy & Technology.

The bill creates the Connecticut Energy Procurement Authority (CEPA), charged with taking over the buying of electricity, a function performed by our utilities. Also created is a Green Bond fund to pay for parts of electricity bills currently funded by ratepayers.

The complexity of energy markets is daunting, but it's important to note that there are processes, called dockets, in which all the players get a chance to participate equally. That due process is vital. It minimizes favoring one interest group over another.

SB 1560 needs work in that area. From testimony posted on the CGA's website, it clear that many of the bill's proposals caught energy stakeholders off guard.

For example, if you put solar on your house or business, you are compensated for that, just like a power plant. And on really sunny days, unlike a fossil fuel plant, you're putting 100% clean electricity into the grid. SB 1560 would drastically reduce that compensation for solar, just when grid-helpful solar with battery backup installations are increasing.

Solar vendors testified the change would wipe out the solar industry in Connecticut. The exodus of those businesses, jobs, and tax revenue from the state is in no way a positive. There's a docket currently underway examining solar compensation. Let's allow that to play out.

Another change proposes redefining nuclear power as renewable energy. To be clear, this won't suddenly make spent uranium fuel rods unspent. But it will take funding away from true renewables that are cheaper in the long term.

Ironically, for legislation promoting cost reductions, the solar and nuclear sections will save little, if anything, in the short term, and

CT MIRROR/ VIEWPOINT ANDY BAUER

likely increase costs long term. Similarly, a section to reduce high demand charges to businesses would simply spread that among other ratepayers.

Tasked with electricity procurement, CEPA, according to the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel, is not obligated to follow the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, which means "... both participants appearing before it and ratepayers are not guaranteed due process." Further, CEPA can accept monetary gifts. It's worth contemplating how sizable donations might influence CEPA's politically appointed directors.

CEPA would use bonds to fund some of the combined public benefits programs. This could work if done with care. But as written, there are safeguards that are missing. Concerns raised by OCC's analysis articulate situations that could require ratepayers to "... cover costs of the new programs in addition to the current costs ratepayers pay for on bills."

OCC points out they've already "... evaluated different potential revisions to our current procurement laws and processes..." in collaboration with the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, the Energy & Technology Committee, and other stakeholders. If legislators elect to go with a CEPA type entity, OCC has recommendations, one of which places it under the auspices of PURA or the Dept of Energy & Environmental Protection. This would continue necessary oversight on behalf of all ratepayers.

Legislators voted SB 1560 out of the Finance, Revenue & Bonding committee, making clear it needs to be improved. They want to prudently address high utility rates. The OCC's expertise is in understanding how to best put that in play.

Let's put their guidance to work.

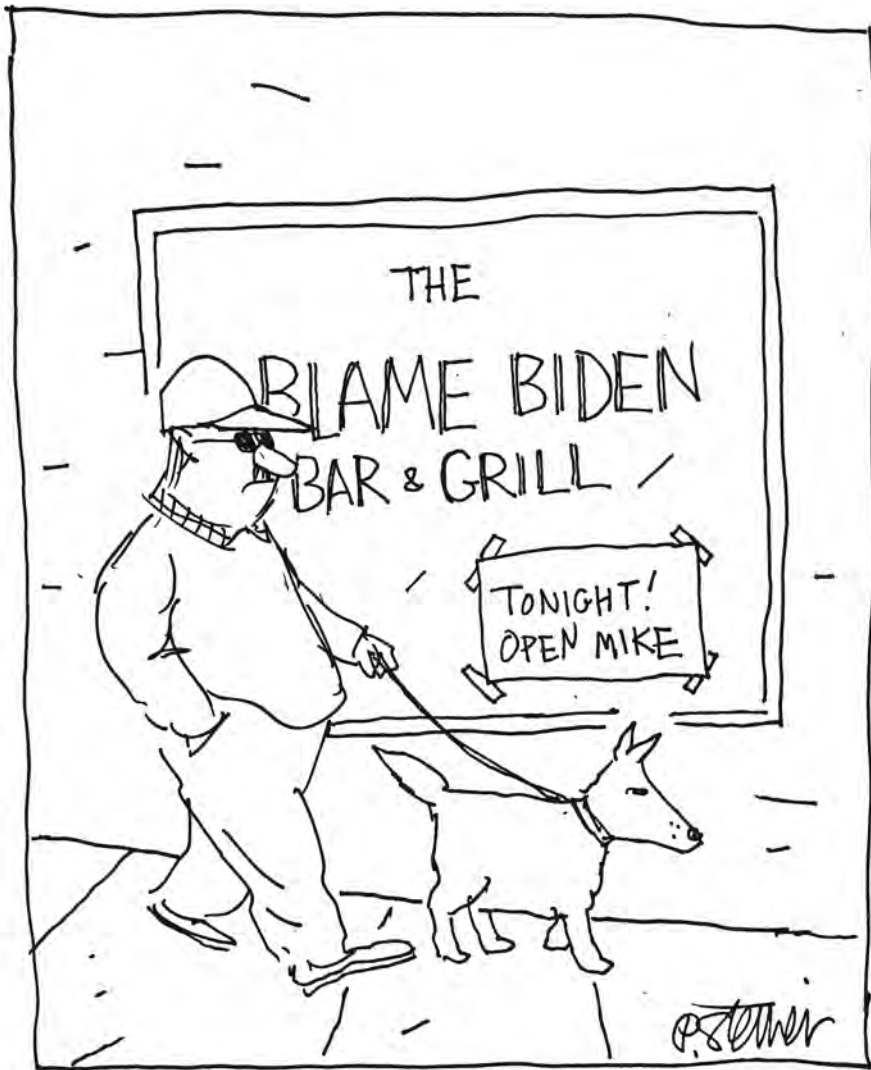
Andy Bauer is a member of the Town of Portland's Clean Energy Task Force.



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

Cub caravan

Opinion



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Remembering Sarah and Yaron

Last Wednesday night Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim were murdered by a Pro-Palestinian fanatic while leaving an event at the DC Jewish Museum that was focused on humanitarian diplomacy and improving the delivery of aid to Gaza. They were murdered because the shooter believed that they were Jews. It didn't matter that Sarah Milgrim had worked for Tech2Peace in Tel Aviv conducting research on peace-building initiatives between Israelis and Palestinians. And it didn't matter that Yaron was a devout Christian. The shooter did not know the couple, but he reportedly travelled from Chicago to Washington, with a weapon, on a mission to kill Jews. As he proudly announced, "I did it for Gaza" and "Free, Free Palestine".

The shooter was likely influenced by inciteful rhetoric that is now prevalent on our college campuses and in some media. Students and

their organizers loudly chant "Globalize the Intifada", "From the River to the Sea", "Free Palestine", "F**K the Jews" and other catchy slogans. Perhaps these students don't know that the Intifada was organized Palestinian terrorism against Jews in Israel which featured: bombings of buses, cafes, markets and nightclubs, random shootings, and rocket attacks against farming communities. Perhaps they don't know that the Hamas charter calls for the elimination of all Jews from the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea - which includes all of Israel. Perhaps they don't know that the horrific October 7 massacre was a deliberate attempt to kill as many Jews as possible and to avoid a Saudi-Israeli collaboration to bring peace to the region. Perhaps they just want to protest because it is the fashionable thing to do.

Or perhaps they really mean what they say. Clearly the shooter from Chicago be-

lieved it, internalized it, acted on it and now likely thinks of himself as a hero to the cause. The Iranian regime is reportedly praising the shooter, as are some in social media, even calling for his release.

It is clear that our society has tolerated speech calling for violence, and speech that vilifies or dehumanizes those with whom we have political or cultural differences. It is also clear that such speech leads to violence, such as the assassination attempts on President Trump, CEO Brian Thompson, Rep. Steve Scalise, Justice Brett Kavanaugh, Salman Rushdie - and now Yaron and Sarah. It is past time to curtail this type of speech from the campus rioters, which requires our institutions and elected officials - state and federal - to act decisively.

But we also need to examine the speech within our own communities. It doesn't matter which group we identify with, if we are afraid to confront this problem and act, we will be complicit in the next murder. Silence is acceptance.

Let us remember Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim and do our best to ensure that we do not have to mourn any others killed by violence-inducing rhetoric. May their memories be for a blessing.

Alan Friedman

Salisbury

Thanking Region 1's registrars

The students and Social Studies Department of Housatonic Valley Regional High School wish to express our thanks to Region One's Registrars of Voters, especially Therese Duncan of Kent and Sally Kelsey of Falls Village, for their work at Dee Bushnell Memorial Voter Registration Day. On Tuesday, May 13, more than 25 high school students registered to vote! We are grateful to the Registrars for their hard work and for providing hands-on instruction in civics to our students.

Peter Vermilyea
HVRHS Social Studies
Department

Kudos for honor roll

Congratulations to students who made the honor roll. As a retired teacher, I want to also recognize those pupils who faithfully attend school even when things do not come easily. If these unsung youth are good citizens in spite of not being particularly good scholars, I salute them and their teachers. They persevere. They, too, can take a bow.

Jon C. Lafleur

Kent

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Viewpoint

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

125 years ago — May 1900
F.H. Langdon of Canaan Valley has a pair of perfect albino calves — pure white and pink eyes.

Master Gerald Eggleston of Sharon has had quite a serious time with the measles.

SHARON — The children of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Carey in the Valley have the measles, and not scarlet fever as at first reported.

Mrs. Geo. Lamb of Sharon remains in about the same condition, no worse, and seemingly no better.

