

P&Z approves Wake Robin; court case still pending

By Alec Linden

LAKEVILLE — At nearly 11 p.m. on Monday night, Oct. 20, Salisbury's Planning and Zoning Commission voted 4-1 to approve, with conditions, Aradev LLC's controversial application to redevelop the Wake Robin Inn.

The decision came more than 4 hours after the meeting began at 6:30 p.m., and more than a year since Aradev submitted its first application to expand the longstanding country inn. The approved plans call for a new 2,000-square-foot cabin, an event space, a sit-down restaurant and fast-casual counter, a spa, library, lounge, gym and seasonal pool.

Aradev withdrew its first application in December 2024 after P&Z indicated it would likely deny

The legal case, if approved by the court, would nullify a 2024 zoning regulation change that allows hotels in the RR1 zone via special permit application.

it based on concerns about sewer approval, noise levels and the general size and intensity of the proposed development. During a pre-application meeting held with Aradev in January 2025, the Commission informed the developer that those three topics were the cruxes of both P&Z's and the public's objection to the first proposal.

The nine-page, 40-condition draft resolution that was ultimately approved on Monday night states that in the revised application, those "three major areas of concern have been addressed." The document, which is available for

public viewing on P&Z's "Meeting Documents" web page, lists a number of changes that have eased doubts: a reduction in the number of auxiliary cabins, a tightening of the central campus that brings external elements like the spa and pool closer to the core of the development, a thorough sound analysis and noise pollution mitigation plan, approval from the town's Water Pollution Control Authority, and moving the "event barn," once planned to be a free-standing structure, into the main inn building expansion.

See WAKE ROBIN, Page A12



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Telke and Mazikeen win fifth Run & Wag 5K

The Little Guild animal shelter's Run & Wag 5K, Connecticut's premiere human/dog team race, returned to Cornwall for the 12th year Saturday, Oct. 18. A total of 233 people and 84 canines participated in the race on a picturesque autumn afternoon in the village. Brittany Telke and her pup Mazikeen, of Bristol, crossed the finish line 20 minutes and 20 seconds later, marking the duo's fifth win of the event. See the video report with pre-race dog interviews on Instagram @lakevillejournal

Town Hall talk addresses government spending policy

By Ruth Epstein

SALISBURY — While the country is going through times of uncertainty, two Connecticut officials spoke of the solid financial position the state is in.

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) was joined by state Treasurer Erick Russell (D) on Tuesday, Oct. 14, to talk about the current financial picture. Horn began by saying that in 2017 Connecticut put in a system of fiscal guardrails entailing a spending cap and revenue cap.

"We can't spend all our money — we have to have buffers so we have a surplus at the end of the year," said Horn, who chairs the House Finance Committee.

She spoke about now having to tap out the rainy-day fund at 18% of the budget, which allowed for using \$8.6 billion to pay down the state's pension liability. Other positive aspects are a tax cut of \$6.5 million and putting \$300 million into a childcare trust fund, which would provide free care to families earning under \$100,000 as of July 2027. Those with a higher income would pay a maximum of 7% of their salary. By 2032, the plan is to create more childcare seats and raise caregiver salaries.

Horn said the state having more in its budget affords a good reputation and brings down borrowing



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

State Treasurer Erick Russell and State Rep. Maria Horn talk about state finances during a meeting Tuesday, Oct. 14, at Salisbury Town Hall.

costs.

Turning to the federal budget bill, Horn talked about how it will kick a lot of citizens off Medicaid and put increased pressures on rural hospitals, including Sharon Hospital.

"We are in unprecedented times," she told those gathered at Salisbury Town Hall, but praised Russell, saying, "I'm gratified we can rely on his judgment."

She turned the talk over to Russell, who reiterated Connecticut is in a strong position compared to other states. It has had seven balanced budgets and received two additional points in its credit rating.

"We got the fiscal house in order, but we have also invested in people," said Russell. He touched on some initiatives, including Connecticut Baby Bonds, which addresses welfare and poverty, noting that although Connecticut is considered a wealthy state, the gap between rich and poor is wide. His office is also focused on CHET (529 College Savings Fund), universal free childcare and a Safe Harbor Fund, which calls for raising private funds to be used by those traveling from anti-women's health states.

"Everything we're doing here in Connecticut is just opposite what is

See SPENDING, Page A12

Meet the candidates

The 2025 municipal election will be held Tuesday, Nov. 4. Early voting began at polling stations Monday, Oct. 20.

There are 21 candidates for Boards of Selectmen in the Northwest Corner. Before casting your vote, get to know them all with The Lakeville Journal's "Meet the candidates" series highlighting nominees by town ahead of the election.

This week, meet North Canaan's candidates on Page A9.

Colonial-era tragedy unearthed during grave cleaning demonstration

By Alec Linden

KENT — A cluster of headstones in Kent's oldest cemetery links the town's first doctor, a Mayflower pilgrim, a family mystery and a centuries-old tragedy. There, the unexpected discovery of two young daughters of a Revolutionary War surgeon, marked by a sorrowful epitaph, helped a Maryland family complete its ancestral story.

Attendees of an Oct. 10 grave cleaning demonstration at Good Hill Cemetery led by Kent Historical Society Curator Marge Smith were treated to a bit of intrigue halfway through working on a stone presumed to belong to Dr. Oliver Fuller, Kent's first practicing doctor and a veteran of the Revolutionary War.

As the engravings on the soft brownstone became clearer, the group realized the double headstone did not commemorate the doctor and his wife as they had expected, but two much younger souls: Lois and Rhoda Ann Fuller, who died two days apart in June of

1793. Lois was 12 and Rhoda Ann was 11 at the time of their deaths.

Kent cemetery Sexton Brent Kallstrom, who also heads the local American Legion post, said the group was struck by the grave's elegance and detail, including a moving elegy written at the bottom of the stone, of which only pieces could be made out due to weathering by time and weed whackers.

A grave belonging to Alice Fuller, the doctor's first wife and father of his three sons who died in 1776, was found nearby, similarly ornate. Also nearby was Fuller's own headstone, which was comparatively plain to the others, bearing an 1817 date of death. Fuller's second wife, Lois and Rhoda Ann's mother, was nowhere to be found at the cemetery, nor was the girls' older sister Alice.

"It just really brings a tear to your eye," Kallstrom said of the inscription on the stone, of which a draft interpretation can be found at the end of this article.

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Online This Week

Falls Village book talk

Author Heather Campbell came to the Hunt Library to explain why striving to be “great” often backfires on the striver. More at lakevillejournal.com

POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

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

Campground arrest

At about 6 p.m. on Oct. 11, troopers were dispatched to Lone Oaks Campsites in East Canaan on the report of a disturbance. After investigating, troopers arrested Michael Shook, 38, of Norwalk for second degree breach of peace and interfering with an officer/resisting. Shook was released the next day on a \$2,500 non-surety bond and was scheduled to appear at Torrington Superior Court on Oct. 22.

Arrest on assault warrant

On Oct. 13, troopers arrested Coleman Doyle, 41, of Millerton, New York for an outstanding warrant relating to an incident on July 7, 2025. He was arrested for second degree breach of peace and third-degree assault. He was released on a \$5,000 non-surety bond and is scheduled to appear at Torrington Superior Court on Oct. 27.

Unsafe passing accident

On Oct. 16 at about 10:30 a.m., Kayla Archiere, 20, of Kent was driving a Honda Fit Sport on Route 112 in Salisbury near the intersection with Dugway Road. She attempted to pass a Ford Expedition that was ahead of her by crossing the center yellow line. Upon doing so, she struck the other vehicle, driven by Timothy Ryan, 39, of Sacramento, California, as he attempted to turn into a driveway. Neither he, his three passengers, nor Archiere were injured in the crash. Archiere was found at fault for the incident and was issued an infraction for unsafe passing.

Improper passing accident

On the afternoon of Oct. 17, Paul Benjou, 78, of Sheffield, Massachusetts attempt-

ed to pass on the right a Jeep Grand Cherokee ahead of him on Route 7 in North Canaan near the intersection with Bragg Street. His Subaru Forester sideswiped the Jeep, which was driven by Alyssa Tatro, 20, of North Canaan, causing minor damage to both vehicles. Neither driver was injured, and both vehicles were able to be driven from the scene. Benjou was issued a written warning for improper passing.

Driver issued summons after fleeing accident

At around 11:30 p.m. on Oct. 17, a Mazda Mazda3 driven by Santiago Subpop, 45, of Millerton, New York swerved across Millerton Road in Sharon before colliding with a wire guardrail. Subpop fled the scene but was located the following evening and was issued a summons for evading a motor vehicle accident with property damage, driving without a license, failure to maintain proper lane and traveling unreasonably fast.

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

Murphy to retire as Nuvance CEO

DANBURY — Nuvance Health CEO Dr. John M. Murphy will step down from his position at the end of the year, ending his six-year tenure at the regional healthcare system and concluding a four-decade career as a leader in the field and practicing neurologist.

Murphy has served as the nonprofits leader since its formation in 2019, and leaves the role with a proud legacy in improving both patient and employee satisfaction, founding and strengthening industry partnerships and advancing specialty care programs, among other achievements.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Murphy also served as an advisor to Gov. Ned Lamont (D), developing the testing, vaccination and care strategies that kept the state’s mortality rates among the lowest in the country.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Dr. John Murphy became Nuvance Health’s Chief Executive Officer in 2019 and will retire at the end of 2025. Nuvance owned Sharon Hospital in that time.

In an Oct. 14 press release, Murphy credited the strength of the medical community for the success of the organi-

zation under his leadership: “It has truly been the honor of a lifetime to serve this organization and to work with such talented and compassionate colleagues.”

Since Nuvance merged with healthcare giant Northwell Health earlier this year, Murphy’s role will not be replaced. The whole orga-

nization will operate under a unified leadership model with Dr. John D. D’Angelo in charge, having assumed the role of Northwell CEO on Oct. 1. Michelle Robertson, current Nuvance COO, will continue as the market president for the Nuvance region, effective at the start of the new year.

Volunteers needed for Thanksgiving community dinner

NORTH CANAAN — The traditional Thanksgiving community dinner will be held at Pilgrim House on Granite Avenue Thursday, Nov. 27, noon to 2 p.m.

Organizer Beverly Becker said there are many ways volunteers can help:

1. By making food donations such as uncooked turkeys, potatoes, vegetables, rolls or condiments (please let Becker know early so she can order less)

2. By volunteering to help prepare vegetables on Wednesday, Nov. 26 at 2 p.m. and/or working Thanksgiving Day, or delivering dinners to shut-ins. (CDC requirements will be required for both days).

3. By making a cash contribution (any amount will be helpful). If there are any unused funds, they will be used to assist people in our local communities to help fight hunger and famine.

4. By spreading the word about the Thanksgiving Celebration. Please let us know if you know of anyone who will need a home delivery.

Please make monetary donation payable to Trinity Episcopal Church, 484 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville, CT 06039 and mark in the memo line: Thanksgiving Celebration. If you wish to make a food donation or volunteer, please contact 860-671-1892 or beverlybecker4@gmail.com.

NWCT Manufacturing Expo coming to Winsted Oct. 23

WINSTED — Town officials, manufacturing professionals and anyone else engaged in regional economic growth are all invited to the American Mural Project on Saturday, Oct. 23 from 2:30 to 6 p.m. for the Northwest Connecticut Manufacturing Expo.

The Expo will showcase resources and guidance available to local manufacturers

and provide networking opportunities within the industry.

It is hosted by Northwest Hills Council of Governments in conjunction with the Northwest Connecticut Economic Development Corporation and Northwest Connecticut Manufacturing Regional Sector Partnership and Resource Development Associates.

Attendees will also have a chance to meet the state’s new Chief Manufacturing Officer Kirti Patel, as well as view the “American Manufacturing Hall of Fame Innovation Wall,” a traveling exhibit that honors Connecticut’s manufacturing legacy.

Attendance is free, but guests must register at NHCOCGT.gov under the “upcoming events” tab.



PHOTO BY KIM MAXWELL

Development is well underway for 10 new affordable homes in Norfolk.

Haystack Woods development plans open house Oct. 25

NORFOLK — The Foundation for Norfolk Living (FNL) will hold an open house on Saturday, Oct. 25, from 2 to 4 p.m., at the new Haystack Woods development off Old Colony Road in Norfolk.

Construction is well underway, and the open house will give prospective buyers and area residents a firsthand opportunity to tour the innovative, energy-efficient

two- and three-bedroom homes.

FNL is accepting applications for Haystack Woods on a rolling basis. Interested applicants can contact Lindsay Larson at the Litchfield County Housing Collective at LindsayL@thehousingcollective.org.

Questions about the houses themselves can be directed to FNL at norfolkliving@gmail.com.

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

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THE LIBRARY IN CHALLENGING TIMES

How do libraries address the challenges of modern times — the spread of misinformation, countering social isolation and book bans — and still meet their mission?



Anthony W. Marx

Anthony W. Marx is President of The New York Public Library, the nation’s largest library system. Marx will discuss the future of the NYPL and challenges facing libraries in general in the context of the current issues of the day.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2025 • 7:00 P.M.
Housatonic Valley Regional High School
Falls Village, CT

Admission free. Please register online.



www.salisburyforum.org

Our Towns



Young attendees of the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Dept. Open House Sunday, Oct. 19, were the first in line for cake, which reportedly paired well with ice cream.

Engines and eats draw Cornwall to firehouse

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — The community came out Sunday, Oct. 19, for an afternoon at the Cornwall Volunteer Fire Department’s open house.

The West Cornwall firehouse was packed with guests to support the crew and see the trucks (both fire and ice cream) and safety presentations.

Attendees ate burgers and hot dogs served by First Selectman Gordon Ridgway and witnessed a helicopter take off and land courtesy of a visit from the LifeStar rescue crew.

The event was held amid the department’s fundraising effort to replace two outdated rescue vehicles. The old trucks were situated next to two newer trucks similar to the ones CVFD is seeking to purchase. The examples were provided courtesy of the Sharon and Falls Village departments.

CVFD President Dick Sears addressed the crowd as the meal advanced to cake and ice cream.

“Forty percent of our truck fleet is going out of ser-



Rescue pumpers carry lifesaving equipment on board.

vice,” Sears said, noting that two of the department’s five trucks are being replaced. “We’re going to replace them with your help... help us help you.”

Resident Richard Schlesinger spoke of his experience being rescued by the volunteer ambulance corps after experiencing cardiac arrest about four years ago. “They saved my life because they had the right equipment and the dedication and the skill.”

A roadside thermometer sign outside the firehouse showed the fundraising effort to raise \$600,000 by December has surpassed the half-way mark.



Guests got an up-close look at the LifeStar helicopter Oct. 19.

To learn more or donate, visit cornwallfire.org.

Cornwall summer real estate

By Christine Bates

CORNWALL — After a slow summer of sales in Cornwall, activity picked up in September. By the end of September, the Cornwall median price for a single-family residence over the last 12 months was \$956,500, slightly lower than the all-time high in December 2024 of \$1,200,000.

As of Oct. 15, there were ten single family homes listed for sale with five above one million dollars.

Transactions

337 Town Street — 3 bedroom/1 bath home on 5.02 acres sold by Virginia and Bonnie P. Potter to Chloe Ocain and Daniel Snyder for \$460,000 recorded on June 10.

42 Dark Entry Road — 2 bedroom/2 bath home on 5.03 acres sold by Craig A. and Maria Helena Bridgman to Carol Connolly and Bruce Graham Connor and Elizabeth Ruseell all Trustees of Natures World Order Ministries for \$620,000 recorded on June 18.

411 Cornwall Hollow Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home on 3.1 acres sold by Nicholas A. Johnson Executor of Estate of Sanhueza Hernan to Kathleen Mary and John Christopher Whalen for \$515,000 recorded on July 8.

8 Twixt Road — 3 bedroom/3.5 bath home on 1.26 acres built in 1988 sold by Travis and Erika Feehan to 8 Twist LLC for \$1,177,500



Built in 1988 bordered by stone walls on 1.26 acres, 8 Twixt Road sold for \$1,177,500 on Aug. 27.

recorded on Aug. 28.

10 River Road South — Commercial building on 1.76 acres sold by Superior Plus Energy Services Inc. to Riveroadsouth LLC for \$126,000 recorded on Sept. 8.

