



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Each day more than 20 workmen spend long days reestablishing the safety of Route 44 by decreasing the angle of the north slope, improving the drainage through the corridor, and replacing three dry-rubble masonry retaining walls with two new architectural concrete retaining walls. Left, Amy Hare, DOT chief engineer for Project 97-95 explaining to Norfolk resident Avice Meehan how the temporary earth retaining system works.

# DOT accelerates progress on Route 44, eyes 2026 completion

By Jennifer Almquist

NORFOLK — Construction of the massive retaining wall being built on Route 44 is coming along ahead of schedule.

Amy Hare, Connecticut Department of Transportation chief engineer on Project 97-95, was happy to report that due to some design

changes, the project planned over five years has been reduced to two years with an expected completion in September 2026.

DOT Commissioner Garrett Eucalitto traveled to Norfolk on Thursday, May 29, for a rainy morning site visit to highlight the significant progress of DOT Project 97-95. He met in Norfolk

Town Hall with First Selectman Matt Riiska, contractor James Curtis, project manager Pedro Soares, Norfolk Superintendent of Streets Troy Lamere, DOT engineers and members of the local press for an update from Hare.

According to Hare, “With two 12-foot lanes, wide shoulders, and six-foot buffer, or snow shelf, Route 44 is going to be much wider. When finished, this section of highway will be safer, visibility

See ROUTE 44, Page A12

# HVRHS students bring back student newspaper

By Nathan Miller

FALLS VILLAGE — Students from Housatonic Valley Regional High School wrote and produced the inaugural edition of HVRHS Today, a new student newspaper which can be found on pages A5-8 this week and online. [www.lakevillejournal.com/hvrhs-today]

This work is part of a new student journalism initiative of The Lakeville Journal and is supported by Funds of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation and the 21st Century Fund for HVRHS.

This week’s issue of HVRHS Today marks the first student-led journalism effort at the high school in several years.

“We launched this program because we believe in the power of local journalism to connect our communities and amplify student

voices,” said James Clark, CEO/Publisher of The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News.

“We’ve long been committed to supporting the next generation of journalists through our competitive summer internship program. But with this new high school initiative, students are reporting for their own newspaper in print and online — giving them a platform and a voice in their own community.”

Anna Gillette, Mia DiRocco, Shanaya Duprey, Madelyn Johnson and Ibby Sadeh formed the first group of students behind HVRHS Today.

They got to work just before spring break, meeting for the first time as a team at the Lakeville Journal office in Falls Village on Wednesday, April 9. That afternoon, the team hit the ground running throwing out ideas for their first reporting projects and discussing the basics of gathering news and reporting facts.

In the following weeks, the stu-

See HVRHS TODAY, Page A12

# Housatonic seniors reach for the stars and earn spots at elite institutions

By Ruth Epstein

FALLS VILLAGE — Having Princeton as your backup school when applying to college is an indication of the caliber of students graduating from Housatonic Valley Regional High School next month.

Such is the case with Elinor Wolgemuth of Salisbury, who was accepted at the New Jersey Ivy League university, but decided to go with her first choice of the Brown University/Rhode Island School of Design Dual Program in Providence. A very select group, which numbers 15 out of the 900 applicants nationwide, are given a combined five years of studying art at RISD and an academic major at Brown. Wolgemuth will be enrolled in illustration and anthropology.

Gaining early acceptance at Princeton in November and the



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

Elinor Wolgemuth will be attending a select five-year combined program offered by Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design.

dual program in March, Wolgemuth explained students need to be admitted to both Brown and RISD before their application is reviewed for the program by a separate committee. “It has been described as one of the most difficult programs to

get into in the world. While it was a challenging decision to make, I ended up choosing it when I attended the admitted students day in April. I realized I felt more at home in Providence and that I needed to be among a range of artistic and intellectual people.”

Sitting down with Principal Ian Strever to go over the list of college destinations, the school leader said what jumped out at him was the diversity of locations the schools represent. Some are the standard choices that are often the destination of graduates, such as the University of Vermont, UConn, University of New Hampshire and state schools, but this year the teens are headed out to such institutions of higher learning as University of Hawaii, Santa Clara University

See SENIORS, Page A12



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In The Journal this week

REGIONAL .....	A2	COMPASS .....	B1-4
OUR TOWNS.....	A3	CALENDAR.....	B4
OBITUARIES.....	A4,11	LEGALS.....	B5
HVRHS TODAY .....	A5-8	OUR TOWNS.....	B5-7
OPINION.....	A10	CLASSIFIEDS.....	B7
SPORTS .....	A11	SPECIALIST.....	B8

Online This Week

**Kent sets mill rate at 16.87**  
The new budget passed. More at lakevillejournal.com

**Sharon beach stickers available June 11**  
Regular stickers are \$30. More at lakevillejournal.com

Bear enters occupied residence; troopers respond with force

NORTH CANAAN — A bear was killed by state troopers after reportedly entering a home in North Canaan in the early hours of Wednesday, May 28.

Connecticut State Police released the following details:

“Preliminary information shows that on 05/28/2025 at approximately 12:53 a.m., Troopers from Troop B - North Canaan responded to a residence on Greene Rd in the Town of North Canaan for a bear that had entered an occupied residence. Upon arrival, Troopers located the bear near an entrance to the residence and dispatched the bear. A second bear then ran away into a wooded area. DEEP was notified and responded to the scene to remove the bear. Current DEEP policy pertaining to bears entering a residence authorizes euthanasia as a response. Likewise, Public Act 23-77 authorizes a homeowner to take the same course of action under these circumstances.”

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.*

**Active search for unidentified motorist**  
A vehicle described as a light blue Toyota Prius missing the front passenger headlight was traveling east on Route 44 on the afternoon of May 20 near the intersection with Walton Street in Salisbury when it veered off the road and hit the guard wire on pole 3011. A witness identified the driver as an older white female. The case remains active and under investigation, and Troop B requests anyone with information to contact the station at 860-626-1820 or Trooper Colon #1159 at jean.colon.carattini@ct.gov.

**Individual arrested on third offense in six days**  
After being arrested twice on criminal trespass and breach of peace charges at an Upper Main Street residence in Sharon on May 18 and May 21, Esperanza Acevedo, 31, of Poughkeepsie, New York was arrested again on Upper Main Street on May 23. Troopers were responding to a report of a man yelling and banging on a door attempting to gain entry to a residence when they found Acevedo, charging him with third degree burglary, first degree criminal trespass, disorderly conduct and violation of a protective order. Acevedo was released on a \$20,000 cash bond and was scheduled to appear at Torrington Superior Court on May 27.

**Motorcycle chase leads to arrest**  
Just after 7 a.m. on May 30, a trooper observed a motorcycle traveling recklessly on Route 63 in Goshen and initiated pursuit. Troopers eventually found the operator in North Canaan, who was identified by his driver's license as Tristan Gibson, 33, of Waterbury. Gibson was processed for

eight charges: first degree reckless endangerment, disobeying the signal of an officer, engaging police in a pursuit, unsafe passing, operating a motorcycle without a license, operating a motor vehicle with no insurance, and two counts of reckless driving. Gibson was released on a \$2,500 non-surety bond and is scheduled to appear at Torrington Superior Court on June 13.

**Pedestrian struck in La-Bonne's parking lot**  
On May 31 at about 11 a.m., Joanne Taber, 81, of Salisbury was backing up in the LaBonne's Market parking lot when, while focusing on a father and son behind her Toyota Prius, she failed to see and struck Vera Englehorn, 69, of Millerton. Vera reported injuries and was transported to Sharon hospital by Salisbury EMS for evaluation. Taber was issued an infraction for improper backing.

**Resident drives through senior living facility garage door**  
Around midday on May 31, Richard Collins, 89, of Salisbury entered his Subaru Forester and made to exit the Noble Horizons facility's parking garage. Collins stated that his foot slipped onto the accelerator and he drove through the garage door. Collins was uninjured in the incident, and declined medical services.

*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*

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

*Check them out inside.*

- Ocean State Job Lot
- Herrington's

Send news tips to editor@lakevillejournal.com

Gardens & Landscaping

Spring is well underway and with the weather clearing and temperatures rising, that means now is the time to start a new or finish an old gardening or landscaping project. The businesses advertising below are ready to help you complete your next project. Let them know you saw their ad in your copy of The Lakeville Journal or The Millerton News



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Our Towns

Senator Murphy starts statewide walk in NWCT

By Ruth Epstein

Decked out in a blue T-shirt, khaki shorts and a UConn cap, the man walking along Route 41 in Sharon Wednesday morning looked like others who just enjoy getting out to commune with nature. But U. S. Sen. Chris Murphy (D) had some other thoughts on his mind. For the ninth straight year, he was walking across Connecticut to connect with citizens of the state. This year's route began May 28 in Salisbury and took him to Sharon and Kent for the day. People along the way wanted to chat with the lawmaker, and despite some gentle prodding from his staffers to keep on pace, Murphy took time to converse with those he met covering a va-

riety of topics. On Route 41 between Lakeville and Salisbury, he encountered longtime friend, former state Rep. Roberta Willis of Salisbury, who along with her sister Sherie Berk, greeted him with a sign stating "Chris, We're proud of U." Continuing his walk, he made a stop at Sharon Center School where he spoke with sixth- and seventh-graders. Then he met with some of the younger children, who, he said, "had a million ideas about what they could do for our country." Following a stop at Standard Space art gallery, he proceeded to Town Hall, where First Selectman Casey Flanagan presented him with a tiny step counter. Pleased with the gift, he said he had been wanting to get one but



From left, former State Rep. Roberta Willis and Sherie Berk talk with U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy in Salisbury.

never got around to it. At Town Hall, the subject of Mudge Pond came up, with the selectmen telling him how important that natural resource is to the town. Selectman Lynn Kearcher said so far, its condition is not too bad, but the threat of an invasion of hydrilla is a constant worry. "Lynn and I both grew up on that lake. We want to save it for generations to come," said Flanagan. Kearcher asked what the citizens of Sharon can do to combat the current administration in Washington. Murphy recommended joining activist groups and getting involved. "All that can make a difference." He acknowledged the latest big bill proposed by the Republicans which was approved by the House of Representatives is bad for Connecticut. One of its features calls for reducing Medicaid payments in blue states by 10 percent. It will throw millions around the country off the plan, he said. The bill will also result in adding \$3.5 trillion to the national debt. "It's an ugly bill," said Murphy. As he headed off to Kent, he was met by some Sharon Playhouse employees who excitedly told him about this year's productions. The walk to Kent proved to be a strenuous one, with a long steep mountain to climb. Once in the center of Kent, he crossed over the Housatonic River on the bridge next to Kent



U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy walks through Sharon on May 28, the first day of his annual statewide walk.

School. Murphy explained the purpose of the walk, which over the nine years has touched all areas of the state. "My job is to listen. I can't do my job well unless I listen to what people are saying." On this trip, he found the issues of housing and Medicaid were what people were talking about. The push and pull between conserving land and the need for housing was also on people's minds. In Kent, he made a stop at Motoriot, where owner Jason Doornick explained he refurbishes vintage 4 x 4s. Murphy was impressed with what he saw. He also visited Kent Wine & Spirits and the Mobil station and convenience store where customer Tom Connors approached him and asked, "When did bravery go out of fashion?" Murphy planned to walk another four days with the aim of reaching Long Island Sound.



This two chimney colonial home on Bulls Bridge Road built in 1824 was owned by South Kent School Corporation and sold for \$407,000 in May.

Spring real estate sales in Kent

By Christine Bates

KENT — The highest median price level over the last ten years on a rolling 12-month basis achieved in Kent was in August 2024 at \$753,000. Currently there are 13 single family homes listed for sale in Kent with eight over \$1 million and the rest all listed over the current median price of \$450,000. Transactions 42 Yuza Mini Lane — 5 acre approved building lot sold by Genny Azcona Paolo Pension Associates, Victor Paolo Defined Benefit Plan to Brian Charles Roberts for \$440,000 recorded March 13. 21 Bridge St. — Mixed use retail with two 2-bedroom apartments above sold by Engine 22 LLC to 21 Bridge Street LLC for \$925,000 recorded March 27. 20 South Road — 2 bedroom/1 bath home sold by Barbara Soch to David Lee and Deborah McKenzie Bain for \$280,000 recorded April 9. 473 Kent Hollow Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath house on 1.2 acres sold by Roberta Moran to Ivin Ballen and Meghan Petras for \$390,000

recorded April 25. 9 Bulls Bridge Road — 4 bedroom/2.5 bath house on one acre sold by South Kent School Corporation to Ronald and Xiao Xiang MacFarlane for \$407,000 recorded May 12. 45 Stone Fences Lane — 3 bedroom/2.5 bath home on 3.88 acres sold by David and Augusta Kapelman to Jonathan D. Agnew for \$850,000 recorded May 21. 39 Gorham Road — 3 bedroom/3.5 bath home on 5.3 acres sold by Edward A. and Randie S. Berman to Francis P. and Debra A. Zarette for \$1.3 million recorded May 21. 22 Oak Ridge Road — 3 bedroom/3.5 bath home on 5 acres sold by John Paul and Rose Pezzulo to Kevin Lacerda for \$1.55 million recorded May 21. \* Town of Kent real estate transfers recorded as sold between March 1 and May 30, 2025, provided by Kent Town Clerk. Transfers without consideration are not included. Current market listings from Smart MLS. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.