LIME ROCK — The stork called at the home of Robert Merriman Saturday morning, and another little daughter is now one of the family.

The thunder storm of last Friday afternoon visited Lime Rock in force. A bolt struck a tree in front of the residence of Mrs. Clapp, jumped to an iron fence and from that into the ground, breaking a flag stone in its course. Telephone and telegraph lines were put out of action for some hours.

Rev. J.C. Goddard sails today from Southampton on the steamer St. Paul.

Lost somewhere on the road between Salisbury and Lakeville, a long handled bill poster's brush. Will finder please leave at this office.

John Beckley has retired from the Connecticut Western News staff, and E.H. DeMars of the Winsted Citizen will fill the position as assistant editor.

The members of Mrs. Myron Holley's Sunday School class will give a strawberry tea at Roberts' Banquet Hall on Friday evening June 8th, from 5 to 10. Tea, including ice cream 25 cents. The proceeds will be applied to the chapel fund.

I.W. Sanford is doing the surveying and getting out the specifications for the improvements on the "Upper Road" leading from Canaan to East Canaan.

100 years ago — May 1925
The citizens of the town are wondering when the State Highway department is going to give us the promised improvement of the road from Sages Ravine to Salisbury and from Lakeville to the New York State line. These roads are badly in need of improvement and about all we are getting is promises and you certainly cannot ride very comfortably on promises. There is plenty of talk about increased taxes on gasoline but "darned" little about better roads hereabouts. Other towns are succeeding in getting improved roads and why cannot we have a small share of them. Don't all speak at once please.

Dwight Bushnell has installed a phone in his house.

The ore pits at Ore Hill have been steadily filling with water since mining operations were stopped, and now there exists a small lake, and the water seems to be constantly gaining. Pretty soon it may have to seek an outlet and there is some speculation as to where it will break or be carried through. The general opinion is that it

will have to be carried under the highway by a sluice and will ultimately flow into Long Pond.

Mrs. M.H. Washburne has had a paving stone walk laid from the street to her home.

Our citizens generally should be interested in reading the notice elsewhere about a special town meeting to be held on June 5th for the purpose of acting upon the question of a new school house. Every property owner should be on hand as this is a matter that will touch every pocket book. Don't fail to attend the meeting. It will do no good to growl afterward if you fail to register your personal opinion.

Don't throw waste paper, cigarette and chewing gum wrappers on the street. Clean streets add greatly to the village and everyone should help keep them so.

Representatives of the Sunlight Screen Co. of New York City were in town Tuesday installing a new screen in the Best Theatre. The new screen is the same as the ones used in the large picture houses in the big cities.

50 years ago — May 1975
Burglary is nothing new in Northwest Connecticut, but there is much more of it just now. State Police at Canaan Barracks say break-ins and attempted breaks are up by 50 per cent this April and May over the same period one year ago.

The biggest crowd in years, or perhaps ever, at Lime Rock Park turned out for Monday's Schaefer 350 Series race and ancillary events. Track Promoter Jim Haynes estimated the crowd at approximately 25,000, or seven times the township's population. At some point traffic jams were backed up for as much as two miles on routes 7 and 112. Many area gas stations, restaurants, food markets and motels reportedly did a thriving business. Meanwhile, however, Mr. Haynes found himself in continuing trouble with some Lime Rock citizens and with Town of Salisbury officials over charges of zoning law violations.

Sharon Hospital is seeking approval for a new \$160 daily rate for use of its Intensive Care Unit. The present rate is \$135.50. Hospital administrator Paul Sternlof said the \$160 proposal represents "a new rate for a new facility, not an increase." The hospital recently opened a brand new ICU. The old ICU was essentially a converted hospital ward with a four-patient capacity. The new unit has a capacity of 13 patients in private rooms, along with more sophisticated patient-monitoring capability, he added.

After a lifetime in Lakeville and 44 years as a barber, Paul Argall will move to Florida early in June and become a man of leisure. Mr. Argall closed his shop on May 16, ending a career which began in 1931 when he became an apprentice to the late William Judd. When his apprenticeship was completed he opened his own business in a building near Community Field (later torn down) and operated a one-man shop until his retirement.

About 12 persons showed up Saturday afternoon to

help with the clearing of Lawrence Playground on East Main Street in Canaan. First Selectman Leo Segalla had announced a "Rock-Picking Party" for that afternoon to help the town with the preparation of the field for a recreation area. Volunteers ranged in age from children to senior citizens. In several hours of work, they managed to clear over half of the field of rocks of various sizes.

The world ministries committee of the First Church of Christ in Cornwall announced that it is committed to sponsoring a Vietnamese refugee family in Cornwall. The committee is now looking for anyone in the community who would like to join with them in the undertaking.

25 years ago — May 2000
KENT — Robert Edward Boyden, 72, died May 13, 2000, at the New Milford Hospital. He was the husband of Jo-Anne (Hoyt) Boyden. He served as a trooper with the Connecticut State Police from 1961 to 1978, last serving at Troop L in Litchfield. He was an instructor at the Connecticut Police Academy from 1978 to 1985. He lived in Kent since 1963. He is survived by two sons, Robert Boyden Jr. of Miami and Nicholas Boyden of Kent; a daughter, Christina Boyden of Greenwood Lake, N.Y. and two sisters, Pauline Regan of Braintree, Mass. and Lorraine Hussey of Brockton, Mass.

SALISBURY — A scholarship fund has been established in the name of one of the town's most active citizens, Dr. Mary Alice White. With the money, "we hope to have an annual internship program for a high school or college student each summer to work with a local conservation group," said Peter Feldman, who proposed the scholarship and spearheaded fundraising efforts over the past five months.

CANAAN — Not too many years ago, Denise Bagnaschi was a student in Ann Matheson's second-grade classroom at North Canaan Elementary School. Beginning in September Ms. Bagnaschi will be teaching in that classroom. "North Canaan has always been my first choice. It has been my dream to come back here and teach," she told the board during a brief interview at the May 11 meeting, prior to the board voting unanimously to hire her. Ms. Bagnaschi is a lifelong resident of Canaan. Her parents are Angelo "Butch" and Nancy Bagnaschi.

Status Report

SHARON — Effective May 21, Meghan Flanagan is the new managing director of Sharon Playhouse. Previously, Flanagan served as chief operations officer at the National Society of Compliance Professionals. Her appointment follows the dedicated service of Rod Christensen, who moved on after two and a half years in the position.

Misjudging the American people

People who don't study history – or think they can rewrite history to suit their ideals – are fundamentally unsound, morally and practically. Their undoing may happen all at once, over short periods of time, over periods of passionate revolt or, indeed, years. But it will happen, historical facts simply cannot be swept aside.

America was founded by disaffected people. America was populated – in waves of immigration – by disaffected people from across the globe. Not one person who immigrated to America who came here hundreds of years ago, two hundred years ago, one hundred years ago, fifty years ago, or in the past few decades came here to become part of a rigid and fixed establishment, to become a sheep as a followers, nor just someone to fit in with a crowd. Americans, each and every one of us, are ambitious, fiercely independently minded, setting personal freedom as our core existence, never permitting the concept of loss of liberty to become commonplace.

Do you feel I am wrong? Think simply of the first settlers here. These men and women were allowed to actually own – freehold – the land they farmed. Nowhere else on the entire planet was that possible at the time. That's a fundamental USA right. Or you might ask yourself, when you get stopped speeding by a police car, what is your first reaction? Compliance or questioning authority? What do you say to the officer? Probably a defiant, "Why have you stopped me?" Because in America you have the right to defend your personal

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE

PETER RIVA

freedom, question authority, rebel – so you speak up from only that perspective, not that you want to break the law, but you are not sure your independence is subject to the law at that time. You are a rebel. You are American.

We are a nation of rebels. Think I am wrong? Remember back to 1970 when students and "peaceniks" across the country demonstrated, often facing down police with batons, guns, water-cannon, and tear gas against the Vietnam War. Students at Kent State were shot dead in that protest. Think of the Black Lives Matter demonstrations, clearly out-gunned, out-manned on the streets across the nation. Lawbreakers? Hell yes but unarmed, vulnerable, defiant. Rebels, in a true, real, American way. Pink hatted ladies marching? Think they are not rebels? They are and they will be back in force, soon.

Now, stop for a moment and ask yourself – if you have any grasp of world history – could any of the typical American demonstrations, riots even, have happened in Italy or Germany in the 30s? People there did not have the same spirit of independence as Americans do, they could not, in their innermost being, understand being that defiant. They were raised to be subservient, not free-thinking,

not liberated.

Even today, think of that American crossing the street in the middle of a block. Jaywalking is a technical offense. But how many Americans jaywalk? How many Germans do even today? None. The simple truth is, we're not a very law-abiding nation of individuals. Sure we'll comply, we're not deliberately law-defiant speeding over the limit, "Yes officer, you're right I was speeding... sorry..." But somewhere in our mind, at that moment, we had reason, and that reason is always based on our feeling of our right to proceed with liberty; to do as we damn well please, not simply to follow orders. Orders are, often in America, first questioned and then seen as only a slight barrier to common-sense self-motivation.

And that's why authoritarian regimes here can never prosper. They will fail, sometimes quickly, sometimes over weeks, months, maybe even years or after a calamity like a war. But the spirit of the very people who chose to be here, generationally chose to be here, is fiercely independent and those few who seek to change that moral code have misjudged the real America. Authoritarians will fail. Historic fact cannot be rewritten to suit their false hopes. And wannabe authoritarians are, in truth, foolish to think otherwise. In their ignorance of what makes America great, they cannot help but lose.