77 Johnson Road — 65.269 acres of land donated by Lisa P. Staron Trustee of Greyledge Trust to the Cornwall Conservation Trust Inc. valued at \$1,250,000 recorded on Sept. 9.

8 River Road — Commercial building on 1 acre of land sold by Maz North LLC and Mark Ziello to RD Property LLC for \$150,000 recorded on Sept. 10.

Town Street — 9.12 acres of land sold by James J Childress Executor of Ranney H Moss Estate and Ann Ranney Hughes Childress Estate to Cream Hollow LLC for \$170,000 recorded on Sept. 15.

35 College Street — 4 bedroom/2 bath home on 23 acres sold by Theresa N. Elliott to Andrew K. Meyer Trustee of Ogden Drive Trust for \$880,000 recorded on Sept. 22.

64 Todd Hill Road — 3 bedroom/2 bath home on 9 acres sold by Daniel D. and Dorcas Blake Beatty Hubbard to Jeffrey P. and Melanie B. Donaldson for \$1,1162,500 recorded on Sept. 22.

* Town of Cornwall real estate transfers recorded as transferred between June 1, 2025, and Sept. 30, 2025, provided by the Cornwall Town Clerk. Transfers without consideration are not included. Current market data courtesy of Smart MLS and InfoSparks. Compiled by Christine Bates, Real Estate Salesperson with William Pitt Sotheby’s International Realty, Licensed in CT and NY

Rand & Prinz
Steady Leadership



Curtis Rand First Selectman

Born and raised in Salisbury, he has served as First Selectman for ten terms, and several as Second Selectman prior. Curtis is running to continue recent local/regional efforts important for our residents and neighbors, including sidewalks for pedestrian safety, public control over responsible solid waste disposal, housing for working families, maintaining town infrastructure, conservation, and water management, including our very important lakes.



Barrett Prinz Board of Selectmen

Barrett and family live in Lakeville; their three children graduated from Salisbury Central School [SCS]. He is an attorney with more than 25 years experience in private practice and for international NGOs. He’s a member of the SCS Board of Education since fall 2016, active Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service squad member, board member for Salisbury Family Services, and volunteer for youth sports & non-profit organizations in CT, NY, & MA for more than 20 years.

We proudly support these qualified and talented candidates



Emily Vail Board of Finance

Born and raised in Sharon, Emily spent her summers on Mt. Riga in Salisbury. Prior to moving back to Salisbury in 2013 to work at Ackerly Brown, she practiced environmental law in NY and NJ. Emily opened her own firm, Vail & Vail, in Salisbury. She has served on the boards of Project Sage (formerly Women’s Support Services), Salisbury Housing Committee, and SOAR.



Lauren Brown Board of Education

Lauren & wife, Caitlin, have called Lakeville home for ten years. An East Coast native, she spent seven years in California teaching 1st–4th grades before returning east. She is Executive Director of SOAR, after seven years teaching third grade at Indian Mountain School. Beyond raising her ten-year-old & championing public education, she is an active volunteer with Project Sage.



Elizabeth Dittmer Board of Education

Liz has lived in Lakeville for more than 25 years and is in her 18th year as an Instructor of Mathematics at The Hotchkiss School. She and husband, Marc, have four children between the ages of 7 & 14, all of whom have attended Salisbury Central School. Liz believes in the value of parent voices and looks forward to continuing to represent the parents and students of Salisbury.



Allen Cockerline Planning & Zoning Commission

A Salisbury resident & volunteer since 2003 when he and wife, Robin, purchased Whipoorwill Farm. A lifelong farmer, he believes in the value of personal commitment and service to community as a bedrock principle of our small town governance. “We’ve got a lot to be thankful for in a town like Salisbury, and I would like to be a part of the continuation of our success.



Danella Schiffer Planning & Zoning Commission

Salisbury resident for more than 40 years, an organizational psychologist, Danella has been an Alternate since 2014. “Serving is a heavy responsibility that requires fairness to all and attention to: maintaining Salisbury’s character; promoting its economic viability; protecting our environment; safeguarding residents’ quality of life; and respecting legal boundaries.”



Cathy Shyer Planning & Zoning Commission

A native of New Zealand, Cathy resigned as Managing Director of AC Nielsen(NZ), moved to the USA in 1993, became a naturalized citizen in 1996, & in 1998 she & late husband, Bob, bought a home in Lakeville. She’s been actively involved with the Lake Wonoscopomuc Assoc. throughout this time & a vital member of P&Z since becoming a full-time Salisbury resident in 2012.



Jen Ventimilia Planning & Zoning Commission, Alternate

Salisbury resident since 2022, and member of the SDTC since 2024, Jen built a successful 30-year career writing & producing TV sitcoms and feature films in Los Angeles after Rutgers University. Overseeing her own extensive remodeling project taught her the importance of balancing the property owner’s desires with the needs of the community and the environment.



Beth Wells Planning & Zoning Commission, Alternate

A LEED accredited practicing architect specializing in residential & retail work, Beth’s professional passions are sustainability, maintaining natural resources, & design sensitive to the environment. Prior ZBA Alternate before P&Z in 2024, she served on community design boards in LA. She is committed to thoughtful shepherding of Salisbury growth. Beth and husband live in Lakeville.



Roxanne Belter Lee Zoning Board of Appeals

After growing up in Lakeville and graduating from University of New Haven & Roger Williams University School of Law, she interned with CT Family Services Judicial Branch. She has worked in sales and marketing at Lime Rock Park since 2014 and is currently a real estate agent for William Pitt Sotheby’s. She was appointed ZBA Alternate in 2016, and a full member in 2018.



Cori Daggett Zoning Board of Appeals

She has practiced investment management law for 25+ years. For 8 years, Cori has been on the PA SPCA board, & Finance Committee Chair for five; Voter Services Chair of the League of Women Voters of Philadelphia. For 2020 & 2024 elections, she worked with the Election Protection Program of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights. Cori & husband, Jon, live in Salisbury.



M.E. Freeman Zoning Board of Appeals

Starting as a part-time Lakeville resident over 37 years ago, she happily became full-time in 2017 when her law firm moved from NY to Lakeville. A graduate of Smith College and Columbia Law School, M.E. has practiced law for more than 40 years. She has served continuously on the board since 2019, first as alternate, then full member. She is running for re-election.



William Tedder Board of Assessment Appeals

Known in the area as a skilled and hard-working carpenter/building contractor, Scooter has been volunteering and contributing to the town for many years, especially as a director on the Salisbury Winter Sports Association (SWSA) board. He was an Alternate on the BAA before moving up to replace Charlie Kelley in 2020.



Flora Lazar Region 1 Board of Education Rep

Retired scholar & psychotherapist, she has written about education and mental health policy, worked with children & adults, served on the boards of several educational non-profits, and collaborated with schools to address student emotional and behavioral needs. Flora founded and led two non-profits. She currently serves on the advisory board of CT’s Behavioral Health Advocate. Flora moved full-time to Salisbury in 2020 with husband, Lee Greenhouse.

Vote Election Day: Tues, Nov 4, 2025
at Salisbury Town Hall, from 6:00am until 8:00pm
Early Voting Oct 20–Nov 2, 2025*
Salisbury Town Hall, 10am to 6pm *Oct 28 & 30, 8am–8pm

OBITUARIES

Shea Cassidy-Teti

SALISBURY — Shea Cassidy-Teti, passed way on Oct. 11, 2025 in a tragic automobile accident.

He is the beloved son and brother of parents Aidan Cassidy and Charles Teti and his twin Nash Cassidy-Teti.

Shea was born on June 29, 2008 in Farmington, Connecticut.

He attended the Fox Meadow Elementary school in Scarsdale, New York, Weston Middle School in Weston, Connecticut and Indian Mountain School in Lakeville, Connecticut. He was currently continuing



his studies as a senior at The Kent School in Kent.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at St. Joseph's Chapel, The Kent School, 1 Macedonia Road, Kent CT, 06757. Details to follow.

All other services are private.

Memorial contributions may be made in the families honor to the Sharon Volunteer Ambulance, PO Box 357, Sharon, CT 06069 and Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance, PO Box 582, Salisbury, CT 06068.

The Kenny Funeral Homes has care of arrangements.

Amanda Cannon

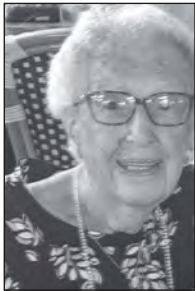
SALISBURY — Amanda Cannon, age 100, passed away Oct. 15, 2025, at Noble Horizons. She was the wife of the late Jeremiah Cannon.

Amanda was born Aug. 20, 1925, in Brooklyn, New York the daughter of the late Karl and Ella Hus-slein.

She was widowed at the age of 31 and worked as a bookkeeper for the Standard Oil Company and other oil companies in New York City until she retired at age 72.

Amanda moved to Noble Horizons in 2013 to live near her daughter Diane and son-in-law (the late) Raymond Zelazny.

She enjoyed her time in the Northwest Corner and was an avid nature lover, albeit considered herself a native New Yorker as she was



born and resided in NYC for 88 years.

She was a faithful parishioner of St. Mary's Church in Lakeville and attended Mass regularly until the age of 99.

Amanda was the grandmother of (the late) Jesse Morse and is survived by her daughter, Diane Zelazny, her grandsons, Adam Morse, Raymond Morse and his wife Daron and their daughter and her great granddaughter Cecelia Morse.

A Mass of Christian Buri-al will take place on Thurs-day, Oct. 23, at St Mary's Church in Lakeville, Con-necticut.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Mary's Church.

The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Mary C. Negri

NORTH CANAAN — Mary was born in Shef-field, Massachu-setts in Feb. 1933 and died Oct. 14, 2025. Mary spent her early life in the area. She later moved to North Canaan, Connecti-cut, where she met and married her future husband, John Joseph Negri. They raised their two chil-dren, Mary Ellen and Joseph, there.



Mary's working life began early, starting on the family farm and later at Bitterman Electronics (subsequently known as Bicon). Soon after, she secured a position at the North Canaan Elemen-tary School as one of its first teacher's aides. During her time there, the role of teach-er's aide became such a valu-able asset and resource for the elementary school that additional aides were hired in subsequent years.

After her husband's un-timely death in 1979, Mary knew she had to improve her circumstances. She applied for and accepted a position at Aetna Life and Casualty in their downtown Hartford corporate office. This re-quired a grueling daily com-mute of over an hour each way in all kinds of weather, an uncommon feat for a Canaan resident, and a position she held for over 15 years.

As times changed, Mary returned to work in the lo-cal area at Berkshire Bank in Great Barrington, Massachu-setts. She quickly became the go-to person for questions and advice, with customers

asking for her by name even on the few days she wasn't in the office. She finished her ca-reer there, working until she was in her late 70s.

On the home front, she kept a tidy and well-or-ganized house. She was well known for her stellar border garden of poppies, irises, and morning glories, whose annual spring return was shared with the hum-mingbirds she fed. Beyond her domestic and gardening pursuits, Mary was an avid sports enthusiast. She was a keen UCONN Huskies women's basketball fan long before the team gained its current popularity. Her loyalty to the Bruins and Yankees round-ed out her sporting inter-ests. Mary was also active in the Catholic Church at St. Joseph's in Canaan—she served as the parish's first Eucharistic minister, was a member of the Daughters of Isabella, and was often seen greeting guests at the church's community dinners.

A Mass of Christian Buri-al will be held on Saturday October 25, 2025, at 11:00 am at St. Martin of Tours Parish, St. Joseph Church, 4 Main St. North Canaan, CT 06018. Burial will fol-low the mass in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Cemetery Road, North Canaan, CT 06018. Family and friends are in-vited to meet Mary's family on Saturday morning at the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home 118 Main St. North Canaan, CT from 10:00 a.m. -10:40 a.m.

Ursula Wirth

LAKEVILLE — Ursula Wirth, born Ursula Sachs, a long time resident of Lakeville, Con-necticut, passed away on Oct. 5, 2025, in the Al-garve, Portugal.



Ursula, born in Munich, Germany, on May 14, 1936, lived an extraordi-nary and eventful life. Leaving post-war Germany at the age of 17 to move to New York City on her own, she returned to Germany a decade later and married Heinrich Wirth an architect, who worked on projects that took him and their family of 4 to Zimba-bwe and South Africa. After these assignments ended they returned to Europe for a number of years before set-ting in Connecticut, closer to family.

Upon arriving in the re-gion, Ursula started teach-ing German at the Waldorf Lower school in Great Bar-ington, Massachusetts, and later helped to establish the Berkshire Waldorf High-school in Stockbridge, Mas-sachusetts.

A great source of pride was creating a vibrant stu-dent exchange pro-gram between the Waldorf school in Munich, Germany, where she had once been a student her-self and the Berk-shire HighSchool in Massachusetts. It was a great suc-cess and continues to this day, open-ing up the minds of young people on both sides of the Atlantic. She was a mentor and favorite teacher to many, over a career that spanned 20 years.

Ursula will be put to rest next to her husband in the village of Planegg near Mu-nich. Ursula leaves behind 4 children.

Ursula's family requests that in lieu of flowers dona-tions be made to Berkshire Waldorf High School to es-tablish a scholarship fund in her memory. Here is a link for donations to the Ursula Wirth Scholarship Fund. You may also mail a contribution to Berkshire Waldorf High School, PO Box 1706, Stock-bridge, MA 01262, USA.

Barbara Mary Snyder

ANCRAMDAL — Bar-bara Mary Snyder, 92, a life-long area resident died peacefully on Tuesday, Oct. 14, 2025, at Sharon Hospital in Sharon, Connecticut. Mrs. Snyder was a sales associate and ca-shier at Saperstein's Department Store in Millerton for 28 years, prior to her retirement in 2018.



Born Dec. 11, 1932, at Vassar Brothers. Hospital in Poughkeepsie, New York, she was the daughter of the late Charles and Goldie (Mow-ris) Howland. She attended Millerton School and on Jan. 21, 1951, in Amenia, New York, she married her childhood sweetheart, Rob-ert John "Dixie" Snyder, Sr., her forever partner of over fifty-six years. Mr. Snyder sadly passed away on April 20, 2007. Barbara was a staple at Saperstein's in Millerton for twenty-eight years; she was the first face people saw as they entered the iconic store. Barbara liked dancing with her husband, spending time with her family, Elvis Presley, the New York Yan-kees, watching birds out of her dining room window and TAG SALES! She will be dearly missed by her loving family and by all who knew

her.

Mrs. Snyder is survived by five children; Melanee Mayville, Robert J. Snyder, Jr, and his wife Phyl-lis, Scott Snyder, Kelli Millius and her husband Jim and Nicholas Sny-der; nine grand-children, Shan-non Caranci, Toni (Art) Black, Kyle (Erin) Caranci, Joshua (Me-lissa) Mayville, Lucas Snyder, McKayla (Jackson) Miller, Andrea (Austin) Reynolds, Dusty Snyder and Gia Nor-cia; fourteen great grandchil-dren and three great-great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she was also prede-ceased by two grandchildren, Logan and Cory Snyder and four siblings.

There were no calling hours. A private graveside service and burial took place on Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, at 12:00 p.m. at Iron-dale Cemetery in Millerton, NY. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family or to plant a tree in Barbara's memory, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Philip Ernest Hernandez

MILLERTON — Philip Ernest Alexander Hernan-dez, 73, a longtime area resident, died peacefully on his birthday, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025, at Danbury Hospital in Danbury, Con-necticut. Philip worked at Harney & Sons Fine Teas in Millerton, New York for many years, prior to his re-tirement.

Born Oct. 15, 1952, in Manhattant, he was the son of the late Ernest Hernandez of California and Gloria M. (Santiago) Dorogoff with whom he resided and cared for in Millerton. Following his high school graduation, he attended college in New York and California. He served his country in the United States Airforce as well.

In addition to his beloved mother, Philip is survived by his step-sister, Priscilla Dorogoff and her family of Boca Raton, Florida and his step-aunt, Sonoli Santiago also of Florida. He was pre-deceased by three uncles, Frank, Louis and Charles Santiago, all of Puerto Rico.

Cremation has taken place at Poughkeepsie Ru-ral Cemetery, 342 South Avenue, Poughkeepsie, New York. All other services are private. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Miller-ton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family or to plant a tree in Philip's memory, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Debra Ann Whitbeck

NORTH CANAAN — Debra Ann Whitbeck, 62, of Canaan, Connecti-cut, passed away peacefully on Oct. 11, 2025, in the loving arms of her daughter, Jennifer. Debbie was born May 7, 1963, in Sharon, daughter of Virginia Tan-ner Whitbeck of Lakeville, and the late William Whitbeck.