Toasts and talons at Sharon Audubon

By Ruth Epstein

SHARON — Birds were the guests of honor at the annual Raptors and Riesling party hosted by the Sharon Audubon Center on May 25. Under a large tent, supporters gathered to sip on wine, sample a variety of hors d'oeuvres and visit with Bob, the residential kestrel. Sitting on the wrist of volunteer Joanne Wasti, the brightly colored bird took in stride the guests who flocked around him. He appeared to be preening for the cameras. Bob has been at the center for approximately 10 years. Staffers explained he was raised by humans and is imprinted, meaning he identifies with people rather than his own species. He associates with humans for food and social interaction and therefore could not survive out in the wild. During her comments to the audience, center Executive Director Eileen Fielding talked about the more than 70 volunteers who give of their time. "They care



Bob the kestrel loves the attention he gets during the May 25 Raptors and Riesling event at Sharon Audubon.

about nature and birds," she said. "Sharon Audubon has become a place in people's hearts." She lamented the fact so many bird species are declining, including the American kestrel, purple martins, chimney swifts and wood thrushes. "It is up to all of us to make a difference for birds," she said, adding



Sharon Audubon Executive Director Eileen Fielding addresses the audience.

that actions such as helping prevent them from crashing into windows can be taken. Sharon Audubon is a destination for so many migratory birds, connecting communities across the hemisphere, said Fielding. The highlight of Raptors and Riesling each year is the opportunity for guests

to watch as birds that have been rehabilitated are set free. There were "oohs" and "aahs" as three songbirds, an ovenbird, black-throated blue warbler and a mourning dove, all of which had come to the center this spring, flew off into the horizon. Two of them ran into trouble during migration, said Fielding.

Norfolk voters approve \$9.3M firehouse project

By Riley Klein

NORFOLK — At a special town meeting May 22, voters in Norfolk ratified the proposal to construct a new firehouse located at 20 Shepard Road. According to the town website, the \$9.3 million project will be partially funded by town bonds, up to \$3.5 million. The department plans to generate \$3 million in donations, and a state grant was identified for \$2.5 million. Norfolk will reapply next year for a federal grant of \$1.25 million. Town funds will contribute \$500,000.

The website states First Assistant Fire Chief Matt Ludwig described the current firehouse, which originally housed three firetrucks, as "perfect" 54 years ago. Today, with seven trucks measuring up to 33 feet in length, the building is now inadequate. Per Ludwig, when the trucks are parked side-by-side, there is not enough room to open the truck doors. The future building was designed to provide more space for training, storage and parking for modern-sized trucks. A ventilation system and solar panels were included.



HAPPY GRADUATION! to Victor E. Flores from Canaan, CT

Congratulations on graduating from Harvard University class of 2025 with a Bachelor of Arts in government and a Minor in Ethnicity, Migration and Rights.

Best wishes from your parents Dorotea Flores and Victor M. Flores, Siblings Juana Flores, Liliana Flores, Cristian Flores, and your Nieces and Nephews.

It seems like just yesterday we were there for your first day of school, and now you're graduating. We've been so proud to witness your growth and achievements. We are so excited to see what you'll do next. Remember to be brave, be kind, and always follow your dreams. Congratulations and we love you!

Special thanks to Mr. Neil Chrisman and his wife Katherine Chrisman for always believing in Victor and for all the wisdom, support and guidance you've shared.

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OBITUARIES

Marguerite Brusie

MILLERTON — Marguerite C. “Peg” Brusie, 91, a fifty-three resident of Millerton, formerly of Copake, died peacefully on Thursday, May 29, 2025, at Sharon Hospital in Sharon. She was employed by Sharon Hospital as a unit coordinator, retiring after twenty-six years of service. In 2010, she organized a reunion for the Sharon Hospital retiree’s which became an annual event.



Born Dec. 10, 1933, in Copake, she was the second daughter of the late Chester and Georgiana (Holmes) Pulver. On March 10, 1954 in Millerton, she married the love of her life, Howard J. Brusie. Mr. Brusie predeceased her on April 27, 2010.

Peg was an avid reader and knitter. She liked crafts of all kinds as well. She also enjoyed making floral and holiday arrangements for her family and friends. Her greatest joy was spending time with her beloved family.

Peg is survived by her daughter-in-law, Nancy Wells Brusie of Millerton; two granddaughters, Melissa Dipper and her companion Robert Matthews of Ancramdale, New York, and Amanda Dipper Hurn of Millerton; three great grandchildren, Byron Hurn of Philmont, New York and Lucia and Savannah Hurn of Millerton; her niece, Melissa Clum of Ancramdale; her nephew, William Clum also of An-

cramdale; two sisters-in-law, Carolyn Brusie of Copake Falls, New York and Karen Brusie of Hillsdale, New York and several nieces and nephews and many dear friends.

In addition to her parents and husband, she was predeceased by her son, Howard J. Brusie, Jr. of Millerton on May 4, 2016, her sister and brother-in-law, Jeanette and William R. Clum of Copake and Ancramdale; her brother, Kenneth Pulver of Millerton; her sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Sheila and Louis Finger of Lincoldale, New York and two brothers-in-law, Gerald Brusie and Richard Brusie.

Graveside services and burial will take place on Saturday, June 7, 2025 at 10 a.m. at Copake Cemetery, 1669 County Route 7A, Copake, NY. Rev. Zora Ficarra-Cheatham will officiate. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, flowers to the service or to plant a tree in Peg’s memory, please visit [www.conklinfuneralhome.com](http://www.conklinfuneralhome.com)

Anthony Costa, Jr.

SHARON — Anthony Costa, Jr., born on March 2, 1930, to Marian Cataldo Costa and Anthony Costa, Sr. in Fairfield, Connecticut, died surrounded by love on May 16, 2025. He was raised in Fairfield, attended the Fairfield public schools, and



served as an altar boy at St. Michael’s Episcopal Church. Tony is survived by his loving wife, Dominica, his children; Janet (Thomas) O’Donnell, Jeffrey (Teresa) Costa, and Jonathan (Wendy) Costa, as well as seven grandchildren; Amy, Sean, Jonathan, Mary Kate, Carl, Jacob, and Hannah. He was formerly married to Shirley Wells, the mother of his children.

Tony attended New Haven State Teachers College, the first of his family to graduate from college. He went on to obtain a master’s degree in education at Fairfield University and began his extensive career in education, teaching at schools in Fairfield and Stratford. His teaching was interrupted by his service in the United States Army during the Korean conflict. Upon his return from Korea, he was named principal of the Sharon Center School in Sharon, Connecticut. In 1970, Tony became an Assistant Professor of Education at Fairfield University and subsequently became a full professor. He taught educational psychology, teacher preparation, and placed and supervised student teachers, influencing scores of future educators. After 47 years on the faculty, he retired in 2017 at the age of 87. During his time at Fairfield, Tony enjoyed many years as the university’s head golf coach, combining his love of the sport with his dedication to teaching. Not only did he instill a love of golf in those

students on the golf team, but also in his family and friends.

In 1998, Tony married Dominica Schaller and cherished 38 years of joy and partnership with her. They traveled, attended the theatre, and nurtured invaluable friendships. Tony was the epitome of grace and happiness. His smile, his warmth, and his compassion for and interest in people made all those whose lives he touched better for having known him. Tony was a gentleman, a loving husband to Dominica, a caring father to his children and grandchildren, a devoted friend, a golf enthusiast, a wearer of fedoras, and a man of substance. He will be truly missed.

A celebration of life will be held in Tony’s memory at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Fairfield, CT, on Saturday, June 21st, at 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating in Tony’s memory to First Tee-CT ([www.firstteeconnecticut.org](http://www.firstteeconnecticut.org)), a youth development organization dedicated to positively impacting the lives of young people through the game of golf. All donations in Tony’s name will be earmarked for the Bridgeport, CT, chapter at Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course.

Elsie Soule Dotson

SHARON — Elsie Soule Dotson, (Neuens), age 87, of Morris, Connecticut, passed away May 18, 2025, after a short illness. Elsie and her twin sister Jacklyn, were born in Alpine, Texas, to Jack Neuens of Medora, North Dakota, and Esther Soule of Kent, Connecticut.

Her early years were spent at the Fort Davis Indian Lodge within the Davis Mountains State Park in Texas. Her family moved to Milford, Connecticut, where she worked the family’s Rancho-Del-Camino Riding Stable and Rodeo on Post Road and then at the Red Horse Ranch in Kent. She graduated from Milford High School in 1956.

An avid equestrian, Elsie competed in gymkhana, show ring, and competitive trail riding, as well as performed trick riding. As a champion competitive trail rider with her beloved horse “JW,” they completed over 3000 endurance miles

together. Elsie worked at Northwest Connecticut post offices and retired as a relief Postmaster. She was a member of the Taghannuck Grange No. 100 in Sharon, and the Eastern Competitive Trail Ride Association (ECTRA). Known as the “Pathfinder,” Elsie created, maintained, and rode trails in northwest Connecticut and upstate New York. If not in the woods, she was line dancing, kayaking, cross country skiing, or volunteering.

She is survived by her twin sister, a son and daughter, two grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. Elsie’s wishes were to not have a memorial service, rather that one walk a trail in the woods or be kind to an animal in her memory.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a gift to your local horse or animal rescue organization. There will be a private burial in Medora, North Dakota.

Faye Evelyn Lawson

TORRINGTON — Mrs. Faye H. (Harmon) Lawson, 88, of 116 Mill Lane, Torrington, died Monday, March 26, peacefully in her home. She was the wife of the late Peter G. Lawson. Mrs. Lawson was born on Jan. 15, 1937, a daughter of the late Leon and Evelyn (Bouton) Harmon.



Mrs. Lawson worked as a legal secretary and served on several boards and commissions in her community through the years. Faye spent her life living in the Northwest Corner enjoying the beauty and friendships she cultivated and treasured. She had a deep appreciation of creativity, curiosity, art, imagination and family. She was an avid gardener and took great joy and pride in the fruits of her labor.

She leaves as survivors her children; Lori A. Lawson of Torrington, James

M. Lawson (wife Kathy) of Chesterfield, Massachusetts, and Abigail S. Lawson of Torrington; three grandsons, Graham, Taylor and Jordan Lawson; and her brothers Gordon E. Harmon (wife Marge) of Collinsville and Frederic “Rick” (wife Lisa) Harmon of Maitland, Florida. She is predeceased by her brother, Leon Harmon (wife Marion) of West Warwick, Rhode Island.

Burial will be at the convenience of the family. There will be no calling hours. Memorial donations may be sent to AnimalKind at PO Box 902, Hudson NY 12534-0902 or Connecticut State Police Academy Alumni Association at PO Box 1945, Meriden, CT 06450-0899

To send the family online expressions of sympathy kindly visit [www.thurstonrowefuneralhome.com](http://www.thurstonrowefuneralhome.com)

Evelyn Frances O’Connell

AMENIA — Evelyn Frances “Frankie” O’Connell, 89, died peacefully Jan. 18, 2025. Beloved mother of Karen Grimaldi, Michael O’Connell, Bill O’Connell and Kathleen Lacko.



A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Saturday, June 14, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Immaculate Concep-

tion Church, 4 Lavelle Road, Amenia, NY. Reverend Andrew O’Connor will officiate. Burial will follow at Immaculate Conception Cemetery in Amenia, New York. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546.

Angela Derrick Carabine

SHARON — Angela Derrick Carabine, 74, died May 17, 2025, at Vasser Hospital in Poughkeepsie, New York. She was the wife of Michael Carabine and mother of Caitlin Carabine McLean.

A funeral Mass will be cel-

ebrated on June 6 at 11 a.m. at Saint Katri (St. Bernards Church) Church. Burial will follow at St. Bernards Cemetery. A complete obituary can be found on the website of the Kenny Funeral home [kennyfuneralhomes.com](http://kennyfuneralhomes.com).

For another obituary, see page A11

Jo-Anne H. Meeker

KENT — Jo-Anne H. Meeker of Kent-Cornwall Road, passed away on May 24, 2025, at home. She was the loving wife of the late Robert E. Boyden and the late John G. Meeker.



Jo-Anne was born May 15, 1933, in Stamford, Connecticut, the daughter of the late Henry and Genevieve Hoyt of Lempster, New Hampshire. She graduated from Ridgefield High School in 1951. Jo-Anne worked as a secretary in several medical fields before retiring from the New Milford Hospital Pathology Department.

Jo-Anne is survived by her sister, Charlotte and her husband Charles Pike, her children, Robert Boyden and his wife Caron, grandson Cade, Christina Boyden, Nicholas Boyden and his wife Devin, grandchildren Birdie and Hoyt Boyden.

Graveside service was held May 31, at Flanders Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the Kent Volunteer Fire Department 28 Maple St, Kent, CT in Jo-Anne’s honor.

The Kenny Funeral Home has taken care of arrangements.

Wolgemuth wins Warren Prindle Visual Arts Scholarship

FALLS VILLAGE — The 2025 Warren Prindle Visual Arts Scholarship (formerly the Contemporary Visual Arts Scholarship) has been awarded to Elinor Wolgemuth of Salisbury.

Wolgemuth, a graduating senior at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, will be attending a dual degree

program at Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, Rhode Island.

The Warren Prindle Visual Arts Scholarship provides financial support by contributing \$80,000, disbursed in annual amounts, to the college or university of the student’s choice.