Peter Riva, a former resident of Amenian Union, New York, now lives in Gila, New Mexico.

Committing to the rule of law

Hooraay for the 500 lawyers who this month formed the Connecticut Rule of Law Committee, reprimanded President Trump, without quite naming him, for his recklessness about due process and his bullying of the judiciary, and righteously recommitted themselves to the rule of law. Trump often deserves scolding, even if it has yet to do much good.

But the chest-thumping of the lawyers might have seemed a bit hollow to those who can see other problems.

It might have been nice for the state to have had a rule of law committee when President Biden stopped enforcing immigration law and opened the borders, flooding the country with millions of illegal immigrants, many of whom came to Connecticut. Much of the financial emergency just declared by Governor Lamont, a deficit of nearly \$300 million in the state's Medicare program, involves coverage for immigrants lacking permanent legal status for whose medical care and housing government made no provision.

It might have been nice for Connecticut to have had a rule of law committee when political correctness took over and caused state government and many municipalities to adopt "sanctuary" policies obstructing enforcement of federal immigration law — a form of nullification.

It might have been nice for Connecticut to have had a rule of law committee when the state didn't just repeal its criminal penalties for possession of marijuana but also thrust state government into the marijuana business, though the drug remains prohibited by federal law — more nullification.

Unfortunately there was no rule of law committee

THE CHRIS POWELL COLUMN

when the Connecticut Supreme Court, partly on the absurd basis of opinion polls, declared capital punishment unconstitutional though both the state and national constitutions expressly authorized it and continue to do so -- still more nullification.

Even now the General Assembly is preparing legislation to postpone for another four years enforcement of Connecticut's law requiring a little racial integration of schools. Supposedly racial integration of schools has been constitutionally required since 1954. The Rule of Law Committee hasn't gotten around to this one yet either.

All these issues are controversial, and lawyers throughout the state were involved with them, but none seems to have per-

ceived their relation to the rule of law.

Quite apart from its many blind spots, there's a self-serving element to the Connecticut Rule of Law Committee. Explaining the committee, one of its founders, James Glasser, cited "our desire to make sure people know that especially here in Connecticut, we're particularly blessed with an outstanding judiciary."

Well, maybe. But then how can a lawyer who makes his living by practicing before Connecticut's judges characterize those judges -- in public, anyway -- as anything less than "outstanding"? A lawyer's candor about the shortcomings of the judges before whom he practices might be bad for business. Indeed, expect the Rule of Law Committee to issue a thousand more reprimands of Trump before its first public criticism of a Connecticut judge.

Chris Powell has written about Connecticut government and politics for many years.



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We just ran into issues for the first time in securing home insurance for a second home purchase here in the NW Corner. So in representing future buyers, we will be more alert to the ISO rating given to a particular property early in the deal process. ISO is the rating that insurance companies use to measure the fire protection capabilities of a community. The factors taken into consideration are the fire department's capabilities, the quality of emergency communications, the distance the house is from a fire department and the locations of water supplies. As many of our second homes are built in remote rural sections of NW CT, it is wise to understand the implications of the ISO rating and how it will affect the premiums or availability of home insurance. So our advice is not to leave the issue of insurance to the end of a deal, but to proactively address this ahead of time to ensure a smooth closing. For more information, please see: www.bankrate.com/insurance/homeowners-insurance/iso-fire-ratings/



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Open Letter to BD–Canaan Employees and the Local Canaan Community

BD has been a proud member of the Canaan community for nearly 65 years. Over the past six decades, our employees have consistently answered the call to support the U.S. healthcare system in times of need. Most recently during the COVID-19 pandemic, our team in Canaan worked tirelessly to produce millions of additional syringes to help support a nationwide response effort while minimizing impact to routine healthcare procedures.

But at no time in recent history have we been prouder of our Canaan employees or the local Canaan community than during the recent response to a suspicious package at our site.

While we are grateful that no harmful substances were ultimately found in the package, the response from our employees and the community was nothing short of amazing. In the face of fear and uncertainty, BD employees showed the “best of BD” by doing what is right and supporting each other.

And the support from the community was just as admirable. Among the many agencies and responders who provided support, we wanted to send our special thanks and appreciation to: Canaan Fire Company, North Canaan Volunteer Ambulance, Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department, Falls Village Volunteer Ambulance, Lakeville Hose Company, Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance, Sheffield Volunteer Fire Department, Norfolk Volunteer Fire Department, Norfolk Volunteer Ambulance, Harwinton Westside Volunteer Fire Department, Winsted Fire Department, Torrington Fire Department, Danbury Fire Department, Waterbury Fire Department, First Selectman for the Town of North Canaan Brian Ohler, the Torrington Area Health District, the Connecticut State Police, Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Hazmat Team, Governor Ned Lamont and his team, Paul Lavoie and the Connecticut Office of Manufacturing, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Emergency Response Unit (ERU), the Dr. Katherine A. Kelley State Public Health Laboratory, the 14th Civil Support Team, Connecticut Army National Guard, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), and the United States Postal Service, all of whom greatly contributed to ensuring the safety of our employees and helped get operations back up and running.

To our employees: We couldn’t be prouder of your actions and your resilience. On behalf of the hundreds of millions of patients you serve across the United States and around the world, thank you for your dedication and professionalism.

To our community: Your actions helped keep our employees safe and minimized disruption to the supply of critical medical devices to patients around the world. We are honored to call Canaan home and very fortunate to have your support.

With extreme gratitude,
The BD–Canaan Leadership Team

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Sports

Mountaineers strike gold at league championships

By Riley Klein

Berkshire League track and field wrapped up a season of competition with the league finals in Litchfield May 17. The BL festival followed with decathlon, heptathlon and hammer in Falls Village May 20 and Thomas-ton May 21.

The events included athletes from Housatonic Valley Regional High School, Gilbert School, Lakeview High School, Nonnewaug High School, Northwestern Regional High School, Shepaug Valley High School, Terryville High School and Thomaston High School.

In the BL gold medal tally for 2025, Nonnewaug led with 12 golds, Housatonic won 10, Northwestern won six, Thomaston won six, Lakeview won five and Shepaug won three.

For Housatonic, Senior Mia Dodge won the girls 300m hurdles.

Sophomore Ryan Segalla won the boys 100m, 200m and 400m races.

Senior Kyle McCarron won the boys 800m and 1600m races.

The boys 4x400m relay team of Anthony Labbadia, Patrick Money, Kyle McCarron and Ryan Segalla won gold.

Junior Anthony Labbadia won the boys triple jump by a margin of more than three feet. He also earned second place in the boys 400m race.

Senior Patrick Money won the decathlon.

Senior Gabi Titone won the steeplechase. Junior Olivia Brooks took bronze.

The girls 4x400m relay team of Mckenzie Lotz, Harper Howe, Mia Dodge and Maddy Johnson took silver. The same team took bronze in the 4x100m relay.

Senior Harper Howe took silver in the girls 400m race.

Gabi Titone took silver in the girls 800m race.

The Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference Class S state track and field meet will be held at Willow Brook Park in New Britain June 2.



Ryan Segalla won gold medals in the boys 100m, 200m and 400m at the Berkshire League championships May 17.



Patrick Money won gold in the decathlon at the Berkshire League festival May 20-21.

Marvelwood lacrosse goes back-to-back in HVAL

By Lans Christensen

KENT — On Tuesday, May 20, Marvelwood School lacrosse defeated Woodhall School 15-9 in the Housatonic Valley Athletic League tournament final.

It was second straight HVAL championship win for the Pterodactyls and their fifth league title since 2018.

Marvelwood and Woodhall played twice this past season with Marvelwood winning both games. They met in the championship as the first and second ranked teams in the league.

In the pre-game huddle, Marvelwood Coach Zach Maizel pumped up his players and urged them to “be aggressive early.”

Taking his message to heart, attackman Eli Jamieson scored in the first minute of game play. He scored twice more in the first period, which ended with Marvelwood ahead 6-3.

Woodhall played aggressively and stayed on the attack, but the first half ended 9-4 in favor of Marvelwood.



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Above, the Marvelwood lacrosse team celebrates as champions. Below, Eli Jamieson congratulates teammate C. Jones after a goal.



Jamieson was the key player on the Marvelwood squad, and he scored twice more in the final period to maintain the Pterodactyls’ lead.

Woodhall fought hard and possessed control for most of the final period, scoring five goals but falling to a final 15-9 Marvelwood victory.



PHOTOS BY SIMON MARKOW

Housatonic girls tennis competes in Berkshire League tourney

Housatonic Valley Regional High School girls varsity tennis traveled to The Hotchkiss School Friday, May 23 for day one of the Berkshire League tournament. Above at left, Mia DiRocco returns a serve. DiRocco advanced past the first round and qualified for the quarterfinals. Her match against Lakeview High School’s Madison Lacilla will be played Tuesday, May 27. Above at right, Victoria Brooks played against Natalja Collaku of Thomaston High School May 23. Collaku won the hardfought match 6-4, 3-6, 10-7.

Big Blue lax wins Founders League

The Hotchkiss School girls lacrosse won the 2025 Founders League championship with an 11-10 victory over Choate Rosemary Hall May 21. The Bearcats battled back from behind by as many as four points. MaryHelen McCooley scored the game-winning goal with about two minutes remaining. The win marked the fourth consecutive Founders League title for Hotchkiss girls lacrosse.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

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Memorial Day



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Emergency responders march through Falls Village on Memorial Day.