Debbie was a graduate of HVRHS. She worked as an order fulfillment clerk at Edward R. Hamilton Book-seller Company in Falls Vil-lage, Connecticut. Deb was an avid NY Yankee fan and enjoyed gardening, spending time with her grand fur-babies, and beading jewelry for the cancer center where she received her treatments. She was a loving mother, daugh-ter, sister and friend. If you knew Deb, her infectious laugh will likely be forever etched in your soul.

In addition to her moth-er, Deb is survived by her daughter, Jennifer Surdam and her husband Ben of East Canaan, sister Donna Cooke and her husband Robert of

Canaan, nephew Jordan Cooke and his wife Crystal and their three children of Avon, Connecticut, niece Jala Cooke and fi-ancé Ayden Tombs of Independence, Missouri. She was predeceased by the love of her life Robert "Bob" Reed of Falls Village, Connecticut.

A celebration of life will be held in Deb's honor on Nov. 15, 2025, at the VFW 104 S. Canaan Rd., North Canaan from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Please dress casually and comfortably and wear Deb's favorite color, purple, if possible.

There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, do-nations may be sent to the Jane Lloyd Fund c/o The Berkshire Taconic Com-munity Foundation, 800 N. Main St., Sheffield, MA 01257-9503 or the North Canaan Volunteer Ambulance Corps PO Box 178, North Canaan, CT 06018. Arrange-ments are under the care of the Newkirk-Palmer Funeral Home, 118 Main St., North Canaan, CT 06018.



Worship Services

Week of October 26, 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 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
860-824-7232

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

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

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

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

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

The Smithfield Presbyterian Church
656 Smithfield Valley Rd.
Route 83, Amenia, NY
Services every Sunday 10 a.m.
www.thsmithfieldchurch.org
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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

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, November 9 at 10:30 a.m.
WAIT, JESUS WASN'T CHRISTIAN?
For information, contact Jo Loi at jokialloi@gmail.com
All are Welcome

ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH
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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
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Amenia Union, NY
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Rev. AJ Stack
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www.stthomasamenia.com
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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!

For more obituaries, see page A11

YOUR NEWS

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Students dressed in neon lined the soccer field for senior night under the lights on Thursday, Oct. 16. The game against Lakeview was the last in a series of competitions Thursday night in celebration of Homecoming 2025.

PHOTO BY HUNTER CONKLIN AND DANNY LESCH

School spirit on the rise at Housy

By Mia DiRocco

As homecoming week reaches its end and fall sports finish out the season, an air of school spirit and student participation seems to be on the rise across Housatonic Valley Regional High School. But what can be attributed to this sudden peak of student interest? That’s largely due to SGA. Also known as the Student Government Association, SGA has dedicated itself to creating events to bring the entire student body together. This year, they decided to change some traditions. Spirit week from Oct. 14-17 was unlike those of the previous years.

From wearing Housatonic merch to Boomer vs Baby day, this year’s spirit week held a little friendly competition to see which grade could participate the most. “I think that students are bored of the same old activities and events, so it’s good to switch things up even slightly to incentivize interest within students,” said SGA president and senior Mollie Ford. “Plus the point system is super beneficial because it gives students a reason to participate.” The school spirit sentiment can be seen outside of just the school. Senior Simon Markow is known for his photography throughout the community, and has dedicated time to help Housy sports teams’ social

media posts. “Since I’ve started photography, I think school attendance [at sports games] has gone up,” Markow said. “I feel this year, students will be more aware of games and are more likely to be at the games.” Whether it’s a pink-out volleyball game or an under the lights soccer match, it’s likely you’ll see some familiar faces. Social media has played a large role in this over the years. Almost every student organization at Housatonic has an Instagram account, and it’s helped reach students more efficiently than a poster or email would. “The increase of social media use, with the help from me but as well as the teams themselves has definitely

increased student interest,” Markow said. “With Housy teams posting more about their upcoming games, and my help showing the cool goals, spikes, or touchdowns, it’s enlightened students to watch the games themselves.” In a small school, promoting pride has proven to be a challenge. But this year’s senior class has made some adjustments in the hopes to change that. “The SGA community has spent the last few years really focusing on student participation, because we think it’s the students who contribute to a better climate,” Ford said. While Housatonic’s student body may be small in size, it seems they certainly aren’t small in spirit.

Student initiatives shake up Homecoming

By Peter Austin and Shanaya Duprey

The weekend of Homecoming at HVRHS was packed with events including rival games under the lights, senior night, and a new take on Homecoming that moves it outside — and it wouldn’t have been possible without the students of Housatonic. Orchestrating was no easy feat, especially considering much of the work was left up to the students.

Historically, HVRHS has hosted night games for boys and girls soccer and the GNH football team, but when members of the soccer team asked the athletic director, Anne MacNeil, she left it up to the students to acquire the lights necessary to host a night game. “I said, ‘Hey, if you can find the lights, we can make it happen,’” MacNeil said. “I usually take control of it, but I really wanted to have the teams have the initiative and take responsibility for it. I think by having them do that, they have a lot more invested in it.”

Finding lights for the game was a challenge in and of itself, and it fell on the students, parents, and alumni to come together if there was to be a night game at all.

Luckily for the players, Patricia and Dino Labbadia, parents of senior Anthony Labaddia, were able to amass the support of the community and get all the necessary equipment donated for the night game. “We’re fortunate with our communities. Our parents know people in communities and they were able to ask... [and] find the resources,” MacNeil said. “We’ve got a great senior group and senior parent group who have really taken charge ... and really made the whole season possible.” In the end, the night came together spectacularly, and the

senior ceremonies, rivalry games, and nighttime fixtures made for a memorable night on the day before Homecoming. The action began at 4 p.m. Thursday, when the JV Girls Volleyball team played rivals Lakeview High School at home. At 4:30, the middle school boys soccer team as well as the cross country team faced Northwestern at Housatonic’s lower field and cross country course respectively. Also at 4:30, the JV boys soccer team took on rival Lakeview at Housatonic’s upper field. At 5:15, the girls varsity volleyball team honored their seniors at Housatonic’s Senior Night ceremony, including captains Katie Crane and Victoria Brooks, before an intense match against Lakeview. At 6:15, the boys varsity soccer team honored their seniors, including captains Everet Belancik and Abram Kirshner, before kicking off under the lights at Housatonic’s upper field against the Bobcats.

Friday night changes

Typically, Homecoming is hosted in the cafeteria with a DJ and the entire room open as a dance floor. Dancing is the main event, with a small photo op stationed next to one of the exits. The typical formal dance filled with LED lights and glitter looked a bit different this year. For the HVRHS 2025 Homecoming, the activities all took place outside. There was a large bonfire for students to hang around, a tented area perfect for dancing, and lawn games to play. The inspiration for this change comes from the Homecoming hosted during the COVID-19 social distancing restrictions put into place at the time. Senior class President Madison Graney said “Other years passed, graduating classes really enjoyed it and we wanted to give it a try.” Although the theme of Home-



PHOTO PROVIDED

The poster promoting the Homecoming dance boasted the event would feature dancing, games and a bonfire. Reactions to the planned move outside were mixed, with some students excited about the changes and others expressing a desire for tradition.

coming remains the same, new tasks came in preparation for the event. Including the Bonfire “adds a whole new component,” Graney said. “[We] have to contact the fire department to ensure that the bonfire is being contained.” Hosting the dance outside also demanded “more preparation the day before ... set up the tents and make sure it’s a safe and fun space for everyone to enjoy.” Opinions about Homecoming’s new look vary amongst the student body, with some excited for change and others comfortable with the familiarity of an inside dance. Alexa Meach, an HVRHS senior, expressed that “Everyone that I’ve talked to’s plan is to get dressed up, take photos, and then change into more comfortable clothes because it’s going to be freezing. I feel like we could have had a different event for the bonfire. I think they could have been two separate events.” Graney said the change is “A really great way to change up the tradition ... [and] another good way to get to know your peers and your teachers and interact with the student body all at once.”

Housy takes on Halloween

By Shanaya Duprey

As the chilly breeze settles in, Halloween approaches and the community yearns for spooky festivities — HVRHS has answered that calling. An event held annually for the past eight years, the HVRHS haunted house has returned. The event is organized by the current senior and junior year classes — 2026 and 2027 respectively — and held to raise money that goes toward the junior and senior class’s activities such as senior week, prom, the senior class trip, and more. The haunted house is a significant event for HVRHS students, with the Class of 2026’s Vice President Richie Crane saying it is “actually one of our bigger fundraising events.” The profits raised by the classes are split based on how much either class participates, as Crane explained: “We split evenly between the juniors and the seniors, so if the juniors help as much as the seniors then we split the profit with them.” The profits shared between the classes is typically “a couple thousand dollars,” said Anne MacNeil, HVRHS’s sports director and one of the chaperones at the first haunted house.

In regards to planning such a large event, there are “several meetings that first start off with getting a theme ... then finding a leader for each section ... and then recruiting the people to participate.” MacNeil said. Costs going into planning the event are minimal, as they try to reuse as much materials as possible. If there are materials that need to be purchased, the cost is covered from the profits made at the end of the event, Crane said. Working at the HVRHS haunted house provides students with an invaluable experience where they

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Anna Gillette, Katie Crane, and Addie Diorio serving bread to the dinner guests at the start of the 2025 Wine Dinner fundraiser on Friday, Sept. 12.

PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Travel Club fundraiser still breaking records

By Anna Gillette

The annual Wine Dinner fundraiser for the international travel club has sustained high-dollar donations every year since its origin in 2018. This fall, over \$60,000 will be distributed to families involved with the travel club from the dinner alone.

The International Travel Club had its first trip in 2018, taking students to four European countries. Club advisor John Lizzi was unsure of how to fund such an experience, but he knew he didn't want to form a club only a limited number of students could be a part of. "I didn't really have a good conception of what that would look like," said Lizzi. "I was not thinking big scale at all." Early brainstorming focused on smaller-scale ideas like bake sales and car washes, but nothing that could make a significant financial impact.

Parent Denise Cohn helped pivot fundraising for the travel club into something bigger through a connection with the manager of The White Hart in Salisbury, Connecticut. With their help, the club hosted its first Wine Dinner fundraiser. The event exceeded expectations, raising about \$25,000. The now-annual tradition grows more successful each year.

Despite being a small, rural school, HVRHS offers two international trips every year. Thanks to the Wine Dinner, these global opportunities are accessible to a larger variety of students. Each year, an estimated 85-90% of students going on trips participate in the fundraising. "Almost everyone on the trip is benefiting directly from the money raised," Lizzi said. "I know plenty of families who would not have been able to travel without it."

Lydia Fleming, a junior at HVRHS who has previously traveled to Iceland and Thailand with the travel club, said, "The trips are pricey but the Wine Dinner makes it manageable, and because of that there are more diverse groups of people on the trips."

Currently enrolled in the Australia and New Zealand trip for July of 2026, Fleming is excited to experience unfamiliar cultures and traditions in a different part of the world. "Fundraising makes it possible to go on these trips that I otherwise wouldn't be able to go on," she said.

In months leading up to the event, students begin tackling a wide range of responsibilities: soliciting sponsors, making phone



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Pictured left to right: Lainey Diorio, Phoebe Conklin, Violeta Perez, Lyla Diorio — all members of the class of 2029.

calls, selling tickets, collecting auction items, and more. On the night of the event, they serve food, speak in front of guests, sell raffle tickets, and help with clean up. "It's just really great to see students interacting with the public—with our dinner guests, many of whom are sponsors themselves," Lizzi said.

While students and parents play a crucial role in organizing and working the event, the heart of the fundraiser comes from generosity from the community. Local businesses donate money or items for the live and silent auctions. Most companies continue their support year after year. Guests attend not only to enjoy a four course meal, but to support students by bidding on auction items and purchasing raffle tickets. Support from the community is key to the success of the event.

"When we started, I had no conception of what was possible or what people were willing to

give," said Lizzi. "The fact that people give \$500 to thousands of dollars in one fell swoop is still shocking to me."

What started as an uncertain experiment has evolved into a dependable, student-driven event that makes a difference for student opportunities. Lizzi's main message is simple: "Don't let cost be a prohibitive factor for you. We will help you through that process no matter the level of financial need that you have."

The Wine Dinner fundraiser makes international travel an affordable reality for students at HVRHS, but it isn't the opportunity to raise money. The club runs an annual appeal, writing personalized letters to companies and community members. In addition, multiple scholarship options are available to ensure all willing students can participate in international travel. Lizzi says, "If you're dedicated enough, it is possible."

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Continued from page 1

learn leadership skills, organizational skills, and teamwork. During the planning process, some students volunteer for leadership roles, where they are in charge of a designated section of the school and the people within that section. As a section leader, the student is in charge of setting up props,

managing their area, and ensuring the people in their section are on task. Leaders dedicate "almost 12 hours of [their] day to a section of Housy" said Crane, giving the students a great opportunity to practice leadership skills. The HVRHS haunted house is a holiday tradition

An inside look at Parentfest with Principal Strever

By Shanaya Duprey

HVRHS kicked off the 2025-26 school year with a revamped open house, renamed "Parentfest." With a different structure and goal in mind, Parentfest was a remodel of the open house that all of Housy is familiar with. HVRHS Principal Ian Strever broke down the changes and talked about the success of the revamped open house.

Strever said Parentfest was created to "reconfigure an open house so that it was more useful to parents and formatted differently to get as many parents as possible, and to hopefully change the demographic." The demographics at past open houses were a main factor in the rebrand, and a motivation behind the changes made to the annual event.

At past open houses, Strever noticed that "you get a lot of freshmen parents, and as the years ascend ... you get fewer and fewer parents attending." In addition to the parents being mostly those of freshman, there is also a pattern with the student's attitude toward school; "We tend to see a lot of the same parents ... people who are highly involved in education." The changes made to the event were an attempt to break such patterns.

"If we can put on this event and get one more parent than we would normally, it's worth it for us," Strever said.

Parentfest consisted of two long sessions, the first running from 12:45 p.m. to 3 p.m., and the second from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. This differs from the typical

open house, in which parents would "have gone block to block to block" at a set time. Strever noted that Parentfest's schedule was meant to be flexible, to allow parents with difficult work schedules to take part in conversations about their child's education. This goal is reflected in the new format of Parentfest "We're always looking for ways to connect with those parents," Strever said.

Parentfest was also an attempt to rebrand the overall atmosphere of an open house. Strever references how the tone change was an effort in large by the teachers, wanting to lighten the mood. They did this by providing lawn games and a food truck. In regards to the success of those goals — and Parentfest as a whole — it varies in terms of intention versus completion.

Strever views Parentfest as a success "in terms of the information that it provided, in terms of the tone that it had, and the resources for Parents." He did note, however, how disappointed he and other members of the staff were with the attendance for Parentfest.

In an effort to raise attendance, Strever is considering shifting the time slots from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., making it more accessible to parents. In regards to getting more attendance, Strever believes that "it's also the kind of thing that maybe word of mouth and time will help, too." He hopes that those who attended Parentfest will recommend the event to others, giving the open house rebrand a better turn out for next year.

Housatonic Valley FFA makes their way to National Convention

By Maddy Johnson

On Oct. 28, a group of 20 students, composed of student representatives and two competition groups, will journey to Indianapolis, Indiana, to compete against students from all over the country in an attempt to win a national title at the annual FFA National Convention.

"It is a really, really high level of intense competition and can be likened to career readiness," said Housatonic teacher and chaperone Danielle Melino. "It's an opportunity for students and chapters to come together, learn from each other."

The horse judging team, for example, consists of four students. Hannah Johnson and Madison Melino are both seniors who have been on the team since their freshman year, along with their first-year teammate Darwin Wolfe and substitute member Kellie Eisermann. "You can only learn so much in a classroom, but going out and seeing, expanding your personal skills,

and learning and competitions really help develop an understanding of agricultural industries," said Hannah Johnson, who will be attending the National Convention for the second time.

Madline Collingwood, Hayden and Byron Bell, and Michael Gawel make up the landscape team. Their advisor is teacher David Moran. The Bell brothers — one senior and one junior — are both subs for the landscape team and will be going down together for the first time. "I am excited to go down there with all my friends and make new memories," Hayden Bell said.