 Worship Services Week of June 8, 2025	
<b>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon</b> 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 <a href="http://www.christchurchsharon.org">www.christchurchsharon.org</a>	<b>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.</b> 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 <a href="http://www.salisburyucc.org">www.salisburyucc.org</a> Sharing God’s shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442
<b>Trinity Episcopal Church</b> 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 <a href="http://www.trinitylimerock.org">www.trinitylimerock.org</a> The Rev. Heidi Truax <a href="mailto:trinity@trinitylimerock.org">trinity@trinitylimerock.org</a> (860) 435-2627	<b>St. John’s Episcopal Church</b> 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on You-Tube <a href="http://www.stjohnssalisbury.org">www.stjohnssalisbury.org</a> 860-435-9290
<b>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC</b> 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 <a href="http://www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational">www.Facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</a> 860-824-7232 <b>FISHES &amp; LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH</b> is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm <a href="http://www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org">www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</a>	<b>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT</b> Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons Sunday, June 8 at 10:30 a.m. For information, contact Jo Loi at <a href="mailto:jokialoi@gmail.com">jokialoi@gmail.com</a> All are Welcome <b>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH</b> Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville <b>MASS SCHEDULE</b> Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church <b>DAILY MASS SCHEDULE</b> 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
<b>The Lakeville United Methodist Church</b> 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:15 a.m. Worship Service 9:15 a.m. Sunday School “Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors” The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496 <a href="mailto:Lakevilleumethodist@snet.net">Lakevilleumethodist@snet.net</a>	<b>UCC in CORNWALL</b> Cornwall Village Meeting House Worship Sunday, 10 am Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 <a href="http://www.uccincornwall.org">www.uccincornwall.org</a> Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community <b>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall</b> 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! <a href="http://www.allsaintscornwall.org">www.allsaintscornwall.org</a> Rev. Mary Gates!
<b>The Sharon United Methodist Church</b> 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 <a href="mailto:sharonumc5634@att.net">sharonumc5634@att.net</a>	<b>St. Thomas Episcopal Church</b> 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 <a href="http://www.stthomasamenia.com">www.stthomasamenia.com</a> A Community of Radical Hospitality
<b>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church</b> 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. <a href="http://www.thesmithfieldchurch.org">www.thesmithfieldchurch.org</a> 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building	<b>Promised Land Baptist Church</b> 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! <a href="http://www.promisedlandbaptist.org">www.promisedlandbaptist.org</a>
<b>Sharon Congregational</b> 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website <a href="http://sharoncongregationalchurch.org">sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a> for Sunday services Contact us at 860-364-5002 or <a href="mailto:info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org">info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org</a>	<b>Canaan United Methodist Church</b> 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 <a href="mailto:canaanctumc@gmail.com">canaanctumc@gmail.com</a> We hope you will join us!

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# HVRHS *today*

Housatonic Valley Regional High School's Student Newspaper

## Foreign exchange students reflect on a year in the U.S.

By Anna Gillette and Ibby Sadeh

Every year, Housatonic Valley Regional High School welcomes foreign exchange students to attend classes through the AFS Intercultural Programs. This school year, two students traveled to Northwest Connecticut to immerse themselves in American life and culture. Allegra Ferri, a 17-year-old from Italy, and 16-year-old Charlie Castellanos from Colombia sat down to reflect on their experience at HVRHS. As the academic year is coming to an end, they shared a few highlights of their time in the U.S. and offered advice to prospective exchange students.

**What has been your favorite part of your exchange experience?**

**Allegra:** "My favorite part of this exchange year was coming here and experiencing an American high school."

**Charlie:** "My favorite part is coming to high school and living the American dream and probably going to ski [for the first time]."

**What extracurricular activities have you been involved with?**

**Allegra:** "I played volleyball in the fall and I really liked it because everyone was so nice. Then during the winter, I was part of the crew for the musical and now I'm doing tennis. I really enjoy it because it's a good team. I love how American high school has sports and activities after school."



Charlie Castellanos, left, and Allegra Ferri, right, sitting in the HVRHS library to talk about their experiences in the U.S.

**Charlie:** "I did soccer in the fall, which was my favorite. I did the play in the winter and right now I'm doing track and field. We don't have school sports in Colombia. This is one of the things I'm going to miss the most."

**What would you say to someone considering doing an exchange year?**

**Allegra:** "I would say do it because living in another country is a great experience to grow and improve another language. It improves your skills of being by yourself."

**"I would say if you are thinking about doing the program, do it because you get out of your comfort zone and learn so many things..."**

*Charlie Castellanos, HVRHS student*

**Charlie:** "I would say if you are thinking about doing the program, do it because you get out of your comfort zone and learn so many things like culture, language and it's just a completely new experience. It will stay with you your entire life."

## BERT members look forward to second year of fighting bias

By Ibby Sadeh and Mia DiRocco

As the 2025 school year concludes, so does the first full year of the Bias Education and Response Team being utilized at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

This team, or BERT for short, is a team made primarily of students, with staff to supervise, that respond to incidents of bias in the school. This program was presented as an opportunity to combat and respond to incidents of bias and educate the students and faculty on what bias is.

BERT was introduced with a presentation from two counselors and educators outside of the HVRHS community, Carolyn Corrado and Karen Garrity. They taught the school about the Bias Incident Reporting System, or BIRS, which is a google form that anyone from the school community can fill out, reporting bias that they have seen or heard. Then, students on the team respond to these incidents. This system aims to create a positive school environment through addressing bias.

Students and faculty involved with the program traveled to

Shepaug in October for the Youth Climate Summit, an event where high schools all over Connecticut came together to discuss ways to improve their schools. The entire team gave a presentation on BERT, the work they've been doing, and how to utilize the system. "By seeing and potentially utilizing programs that other schools have implemented and found successful in ours could make the schools climate far better for all students and faculty members," said Silas Tripp, a member of BERT who attended this summit.

On April 3, three of the team members — Maddy Johnson, Silas Tripp and Ayden Wheeler — and the principal, Ian Strever, made their way to Nashua, New Hampshire, to give a presentation at the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Conference. This was a huge success for the team, Wheeler said, "the presentation seemed to be received well with some school representatives coming up to us and wanting to integrate it into their schools."

"The goal is to make our school a safe environment for all and to make the students feel at home at our school and I truly believe our attendance to these gatherings are helping us reach this goal," Tripp said. The team also has plans for reaching out to the regional middle schools and making a presentation in the fall to promote lessons of kindness and equality in grade K-8, said Johnson, the subcommittee lead for this objective.

Richie Crane, Carmela Egan, and Georgie Clayton, the members of the "Who We Are" subcommittee, created an instagram account where they post educational information and videos to spread the word about BIRS and what bias is, which you can follow @hvrhs.bert on Instagram.



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PHOTOS BY SIMON MARKOW

High tension after the winners of the corrupt pageant were announced. Pictured left to right, Niya Borst, Sara Huber, Richie Crane, Ella Karcheski, Sara Ireland, and Victoria Brooks.

## Unwritten Show marks third original student staging

By Anna Gillette

Across two nights of performances, Unwritten Show drew a crowd of over 250 people to the Housatonic auditorium for "The 37th Annual Holbrook Pageant."

The original production was full of drama, humor and heart, showcasing what happens when students at Housatonic Valley Regional High School take the stage. From writing to directing, set design, costumes and acting, students handled every aspect of the show.

The performance used the setting of a beauty pageant to explore deeper societal issues through satire. "We wanted to speak to the stereotypes and issues that are often faced in the performance world," co-director and production manager Alex Wilbur said. These matters included inequalities such as nepotism, gender roles and ulterior motives. The students intended to use satire as a tool for reflection, not accusation, and to push performers toward inclusivity. "We need to create a community and support each other in our endeavors, because that's what it's all about," Wilbur said.

Sara Huber, the writer and co-director, said the writing process for this show was different than anything she had written before because it didn't involve extensive planning. "I knew automatically what I wanted to write," she said. "The message is that even when faced with something that's corrupt, you can still find community in that and still find a way to come out of it stronger." Wilbur noted that the creative process was rooted in personal experience. "The best ideas come from self-exploration and the themes of your own life or things happening around you," he said.

The cast and crew were pleased with the turnout. All



Top, Richie Crane performing as Nick Grain and Victoria Brooks as Reese Glimmer.

donations made will benefit the program in years to come. The success of this student-led initiative was meaningful to everyone involved. "It is a perfect example of our school community's ability to create," Wilbur said.

Actor Richie Crane, who played Nick Grain — the only male pageant contestant — was thrilled with how the production helped prepare students for the future. Passionate about dance and aiming to become a chore-

*The Unwritten Show  
Continued on page A8*



Playwright and actress Sara Huber as Claire Voyant chokes on stage, interrupting an important rehearsal.

### HVRHS *today*

[www.lakevillejournal.com/hvrhs-today](http://www.lakevillejournal.com/hvrhs-today)

Mia DiRocco, Cornwall  
Shanaya Duprey, North Canaan  
Anna Gillette, Lakeville  
Maddy Johnson, North Canaan  
Ibby Sadeh, Falls Village

Nathan Miller, Lakeville Journal Program Lead  
Caitlin Hanlon, Lakeville Journal Production

#### The HVRHS Journalism Program

This spring, The Lakeville Journal launched a journalism initiative at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. Through this program, students work with Lakeville Journal editors throughout the school year to report on what's important and interesting to them and their community. The news on these pages is the culmination of work during the 2025 Spring semester.

For more information about the program, please contact Lakeville Journal Publisher, James Clark, at [publisher@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:publisher@lakevillejournal.com).

### The Lakeville Journal

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21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund  
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This program is proudly sponsored by  
Funds of Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation



# Reporter’s Notebook: preceded by reputation

By Ibby Sadeh

Residents of other countries outside of the United States often have preconceived notions of Americans — especially teenagers.

A group of 39 HVRHS students and chaperones from Northwest Connecticut traveled to Germany, Austria, and Italy in the span of nine days in April. As spectacular and enriching as the experience was, I couldn’t help but notice that we were judged as American tourists.

In Florence, Italy, when passing a group of European teenagers, I overheard, “oh never mind they are Americans.” I found it interesting how just by a glance in our direction it was clear we were foreigners. Some comments, however, had more negative connotations. A biker trying to weave through a crowd muttered, “annoying Americans.” This is how we are seen, as bothersome foreigners even though tourism is a big source of income for places like this. According to The Florentine, in 2015, international tourism brought 2.5 billion euros to Florence, Italy, the place that we were in for the longest time during this trip. That was a 5.2% increase from the previous year.

“Although Americans can be seen as pushy overall as a group, I have never had a problem individually, people have been very kind,” said Deron Bayer, history teacher at HVRHS, and chaperone for the recent trip.

Despite the muttered com-



PHOTO BY IBBY SADEH

Above, the group visiting the Colosseum in Rome on the spring break trip. Right, students in San Gimignano, Italy, from left to right, Mia Dodge, Ibby Sadeh, Olivia Peterson, Mia DiRocco, and Danny Lesch.

ments, I had other experiences where we had interesting conversations with foreigners. In Germany, we talked to local teenagers in Munich. They were very interested to hear about America, New York City, if we owned a house, and if we were rich. These questions about us and our lives back in America show how we are viewed.

No matter how our group was seen or reacted to, the experience of traveling internationally was incredibly influential for the stu-

dents and chaperones that had the opportunity to go.

“When I grow up I want to travel and this was a good introduction to traveling internationally,” said Maddy Johnson, a junior at HVRHS who went on this trip.

The travel program EF tours packs so much into so little time — art, history, education and more. We went straight from the airport onto our coach bus with our tour guide, and to our first location in Munich.

Bayer explained why he thinks these trips are so important — “what students got to do by going on that trip was to go to a classroom that was outside of our country ... you are learning about yourself and learning how to interact with different people.” Especially because our school



PHOTO BY CELESTE TRABUCCO

“This experience allowed me to gain new friendships with people that I had not normally hung out with in my day to day activities,”

Maddy Johnson, HVRHS student

and community is small in size, these types of activities and opportunities have impacts on students’ school experience.

“This experience allowed me to gain new friendships with people that I had not normally hung out with in my day to day activities,” Johnson said.

Traveling brings education to

the next level, offering new perspectives, although sometimes judgmental ones, and forging new connections.

“In this part of Connecticut we are very secluded, there is not much to do or see so traveling allows students to see a much broader perspective of the world,” Johnson said.



PHOTO BY ELLA KARCHESKI

Niya Borst as Penelope Pennywise, left, performing alongside Richie Crane as Old Man Strong, right, in the Housatonic Musical Theater Society production of “Urintetown” on March 18.

## Richie Crane celebrates Sondheim Award win for ‘Urintetown’ performance

By Maddy Johnson

Starting at the age of 2, Richie Crane has been on a stage. From dancing to acting, Crane has always been a part of the theater, acting in productions for the Sharon Playhouse, his middle school and now Housatonic Valley Regional High School. He got his moment to shine in the spotlight on March 18 when he won the Sondheim award for best supporting actor as Old Man Strong in HVRHS’s production of “Urintetown.”

Crane has been in a multitude of productions throughout his life. “I’ve been acting since I was seven,” Crane said, “but three years ago I started acting in the Sharon Playhouse, which is when I started taking it seriously.” Crane has been in the ensemble of “Prom!,” the lead actor of “Rumplestiltskin” in his middle school play, and involved in five different productions in the HVRHS theater program from the time he was in fourth grade.

Crane dances at Blue Studio in Lakeville, Connecticut.

“I have been dancing for almost two and a half years there,” Crane said, “and I’ve been looking into dance and theater as a

career.” Dance is something that Crane has been involved with his whole life and continues to enjoy as time goes on. He said that “performing and dancing overall, like learning the choreography,” is his favorite part of theater.