‘Recognizing the cost of freedom’ in Falls Village

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — People started filtering into downtown Falls Village an hour or so before the Memorial Day parade, which kicked off at 9:45 a.m. Many brought baked goods to the soon-to-opened Off the Trail Cafe, where Liz and Howie Ives had coffee, lemonade and watermelon salad ready for post-parade refreshments. Liz Ives said the cafe will be officially opened in mid-June.

The parade came through, led by a band of percussion and brass instruments. It featured fire trucks, an ambulance, stilt walkers, classic cars and a couple of horses bringing up the rear.

At the town green, First Selectman Dave Barger greeted the crowd with a prayer.

Selectman Judy Jacobs noted that while Memorial Day is for America’s fallen military, several veterans participated in the parade,

including Sandy Rhoades, Sergei Fedorjaczenko, Rou Jensen, Woods Sinclair, Loy Timolat, Eric Carlson, David Boyer, Bosco Schell, Jim Holcomb, Matt Gallagher, Hope Gallagher and Tony Testa.

Both the Gallaghers are Navy veterans. Matt Gallagher said Memorial Day “is about recognizing the cost of the freedoms we often take for granted.” Speaking of those who died, he said “Let us strive to be a nation worthy of their sacrifice.”

The selectmen honored Gail Allyn as Volunteer of the Year, and Dick and Donna Heinz received the Community Service Award.

Katelin Lopes sang the National Anthem a cappella, with the crowd of some 100 joining in.

Barger wrapped it up by saying “We must walk away knowing that these four things support the nation: the learning of the wise, the justice of the great, the prayers of the good, and the valor of the brave.”

Kent’s citizens express appreciation

By Ruth Epstein

KENT — Following tradition, the village streets were lined with spectators as the annual Memorial Day parade came through town Monday morning.

Flags held high, they cheered as veterans, firefighters and school children strutted proudly to honor those who gave their lives for their country.

Several stops were made along the route, at which three rounds of shotgun volleys were made at each, along with the playing of taps by members of the Kent Center School band.

The first stop was at St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church cemetery, where the pastor, the Rev. Richard Clark, gave a prayer. Next a group marched to the Veterans’ Memorial. Back to Main Street, many gathered to hear KCS student Ella Barrett read the Gettysburg Address at the Civil War monument A wreath was laid at several sites.

At the Kent Memorial Library, a prayer was recited by First Congregational Church pastor, the Rev. John Heeckt.

In a short presentation, First Selectman Martin Lindenmayer said, “We are here to honor and memorialize those who defended our country.”

He then listed all those from Kent who had lost their lives fighting in the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

He urged those who were going to the annual Kent Land Trust picnic following the parade to talk about those who gave their last full measure, as well as those who are



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Kent Center School student Ella Barrett recites the Gettysburg Address at the Civil War monument in Kent during the Memorial Day parade Monday.

currently serving around the country.

Bethany Keck sang the National Anthem, receiving loud applause.

The parade then proceed-

North Canaan gathers in gratitude

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — Memorial Day was met with pristine spring weather for the parade and ceremony in North Canaan the morning of May 26.

Hundreds of spectators lined Main Street as veterans, local officials, emergency service volunteers, baseball players, community members and the school band marched through town.

The procession concluded at the Doughboy statue, where everyone gathered to pay respects to fallen members of the armed services.

“This day, this ceremony and this parade is our way of

remembering,” said First Selectman Brian Ohler, Army veteran. “Each Memorial Day, America is reminded of the selfless and heroic individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving in our armed forces.”

Cora Grandy sang the National Anthem and the North Canaan Elementary School marching band performed The Marine’s Hymn.

Ken Merrill led the group in prayer before the ceremony ended with a rifle salute.

In the early afternoon, the remembrance continued with the unveiling of two new statues and VFW Couch Pipa Post 6851. One honored victims of Agent Orange and



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

The 4-H Club float rolls down Main Street in North Canaan en route to the Doughboy Statue.

the other for recipients of the Purple Heart.

“We as a nation are truly

thankful and eternally blessed to live underneath a blanket of freedom,” said Ohler.

Sharon honors fallen service members

By Mia Barnes

SHARON — On Monday morning at 9:30 a.m., Sharon residents took to Main Street in their best red, white and blue outfits to mark Memorial Day.

The parade route began from Sharon Center School, snaked down Main Street and ended across from the clocktower at the Veterans’ Memorial. Veterans in uniform marched at the front of the procession while the rest followed behind in antique cars.

Following the antique cars was the school band led by Ryan Minolli. Behind them, members of Sharon Playhouse proceeded with enthusiastic energy, holding a sign that read “Create community together.”

Young children rode their bicycles covered in various red, white and blue decor.

The Sharon Fire Department and EMS were the tail of the parade, driving in their respective vehicles. Watching



PHOTO BY MIA BARNES

Veterans of the armed forces prepare a large flag to be raised in Sharon May 26.

from both sides of the street, community members erupted in cheer at the sight of paradegoers.

Following the procession,

Bob Loucks addressed the crowd at the Veterans Memorial. Brain Kenny served as the chaplain for the second year in a row and Jim

Salisbury salutes on Memorial Day

By Alec Linden

SALISBURY — Throngs of Salisbury residents turned out in the long-awaited late May sunshine to honor fallen soldiers at the 2025 Memorial Day parade for a moment of solemn reflection before heading off to holiday cook-outs to celebrate the unofficial start of summer.

The procession began shortly after 10 a.m. at Scoville Memorial Library with only one errant motorist pulling out ahead of the entourage before zooming eastward and out of sight. A soundtrack of applause and barking dogs mingled with the steady rhythm of Salisbury Central School’s marching band as the uniformed Williams-Parsons American Legion Post 70 members led the parade down Main Street.

Several town groups sent members to march in the parade, including the Redhawks hockey team, Salisbury Association, Salisbury



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

The Memorial Day parade turns onto Route 41 toward the cemetery.

Visiting Nurses Association, Volunteer Ambulance Service, Hotchkiss Veterans Club, and Housatonic Child Care Center.

The Salisbury Winter Sports Association’s miniature ski jump float made a reappearance, this year accompanied by an inflatable yeti.

As the march hung a left

onto Route 41, spectators uprooted themselves from their viewing positions to follow and gather around the cemetery flagpole for a solemn ceremony helmed by legion member and selectman Christian Williams. The Rev. Heidi Truax offered the invocation, followed by local 7th grader Madeleine Carr’s recital of the Gettysburg Address, whose friends rushed up gushing with congratulations after she finished.

Jerry Baldwin read the Roll of Honored Dead, remembering Salisbury servicemen killed in the First and Second World Wars, Korea, and Vietnam, after which the legion members performed a rifle salute. Lloyd Wallingford’s performance of “God Bless America” and the Salisbury Band’s rendition of the national anthem both sparked audience accompaniment, and Tom Key read the 23rd Psalm.

The Rev. John A. Nelson orated a benediction that impelled the audience to dwell on a more peaceful future with a quote from the prophet Isaiah: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.”

Vietnam vet delivers moving words in Cornwall

By Riley Klein and Tom Brown

CORNWALL — Several ceremonies were held around Cornwall in recognition of Memorial Day.

On Monday morning, beneath vibrant blue skies, services began with a 9 a.m. ceremony at the North Cornwall Cemetery. At 10 a.m., the Seamans Memorial was held in West Cornwall at the covered bridge.

At 11 a.m., the parade marched through Cornwall Village. Stopping at the green, David Cadwell was the master of ceremony as well as the guest speaker.

Cadwell served in the Vietnam War as a medic.

He spoke of the day tragically struck his unit in the jungle. During a firefight, he



PHOTO BY TOM BROWN

Warren Stevens fires his musket on Memorial Day.

said, his squad was struck by artillery. His captain and three others died. He later returned to his platoon where his fellow troops had heard a medic died and expected it to be Cadwell.

“I relive that reunion with my band of brothers every

Memorial Day,” Cadwell said. “I stand in front of you all this Memorial Day as someone who has returned from the dead, speaking for those we memorialize today to remind you what is so obvious: It is good to be alive, and even better that we take the

Our Towns

Restoring lost Revolutionary War grave markers

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — On Sunday, May 25, Cornwall held a powerful ceremony to honor local veterans of the Revolutionary War.

At the cemetery on Route 4, about 25 attendees gathered to witness the placement of 10 grave markers. Bill Dinneen of the Cornwall Historical Society and Warren Stevens led the ceremony.

“These markers had gone missing from the cemetery, we don’t know when,” Dinneen said, showing six bronze and four cast iron markers that were recently restored and painted.

He explained the markers were found in bushes at the edge of the cemetery by Gene Swanson, of Washington Depot. It was unclear why they were removed from the gravestones, and Dinneen said there could be more elsewhere in the cemetery.

“Today we have 10 markers. We have 32 names” of buried Revolutionary War veterans, Dinneen said. “The bronze markers will go to ranked soldiers,” such as sergeants, and “the cast ones will go to the oldest” of the infantry soldiers.

The restoration process



Bill Dinneen, left, and Ivan Kotchoubey, age 7, place a recently restored grave marker at the headstone of David Mallery, a Revolutionary War veteran, in Cornwall Sunday, May 25.

included sandblasting, priming and painting. He was not certain, but Dinneen said the markers may have been originally placed by the government around World War I, at which time the original tombstones would have also been replaced with harder stone.

