



# The Lakeville Journal

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16 PAGES IN 2 SECTIONS VOLUME 129 NUMBER 8      © 2025 LJMN Media, Inc, Periodical Rate Postage Paid at Lakeville (Town of Salisbury), Connecticut 06039      THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2025 \$3.00

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

## Housatonic seniors suit up for final varsity season

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — This football season, eight Housatonic Valley Regional High School seniors will play for the Gilbert/Northwestern/Housatonic co-op team.

This class marks the first grade of HVRHS students to spend four years with the GNH team, which Housatonic joined in 2021.

The players got a taste of the postseason in their first two years, advancing into the state tournament in 2022 and 2023 before entering a rebuild year in 2024. This season, they're ready to make a comeback.

Wes Allyn was named captain of the co-op team. At 6-foot 4-inches and 210 pounds, Allyn has proven himself a force on both sides of the ball as starting tight end and line-backer. He is being recruited by college programs in the region and said he was offered a roster spot at University of New England.

On being named captain, Allyn humbly said, "There's a ton of seniors on the team that deserve cap-



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

**Most of Housatonic Valley Regional High School's senior football players caught up with The Lakeville Journal Thursday, Sept. 11. Back row from left, Cole Simonds, Owen Riemer and Wes Allyn. Front row from left, Cohen Cecchinato, Tyler Roberts, Hunter Conklin and Nick Crodelle. Not pictured is Logan Labshere, who was absent from school that day.**

tain just as much as I do... I just get to go out and do the coin toss." When asked if he'll choose heads or tails, he said, "[Coach] Big Sal

said heads but I'm kind of a 'tails never fails' guy."

See FOOTBALL, Page A10



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

The case of Jacquier vs. Camardi is expected to continue at Torrington Superior Court the week of Sept. 15.

## Party nominees take legal action to remain on North Canaan ballot

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — A pair of Democratic Town Committee (DTC) candidates are seeking legal recourse to ensure they are included on the ballot this November despite errors on the party endorsement slate.

Plaintiffs Jean Jacquier and Carol Overby brought the case against defendant Marilisa Camardi to Torrington Superior Court, which held an evidentiary hearing Friday, Sept. 12. Testimony from both sides aimed to explain the situation to Judge Ann E. Lynch.

At the July 22 DTC caucus, Jacquier was endorsed as the party's candidate for Town Clerk and Overby was endorsed to run for Board of Finance.

The next day, DTC chair and caucus secretary Chris Jacques

filed the full endorsement slate and State Election Enforcement Commission (SEEC) documents to Assistant Town Clerk Marilisa Camardi. But the slate was missing information: Jacquier and Overby were not assigned to a specific office or term.

"I am a rookie at this," Jacques said on the witness stand. "I suppose I just didn't look at it closely enough."

Jacquier testified that she was not wearing her glasses while filling out her information on the official endorsement slate and "made a clerical mistake."

Overby was not called as a witness.

Camardi testified to noticing on July 24 that the form was missing information and, after cross ref-

See BALLOT, Page A10

## Wake Robin public hearing closes

By Alec Linden

LAKEVILLE — The public hearing for the redevelopment of Wake Robin Inn is over. Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission now has two months to make a decision.

The hearing closed on Tuesday, Sept. 9, after its seventh session.

Michael Klemens, chair of P&Z, had warned at the opening of the proceedings that "this might be a long night" due to a last-minute influx of material from experts hired by Wells Hill Road residents William and Angela Cruger to oppose the project, but this turned out not to be the case.

These 11th hour submissions set a sour tone to the start of the meeting, with commissioner Robert Riva stating that it was "not very professional to pull this stunt on this Commission." Riva said he had diligently reviewed the already substantial documentation provided by both the applicant and the opposing experts, and was surprised to find a "dump" of additional information submitted just hours before the meeting's start time at 6 p.m.

Tensions were quickly eased, however, when William Cruger offered his concise summation of his

platform's opposition to the expansion, which is the second iteration of the project after an earlier version was withdrawn late last year.

"It's important for you all to hear from me that there was never any disrespect intended to the Commission, the commissioners, and to the process," Cruger said. He defended the last-minute submissions as an effort on the part of the experts to be thorough in their analysis: "Our intention... has been and remains to do our best to get whatever we think will be helpful in

your deliberations into the record."

The Crugers formally entered the hearing process as intervenors for the first application from Aradev LLC, the applicant, in the fall of 2024, meaning they and their hired consultants had full party status in the hearing proceedings. During this cycle, however, they chose not to petition for intervenor status, yet during this round of hearings their role has been similar. Klemens described them as having

See WAKE ROBIN, Page A10

## Writer decodes the frontier of weather forecasting

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Technological advances make it possible for people to get more information about what's happening with the weather. It's up to those individuals what they do with it.

That was one takeaway from a discussion between Thomas E. Weber, author of "Cloud Warriors: Deadly Storms, Climate Chaos—and the Pioneers Creating a Revolution in Weather Forecasting" and his former colleague at The Wall Street Journal (and current editor of The Lakeville Journal) John Coston at the Scoville Memorial Library Sunday, Sept. 7.

Coston asked about the personal safety aspect of weather forecasting.

Weber said when he started the book he expected to get a lot of material about computer models.

But he soon met a social scientist from the University of Oklahoma who was interested in why people keep getting killed in natural disasters when the warnings keep getting better.

"It's about how people process warnings," Weber said, noting that the library talk was originally scheduled in August but postponed because of flash flood warnings.

See WEATHER, Page A10



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Author Thomas E. Weber, left, was in conversation with John Coston at Scoville Memorial Library Sunday, Sept. 7, to discuss the changing field of meteorology.



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Online This Week

Falls Village rescinds trailer ordinance

Four agenda items were approved by Falls Village voters at a town meeting Thursday, Sept. 11. More at lakevillejournal.com

# Kent sets Sept. 18 public hearing, town meeting on cannabis regs

**By Alec Linden**

KENT — After a minor but notable revision, the Planning and Zoning Commission and Board of Selectmen sent the long-deliberated “Regulation of Cannabis Ordinance” to public hearing and a town vote.

The ordinance, if voted through by the town, would ban the sale of recreational cannabis in town but allow medicinal dispensaries on the basis of approval by P&Z. It was informed by the results of a survey distributed to the townspeople late last year.

Also to be deliberated at the Sept. 18 hearing date are three other ordinance proposals: one to regulate commercial bus travel on town-owned roads that feed into South Kent Road, another to restrict leaving material in public roadways, and a final one regulating the purchasing of services, equipment and goods for town business.

Full drafts of each ordinance are available on the town’s website.

## Chicken dinner to benefit Falls Village Volunteer Fire Dept.

FALLS VILLAGE — The Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department is holding a take-out only chicken barbeque dinner Saturday, Sept. 20, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$20 for adults.

Ages 10 and under are free.

The proceeds will go toward funding a new ambulance.

For tickets email fvvfd@comcast.net or call 860-924-5298.

## 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.*

**Assault warrant arrest**  
Just after 9 a.m. on Sept. 6, troopers served an arrest warrant to Robin Nichols, 60, of Sharon for an incident dated to July 4 of this year. Nichols was processed for disorderly conduct and third degree assault and was subsequently released on a \$2,500 non-surety bond. She was scheduled to appear at Torrington Superior Court on Sept. 17.

**Asleep at the wheel crash**  
On the morning of Sept. 7, Michael Magill, 61, of Harwinton fell asleep at the wheel of his Honda Accord LX while traveling east on Route 44 in North Canaan. The car drifted off the right shoulder and struck a utility pole, damaging the pole and disabling the vehicle. Magill was uninjured in the crash. He was found to be at fault for the incident and was issued a written warning for failure to drive in proper lane.

**Driver leaves vehicle after tree strike**  
Just after midnight on Sept. 8, Benjamin Dubow, 30, of Falls Village was traveling north on Route 7 in Cornwall when he drove off the road, striking a tree. The Subaru

Legacy Outback SSV Ltd was disabled in the incident, but he was uninjured and left the scene of the accident before troopers arrived. He was later located at his Falls Village address where he was issued an infraction for failure to drive in proper lane.

**Illegal camping arrest**  
Troop B received several calls on Sept. 9 regarding an unknown individual camping in the residential area near Housatonic Avenue and Park Avenue in North Canaan. Troopers investigated the calls, ultimately arresting Lucas Wells, 48, of North Canaan, who had an active warrant for his arrest. He was transferred to Troop B for processing, and was ultimately issued a bond for \$903, which he posted. He is scheduled to appear at Torrington Superior Court on Sept. 19.

**Car strikes tree**  
On the morning of Sept. 10, Gwen Lindberg, 27, of Somerset, Pennsylvania, was driving east on Johnson Road in Falls Village when she struck a tree. The Nissan Versa was disabled in the crash, and Lindberg initially left the scene after sustaining a minor knee injury. After calling Troop B to notify of the incident, Lingberg returned to the accident location where she was issued a citation for failure to maintain proper lane.

**Rear-end hit-and-run on Point of Rocks Road**  
On the afternoon of Sept. 10, Danella Schiffer, 81, of Salisbury was traveling in her Volvo XC40 Plus on Point of Rocks Road near the intersection with Sand Road in Falls Village when, upon stopping, she was rear-ended by a brown pickup truck. The driver of the truck was identified as a white male in his 30s before driving away down Point of Rocks Road. Schiffer was uninjured in the incident. The case remains under investigation, and anyone with information is encouraged to contact Troop B at 860-626-1820 or Trooper Colon #1159 at jean.colon.carattini@ct.gov.

*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 subject, to editor@lakevillejournal.com*



Chris Ohmen worked the griddle Saturday, Sept. 13.

## Pancake party at SVAS

**By Patrick L. Sullivan**

LAKEVILLE — Chris Ohmen flipped large blueberry-studded pancakes with the nonchalance that bespeaks years of practice during the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service’s pancake breakfast at the Grove Saturday, Sept. 13.

Inside the tables were filled with a cross-section of Salisbury, ranging in age from toddlers to “it’s better not to ask.”

Stacey Dodge, Grove manager and SVAS member, was happy. “All my cooks, all my servers came back,” she said, gesturing to the line of people dressed in SVAS shirts ready to heap pancakes and sausages on the plates.

## Housing summit Sept. 29

SHARON — Join Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity at Sharon Center School Monday, Sept. 29, from 5 to 7 p.m. for the 2025 Housing Affordability Summit.

This annual gathering will highlight recent efforts to create housing options in the region.

Seila Mosquera-Bruno, commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Housing, will speak at the summit.

Arrive earlier at 4 p.m. for a groundbreaking ceremony of the Sharon Community Center, which will be converted into affordable rental housing.

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Our Towns



PHOTO BY CHRISTINE BATES

Located close to the road, 393 Lime Rock Road was the least expensive house sold in Salisbury this summer. Built in 1850, it is appraised at \$135,000 and sold for \$165,000.

Salisbury’s August real estate sales

By Christine Bates

SALISBURY — With approximately 50 sales of single-family homes per year in Salisbury, the month of August’s property 11 transfers constitute another busy month.

Salisbury’s median prices peaked on a 12-month basis in May 2025 at \$1,350,000 and by August had declined to \$962,500 – still 18% higher than August of last year.

By mid-September there were 26 single family homes and two condos listed for sale with a median price around \$1,500,000.

Transactions

393 Lime Rock Road — 2 bedroom/2 bath home built in 1850 on 0.62 acres sold by Lime Rock Ventures Incorporated to 393 Lime Rock LLC for \$165,000.

4 Lime Rock Hollow Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home on 0.81 acres sold by Laura James and Jonathan Daniel Kosakow to Catherine C. Bowman Revocable Trust and Nicholas W.W. Boman Revocable Trust for \$585,000.

136 Belgo Road — Mid-Century renovated 4 bedroom/4.5 bath home ranch on 7.23 acres sold by Step Aside LLC to Peter Donohoe for \$2,361,000.

28 Rocky Lane — 1 bedroom/1.5 bath home on 0.63 acres sold by Carol Connolly Trustee Natures World Order Ministries to Lee F. Potter and Nicholas F. Potter for \$690,000.

Twin Lakes Road — 296.77 acres sold by SLH Holdings LLC to Salisbury Association Incorporated for \$2,450,000.

34 Lime Rock Road — 2 bedroom/2 bath home on 7.66 acres sold by Pond Drive LLC to Hotchkiss School for \$1,195,000.

9 Overlook Drive — 4 bedroom/4.5 bath modern house built in 1982 sold by

Lisa Billington Foehrenbach and Jens Foehrenbach to Andrew E. Zobler for \$2,587,000.

20 Undermountain Road — 5 bedroom/3.5 bath home on 1.1 acres sold by Holly M. Leibrock to Michael M. Keating and Avele Conlogue for \$865,000.

240 Main Street — 4 bedroom/2 bath home sold by Sherry Newkirk to McBride Builders LLC for \$650,000.

195 Undermountain Road — 2 bedroom/1 bath home sold by Estate of Lester A. Hoysradt to Linda Roddy for \$310,000.

15 Echo Street — 3 bedroom/1 bath home home on 0.49 acres plus an additional 0.03 acre parcel sold by Samuel Hurwitz to Adam J. Lang and Brian Dunkin for \$420,000.