“Presenting a story to an audience and hoping that we can demonstrate it the way it’s supposed to be while moving the audience” is Crane’s main goal when performing. Through his dance and acting, he connects himself to the audience and brings his performances to life. Earning the Sondheim award meant so much, Crane said, because he feels such a close connection to theater.

“The award reminds me that all this extra work, all these dance classes are all paying off and it’s a reminder to me that I can do whatever I put my heart to,” Crane said.

The award is validation for Crane — validation for his future plans in the theater and validation that all he has done is being seen by others. Crane said he “had been working his way up to a more appreciative role” and the award makes him hopeful and fuels his passion for the next show and the achievements he can reach at the next level.

By Mia DiRocco

One short year ago, the Housatonic girl’s tennis team forfeited multiple matches a week. With just seven girls, they couldn’t fill a full roster of 10 players. As two of those players graduated, it left the team wondering what the next season would look like, if girl’s tennis would have another season at all.

But this season the girls have taken on full sweep victories, without forfeiting a single match. What happened? Thanks to the school’s investment in the team and an onslaught of freshman players, the Housatonic girl’s team was able to go from the brink of extinction to an accomplished and close-knit group of 17 players.

This year, HVRHS installed brand new courts after taxpayers approved improvements to the school in January 2024. That upgrade brought renewed interest in the team.

While the girls only had a few wins in their Berkshire League competition, this was a huge building year for the team, captain and first-singles player Victoria Brooks said.

But Girl’s Tennis isn’t the only sport making a comeback this year. Cheerleading has returned to Housatonic for the first time since 2005, and that’s just the beginning. The 2025 spring season has been filled with major wins for Housatonic athletics. Boy’s tennis had two players become Berkshire League all-stars, and the track team has been breaking records set decades before. Boy’s Baseball and Girl’s lacrosse are on their way to states after a great season.

“It has been student driven



PHOTOS PROVIDED

The HVRHS girls tennis team consists of 17 players this year. Teammates credit the brand new tennis courts built in Summer 2024 with renewing interest in the sport.



100%. The kids do the leg work and I just do what I can as an athletic director to support that,” said Housatonic’s athletic director Anne MacNeil. “Education-based athletics is not just about wins and losses. We are an extension of the classroom, so we base ourselves on life lessons.”

With the resurgence of so many Housatonic sports this year, it begs the question of what’s next?

Could Boy’s Lacrosse or a Field Hockey team make a comeback? Or maybe something new is on the way. With a small school like HVRHS, it can be difficult to fill new teams, according to MacNeil. “If they come to me with enough numbers that make sense, then let’s go for it.”

However, it’s unlikely we’ll be seeing anything new upcoming. “Unfortunately our numbers do not really allow for new sports,” MacNeil said. “We struggled to fill JV spots – if we’re going to add sports, it takes students away from teams already established.” Despite its size, HVRHS has managed to excel athletically, largely thanks to its dedicated and determined student athletes.



# Local fund sets HVRHS students up for success

By Shanaya Duprey

Students at Housatonic Valley Regional High School face an issue shared by many students across the country: the cost of education and academic opportunities.

To combat this issue, HVRHS students such as Silas Tripp have worked with an organization known as the 21st Century Fund. Silas received two grants, allowing him to attend Engineering programs at Brown University and the University of Pennsylvania. The fund's awards of over \$3,000 covered more than half of each program.

"The 21st Century Fund offers students economic aid to extend their education beyond what is offered in regular education classes," said Mike DeMazza, a 21st Century Fund board member and educator at HVRHS. The fund awards grants to students ranging from hundreds to thousands of dollars. "This allows students the opportunity to dream and to find direction for their future."

"My experience with the 21st Century Fund has been far easier than I first expected," Silas Tripp said. "Once I applied for grants, I realized how easy this fund made it for students to apply for grants and scholarships. This also makes students more likely to apply for these financial opportunities, which is vital for helping develop students." This local support is unique in Region One, as many other regions do not have the same grant system.

"The goal of opening doors

**"Once I applied for grants, I realized how easy this fund made it for students to apply for grants and scholarships. This also makes students more likely to apply for these financial opportunities, which is vital for helping develop students."**

*Silas Tripp, HVRHS student*

and making things so accessible to our students is very unique," said Letitia Garcia-Tripp, a HVRHS educator and Silas's mother.

This unique community support is especially important today, as the cost of a higher education continues to rise. "It has gotten completely out of hand," Letitia said. "The costs are set so only a small minority can afford higher education. Gone are the days where if a student did their job to be successful in high school, then they didn't have to worry about the cost of college the way they do today. Full scholarships are few and far between."

"I think every student should familiarize themselves with the 21st Century Fund website at 21stcenturyfund.net — this is part of the Region 1 community unknown by many," DeMazza said. You will never know if funding is available unless you apply."



PHOTOS BY SIMON MARKOW

"The Sassy Seven" contenders performing the closing dance. "Next Top Mountaineer" returned to the stage at HVRHS on Friday, May 16, after a two year absence.

# Matsudaira crowned 'Next Top Mountaineer' after competition's two-year absence

By Anna Gillette

This spring, members of the Student Government Association worked hard to bring back Housatonic's Next Top Mountaineer after two years without a competition.

SGA Vice President Tessa Dekker organized the event. "As the last class to have witnessed the Next Top Mountaineer, we felt that if we didn't do it this year, the tradition would be lost," said Dekker, whose efforts helped transform the vision into a full-scale production.

The show displayed the unique



characteristics of seven students at HVRHS. "The Sassy Seven" contestants — Henry Berry, Charlie Castellanos, Andy Delgado, Justin Diaz, Manny Matsudaira, Jassim Mohyidin and Joseph Villa — competed in multiple categories: personality, Q&A, lip syncing, formal wear and talent.

After careful consideration from the judges, Manny Matsudaira took home the crown and title of "Housatonic's Next Top Mountaineer 2025."

Matsudaira, familiar with the event through his older siblings, was eager to participate. "I grew to understand it as a really exciting and fun opportunity for seniors," he said. For him and the others, the show became a chance to grow and have fun while doing something bold and new.

Rehearsals began about three weeks prior to the event, following school and sports. Initially focused on choreography and structure, practices eventually shifted to refining each contestant's individual performance.

Dekker noted the difficulties behind the scenes. "While it was challenging to coordinate seven boys with little to no experience on the stage, they all put in the work to make an amazingly successful production."

The preparation wasn't strictly physical. "Of course there was a level of mental preparation that we all had to do a few nights before the show," Matsudaira said. "The most rewarding part of the competition was the confidence I gained from stepping very, very

**Katelin Lopes and Joseph Villa during the interview portion of the competition.**

far out of my comfort zone." The competitors didn't just simply dance and showcase their talents, they intentionally performed in a ridiculous manner.

Classmate Katelin Lopes hosted the event. "I was kept on my toes by all of the contestants," she said. "It was a very fun-filled night." Matsudaira agreed, praising the crowd. He said, "The fun atmosphere of the night was a good reflection of the quality of the production and the work we put into it."

Winning meant more than just a title for Matsudaira. "Being Housatonic's Next Top Mountaineer has its greatest meaning in terms of tradition and that I'm joining a list of other Housatonic graduates," he said. "It's fun to win any sort of competition but this one is special in that there's a legacy among Housatonic and that this is the first year that we're bringing it back."

Matsudaira's talents don't end on stage, he's also this year's valedictorian and will be attending Harvard University in the fall. He says the key to academic and extracurricular achievement is developing a passion for each activity. "When you're looking forward to the events you participate in and the ways that you are academically challenged at school, finding success is much easier."



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kyle McCarron carrying the baton.

# HVRHS Track seniors running off to collegiate competition

By Maddy Johnson

Harper Howe, graduating class of 2025 from Housatonic, will be returning home to Chicago in the fall as a walk-on in DePaul University's track team. She and three of her classmates on the HVRHS track and field team are attending college through the track and field program at their designated schools.

Kyle McCarron — attending Quinnipiac University in Hamden, Connecticut — and Gabi Titone — attending Marymount University in Arlington, Virginia — will attend their designated colleges as Division I cross-country and track athletes. "I am excited to be a part of the Marymount cross country and track team," Gabi Titone said. "I just know that it is a community I will thrive within." These schools offer new opportunities for the runners and new challenges on a whole new level.

Mia Dodge, who is attending Western New England, located in Springfield, Massachusetts, will be attending her university for both soccer and track. She will have to "get herself to the point of switching" from 300 meters to 400 meters in the hurdles.

The athletes already spend much of their time dedicated to their sports. Titone goes on runs six days a week, and she can also commonly be found at her local gym. Similarly, all four athletes attend track practices five times a week, which consist of a two-hour-long practice, while also making time for their personal workouts and runs, which adds about an extra six to ten hours to their athletic schedule each week.

The students know that the work they originally put in is only half the battle. As a walk-on, Harper Howe — attending DePaul University in Chicago — must fight for her spot in the Division I meets. While she is on

the team and will attend their practices, she has to push herself to participate in the competition. Howe says that she needs to cut off "two and some change seconds for the 400 and one and some change for the 600" — the six hundred is an indoor competition. Without cutting those seconds, Howe will only be able to attend the practices and watch the meets.

Even though it is an uphill battle for Howe, she will be closer to her distant family members and reunited with her old hometown, which is only "a short hour away," says Howe, compared to the 12 hours she faces now. Through her grit and determination, Howe will make her way in the Windy City of Chicago.

All four athletes have worked hard to achieve their goals. As their teammate Hannah Johnson says, "They put their heart and soul into every race that they run."



The contestants and host bowing after Matsudaira — far right — was named the winner.



The Unwritten Show  
Continued from page A5

ographer, Richie not only performed in the show but helped choreograph the cast alongside Elizabeth Forbes and Ella Karcheski. Crane got to experience firsthand what the profession might look like alongside his supportive peers. “Dancing is one of the things I love to do most,” he said. “I wouldn’t get this opportunity anywhere else.”

Another element that made the production stand out was the absence of a traditional lead role, allowing every cast member to contribute to the story equally. This was intentional. Huber said she purposely wrote an ensemble based production. “That to me is so important to the spirit of Unwritten Show because it’s really about the students coming together and making something.” The decision to avoid a lead role mirrored the show’s message of equality, a theme displayed in both the storyline and developmental process. “Everyone had their own moment to shine in the spotlight and no one person was standing out, you don’t get to see that in every musical,” Crane said.

“The 37th Annual Holbrook Pageant” was HVRHS’s third student-led production. The co-directors agreed that the Unwritten Show is more than just a production, it’s an incredible opportunity for students to explore their creativity and collaborate in meaningful ways. “It shows students that they can pursue their dreams,” Wilbur said. “It also shows teachers and professionals how hard we are working.” Ultimately, the show served as a reflection of the students’ dedication and collective effort.



Above, all pageant contestants dancing together as the competition begins. Right, Elizabeth Forbes as Holbrook Pageant CEO Baron Dollars and Madison Melino.



PHOTOS BY SIMON MARKOW  
Elizabeth Forbes doubling as the CEO of the Holbrook Pageant, Baron Dollars, and pageant choreographer Svetlana Yurakova.

Hear from the Mountaineers  
What do you think of lunch?



John DeDonato  
Class of 2027

“Some I prefer are the grilled cheese. Pizza’s okay with some sauce. Hamburger too, I guess. The least favorite that I’ve tried is probably the hot ham and cheese. I don’t like that. I’ve started to see that they’re doing French fries, which I kind of like. They should probably start doing more of that.”



Georgie Clayton  
Class of 2027

“My favorite is beef nacho grande. My least favorite is probably the fajitas. I wish we had chicken nuggets and mashed potatoes more often.”



Abram Kirshner  
Class of 2026

“My favorite lunch is probably the mac and cheese and popcorn chicken. I’d like to see it more frequently. Grilled cheese, cheese quesadilla, french toasts sticks, and chicken fajita can all go.”



Celeste Trabucco  
Class of 2026

“General Tsou’s chicken is my favorite lunch. Also, the popcorn chicken and mac and cheese. I really don’t like the French toast sticks or that we have pizza every Friday. We need some more variation.”

PHOTOS BY IBBY SADEH AND MIA DIROCCO

Congratulations  
Graduates!

Best wishes  
into the future  
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Riley Klein, managing editor, works with Simon Markow, 2024 intern.



Photographer Anne Day works with 2024 interns.

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LJMN Media, Inc. Publishers of  
**The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News**  
Our goal is to report the news of our communities accurately and fairly,  
and to foster the free flow of information and opinion.

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TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

**125 years ago — June 1900**  
William J. Sherwood of Salisbury is quite ill with pneumonia.

I would like to inquire of the man about town, what has become of the bank and trolley?

It is now that we get the returns from the drowning accidents caused by the idiot who rocks the boat for the fun of the thing. The fresh air fiend who insists on opening the windows on railroad trains and in public places is also in evidence.

We don't blame anyone for liking to ride a wheel and we believe that bicyclists should receive fair treatment, but there are a few things that wheelmen ought to remember and thus keep within the law. One is, that approaching a team from the rear the wheelman should have decency enough to ring his bell and give the driver a chance to take care of his horse. There are lots of horses that pay no attention to a wheel as long as they can see it, but to have a wheel flash up behind and past them is enough to startle a human being to say nothing of an equine. Most wheelmen are gentleman and like to do what is right, but there are some careless ones, and it is to them that we respectfully "dedicate these lines."

The following pupils of Amesville school have not been absent or tardy during May: Millard Kipp, Willie Pulver, Emma Reed, May Call, Mary Woodin, Ross Woodin. Joseph Hines was absent one-half day.