Stevens explained the symbolism of the markers: A big star in the middle represents one of the colonies,

13 little stars represent all the colonies, the years 1775 and 1783 show the duration of the war, the words “A Patriot’s Grave” and “E Pluribus Unum. From many, there is one,” he said.

Attendees, some of them descendants of the veterans, assisted in the placement of the markers.

Susan Hellmann, of Cornwall, said she would be placing a restored marker at the

grave of “my great, great, great grandfather Noah Harrison” who served in the Revolution. “I feel like I’m going to cry. It’s just very touching, very powerful,” she said.

Dinneen read the rank, company and lifespan of each

veteran as the markers were being placed, then Stevens fired a blast from his musket. When all the markers were set, the names of the other Revolutionary veterans buried in town were read aloud. The ceremony was held

as part of Memorial Day remembrances in Cornwall. It also marked the first official event in town for the nation’s 250th birthday with more to come.

As the occasion came to an end, a light rain began.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Susan Hellmann, of Cornwall, placed a bronze marker at the grave of her ancestor Noah Harrison, who served in the Revolutionary War.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Ron Dower, HVRHS Class of 1960, was interviewed by a team of students Monday, May 19. From left: Katie Crane, Ava McDougall, Olivia Brooks and Dower.

Passing down memories from one generation to the next

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Housatonic Valley Regional High School students interviewed alumni for an ongoing oral history project on Monday, May 19.

Five subjects were on hand: Ron Dower, Pat Mechare, Tracy Atwood, Woods Sinclair and John Berti.

Interviewed remotely were: Steve Blass, Dick Gustafson, Joanne Gustafson, Suzanne Ullram, Richard Donati, Tom Segalla, Ken

Harring and Luis Capuchino — an exchange student from Spain in 1958-59.

Vermilyea said the oral history project has existed as a classroom assignment since he started at HVRHS 30 years ago.

The project was formally established in 2017. He said the interviews didn’t happen in 2020 because of disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic.

On May 19 in the cafeteria the interviewees chatted among themselves while the students, all juniors,

got themselves organized. Vermilyea buzzed around the room checking to see if laptops were working and everyone was prepared.

Dower was interviewed by a team of Katie Crane, Ava McDougall and Olivia Brooks.

They were working off a list of questions dealing with life as an HVRHS student. There were questions about cliques and popular music, as well as biographical information.

The interviews were recorded.



PHOTO BY TOM BROWN

Trans Am Classic returns

Lime Rock Park hosted the Trans Am Memorial Day Classic from May 23-26. For the second year in a row, Paul Menard was the victor of the series.



PHOTOS BY TOM BROWN

Slalom series comes to Cornwall

Competitive kayakers and canoers hit the Housatonic River in West Cornwall last weekend for the New England Slalom Series. The whitewater slalom series welcomes contenders of all ages and ability levels. The Covered Bridge event is the fourth in the NESS 2025 season, which stretches from April to October with races in six different states.



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GALA

Continued from Page A1



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

Library Assistant Cinzi Lavin shows off the Angela Cummings earrings as Auctioneer August Uribe calls out the \$4,000 winning bid.

BIRDS

Continued from Page A1

federal scientific advisors, including epidemiologists from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s wildlife division.

“At this time, we are following all regulations given to us by the state and USDA and are constantly monitoring how the disease is progressing in order to keep our birds safe,” Connor said.

That includes “strict biosecurity measures” including donning personal protective equipment, or PPE, when working with the birds, limiting vehicle access to the site, asking visitors if they raise chickens or have recently visited a park around wild geese, and requiring visitors to dip their shoes into a sanitizing agent before entering the grounds.

“We want them to leave whatever they have at the door,” he said, referring to potential contaminants.

Despite best efforts, there is only so much that can be done to protect the open bird habitats from bird droppings, including partial netting, but that does not cover the vast grounds or the waterbodies.

“We are not in a major flyway, so we don’t have the influx of waterfowl like they do on the coast,” the aviculture director said. “But we do have swans that are not under netting so there is a risk. All it takes is one bird coming in contact with the disease to infect a waterbody.”

To limit avian visitors, staff alternates feeding schedules so non-resident birds, including wild mallards from nearby Bantam Lake, don’t get into the habit of free meals. They are staging harmless scare tactics, such as balloons, kites and lights on timers, to frighten the birds away. At one time, an estimated 200 wild mallards “came in to eat the feed ... now it’s just a handful,” Connor said.

Still, the threat of devastating consequences looms large.

“There are 600 birds that we have here. If one was ever to test positive, we’d have major, major issues on our hands,” said Connor. “We are working with birds that have some of the most important bloodlines/genetics. The loss of the birds would be bad for the long-term survival of the species.”

‘There is always a risk’

At the Sharon Audubon Center, which is home to the center’s Wildlife Rehabilitation Clinic, raptor aviaries are home to several rescued birds of prey, including Lia, a 20-plus-year-old bald eagle that suffered severe wing fractures, and Norabo, a turkey vulture which has been cared for at Sharon Audubon for a few years and likes to



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Sunny Kellner, the wildlife rehabilitation manager at Sharon Audubon Center, said protective measures are in place to protect the center’s ambassador birds of prey, including Norabo, a turkey vulture, from potentially deadly avian influenza. Norabo, injured as a fallen chick, has been a resident at Sharon Audubon for about two years.

show off his impressive wing span to visitors.

“The challenge here is that we are next to a lake,” which attracts waterfowl to the area, explained Sunny Kellner, Sharon Audubon’s wildlife rehabilitation manager.

As if on cue, a wild raven flew by overhead, but kept its distance from the center’s aviaries, which are partially protected from the elements and the droppings of birds from above.

“There is always a risk to provide them with the necessary exposure to the elements that they need,” said Kellner.

Since the beginning of the first major outbreak of H5N1 in the United States in 2021, Sharon Audubon has instituted strict biosecurity protocols for the care of its resident education birds that were developed in accordance with guidelines and in collaboration with fellow rehabilitators and renowned wildlife veterinarians, Kellner said.

“We continue to follow CDC guidelines and state guidelines provided by DEEP regarding the handling of rehabilitation birds in our wildlife clinic, the protection of our resident education birds and personnel, and providing advice to the public who may find sick and injured birds,” she said.

“We haven’t seen the virus here yet, although there have been a few potential cases, but we’ve been instructed by DEEP not to take them in if they are showing avian flu symptoms.”

Because Sharon Audubon has such a small rehabilitation clinic, it is unable to quarantine higher risk patients, Kellner explained. And because symptoms of bird flu often mirror symptoms of head trauma, she noted, diagnosis is “not always cut and dry.”

As a result, “We have made the difficult decision to focus the majority of our rehabilitation efforts on our niche species of songbirds and refer most waterfowl

The Hotchkiss Library itself is not directly threatened by federal funding cuts for libraries, proposed by the Trump Administration’s plan to curtail federal spending. Some of its essential services, though, would be impacted if the state Library of Connecticut was to have its funding redacted, which happened earlier this year but was reinstated without explanation.

Interlibrary loans, for example, would be affected, disrupting an essential service for small libraries like Sharon’s and others in the region in a loss which

would be felt on a daily basis, Hachmeister explained. While the funding for this year is secured, she explained, the Trump Administration’s federal spending plan demarks “a big fat zero” for the Institute of Museum and Library Services — the federal body that administers funding for state libraries — if it were to be adopted on Oct. 1.

The Hotchkiss Library’s next fundraising opportunity is its annual Book Signing event, to be held on the afternoon and evening of Friday, Aug. 1.

be and are worried about HPAI.”

The common eider is classified as “Near Threatened” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, which indicates that the species is not currently endangered but faces a high risk of becoming threatened due to increasing predation pressure from white-tailed eagles and its reduced biological capacity to reproduce.

Ripley, Haug said, “does what it can to exclude wild birds from its grounds. That is the best they can do. And it is possible because much of their area is netted.”

He further noted that it is potentially possible to keep avian influenza out of aviaries and zoos that are cordoned off.

“However, in the wild, there is very little we can do to stop the spread of HPAI through wild birds. It is something that has evolved with the birds and will continue to evolve over time.”

A bleak outlook for fall

Brace for an even more difficult fall, and not just for birds, warned Haug.

“Avian influenza is an influenza virus and they mutate all the time, that is their evolutionary strategy and why you need a different flu shot every year,” said Haug. Plus, the influenza viruses thrive better in colder weather.

If there is one saving grace for Ripley’s birds, noted Connor, it is that the conservancy grounds are not open to the public in the winter.

Researchers, said Haug, fear that avian flu could eventually jump from birds to humans.

“All of the historic pandemic level flu events that killed millions of humans originated as an animal flu and then mutated,” the DEEP wildlife biologist explained. “So, yes, researchers are concerned, because that is the nature of influenza viruses. They mutate and adapt to different species.”

MIRA

Continued from Page A1

the May 14 board meeting, numerous leaders from the Northwest Corner urged MIRA-DA to reconsider the private sale.

Torrington Mayor Elinor Carbone spoke of the risks that exist when municipalities lose local control. “We have every confidence that the public option is the most responsible way to control costs.” She continued, “We stand at the ready to proceed with the establishment of this regional waste authority.”

Sharon First Selectman Casey Flanagan said, “The short-term financial implication for MDA may be unbalanced in the two proposals, but the public option will ensure price stability for the Northwest Corner towns for many years.” He said the private sale to USA would likely eliminate any hope for a public option in the future. “I can’t see another facility being permitted and we would be beholden to whoever the incumbent is.”