53 Wells Hill Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home with guest house sold by Serena W. Granberry to 53 Wells Hill LLC for \$720,000.

*\* Town of Salisbury real estate transfers recorded as sold between Aug. 1 and Aug. 31, 2025, provided by the Salisbury Town Clerk. Transfers without consideration are not included. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby’s International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY.*

**CORRECTION** The report on Canaan/Falls Village transfers published on Aug. 14 mistakenly provided the incorrect address of a property. Instead of 309 Route 7 North, the correct entry is: 43 Dublin Road — 4 bedroom/2.5 bath home with 18 acres and a pool sold by Patrick Hafner to John Duca for \$650,000.

Music in the Meadow brings community together for health

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — Community Health & Wellness Center’s annual fundraiser, Music in the Meadow, drew a lively crowd Friday evening, Sept. 13, at the Barn at Stillwaters Farm.

Guests enjoyed an enchanting night filled with music, scenic views and farm-to-table flavors in support of the nonprofit’s mission.

Set against the rolling hills of Stillwaters Farm, the evening featured live entertainment from singer-songwriter Johnny Irion, which brought the crowd to their feet with a soulful mix of music.

Guests dined on a menu prepared by Emily’s Catering Group, while browsing an impressive silent auction that included experiences from Lime Rock Park, Foxwoods Resort & Casino, the New York Giants, Boston Red Sox, Warner Theatre, among many others.

Hosts Thao and Scott Matlock welcomed supporters to the rustic barn setting, where friends, neighbors, sponsors and donors came together to celebrate community spirit and the vital work of Community Health & Wellness Center (CHWC), the only comprehensive Federally Qualified Health Center in Northwest Connecticut.

Guests also received a warm welcome from Maria Gonzalez of New Opportunities, Inc, who serves as chair of CHWC’s board of trustees, as well as State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64), and Joanne Borduas, CEO of Community Health & Wellness, which operates healthcare centers in North Canaan, Winsted and Torrington.

Event sponsors included, Gold level: NBT Bank, Shipman & Goodwin LLP and The Hotchkiss School. Silver sponsors were Mountain-side Treatment Center and Northwell Health/Nuvance Health. Bronze sponsors included Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, Ed Herrington, Inc., Elyse Harney Real Estate, Eversource, Indian Mountain School, National Iron Bank, Northwest Community Bank, PAC Group and Torrington Savings Bank. QualPrint donated the printing of event



PHOTOS BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Above, Tom Quinn, State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64), Joanne Borduas, CEO of Community Health & Wellness, and Nancy Heaton, CEO of the Sharon based Foundation for Community Health. Below, Kimberly Aguilar, Olivia Paulino and Maria Gonzalez of New Opportunities, Inc., and Justin Gonzalez of Baroco Corporation.



programs.

As CHWC’s largest annual fundraiser, Music in the Meadow supports residents across the region, regardless

of their ability to pay.

“The money raised will go towards general operating/fulfilling our mission to provide high-quality, com-

prehensive medical and behavioral healthcare to our community,” said Kelly Baxter Spitz, CHWC’s director of development.

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Steven J. Brandfield joins Bradley, Foster & Sargent



We are pleased to announce that Steven J. Brandfield has joined the team at Bradley, Foster & Sargent. Steve brings a wealth of insight, experience, and leadership to our team. Steve joins us from NBT Bank where he was Vice President and Senior Institutional Wealth Management Consultant. Previously he led the business development effort for the Trust & Wealth division at Salisbury Bank & Trust.

Active in the community Steve serves on the board of Music Mountain and formerly served as President and board member of the Cornwall Historical Society.

Please join us in welcoming Steve in the upcoming months.



**Steven J. Brandfield**  
(860) 241-4609  
sbrandfield@bfsinvest.com  
www.bfsinvest.com

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**Meet & Greet Democratic Candidates**

**Town Grove**  
**Sunday, September 28**  
**4-7pm**

all voters welcome  
**FREE family BBQ**

Paid for by the Salisbury Democratic Town Committee, Pamela Kelley, Treasurer



# Kent reviews 13-unit affordable housing proposal

By Ruth Epstein

KENT — Deciding to get an opinion from its engineer, the Planning and Zoning Commission Thursday continued the hearing until next month on Kent Affordable Housing’s application for the 13-unit affordable housing project off Maple Street despite pleas from KAH board members.

Justin Potter, chairman of KAH, went through a detailed presentation of the plan, which calls for a single building with an elevator to be located adjacent to the South Common affordable housing complex on 1.15 acres now owned by the town. Once all approvals are received, the town will pass the property to KAH.

Potter began by explaining the group has been working on this project for more than two years, aware of the great need for more affordable housing in town. There are currently 37 affordable units with 24 at South Common and three separate buildings

at Stuart Farms. Rents range from \$400 to \$1,400. Typically, there are between 40 and 60 families on the waiting list and 70% of business owners say they have trouble with staffing because rents are too high for employees.

“In July, the figure for the median house price in Kent was \$665,000,” Potter said.

The property for the project is near the public works garage and recreational space for Park and Recreation. Potter said those two entities would not be infringed upon.

Laura Crowley, an architect with Schader Seinau Associates, hired by KAH, gave some details on landscaping, lighting and fire alarm systems. There will be two- and three-story walkouts from the building. Sidewalks will connect the building to the nearby park so residents can access it safely, as well as to South Common. She said conceptual approval has been received from the Sewer Commission.

Potter talked about the parking, which is being pro-



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

A rendering of the proposed 13-unit affordable housing building that was discussed at Thursday’s hearing of the Kent Planning and Zoning Commission.

posed at 18 spaces for the building that will contain nine one-bedroom apartments and four two-bedroom units. The proposal will seek reserved spots for the tenants, with additional parking provided at South Common, where there is an abundance of space.

When discussing fire safety, Crowley said all fire and building code requirements have been met. Potter said they would seek emergency access through the transfer station, which has been given the nod by the fire department and fire marshal.

Fire chief Alan Gawel

spoke about needing access for dealing with a three-story building and suggested perhaps the gravel parking area near the tennis courts could be designated for the ladder truck if needed. First Selectman Martin Lindenmayer took strong exception, saying that was never part of the discussion when the whole proposal was formulated. “This is getting out of hand,” he said strongly. “We need more recreation. We already discussed this.”

Potter responded, “There’s a balancing of different priorities. We can work out details for making things easier for the fire department.”

When Commission Chairman Wes Wyrick said he had some concerns with stormwater runoff, KAH’s engineer Roy Seelye of Cardinal

Engineering said an analysis showed a small increase in runoff, “but because of its proximity to the brook, I didn’t think much about it.”

Donna Hayes, former zoning enforcement official, asked commissioners if they thought their engineer should look at the drainage. Members were polled and said they thought that was a good idea.

Current Land Use Administrator Tai Kern said if the commission’s engineer is brought in, the cost is borne by the applicant. Potter said he didn’t see the need since the application went through scrutiny by the Inland Wetlands Commission, which gave its approval.

KAH member Gregg Sheridan said, “KAH has been a responsible developer in Kent since the 1990s. What we’ve paid Cardinal is formidable. To put this cost on us, as a nonprofit, is unreasonable.”

Kern responded, “Someone has to pay them.” Sheridan said, “I expect a partnership. It’s not unreasonable for the town to take on some of the cost.” Potter said time is also a concern, since the matter won’t be discussed for another month.

When Seelye said it was his engineer’s intuition that there would be little increase in stormwater drainage from this project, commissioner Sarah Chase said, “We’ve never worked off intuition. It’s like working off assumption and the commission should never do that.”

# Art facility hearing closes with no decision

By Alec Linden

SHARON — The public hearing for the development of a commercial district office and event space for local arts nonprofit Low Road Sharon closed on Sept. 10 with a note of reconciliation between neighbors and the applicant.

The plans involve demolishing the two existing buildings at 1 Low Road and replacing them with two structures facing each other across a central green. A public footpath will connect Lovers Lane to Low Road.

Thomas Dore, who had been outspoken in his opposition to certain aspects of the plans in the two previous hearing sessions, took a propitiatory tone during his testimony on Wednesday evening. “I think we’d like to support it,” he said, though he reaffirmed his wish that the impact on Lovers Lane be mitigated and reiterated his disapproval of the footpath intended to run alongside Beardsley Pond Brook.

traffic on Lovers Lane.

Lovers Lane resident Rob-in Leech, who had spoken at previous hearing sessions, voiced his worries about the path, describing it as a potential “lure” for people to travel between Lovers Lane and Low Road. He also said the “community at large” is concerned about a “land bridge to the other holdings,” referring to Jasper Johns’ other properties in town that are planned to be used for an artist colony in the future.

Selectman Lynn Kearcher spoke up about the potential for increased traffic on the narrow and half-paved Lovers Lane. “As a native of Sharon, I’m very protective of our residents” on the street, some of whom have lived there for decades, she said.

Representing Low Road Sharon, Conley Rollins affirmed the project design is meant to have minimal impact on Lovers Lane, and that the downtown facility

is planned to remain largely separate from the future artist retreat. He reiterated from previous meetings that the intended use of the development is staff offices and occasional public programming. “This is in the commercial district,” he said.

As for the footpath, Rollins said he was happy to ban ATV or Gator use on the path except for occasional maintenance conducted by staff. P&Z alternate Jill Drew questioned whether the path is necessary at all to the broader project. Rollins replied, “we have felt that it’s additive to the project” as a way to enjoy a scenic section of the property but is not strictly necessary.

After closing the hearing, the Commission briefly deliberated conditions to place on an approval. P&Z Secretary Stanley MacMillan Jr. suggested that the pathway be cut off about halfway across the property. Vice

Chair Betsy Hall added that it should be incumbent upon Low Road Sharon to instruct attendees of any events to not travel through Lovers Lane.

The Commission ultimately decided to table any decision while the town attorney reviews the application. P&Z will resume the conversation at its next regular meeting on Oct. 8.

## LEGAL NOTICES

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

Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on September 8, 2025:

Approved subject to an anti-traction ground protection mat being implemented for the heavy equipment used - Application IWWC-25-67 by David Durning for “Removal of concrete pillars deposited along shore line” and “Installation of stone steps to give easier access to lake.” The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor’s map 60 lot 16 and is known as 148 South Shore Road, Salisbury. The owner of the property is Catherine Durning Trust.

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.

Town of Salisbury  
Inland Wetlands and  
Watercourses Commission  
Sally Spillane, Secretary  
09-18-25

**NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
ESTATE OF FRANCES  
MARY NICKERSON  
Late of Cornwall  
(25-00308)**

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 12, 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:  
David Nickerson  
c/o Patrick Sterling White  
Doyon and White Law  
Group  
555 Long Wharf Drive  
1st Floor, New Haven,  
CT 06511

Beth L. McGuire  
Chief Clerk  
09-18-25

**NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
ESTATE OF  
MELINDA M. SWEET  
Late of Salisbury  
AKA Melinda Ann Sweet  
(25-00320)**

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 12, 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:  
Christopher Smith Drew  
c/o Christopher Smith  
Drew  
Drew Law, PC, 47 West  
Main Street, Avon, CT 06001  
Megan M. Foley  
Clerk  
09-18-25

**NOTICE TO  
CREDITORS  
ESTATE OF  
ALLISON  
SHELLENBERGER  
Late of Salisbury  
(25-00323)**

The Hon. Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated August 12, 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:  
John R. Hurley  
403 Salmon Kill Road  
Lakeville, CT 06039  
Beth L. McGuire  
Chief Clerk  
09-18-25

**TAX COLLECTOR  
TOWN OF  
SALISBURY CT  
LEGAL NOTICE**

Pursuant to Sec. 12-145 of the Connecticut Statutes, the taxpayers of the Town of Salisbury are hereby notified that the second installment on the Grand List of October 1, 2024 is due and payable on October 1, 2025. Payments must be received or postmarked by November 3, 2025. If said Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are not paid on or before November 3, 2025 interest at the rate of 1 (18% per year) will be added for each month or a fraction thereof which elapses from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until the same is paid. Minimum interest charge is \$2.00.

Taxes can be paid by mail addressed to: Tax Collector, P.O. BOX 338, Salisbury CT 06068 or Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury CT. There is a drop box in the vestibule of the Town Hall available 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday or the 24-hour drop box on the back side of the building off Factory Street. Tax Office is open Mon, Wed, Fri, 9am-4pm, closed 12:30pm-1:30pm. The Town is urging taxpayers to use the option to pay by credit card or e-check. Please go to the Town website [salisburyct.us](http://salisburyct.us), View/Pay Taxes Tab. Dated at Salisbury, CT this 9th day of September, 2025.

Jean F. Bell  
CCMC Tax Collector  
09-18-25  
10-09-25  
10-23-25

# Falls Village receives grants for affordable homes

FALLS VILLAGE — Connecticut has awarded the Falls Village Housing Trust two grants to purchase and renovate two houses with a total of five rental units.