The other 12 students will be going for a multitude of different reasons. Alumni students Emma Cane and Will Starr will receive their American degrees, and Tyler Anderson will represent the Houston chapter, as he has completed the national chapter application. The rest of the students will be given an opportunity to go down and meet thousands of other students, as there is usually about 10% of America's overall FFA membership attending the convention.

There is also a career fair with colleges, trade schools, and companies involved in agriculture that welcome the students to come talk to them. "It's non-stop," Melino said. "From 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., you can be engaged and participating in different activities."

From haunted houses to concerts, career fairs to competitions, the opportunities in Indianapolis are endless for students venturing to National Convention.

that brings fun, community, and opportunities to the high school. MacNeil finds it to be "a lot of fun for the students to put on and a great thing for the community to enjoy." Come support the Class of 2026 and 2027 and see the HVRHS haunted house for yourself on Nov. 1, 2025.

Star soccer player bounces back from injury to break scoring record

By Anna Gillette

HVRHS senior Ava Segalla broke the Housatonic girl's soccer career goal record on Wednesday, Oct. 15, officially scoring her 122nd goal, surpassing the previous record held by her older sister.

Earlier in the season, on Sept. 5, Segalla became the newest member of the 100 varsity point club for girls' soccer. This is a notable achievement for high school students, but she wasn't stopping there. She became the all-time leading scorer in the history of girls' soccer as HVRHS.

"I started playing soccer when I was probably four years old," Segalla said. "Coming from a soccer family, it was sort of something I was just thrown into, but from a young age I've always really enjoyed playing."

Segalla's journey has taken her from fooling around with her siblings, to competing at the elite level with Connecticut Football Club. On that team, she began catching the attention of college



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Ava Segalla, center, returned to the soccer field this season after a long recovery from a broken ankle just before the end of the 2024 season.

She then had surgery.

"That was probably the hardest thing with my injury, working so hard to come back and then having to do it all over again," said Segalla. "Having a positive attitude made the whole process ten times easier."

After ten total months away from the field, Segalla returned with a new appreciation for the sport. "I was so excited to be able to do the thing that I love again and be physically active," she said. "Coming back was hard. I was hard on myself but I knew that I just had to put in the work to get back to my previous state."

With her senior season in full swing and college soccer approaching in the near future, Segalla is focusing on finishing her season strong, helping lead Housatonic toward a successful post-season.

"Playing at Sacred Heart, I'm most excited to play with a bunch of other women at such a high level." But for now, her efforts remain at Housatonic, where by passing her sister's scoring record, she's already had a lasting impact.

Lone girl golfer makes it to Berkshire League Tournament

By Maddy Johnson and Ibby Sadeh

Before she even stepped through the doors of Housatonic, freshman Ava Humes had already played in two varsity golf matches as the only girl on the team.

Humes became the only girl in the whole Berkshire League who qualified for the Berkshire League Tournament. This means that not only did she get a varsity letter the summer before coming to HVRHS, but she is now eligible to play in this tournament, with no girls to play against her.

"Well, my parents play golf," Humes said. "I played a little bit when I was younger, and then I started playing consistently in the spring of this year." When she joined the team this past summer, her coach, Peter Vermilyea, said she fit right in with the rest of the team. They were welcoming despite Humes being the only girl.

"She has been an extraordinary addition to our team and has fit in from day one," Vermilyea said. Despite this, outside of the Housatonics team, in matches Humes said that she sometimes is ganged up against for being the only girl surrounded by high school boys who occasionally heckle her.

This does not stop her. The

CIAC state tournament point system has to be altered for Humes's points to be calculated in terms of her gender. This is because, as the only girl, Humes has to hit off of tees 50-100 yards further away than where the women's tee typically exists.

This has pushed her to improve. Although at first she did not believe she could hit off of those tees because of their challenging distance, she soon learned and grew to be successful.

"If a team can't field enough girls to form a girls' team, then the girls play out on the boys' team," Vermilyea said.

Players do not have to adjust the scores themselves, but an online application called iWanamaker seems to think that Humes does not belong on the boys' team, constantly telling Vermilyea there is an error in his roster. Unbothered by this, however, Vermilyea still encouraged Humes, playing her in at least nine matches, therefore qualifying her for the league tournament.

Vermilyea recognizes how difficult it is for her on the team. "It is so hard to do what she's doing." However, Humes views her unique position in another way. "It's also fun, because, like, I know that I'm the only girl doing it."

mitted to play Division I soccer at Sacred Heart University.

Segalla participates in multiple sports throughout the school year, including fall soccer, winter club soccer, and track in the spring. These overlapping commitments result in a consistently full schedule.

Segalla faced a huge setback to her athletic career last fall, breaking her ankle days before the Class S state tournament, which the Housatonic girls had a fair shot at winning. "It was re-

Housatonic's students of the arts

By Peter Austin

At HVRHS, students flourish under the various creative programs that give beginners and experts alike a chance to practice their craft inside of school. However, some students excel beyond the classes offered at school, and demonstrate their creativity in other ways that one might not notice at first glance.

Kartel Henry is a sophomore at HVRHS who writes, records and produces his own music. Known as 'Cosigns,' Henry has amassed almost 3,000 monthly listeners on Spotify since he started making music on Bandlab in 4th grade. Henry takes music technology at HVRHS, and spends his free time in the Science and Technology Center honing his musical skills.

But his music endeavors extend far outside of school. "When it comes to [making music] at home, it's pretty much every single day; that's all I'm doing all day long, is making music," Henry said. "From when I get home, after soccer practice, I go on my PC and I record — until I go to bed."

For Henry, music is a passion, and when asked what's the most expressive part of his music, he responded that writing has always been the most artistic. "I feel like

what I make really reflects who I am, like my thoughts and beliefs ... it really means a lot [to me] when I write."

In the future, Henry said he wants to perfect his production skills, and improve as a musician with the help of the 21st Century Fund that provides support to both Henry and HVRHS.

Another student with a passion for music is senior Elizabeth Forbes. Forbes is a singer and songwriter who recorded her first EP this year, as part of her HVRHS Capstone project. She has competed in Housatonic's annual battle of the bands for three consecutive years, and is looking for a win at the next competition.

Forbes participates in the school band, musical and night choir, yet her musical process extends outside of school as well, as she does most of her best work on her own — she's been writing music as long as she remembers. "As long as I could speak, I've been writing my own music. I have old papers from when I was like five, and it's horrible handwriting and ... I don't remember doing them, but I used to make my parents sit there and listen to me perform them," Forbes said. "It's just always been a part of my life."

To Forbes, songwriting is a form of expression, and lyricism is the most artistic and meaningful way to do this. "I can get out all of my emotions and feelings in a song," she said. "It's definitely a part of who I am ... It really does have an influence on my personality because it's how I express myself."

Two stars stand out against many in the performing arts and theater scene at HVRHS — Richie Crane and Victoria Brooks. Last year, Crane was awarded the Sondheim Award for best supporting actor for his performance as Old Man Strong in Housatonic's "Urinetown."

The two were also selected to attend "Hamilton" on Broadway for their participation in a U.S. History competition, where their original lyrics and performance gave them the opportunity to travel to New York and experience live theater.

Both Crane and Brooks are extensively involved in HVRHS's theater programs, but their in-

volvement reaches far beyond the school. Crane works professionally at the Sharon Playhouse, in addition to the Blue Studio Dance Center and the Steps at Broadway Dance Center.

Brooks has performed in many shows, including an equity performance at the Sharon Playhouse, and has gained many community service hours volunteering her time as a counselor. Brooks said her love of theater started when she performed at local theaters in California, and transferred with her when she came to HVRHS.

When asked about how theater blends into other parts of his life Crane said, "My passion for acting led me to musical theater [and] dance, and I want to major in dance in college." For Crane, acting is about diving into the intricacies of the character you're playing, and finding yourself along the way.

For Brooks, acting best translates to her career aspirations. "I think being on stage, doing that form of public speaking, has really just ... enabled my love and admiration for debate and speech," Brooks said. "That's really carried into my ideal career ... going into law."

Amid many photographers at Housatonic, senior Simon Markow stands out for his broad resume in photography and film. Markow is an intern for The Lakeville Journal, filmed the HVRHS back to school video and attends many of Housatonic's sporting events. He is the driving force behind many of the school sports' social media profiles, and his works range from still images to edits of the soccer, volleyball and football teams.

Markow has taken film studies and photography, but most of his work is done outside of school, under the lights of a football stadium or a bright monitor screen.

Recently, Markow presented a short film featuring Sara Huber and Mira Norbets in the auditorium during flex. Dozens of students showed up to watch the film, and it was well received by all.

Markow uses both film and photography to capture his message across his many areas of expertise. To him, photography is easier, but film is more rewarding and, along with hours of editing, can produce a more meaningful final product.

Swiss exchange student welcomes new experiences

By Maddy Johnson

This year, Housatonic Valley Regional High School welcomes Sara Räber all the way from Aarau, Switzerland. She joined the senior class at 16 years old, having finished her schooling back in Switzerland.

"It's totally different there," she said. "We have, like, only nine years. We have kindergarten and then six elementary schools, and three high school years." Even though she is technically a senior at Housy, Räber is in classes with students a year or two older than her.

Räber's decision to come to the United States was not

made lightly. For a year, she has to put her future on hold as a pharmacist apprentice. Furthermore, she claimed not to be good at speaking English, saying she was one of the worst in her class. "I decided to do the exchange here because of my bad English," she said. "I was always really bad in school, and then I thought it would be the best opportunity to learn the language better."

Räber had set a few goals for herself before coming to America. "I tried to do a bucket list, but it was not that easy because I didn't know what to expect here. I wanted to visit New York City. One of my goals was also

to try Crumbl Cookie, and I did that," Räber said, agreeing that the cookies are good after going with a few of her friends.

Räber said her host family and friends have really enhanced her experience. "She's super nice and so sweet. I loved her right off the bat," said one of her friends, Sara Ireland. "Although I did resent her a little for having the same name as me," Ireland joked, "I still love her so much."

Elizabeth Forbes, Räber's closest friend here, said, "Sara is really easy to be friends with. Out of all the exchange students, she came in, and I didn't have to try. We just hit it off."

Seniors dish out the scoop on personalized learning projects

By Ibby Sadeh

During senior year, students at HVRHS have the ability to make one of the blocks in their schedule, which would typically be taken up with a study hall, into a personalized learning project. In order to find out about this, you may have to talk to your teachers and counselors.

This is good for students, said Hannah Johnson, who is doing a project related to FFA and developing leadership “It’s more personalized, gear it towards your personal interests and office on what you want to focus on rather than following a traditional curriculum,” Johnson said. Because Johnson is not taking an Ag class right now, she still wants to be a part of the FFA community through her leadership position as vice president of the chapter. This personalized learning will allow her to take this free block in her schedule to help plan out the FFA activities at the end of the year.

Madison Graney is also doing a project, which she learned was available from her history teacher. “I wanted to do more and go beyond the classroom learning,” she said. She found inspiration from her summer history program, and is now working on an article to be published from her research. “It’s different from just taking a history class because it’s

very personalized, what you put into it is what you get out of it, pick and choose what you want to study based on your interests,” Graney said. “If you’re really passionate about something specific like I am, you can develop a dedication to this in a specific amount of time to learn more about that specific field.”

The process to get ideas and approval for a project is first to talk to your teachers and counselor about your interest. “I talked to counselors and found an advisor in my history teacher,” Graney said. Then, you have to fill out the form, Johnson said. “Write about what you’re doing and why you are doing it and find a teacher to mentor you, get their signature, your parents signature, and an administrator’s signature.”

After it is all approved, students can get started with their independent project. The only thing left to do is make a plan with an advisor and stay accountable to a set timeline of moving forward with goals, Johnson said.

This is an incredible opportunity that students that have the interest and time should use to their advantage. This not only allows them to further their learning, but to open their perspective on the structure of learning new things. These are skills very valuable for after high school, like time management, independence, and creativity.



A screenshot of the Taniel's Bar and Grill listing on Google Maps featuring a photograph of the hand-painted sign that hung above the cafeteria exit on Oct. 2.

Housy administrators bring ‘Taniel’s Bar and Grill’ to life

By Ibby Sadeh

On Thursday, Oct. 2, what would usually be a normal school lunch was transformed into something different, and it all stemmed from a joke.

When students walked into the cafeteria that day, there was an option to be given a food ticket for “Taniel’s Grill,” and they were told to go outside the back of the cafeteria. This is where Vice Principal Steven Schibi and the school’s chef Andrew were grilling hotdogs and hamburgers underneath a sign saying, “Taniel’s Bar and Grill.”

HVRHS junior John DeDonato created the place name on Google Maps as a joke for a classmate’s

friendly nickname, Taniel. “The origin of Taniel’s Bar and Grill comes from a nickname in math class last year, combining my name, Daniel, with tangent,” said Daniel Lesch. This then became a name widely used by Lesch’s friends, both for his name and the math term tangent.

DeDonato made this a place tag on Google Maps right behind the school, and another student even set it up so the phone number directed to Daniel Lesch, the namesake. “One of my friends texted me and she said, ‘check Google Maps,’ and she showed me a picture,” Lesch said. “On

the Housy field in the middle of the softball field is Taniels Bar and Grill.”

A sign was made to be put next to the grill in the back field, and although not a lot of people knew what was going on at first, other than people who know Lesch or DeDonato, now many more people know.

This joke not only was a good laugh for students and teachers, but it created an event at HVRHS for all to enjoy. Vice Principal Shibi and Chef Andrew committed to this bit and made it an unforgettable event for Daniel Lesch as well as all students.

Congratulations Students!

From your friends at

The Lakeville Journal

lakevillejournal.com

Hear from the Mountaineers

Freshman and senior perspectives

Phoebe
Class of 2029

“Everyone here was very welcoming and it took time to adjust to a big change, but the teachers are so nice and supportive and I love all the different opportunities we have here that we didn’t have in middle school.”

Madison
Class of 2026

“I was really scared at first, it was very nerve wracking. I came from a really small school, and I was really scared to put myself out there and make new friends, but immediately I made so many life long lasting connections and I’ve met so many interesting people.”

Hannah
Class of 2026

“It was very intimidating. I thought it was so big, there were so many people, things, but now I’ve realized there’s so many different groups, so it’s like so easy to find people that have the same interests as you.”

Violeta
Class of 2029

“It wasn’t as scary as I thought and overtime I noticed it was easy. The teachers and students were very friendly and I like how we have a lot more freedom here.”

Meet the candidates: North Canaan

Get to know your candidates ahead of the 2025 municipal election. In North Canaan, there are two candidates for first selectman and two candidates for selectman vying for a seat on the town board. Below, each candidate offered information about themselves and their goals for the town.

FIRST SELECTMAN

Jesse Bunce

Democratic Nominee for First Selectman

Candidate profile:

My family has been blue collar in North Canaan for generations. I know hard work. I started mowing lawns at 12, now I run the family excavation business my grandfather built. My wife Kim and I are proud to be raising our growing family here. I'm not a politician, I'm a tradesman and a neighbor who stepped up because I care about this town and wanted to be part of the process. For me it has never been about a party label, it has only been about what matters for residents of North Canaan.

Why are you running for first selectman?

We deserve better. Running a business has taught me something simple: treat people right, be straight with them and work together to achieve our common goals. This is about neighbors helping neighbors and always listening to the taxpayers. I want to work with business owners on their needs



and how we can support new businesses that choose North Canaan. Small changes can make a big difference. North Canaan should be a place where you can live and support your family without breaking the bank.

What issues deserve the most attention?

Let's focus on common sense and community. We have millions in the bank that can earn interest in state programs safely to lower taxes and maintain liquidity. Wastefully spending \$10,000/month for interim

staff and ballooning legal bills. Locks being changed and threats to a 31-year public servant without due process. Putting a dog park next to a playground without discussion or approval. We need open government, financial responsibility and leaders who work together instead of playing games.

How would you improve the town?

The key to serving North Canaan is communication and teamwork. Elected officials work for you, the taxpayers, and you deserve to know the details and be involved in decisions with total transparency. Selectmen need to work together with our town boards and residents to make decisions that benefit the town, your voice should be heard. We need to be smart with money, lower taxes and invest where we can and go after grants.

Let's support children and families. Let's work together, then act.