“This whole process has been extremely discouraging,” said Salisbury First Selectman Curtis Rand. “I thought that the money partly came from us as 30- and 40-year members of MIRA, from our taxpayers. It’s not from the state as far as I know.”

“Maintaining the status quo in Torrington with the transfer station is the way to go,” as evidenced by the unified voice of leaders in the region, said North Canaan First Selectman Brian Ohler. “If [USA is] given the chance to purchase that Torrington Transfer Station, they now own the entire trash cycle from residential pick, commercial pickup, streetside pickup to the hauling and now owning the transfer station.”

Cornwall First Selectman Gordon Ridgway noted, “I think most people up here would like to see competition. Have options. If things are privatized those options decrease.”

Falls Village First Selectman Dave Barger echoed the sentiments of his colleagues and emphasized the importance of public oversight. “I am concerned about the accountability and transparency and I think a public option keeps that alive.”

In support of the sale, Todd Arcelaschi, mayor of Winchester, explained his town opted out of the regional effort and signed with USA earlier this year. He said the public option has gotten more expensive every year, from \$86 per ton in 2019 to \$130 per ton in 2025. “These costs are back breaking,” he said. “We need to keep those fees reasonable.”

Edward Spinella, attor-



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

The sign at Torrington Transfer Station’s entrance.

ney representing USA, said, “MIRA Dissolution Authority is to do two things: Have an orderly transition of the transfer station and, two, preserve assets and reserves. Our proposal does both of those things.”

Spinella continued, “This MIRA Dissolution Authority is not a regulator. It’s not for you to decide whether or not USA or any other company has too much market control.”

Following public comment, MIRA-DA board members entered into a nearly four-hour executive session. The board unanimously accepted the term sheet from USA.

Board member Michael Looney said, “This decision today is a difficult one given the many different interests that this board needs to balance.”

He said MIRA-DA requires the funds from the sale to “pay toward ameliorating our longstanding environmental impacts from our legacy of solid waste management.”

“We do need to recognize the fiscal and environmental benefits of having a larger amount of funds in the MDA reserve fund,” Looney said.

In its decision, MIRA-DA approved up to \$50,000 to reimburse NHCOC for its legal fees accrued while developing the previous agreement.

Despite the setback, the City of Torrington held its public hearing for the formation of the Northwest Regional Resource Authority on May 19.

Per the minutes of the hearing, Raymond Drew, director of public works for Torrington, stated that establishing the NRRA offers long-term benefits for both the City and the broader region. He emphasized that it remains a worthwhile initiative, even though the City will not own any of the facilities.

In a follow up conversation May 21, Ohler said he is still in favor of a public option and NHCOC is planning a special meeting to discuss what comes next.

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Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

THEATER: MATTHEW KRETA

A new season and a new director at The Sharon Playhouse

The Sharon Playhouse is welcoming a new Managing Director for its 2025 season. Meghan Flanagan has taken the mantle from Rodney Christensen. This change went into effect on May 21, right before the Playhouse starts off its season with the 2025 Annual Spotlight Gala.

Meghan Flanagan stepped into the role of managing director officially on May 21, 2025, replacing Rodney Christensen after two and a half years. Flanagan was previously a board member and treasurer of the Sharon Playhouse from 2021 to 2024. She has been an active member of the Sharon community since moving there in 2004, having held positions on the Sharon Connect Task force and Equus Effect. She currently also serves as a board member of the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon.

When asked what she thought is most exciting about this year's season at the Sharon Playhouse, Flanagan expressed a zeal for the variety of performances that the Playhouse is putting on in her inaugural year. "We're thrilled to have such a vibrant and diverse lineup this year," said Flanagan. Not only does the lineup of the main stage have a show for everyone, but the theater's Youth Program is more ambitious than ever and gearing up for several performances throughout the year. After the powerhouse productions of "Million Dollar Quartet" and "Annie" in the summer, to round out the Mainstage season, there will be two plays to look forward to: the hilarious and heartwarming "Sylvia," by A.R. Gurney, directed by Colin Hanlon, and the thrilling mystery of Agatha Christie's "The Mousetrap," directed by Hunter Foster. Additionally, the



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Savannah Stevenson and Sharon Playhouse Youth Ensemble from Sharon Playhouse Gala 2024



PHOTO PROVIDED

New managing director of the Sharon Playhouse, Meghan Flanagan

playhouse will debut its new pre-professional program for 15-20 year-olds with the Launchpad Company's production of "Once Upon a Mattress," which "promises to be a delightful take on the classic musical," Flanagan said. Additionally, the YouthStage season includes some amazing productions like "Finding Nemo Jr.," "101 Dalmatians Kids," and Sharon Playhouse Stars—a great mix of joy, imagination, and talent.

The highlight for Flanagan so far, however, is the upcoming Annual



PHOTO BY ALY MORRISSEY

Broadway talent Julia Murney, left, and Kate Baldwin, right, at Sharon Playhouse Gala 2024.

Spotlight Gala. Having been a volunteer at the Playhouse for many years, she is excited to share this year's Gala with the community from her new position. "This is very full circle for me," Flanagan said. The Gala is set for Saturday, May 31 and promises a robust show and after-party. The Gala is the Sharon Playhouse's main fundraiser and is one of its most important events of the year. The show on the Olsen Stage will consist of Playhouse favorites: stars set for the main stage later this year and local musicians. Tickets are available for

both the show and for drinks with the show. Tickets for the sit-down dinner are sold out.

The honoree of this year's gala is President of the Board Emily Soell. Soell has served as board president since 2017 but has been a member of the board and an incredible contributor to the Sharon Playhouse for more than 20 years. "She has been not only just an incredible leader, but an incredible friend of the Playhouse," Flanagan said.

For more on the Sharon Playhouse, as well as tickets for this year's Annual Spotlight Gala, visit www.sharonplayhouse.org.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Filmmaker Peter Hutchison

FILM: MIKE COBB

Neoliberalism exposed: 'The Invisible Doctrine' at BIFF

On Saturday, May 31 at 4:30 p.m., "The Invisible Doctrine: The Secret History of Neoliberalism" will screen at the Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington as part of The Berkshire International Film Festival.

Based on the book by the same title, the documentary explores the work of public intellectual and author George Monbiot ("Out of the Wreckage", "Regenesi"), and is the latest project from award-winning documentary filmmakers Peter Hutchison and Lucas Sabeau ("Requiem for the American Dream (ft. Noam Chomsky)").

Augmented by AI generated graphics and animation, the film begins with Monbiot asking, "Neoliberalism: do you know what it is?" Largely defined by competition, neoliberalism pits people against one another in a system where financial success is encouraged and failure is shameful.

But Hutchinson says it doesn't have to be that way.

"We're seeing neoliberalism on a very extreme level right now. With Trump, there's chaos, deconstruction of the administrative state, flooding the zone, eroding people's faith in institutions and democracy itself. This economic growth model is incompatible with the survival of the earth. We need to look at things in a different way."

As a documentary filmmaker and professor at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, Hutchinson is a skilled storyteller aware of the narratives we've internalized. His film suggests other models.

"There's an experiment in Amsterdam called true cost pricing with the option to pay the standard or a slightly higher price that considers the environment, public health or labor practices. People will

Continued on next page



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Reverse trolling, salty guides and smash burgers

I went back to the Salmon River in and around Pulaski — pronounced Pulask-EYE — New York for a couple of days in late April.

My mentor in these things, Gary Dodson, is my main Catskill fishing buddy. Last year he convinced me to go to the famous Salmon River and chase steelhead, and I actually caught one on a fly rod.

I did not do this on this trip. But I did catch one. More on this in a moment.

Day one we hit it at dawn, and it was cold at 35 degrees, plus a gentle breeze from the Arctic Circle that made everything just so.

The river was high enough at about 1,400 cubic feet per second to make for some tricky wading.

We covered almost all the Douglaston Salmon Run area on foot and tried everything we could think of, Gary with his two-handed rods and me with a single hand 8 weight.

The result was nil.

After a solid six hours of this we stumbled back to the truck and returned to our little lodge, where we ate something and then we made a critical mistake.

We both decided to rest our eyes for just a little while.

That was at about 2 p.m. We both woke up around 5:30 p.m., and quickly concluded that the strong, manly course of action was to skip



TANGLED LINES
PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

suiting up again and instead go to the restaurant at the Tailwater Lodge in nearby Altmar, where I resumed my study of the American Cheeseburger platter.

They call it a “smash burger” now, but it’s the same basic thing, and it’s still very good.

Upon our return I watched an exploitation flick from 1974 called “TNT Jackson.” Gary, who has no taste in these matters, sacked out.

Day two was considerably warmer but we still got skunked. However, we didn’t go at dawn so by early afternoon we were not completely knackered.

We had mangled a bit of lunch and were contemplating the afternoon’s strategy when Gary’s phone rang.

It was Salmon River guide Marcus McGivney calling to say he had the afternoon free and did we want to go for a boat ride.

We did.
This was a first for me. I have never fished with a guide, or from a drift boat.

We set off from the fly-fishing only area, keeping an eye out as the radar showed some slight unpleasantness developing over Lake Ontario.

Marcus has been



Gary Dodson worked the Salmon River on a cold morning in April.

doing this a while, and it shows.

The first thing I noticed was that he has a version of the Grateful Dead logo from the “Steal Your Face” album on the side of the boat. It’s got a fish on it and the lettering reads “Steel Your Face,” not “Steal.”