The renovations of the apartments began in Fall 2024 and are expected to be done by the end of 2025. One unit will be ADA accessible.

The five new units will increase Falls Village’s affordable housing stock by nearly 50%. Currently only 11 units of affordable housing exist in town, per the Trust.

To learn more and support the efforts of FVHT, visit [fallsvillagehousingtrust.org](http://fallsvillagehousingtrust.org)

## Housatonic Heritage Walks 2025

Celebrate our heritage through hiking, walking & biking



Enjoy more than 70 FREE guided adventures on five autumn weekends

September 6 & 7  
September 13 & 14  
September 20 & 21  
September 27 & 28  
October 4 & 5

[www.heritage-hikes.org](http://www.heritage-hikes.org)



OBITUARIES

William Sanford Kelsey

SHARON — William Sanford Kelsey, 81, of 397 Clayton Road, passed away peacefully at his home on Tuesday, Sept. 9, 2025. He was the loving husband of the late Patricia Kilby Fleming Kelsey, who died in 2020.



Born on Feb. 18, 1944, in Sharon, Bill was the son of the late William Samuel and Frances (Morehouse) Kelsey. Following high school, Bill enlisted in the U.S. Navy, serving proudly in the U.S. Naval Air Corps from 1965 to 1969. After returning home, he worked in a variety of occupations, including mechanic and welder, but found his greatest satisfaction as a tractor-trailer driver for Westchester Modular Homes.

Bill was deeply committed to his community, serving with the Sharon Fire Department, on the Sharon School Building Committee, and as a member of the Sharon Congregational Church. A gifted builder and creator, he lived off the grid for over 20 years — an accomplishment he was very proud of. He loved working with his hands and always enjoyed building and creating new things. In his free time, he enjoyed deer hunting, fishing, and golfing, and any activity that allowed

him to spend time outdoors. Above all, Bill valued family and deeply cherished his lifelong friends. He was always there to lend a helping hand to a friend in need and proudly shared the accomplishments of his children and grandkids. He is survived by his two children; Adam Kelsey and his wife Katy of Denver, Colorado, and Amy Wheeler and her husband Kevin of Woodstock, Vermont. He also leaves behind his two sisters, Patricia Beatty of Wakefield, Rhode Island, and Lin Peterson of Glastonbury, Connecticut; four grandchildren, Quinn and Violet Kelsey and Liam and Hannah Wheeler; as well as several cousins and extended family members who remained an important part of his life.

A Celebration of Bill's Life will be held on Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025, at 11 a.m. with a reception to follow at the Sharon Congregational Church, 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT 06069. Burial with Full Military Honors will follow at 2 p.m. at Salisbury Cemetery, Undermountain Road, Salisbury, CT 06068.

Arrangements are under the care of Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main Street, North Canaan, CT 06018.

Paul E. Rebillard

SALISBURY — Paul E Rebillard, "Bing" to close friends and family, passed peacefully and surrounded by family on Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2025, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He was 82 years of age.



Born in Hartford, Connecticut on March 14, 1943, to the late Paul and Esther Rebillard, Paul grew up in Salisbury, where he graduated from the Salisbury School (Class of '61). After a brief European sojourn, he then settled in the Hartford area to attend the University of Hartford (Class of '66, '94), engage in a career in insurance at Connecticut Mutual, and raise a family with Ann, his former wife. He relocated to south Florida in the late '90s where he continued his second career as a radiologic technician — providing compassionate care to residents of senior living communities throughout the state.

When he was not working, Paul was a passionate fan

and collector of art, watches and music, enjoyed dancing and the live music scene of Dade and Broward counties, and explored Florida's natural beauty — boardwalks, beaches and parks, especially the Everglades. Above all, Paul will be remembered for his kind and generous nature, sweet and easygoing personality and sharply intelligent sense of humor, all of which were present until his final moments.

He is survived by his four children; Jean-Paul, Gabrielle, Nicole and Patrick; his seven grandchildren, Zoe, Aidan, Jack, Olivia, Anya, Margaux and Sophie; his sister, Lynn; his close friend Reta; and many colleagues, friends and family.

Memorial services will be held privately.

In lieu of flowers, the Rebillard family asks that donations be made in Paul's name to the American Kidney Fund (www.kidneyfund.org).

PINE PLAINS — Bonnie Jean Stedt died peacefully at home on Sept. 5, 2025.

Her body was 81 years old. Her spirit was forever young. Originally from Southern California, Bonnie began her business management career at I Magnin in San Francisco in 1967. By the early 1970's, Bonnie had begun career-pathing up the ladder at Filene's Department Store in Boston. She was promoted often, ultimately to Vice President, Stores and to Senior Vice President, Personnel and Labor Relations. In those early days, Bonnie was widely known as the 'glass ceiling breaker.'

In 1986, Bonnie briefly returned to California to Bullock's Department Store as Senior Vice President, Operations, before being recruited to and joining the worldwide American Express Company, in 1988, headquartered in Lower Manhattan. She headed Human Resources for American Express for the next 13 years, as Executive Vice President. She met many world leaders and was connected to world events in this position. Her role in shepherding the employees of the AmEx headquarters site, a near neighbor to the Twin Towers, through the

9/11 tragedy, was particularly notable.

Bonnie was an avid equestrian. In her corporate retirement, she loved nothing more than rounding up her three dogs and loading two or three of her magnificent horses into their trailer and driving to horse competitions all over the East coast.

She was a highly successful competitive rider and supporter of the Eventing discipline, the triathlon of equestrian sports. She won many championships and in 2005 was first in the year-end awards for the Northeast Area (USEA Area 1) on her beloved horse Clancy Himself. Additionally she was Vice President of the Millbrook Hunt and foxhunted for over three decades. She owned Foxrace Farm, her personal horse farm. No one was more important to Bonnie than friend and Olympian Boyd Martin. She was an initial syndicate owner and sponsor of Otis Barbotiere, Boyd's horse for the 2012 Olympic Games in London. This year, 2025, Boyd has many wins on Bonnie's horse, Miss Lulu



Herself, including the Millbrook Horse Trials in August. Her relationship with Boyd and his wife Silva was close to 20 years.

Colleagues and cohorts, described Bonnie in so many different words, but all netted to 'superb friend,' 'wonderfully lively companion to travel the world with,' 'smart and funny -- never a dull moment,' 'appropriately serious when she had to be,' 'always full of heart and

courage.' Preceded in death by her father, Arthur R. Stedt, her mother Antoinette Verbragen Stedt and her brother, Larry Stedt, Bonnie is survived by her niece, Shannon Casey. In her illness she was wonderfully cared for by Carolyn Oakman in Aiken South Carolina.

Bonnie leaves her neighbors in mourning from Pine Plains, New York and in Aiken, South Carolina, her two home locations, as well as good friends from around the whole country.

Celebration of Life

Scott Thornton

KENT — A Celebration of Life will be held for Scott Thornton on Saturday, Sept. 27, at 1 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Kent, 97 North Main St., Kent,

Conn. A reception will follow at the Kent Community House next door. Feel free to bring stories to share for a memory book.

Richard Stratton

LAKEVILLE — Richard Stratton of Chappaqua, New York and Lakeville, passed away on Aug. 31, in Princeton, New Jersey, at the age of 92 with his loving wife by his side.



Born in 1933 in Buffalo, New York, Dick was the oldest child of Ida and Lou. He was predeceased by his brother Jerry and sister Judy.

He was a proud graduate of Cornell University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Business Administration degree. While at Cornell, he met the love of his life, Betty Oshman, who he married in 1956. He remained a devoted, loving husband throughout their 68 years of marriage. Nothing made him happier than being by her side.

Together they built a beautiful life raising their three children, Jon, Kathy and Lynne who survive him.

Dick began his career as an accountant with IBM, where he was a dedicated employee for 34 years. He later continued his work with the Westchester County Health Department, serving another 16 years before retiring.

Beyond his professional life, he loved spending sum-

mers in Lakeville where he enjoyed time with family and good friends, and admiring the natural beauty of the area.

After retirement he and Betty continued their love of learning, taking many thought provoking and engaging classes at The Taconic Learning Center.

But more than his accomplishments or hobbies, he will be best remembered for his kind and gentle manner, his easy-going personality, and his big smile. He never had a harsh word for anyone, and his loving and generous spirit touched all who knew him.

He leaves behind the love of his life, wife of 68 years, Betty, his son Jon, daughter Kathy and her husband Steve Meersma, and his daughter Lynne and her husband John Kohnken. He also leaves his four cherished grandchildren; Melissa, Thomas, Kim and Brian.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made in his memory to The Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service Box 582 Salisbury CT 06068 or the Scoville Memorial Library, Box 455 Salisbury, CT 06068.



### Worship Services

Week of September 21, 2025

**Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon**  
9 South Main, Sharon CT  
Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M.  
Transitioning through prayer  
All welcome to join us  
860-364-5260  
www.christchurchsharon.org

**Trinity Episcopal Church**  
484 Lime Rock Rd. Lakeville  
Offering companionship along the Way  
Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.  
Livestream at 10:30 found at  
www.trinitylimerock.org  
trinity@trinitylimerock.org  
(860) 435-2627

**North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC**  
Joyfully opening our hearts  
and doors to all God's people  
172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT  
Worship services Sundays at 10 am  
www.Facebook.com/  
northcanaancongregational  
860-824-7252

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

**Congregation Beth David**  
A reform Jewish Synagogue  
3344 East Main St., Amenia  
**SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM**  
Twice Monthly • Followed by Oneg  
(Calendar at congbethdavid.org)  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
Rabbi Jon Haddon  
845-373-8264  
info@congbethdavid.org

**The Lakeville United Methodist Church**  
319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039  
9:15 a.m. Worship Service  
9:15 a.m. Sunday School  
"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors"  
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse  
860-435-9496  
Lakevillemethodist@snet.net

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

**The Sharon United Methodist Church**  
112 Upper Main Street,  
North End of Sharon Green  
Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care  
No Sunday School in Summer  
The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse  
860-364-5634  
sharonumc5634@att.net

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

**Promised Land Baptist Church**  
29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT  
Where you will find: A Warm Welcome!  
Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow!  
Sunday School - 10am  
Sunday Worship - 11am  
Wednesday Bible Study  
and Prayer Meeting — 7PM  
(860) 824-5685  
VISITORS WELCOME!  
www.promisedlandbaptist.org

**All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church**  
313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT  
Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M.  
Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M.  
Special Services Online  
Rev. John Kreta  
860-824-1340 | allsaintsofamerica.us

**Millerton United Methodist Church**  
6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812  
Millerton, NY 12546  
Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday  
of each month at 3:00 P.M.  
518-789-3138

**The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C.**  
30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT  
Whoever you are,  
wherever you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here!  
Worship, Sundays at 10 am,  
in-person and streaming  
www.salisburyucc.org  
Sharing God's shalom:  
Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy!  
(860) 435-2442

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT  
**SUNDAY SERVICE**  
10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II)  
Rev. Dr. Johan Johnson,  
Priest-in-Charge  
In-Person and on YouTube  
www.stjohnssalisbury.org

**Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT**  
Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons  
Sunday, October 12 at 10:30 a.m.  
For information, contact Jo Loi  
at joklaui@gmail.com  
All are Welcome

**ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH**  
Immaculate Conception,  
4 North Street, Norfolk  
St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan  
St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville  
**MASS SCHEDULE**  
Saturday Vigil 4 pm, St. Joseph Church  
Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary  
Sunday 11 a.m.,  
Immaculate Conception Church  
**DAILY MASS SCHEDULE**  
Wednesday 6pm  
St. Joseph Chapel or Church  
Thursday 8am  
Immaculate Conception Church  
Friday 8am  
Church of St. Mary  
ALL ARE WELCOME!  
For information,  
please call 860-824-7078

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

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

**St. Thomas Episcopal Church**  
40 Leedsville Road  
Amenia Union, NY  
**SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:30**  
**IN-PERSON AND ONLINE**  
Visit our website for links  
Rev. AJ Stack  
845-373-9161  
www.stthomasamenia.com  
A Community of Radical Hospitality

**Sharon Congregational**  
25 Main Street, Sharon, CT  
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.  
Visit our website  
sharoncongregationalchurch.org  
for Sunday services  
Contact us at 860-364-5002 or  
info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org

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

OUR TOWNS

North Canaan remembers Sept. 11 victims

By Patrick L. Sullivan

NORTH CANAAN — The observance in North Canaan of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attack was muted.

On Thursday morning, Sept. 11, a very large American flag hung outside the firehouse, and inside were exhibits detailing the timeline of the day and various items, including relics from the rubble at the World Trade Center and examples of firefighting equipment.

A table held a looseleaf notebook with the names of the dead from the attacks, plus the names of service members who died during the War on Terror, including first responders and service members killed up to the

Abbey Gate bombing in Afghanistan on Aug. 26, 2021.

Anyone could simply sit down and start reading the names, making sure to indicate where they stopped for the next reader.

In previous years the names were read over a loudspeaker, and the First Litchfield Artillery Regiment set up a cannon to be fired off at critical moments such as when the hijacked planes hit the Twin Towers.