FIRST SELECTMAN

Brian M. Ohler

Republican Nominee for First Selectman

Candidate profile:

My family and I are proud to call North Canaan home for six generations; along with my beautiful wife, Meagan, and our precious baby girl, Saylor Rose. I have dedicated my life to service. No matter the capacity, no matter the role, I have never given up on the challenges that we face. My professional experience as a health care administrator and non-profit executive, along with my formal MPA/MHA education, have best enabled me to fully understand and execute the demands of a First Selectman.

Why are you running for first selectman?

We have accomplished so much in just our first two years together. We have fully modernized rural government, expanded our communications, increased departmental efficiencies, and drastically decreased frivolous expenses. We've saved over \$250K in ancillary costs, while growing our General



Fund into the millions. Melissa Pinardi-Brown and I are running to further build on this progress and to ensure that North Canaan keeps heading in a forward direction. Visit www.brianohler.com for more info.

What issues deserve the most attention?

Since making the foundational changes that were needed, the groundwork is now set to continue making noticeable strides when it comes to our economic and financial viability. We must continue to tighten our

spending belt and expand our tax base through sensible development; which will enable us to further reduce the mill rate, creating much needed relief to taxpayers. Families and businesses can thrive here, as we champion what is possible and what can happen with a truly responsible government.

How would you improve the town?

Our dedicated team will continue to collaborate with residents and businesses, to ensure that we have developed a fully comprehensive plan for economic development, workforce/affordable housing, infrastructure enhancement, and area conservation. This plan and vision will then be executed in a manner that is truly guided by our town's principles and our collective drive to go from concept, to paper, to shovel-ready, to full realization.

This forward-thinking endeavor is possible and will happen.

SELECTMAN

Joe Sebben

Unaffiliated Candidate for Selectman

Candidate profile:

I was born and raised in Canaan, attended North Canaan Elementary School and HVRHS. I am married to Katina Sebben and we have two children, Sabrina and Tyler, who also attended those schools and currently live in Canaan. My father was the local barber for 58 years —and he and his sisters and brothers were raised in Canaan. For 46 years I owned a lawn service and currently work at Housatonic Railroad. Me and my family are committed and dedicated to Canaan and its residents.

Why are you running for selectman?

I believe everyone needs to have a voice in the town and its government. I want to be sure that all residents can voice their opinions and concerns. I believe that I have the ability to bring residents together and to reach out to other state and congressional leaders to bring money, resources and ideas to Canaan to better serve our community.

What issues deserve the most attention?

The mill rate — we need to determine why the mill rate continues to be higher than surrounding towns. We should convene meetings with elected officials, board of education, and other citizens who can delve into this matter and address the ris-



ing costs to determine if we can cut expenses. All of the town equipment, buildings, computers, should be on a 5-year plan. We should review possibly subcontracting town road maintenance for plowing and mowing to see how to save taxpayers' money.

How would you improve the town?

I would have regular meetings with the business community and residents to learn how we can work together to move Canaan forward and to hear their ideas and opinions. I would have an open-door policy. We need more communication and understanding of the issues and listening to all sides. I would evaluate all non-elected employees and their job descriptions to determine what changes should be made, if any, so that together we can move forward and be proactive to our residents.

SELECTMAN

Melissa Pinardi

Republican Nominee for Selectman

Candidate profile:

I moved to Canaan in 2013 to spend the summer working at Lone Oak Campsites when I met my husband, Cooper Brown. I fell in love with Canaan's small town feel and family-like community. Since moving here I have felt so embraced by our town. I have 2 small businesses, and have recently joined the Recreation Commission. As a home owner, business owner and parent I feel I can relate to everyone in our community in some way. I am so looking forward to serving the town who has been so welcoming to me.

Why are you running for selectman?

Six years ago I started to attend zoning and selectman meetings after having unpleasant experiences with different departments when attempting to purchase a building for my business. I attended meetings hoping to see positive changes in the way these departments were running. In the last couple years I've definitely noticed improvements. I would love to become more involved and help continue this progress. Everyone should have the same opportunities to start and grow their business in our town.

What issues deserve the most attention?

I feel that our current board has done a great job



trying to keep our budget in check this past year. I would love to continue this work to help bring our taxes down. As a homeowner and business owner I fully understand the burden of a higher tax rate and look forward to exploring ways to continue to stay within budget. As a mother I also want to see the schools appropriately funded, continuing to offer our children the safest and best possible education.

How would you improve the town?

Being behind the chair in the salon, I get to hear from a lot of different people who live in our town. They are always so open about things they would like to see happen as well as items that could use some attention. Public safety, the success of our schools, and overall affordability are the main concerns I would like to focus on. Brian Ohler has already done so much in just two years, and I know that together we will accomplish even more for the people of North Canaan.

Election basics

Election Day is Nov. 4. Early voting begins Oct. 20. North Canaan's polling station will be at Town Hall, 100 Pease Street. Voting tabulators will be used. Absentee ballots are available from the Town Clerk. Absentee ballots can be placed in the ballot box outside Town Hall and will be counted at the polls. Selectmen in North Canaan are elected to two-year terms. They are seated on the board one week after election day. The budgeted annual salary of the first selectman is \$24,000 and the annual salary of the other two selectmen is \$6,500 each. The candidate for first selectman that receives the most votes will become first selectman through 2027. The remaining first selectman candidate then drops into the pool with the candidates for selectman and the top two vote getters will become selectmen through 2027 (subject to state law on minority representation).



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Get to know each candidate before voting on Nov. 4

Each week leading up to the 2025 municipal election, The Lakeville Journal will highlight candidates from towns in the Northwest Corner. All 21 candidates for selectman in Region One towns shared information about themselves, their goals and vision for the town. See more online at lakevillejournal.com

2025 Referendum Questions

On the ballot in North Canaan will be three questions for voters to decide if the town should elect or appoint individuals to serve as Town Clerk, Treasurer and Tax Collector. Currently all three positions are elected by voters and eligible candidates must be certified residents. By switching to appointed roles, the Selectmen would have the ability to appoint certified individuals regardless of residence status. At a June public hearing, supporters of the change said it would allow for more oversight of the positions and continuity of service. Opponents called it an undemocratic power-grab by the Selectmen.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Appreciation for ‘Under the Lights’ contributions

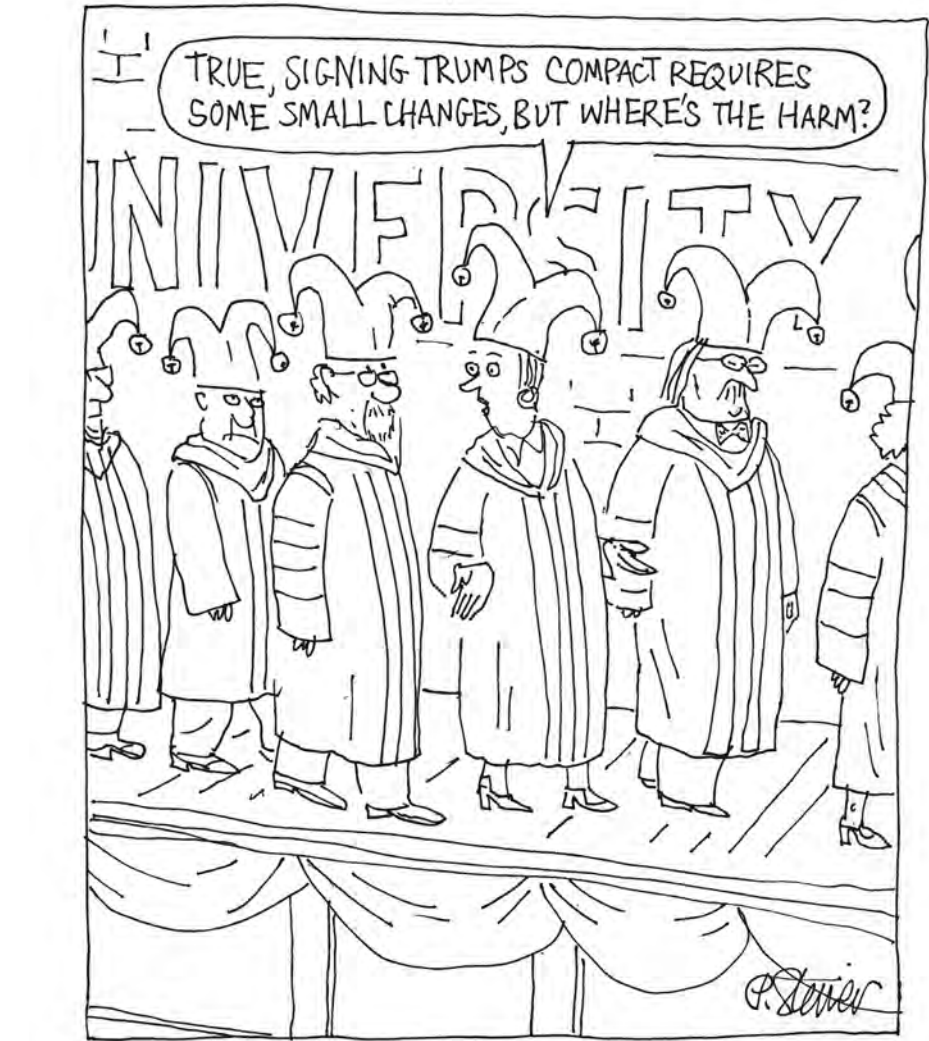
On behalf of the Housatonic Valley Regional High School Athletic Department, I would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the local businesses that contributed to our recent “Under the Lights” game — Vernali Concrete, Champ Perotti, Faye and Wright Rock Crushing, Century Concrete, the Town of North Canaan, the Town of Kent, and the Kent Fire Company. A special thank you is also extended to Todd Vernali, Dino Labbadia, and Shawn Finney for their assistance in setting up the lights. Your commitment to supporting our students

and school community exemplifies the strong partnership that exists between Housatonic and our local towns. These lights provided a unique opportunity for our students, families, and fans to come together and celebrate Mountaineer pride. Thank you for helping us create an environment that reflects the spirit and unity of our region. Your generosity truly lights the way for our student-athletes—both on and off the field. Yours in Blue and Gold, Anne MacNeil CMAA, R-ATC Athletic Director Falls Village

ICE needs to be brought under control, up to courts

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, commonly known as ICE, comes under the Homeland Security administration. Their mission is to “protect America from cross-border crime and illegal immigration that threatens national security.” President Trump appointed Stephen Miller to run it, and Miller has pushed the organization to arrest 3,000 people a day. The ICE officers are masked to protect themselves from recognition by their neighbors, who would probably ostracize them and cause their children to be shunned in schools. That is because polls show that the great majority of Americans do not approve of the violence displayed by these ICE officers when making arrests. Detainees with no criminal record outnumber those with prior convictions. Many arrests are not for violent criminals as Homeland Security has claimed but rather are often longtime residents

who outstayed their visas or are, in fact, US citizens. In contrast, our state police are not masked. They wear cameras to ensure that when they arrest suspects for violent crime like murder, assault, and armed robbery, the suspects are treated with human dignity. This should be the way ICE operates. The public’s use of cell phones to photograph the violence of ICE should not be needed to curtail ICE and bring about some degree of accountability, but that is the public’s primary tool. Latinos make up most of the people currently being targeted by ICE, but the next biggest group of people who entered the country illegally are from India. Will they be targeted next by ICE? By threatening peaceful protesters, targeting minority populations, and using extreme brutality to silence and arrest US civilians, ICE demonstrates again that it needs to be brought under control. Since the Trump administration won’t do it, sadly, it is left to the courts to protect our rights. Let us hope that the judicial branch will act responsibly and impartially, their decisions acting as a check and balance to the executive branch during these disturbing times. Lizbeth Piel Sharon



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fall Festival a huge success, passing the torch

The 68th Salisbury Fall Festival was a huge success with a record number of people enjoying our hometown celebration. I want to thank the many organizations, businesses, churches, schools, and artisans who sponsored and participated in this year’s event. Merchants planned a Sip & Stroll for Friday night to start the festivities. About 25 scarecrows appeared along Main Street in Lakeville and Salisbury, and more than 1,000 votes were cast for the favorites. Organizations sponsored a variety of events, from a book giveaway and a quilt show to bake sales and historical exhibits. Kids flocked to the library lawn for pumpkin decorating, crafts, face painting, games—and two party pigs. A magician entertained young and old. People enjoyed hay rides, antique car rides, and dance performances. The White Hart lawn was filled with the tents of local artisans. Live music was provided by local bands and musicians, the middle school chorus, and an Irish opera singer. Food offerings ranged from hot dogs, chili, and mac ‘n cheese to food trucks and Lakeville Hose’s prime rib dinner. And the rain held off for the Pet Parade on Sunday which had many dogs plus a cat, a gecko, and a brief visit by a horse! For 15 years, I’ve enjoyed organizing and publicizing the Salisbury Fall Festival, which has grown from a church-sponsored fair into a town-wide event attracting more and more visitors every year. I’m grateful to the many organizations, businesses, and individuals who are sponsors and/or participants in the festival—this year they numbered over 80! And I’m very grateful to Larissa Vreeland who will take over the responsibilities next year. The Salisbury Fall Festival, one of the oldest festivals in the area, is an outstanding showcase for our community. May it continue to provide a fun-filled weekend in our Northwest Corner for so many people. Jeanette Weber Salisbury Fall Festival Salisbury

Kitty cares for community and will work for us We heartily recommend Kitty Kiefer for re-election as Selectman for the Town of Salisbury. Kitty is an attorney born and raised in Salisbury. She brings valuable experience to the role, having served as Selectman for the past two years, and she has shown her commitment to the job by running once again as an unaffiliated candidate, which satisfies the political diversity requirement. She encourages in-person meetings, which are important for community building and participation, as opposed to meetings via Zoom. Public service is an important component of Kitty’s life. She listens to her constituents and can be counted on to do all she can regarding our concerns. Kitty cares very much for our community and will once again work tirelessly for us. It is important that we all vote. Early voting started on October 20th. Kristina Chandler Stephanie Copeland Elizabeth Cabot Hilary Cooper Ann Spoor JoAnn Lunning Susan McQuillan Chany Wells Salisbury

Vote for Don Mayland My endorsement of Republican Don Mayland, who seeks to continue his six-year role as a past Town Selectman, is made not only because of his unmatched community service, including having been the president of a number of local organizations, but because of his political affiliation. I don’t discount the professional experience of the two lawyers running against Don, one of whom is running again with no disclosed party affiliation and the other, a newcomer Democrat, who is general counsel for a global nonprofit with \$104 million in revenue. But Don has worked well with First Selectman Rand and will provide a beneficial balance to the Board of Selectmen. In short, help the Town by voting for the best qualified candidate, Don Mayland. Peter Becket Lakeville

Status Report

Northeast Wilderness Trust, a regional land trust dedicated to wilderness conservation, announced Oct. 15 it has surpassed 100,000 acres of forever wild protected land across New England and New York, including nearly 3,000 acres in northwestern Connecticut. SHARON — Starting this fall, birthing hospitals across the state, including Sharon Hospital, are providing postpartum patients with an orange bracelet and an informational handout before leaving the hospital. The bracelet signals to healthcare professionals and first responders that the wearer is newly postpartum. The Bracelet Initiative educates healthcare providers on standardized lifesaving protocols, ensuring postpartum patients seeking emergency services are identified and triaged appropriately.



PHOTO BY CAITLIN HANLON

Fall foliage

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 • editor@lakevillejournal.com Volume 129, Number 13 Thursday, October 23, 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. James H. Clark Publisher & CEO Thomas K. Carley Chief Operating Officer In Appreciation William E. Little, Jr. Chairman Emeritus Janet Manko Publisher Emeritus A. Whitney Ellsworth 1936-2011 Managing Partner Robert H. Estabrook 1918-2011 Editor and Publisher Emeritus EDITORIAL STAFF: Riley Klein, managing editor; Patrick L. Sullivan, senior reporter; Natalia Zukerman, arts, lifestyle & engagement editor; Alec Linden, reporter. ADVERTISING SALES: Roxanne Lee, Mary Wilbur, advertising account managers; Lyndee Stalter, classified advertising. FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION: Sandra L. Lang, controller; Kelly Grimme, financial assistant; Michelle Eisenman, legals & obituaries billing; Sally André, Development Associate. COMPOSING DEPARTMENT: Caitlin Hanlon, production manager; Olivia Montoya, graphic designer. DRIVERS: Gary Hufner; Geoffrey Olans, John Runge. 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.