The first thing he noticed was the flow was greatly reduced. He checked his phone and sure enough, the release from the dam upstream was way down from the morning.

We set off and fooled around with our fly rods a while, getting still more bupkis.

Then Marcus asked if we wanted to try plug-ging.

We did.
Gary had described this to me, but it was so far outside my experience he might as well have been lecturing on contemporary dance trends in Paraguay.

Marcus described the following method as “reverse trolling,” and that’s about as close to it as I can get in a family newspaper.

Here’s the gist. There

are three sturdy rods equipped with level line reels in holders on the port and starboard sides of the boat, plus one over the bow.

The plugs are big nasty-looking lures with treble hooks. They are let out to specific lengths — 20 feet, 30 feet — in front of the boat.

The sports — that’s Gary and yours truly — sat up front watching the rods. The guide — Marcus — manipulated the boat as the plugs wiggled and shimmed around downstream.

In regular trolling a lure or bait is towed behind a boat.

This is the opposite. Eventually a steelhead gets fed up with looking at the plug shimmying and wiggling around and hits it.

And then it’s pure pandemonium. One of the sports has to deal with the rod that’s got the fish on while the other reels in the other rods so everything doesn’t get all tangled up.

Gary had done this before so when the first one went off on his side

he got it in with a minimum of fuss.

When it was my turn I did everything wrong. We still managed to get the fish in but as Marcus said afterwards, “You have to forget everything you know about fishing.”

The physical strength involved in maneuvering the boat around with a set of oars, no motor, is considerable. Then there’s the monitoring of the three plugs. Add to that his knowledge of the river’s topography, plus the habits of steelhead, and you’ve got what separates the modestly-talented amateur — me — from the pro — Marcus.

As we moved from spot to spot, he also spoke at length about restoration efforts along the river. He hailed other guides in other boats, chattered with anglers on the banks, occasionally offering some quick tactical advice, and kept up a stream of commentary that was extremely entertaining.

It was also pretty salty. You’ll have to wait for my memoirs for the unpurgated version.

If you want a memorable experience Marcus does business as Grateful Adventures LLC, 352-348-7721 or Mmcgivney@paulsmiths.edu.

...BIFF

Continued from previous page

pay the higher price knowing what they’re buying has a direct impact,” he said.

“If we can expose a broader range of communities to all of these amazing ideas and people were able to adopt two or three of them, we could really make some fantastic movement forward,” he added.

“Human beings are the most cooperative species on the planet, and evolutionarily that has been an imperative for our survival. Otherwise, we wouldn’t be here. We’re not advocating an end to capitalism as much as we are re-envisioning our relationship to capitalism. There are plenty of models within the structures of capitalism that make people happier, strengthen community and make people feel like they have agency. The more people invest in a community the more they feel like they belong to it, which is one of the most important antidotes to neoliberalism,” he said.

The screening of “The

Invisible Doctrine” will be followed by a Q&A session. For tickets to this film and more during BIFF, visit: biffna.org

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Books and backwoods with Tim Hunter

‘What Are You Reading?’ explores the lives of our local community through the books they love. In this first installment, we meet Tim Hunter, Stewardship Director of the Sharon Land Trust, whose passion for nature and science fiction reveals the deep connections between landscape, leadership, and imagination.

Stewardship director of The Sharon Land Trust, Tim Hunter monitors, maintains, preserves, and protects approximately 4,000 acres of land held in perpetuity with the organization.

Nature has always been a part of Hunter’s story. “When things got too tough, when things got too loud, I’d always take some time and walk in the woods,” Hunter said. “The outdoors has always been my quiet, happy place.”

After graduating from college with a computer science degree, however, Tim Hunter joined his family’s Sharon-based company Magnamusic Distributors, importing sheet music and instruments. He soon became president of the company, where his work involved setting up computer systems, traveling internationally, and shaking hands with vendors and customers. After six years, though, the family sold the company leaving Hunter to wonder what was next.

As luck would have it, due to his computer science expertise and experience in nature, The Sharon Land Trust reached out, requesting



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Tim Hunter, right, stewardship director of The Sharon Land Trust giving pointers to a Hotchkiss student.

What Are You Reading?

Olivia Geiger



his assistance in mapping out a trail system using geographic information systems (GIS). Hunter embraced this unfamiliar territory and built a trail on the back of Red Mountain, along White Hollow Road, as a connector between the Hamlet and Mary Moore preserve.

Hunter does not work alone. There are two other staff members: Carolyn Klocker, Executive Director, and Harry White, Conservation Director. The magic of The Sharon Land Trust is that almost 90% of the work is volunteer based. About 60 - 70 volunteers join Hunter in the woods for workdays where they do everything from removing invasive species to building and maintaining trails. Most importantly they have fun.

Hunter expressed his gratitude by saying, “We would not be where we

are today without them. It’s pretty extraordinary just how much the community does to help us to continue our mission.”

After a day of work, Hunter reads for about an hour before bed. Often, he leans toward science fiction or archaeological novels. Currently he is reading “The Pendergast Series,” a bestselling thriller/mystery book series by

Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child. These stories, like the woods, are a wonderful distraction from the human world.

Interested in volunteering with The Sharon Land Trust? Contact: info@sharonlandtrust.org

Olivia Geiger is an MFA student at Western Connecticut State University and a lifelong resident of Lakeville.

THEATER: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

A cultural journey at The Stissing Center

The Stissing Center in Pine Plains is presenting “Trekking Mexico” on Saturday, May 31, at 2 p.m. Performed by the acclaimed ensemble Mexico Beyond Mariachi, this interactive multimedia show promises an unforgettable journey through Mexico’s rich musical and dance traditions.

Perfect for all ages, “Trekking Mexico” blends dynamic storytelling with vibrant music. From the ancient rhythms of Tenochtitlan to the lively jaranas of Veracruz, the troupe will present dance styles from regions across the country.

Founded in 2005, Mexico Beyond Mariachi is a collective of



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mexico Beyond Mariachi explores dance and music across Mexico.

musicians, dancers, and teaching artists dedicated to sharing the depth and diversity of Mexico’s folk heritage. After

the performance, stick around for a free hands-on workshop at 3:30 p.m., where families can explore traditional Mexican

folk arts in an engaging, interactive setting.

Tickets and details at thestissingcenter.org or call 518-771-3339.

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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MAY 29

Art Workshop with Peter Cusack

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

On Thursday, May 29, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., join West Cornwall artist and art teacher Peter Cusack for a drawing and watercolor workshop. The workshop is free, and materials will be provided. Registration is required.

scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/14614655

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 30

Opening Weekend at PS21

PS21, Pavilion Theater, 2980 Route 66, Chatham, N.Y.

On Friday, May 30, and Saturday, May 31, at 8 pm, see Hatched Ensemble (US Premiere).

South African choreographer Mamela Nyamza expands her acclaimed work Hatched with ten diverse ballet dancers to explore identity, tradition, and gender norms. Blending African and Western forms, the piece is accompanied by opera and traditional music. A powerful, poetic work challenging the boundaries of dance.

Note: Contains partial nudity.

Dine Out for a Cause at The Lantern Inn in Wassaic, NY

The Lantern Inn, 10 Main St., Wassaic, N.Y. wassaiclanterninn.com

Join HVA from 5:30 to 9 p.m. on May 30 at The Lantern Inn! Grab some pizza and

Last week's WotW

C	H	I	M	P
T	Y	P	E	D
A	P	P	L	Y
P	U	P	P	Y
P	O	P	P	Y

drinks for a great cause in this beautiful setting.A portion of the night's proceeds will go toward Housatonic Valley Association's conservation work in eastern New York and beyond.

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 PM.

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 Wesselmann, 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

JUNE 1

Trails Talk: Explore the Trails of the Sharon Land Trust

Sharon, Conn.

On Sunday, June 1 at 4 p.m., join Executive Director Carolyn Klocker for an inside look at the Sharon Land Trust's preserves and trails. Learn about scenic highlights, trail difficulty, parking, and the history behind these local gems.

Register: hotchkisslibrary.libcal.com/event/14337610

Community Jazz Vespers Service at Sharon United Methodist Church

112 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn.

Sharon United Methodist Church will have a community Jazz Vespers service on Sunday, June 1 st at 4:00 p.m. Jazz duo Nick Moran and Carol Leven will offer jazz musical selections reflecting on the role of moms and dads accompanied by a brief meditation from Rev. Dr. Anna Crews Camphouse. A free-will offering to support the musical offerings requested, but no one will be turned away. All are welcome.

Music Mountain 96th Season Opening Benefit Concert & Reception

Gordon Hall, Music Mountain, 225 Music Mountain Road, Falls Village, Conn. musicmountain.org

At 3 p.m. on June 1, Benjamin Hochman & Friends from the Met Opera Play Beethoven and Brahms. There will be a free reception with the artists immediately following the concert, on the Great Lawn, in front of Gordon Hall.

Libiamo! — Berkshire Opera Festival 2025 Gala

Lenox Club, 111 Yukon Ave, Lenox, Mass.

On Sunday, June 1, at 4 p.m., join BOF for an elegant evening of music, cocktails, dinner, and auctions honoring William E. Briggs, featuring soprano Christine Lyons. Proceeds support BOF's 10th Anniversary Season.

More info: berkshireoperafestival.org/gala2025

JUNE 3

The White Hart Speaker Series

The White Hart Inn, 15 Undermountain Rd., Salisbury, Conn.