But the 2025 version of the ceremony was much quieter.

A large American flag was raised in front of Canaan Fire Co. Thursday, Sept. 11, in memory of the victims of the attacks in 2001.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN





PHOTO BY THOMAS BLAGDEN

The quality of our water depends on choices made in stewarding our properties.

## A trickle down system that works

### A quarterly letter from the Salisbury Conservation Commission

Welcome to the Salisbury Conservation Commission's quarterly missive. Our mission is to educate ourselves as well as fellow Salisburyans on the important natural habitats unique to our beautiful and fascinating town and to learn how better to preserve them, armed with science and determination.

We had a wonderful rainy spring and early summer here in the Northwest Corner. Not so good for tennis and golf, but fabulous for filtration which is the exciting process whereby our aquifer gets replenished. Here we will review this process and hope that more rain is coming soon.

Water is delicious. Salisburyans get their drinking water from either private wells or town water, the latter being managed by Aquarion Water Company. The town water comes from two different sources: surface water and ground water. The surface water comes from two reservoirs, Reservoir #1 and #2, located on the Taconic uplift and is filtered at the Lakeville water treatment facility. These reservoirs supply 21% of the water used by the town. The town's ground water comes from two well fields that access the aquifer. This water has gone through a natural filtration process and does not need to be treated. The two reservoirs and the ground water serve about 2,200 people in our town of about 4,000.

Water from the aquifer has been purified by filtration, a process that occurs when rainwater, on its trip to the ground, is slowed first by the tree canopy and then by the foliage of understory plants allowing for a gentle delivery to the forest floor. Some of the rain is absorbed by tree and plant roots, but not all. What is left continues through the humus, sand, and rocks that trap sediments, bacteria, heavy metals, phosphorus and nitrogen, leaving naturally filtered water to descend to the aquifer. Forests are the stars in this filtration adventure. Their trees' leaves and needles provide buffers for the rain. The "understory" plays an important role in this filtration process as well.

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION CORNER

When there is an extreme weather event, such as the heavy downpours that we are seeing more frequently these days, there needs to be a dense growth of trees and understory to protect important soils from eroding. "Whenever water is brownish in color on rainy days, it is carrying off valuable soil." (*Peter Wohlleben, "The Hidden Life of Trees", p.87.*)

If all goes according to plan, the forest floor acts like a sponge, soaking up the gently delivered rainwater.

Salisbury's forests were denuded from the mid-nineteenth to mid-twentieth centuries to power Salisbury's charcoal industry. Now they play another critical role in our town's life. They provide important habitats, filter rainwater, cool our air and many other essential benefits to our lives. Curtis Rand, First Selectman and professional forester, comments that: "Taking care of our forests is crucial for our well-being. Forests mitigate climate change, regulate our water, prevent soil erosion and provide biodiversity." To read more about our town's forests, please read the "Forest" section of Salisbury's NRI found here: [www.salisburyct.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Natural-ResourceInventory2009.pdf](http://www.salisburyct.us/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Natural-ResourceInventory2009.pdf)

To help preserve this synergistic water filtration system, we asked AI "how do we keep Salisbury, CT water clean?" Its answer was surprisingly helpful with important takeaways being:

— Properly dispose of hazardous waste: Never pour fats, oils, grease, household chemicals, or medications down the sink or toilet. Salisbury participates in the HazWaste Central program, which offers safe and free disposal of these items at a facility in New Haven.

You'll need to pre-register online for collection events, which run on Saturdays from May to October.

—Landscaping and Outdoors:

—Leave your leaves on your forest floor and wherever else they have fallen. Those leaves create duff, which is the stuff that slows water down and increases the first part of filtration. It helps to slow the flow and move water verti-

cally. If you must rake leaves, rake them downhill to the bottom of your lawn and make a berm.

Taking leaves away in bags or a truck is a loss for your bank account and a loss for the environment.

—Minimize the use of fertilizers and pesticides, which can contaminate runoff.

Consider organic or slow-release fertilizers, if needed at all.

—Direct downspouts onto permeable surfaces like lawns or consider installing rain barrels to collect and reuse rainwater for plants.

—Pick up after your pets and dispose of waste properly.

—In the community:

—Support local regulations: Vote for policies that protect local water resources and support responsible land use.

—Educate others: Share information about water conservation and pollution prevention with friends, family, and neighbors.

The Conservation Commission suggests planting native plants. They need less water to grow than non-native plants and support our ecosystem by feeding critters that help our trees and the understory to thrive, preserving the process of filtration. The quality of our water resources is directly dependent on the choices we residents make in stewarding our properties.

Please reach us at [conservationcommission@salisburyct.us](mailto:conservationcommission@salisburyct.us) for comments and suggestions.

## Another way to look at Medicaid cuts impact

Regarding Cameron Smith's letter of Sept. 4 listing his version of misconceptions about projected negative effects of Medicaid cutbacks in the One Big Beautiful Bill, here is another set of counter-facts.

1. Investigating Medicaid fraud and abuse has always occurred in previous administrations, though new schemes continue to pop up. Further savings from investigating fraud could happen BUT there is so much disarray in HSS under RFK jr, and so many firings, including those by DOGE, that who is left to carry out adequate investigations?

2. Undocumented Immigrants are NOT ELIGIBLE for Federal funds like Medicaid and only receive certain emergency services. No savings there. However, 1.4 million people will likely be removed from STATE Medicaid rolls as a result of



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Political figures fair game for cartoonists

Bravo to The Lakeville Journal for publishing cartoons that are timely, insightful, and consistently on point. In his letter to the editor in the Sept. 4 edition, Tom Morrison complained that the cartoons unfairly target Republicans. Hmmmm... I looked back over the past few months of cartoons and found almost none with a character labeled as a Republican.

I did, however, see skewering of President Trump and Senator Joni Ernst — but haven't political figures always been fair game for editorial cartoonists?

There is one cartoon from February that shows a character with "MAGA" written across the back of his shirt, facing a judge who is giving him a light sentence. Is that what Mr. Morrison is objecting to? If so, he might consider that the editorial

cartoons are not criticizing people simply for their party affiliation, but for the policies and actions being promoted by a president who leads the Republican Party.

Citizens who continue to support a president known for spreading misinformation — and who back policies that undermine health insurance, voting rights, reproductive freedom, scientific research, and protections for vulnerable populations, while advancing tax breaks for the wealthy — should expect to be held accountable through satire and commentary, including in political cartoons. That's the purpose of editorial cartoons: to provoke thought about what we are doing and supporting.

Rather than objecting to these well-founded criticisms, Mr. Morrison and others concerned about the Republican Party's image might instead reflect on — and work to change — the policies and behaviors that are causing harm to millions, both in the U.S. and abroad. As the saying goes: Hate the sin, but love the sinner.

Lee Greenhouse  
Salisbury

### In defense of Steiner's cartoons

It's interesting that Tom Morrison, Salisbury Republican Chair, perceives Peter Steiner's cartoons as "mocking everything Republican." The truth is, Steiner's political art focuses mostly on people and policies, especially ones that are misguided, flawed, illogical, corrupt, cruel and anti-democratic. Done with humor and a light touch, cartoons like these may be one of the few ways left to subvert anything (or anyone) these days.

That Mr. Morrison takes such offense is telling, too. It reminds me of a similar confrontation in New York City, when after the Civil War, Thomas Nast's cartoons in Harper's Weekly relentlessly lampooned William "Boss" Tweed and his corrupt Tammany Hall. Boss Tweed famously cried out: "Stop them damned pictures!" — a protest that now sounds remarkably familiar. But the popular cartoons proved extremely effective, and ultimately, they led to Tweed's ouster and conviction.

Maybe history will repeat.  
Henry Labalme  
West Cornwall

### THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

(USPS 303280)

An Independent Connecticut Newspaper  
Published Weekly by LJMN Media, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization; Dan Dwyer, Chair  
64 Route 7 North, Falls Village, CT 06031

P.O. Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039-9989

(860) 435-9873 • [lakevillejournal.com](http://lakevillejournal.com) • [editor@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:editor@lakevillejournal.com)

Volume 129, Number 8 Thursday, September 18, 2025

### Mission Statement

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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CORRESPONDENTS: Debra Aleksinas; Jennifer Almquist; Lans Christensen; Leila Hawken; Matthew Kreta.

LJMN Media, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Subscription Rates - One Year: \$120.00 in Litchfield County, \$147.00 outside county  
Known Office of Publication: Lakeville, CT 06039-1688. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Lakeville, CT 06039. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to LJMN Media, Inc., PO Box 1688, Lakeville, Connecticut 06039-1688.

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

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

Send to [publisher@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:publisher@lakevillejournal.com)  
Include name, town and phone number. Please keep letters to 500 words or less.

More letters to the editor on Page A7



# Viewpoint

## TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

**125 years ago — September 1900**  
Quiet supreme reigns in and around our homes again; school has commenced.

The new foot bridge over the brook near the Library is being placed in position. The new structure will add greatly to the convenience of the public and the general appearance of that section of the highway.

**SHARON —** The Messrs. Geo. Gay and Frank Northrup intend laying pipes from the mountain directly opposite Mr. Gay's for the purpose of bringing water from a large spring there to the two houses and barns.

Geo. Klebes of Sharon Valley has purchased and will soon move into the home of his father, the late Michael Klebes.

The work of fitting up the new telephone office at Gordon's is being done. This, when completed, will occupy a large corner of Mr. Gordon's store and will add greatly to the telephone service.

Miss Nellie Ryder, who went on from Falls Village to Klondike to meet and wed U.G. Meyers, got there all right and was married July 26th. — Now living in Eagle City.

**100 years ago — September 1925**  
The many friends of Mrs. George Williamson were shocked to hear that she had been accidentally shot by a revolver at her home in Albuquerque, New Mexico, on Tuesday, the bullet entering the abdominal section. She was hurried to the hospital and her parents, Dr. and Mrs. William Bissell, were notified. They at once left by the first train for Albuquerque. At the last moment before going to press the Journal learns that Mrs. Williamson seems slightly better and some slight hopes of her recovery are entertained.

## Status Report

**KENT —** The deadline for application submissions for the Kent Conservation Commission's 2025 Street Tree Incentive Program grants has been extended until Sept. 30. Up to three \$500 grants are available to motivated residents and businesses motivated to plant shady trees in downtown Kent and the Flanders Historic District. Visit the Commission's website, [www.townofkentct.gov/conservation-commission](http://www.townofkentct.gov/conservation-commission)

**SHARON —** Town Hall is seeking proposals from qualified contractors for the following services: plowing town sidewalks, mowing Town Green, etc. for the 2025-'26 season. Contact the Selectmen's office for info 860-364-5789.

**NORTH CANAAN —** Recipients of the Town Hall newsletter learned Monday, Sept. 8, that First Selectman Brian Ohler became a father. Baby Saylor Rose Ohler and mom Meagan are both happy and healthy.

William Brewster Hubbard died from a fractured skull at his home at Cream Hill near West Cornwall last Friday. He was carrying a pail of milk from his cow barn when he slipped and fell, striking his head, and died almost immediately. Mr. Hubbard was one of Cornwall's prominent citizens and had a wide circle of friends throughout this section.

**LAKEVILLE —** Several from here have gone to Torrington to work.

Mrs. John Barrymore, wife of the noted actor of New York and Mrs. F.G. Gerard of Newport were guests at The Gateway on Wednesday night.

**50 years ago — September 1975**  
A moving van had to be pressed into service last week, when a woman in an iron lung needed emergency transportation from her home to Sharon Hospital. Arnoff Moving & Storage Inc. in Lakeville was called upon when Genie Chester of Lime Rock was taken ill at her home. Her 3000-pound iron lung was too heavy to be handled by the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance. The five men who responded to the call — Larry Farnham, Francis Flint, Robert Francis, Bryant Killmer and Walter Killmer — refused to charge for their work time, and the Arnoff firm donated the use of the moving van. Mrs. Chester was reported in "good" condition at the hospital on Wednesday of this week. A spokesman for Arnoff said the men were expecting to carry her on the return trip to her home Thursday morning.

Deer poaching is a big business in the Northwest Corner and combating it takes much time of enforcement personnel, Conservation Officer Peter Begley told members of the Salisbury Rotary Club Tuesday. One group sold 125 deer during 1973-1974, mostly taken in the Northwest Corner, he said. Another took more than 100 deer from the Cornwall area to New York in a U-Haul truck in 1969-1970. Last year one crew killed 22 deer in a single night and one man alone killed eight. Another man bought an illegally killed deer for \$75 and sold it to an undercover conservation officer for \$150.

New York City's famed Salmagundi Club, the oldest art club in the United States, has announced the winner of the 1975 Graphics and Sculpture Exhibition's First Prize,

member Alderson Magee, wildlife artist from Sharon. Mrs. Magee's scratchboard drawing "Prairie Refuge," showing two Pintail ducks landing ahead of a severe Midwest thunderstorm, was the winning entry.