VIEWPOINT

Life On Mars?

Across most of the space scientific community, the realization has solidified that there is life out there, meaning other than just on Earth. Sounds obvious but until the past 10 years there has been no hint of proof, just hypothesis.

All the Moon dust and rocks the Apollo program brought back showed no traces of life. Since then, probes, especially to the southern polar regions of the Moon, have shown the presence of water but no bio signatures. But last summer, NASA's Mars Perseverance rover drilled into the mudstone and there was a dramatic upturn in probability we're about to receive actual proof of life existing on another planet. "This finding... is the closest we've actually come to discovering ancient life on Mars," said Nicky Fox, NASA Associate Administrator. He went on "...everything we know about life on Earth, this is the kind of signature we would see that was made

A VIEW FROM THE EDGE PETER RIVA

by something biological. In this case, it's kind of the equivalent of seeing leftovers from a meal, and maybe that meal had been excreted by a microbe. That's what we're seeing in this sample."

Are they going to bring back a sample for ground-based testing? The project director for the Perseverance project, Katie Stack Morgan explained, "we're pretty close to the limits of what the rover can do on the surface... That was by design, since the payload of the Mars Perseverance rover was selected with a sample return in mind." Then we'll know, is the goal here, to bring back samples.

But this Administration has just proposed cutting the Mars rover programs

by more than 50%, taking a sample return mission off the table for now. It's an expensive mission, to return samples to Earth. Yes, there's the technology which we have not proved yet: a robot to land on mars, collect the samples, blast back into Mars orbit, transfer to a waiting spaceship to return in maybe a year to Earth. Or perhaps wait for some humans to land on Mars?

It is worth remembering at this point a medical necessity of the Apollo landings' programs: Biohazard prevention. Every capsule, piece of clothing, instrument, and the astronauts themselves, on return to Earth from their Moon missions stayed in quarantine for 30 days. During that time, every medical, sterile, procedure was followed while dust, clothing, blood samples, and all bodily fluids were tested every day. The worry then was that a single unknown bacteria or virus – and therefore pathogens for which life on Earth

have no resistance – could terminate all or a great deal of life on our planet. And that risk still exists today for all space exploration.

One way missions, like the Mars Perseverance, pose no threat as a portable lab on a distant planet. It is only bringing something alien back here that could pose a threat. This is not a USA-only issue, it is a global, all humanity, issue. And until all of humanity can be 100% sure that all that the international space programs are prepared, budgeted, and scientifically sure, no one, nothing, should be returned to Earth. There is a safe way forward, but no single country's space program nor any commercial entities should not be allowed to recklessly proceed with ambitious goals devoid of security for this potential risk to everything for everyone.

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

OBITUARY

Robin Lee Dowden

BANTAM — Robin Lee Dowden (Downey) of Bantam, Connecticut passed away peacefully Oct. 13, 2025, at the age of 83 surrounded by family. She was born Oct. 9, 1942 in Ottumwa, Iowa.

She is survived by her 3 children; Sage Croci and her husband Dan of Litchfield, Erik Tomaino of Salisbury, and Jason Tomaino of Kauai, Hawaii. She also leaves her grandchildren; Aaron (Alina) Lee, Evan (Brittany) Lee, Ellie Barrows, Daniel, Jace and Griffin Tomaino and her 3 great grandchildren, Oakley, Theodore and Charlotte. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ed Dowden, her parents, Gordon and Aida Downey, siblings GK Downey, Tony Downey, Alex Rogers and Noel Roy.

After graduating high school in Raton, New Mexico, she attended Austin Peay State, Highlands University and Harbor College and was a flight attendant for United Airlines.

Her love of world travel, art, skiing, swimming, bowling, music and Broadway plays filled her time as well as being an active member of the garden club and multiple volunteer organizations.

Robin Lee Dowden will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

In the words of longtime dear friend of Robin's:

"Robin was a spirited soul, a chameleon who could adapt to any circumstance, and a survivor in every sense of the word. Her life was a tapestry of stories, names, and transformations, each one a testament to her resili-

ence and fire. She lived boldly, loved deeply, and left her mark on everyone who knew her. She was a mother to two sons and a cherished daughter, and through them, her light continues to shine. Robin's journey was not always easy, but she met each chapter with

courage and grace. Nobody cooked a butterfly-cut lamb like Robin. She brought fire and flavor to everything she touched, terrific in the kitchen, and unforgettable in life. And when she hit the slopes, she skied with the same fearless energy that defined her spirit. She could get so mad at me sometimes, but somehow, we always ended up laughing. That was Robin: fierce, funny, and full of heart. Whether she was searing lamb, carving through snow, or calling me out with that sharp wit of hers, she embraced life with passion and joy. Those of us who knew her will remember her laughter, her strength, and the way she could turn even the hardest moments into something fun or beautiful."

The family would like to express their deepest gratitude for everyone who helped to care for her in her final months and days, especially East Mountain House in Lakeville, Connecticut and Visiting Nurse and Hospice of Litchfield County. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to the above organizations in honor of Robin. A Celebration of Life is being planned for Saturday, November 1. For more information, please reach out to the family.



TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

125 years ago — October 1900

FALLS VILLAGE — At a little before three o'clock yesterday, Friday morning, H.W. Simmons, a boarder at the Falls Village Inn, awoke, he noticed a light, got up, saw a blaze in the rear of G.W. Hall's store, the Citizen's Hall Building. He gave the alarm of fire. Landlord Beach and the guests of the hotel were instantly in their clothes and out to further the alarm. Clerk Campbell, John Bartle, Fred and William McCabe and W. Best were first at the scene. It was evident that some devil had set the fire going in a pile of boxes in the rear of Hall's store and with the limited water supply it was also evident from the start that all that could be done was to save other buildings.

The many friends of H.F. Landon are congratulating him upon his nomination to the office of Senator.

Horace Johnson, the weather prophet, is on the rampage again and is promising us every old kind of weather.

Two tally-ho parties stopped at the Wononsco House on Sunday and Monday. The turnouts were both very fine.

Michael Flynn of Ore Hill, aged 13 years, fell off a fence and hurt one of his arms. Five days afterward he came to Dr. Hoag, who found that the arm was broken. The operation of "setting" was very painful for the little fellow.

100 years ago — October 1925

The fire siren sounded Wednesday morning and caused the firemen to hustle, but no one seemed to know where the fire was. An immediate investigation was made and it was learned that no one had sounded it. The trouble was finally located at the Holley Mfg. Co. factory. It seems that some one was pounding with a heavy hammer on a board near the button which starts the siren and the jar set the thing going. There was some fault in the button itself, which has

been remedied and no further trouble from this source is expected.

Adv.: IF YOU SEE SAM AND MOLLY and have junk for sale, stop them. Sam will buy the junk and Molly will haul it away. We pay highest price for Rags, Magazines, Iron, etc. S.F. Holman, Junk Dealer.

The Solan family of Ore Hill have installed a new radio which they are all enjoying immensely.

Freelan Pulver has moved into rooms in Miss Jane Smith's house, and W.H. Judd has moved into the rooms vacated by Mr. Pulver.

50 years ago — October 1975

The geese supposedly polluting Lake Wononscopomuc in Lakeville had apparently flown the coop this week as hunters searched the waters for the elusive birds. Hunting season opened Saturday for the first time since 1939 and 10 permits have been issued so far, said First Selectman Charlotte Reid Wednesday. However, the Canada geese have been few and far between with only three geese killed, Mrs. Reid said.

Bicron Electronics of Canaan confirmed this week it is going ahead with major expansion plans at its plant. The announcement comes at a time when many small subcontracting plants across the country are having to cut back or close down. Plans call for an additional 5,000 square feet of production space, according to Emery Wegh, president of Bicron.

Peter Morrow of Sharon escaped injury on Oct. 11 when the hot air balloon in which he was a passenger lost altitude and landed in some trees near the Kent School for Boys. Mr. Morrow and the balloon's owner, Rick Behr of New York, had soared smoothly around the Northwest Corner for about 45 minutes when the propane tank heating the air ran out of fuel, according to Jane Buckley Smith of Sharon, herself a balloon enthusiast. According to one report the

balloon landed in tall trees, then ripped and jolted the occupants further toward the ground. They jumped when the carriage was about 10 feet above the ground. They sustained no injuries.

The 747 students now enrolled at Housatonic Valley Regional High School constitute the biggest student body in the school's history. That was just one of several statistics handed the HVRHS board on Oct. 14. Other figures released by Principal Edward Kirby showed nearly 50 per cent of 1975 graduates attending college or technical or vocational schools.

A baby girl, Erin Lynn Matheson, was born last month to Mr. and Mrs. David Matheson of Johnson Road, Falls Village. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kirkpatrick of Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Walter Matheson of Orchard Street, Lakeville.

25 years ago — October 2000

SHARON — Some ample savings are in store for those with overdue bills at Sharon Hospital. A 25 percent discount is available to those whose bills have been sent to a collection agency or who are two months or more in arrears.

A group of teachers at North Canaan Elementary School has agreed to return salary overpayments that were the result of a contractual error. All 13 teachers have filled out forms designating how they will return a total of \$9,400. Overpayments per teacher ranged from 44 cents to more than \$1,200. Those with smaller amounts will pay it back in a lump sum. Others have agreed to a schedule of payroll deductions, beginning with their next pay check.

SHARON — Despite supporting the idea of a day-care center on the property adjacent to Sharon Center School, the Planning and Zoning Commission voted against granting a special exception to the Sharon

Day Care Center because it lacked a plan for sewer and drainage.

An early Monday morning brush fire at Lone Oak Campgrounds was attributed to a Sunday campfire that was not completely extinguished. Canaan Fire Company Deputy Chief John Foley said the fire apparently smoldered all night.

SHEFFIELD — The 1838 smokehouse that used to stand on Christ Church property took a trip Friday morning on a flatbed trailer, moving across Main Street to its new home on the grounds of the Sheffield Historical Society. The next step will be to complete a foundation already begun, then lower the nine-foot-tall, 6,000-pound building onto its newly prepared site.

CANAAN — Customers at McDonald's Restaurant won't notice anything different Sunday, but behind the scenes a major changeover will take place. Long-time owners Joe and Shelley Deutsche have sold the Canaan and Great Barrington franchises to McDonald's Corporation. "We came into this with a 10-year commitment in mind. We've been here 12," Mr. Deutsche said. The Oct. 22 changeover will herald no staffing changes or major equipment or decor renovations.

CANAAN — After a six-month wait, Roma Pizzeria finally opened for business last week. The little blue building next to the tracks on Main Street is once again a lively spot and the only place in Canaan offering New York style pizza.

FALLS VILLAGE — Peggy Matthews was awarded a master's degree in special education in June from Westfield State College in Westfield, Mass. She is employed as a special education teacher at North Canaan Elementary School.

These items were taken from The Lakeville Journal archives at Salisbury's Scoville Memorial Library, keeping the original wording intact as possible.



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Pumpkins galore



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As we are midway through fall, it is good to be aware of bears as they approach hibernation. Bears are currently in what is called hyperphagia, an annual power-eating phase where they consume up to 20,000 calories per day to prepare for winter. In the wild, this is accomplished with acorns, etc. The issue is that for a bear, it is much easier to find these calories with bird feeders and our garbage. The problem this creates is that the bears then become habituated to humans and associate us as a source for easy food, leading to conflicts. So for more information, please visit: portal.ct.gov/deep/wildlife/bears/the-basics-of-living-with-black-bears



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GRAVE

Continued from Page A1

While the cause of death for the girls is unknown, smallpox was rampant at the time and could be to blame.

Kallstrom explained that finding the headstone of the two girls was the result of a slew of coincidences: Smith's demonstration needed a stone, and because the Cemetery Committee, Historical Society and the Daughters of the American Revolution are jointly preparing an identification project for all of Kent's Revolutionary War veteran graves in anticipation of the nation's 250th anniversary, it was decided that a yet-uncleaned revolutionary war serviceman's grave would be used for the event.

As it happened, Kallstrom had recently received a message from Franki Coughlin, a resident of Huntingtown, Maryland, and member of the John Hanson chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, inquiring about the grave of her ancestor: Dr. Oliver Fuller, who is a direct descendant, as is she, of English-born Edward Fuller who came to the new world on the Mayflower.

Kallstrom figured it would be the perfect demonstration grave for the cleaning seminar.

Coughlin wrote a genealogical record in 2020, complete with biographies, that was distributed among her family as a pandemic passion project. As a result, she is thoroughly researched on her lineage, which includes many notable figures in the Berkshires, such as the Ramsdell family for whom the public library in the Housatonic region of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, is named.

While Coughlin had most of this regional branch of the family pinned down in a cemetery in Housatonic, she said the fate of Fuller's daughters eluded her own searches, as well as the extensive investigation conducted by her mother and her mother's cousins.

"They're all buried in that one cemetery there," she said. "So we know where they all are, but we never could find the girls. Now we know where the girls are."

Among her mother's generation of family researchers,



PHOTOS BY BRENT KALLSTROM

Left, the daughters' stone before treatment with D/2 Biological Solution, a cleaning agent that breaks down mold, lichens, and other staining substances that build up on headstones. Right, the stone after cleaning. The half-faded epitaph is visible at the bottom.

only one cousin, Molly, is still alive. Coughlin is set to visit her in a few weeks to celebrate her 96th birthday and share the news. "She's just going to be thrilled to death

because she — along with my mother and then Lorraine, the other cousin — they were the ones who started this."

Even without a familial connection, others were similarly excited by the discov-

ery. Kent Historical Society President Deborah Chabrian has labored for hours over the half-worn epitaph on the daughters' grave since the Oct. 10 grave cleaning, visiting the site at different times of day to photograph

the etchings under various light angles and manipulating the images in Photoshop to reveal difficult words and letters.

She said that while the mystery is driving her to try to decipher the text in full, it's the stone's, and its writing's, ability to convey emotions across centuries that drew her in the first place.

"The fact that it's partially obscured is what makes it more interesting in a way," Chabrian said. "But one thing rings very clear: It's very heartfelt, very poetic. Obviously, these little girls were very loved."

She added that the grave keeps the story of the girls alive: "They lived a short life, but here we are talking about them right now."

Below is a draft of what Chabrian, with help from Marge Smith, has been able to pull from the stone thus far. She qualified that it is a work in progress, and certain words may not be entirely correct. "We may never know all the words," she cautioned, "but what we do know tells us how much they were loved and loved each other!"

WAKE ROBIN

Continued from Page A1

In the Commission's deliberations following the closure of the public hearing for the revised application in September, several commissioners expressed their satisfaction with Aradev's responsiveness to the commission's and community's concerns. During the first deliberation session on Oct. 7, Chair Michael Klemens said he found the new plans to be "much better designed this go around," though he did qualify that the proposed development was "still large."

At the same meeting, commissioner Allen Cockerline voiced his approval of the renewed application's technical details, such as its sound survey, a robust stormwater management plan, and relocating the event facility inside the main building, which he described as a "very, very positive move."

Vice Chair Cathy Shyer, though, felt differently. "The bottom line is, this is a big development," she said during the Oct. 7 discussion. "It's as big as the last one."

During the seven public hearing sessions that took place in August and September, cries that the revised application had not mitigated in any meaningful way its most invasive components — namely, the "inappropriate" size and scale of the development in a rural residential (zoned RR1) neigh-



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Wake Robin Inn was approved for redevelopment by a 4-1 vote of P&Z Oct. 20.

borhood — were a common refrain from neighbors of the inn.

Over the course of those seven meetings, and an additional six during the hearing process for Aradev's first application last year, P&Z heard hours of testimony from the community, the vast majority of it in opposition to the project.

Shyer echoed those sentiments at the Oct. 20 meeting: "Some things just don't belong in some places."

She expressed her frustration at the Commission for its debate over conditioning the approval to remove three of the four cottages in the site plans, which she felt was a red herring towards the broader issue. "This project

is so big and so intense that taking three keys away is not making any difference."

The meeting eventually took a 45-minute recess to allow Land Use Director Abby Conroy to draft a new resolution that included the stipulation to remove the three cottages, leaving only one still included in the plan. Upon resuming the meeting at 10:30 p.m., Klemens asked for a motion to approve the resolution, which was followed by a lengthy silence before Cockerline eventually offered it up. The vote passed 4-1, with Shyer voting no.