Last Tuesday night while Otis Turner's tent show was in progress at Sharon, some of the seats collapsed, precipitating about 300 spectators to the ground. A number were hurt, receiving sprained ankles and severe bruises. Fortunately none were seriously hurt, but it was due to sheer good luck and nothing more. It is supposed that while taking down some of the seats, one of the workmen loosened the wrong ropes and the seats went down.

**100 years ago — June 1925**  
LIME ROCK — Ralph Hunter's dog was struck by an auto Sunday and badly hurt.

ORE HILL — Frank Brown has moved to Lincoln City. James Flint has purchased the house previously occupied by the Brown family.

John Erickson is applying a new coat of paint to the flag pole in the park.

The silent policeman is once more on duty near the bank for the coming season.

**50 years ago — June 1975**  
The Town of Cornwall's Wetlands Agency will challenge the State Department of Environmental Protection, agency members decided Tuesday. At issue is the state's claim to jurisdiction over construction of a dam on Popple Swamp Road. The agency said Tuesday that the state DEP had "seized jurisdiction" without presenting any evidence as to why the local agency should not have authority over dam construction and the resulting 20-acre pond on land owned by Richard Nash.

Salisbury is to have a new historical marker across from the Town Hall relating the highlights of its past. First Selectman Charlotte Reid disclosed Tuesday night that the wording of the marker to be erected by the Town and the Connecticut Historical Commission had been worked out by Richard A. Kimball, recently retired chairman of the Salisbury Historic District Commission, and Marguerite Bourdon, unofficial town historian.

Cable television prospects for the Northwest Corner jumped forward this past week when Haystack Cablevision Inc. won its certificate from the federal government to operate in two towns — Salisbury and Canaan. If all goes well, Haystack may begin actual operation in early 1976.

A plaque placed at the foot of a yellowwood tree was dedicated in the memory of Paul F. Allyn Jr. of East Canaan last Thursday at a brief ceremony at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. Paul Allyn Jr., a 1973 graduate of HVRHS and the school's vo-ag program, died at the age of 18 in an automobile accident in September 1974.

The Housatonic Chapter of the Future Farmers of America will be led by a young woman next year, the first female to be elected president since the organization was founded in 1939. Lynn Pollard of Falls Village, a junior this year at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, was elected to the chapter presidency on May 20. Lynn's parents, Calvin and Addie Pollard, own a farm in Falls Village operated by Lynn's three older brothers.

The dean of Salisbury's news correspondents, Lila Nash, has retired from her position with The Waterbury Republican. Mrs. Nash, who covered Salisbury-Lakeville stories for 45 years, ended her association with the paper last week.

Permission for the Brothers Pizza restaurant to serve beer and wine has been refused by the State Liquor Control Commission. John F. Healy, commission chairman, said the restaurant was denied for two reasons. One reason was that applicant William Stefanopoulos was considered unsuitable because he is "unable to read and understand English." The other reason given was that the location of the restaurant was declared inappropriate because of its "close proximity to the recreational area" (the Town Grove) which would make serving of liquor "detrimental to public interest in the neighborhood."

Salisbury Selectmen decided Tuesday night to give formal notice to the Erickson Brothers that the new town solid waste transfer station will go into operation July 1, 1976, a month before expiration of the present contract for use on the landfill on the Erickson farm.

Canaan's North Elm Street shopping plaza, a project abruptly dropped after much fanfare last fall, sprang to life again this week, this time with no advance notice. Workers and equipment were on the site early Wednesday, grading the land and digging drainage ditches. The Grand Union Company in Waterford, N.Y., confirmed

that a Grand Union Market will be built, as originally announced last October.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas James Foley Sr. of Lower Road, Canaan, were honored Sunday at a reception given by their children in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary. They were married May 30, 1925, in Newark, N.J. Mrs. Foley is the former Theresa Stoecker of Irvington, N.J. The came to Canaan in 1926 to run the farm they now own. The Foleys have four children, Warren, Thomas Jr. and John of Canaan and Mrs. Charles Joch Jr. of Ashley Falls, Mass. They have 10 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

CORNWALL — Since the mowing season is beginning and the men on the town crew are not trained horticulturists, First Selectman Kenneth Merz has asked anyone with flowers or shrubs along the roadside that he wants protected to call the town garage and state the location of the plantings.

**25 years ago — June 2000**  
KENT — A second group of Schaghticoke Indians has taken preliminary steps to challenge a petition for recognition submitted in 1994 by a faction of the tribe led by Chief Richard Velky. The Schaghticoke Indian Tribe, which includes members who currently reside on the 400-acre reservation in Kent, submitted a letter to Valerie Lambert, head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the Northeast region, informing her it would be submitting a petition of its own for federal recognition shortly.

LAKEVILLE — It was standing room only at the Church of St. Mary here the day after Memorial Day as nearly 500 people attended a funeral Mass in honor of the late Martha Fitzgerald, 56. The community turned out in full force to celebrate the memory of the woman who had supported so many children, families and the elderly during her own life. Mrs. Fitzgerald was a nurse for many years with the Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association and was the nurse for Salisbury Central School until last autumn. "The children wanted to go see the nurse all the time, just to see the nurse," recalled Maggie Fraser, who taught at the school for many years.

Status Report

NORTH CANAAN — Chevy Chase visited the Caddie Shack on Route 7 last weekend. He ordered two hot dogs and took photos with the staff. It was captured on Instagram @chevychase

NORTH CANAAN — In a small gathering at Town Hall on Wednesday, May 28, Eversource announced that The Canaan Foundation was selected to receive a \$2,500 grant, made possible by the Eversource Energy Foundation. The Canaan Foundation applied for the grant, which will be used to upgrade all of the lighting at the Bunny McGuire Park.

OBITUARIES

Dwayne Edward Moody

FALLS VILLAGE — Dwayne Edward Moody, 61, of 45 Facchin St., went home to the Lord on Saturday May 31, 2025, surrounded by his loving family at the Sharon Hospital. Dwayne was born Sept. 11, 1963, in Sharon, son of the late Charles Moody and Bertha Davis Moody who predeceased her son on April 19, 2025.



Dwayne was a graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village. He worked as a Personal Care Aide at the Wassaic State School for many years. Dwayne enjoyed expressing himself through the arts. He loved to draw and write stories. He loved music, especially Motown. He also loved to travel and spend time with his family and friends. Most

importantly he had a strong religious and spiritual connection with GOD. Dwayne is survived by his sister, Robin Williams Standburry and her husband Herbert of Torrington and his brother Steven Moody and his fiancé Emily Vitale Aronow of Canaan. Dwayne was predeceased by his sister, Tonia Moody of Falls Village. Dwayne is also survived by his niece, Sade Williams and her companion Eric Blalock of Waterbury; nephews Donyell Williams and his wife Theresa of Westfield, Massachusetts and Aaron Vitale Moody of Canaan. He is also survived by his great-nephews Jayden and Kamari, and great-niece Emi. Funeral services will be held on Thursday, June 5,

2025 at 12:00 p.m. in the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. North Canaan, CT 06018. Calling hours will be held on Thursday from 11:00 a.m. until the service begins at noon. Burial will follow in Lower City Cemetery Undermountain Rd. Falls Village, CT 06031. The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated first responders and the compassionate medical professionals at Sharon Hospital and Geer Nursing and Rehabilitation Center for the loving care they provided to their brother. Memorial donations may be sent to Macedonia Baptist Church 9 Rosseter St. Great Barrington, MA 01230 or to Geer Nursing and Rehabilitation Center 99 South Canaan Rd. Canaan, CT 06018.

For more obituaries, see page A4

SPORTS



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Housatonic Valley Regional High School girls lacrosse won second place.

Mountaineers take second place in WCLC

By Riley Klein

WATERTOWN — Housatonic Valley Regional High School girls lacrosse played Watertown High School for the Western Connecticut Lacrosse Conference championship Wednesday, May 28. The cold, rainy game went back and forth with three ties and three lead changes. Watertown was ahead when

it counted and earned a 6-4 victory to claim the league title. Under the lights in Watertown, both sides displayed defensive discipline in a hard-fought match. It was the third meeting between these two teams this season and Watertown completed the sweep in the title game. Full game coverage at lakevillejournal.com



Annabelle Carden scored twice for HVRHS.

Youth softball at Segalla Field

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — North Canaan rec league softball hosted Great Barrington Tuesday, May 27, at Segalla Field. The seniors team lineups were composed of players in grades 6-8. North Canaan includes athletes from the six Region One towns. The high scoring game ended in favor of Great Barrington with a final score of 17-11.

Before the last inning, the umpire commented on the friendly nature of both teams. He said they were complimenting each other throughout the game. "These young ladies are too nice," he said. "You parents have done far too good a job."



Leah Simboli plays for North Canaan.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

From left, Paige Holst-Grubbe, Jillian Murphy, Eden Rost and Isabella Portillo celebrate at the end of an inning.

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Given the recent events, it is good for us to know our rights under the Constitution in order to help our immigrant friends and neighbors when faced with ICE raids into our communities. A good place to start is to visit the Connecticut ACLU's website at [www.acluct.org/en](http://www.acluct.org/en) to become educated. The ALCU puts out an informative handbook called 'The Immigrants' Rights and Resources Guide which an excellent primer: [www.acluct.org/sites/default/files/field\\_documents/immigrants\\_rights.pdf](http://www.acluct.org/sites/default/files/field_documents/immigrants_rights.pdf). The key is for everyone is to know your rights in these turbulent times. An example of a community standing up to protect their immigrants is Millerton, which you can read about here: [www.millertonnews.com/millerton-hears-call-limit-ice-cooperation](http://www.millertonnews.com/millerton-hears-call-limit-ice-cooperation).

**JOHN HARNEY**  
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ROUTE 44

Continued from Page A1

is going to be better and we will have two beautiful retaining walls to keep the slope stabilized.”

Plans include a decorative metal safety fence at the top and extensive use of native plants and trees on the hillside.

Hare added, “The necessary clearing job was a drastic landscape change for the town. We relocated all the overhead utilities and sewers. Construction of a temporary access road on the actual westbound lane gives us access to the upper elevations of the slope to get equipment up there to install the earth retaining system. We are now installing soil nails and tie backs, part of the permanent retaining wall design.”

Managing water flow has been a challenge. Water from Haystack Mountain to the north flows across Old Colony Road, through the cemetery and down the slope being worked on.

Workers use sedimentation controls such as catch basin silt sacks, or filters, which protect the waterways from loaded silt and sediment.

This also prevents eroded material from impacting the roadway.

Despite the winter weather, the crew made significant progress. Hare laughed, “Norfolk had some freezing temperatures, which is to be expected in the ‘Ice Box of Connecticut,’ but the contractors stepped up.” Hare continued, “Our revised design is part of the reason we were able to save almost two years.”

The current construction budget is \$37,546,399. DOT has spent 35% of its estimate and expects to come in under budget.

When asked what the big-

gest surprise has been, Hare answered, “The biggest surprise for me was witnessing drivers’ behavior through the temporary signal. We have state troopers on site twice a week now because we noticed that people were driving through the red.” She added, “Two weeks ago the troopers pulled over a bicyclist who was trying to beat the signal.”

Avice Meehan, Norfolk resident, expressed concern about cars speeding up Old Colony Road. She pointed out that Google Maps now guides drivers on that route to avoid the signal delay.

There have been a couple of near misses because the public works crew is also stationed up at the Town Garage. Meehan noted the impact of increased activity as construction of Norfolk’s affordable housing project Haystack Woods begins.

Commissioner Eucalitto, the DOT team, and the Norfolk group donned hard hats and safety vests and climbed up the temporary sand access road into the work site. Hare explained the work being done by a giant drill driving the soil nails deep into the hillside. Up close, the scale of the challenge seems daunting, yet Project 97-95 continues ahead of schedule and under budget.

Eucalitto said, “I knew what a significant impact the Route 44 project would have on Norfolk. I’m pleased with the progress we’ve made so far, and how well it is going. We’re working closely with the community and town leadership. The acceleration that we’ve had on the project design will get us out earlier than expected.”

To report a problem or raise a concern, call 860-594-2560 or email DOT.CustomerCare@ct.gov

SENIORS

Continued from Page A1

ty, Missouri State University and University of North Carolina, among many others. The focus on combining two interests without having to prioritize one over the other was what drew me to the curriculum.

Strever said this year’s class is made up of highly motivated students. “There is a culture of academics and aspirations,” he said. “They spur each other on without being overly competitive. And they’re some of the nicest kids.”

Strever added that many of them are civic minded and enjoy participating in activities that benefit others. They also had the benefit of smooth high school years, since the restrictions imposed by COVID were over when they were freshmen.

Strever commented on the legacy found in the small high school. “One of the first questions I ask each year is

who has parents or grandparents who attended this school and there’s always at least one hand raised.”

Tess Marks of Salisbury will be attending Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts, where she will major in the theater, dance and performance studies. The class salutatorian, she has performed in all the school’s musical productions during her time at Housatonic. She said she was drawn to the Tufts program by seeing its professors are working actors themselves and there are a variety of shows that are both professor- and student-directed.

“The welcoming and positive attitudes of the student body were examples of the overall atmosphere of the institution,” Marks said. “I can clearly visualize myself thriving in the community, taking advantage of all that the location, programs, and

JAHANA HAYES

Continued from Page A1

needed to shift the needle.