Four Sheffield youths were arrested quickly Sunday evening after a robbery at Segalla's Service Station in Canaan. The young men allegedly took \$190 from the cash register of the gas station. The young men parked their car along side of the road, entered the gas station. According to attendant William Sackett, he found one of the boys in the office and noticed the cash register had been tampered with, and opening it, discovered all the bills had been removed. The boy denied any knowledge of the missing money and ran. A customer waiting outside noticed the make of the car and its license number, enabling police to trace the young men.

**25 years ago — September 2000**  
**CANAAN —** In years to come, William Warner can truthfully tell his tale about catching "the big one." The 11-year-old, bursting with delight and displaying a beaming smile, described how he had seen a large pike swimming in the Housatonic River for quite a while, but was unable to snag it with his pole. That was, until last Saturday, when his Phoebe, or silver lure, attracted the elusive fish. The sixth-grader at North Canaan Elementary School said catching the 38-inch was the easy part. Lifting it up on shore presented difficulties. The squirming pike, fighting for freedom, was finally landed by William and his brother Matthew, but not before Matthew's skin was punctured by the fish's sharp teeth. The family plans to have William's "pride and joy" mounted.

The leaves on Allen Cockerline's cornstalks have not begun to droop like those on other stalks around the Northwest Corner. They remain green and erect, like arms reaching up to heaven. Mr. Cockerline, a farmer and artist, has etched a mystical corn maze into the fields he tends at the border of Falls Village and Lime Rock, at the intersection of routes 7 and 112. The maze has become a popular destination for weekend travelers to the region. "A lot of families come," Mr. Cockerline said. "They seem to have the most fun, because the kids can usually ditch their parents in the maze."

## Remembering 9/11

*Falls Village First Selectman Dave Barger opened the town meeting on 9/11 with the following:*  
Good Evening,

I would ask you all to stand and remove your hat if you have one. A lot has happened in our nation in the last few weeks, but on this 24th Year of Remembrance of 9/11, we stand here by our flag, we remember the lives that were lost, the families forever changed, and the courage shown by so many.

We also reflect on the lessons 9/11 taught us, those being the importance of unity in the face of adversity, the value of everyday heroism, and the need to never take for granted the peace and freedoms we enjoy.

May we all continue to honor the memory of those we lost, not only with our words, but with our actions by demonstrating compassion, bravery, and dedication to preserving our shared values of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

I ask you now to please join me as we together observe a moment of silence to remember this tragedy and honor all who lost their lives.

*For more letters, see Page A6.*

## Kirk's murder and the cancel culture

Over the last century in the United States what has become known as cancel culture has moved from the political right to the political left.

The Red scares of the 1920s and 1950s were a conservative phenomenon that blacklisted, deported, and even imprisoned people for real or suspected leftist political views that were equated, often wrongly, with treason and disloyalty.

Today cancel culture is a leftist phenomenon that contrives no pretense about treason and disloyalty. It seeks to silence conservatives simply because they are politically objectionable. The shooter who assassinated Turning Point USA founder Charlie Kirk, the conservative advocate of free speech and sincere dialogue with the other side, was the exemplar of cancel culture, illuminating where it will take the country.

Being allied with cancel culture, most Democratic officials don't want to examine the Kirk assassination too closely. Democrats, including Connecticut's U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy and U.S. Reps. John B. Larson and Jahana Hayes, seem to prefer to attribute the assassination to the country's gun problem, so as to put Republicans, defenders of Second Amendment rights, on the defensive. During an angry confrontation on the floor of the House of Representatives on Sept. 10, Hayes objected to a call for prayers for Kirk and his family, shrieking, "Pass some gun laws!"

There may be room for more gun laws on the federal level, but the assassination of Kirk is not an argument for them. Kirk appears to have been killed by an ordinary bolt-action hunting rifle, not the sort of semi-automatic rifles Democrats delight in

## THE CHRIS POWELL COLUMN

mislabeling as "assault weapons" as they seek to outlaw them. Is the country now to outlaw even rudimentary rifles while nearly all gun crime is committed with handguns?

**Connecticut's gun laws already are nearly the most restrictive in the country and the state's problem is not that it lacks laws but enforcement.**

Connecticut's gun laws already are nearly the most restrictive in the country and the state's problem is not that it lacks laws but enforcement. Two years ago the state Office of Legislative Research reported that nearly two-thirds of criminal charges involving guns in Connecticut were routinely dropped in plea bargaining to get convictions on related charges considered more serious, like robbery.

If Connecticut ever took gun crime seriously it would make the gun charges the most serious and upon conviction impose mandatory sentences of life without parole. But then most new imprisonments would involve impoverished members of racial minorities, and legislators might be asked where all the poverty keeps coming from despite all the money they spend in the name of reducing it.

While from the beginning American political rhetoric often has been venomous, it never has been as venomous as it is today.

President Trump is a major perpetrator of it but he is far outnumbered by its perpetrators among the Democratic Party's looney left in government and academia, and at least Trump hasn't turned his office into an agency of cancel culture. His many firings of executive branch Democrats are matters of political patronage, explained by the great insight of Kentucky Sen. Alben Barkley, a Democrat, during the 1948 presidential campaign: "What is a 'bureaucrat'? A 'bureaucrat' is a Democrat who holds an office some Republican wants."

What can stop cancel culture from getting even more murderous and totalitarian? Only a return to what Judge Learned Hand called the spirit of liberty:

"The spirit of liberty is the spirit which is not too sure it is right. The spirit of liberty is the spirit which seeks to understand the minds of other men and women. The spirit of liberty is the spirit which weighs their interests alongside its own without bias. The spirit of liberty remembers that not even a sparrow falls to earth unheeded. The spirit of liberty is the spirit of Him who, near 2,000 years ago, taught mankind the lesson it has never learned but never quite forgotten: that there may be a kingdom where the least shall be heard and considered side by side with the greatest."

Charlie Kirk pursued the spirit of liberty. May others still dare to follow him.

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

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## It's the candidate, not the party

Once again we are embarking on another November election when we choose the individuals we want to serve in our local offices, boards and commissions. And once again Republican candidates face virtually insurmountable odds: the town's 421 registered Republicans are badly outnumbered by registered Democrats (1534) and Unaffiliated voters (1083).

If past elections are a guide, Democrats and the majority of Unaffiliated voters will – due to their feelings about national politics – cast their votes for all the Democrat and/or Independent candidates on the ballot. Yet November 4th is a purely local election. The hot button issues that consume so much television, print and social media attention are not the least bit relevant to the upcoming local election. All voters should want the most talented, honest and dedicated members of the community to assume responsibility for governing our town.

The Republican party has two such candidates on the November ballot: Don Mayland, running for Selectman, and Peter Becket, running for the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Don Mayland has been part of the Lakeville/Salisbury community since 1970. He taught economics at Hotchkiss for 38 years, served as a Director of Litchfield Bancorp for 41 years (26 years as Chairman), served

on the Board of Finance for 24 years and served three terms as one of our three Selectmen. Don is highly respected in the Salisbury community; during his nine years as a Selectman, he worked extremely well with First Selectman Curtis Rand and Democrat Selectman Chris Williams. In 2023, he lost his bid for re-election by two votes.


Peter Becket is a graduate of Yale University, has an MBA from Columbia University and served as an Infantry Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps. Peter has long been active in the community, including service on the Board of Education (he is a current member), the Fire House Building Committee

and the Transfer Station Recycling Committee. Peter's business experience as a bank officer, real estate agent and business appraiser makes him uniquely qualified for hearing disputes about property valuation, which is the mission of the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Salisbury would be fortunate to have Don Mayland return as a Selectman and Peter Becket to bring his valuation expertise to the Board of Assessment Appeals. They deserve your vote on November 4th.


**Tom Morrison,  
Chair, Salisbury  
Republican Town  
Committee**

Lakeville



## Realtor® at Large

UConn's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources has a wonderful guide on how to buy firewood for the upcoming heating season. The first tip is to purchase the firewood early this fall and to make sure that it is seasoned hardwood, like maple and oak. Hardwoods that are seasoned will burn hotter than softwoods, like pine, and produce less creosote, which can build up and become a fire hazard. This guide will give you information on how to know if the wood is seasoned and also what things to look for so you can be assured that you are getting your money's worth. To review this guide, please go to [portal.ct.gov/deep/forestry/fpa-and-um/um/firewood](http://portal.ct.gov/deep/forestry/fpa-and-um/um/firewood) and click on Firewood Tips.



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Our Towns

Ag Fair fun fills Village Green in Cornwall

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — The 33rd annual Cornwall Agricultural Fair was held beneath clear blue skies Saturday, Sept. 13.

Organized by the Cornwall Agricultural Commission, the yearly event brings people, animals and produce together on the Village Green for a day of agricultural appreciation.

Vendors sold goods, community organizations shared information on their efforts and locally sourced produce was judged by experts.

Nathan Young, sophomore at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, entered a dozen eggs into the competition. His assortment of white and brown eggs was awarded first place in the egg division. Young said the first step to producing prize-winning eggs is, “Get some chickens.”

At high noon, Pastor Micki Nunn-Miller of the United Church of Christ in Cornwall led the traditional blessing of



Nathan Young presents his blue ribbon eggs at the Ag Fair.



Children enjoy an assortment of lawn games around the hay bale play area in the middle of the Village Green in Cornwall Sept. 13.



Pastor Micki Nunn-Miller blesses the animals.

the animals. “Whether they are pets or working animals, we are grateful. Bless them. Amen,” she said in the vicinity of dogs, chickens, cows, llamas, a donkey and a horse.

The Cornwall Conservation Commission was raising awareness on composting and also invasive species

in the area. Bruce Bennett was at the booth signing up attendees for a free raffle to award new composters to lucky winners. He also showed examples of invasive plants, citing bittersweet and knotweed as the two most problematic species in town. Those who could identify the

invasive plants by sight got a bonus raffle ticket for the composter.

Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department’s booth was promoting its effort to raise money for new trucks. President Dick Sears said the fundraising campaign, which seeks to raise \$600,000 by December, is off to a good start and “the main event” will be the CVFD Open House Sunday, Oct. 19, from 12 to 2 p.m. at the firehouse in West Cornwall.

The Ag Commission tent was staffed by Jen Markow. She helped organize the event and had a last-minute idea to offer corn, milk and cookies in her booth. “I baked the cookies last night,” she said.

Her son, Spencer Markow, was over at the other end of the Green with the antique tractors and engines. “These are so fascinating to me,” he said after explaining the different components of a gas-powered engine to a youngster that showed interest. Markow graduated from SUNY Morrisville last year with a degree in agricultural mechanics.

Nearby was war reenactor Warren Stevens in full Revolutionary-era regalia. He demonstrated different



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Spencer Markow explains how gas engines work to a youngster who showed interest at the Ag Fair.

aspects of life in 1775 to help promote Cornwall’s plans to celebrate the nation’s 250th birthday next year.

Next to him was the Produce2thePeople tent, a small volunteer group that supplies and redistributes food to pantries in the Northwest Corner. Michelle Shipp and Chris Mullins grow vegetables at the community garden plots on Route 4 and deliver it, along with other

donations, to food banks in need. “The need is so great,” said Shipp. “We have been delivering seven days a week.”

And in the middle of it all was a stack of haybales and yard games for children. After a couple hours of climbing and playing, the games and the haybales morphed into one big playpen that produced youthful giggles through the afternoon.

Rediscovering America’s long lost chestnut tree

By Robin Roraback

FALLS VILLAGE — On Sunday, Sept. 14, a small crowd gathered at the American Chestnut Orchard at the foot of The Great Mountain Forest on Undermountain Road in Falls Village to hear Ellery “Woods” Sinclair talk about the American chestnut tree – the restoration of which he has championed for many years. The orchard was planted for that purpose.

Sinclair, a former English teacher, is manager of the orchard, planted in 2006 by students of the Ag-Ed Department of Housatonic Valley Regional High School and its teacher Mark Burdick. They planted 25 trees in each row, for a total of 80 trees across the two-acre lot. Students have returned ever since to help maintain it.

It had been, Sinclair said, “the single most abundant tree” in America, with one out of five trees being an American chestnut and “an important food for wildlife, from bees getting, to caterpillars eating its leaves, to deer and bear eating the chestnuts.”

Sinclair said that the American chestnut is an “iconic tree.”

“Many of the houses around here were built from white oak or chestnut. But chestnut is impervious to rot.” It was used for furniture, house framing, shingles, firewood, and coffins, and it provided the wood preservative, tannin.

In 1904, an Asian fungus, cryphonestria parasitica, was accidentally introduced into the United States. “By 1911, thirty percent of the American chestnuts in the United States were hopelessly infected,” Sinclair said. “By 1950, four billion, over nine million acres were destroyed by the blight.”

Sinclair said, Dr Leila Pinchot, restoration ecologist from the US Forest Service, who’s specialty is reintroducing American chestnut trees, was instrumental in helping to start the orchard.

Sinclair explained, “The trees in the orchard are hybrids. Fifteen-sixteenths American chestnut and one-sixteenth Chinese chestnut.” The Chinese chestnut is resistant to the fungus causing the blight.