The moment marked the end of an application process that has seen heightened emotions, community organizing that includes two

petitions against the project with hundreds of signatures each, and litigation against P&Z for a regulation change that allowed the proposal to see review in the first place.

The legal case, if approved by the court, would nullify a 2024 zoning regulation change that allows hotels in the RR1 zone via special permit application. Klemens said that, because of this, "the applicant is proceeding totally at its own risk."

P&Z's attorney Charles Andres stated that he believed it was unlikely Aradev would even be able to begin construction in the next several months as the case sees court review: "It's highly unrealistic that they will proceed while that is still pending."

Two Sisters ____ In ____ ne death (or dear?)
One their Ambition hearts & care
And Thus Together Joined
When Death had Called one tender flower
The other Withered in an hour
____ without to stay Behind
____ Who lay ____
And ____ True Heart_ Join

Together ____
____ A__ ben ____...

SPENDING

Continued from Page A1

being done in Washington," he said. "That bill guts social safety nets for the most vulnerable and gives massive tax cuts to billionaires, adding \$4 trillion to the national debt. We're in the best spot we can be, but we see something different every day. I'm worried about sectors that will be targeted in blue states."

He believes that the cuts will negatively affect red states more than blue and said, "80% of people in Connecticut on Medicaid are working. That's not so in Mississippi."

During the question period, he was asked by Jessica Fowler of the Sharon finance board what local boards of finance can do in these times, Russell advised they maintain as much flexibility as possible and if able, increase reserves.

When a woman expressed

concern about local hospitals and nursing homes, Horn said in her discussions with Sharon Hospital personnel, there is so much they don't know. She is hopeful that the recent merger between Nu-vance and Northwell will be positive, since Northwell has a record of investing in small hospitals.

When Russell said there are 80,000 unfilled jobs in Connecticut, one woman asked how that can be rectified. He and Horn said re-training programs for jobs that exist need to be encouraged. Housing shortages also play a role in that problem.

Horn said farmers are terrified about the federal government's stance on immigration. "They have long and valued employees and farms could not exist without them."

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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts, Entertainment & Lifestyle

FILM: JENNIFER ALMQUIST

An interview with Bestor Cram: filmmaker discusses ‘Tiananmen Tonight’ and the power of the press

On Thursday, Oct. 30, from 5:30 to 7 p.m., the Nor-folk Library will host a free public screening of “Tiananmen Tonight,” a film by Bestor Cram and Michael Streissguth about the 1989 student uprising in China and the daring coverage by Dan Rather and CBS. Director Cram will introduce the film.

A documentary filmmaker whose life was forged in the fire of Vietnam, where he served as a Marine, Cram earned the Navy Commendation Medal. He returned home to become a conscientious objector and leader of Vietnam Veterans Against the War. After working in the MIT Film Studies Program, he founded Northern Light Productions in Boston, producing media for museums, and has made more than 30 feature documentary films.

His credits include the 1995 Academy Award-winning documentary “Maya Lin: A Strong Clear Vision,” as well as “After Innocence and Wrestling with Angels: Playwright Tony Kushner.” His film “Unfinished Symphony,” premiered at the 2001 Sundance Film Festival.

JA: When did you begin telling stories?

BC: I began my filmmaking adventure as an organizer for Vietnam Veterans Against the War. I arranged for a group of filmmakers to document our march, which followed the ride of Paul Revere in reverse, a warning to folks to become patriots and oppose the war.

JA: How does our current political and moral dilemma, with journalism under fire, inform



PHOTO PROVIDED

Filmmaker Bestor Cram

this film?

BC: The film is about a momentous event that became a defining example of how television journalism lived up to its promise, providing in-depth, ongoing reporting that enabled an audience to understand the evolution of a news story. It provides insight into the decisions journalists face in dealing with management, restrictive budgets, governmental impediments, and the dilemmas that arise when reporters become part of the news.

JA: What drew you to the story of Dan Rather and CBS in China?

BC: Dan Rather and his team were in a ratings fight, but more importantly, they were fighting to reestablish their reputation as the gold standard in TV journalism.

JA: How can we protect our free press?

BC: The bottom line

rules capitalism. When corporations become owners of the press, they no longer view news as a public service but as another commodity on the balance sheet. I believe the best way to protect the free press is to limit who owns it.

JA: What is the role of the press, and of film, in truth-telling?

BC: The role of the press is to inform. The role of film is also to inform, but its format is essentially an editorial perspective. Telling the truth is more a process of what is chosen to be presented and its

sources.

JA: How do you define bravery?

BC: Bravery is the notion of expressing oneself physically and intellectually based on one’s conscience, kind of a Henry David Thoreau ideal. Following the law is part of citizenship, but ensuring the justness of the law is also part of citizenship.

JA: Do you think China is more or less repressive now than in 1989?

BC: Economically, people are better off. But

Continued on next page



PHOTO BY L. TOMAINO

Artist Vincent Inconiglio’s show “Face Time” opens Oct. 25 at the Hunt Library.

ART: ROBIN RORABACK

Vincent Inconiglio brings ‘Face Time’ to Hunt Library

Abstract artist Vincent Inconiglio’s love and enthusiasm for color and form are evident all around him at his Falls Village studio, where he has worked for 25 years. He is surrounded by paintings large and small, woodcuts, photographs, collages and arrays of found objects.

The objects Inconiglio has found while out walking — in Falls Village, near his studio on Gansevoort Street in New York City, and in other places throughout the world — hold special importance to him. Appreciation of them, he says, comes from “seeing while exploring. I am always finding things.” His particular delight is finding objects that look like faces, many of which will be featured in the ArtWall show at the Hunt Library.

The found objects inspire him, are his “friends,” and serve as muses for his work. He has had some in his collection for more than 50 years. “I’ve always thought of them as parts of me.”

As he shows these objects and tells how he found them, his enthusiasm is contagious. It suggests a new way of looking at the world, even at the most mundane bits of debris.

The sheer volume of paintings and collages displayed in his Falls Village studio attests to his interest in form, color, and composition.

Inconiglio will bring his sense of play and love of discovery to his show, “Face Time,” opening at the Hunt Library in Falls Village on Oct. 25, with a reception from 5 to 7 p.m. It

Continued on next page

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...Bestor Cram

Continued from previous page

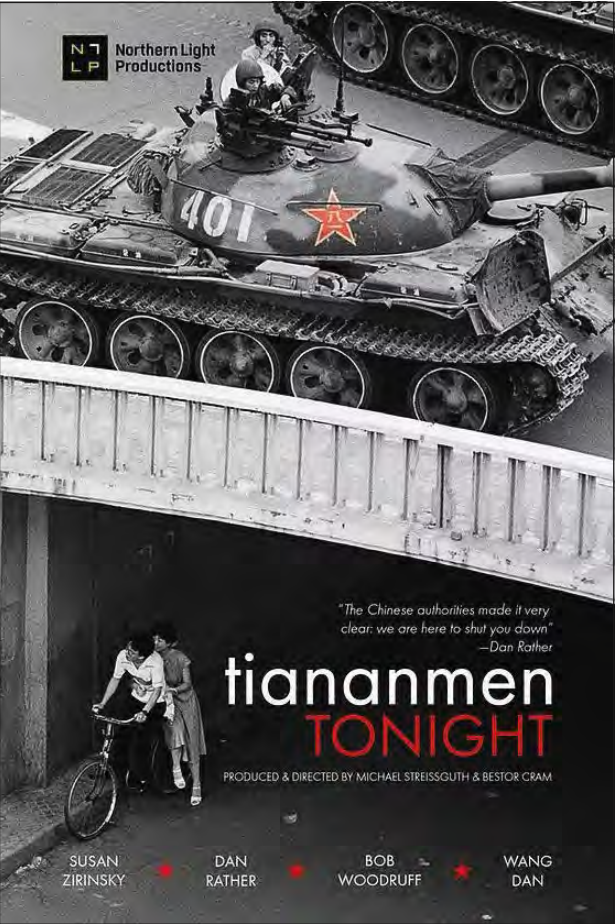


PHOTO PROVIDED

the price paid for not contesting the Chinese totalitarian regime is one of accepting the repression of free speech and the rewriting of history.

JA: What do you want people to take away from this film?

BC: Appreciation for the quality and courage of the journalists who reported Tiananmen, and a consideration of what is being done in TV journalism today. And a reexamination of the stand the Chinese took then as an inspiration for how movements today can shape change, knowing that there are

consequences to be considered when dealing with governments.

JA: What is your current project?

BC: A feature documentary called “Not Your Average Citizen,” the story of Boris Nemtsov, leader of the Russian opposition and critic of Vladimir Putin, who was gunned down outside the Kremlin in February 2015. As Nemtsov often said, “Freedom comes at a high price.”

More at notyouraveragecitizen.com.

Register at norfolklibrary.org

...Vincent Inconiglio

Continued from previous page

features faces in collages, photos, and found objects. The works will be on display until Nov. 21.

Inconiglio explained a little about his process. “If I am stuck,” he said, “I’ll cut something and put it down. One thing leads to another and forces me to focus.” Next month, in a workshop with children, he will share techniques like this that have guided him in his work.

The children, students at Lee H. Kellogg

School in Falls Village, will create their own face collages. Inconiglio enjoys the spontaneity children bring to their creations and is eager to work with them.

On Nov. 13, Inconiglio will give an artist’s talk at 5:30 p.m. at Hunt Library.

He looks forward to feedback about “Face Time,” commenting, “I’d rather get bad feedback than no feedback.”

For more information, visit: huntlibrary.org/art-wall/.

LIFESTYLE: SALLY HAVER

The Thyme in Sheffield blends nature, wellness and community

The Thyme, on Route 41 in Sheffield, is a retreat center offering a variety of residential and non-residential programs and services to the local community and Berkshire-area visitors. A new incarnation of what for many years was the Option Institute, The Thyme is the dream project of James Davies and Andrew Murray, business partners who left the pressures of international banking and moved with their families to this Berkshires campus in September 2024. They bought the 85-acre property from Barry and Susan Kaufman for \$5.35 million and, together with five other business partners, have been renovating the property’s many buildings ever since.

The center opened in January of this year and is a work in progress as the team continues to refine its offerings. Since opening, the venue has hosted events across 22 weekends, with most bookings for residential retreats with some spiritual element. Upcoming events include a women’s retreat (The Wild Rest), a family Halloween event called Curious-er, and a Thanksgiving weekend for those who have already visited the property. The year will culminate with a weekend retreat around the winter solstice facilitated by renowned astrologer Rebecca Gordon.

The center is also available to rent for local businesses and has hosted several dinners organized by the local community. The Thyme is open year-round, welcoming visitors for all four seasons of Berkshire beauty. Programming at The Thyme is very much centered on allowing visitors to enjoy the majestic nature, including the famous Sage’s Ravine. With a 2,000-square-foot dining hall, it can accommodate up to 110 people for meals in a variety of configurations.



The central communal space, featuring an A for Ara audio system, gong and Tibetan bowls, hosts up to 80 guests for sound meditations and healing music experiences.

There are 11 other buildings on the property. Two are the homes of Davies, Murray and their families. The central communal space (separate from the dining room) has been equipped with a cutting-edge audio system designed by local business A for Ara. Together with one of the largest gongs in the Northeast and Tibetan singing bowls, this space can host groups up to 80 for sound meditations and other curated musical experiences that facilitate healing, relaxation and personal growth.

There are accommodations for 60 people in four buildings, with plans to add more. The beautifully renovated guest rooms are decorated in earth tones in a peaceful, minimalist style, with large windows that showcase the spectacular natural surroundings.

Visitors to The Thyme — whether for day trips or longer stays — will have spectacular views of mountains, rolling hills, a pond, streams and a beautiful walking trail. The Appalachian Trail awaits just down the road from the campus for more serious hikers.

To prepare the property and buildings, the team at The Thyme has



James Davies in front of the Manor House.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

hired a number of local workers — landscapers, carpenters, designers. As The Thyme sets up its programs, it’s also hiring specialists such as masseuses. In addition, the center has welcomed core staff members as full-time residents to head up kitchen operations, music programs and other guest offerings.

Davies and Murray have already been welcoming a mix of generations to The Thyme

and have put multigenerational programming at the heart of their offerings, focusing on research showing that strong community connection boosts well-being. A recent family weekend was attended by guests ranging from newborns to people in their eighth decade.

For more on its programs or to inquire about using the space, visit thethyme.co or email hello@thethyme.co

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FILM: PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Schlock and awful: a vacation in bad movies

Owing to a bum hip my recent vacation week in the Catskills was light on fishing and heavy on cruddy films. I was joined in this endeavor by my nomadic attorney Thos. and Steve D., with whom I have been cracking juvenile jokes since the sixth grade.

We got through quite a stack of DVDs and even rejected a couple as being too awful, even for us.

Which brings us to one of the rules of schlock: It can be appalling but it can't be boring.

Nightmare Beach (1989): The immortal John Saxon stars in the flick that answers the question "What Do You Miss the Least About the 1980s?" Feathered hair, high-waisted jeans and wet t-shirt contests are all good answers and feature heavily in this movie. But the real star is the soundtrack, particularly a ditty called "Mean 'n' Nasty." The story: Biker gang raises hell in Florida beach town during spring break, and a masked biker is electrocuting people. Our hero is a college quarterback who lost the Orange Bowl and makes up for it by saving the plucky bartender girl. Meanwhile a lot of young women in various stages of undress cavort on the beach. Crispy critters. Gratuitous nekkidity. Unconvincing bikers. John Saxon looking like he's about to fire his agent. And relentless, horrible, generic 80s rock throughout.

Diamonds of Kilimindjaro (1983): From the prolific and immensely untalented Jess Franco comes this tale of Stupid People in the Jungle. See, a plane crashes in Africa and the only survivors are a Scottish guy and his granddaughter. He retreats to a hut and plays the bagpipes for 20 years while she grows up to be the local goddess.



Stupid people in the jungle, Jess Franco-style. This group is dumber than average.

And this completely satisfactory state of affairs is rudely interrupted by a team of adventurers, some of whom want to find the girl, some want to find her and leave her so they can collect the inheritance, and some of them are there because Franco realized he was about 30 minutes short on the running time. We've got fun with machetes. Gratuitous snakes. Gratuitous spears. Gratuitous stock footage crocodile vs. nekkid lady in lake (shown twice, once with dubbed sound and once in pure silence). Gratuitous bagpipe music, actual bagpipes not shown. Starring the immortal Katja Bienert, wearing nothing but a loincloth and a pleasant expression. Plus "Kilimindjaro" spelled with a "d." Outstanding.

Alien Outlaw (1986): Hicktastic zombie flick featuring an elderly Lash Larue sounding like he gargles with Thunderbird

to start the day and the lissome Kari Anderson as a modern-day Annie Oakley. The story: Alien spaceship comes to the sticks, aliens hide in medium-sized creek where they attack one idiot successfully but miss the other idiot. Meanwhile gun gal Jessi Jamison is trying to get her career back on track. The aliens learn fast because they can twirl their six-shooters. Lots of gratuitous nekkidity, not all of it welcome. (Unfortunately we're looking at you, Lash Larue.) Bad fishing. Good shooting. Horses. Mumbling. Jessi's legs. Extended meditation on the ins and outs of the motel business. Highlight: A bargain-basement Walter Cronkite in a canoe tells a cop to "suck worms."

Zoltan: Hound of Dracula (1977): This flick was the outstanding find of this fall's schlockfest.

Soviet soldiers accidentally open up a tomb belonging to a cadet

branch of the Dracula family, and in the confusion the Dracula servant (played by Reggie Nalder, who was the assassin in the 1956 version of "The Man Who Knew Too Much") and a vampire



The aliens learn to use Earth-based weaponry, with fair-to-middling results.



The evil biker that electrocutes his victims. You'll never guess who is under that helmet...no, in fact you will guess it in the first 10 minutes.

dog named Zoltan are revived and set off to find the last Dracula, who's named Michael and lives in Los Angeles. Vampire dogs. Vampire puppy. Gratuitous RV parking. Gratuitous driving of

rental cars. The highlight is when Zoltan gets Mike Dracula and the Romanian cop (played by Jose Ferrer) holed up in a cabin and eats through the roof, only to be foiled by the rising sun.