Hayes said she sees some of her Republican colleagues getting nervous as their constituents are being hurt by their party’s actions. They are seeing protests. “I think that will be the saving grace,” said Hayes. “They see funds taken from agencies. More people are paying attention. It’s necessary to show up everywhere. I hear the bill won’t pass as is in the Senate. I am not going to give up or concede defeat.”

Focusing on her own party, Hayes said it’s to its own peril that there’s no reshuffling of the leadership — no new strategy, no new message. “I think the ground is fertile for change. We can’t keep doing more of the same. We can’t be having everything by seniority. People have had enough of that.”

Someone asked if the National Democratic Committee is doing enough to make people more aware of what is happening, such as all the firings of federal workers, increased housing foreclosures and “that ridiculous parade.” Hayes acknowledged a lot of people do not realize how they will be affected and she is trying to remind them. “At some point, it will get to what they care about,” she said.

DOGE, said Hayes, has blown up the whole system of checks and balances. While no one wants to see fraud or abuse in the federal government, Elon Musk went after those who were affecting his business. The system was destabilized by

all the firing and hiring.

Hayes said probably the most dangerous aspect is the removal of data from the systems, so many of the reduction claims can’t be proven.

Prompted by a question from Margy Austell, she expressed her deep concern with many of the bills dealing with immigration. “The idea that everyone from other countries is dangerous blows my mind. We have a lot of ‘gotcha’ bills. Republicans say people can be deported without due process. We need to address our borders, but reasonably. We can’t just scoop people up. There will be a series of votes on this. We can’t look at one provision and ignore everything else in the bills.”

Hayes, a former teacher, said she is appalled with the cuts amounting to \$313 billion being made to SNAP, noting one of the aspects of the bill is to lower the age of minors from 18 to 7, so that those with children over that age must meet work requirements. The national debt will be increased by nearly \$4 trillion and the most vulnerable people will be harmed, she said. “I don’t see how in 2025 we’re talking about not feeding children.”

When asked, “What can we do about this regime?” Hayes responded, “People can’t stay home in ’26. Protests and town hall meetings are working. The courts are issuing injunctions. Even if it feels like no one is paying attention or not listening, I promise you they are.”

people have to offer.”

Lola Moerschell of Kent will be heading to Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, this fall. She chose the school for its strong STEM program, undergraduate research opportunities and inclusive environment, “all of which are aspects of college that are important to me,” Moerschell said. “I believe the tight-knit and supportive community at Housy has taught me about the importance of time management, hard work and the value of learning from your peers.” She will be majoring in biology, pre-health track.

Following in the footsteps of two of his siblings, Manasseh Matsudaira of Cornwall will be enrolling in Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, at summer’s end to pursue studies in energy economics. He said he appreciated the diversity of the student body and the teachers “who prepared me to be appropriately ready for the next step.”

Among the other colleges and universities Housatonic students will be attending in the fall are: Cornell University, New York University, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Savannah College of Art and Design, Syracuse University and George Washington University.

Strever also talked about the five students who graduated in January and immediately stepped into jobs. “We’re not just preparing everyone for college,” he said, “but for entrepreneurship as well. Some students have had internships, getting to dabble in different fields to see whether there is something they really want as a career or for parttime activity.” Several others will be attending two-year programs at community colleges, which gives them the opportunity to discover their future plans.

Both Wolgemuth and Marks said they believe Housatonic prepared them

well for the future.

“The biggest was by letting students take on multiple activities and responsibilities at once,” Wolgemuth said. “I feel so lucky to have had these opportunities and I encourage other rural students to apply to ‘reach’ schools, since coming from a small town can give you an advantage.”

Marks said, “I think that the variety of options and classes at Housy, especially the option to take AP and ECE classes, prepared me for the college level curriculum to come. It pushed me while simulating what I might find in my studies next year. The ability to be involved in many different extracurriculars at Housy, from theater, to robotics, academic bowl, and sports, allowed me to find different communities, interact with a wide range of personalities, and figure out how I wanted to move forward in my studies.”

She continued. “In addition, the teachers at Housy have been incredibly helpful in not only preparing me academically for college, but also in preparing me to be an individual, a confident community member and a constructive critic. I think that the teachers are the strongest part of Housy. They support you, help mold you into a better learner and person, and genuinely care about your future and wellbeing. I am very appreciative of Housy and how it has helped me grow into the person I am today, ready to begin my next chapter of life in college.”

“This group represents what I want the future to be,” Strever said. “I would love for them to come back and enrich the community. The Athenian Oath all graduates recite at commencement is what it’s all about; making a place greater, better and more beautiful than when you found it.”

HVRHS graduation is Friday, June 13, at 6 p.m.

HVRHS TODAY

Continued from Page A1

dents gathered weekly every Thursday at the Lakeville Journal office to discuss interviewing, writing and reporting and plan their coverage for the paper. The students took the lead at every turn, choosing which topics they would like to cover and deciding what sources were best for each story.

The six-week program that ran from early April to the end of the 2025 school year served as an introduction to a more regular program expect-

ed to begin in the fall. Starting at the beginning of the next semester, another group of students will assemble to produce two more sections.

The collection of work ranges from reporting on the boons of the new tennis courts to HVRHS’s Sondheim Award winner, with a brief stop in Europe along the way.

To learn more about The Lakeville Journal’s education programs, go to [www.lakevillejournal.com](http://www.lakevillejournal.com) or email [publisher@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:publisher@lakevillejournal.com)

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With gratitude and good wishes,  
The Project SAGE Staff

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

FILM: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

## Revisiting ‘The Killing Fields’ with Sam Waterston

On June 7 at 3 p.m., the Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington will host a benefit screening of “The Killing Fields,” Roland Joffé’s 1984 drama about the Khmer Rouge and the two journalists, Cambodian Dith Pran and New York Times correspondent Sydney Schanberg, whose story carried the weight of a nation’s tragedy.

The film, which earned three Academy Awards and seven nominations — including one for Best Actor for Sam Waterston — will be followed by a rare conversation between Waterston and his long-time collaborator and acclaimed television and theater director Matthew Penn.

“This came out of the blue,” Waterston said of the Triplex invitation, “but I love the town, I love this area. We raised our kids here in the Northwest Corner and it’s been good for them and good for us.”

Waterston hasn’t seen the film in decades but its impact has always remained present.

“It was a major event in my life at the time,” Waterston said of filming “The Killing Fields,” “and it had a big influence on me and my life ever after.” He remembers the shoot vividly. “My adrenaline was running high and the part of Sydney Schanberg was so complicated, so interesting.”

Waterston lobbied for the role of the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist for years, tracing his early interest to a serendipitous connection while filming in England. Even before Joffé’s production was greenlit, he had his sights set on playing the role. “I knew I wanted the part for years even before it was a movie that was being produced.”

What followed was not just critical acclaim, but also a political awakening. “The film gave all of us an intimate acquaintance with refugees, what it is to be a refugee, how the world forgets them and what a terrible crime that is.”

In Boston, at a press stop for the film, two women asked Waterston a pointed question: now that he knew what he knew, what was he going to do about it? “I said, ‘Well, you know, I’m an

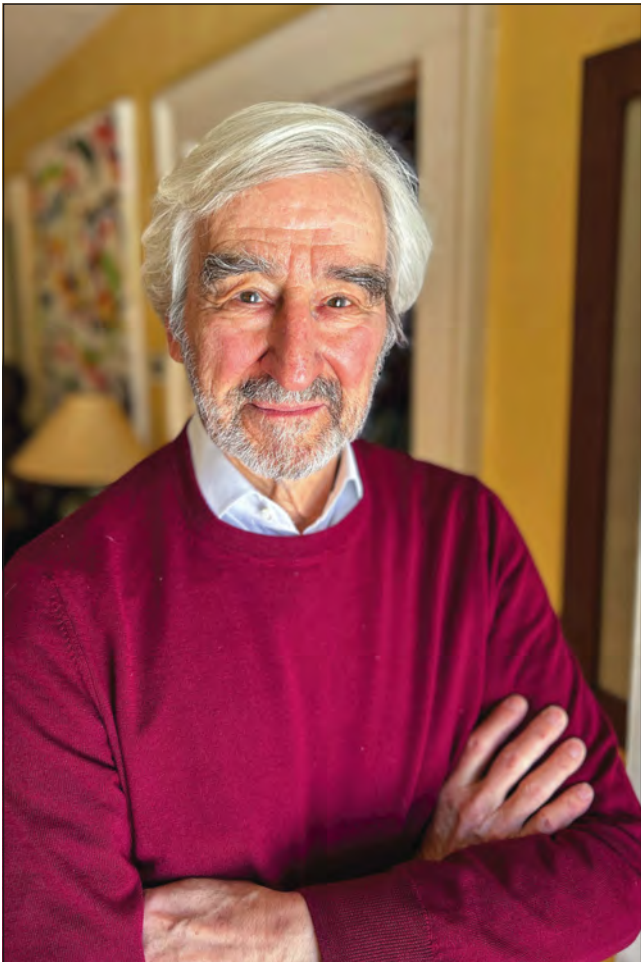


PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

### Sam Waterston

actor, so I thought I’d go on acting.’ And they said, ‘No, that’s not what you need to do. You need to join Refugees International.’” And join he did, serving on the organization’s board for 25 years.

Both Schanberg and Dith Pran, whose life the film also chronicles, were “cooperative and helpful ... in a million ways,” Waterston said. Upon first meeting Pran, Waterston recalled, “He came up to me, made a fist, and pounded on my chest really hard and said, ‘You must understand that Sydney is very strong here.’ He was trying to plant something in me.”

There were more ten-

der gestures, too. Schanberg used the New York Times wire to relay that Waterston’s wife had just given birth while he was filming in Thailand, adding to the personal and emotional connection to the production.

Though “The Killing Fields” is a historical document, its truths still resonate deeply today. “Corruption is a real thing,” Waterston warned. “Journalism is an absolutely essential part of our democracy that is as under siege today as it was then. It’s different now but it’s the same thing of ‘Don’t tell the stories we don’t want heard.’ Without journalists, we are dust in the wind.” Waterston

added, “Democracy is built on the consent of the governed but the other thing it’s built on is participation of the governed and without full participation, democracy really doesn’t stand much of a chance. It’s kind of a dead man walking.”

When asked what he hopes the audience will take away from the screening, Waterston didn’t hesitate. “This is the story that puts the victims of war at the center of the story and breaks your heart. I think that does people a world of good to have their hearts broken about something that’s true. So, I hope that’s what the impact will be now.”

Tickets for the benefit screening are available at [www.thetriplex.org](http://www.thetriplex.org). Proceeds support Triplex Cinema, a non-profit home for film and community programming in the Berkshires.



PHOTO BY ROBIN RORABACK

Scott Reinhard, graphic designer, cartographer, former Graphics Editor at the New York Times, took time out from setting up his show “Here, Here, Here, Here- Maps as Art” to explain his process of working. Here he explains one of the “Heres”, the Hunt Library’s location on earth (the orange dot below his hand).

ART: ROBIN RORABACK

## The art of place: maps by Scott Reinhard

Map lovers know that as well as providing the vital functions of location and guidance, maps can also be works of art. With an exhibition titled “Here, Here, Here, Here — Maps as Art,” Scott Reinhard, graphic designer and cartographer, shows this to be true. The exhibition opens on June 7 at the David M. Hunt Library at 63 Main St.,

Falls Village, and will be the first solo exhibition for Reinhard.

Reinhard explained how he came to be a mapmaker. “Mapping as a part of my career was somewhat unexpected. I took an introduction to geographic information systems (GIS), the technological side of mapmaking, when I was

*Continued on next page*



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...maps Continued from previous page



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Scott Reinhard’s 16-foot-wide piece of the Northwest Corner is laid out on the floor prior to being hung for the show.

in graduate school for graphic design at North Carolina State. GIS opened up a whole new world, new tools, and data as a medium to play with.”

He added, “When I moved to New York City, I continued that exploration of cartography, and my work eventually caught the attention of the New York Times, where I went to work as a Graphics Editor, making maps and data visualizations for a number of years.” At the New York Times, his work contributed to a number of Pulitzer Prize winning efforts.

In his work, Reinhard takes complex data and turns it into intriguing visualizations the viewer can begin to comprehend immediately and will want to continue to look into and explore more deeply.

One method Reinhard uses combines historic United States Geological survey maps with “current elevation data (height above sea level for a point on earth) to create 3-D looking maps, combining old and new,” he explained.

For the show at Hunt Library Reinhard said, “I knew that I wanted to incorporate the place into the show itself. A place can be many things. The exhibition portrays the exact spot visitors are from four vantage points: the solar system, the earth, the Northwest Corner, and the library itself.” Hence the name, “Here, Here, Here, Here.”

He continued, “The largest installation, the Northwest Corner, is a mosaic of high-resolution color prints and hand-printed cyanotypes — one of the earliest forms of photography. They use elevation data

to portray the landscape in a variety of ways, from highly abstract to the highly detailed.”

This sixteen-foot-wide installation covers the area of Millerton to Barkhamsted Reservoir and from North Canaan down to Cornwall for a total of about 445 square miles.

For subjects, he chooses places he’s visited and feels deeply connected to, like the Northwest Corner. “This show is a thank you to the community for the richness that it has brought to my life. I love it here,” he said.

The opening reception for the show is on June 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. On Thursday, June 12, Reinhard will give a talk about his work from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the library. “Here, Here, Here, Here” will be on display until July 3.