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Attendees listen as Ellery “Woods” Sinclair describe the history and importance of the American Chestnut at the American Chestnut Orchard in Falls Village on Sunday, Sept. 14.

Jack Swatt, President of the Connecticut chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation, stated that they now feel that the amount of Chinese Chestnut should be higher because all of the trees in the orchard have been infected by the blight to some degree.

He added that the solution to getting blight-resistant trees will probably be a mixture of techniques including adding genes from trees like willows which are resistant to the fungus and which trigger attacks on the fungus and kill it.”

Before introducing any genetic engineering into the environment, Swatt said, “It must be approved by many agencies and deregulated. It must be proven not to be a danger to the environment.”

Swatt feels it is well worth pursuing genetic engineering in order to “restore the environment” that the American chestnut had a large part in

sustaining, being a keystone species.

Sinclair said, “A greatest pleasure has been rediscovery and regeneration of interest in and appreciation by family and students for the American chestnut.”

Juried art show grows at Trinity Lime Rock Church

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LIME ROCK — The Trinity Gallery juried art show opened Friday, Sept. 12 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lime Rock.

The winner was Pamela Berkeley’s “Marigold, Comet, Eclipse and the Ghost.”

Organizer Theresa Kenney said there were over 120 works in the show, the largest number of submissions in recent memory.

The show continues through Saturday and Sun-



PHOTO PROVIDED

Pamela Berkeley won first prize for her painting.

day, Sept. 20 and 21, noon to 4 p.m.



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Our Towns



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW  
Standing, from left, HVRHS students Violeta Londono, Phoebe Conklin, Lainey Diorio, Zaira Celso-Cristobal, Lyla Diorio and Eliana Lang served guests at the HVRHS travel club's dinner Friday, Sept. 12. Seated, Sue and Deron Bayer dined at the event.

HVRHS students raise money for worldwide travel

By Simon Markow

SALISBURY — The annual wine dinner fundraiser for the HVRHS Travel Club took place at the White Hart Inn on Aug. 12.

Students attending this year's trips to France/England and Australia/New Zealand helped set up ta-

bles and tents for the event. When the crowd arrived they served guests and mingled with sponsors to talk about their excitement for the upcoming experiences.

Luke Miller auctioned off Broadway tickets and weekends at vacations homes with the help of August Olsen who charmed the crowd.

P&Z questions impact of rezoning request

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — The long-term effect of permitting industrial activity in a residential/agricultural zone was discussed by the Planning and Zoning Commission Monday, Sept. 8.

Commissioners reviewed an application from Ryan Foley, owner of R Foley Electric LLC, to rezone a 6.4-acre section of his property on W. Main St. for industrial use. The parcel is adjacent to the Transfer Station, and the remaining 48.19 acres of his property would remain residential/agricultural.

Chairman Mike O'Connor suggested that a special permit may be more appropriate than granting the zoning change.

"Switching to industrial opens up a whole gamut of what could be there," said O'Connor. "What he has proposed is allowed in a residential/agricultural area with a special permit."

Foley's application did not include a specific plan for the parcel. Planning consultant Martin Connor said the change was to "allow the owners of that property to develop that section of property for industrial development."

Commissioner Doug Humes noted the property may have to be subdivided prior to approving a change on a particular section of the land. Commissioner Peter

Brown suggested consulting the town attorney Randy DiBella.

The matter was tabled to the October meeting.

Text change amendment

Prior to the regular P&Z meeting Sept. 8, a public hearing was held for a text change to a specific regulation. O'Connor explained the change, which was to add email as an acceptable form of communication for mining operators notifying the zoning enforcement officer of work outside of normal hours of operation.

The hearing was closed after two minutes with no comment from the public. In the regular meeting that followed, P&Z unanimously approved the text change.

During the public comment section of the regular meeting, Robert Sprague, who arrived after the public hearing was closed, spoke on the topic.

Sprague said he had previously filed complaints to the ZEO about mining activity outside of normal hours. Per Sprague, ZEO George Martin had not received prior notice of the work.

Sprague questioned why the regulations were loosened if operators are not actively following the rules.

"There was no even attempt to notify the officer until there was a complaint made. So how is that [text change] going to make it any better?" Sprague asked.

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — First Selectman Curtis Rand told the Board of Selectmen that the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) is not willing to fund moving the old train station building on Ethan Allen Street in Lakeville. Nor is it interested in paying for a new foundation.

The selectmen have been discussing moving the building, which is awkwardly situated across from restaurants and near the approach to the town Grove. Truck drivers in particular have a hard time with it, as evidenced by the half dozen times the building has been hit in the last couple of years. The town currently has concrete barriers in front of the building.

Rand said SHPO is con-

sidering putting up \$30,000 for a bid package for engineering plans to move the building and put in a new foundation.

Transfer Station update

Salisbury-Sharon transfer station manager Brian Bartram told the selectmen that three new trash haulers have appeared in town. The problem is the haulers are not bringing the trash they pick up to the transfer station.

He said he is working on getting in touch with the haulers and explaining that Salisbury and Sharon trash needs to come to the transfer station, and that residents who use these haulers are still obligated to purchase transfer station stickers.

Crossing guard

Rand said Salisbury Central School needs crossing



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

The roof of the old train station on Ethan Allen Street has been repeatedly hit by trucks in recent years.

guard(s) for the Lincoln City Road/Route 44 intersection. A couple of volunteers have

been handling the job, but their term of service is up. The position is paid.

Public hears farm zoning change proposal

By Alec Linden

SHARON — At the Sept. 10 meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission, residents weighed in on a proposed zoning amendment that would codify accessory uses for Sharon's farms.

The regulation is meant to help farmers support their farming operations with supplementary income and is geared towards "sustaining the local agricultural economy and retaining the town's rural character," according to the regulation draft language.

The proposed uses available for special permit applications include year-round farm stores, farm-to-table dinners, wineries, breweries, farm product processing facilities, farm vacation stays and general indoor and outdoor events.

The draft stipulates that the proposed accessory use must be secondary to the primary agricultural operation of the farm, and the farm must be at least five acres and actively cultivated.

Some members of the public felt the language was dangerously vague and could allow for unintended consequences.

"This is way too general for what's coming to this town in terms of development," said Carol Flaton, voicing her concern that the loose definition of a cultivated farm could be abused.

Land Use Administrator Jamie Casey said that Sharon's regulations are intentionally general to allow for greater collaboration between the applicant and the land use commissions during project design. It's better when

things are "a little bit vague," she said, allowing applicants more breadth and room for creativity and working with the commissions to formulate the details. "These things are worked out at a meeting," she said.

P&Z Vice Chair Betsy Hall pointed out that the requirement of the accessory use being secondary ensures that proposed uses overshadow the agricultural aspects of the property. "It's not like we're going to let a manufacturing operation open on the farm," she said. "We're talking about the working farmers."

P&Z alternate Jill Drew

concurred that "the vagueness is a feature, not a bug."

Selectman Lynn Kearcher suggested that the minimal property size be greater than five acres, which Hall said the Commission would consider when it picks the discussion back up at the next meeting.

The Commission plans to discuss the issue of noisy chickens in residential areas at its Sept. 24 planning session. Casey announced that she had received a complaint from Sharon Valley Road resident Letitia Brazee about a flock of chickens at a neighboring property. Brazee wanted clarification in the zoning regulations as to what

animals are considered farm animals and how a farm is defined.

The current regulations, last modified in June 2023, allow farms in any zone in Sharon providing the lot is three acres or greater. The term farm, however, is not included in the regulations' list of definitions, and the only animals currently regulated for lot area are horses.

Further complicating matters is the state's "Right to Farm" law, which exempts agricultural activity from being "deemed to constitute a nuisance" unless the municipality adopts an ordinance or regulation "to the contrary."

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BALLOT

Continued from Page A1

erencing the accompanying SEEC documents, filled in the blanks herself. It was established during the hearing that making clerical corrections on forms is within proper protocol for a town clerk.

On Aug. 7, however, First Selectman Brian Ohler alerted the Secretary of the State’s (SOTS) office that the original document was incomplete. (Ohler was not present at the Sept. 12 hearing.)

SOTS Election Officer Heather Augeri reviewed the slate as it was originally submitted. Per the filing, she responded that the endorsements were not properly certified and therefore void. Augeri advised Camardi remove both nominees from the ballot.

Jacquier testified that since the Aug. 7 correspondence she has had several phone calls with Augeri, who she described as a friend. Jacquier said Augeri relayed the same message to her: “She said it’s not valid.”

Camardi is the acting Town Clerk in North Canaan, though she is technically Jacquier’s part-time assistant. Jacquier is the current, four-term elected Town Clerk but has not reported to work since February fol-

lowing a dispute between her and the first selectman. “I did not resign. I did not quit. I just left,” Jacquier testified. “I couldn’t stand the turmoil.”

Plaintiff attorney John Kennelly said the SOTS office has no statutory authority to rule on issues relating to municipal party endorsements. Kennelly claimed that as the acting Town Clerk, Camardi is the sole individual responsible for finalizing and certifying the town election ballot.

Kennelly asserted that if Camardi was informed through the SEEC documents of which offices Jacquier and Overby were endorsed for, then Augeri’s advice should be ignored and the two candidates should be eligible to run in November.

Camardi said she was waiting to finalize the ballot until the court makes its decision.

After nearly three hours of testimony, Judge Lynch referenced a similar case, Airey vs. Feliciano (2024), in which Connecticut Supreme Court ruled to reject an improperly signed petition sheet.

Lynch requested briefs from each attorney by Monday, Sept. 15, and planned to continue the hearing that week.

WEATHER

Continued from Page A1

Weber, who lives in New York City but was at his second home in Columbia County, New York, said that on Saturday, Sept. 6, he started getting ominous weather reports, including a tornado warning.

“Here we go again,” he said. “Every time I go near this library...”

Coston asked about advances in forecasting, with time frames expanded from a few days to a few years.

“We are getting much better information,” Weber replied, with longer time scales that make it possible to advise about the possibility of drought, for instance.

“We’re starting to see that information change lives, especially in developing countries.” Better information allows for relief supplies to be brought into affected areas in advance, not after the “bad thing” happens.

Closer to home, Weber was enthusiastic about his home weather station, a device called a Tempest.

“It’s not the fancy one,” he added.

But it’s advanced enough to detect lighting when it is still 30 miles away.

So on Saturday, Sept. 6, he was at his Columbia County home watching the storm getting closer, until he could see it with his eyes.

“It gives us a little extra awareness.”

Such devices are also connected to the internet, and data from them is added to the overall flow of information. “All of this local data feeds into forecasting.”

He also advised buying a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration radio, which is not dependent on the internet at all and provides constant updates and warnings from the national

Weather Service.

Weber said that the danger of unusual or extreme heat needs to be more widely understood.

“A day or two of unusually high temperatures causes tremendous stress on the human body,” he said.

People who take common medications for conditions such as high blood pressure should be aware of the dangers of heat and dehydration.

He said the common measures of heat — the projected daily high temperature and the “heat index” — are now joined by measurements taken with a device called a wet bulb globe thermometer, which factors in not just temperature and humidity but the effect of direct sunlight.

He said that school administrators are starting to set limits on high school sports practices, for example, using the wet bulb globe thermometer readings.

Weber spent considerable time discussing “optimism bias,” which gets back to the question of how people react to warnings.

He said people often get used to emergency sirens, with a common observation being “that thing goes off all the time and nothing bad happens.”

“A siren is a pretty blunt instrument,” he said. The siren covers a large area and doesn’t offer any information other than there is a potential problem.

But there is more information about weather conditions than ever — and more ways to get it.

Weber said he was introduced to a phone app called “Radarscope” by stormchasers, who swore by it.

“Never have we had more direct access to information.”

FOOTBALL

Continued from Page A1

Owen Riemer was the leading touchdown scorer on GNH last year, playing nearly every snap as either running back, wide receiver, defensive back, punter or kick returner. Riemer took a beating as the primary ball carrier and almost didn’t return this year for the sake of his body. But his love for the game and his teammates drew him back for one last ride.

“I just missed it, so I had to play,” said Riemer after rejoining the team before the first game of the regular season.

Nick Crodelle is listed at quarterback this year. Crodelle played some snaps as back-up QB last season and said the GNH offense is

ready to take on Naugatuck Valley League competition. Crodelle is also listed as a defensive back and running back.

“The offensive line is probably the best we’ve seen in the last couple years,” said Crodelle. “We’re running ‘full house’ this year, so a lot of backs in the backfield.”

Tyler Roberts and Cole Simonds will be two of those backs in the backfield, and they both expect to play on both sides of the ball as defensive corner and safety respectively. Simonds started at safety most of last season. Roberts made impactful plays last year, including a late fourth quarter onside kick-off recovery against ri-

val Torrington High School under the lights with a packed crowd.

Looking ahead, Roberts said, “I just want to make the most of it as my last year. I haven’t really been a big contributor and I want to contribute more.”