On Tuesday, June 3, 6:30 p.m.

Presented by Oblong Books in partnership with the White Hart Inn & Scoville Library. Richard Russo discusses Life and Art with Joe Donahue.

Tickets: \$15

In Bloom: Flowers and Still Lifes

tyte Gallery, 3280 Franklin Ave (2nd Floor), Millbrook, N.Y.

Photography by Lori Adams, a photographer and gardener with nearly 50 years of experience. June 3 to 28, 2025.Opening Reception: Saturday, June 7, 3 to 6 p.m. Gallery Hours: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Closed Tuesdays) More info: tytegallery.com | 845-367-3108

JUNE 4

Gorgeous Knitted Fabrics Workshop with Bruce Weinstein

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

Starting June 4, for three Wednesdays, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., enjoy a workshop with knitting expert and designer Bruce Weinstein. Learn how to create beautiful textiles including two-color woven ribs, quilted knitting, and plaids. Yes, you can knit plaid! Registration is required. scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/14506575

JUNE 5

Dine Out for a Cause at The White Hart

The White Hart Inn, 15 Undermountain Rd., Salisbury, Conn. whitehartinn.com

Join us at The White Hart for a night to remember! A portion of the night's proceeds will go toward

Housatonic Valley Association's conservation work. Dine at this classic Connecticut inn and restaurant on the village green in historic Salisbury while supporting HVA's mission to protect the lands and waters of the Housatonic River Valley.

Meet Service Dogs & Puppies-in-Training with ECAD

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

Join us on Thursday, June 5, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., for a dog date with Educated Canines Assisting with Disabilities (ECAD). See a service dog in action, learn how they transform lives, meet adorable puppies, and hear about ECAD's volunteer weekend-fostering program for pups-in-training. All ages welcome. Registration requested. scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/14457259

Seeing Haiti Through a Different Lens

As part of a Human Rights Class project, two HVRHS seniors will host an event to raise awareness of Haitian gang violence on Tuesday, June 10, from 5 to 8 p.m. Titled "Seeing Haiti Through A Different Lens," guests will be able to purchase Haitian made art and handcrafts, local food, and hear from guest speakers about what they have been doing to help refugee families. Proceeds benefit The Haiti Project.Free admission. RSVP at tinyurl.com/bdhhbfcx7

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. McCarthy acolyte Roy
5. Ancient Korean chiefdoms
10. Not soft
14. Jai __, sport
15. Philosophy
16. Do what you're told
17. Gaffe
18. Widely known and esteemed
19. Amusement park attraction
20. Popular comic strip
22. Usually has a lid
23. American sportscaster
24. Lung fibrosis
27. General's assistant (abbr.)
30. Pouch
31. Upset
32. Partner to hem
35. Astronomy unit of distance
37. Witch
38. Gradually disappear
39. Regions
40. Possesses
41. Body parts
42. A way to comprehend
43. Defraud
44. Sandwich type
45. Expression of disappointment
46. Popular Dodge truck model
47. The 17th letter of the Greek alphabet
48. Soviet Socialist Republic
49. Songs to a beloved
52. Custom
55. Partner to cheese
56. West Indies trees
60. Member of a Semitic people
61. Plant that originated vegetatively
63. Squandered one's money
64. Ethiopian river
65. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
66. Acquire by one's efforts
67. Irish goddess
68. Hungarian village
69. Cereal grasses

7. About blood
8. Benign tumors
9. Move one's head
10. Hours (Spanish)
11. Hebrew calendar month
12. Advise someone
13. Colors clothes
21. The sun does it
23. Concealed
25. City of Angels hoops team (abbr.)
26. Droop
27. Away from one another
28. Challenges
29. A harsh scraping sound
32. Attaches to a wall
33. Capital of Ethiopia: __ Ababa
34. German river
36. Disappointed
37. Star Wars character Solo
38. Supervises flying
40. Not mass-produced
41. Nonsense
43. Automobile
44. Hogshead (abbr.)

46. Soak in water
47. Flower cluster
49. Romanian city
50. A parent is often one
51. Fencing sword
52. Body part
53. Region
54. Farm building
57. Ali's surname at birth
58. Waxy bird beak covering
59. Stiff bristles
61. VCR button
62. Small amount

May 22 Solution

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

Word of the Week

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

1. Syn. party, scheduled occasion

2. A favorite game of retrievers

3. Used to slay a vampire

4. One of the five senses

5. Regional trash efforts discarded

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

May 22 Solution

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

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Our Towns

North Canaan approves budgets, mill rate remains unchanged Falls Village budget vote set for June 6

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — A Town Meeting Wednesday, May 21, ratified the 2025-26 budgets for the town and elementary school.

Following the votes, the Board of Finance set the mill rate for 2025-26 at 24.75, the same as 2024-25.

Brian Allyn moderated the 13-minute meeting and read the agenda items into the record: the first vote would be for the municipal budget, the second would be for the education budget.

A third item regarding the resident trooper was removed from the agenda.

“Action on the proposed resident trooper contract will not be taken tonight. No action due to lack of contract,” Allyn said.

For the town budget vote, Christian Allyn motioned to vote by secret ballot. Stacey Dodge seconded. Residents proceeded to write “yes” or “no” on paper to place in a box.

Bunny McGuire and Patricia Keilty counted the ballots. Keilty announced the

budget was approved: “We have a total of 44 yeses and a total of 10 no’s.”

The North Canaan Elementary School budget was voted by vocal “aye” or “nae.” It passed unanimously.

The town budget totals \$3,239,732, a reduction of \$3,204, or -0.1% from last year’s budget.

The NCES budget totals \$4,767,136.46, an increase of

\$231,023.76, or 5.09%, compared to last year.

The 2025-26 Region One budget passed by referendum May 6. North Canaan’s assessment is \$5,620,587, an increase of \$62,282 or 1.09%.

Regarding the resident trooper’s contract vote, after the meeting First Selectman Brian Ohler stated, “A date will be set once we have the new contract.”

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The public hearing on the proposed spending plans for 2025-26 drew about 40 residents to the Emergency Services Center Wednesday, May 21.

Board of Education Chair Pat Mechare went through the Lee H. Kellogg School proposal and First Selectman Dave Barger handled the municipal plan.

At the May 12 Board of Finance meeting the board reduced the Board of Education’s bottom line by \$10,000 and the Board of Selectmen’s by \$37,498.

One reduction in the municipal spending plan was in the legal line for the Planning and Zoning Commission. At the hearing, P&Z chair Greg Marlowe asked that some or all of the funds be put back in the spending plan, arguing that once a completed application is accepted the commission has 65 days to make a decision. If no decision is made, the application is considered approved.

He said the commission often needs a legal opinion and that takes time. If the commission has to ask the selectmen and the finance board for additional funds to cover the legal cost, they

run into problems with the 65-day deadline.

Marlowe also asked for funds to be restored to the P&Z zoning enforcement officer/planner line.

Andrea Downs asked that \$20,000 be restored to the Truck Reserve account. She said the town crew chief, and her husband, Tim Downs routinely saves the town thousands of dollars by performing in-house repairs that keep older vehicles running, but this arrangement won’t last forever.

Peter Jensen rose several times with overall questions about the town’s financial health but his point was consistent. He is opposed to higher taxes.

The finance board met Thursday, May 22 and added \$1,000 to the P&Z legal line.

The spending plans for the town budget meeting Friday, June 6 are:

Municipal spending plan totals \$2,422,826, an increase of \$94,138 or 4.00%.

The spending plan for Kellogg is \$2,390,265, an increase of \$136,673 or 6.06%.

The Region One budget passed earlier in May, and the assessment for Falls Village is \$1,543,685, an increase of \$126,422 or 8.92%.

Total education spending would be \$3,933,950, an increase of \$263,095 or 7.17%.

Salisbury’s mill rate remains flat at 11

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — After a quick meeting Wednesday, May 21, the Board of Finance voted unanimously to keep the mill rate for 2025-26 at 11 mills, the same as 2024-25.

The spending plans for the town and Salisbury Central School were approved unanimously, 26-0, at a town meeting Wednesday, May 14.

Comptroller Joe Cleaveland said in an email Thursday, May 22, that the finance board was able to cover the increased spending without a mill rate increase by using undesignated surplus funds combined with higher tax revenues from a \$25 million

increase in the grand list and from increases in building fees and investment income.

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% compared to last year.

Total town education spending is therefore \$11,678,241, an increase of \$734,289 or 6.71%.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Gordon Gustafson had Christine Gevert’s nature photos for sale at the tag sale at Trinity Episcopal, May 24

Shopping at Trinity Lime Rock

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — The participants couldn’t remember precisely, but the consensus was the last Memorial Day weekend tag sale at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lakeville was about 10 years ago.

It rained off and on all day Saturday, May 24, so the sale, originally planned to be outside, was moved indoors.

Immediately upon entering, a shopper had the opportunity to pick up a copy of “The Lime Rock Cook Book of Trinity Church.”

This 1981 edition adds then-contemporary recipes to the editions of 1897 and 1951.

Entries include:

- Mystery Pickle
- Spinach Soup
- Rabbit Fricassee
- Ancestral Sauce for Plum Pudding

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NORTH CANAAN, CT

TOWNWIDE TAG SALE: Sat June 14th & Sun June 15th in North Canaan, CT. Spots available at Lawrence Field. To register your spot at home or at the field for \$10/weekend go to www.NorthCanaanEventsCommittee.org for more information.

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