THEATER: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Love letters from Goshen

‘A Goodnight Kiss,’ premiering June 6 at Goshen Players Playhouse, is a dramatization of real Civil War-era love letters. Written by award-winning playwright Cinzi Lavin and directed by regional theater veteran Kathleen Kelly — both Litchfield County residents — it serves to reminds us that while wars are waged by nations, it is the people who live through them, their lives forever changed.

At the center of “A Goodnight Kiss” is the relationship between Sarah Jane “Jennie” Wadhams, a college student in New Britain, and Sergeant Major Frederick Lucas, a young soldier stationed in Alexandria. Lavin discovered the story of the letters by the couple in a 2002 book by Ernest B. Barker called “Fred and Jennie: A Civil War Story.” Lavin, who holds a certificate in applied history from the University of London and has performed at the White House, read all 90 letters the couple exchanged between 1863 and 1867. “It was like falling into another time,” she recalled. “You hear the dialect, the moral concerns, the humor. Jennie once said someone ‘must think she’s some pumpkins.’ I had to keep that.”

While staying true to the historical narrative, Lavin and Kelly took pains to adapt with sensitivity, editing outdated language, softening harsh racial terms, and trimming some of the religious fervor of the original texts for modern ears. “We didn’t want to rewrite history,” said Lavin, “but we did need to present some things so that it translated.”

The result is a story of two young people



PHOTO BY CINZI LAVIN

The marquee at Goshen Players for “A Goodnight Kiss.”

navigating distance, war, and the slowness of the mail. It’s also about community, duty, and the Connecticut town of Goshen itself where Fred and Jennie lived, wrote, and now lay interned. It’s fitting, then, that the Goshen Players opened their doors to this production.

“They’ve been wonderful,” said Kelly. “It’s a story from Goshen, and now it’s being told in Goshen. I think audiences will really appreciate that. It’ll be so interesting to see their reactions as ancestors.”

Kelly’s direction brings a collaborative, actor-driven energy to the stage. “I always say the only good playwright is a dead one,” she laughed. “But Cinzi? Thank God she’s not. She’s a dream.” Lavin, in turn, credits her theatrical background for that flexibility. “Both of our background as actors really helped us connect and then the cast came in with ideas and heart and it became something so much bigger.”

Starring David Macharelli and Olivia Wadsworth as Fred and Jennie, with a supporting

cast including Robert Kwalick as Narrator, John Fabiani as Jennie’s father, Joel Osborne as Fred’s fellow soldier, Harmony Tanguay and Roni Gelrmino as a gossiping villagers, the play layers historical narration with humor, heartbreak, and a surprising amount of warmth. “There’s a lot of humanity here,” Kelly said. “And a little gossip. The Goshen women definitely bring that.”

Adding texture is a curated selection of Stephen Foster songs arranged by Lavin which the U.S. Library of Congress included in its national “Song of America” archive. And for



PHOTO BY ANNA ZUCKERMAN-VDOVENKO

Cinzi Lavi



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kathleen Kelly

history buffs, Sunday’s 3 p.m. performance will include a talkback with historians Peter Vermilyea, Carolyn Ivanoff, Kevin Johnson, and Natalie Belanger, whose insights will ground the drama in even deeper context.

“Theater is the one place, even more than television and film, where you can really deal with difficult topics,” said Kelly. “You go into a theater, and you are changed.”

“A Goodnight Kiss” will be performed at Goshen Players Playhouse, 2 North St., Goshen, June 6 to 8. For tickets and more info, visit: goshenplayer.booktix.com

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PHOTOS BY BRIAN GERSTEN

Author Paul Hawken speaks with American Mural Project founder Ellen Griesedieck about his latest book, “Carbon: The Book of Life.”

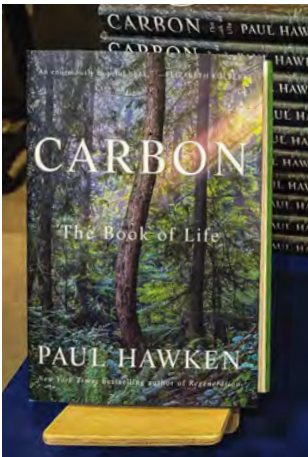
BOOKS: BRIAN GERSTEN

## Paul Hawken on ‘Carbon’ at AMP

On Saturday, May 31, the American Mural Project in Winsted, Connecticut hosted renowned environmentalist and best-selling author Paul Hawken for a free talk and book signing centered around his latest release, “Carbon: The Book of Life.” AMP founder, Ellen Griesedieck moderated the discussion, which drew a crowd of environmentally conscious attendees from across the region.

“We have made carbon the culprit,” Hawken said. Though, with his newest book, Hawken hopes readers “fall in love with who we are, where we are, and how much we are intricately, beautifully, exquisitely interconnected with the living world, as opposed to seeing it as something that you have to fix.”

Hawken, a pioneering voice in the global



climate conversation, is widely known for his influential works “Drawdown” and “Regeneration.” In “Carbon,” he offers a poetic and profound exploration of the elemental force that binds all life on Earth. Moving beyond the typical doom-and-gloom framing of climate issues, Hawken reframes carbon not as an enemy but as the central thread of existence — present in every living being, tree, breath, and story. The book thus proposes a renewed relationship with our natural

world. During his talk, Hawken emphasized that climate solutions must be rooted not in fear, but in reverence and wonder. Hawken did not shy away from discussing our current environmental predicament with the audience in attendance. “The climate movement has failed,” he said. “It really has failed because [it] ignores the innate qualities of human beings and children that want to reimagine who they are, where they are, and how they create more life on Earth.” According to Hawken, “regeneration is the only path forward for the Earth.”

The American Mural Project, home to the largest indoor collaborative artwork in the world, provided a fitting venue for an event focused on collective action and environmental imagination. Find Hawken’s book at Oblongbooks.com.



### Spotlight Gala

The Sharon Playhouse kicked off its 2025 season on Saturday, May 31 at the annual Spotlight Gala. Said Carl Andress, the Playhouse’s Artistic Director, “The 2025 Sharon Playhouse Spotlight Gala honoring Emily Soell, Board President, was a tremendous success with a full and enthusiastic audience. The evening’s festivities featured stunning performances, raised vital funds to support our nonprofit theater, and celebrated our beloved Emily in unforgettable style. We are deeply grateful to everyone who came out to support the Playhouse and made this night so memorable!”

PHOTOS BY ALY MORRISSEY

Above, a company of 15 local youth and teens joined the Spotlight Gala at the Sharon Playhouse for ensemble numbers to honor Emily Soell, Board President. Right, Landry Champlin returned to the Sharon Playhouse to perform at the Spotlight Gala.



The evening honored Emily Soell, Board President.



Above, Wanda Houston returned to the Sharon Playhouse stage and brought down the house at the Spotlight Gala.

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- ▶ Performances and balloon animals by Bee Bee the Clown
- ▶ Live music from John Stey from 10:15 a.m. to noon, and the Resilience Brass Band from 12:15 to 2 p.m.
- ▶ Face painting by Webutuck High School students
- ▶ More activities at the Library and Fire Station

Bring your friends and family for a special day in Millerton!

### Questions?

Contact Nichole Reyes  
[nichole@milieuconsultingny.com](mailto:nichole@milieuconsultingny.com)  
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James H. Clark, CEO/Publisher, [publisher@millertonnews.com](mailto:publisher@millertonnews.com)



TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

JUNE 5

Shelley Read, Author of “Go As A River” in Conversation with Editor Cindy Spiegel

Oblong Rhinebeck, 6422 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck, N.Y.

At 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 5, Shelley Read talks with her Editor Cindy Spiegel about her novel inspired by true events surrounding the destruction of the town of Iola in the 1960s.

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

JUNE 6

First Friday Music

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

The Congregational Church of Salisbury will present its monthly First Friday Music in the Meeting House on Friday, June 6, at 12 p.m. at 30 Main St., Salisbury. The Meeting House will open at 11:45 a.m. For this month's program, David Baranowski has assembled a group of singers to perform “The Peaceable Kingdom” by American composer Randall Thompson. Free to the public.

Lively Flourishes: Ben Pederson & Joy Taylor

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

The Millbrook Arts Project presents an exhibition of dynamic sculpture by Ben Pederson and bold, nature-inspired paintings by Joy Taylor.

On view June 6 through July 5, 2025, with an opening reception on Friday, June 6, 6 to 7:30 p.m.

JUNE 7

Twelve Moons Coffee House

Center On Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Live music, poetry, and storytelling on the 1st Saturday of each month. Doors at 6 p.m., open mic at 6:30, featured artist 8 to 9 p.m. Bring your own dinner or enjoy venue refreshments. June's featured artist: acclaimed fingerstyle guitarist Hiroya Tsukamoto.

Book Signing Event: The Giving Game

The Dutchess Trading Company, 42 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.

4 to 7 p.m.

“The Giving Game: Becoming the Leader That Others Want to Follow” by James Turk

is an essential guide for new managers transitioning from team member to team leader.

Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation

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

Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation screens at 1 p.m. at The Moviehouse (48 Main St., Millerton). A portion of the ticket proceeds from this event will be donated to support Salisbury Central School's SOAR Enrichment Program.

Special Fundraising Screening: The Killing Fields

The Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Mass.

On June 7 at 3 p.m., join actor Sam Waterston and director Matthew Penn for a screening of the Academy Award-winning film The Killing Fields, followed by an on-stage conversation. Tickets: \$60 at www.thetriplex.org

Taghhannuck Grange Annual Plant & Rummage Sale

Grange Hall, 7 Dunbar Road, Sharon, Conn.

The Taghhannuck Grange Annual Plant & Rummage Sale will be on Saturday, June 7 & Sunday, June 8

Donations can be dropped off at the Grange Hall Thursday, May 29, Friday, May 30, Saturday, May 31 from noon to 2 p.m. each day. Donations must be clean and functional. NO FURNITURE or TVs. Email any questions to

Last week's WotW

E	V	E	N	T
F	E	T	C	H
S	T	A	K	E
T	A	S	T	E
W	A	S	T	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.


- Track or swimming team race
- Button to toggle “on” or “off”
- A small handbag
- Amazon subscription service
- June celebrates LGBTQ+

WORD OF THE WEEK ©THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

taghhannuckGrange@gmail.com or call 845-418-9755

Scott Reinhard Art Exhibition – “Here Here Here Here”

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

Reception: Saturday, June 7, 5 to 7 p.m. Art Talk: Thursday, June 12, 5:30 to 7 p.m. Noted cartographer Scott Reinhard presents his first exhibition, featuring a 16-ft composite map of Northwest Connecticut towns.

Stanford Pride – 4th Annual Celebration

Thomasas Equestrian, 302 Pumpkin Lane, Clinton Corners, N.Y.

On Saturday, June 7, from 1 to 4 p.m., celebrate community, diversity, and inclusion at the 4th Annual Stanford Pride Event. Enjoy an afternoon of music, food, and family-friendly activities in a beautiful outdoor setting. All are welcome.

More info: www.stanfordnypride.org | Instagram: @stanfordnypride

JUNE 8

Trails Day Conservation Hike at Trinity Forest Preserve

134 Dibble Hill Road, West Cornwall, Conn.

On Sunday, June 8 at 2 p.m., join conservation leader Barton Jones for a

moderate 1.5-hour hike at Cornwall Conservation Trust's Trinity Forest Preserve. Meet on Dibble Hill Road between #134 and #152. Wear hiking shoes and bring water.

Sophie Eisner, Artist Talk

The Norfolk Library, 9 Greenwoods Road East, Norfolk, Conn.

Join us at 2 p.m. on June 8 for an Artist Talk with Sophie Eisner as she takes us on a deep dive of her exhibition, Holding Patterns, on view at the Library during the month of June. The exhibition explores themes of holding, care, and protection, and the stories that linger within objects. Works on display include hollow forms made of bent sheet metal which Eisner hammer-formed and heat treated; welded “coil” vessels made using a technique she developed to create a basket-like woven surface with molten steel; and upholstered velvet panels that become painting-like wall sculptures.

Balourdet Quartet & Misha Dichter, Piano

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

At 3 p.m. on June 8, Music Mountain will host a concert by the Balourdet Quartet & Misha Dichter on piano.

Great Country Mutt Show

Lime Rock Park, 60 White Hollow Road, Lakeville, Conn.

The Little Guild's annual Great Country Mutt Show will be held at Lime Rock Park on Sunday, June 8 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. A celebration of all dogs, this Westminster-style dog show is free to spectators and held rain or shine under the big tent. To register for the Great Country Mutt Show visit www.littleguild.org. a \$20 registration fee allows for you and your dog to compete in two categories and supports the vital animal rescue work of the Little Guild.

National Children's Day

Millerton, N.Y.

Millerton Business Alliance is sponsoring this Free event in Millerton. Free movie, ice cream social, face painting, arts & crafts and more from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Main Street in Millerton. For more info: visitmillertonny.com

Send calendar items to calendar@lakevillejournal.com.