Hunter Conklin, Logan Labshere and Cohen Cecchinato are three of GNH’s senior linemen. Coach Scott Salius said this summer the linemen are the most important component of a varsity team and he has high hopes for the big men up front.

Conklin said the experience and athleticism of the line will help on both offense and defense.

“Being big and strong is

just as important as being fast,” Conklin said.

“As long as they stay disciplined, that’s the most important thing,” added Riemer.

GNH began the regular season with a non-league game at Plainville High School Friday, Sept. 12.

NVL competition begins at Woodland Regional High School Friday, Sept. 19.

GNH’s home opener is scheduled against Derby High School Friday, Sept. 26, 7 p.m. at Gilbert School’s Van Why Field.

“Hopefully we win,” said Conklin. “And make memories with the guys that I’ll think about for the rest of my life.”

WAKE ROBIN

Continued from Page A1

“almost intervenor status — not quite.”

Cruger summarized the consultant’s findings for Aradev’s revised application, noting they found it to be “virtually identical in scale to the previous proposal.”

“Our position is that the proposed expansion would absolutely negatively impact the usefulness, enjoyment and value of the surrounding properties,” he said.

Aradev’s attorney Joshua Mackey countered by saying that the special permit conditions would elevate the currently non-conforming hotel in the zone, describing it as a “community asset that is improved, regulated, and safeguarded for generations to come.” He characterized Aradev as “the next steward of this storied property.”

After Mackey and Aradev co-founder Steven Cohen concluded their remarks, Klemens closed the hearing



IMAGE PROVIDED

Aradev LLC’s plans to redevelop Wake Robin Inn include four 2,000-square-foot cabins, an event space, a sit-down restaurant and fast-casual counter, a spa, library, lounge, gym and seasonal pool. If approved, guest room numbers would increase from 38 to 57.

with no public comment, which he had stated would be the case at last week’s hearing session on Thursday, Sept. 4. Klemens said that P&Z will begin deliberating the proposal in early October after the commissioners have had the chance to review the information in the record.

A total of 45 letters, including the Crugers’ experts’ testimony, were submitted since the Sept. 4 meeting alone, alongside hundreds of pages of application materials and additional testimony.

As the Commission deliberates and reviews, all of this information is available

for public viewing on the “Meeting Documents” subpage under P&Z’s section on the town website, www.salisburyct.us.

The Commission must issue a decision on the application by Nov. 13, the end of the statutorily defined deliberation window.

Upcoming flu clinic dates, locations

Flu vaccines will be available around the Northwest Corner via clinics in September and October.

Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County and Kent Station Pharmacy have scheduled numerous opportunities to get vaccinated.

Dates, times and locations below.

Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County

Sharon Pharmacy, 8 Gay St., Sharon, Conn. on Tuesday, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Colebrook Senior Center, 2 School House Road, Colebrook, Conn. Thursday, Oct. 9 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Winsted Senior Center, 80 Holabird Ave., Winsted, Conn. on Friday, Oct. 10

from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Barkhamsted Town Garage, 33 New Hartford Road, Barkhamsted, Conn. on Tuesday, Oct. 14 from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Lakeville Town Grove, 42 Ethan Allen St., Lakeville, Conn. on Wednesday, Oct. 15 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Falls Village Senior Center, 107 Main St., Falls Village, Conn. on Friday, Oct. 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

VNHLC — Salisbury Branch, 30A Salmon Kill Road, Salisbury, Conn. on Wednesday, Oct. 22, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Warren Town Hall, 50 Cemetery Road, Warren, Conn. on Wednesday, Oct. 29 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Accepted insurance:

Aetna, Anthem Blue Cross, Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare, Medicare Part B, Connecticut Care, United Health Care Advantage (for individuals over age 65).

Self-Pay (cash or check): Regular dose for ages 18 and older \$50; High dose for adults over 65 \$100

Questions? Call 860-379-8561 or visit www.vnhlc.org

Kent Station Pharmacy

Kent Station Pharmacy, 38 N. Main St. Kent, Conn. on: Friday, Sept. 19, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, Sept. 20 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Wednesday, Oct. 1, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 2 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Salisbury School, 251 Canaan Road, Salisbury, Conn. on: Monday, Sept. 29, from

2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 16, from 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Housatonic Valley Regional High School, 246 Warren Tpke, Falls Village, Conn. on Friday, Oct. 3, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Cornwall UCC Parish House, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall, Conn. on: Thursday, Oct. 23, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, Nov. 6, from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Bring all insurance cards. Short sleeve shirt or loose-fitting top is recommended.

KSP will offer other vaccines including Covid, RSV, shingles and pneumonia. Pre-registration required. Contact 860-927-3725 or info@kentstationpharmacy.com

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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

MOVIES: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

## ‘Garland Jeffreys: The King of In Between’ at the Moviehouse

There is a scene in “The King of In Between,” a documentary about musician Garland Jeffreys, that shows his name as the answer to a question on the TV show “Jeopardy!” “This moment was the film in a nutshell,” said Claire Jeffreys, the film’s producer and director, and Garland’s wife of 40 years. “Nobody knows the answer,” she continued. “So, you’re cool enough to be a Jeopardy question, but you’re still obscure enough that not one of the contestants even had a glimmer of the answer.”

Garland Jeffreys never quite became a household name, but he carved out a singular place in American music by refusing to fit neatly into any category. A biracial New Yorker blending rock, reggae, soul and R&B, he used genre fusion as a kind of rebellion — against industry pigeonholes, racial boundaries and the musical status quo. Albums like “Ghost Writer” (1977) captured the tension of a post-civil rights America, while songs like “Wild in the Streets” made him an underground prophet of urban unrest. He moved alongside artists like Lou Reed and Bruce Springsteen but always in his own lane — part poet, part agitator, part bridge between cultures.

“I think what I tried to do with the film, wittingly or unwittingly, was just to show that we all have these lives and they don’t often meet our dreams of what we think we’re entitled to, we’re talented enough to get or whatever,” said



STILL FROM “THE KING OF IN BETWEEN”  
Claire and Garland Jeffreys in the film “The King of In Between.”

Claire. “We all have these goals, but we’re sort of stymied. Often, it’s partly circumstance and luck, but it’s also very often something that we’re doing or not doing that’s impeding us.”

This is not the typical rock-and-roll redemption story. There are no smashed guitars, no heroic overdoses, no dramatic comeback tour. What we get instead is something quieter and more intimate: hours of archival footage that Claire spent years sorting through. The sheer effort behind the film is palpable — so much so that, as she admitted with a laugh, it cured her of any future ambitions in filmmaking.

“What I learned with this project was A, I’m never doing it again. It was just so hard. And B, you know, you can do anything if you collaborate with people that know what they’re doing.”

Claire worked with the editing team of Evan M. Johnson and Ben Sozanski and a slew of talented producers, and ended up

with a truthful portrayal — a beautiful living document for Garland’s legions of fans and, perhaps most importantly, for the couple’s daughter, Savannah.

“She’s been in the audience with me maybe three or four times,” said Claire. “The last time, I could tell that she was beginning to feel very proud of the effort that went into it and also of being a part of it.”

Savannah pursued a career in music for a while herself but has changed tracks and become a video producer.

“I think she couldn’t quite see music happening for herself,” said Claire. “She was like, ‘I don’t know if I want to struggle the way I saw my dad struggling and I’m going to get a job with a salary.’”

The film doesn’t just track the arc of an underappreciated musician, however. The music, always playing, is the soundtrack of a life — of a man navigating racial, musical and personal boundaries while balancing marriage, parent-

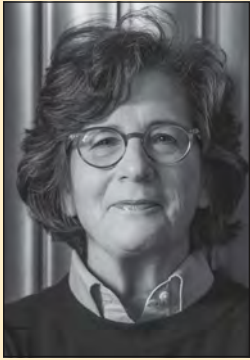


hood, aging, addiction and recovery. Garland and Claire speak plainly about getting sober in the film, a life choice that gave them both clarity and shows Claire as a co-conspirator in his survival.

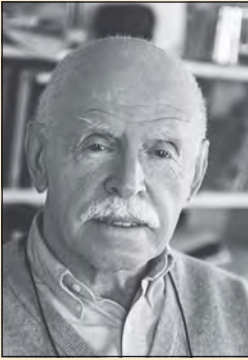
“I did some work early on with a director,” said Claire. “He wanted the final cut, and I didn’t feel like I could do that — not because I wanted so much to control the story, but I didn’t want the story to be about Alzheimer’s.”

Diagnosed in 2017, Garland, now 81, is in the late stages of the disease. Claire serves as his primary caregiver. The film quietly acknowledges his

Continued on next page



Betsy Lerner, author of “Shred Sisters,” is giving the 2025 Brendan Gill lecture at the Haystack Book Festival.



Jerome A. Cohen, author of the memoir “Eastward, Westward: A Life in Law.”

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY HAYSTACK BOOK FESTIVAL

BOOKS: JENNIFER ALMQUIST

## Haystack Book Festival: writers in conversation

The Haystack Book Festival, a program of the Norfolk Hub, brings renowned writers and thinkers to Norfolk for conversation. Celebrating its fifth season this fall, the festival will gather 18 writers for discussions at the Norfolk Library on Sept. 20 and Oct. 3 through 5.

For example, “Never Take the Rule of Law for Granted: China and the Dissident,” will be held Saturday, Sept. 20, at 4 p.m. at the Norfolk Library. It brings together Jerome A. Cohen, author of “Eastward, Westward: A Life in Law,” and Mark Clifford, author of “The Troublemaker: How Jimmy Lai Became a Billionaire, Hong King’s Greatest Dissident, and China’s Most Feared Critic” in dialogue with journalist Richard Hornik to discuss the rule of law and China.

The Council on Foreign Relations stated, “Few Americans have done more than Jerome A. Cohen

to advance the rule of law in East Asia. He established the study of Chinese law in the United States. An advocate for human rights, Cohen has been a scholar, teacher, lawyer, and activist for sixty years.”

Cohen, a professor at New York University School of Law and director of its U.S.-Asia Law Institute, revealed his long view on China: “We are now witnessing another extreme in the pendulum’s swing toward repression. Xi Jinping is likely to outlive me but ‘no life lives forever.’ There will eventually be another profound reaction to the current totalitarian era.”

In “The Troublemaker,” Clifford chronicles Lai’s life from child refugee to pro-democracy billionaire to his current imprisonment by the Chinese Communist Party. Clifford is president of the Committee for Freedom in Hong Kong Foundation, a

Continued on next page

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COMMUNITY: NATALIA ZUKERMAN

# Salisbury Family Services to honor Danielle Mailer at Sept. 27 benefit

On Saturday, Sept. 27, Salisbury Family Services (SFS) will hold a benefit dinner and barn dance, honoring artist Danielle Mailer. Taking place at Stillwater Farm in Salisbury, this festive fundraiser will feature cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, and lively barn dancing — all in support of the critical services SFS provides.

Founded in the mid-1930s during the Great Depression, Salisbury Family Services has been a lifeline for residents of Salisbury and the surrounding villages of Amesville, Lakeville, Lime Rock, and Taconic for nearly 90 years. What began as an effort by local women to mend clothes and provide food has evolved into a professional social service agency offering confidential support for housing, food, childcare, medical needs and more.

This year's benefit celebrates Danielle Mailer, a nationally recognized visual artist and longtime local resident whose vibrant work and generous spirit have left a lasting impression on the Northwest Corner. Known for her bold, figurative style and large-scale public installations, Mailer has brought color and life to communities throughout



PHOTO BY PETER MCEACHERN

Danielle Mailer with her 12 foot aluminum mountain lion outside of the Scoville Library.

Connecticut and beyond. “I suspect that they honored me because they think I’ve given back to the community in various ways,” said Mailer from her studio in Goshen. Mailer just began her tenth year as a teacher at the Salisbury School. Prior to that, she taught at Indian Mountain School for 15 years. “So that’s, what? That’s 25 years of teaching in the community,” said Mailer with a laugh.

Alongside teaching, Mailer will also be honored for her artistic contributions to the area. If you’ve driven through Torrington and seen the undulating sea of fish on

the backside of Staples (“Project Fishtales”) or delighted in her playful blue lion outside of the Scoville Library, you’ve seen her art do what it does best: transform public space into something personal and joyful. Mailer has shown in major galleries, had retrospectives at the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury, Connecticut, and helped shape The Tides of Provincetown, a traveling tribute to her hometown of Provincetown, Massachusetts. Currently, she’s getting ready for the unveiling of a large-scale ballerina she created for the Nutmeg Ballet Conservatory in

Torrington on Oct. 3. Some of Mailer’s work will be on view and for sale at the event on the 27th. Proceeds directly support the SFS’s ability to provide emergency assistance and essential services to those in need. “I readily donate my art to lots of things because I think that’s something art can do — to support the different community events that are very necessary to keep the town humming, said Mailer. “And I am really flattered. It’s been really fun to be honored.”

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.salisburyfamily-services.org](http://www.salisburyfamily-services.org)

FILM: BRIAN GERSTEN

# TRIFEST brings global youth filmmakers to Great Barrington

Great Barrington’s Triplex Cinema will soon roll out the red carpet for a new generation of filmmakers. TRIFEST, a new youth film festival, is set to showcase the creativity and voices of young storytellers from across the globe.