Items are printed as space permits. All entries can be found at www.TriCornerNews.com/events-calendar.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Marsh plant
- Southern constellation (“The Peacock”)
- Fogginess
- Home to Fools’ Day
- Absence of the sense of pain
- Popular November holiday
- Consume food
- Buddy
- Long-haired goat-antelope
- Japanese honorific
- Actor Malek
- One point south of southeast
- Illegal acts
- As fast as can be done
- Prevents harm to young
- Exclamation of satisfaction
- African nation
- Slow-moving animal
- Oh, goodness!
- A team's best pitcher
- Cleanser
- Radioactivity units
- Expectorated matter
- Cover a wide range
- The central area of a church
- California capital (abbr.)
- Dutch painter Klaver
- 007's creator
- Impression of dishonesty
- Northeastern sports rivalry
- Cloths
- Stalin's police chief
- Hostelries
- Bitterly regret
- Anwar \_\_, Egyptian statesman

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53							54			55	56	
57										58		
59					60					61		

- Mary \_\_, cosmetics
- Expressed in pithy maxims
- Relaxing spaces
- The NFL's big game
- Proof of payment (abbr.)
- Starchy preparation of dried orchid tubers
- Indicates near
- Minneapolis suburb
- Herring-like fish
- Doctors' group
- Pouches
- Bread dipping in sauce
- Commercials
- A reminder of past events
- Affected by injury
- Geological time
- Stationary part of a motor
- Brings together
- Of sound mind
- Personal computer
- Without (French)
- A bank might give you one

- Agricultural testing organization
- A small island
- Type of gene
- Murres
- Card game
- A measure of human health
- Australian airline (abbr.)
- One point south of due west
- Affirmative

May 29 Solution

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

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

May 29 Solution

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

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# Our Towns

## GMF leads bug count to determine stream health

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — One way to determine if a stream has trout in it is to fish it, either with rod and reel, or by electrofishing, in which a section is zapped with electricity and stunned fish float to the surface, where they can be quickly cataloged before they get their wits back and swim away.

The other way is to look at the local environment. Trout need cold, clear, oxygenated water, and they need bugs to eat. If these conditions are met, then the habitat probably supports trout.

This was the plan along Wangum Brook in Great Mountain Forest on the Falls Village side on Saturday, May 31.

Educator Tom Fahsbender met at the GMF barn on Canaan Mountain Road with a group of adults and high school students for a quick briefing at 9 a.m.

He explained that he had performed the same survey in the same spot about 10 years ago with a different group of volunteers.

The work is part of a state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection program called Riffle Bioassessment by Volunteers.

The surveys, conducted by



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

**Tom Fahsbender, right, directs stream testers in Great Mountain Forest May 31.**

similar groups of volunteers statewide, look for streams and rivers with no known pollution sensitivities, a year-round flow, plenty of riffles, no dams, and relatively shallow so the volunteers can get in and out without too much trouble.

Fahsbender said he will submit the information gathered by the group to DEEP, which will include it in the next update of the health of the state's streams.

Of particular interest were macroinvertebrates, such as may flies, caddis flies, stone flies and dobson flies — also known as hellgrammites.

Fahsbender said the presence of these insects is used as “a proxy for water quality.”

“If it's too warm or pollut-

ed or not oxygenated, these organisms won't live there.”

“You don't have to be a scientist,” he emphasized.

“It all comes from fly-fishing,” he added. Fly anglers know about the different insects that make up a trout's diet, and use artificial imitations of real bugs to catch trout.

The surveys must be done the same way, with the same equipment. Fahsbender brandished a kick net with a rectangular business end of 18 x 14 inches and a fine mesh net.

As a bonus, the handle end serves as a wading staff as the volunteer enters the often slippery stream.

The procedure went like this. Each team — there were



**Cali Hoehne held the net steady while her mother Keri scrubbed insects off rocks.**

two teams of two people and one team of three on this occasion — selected a riffle and two areas within the riffle to sample.

Prior to entering the stream each team got about an inch of water into a smallish plastic storage bin and stashed it securely along the bank.

Once in the stream, one person held the net steady in the flow while the other spent two minutes just upstream of the net, picking up rocks and scrubbing them with their hands.

Fahsbender said this is necessary to dislodge the insects, which often cling

quite stubbornly to the rocks. The sampler spent a minute stirring the streambed with a foot to dislodge anything that might have escaped the first procedure.

Then the gunk in the net was carefully emptied into the storage bin.

Just to make everything more exciting, it rained off and on during the collection period. And young Jackson Davis lost the felt sole from one of his hip boots.

The somewhat soggy crew then drove back up the hill to the GMF barn to examine their samples.

As expected, this involved a lot of separating stream

matter — leaves, moss — and bugs. Sometimes a bug was lurking in the stream matter.

Bugs were then transferred into ice cube trays with a bit of water to keep them happy.

Kurt and Jonas Johnson from North Canaan — and Housatonic Valley Regional High School — found a prize: a cased caddis fly.

“It was coming out when we found it but it went back in” observed Jonas.

Jackson Davis, his mother Barb, and Julia Reinert nabbed a stonefly. The Davises are from Canton and Reinert from Winsted. The teens, along with a member of team number three, Cali Hoehne of Torrington, are in the agriculture education program at Northwestern Regional High School.

Cali's mother Keri rounded out the third team. She displayed considerable rock-scrubbing skills.

Fahsbender scooted around the room, keeping an eye on things and reacting to the occasional cries of triumph. It was a pleasant scene.

For more information on the RBV program, see [portal.ct.gov/deep/water/inland-water-monitoring/riffle-bioassessment-by-volunteers-rbv](http://portal.ct.gov/deep/water/inland-water-monitoring/riffle-bioassessment-by-volunteers-rbv)



PHOTO BY ROBIN RORABACK

**Mary O'Neill, a gardener with a plot in Hewat Community Garden, has very good luck growing garlic.**

## Hewat Community Garden brings neighbors together

By Robin Roraback

SALISBURY — Garden plots are available in the Hewat Community Garden, located at 30A Salmon Kill Rd in Salisbury. It is nestled in front of the building housing Salisbury Visiting Nurses and also Salisbury Family Services (SFS), which established the garden.

The garden has full sun and is enclosed by a fence to protect it from nibbling deer. Water, hoses, tools, garden carts, and a compost bin are available for the gardeners to use.

The center space contains a pollinator garden where bees and hummingbirds are already busy, and butterflies are expected. An herb garden is shared by the gardeners. A gazebo offers shade and a table with benches.

Mary O'Neill began planting at the garden when it started in 2013. The community spirit makes it especially attractive to her. “It's really the camaraderie,” she said. “Chatting, getting knowledge. I also like that my family is eating something that I grew.”

Debbie Buckley began the following year. “My backyard became too shady to grow vegetables, especially tomatoes.” Debbie is now the volunteer manager of the garden and a resource for gardening advice. “The most important thing” she says, “is to get out there and have fun!”

“We are blessed to have Debbie. Without her orga-

nizing, there might not even be a garden. I call her our garden guru,” said Patrice McGrath, director of social services at SFS.

Carolyn Berry commented, “This is a wonderful place. When everything is in bloom, it's amazing.”

Joanne Taber contributed, “I live at Noble Horizons and so I have too little land to create a vegetable garden. I love watching my vegetables grow.”

“Fresh tomatoes- big reason I enjoy the garden” said JoAnn Luning.

“In each plot, there is a different sensibility,” noted Patrice McGrath. Some grow only vegetables, only flowers, or some of each.

There are some rules, the main one being “leave things ready for the next person” explained Mary O'Neill. Clean up, put tools away, roll up hoses, keep your plot neat and weed free. Gardeners are also expected to help weed the herb and pollinator gardens.

A few plots are used to grow vegetables for The Corner Food Pantry. Gardeners also contribute surplus produce to the pantry.

The cost of a single plot is \$30; a double is \$50. If that is a hardship for anyone, help is available.

Contact Patrice McGrath at 860-435-5187 or [pmc-grath@salisburyct.us](mailto:pmc-grath@salisburyct.us) for more information.

As Carolyn Berry said, “Now's the time to get planting.”

### Liquor Permit

This is to give notice that I,

Manpreet Singh Multani, 11817 97th Ave #1, South Richmond Hill, NY 11419-1233

Have filed an application placarded 05/30/2025 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT WINE & BEER PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor in the premises at Mizza's Pizza, 6 Ethan Allen Street, Lakeville, CT 06039

The business owned by: S & L Pizza, LLC  
Entertainment will consist of: No Live entertainment

Objections must be filed by: 07-11-2025

Visit <https://portal.ct.gov/remonstrance> for more information  
S & L Pizza, LLC

06-05-25

06-12-25

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF SHIRLEY CHRISTINAT Late of North Canaan (25-00196)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 22, 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: Wayne Christinat PO Box 218 71 Railroad Street North Canaan, CT 06018

Megan M. Foley Clerk

06-05-25

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF FREDERICK SCOVILLE II

**Late of West Cornwall AKA Frederick Ralph Scoville, II, AKA Frederick Scoville, AKA Frederick R. Scoville, II (25-00181)**

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 15, 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: Lynn Scoville c/o Andrea Doyle Asman Litwin Asman, PC 1047 Bantam Rd., P.O. Box 698 Bantam, CT 06750

Beth L. McGuire

Chief Clerk

06-05-25

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF INA BELL Late of Salisbury AKA Ina C. Bell (25-00185)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 20, 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: Madeline Bell c/o David Hoyle Kaye and Associates, LLC 71 Lewis Street Greenwich, CT 06830

Megan M. Foley Clerk

06-05-25

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF SALVATORE R. OSNATO AKA Salvatore Richard Osnato Late of Salisbury (25-00189)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 20, 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: Jaqueline S. Osnato c/o Neal Dennis White Cramer & Anderson, LLP 46 West Street, PO Box 278, Litchfield, CT 06759

Megan M. Foley Clerk

06-05-25

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF BERTHA M. MOODY Late of Falls Village (25-00211)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 20, 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: Steven Moody c/o Kevin F Nelligan The Law Offices of Kevin F. Nelligan, LLC 194 Ashley Fls Rd PO Box 776, Canaan CT, 06018

Megan M. Foley Clerk

06-05-25

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF ELEANOR A. STERNLOF Late of Lakeville (25-00223)

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 20, 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: Karl Erik Sternlof c/o Louise F. Brown, Esq. Vail & Vail, LLC 5 Academy Street P.O. Box 568 Salisbury, CT 06068

Beth L. McGuire Chief Clerk 06-05-25

### Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following actions were taken by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on May 27, 2025:

Approved with Conditions Recommended by the Town Engineer - Application 2025-IW-051 by owners Kenneth & Elizabeth Burdickfordemoand rebuild of existing single family dwelling and associated site improvements. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 60 as lot 17 and is known as 152 South Shore Road, Salisbury.

Approved - Application 2025-IW-056 by owner Salisbury School Inc to replace tennis dome structure with new air-supported dome in similar footprint. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 15 as lot 41 and is known as 251 Canaan Road, Salisbury (Salisbury School).

Deemed Exempt - Application 2025-IW-057D by David Miller (Washinee LLC) requesting a declaratory ruling for a seasonal dock on West Twin Lake associated with 19 Washinee Heights Road easement. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 67 as lot 02-01 and is known as 63 Washinee Heights Road, Salisbury. The owners of the property are William and Kathleen Reiland.

Any aggrieved person may appeal this decision to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §22a-43(a) & §8-8.

06-05-25







Our Towns

Housatonic Academic Bowl Team places seventh nationally

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic Valley Regional High School Academic Bowl Team recently finished seventh place in the nation in a field of approximately 300 schools in the Spring 30-20-10 tournament hosted by the Long Island Quiz Bowl Alliance.

In the 30-20-10 Tournament, teams compete to answer questions in a wide variety of categories, from traditional academic subjects like math and history while also including questions about sports and pop culture. The Fall and Spring 30-20-10 events are the largest quiz bowl tournaments in the country.

The Housatonic team, now in its 30th season, consists of seniors Daniela Bren-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Front row, from left: John DeDonato, Leahy Galvin, Lola Moerschell, Sara Huber, Tess Marks, Daniela Brennan, Ellie Wolgemuth, Ishaan Tantri, Abigail Perotti. Second row, from left: Danny Lesch, Jassim Mohyidin, Junxin Zhang, Harper Howe, Manny Matsudaira, Owen Schnepf, and Jonas Johnson.

nan, Leahy Galvin, Harper Howe, Sara Huber, Katelin Lopes, Tess Marks, Manny Matsudaira, Lola Moerschell, Jassim Mohyidin, Ellie Wol-

gemuth, and Junxin Zhang; juniors Silas Tripp and Shanya Duprey; sophomores John DeDonato, Sydney Howe, Jonas Johnson, Danny

Lesch, and Ishaan Tantri; and freshmen Kip Galvin, Katherine Money, Abigail Perotti, Karmela Quinion, Bridger Rinehart, and Owen Schnepf.

‘Go Native’ exhibit opening June 7

SALISBURY — “Go Native” is the new exhibit at the Salisbury Association’s Academy building at 24 Main St. in Salisbury. It opens Saturday, June 7.

The exhibit from the Salisbury Association Land Trust and Elaine and Lou Hecht is similar to a 2017 exhibit of

the same name, which compared the aesthetic and environmental aspects of native plant species with the costs of “aggressively competitive” invasives.

One goal of the exhibit is to educate residents on why native plant species are necessary for a stable ecosystem.

National Iron Bank among top two performing banks in state

National Iron Bank has been ranked as a top performing bank in Connecticut in the 2025 first quarter Bank Performance Report.

Ranked second overall, the quarterly report documents National Iron Bank’s high financial performance. The top-ranked bank was Chelsea Groton Bank.

The Bank Performance Report is a comprehensive

and standardized assessment that includes examining key financial metrics for banks.

The BPR relies on data from the quarterly Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Call Reports, which are financial reports that banks are required to submit.

Established in 1847, National Iron Bank is New England’s oldest private bank.

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**REAL ESTATE**

the State of Connecticut General Statutes 46a-64c which prohibit the making, printing or publishing or causing to be made, printed or published any notice, statement or advertisement with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, physical or mental disability or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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