The three-day festival, running from Sept. 19 to 21, will feature 44 short films from filmmakers aged 25 and under, representing over 17 countries. Categories include narrative, documentary, animation, and experimental films. In addition to screenings, a variety



PHOTO BY BRIAN GERSTEN

TRIFEST, a new three-day festival featuring work by international filmmakers aged 25 and under.

PGA Award-winning documentarian (“We Will Rise,” “War Game”); and first-time feature filmmakers Zia Anger (“My First Film”), Carson Lund (“Eephus”), and Haley Elizabeth Anderson (“Tendaberry”).

Continued on next page

of industry panels and conversations are scheduled with internationally renowned filmmakers and producers, including Peter Becker, president

of Criterion Collection; Hamish Linklater (“The Big Short,” “Nickel Boys”); Tony Gerber, Emmy and

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## ...Haystack

Continued from previous page

Walter Bagehot Fellow at Columbia University, and holds a PhD in history from the University of Hong Kong. He was the former editor-in-chief of the South China Morning Post and The Standard (Hong Kong and Seoul).

Richard Hornik, adjunct senior fellow at the East-West Center, will moderate the discussion. Hornik is the former executive editor of AsiaWeek, news service director of Time magazine, and former Time bureau chief in Warsaw, Boston, Beijing and Hong Kong.

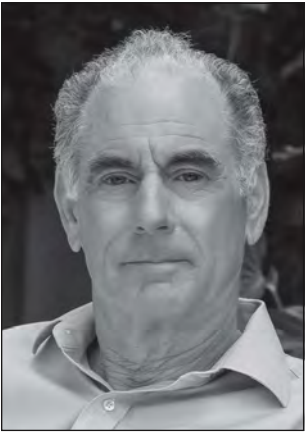
The Brendan Gill Lecture is a highlight of the festival honoring longtime Norfolk resident Brendan Gill, who died in 1997. Gill wrote for The New Yorker magazine for fifty years. Betsy Lerner, New York Times-recognized author of “Shred Sisters,” will deliver this year’s lecture on Friday, Oct. 3, at 6 p.m. at the Norfolk Library.

Visit [haystackbook-festival.org](http://haystackbook-festival.org) to register. Admission is free.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY  
HAYSTACK BOOK FESTIVAL

Journalist Richard Hornik, adjunct senior fellow at the East-West Center in Honolulu.



Mark Clifford, author of “The Troublemaker: How Jimmy Lai Became a Billionaire, Hong Kong’s Greatest Dissident, and China’s Most Feared Critic.”

## ...Garland Jeffreys

Continued from previous page

diagnosis, but it doesn’t dwell — a restraint that feels intentional. Garland spent a career refusing to be reduced: not to one sound, one race or one scene. And so the documentary grants him that same dignity in aging. His memory may be slipping, but the film resists easy sentimentality. Instead, it shows what remains — his humor, his voice, his marriage,

the echo of a life lived on the edges of fame and at the center of his own convictions. The Moviehouse in Millerton will be screening “The King of In Between” on Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. Peter Aaron, arts editor of Chronogram Magazine will conduct a talkback and Q&A with Claire Jeffreys after the film. Purchase tickets at [themoviehouse.net](http://themoviehouse.net).

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Our Towns

Mountainside hotline saves people in crisis

By Debra A. Aleksinas

NORTH CANAAN — Matt spent several years wrestling with fear, frustration and uncertainty about how to intervene in his wife’s long-term addiction to alcohol. The past six to eight months, he recalled, had been especially hellish.

“It got so bad that I told her, you are either going to die or get better.”

Dying, he said, was not an option. Placing a call to the Mountainside Treatment Center’s crisis intervention team was.

For families like Matt’s, National Recovery Month in September brings a message of hope: recovery is possible, and help is closer than many realize.

This month, Mountainside, a nationally accredited addiction treatment center with a facility in North Canaan, is taking that message nationwide with the launch of a recovery outreach initiative that gives loved ones a direct way to connect someone with support.

At the heart of the effort is a dedicated hotline and confidential referral system, a temporary initiative that allows concerned family members to submit the name of someone they believe is struggling with alcohol or substance misuse.

From there, a trained member of the Mountainside Crisis Intervention Team (MCIT) will proactively reach out to that person,

offering not judgment, but compassion, understanding and a pathway to treatment.

“Nearly 70% of the people we treat are referred by someone close to them,” according to Jana Wu, a licensed master social worker at Mountainside.

Referring to the dedicated hotline and referral system, “This initiative embraces that reality and provides a structured, accessible way for people to act out of love and concern,” she added.

**Meeting people where they are**  
Mountainside’s initiative aims to bridge that gap by shifting the focus from waiting for the individuals to seek treatment to actively reaching out when someone is identified as being at risk.

Depending on the situation, support may come through Mountainside’s own programs or through a referral to a trusted partner, such as Northwell Behavioral Health, the largest not-for-profit health system in the Northeast, serving more than three million residents of New York and Connecticut annually.

Dr. Manassa Hany, director for the Division of Addiction Psychiatry at Northwell’s Zucker Hillside and South Oaks’s hospitals, emphasized that many individuals facing addiction are unable, or unwilling, to seek help on their own.

“This service empowers loved ones to take that first step, potentially saving lives,”



PHOTO PROVIDED

Mountainside Treatment Center is located on Route 7 in North Canaan.

Hany noted.

“I needed help in getting her to accept that she needed help,” Matt said of his wife’s situation. “Most of the time, they are active in their addiction and don’t want to get out of it. It’s where they want to be.”

Matt said his relationship with Mountainside spanned several years. “Addiction is a difficult thing to beat, even if there are periods of sobriety,” he said. The longer the misuse continues the harder it is to stop.

That’s when things can get “very dramatic, very quickly,” he noted. “With alcohol, they cannot go cold turkey when fighting their addiction.” That’s when counseling becomes critical.

“They counter all the denial,” Matt said of Mountainside’s intervention team, including beliefs like, “I just need to taper off...or I am going to switch from vodka

to beer.”

“They can’t stop drinking by drinking,” said Matt. “It doesn’t work.”

**‘They speak from the heart’**

Too often, according to members of Mountainside’s crisis intervention team, people battling addiction feel isolated or ashamed. This program lets families step in and quietly say that they see you struggling and they care.

Sometimes, as in Matt’s case, it takes tough love, and trust in the dedicated Mountainside Crisis Intervention Team, many of whom have themselves battled demons in their past before embracing sobriety.

“They speak from the heart and speak the truth. The kind of assistance they give you is very personal,” Matt explained. “When you’re in the caretaker role, you are going to do the best that you can do,” to take the

“Addiction isn’t a choice, but recovery can be.”

John Jones, vice president of crisis support at Mountainside Treatment Center

pain away from your loved one, even if it empowers the addiction. “That’s when the professionals step in and say, ‘How has that been working for you?’” Matt explained.

The moral and professional support he has received is immeasurable. “Whenever I call, he is there,” Matt said of his family’s counselor. “He came over at 8 in the morning many times and calls me at 7 p.m. to check in.”

**A crisis by the numbers**

The need for crisis intervention support is staggering. According to a 2023 report by the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, more than 54 million Americans age 12 and older needed treatment for a substance use disorder.

Fewer than one in four actually received it.

Young people are among the most affected. Nearly 3 million adolescents needed treatment in 2023, but fewer than four in 10 received help. Among young adults, the survey revealed, the numbers are even more alarming: almost 10 million needed care, yet only 18% accessed it.

Behind those statistics are stories like Matt’s, families wrestling with fear, frustration and uncertainty about how to intervene.

“Addiction is a family disease,” noted Matt, who ad-

mitted that it takes a ton of tough love to help a loved one facing a downward spiral.

**‘Recovery is REAL’**

This year’s Recovery Month theme, set by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is “Recovery is REAL.” It is a simple, powerful reminder that no matter how desperate circumstances may seem, people do recover, and millions already have.

After seeking and receiving support from the Mountainside Crisis Intervention Team, for both himself as caretaker and for his wife’s addiction, Matt reported that she is on her recovery journey.

“Addiction isn’t a choice, but recovery can be,” said John Jones, Vice President of Crisis Support at Mountainside. “If we can help someone make that choice during this important month, it could change everything.”

If someone you care about is struggling with substance misuse, help is just a call, or click, away.

To connect with Mountainside’s Crisis Intervention Team call (860) 431-8755. A confidential referral form is available at [www.mountain-side.com](http://www.mountain-side.com).

*Matt’s surname was omitted to preserve the anonymity of the recovery program.*

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**HELP WANTED:** Small Angus Farm seeks reliable help for cattle and horses. Duties include feeding, fence repair, machine repair. Will train the right person. 860-364-0603.

**PART TIME RETAIL HELP WANTED:** Visionary Computer seeks a kind, patient, empathetic person to help us deliver excellence in customer service and sales. Email preferred, [info@visionarycomputer.net](mailto:info@visionarycomputer.net) or call 860-435-2211.

HELP WANTED

**LOCAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY SEEKING:** a part-time billing/office assistant for 15-20 hours/week to assist with billing and administrative tasks. Must be available to work in-person in Lakeville, CT during typical business hours. Requirements include proficiency in Microsoft Excel & Word and strong computer literacy. Reliable, organized, and detail-oriented candidates encouraged to apply. To apply, please email your resume to [skylarmrem@gmail.com](mailto:skylarmrem@gmail.com) or call 860-435-9710.

**NORTHWEST COMMUNITY BANK, BRANCH MANAGER:** Responsible for generating business & deepening customer relationships, providing excellent customer service, identifying cross training opportunities and personal development. Responsible to adhere to policies, procedures, and ensure operational soundness. Must maintain a civic leadership role in the Lakeville community. Strong communication, sales, and supervisory skills. Previous management experience required. Competitive wages and incentive programs. Please see full job description on our website and apply at [www.nwcommunitybank.com](http://www.nwcommunitybank.com). EOE/AA/M/F/D/V.

**SMALL LANDSCAPING COMPANY LOOKING FOR HELP:** Experience with zero turn mower and weed whipping preferred. Willing to train. Pay to go with experience. (860) 639-4764.

**THE NORTH EAST COMMUNITY CENTER:** is hiring a Social Care Network Senior Assistant. This role supports the organization’s engagement with Hudson Valley Care Coalition Social Care Network (HVSCN), including screening and referral of clients and case support as needed. Bachelor’s degree in social work or related area and two years similar experience OR four years relevant experience. Spanish speaking required. \$28.57/hr, 35 hrs/week. For a full position description, visit [www.necmillerton.org/employment](http://www.necmillerton.org/employment).

HELP WANTED

**TOWN OF AMENIA IS SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR DOG CONTROL OFFICER:** Candidate must possess a valid New York State driver license. Salary \$10,500 annual. Experience preferred. Letter of Interest may be submitted via email [tdmklngner@ameniany.gov](mailto:tdmklngner@ameniany.gov) or by mail to Town Clerk, 4988 Route 22, Amenia NY 12501. Application deadline: October 2, 2025 at 2:00 pm.

HELP WANTED

**TOWN OF AMENIA IS SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR PART-TIME CLERK:** for Planning and Zoning Department. Candidates must possess high school equivalency diploma. Salary \$19/hour, up to 20 hours a week. Letter of Interest may be submitted via email to [dmklngner@ameniany.gov](mailto:dmklngner@ameniany.gov) or by mail to Town Clerk, 4988 Route 22, Amenia NY 12501. Application deadline: October 2, 2025 at 2:00pm.

Email your classified ad to [classified@lakevillejournal.com](mailto:classified@lakevillejournal.com).

EXECUTIVE EDITOR

The Lakeville Journal & The Millerton News

LJMN Media, Inc., a nonprofit, community-supported news organization serving northwest Connecticut and eastern Dutchess County, N.Y., is seeking an experienced and strategic Executive Editor to lead our editorial team.

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Real Estate

HELP WANTED

**TOWN OF AMENIA IS SEEKING APPLICATIONS FOR BUILDING INSPECTOR:** We are seeking a detail-oriented and knowledgeable Building Inspector to join our team. The ideal candidate will be responsible for checking permit applications for compliance with zoning ordinances, investigating complaints and assist in prosecuting violations of the Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and zoning ordinances. Zoning will be a primary focus. NYS Certification as Building or Zoning Inspector is strongly preferred. Salary \$43.25/hour, 32 hours a week. Letter of Interest may be submitted via email to [dmklngner@ameniany.gov](mailto:dmklngner@ameniany.gov) or by mail to Town Clerk, 4988 Route 22, Amenia NY 12501. Application deadline: October 2, 2025 at 2:00pm.

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REAL ESTATE

**PUBLISHER’S NOTICE:** Equal Housing Opportunity. All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1966 revised March 12, 1989 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap or familial status or national origin or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. All residential property advertised in the State of Connecticut General Statutes 46a-64c which prohibit the making, printing or publishing or

REAL ESTATE

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