Fall Festival Thank You

Thanks to all the organizations, businesses, churches, and schools who contributed to making the 68th Salisbury Fall Festival a huge success! Visitors from near and far filled the town, enjoying the many activities and events on a beautiful autumn weekend. Special thanks to our generous Sponsors!

RED MAPLE

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Elyse Harney Real Estate | The Lakeville Journal | Salisbury Rotary Club |
| Ed Herrington's, Inc. | Lime Rock Park | Salisbury School |
| HHH Canine Lodge & Ranch | Millerton Vet | Shopper's Guide |
| Indian Mountain School | NBT Bank | Town of Salisbury |
| Interlaken Inn | Noble Horizons | Tri-State Chamber of Commerce |
| LaBonne's Markets | Salisbury Affordable | White Hart Inn |
| Lakeville Community Conservancy | Housing Commission | William Pitt Sotheby's |
| | Salisbury Association | |
| | Salisbury Handmade Group | |

WHITE OAK

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Black Rabbit | Lakeville Hose | Salisbury Community |
| Blue Studio Dance | Ladies Auxiliary | Dog Park |
| Casa Marcelo | National Iron Bank | Salisbury Forum |
| Congregational Church of Salisbury | Northwest Community Bank | Salisbury General Store |
| Johnnycake Books | Petpourri | Salisbury Wines |
| Joie Maison | Roaring Oak Florist | SOAR |
| | | St. John's Episcopal Church |

BLUE SPRUCE

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 9 Academy | Lakeville Hose Company | Salisbury Family Services |
| All Saints of America Church | Moore & More Printing | Salisbury Volunteer |
| Doda's Ice Cream Truck | J.T. Murphy's Barbershop | Ambulance Service |
| EXTRAS | North East Community Center | Salisbury Winter |
| Food 4 Friendas | Peter Sadlon Honey | Sports Association |
| Friends of Scoville Memorial Library | Pressure Perfect | Sweet Williams |
| Housatonic Child Care Center | Project SAGE | Taco Shack |
| Housatonic Youth Service Bureau | Riga Yoga | William Trowbridge, Blacksmith |
| JAKT | River Links | Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County |
| | Rosemary Rose Finery | |
| | Salisbury Central School PTO | |



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Serving North Canaan, CT, Sheffield and South County, MA

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

OCTOBER 23

Trivia Night

Panacea, 6 Autumn Lane, Amenia, N.Y.

Join in on a night of trivia benefiting the Webutuck Little League from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Admission costs \$10 per player and over \$500 in prizes will be given away to winners. Enjoy 25% off bottles of wine during play.

OCTOBER 24

The Afterlife of Trees: A Science Conversation with Amy Zanne - In-person (Lovejoy Auditorium at the Cary Institute) + Livestream

2801 Sharon Tpk., Millbrook, N.Y. at 7 p.m.

What happens after a tree dies? Join Cary Institute scientist Dr. Amy Zanne and Cary President Josh Ginsberg for a fascinating look at the hidden life of deadwood. Learn how fallen trees shape ecosystems, store carbon, and support a host of creatures—from glowing mushrooms to wood-loving termites.

Free and open to the public. Registration required for in-person or virtual attendance.

Register: norfolklibrary.org/events

Witkowski Piano Duo: Four Hands, One Amazing Performance

Hotchkiss School, Salisbury, Conn.

Join The Hotchkiss School for a special recital by the internationally acclaimed Witkowski Piano Duo on Friday, Oct. 24, at 7:30 p.m. in Katherine M. Elfers Hall. This concert celebrates the 20th anniversary of the hall and features works by Gershwin, Rachmaninov, and Villa-Lobos. Free and open to the public.

Haunted Mill and Monsters Ball

Wassaic Project, 37 Furnace Bank Road, Wassaic, N.Y.

Oct. 24 & 25, 4 to 7 p.m., Oct. 26, 2 to 5 p.m.

Immersive haunted art installations in a multi-level mill, featuring works by over a dozen artists. Tickets: \$8–\$10 individuals, \$15–\$20 families.

Monsters Ball Oct. 25, 7 p.m. to late.

Costume-required dance party with live music at The Lantern’s garden. Advance tickets only; no door sales.

OCTOBER 25

Rob Zombie Art Exhibition: What Lurks on Channel X?

Morrison Gallery, 60 North Main St., Kent, Conn.

Opening Reception: Oct. 25, 5 to 7 p.m.

Runs through November 16

Rock icon and filmmaker Rob Zombie debuts his artwork in a bold, pop culture-infused exhibition featuring large-scale paintings. This is the first public showing of his visual art.

Stitch the Salisbury Cannons & Learn Some History

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

Open to all ages, this is an opportunity to help stitch the famous Salisbury cannons into the Connecticut panel of a giant tapestry that will represent the original 13 colonies of the United States. We’ll also learn about the cannons: why they were made here and how they helped win the Revolutionary War. Come anytime between 2 to 5 p.m. Registration requested at: scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/15175374

Confused by the News? Three Journalists Sort Through the Noise

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall

Journlists Kurt Andersen, Charlotte Howard and Joel Simon discuss the current state of the news industry, media trust and how to stay informed in a confusing information landscape. Presentation at 5 p.m. followed by Q&A. Registration required: cornwalllibrary.org/events

FREE Life Design Workshop: “You Are Here”

The Center on Main, 103 Main St., Falls Village, Conn.

Feeling stuck or in transition? Join us for a free, interactive Life Design workshop to explore where you are in life and take small, meaningful steps forward. Facilitated by Mary B. O'Neill, Ph.D., this session includes guided reflection, conversation, and practical tools to help you clarify your values and direction. Register: www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/613ee300-a32c-49da-a69b-4ff9551d1a8e

Music of 1776

Winchester Center Congregational Church, 1 West Road, Winchester, Conn.

4 p.m.

From the time of the Stamp Act to the British surrender at Yorktown, Connecticut’s seditious colonists used these works to foment rebellion, commemorate victory and give thanks for preservation. Join us as we step back to 1776. This is a FREE event.

Last week’s WotW

W	H	A	C	K
S	A	L	A	D
A	U	D	I	O
A	D	O	R	E
A	D	O	P	T

Word of the Week

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

- 1. A wide seat, often at parks
- 2. Border around a painting
- 3. Quick to notice, on guard
- 4. What a peeled onion reveals
- 5. _____ voting began Oct. 20

WORD OF THE WEEK ©THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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Film Screening: Another Body

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

Saturday, Oct. 25, 7 p.m.

As part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Project SAGE partners with The Moviehouse (48 Main St., Millerton) for a screening of *Another Body*, a documentary about a college student’s fight for justice after discovering deepfake pornography of herself online. A talkback will follow with Project SAGE staff. Tickets \$18 at themoviehouse.net. Viewer discretion advised.

Apples 'n Things Community Fair

Falls Village Congregational Church, 16 Beebe Hill Rd, Falls Village, Conn..

The Falls Village Congregational Church will hold their Apples 'n Things Community Fair at at 16 Beebe Hill Rd. between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.on Saturday, Oct. 25. Chili, cornbread and apple crisp will be served for lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be apple pies and baked goods for sale, hand-crafted items, hay-ride and entertainment for the kids.

Address your calendar entry to calendar@lakevillejournal.com by Friday at noon.

OCTOBER 26

Author Peter Godwin and NYT Travel Editor Amy Virshup

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

Peter Godwin will talk with New York Times Travel editor, Amy Virshup about Godwin's new book, *Exit Wounds: A Story of Love, Loss, and Occasional Wars*. Critics call it “an exceptional memoir,” “Eloquent... beautiful.” Join us on Sunday, Oct. 26, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Reception and book signing to follow. Registration requested at: scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/15431785

OCTOBER 28

Free Medicare One-on-One Counseling: Review Your Plan for 2026

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

Get expert help navigating Medicare Open Enrollment. Connecticut’s State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) CHOICES provides free, unbiased insurance counseling and education to Medicare-eligible individuals. By appointment at the Scoville Library on Tuesday, October 28. Registration is required. Visit scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/15457401

OCTOBER 29

Halloween Paint & Sip

Mad Rose Gallery, 3 Main St., Millerton, N.Y.

Costumes welcome or come as you are. Whichever is scarier... \$45 per person. Supplies and wine included. Rsvp: info@madrosegallery.com

NOVEMBER 4

Turning 65: Thinking Ahead About Medicare with Sheri Wright

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

Plan ahead for when you turn 65! This educational event is designed to help individuals approaching Medicare eligibility make informed decisions and avoid common enrollment pitfalls. Sheri Wright will provide clear, easy-to-understand guidance. Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Registration is required at scovillelibrary.libcal.com/event/14962097.

NOVEMBER 5

Liberty and the American Experience

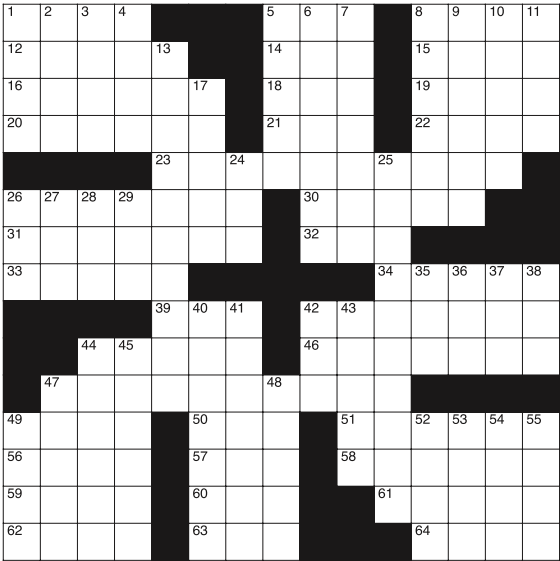
Torrington Historical Society, 192 Main St., Torrington, Conn.

Nov. 5, 6:30 p.m. Professor Hamish Lutris will explore the evolving meaning of liberty in American history and key controversies surrounding it. The event is free. Register at torringtonhistorical society.org.

Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

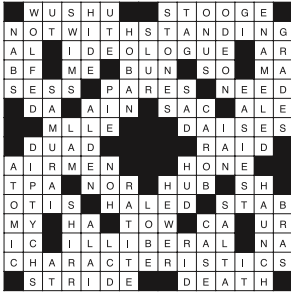
- 1. Remark
- 5. Upper body part
- 8. Expression of dismissiveness
- 12. Alternate name
- 14. Popular beverage
- 15. Swiss river
- 16. Step-shaped recess
- 18. Rocker Stewart
- 19. Bright shade of color
- 20. Popular “street”
- 21. Wrath
- 22. Heat units
- 23. Nocturnal omnivorous mammals
- 26. Fall back into
- 30. Remove from the record
- 31. Sound a splash made
- 32. Popular Dodge pickup model
- 33. Jamaican river
- 34. Notable event in Texas history
- 39. Cool!
- 42. Subset of Judaism
- 44. Newly entered cadet
- 46. Duct in urinary system
- 47. Exterminator
- 49. Snatch quickly
- 50. Have already done
- 51. Less healthy
- 56. Therefore
- 57. What couples say on the altar
- 58. Mysteriously
- 59. Look angry or sullen
- 60. Bird’s beak
- 61. Taco ingredient
- 62. Square measures
- 63. Google certification (abbr.)
- 64. Singer Hansard



- 13. Signaled
- 17. Brief
- 24. Type of student
- 25. Tibetan monasteries
- 26. Revolutions per minute
- 27. NY Giants great Manning
- 28. Local area network
- 29. Residue from burning
- 35. Illuminated
- 36. Vasopressin
- 37. Notable space station
- 38. Wood sorrel
- 40. Adhering to laws
- 41. Chose
- 42. Hovel
- 43. Stood up
- 44. European city
- 45. Works ceaselessly
- 47. Mistake
- 48. Sun-dried brick

- 49. Sicilian city
- 52. A steep rugged rock or cliff
- 53. Murder
- 54. Other
- 55. “Deadpool” actor Reynolds

October 16 Solution



Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

October 16 Solution

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



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Our Towns

New Head of School joins IMS

By Alec Linden

LAKEVILLE — Soja Field came alive on Thursday, Oct. 16 as Indian Mountain School staff, trustees, students and their families came out to see Lisa Sun installed as the institution's 11th head of school in a lively ceremony that emphasized community, leadership and connection to the landscape.

She joins the school after a 30-year career of teaching and school administration across the northeast and mid-Atlantic.

Former Head of School Jody Reilly Soja formally welcomed Sun to the pre-k through ninth grade boarding school. Soja left the post in 2024 to lead the Loomis Chaffee School in Windsor, Connecticut, but said that the school remains in the capable hands of a "hardworking, humble and visionary leader" with Sun.

While Sun officially assumed the role in July, Thursday's proceedings allowed her to reflect on the warm welcome she's received from faculty and students alike. "How are you settling in?" she recalled one student asked early in her tenure, which is not a question she's received from many middle



PHOTO BY ALEC LINDEN

Indian Mountain School's new Head of School Lisa Sun addresses the crowd during her installation event on Thursday, Oct. 16.

schoolers, she said to laughs from the crowd.

Aside from reflective remarks, the occasion also offered a venue for the student body's musical propensities to shine. A student band soundtracked the procession of Sun and IMS student council members with the Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun." Shortly after, the entire Lower Campus — pre-k and elementary school — sang "Sisi ni Moja" ("We Are One") by Jacob Narverud and "Consider Yourself" from the

musical "Oliver!" to the several-hundred-person crowd as 24 flags from across the globe billowed behind them.

Eighth-graders Jasper Burger and Sasha Leven performed a track of their own, accompanied by fellow student Kes Simmonds, that they had composed specifically for the event titled "A Million Nights."

Others to speak at the event were Assistant Head of School Alex Hodosy, Board of Trustees President David Nuzum and former IMS student council President José Jiménez Rodríguez, who is now a senior at The Hotchkiss School.

Members of the current student council gave advice to Sun from those "who really know what's going on — the students," said President Roberta Craig de Silva, which included suggestions of "less homework" and "no dress code."

One particularly well-researched sixth grader pitched

for "more recess time," complete with citations from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

The jury is out on whether those demands will come to pass, but Sun emphasized that the students are what it's all about: "You fill my heart and remind me each day why I love this work."

Canaan Country Club seeks permit to host events

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — Canaan Country Club owner Joe Quattrochi attended The Planning and Zoning Commission's Oct. 14 to inquire about a special permit for hosting events.

Quattrochi said the club's liquor license does not allow for events on the premises. He hopes a special permit from P&Z can allow for DJs, karaoke nights and similar events.

Zoning Enforcement Officer George Martin advised Quattrochi to submit a special permit application for the commission to review. A public hearing will be required.

P&Z received a special permit application for 34 Paddy Lane seeking to change from a single-family to a two-family

residence.

The plan called for a wall between two portions of the home, a new kitchen and two new egresses.

P&Z set a public hearing for this application to be held Monday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m.

Martin said he plans to have the application reviewed by the fire marshal.

The Commission received a letter from resident Robert Sprague requesting a review of the mining regulations. He asserted that the current regulations are inadequate and not properly enforced. He requested P&Z hold a workshop with concerned residents to discuss the matter.

Chairman Mike O'Connor said, "That will be taken into advisory and George and I will talk about that."

Salisbury to replace Town Hall boiler

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Board of Selectmen, in a special meeting Monday, Sept. 29, voted unanimously to use Local Capital Improvement funds from the state to pay for an emergency replacement of the boiler at Town Hall.

The cost is about \$46,000.

First Selectman Curtis Rand said that towns must have a five-year LOCIP plan,

and Salisbury is at the "tail end" of the most recent one.

The boiler replacement was not included, but Rand said he called state officials who told him the town could use LOCIP funds if there were minutes from a selectmen's meeting indicating an emergency situation.

Rand also noted that at some point the selectmen will be considering joining a group of towns interested in taking over the Torrington transfer station, but that matter has to go through the Northwest Hills Council of Governments.

The selectmen also voted to send two letters supporting the Salisbury Association Land Trust's bid for state open space grants to purchase two parcels in Salisbury.

The special meeting was held in lieu of the regular selectmen's meeting scheduled for Monday, Oct. 6.



PHOTO BY LAUREN KILLAWEE

Fall Festival in Falls Village

David M. Hunt Library and the Recreation Commission presented a Fall Festival Sunday, Oct. 19, at the Recreation Center. Above, Becky Mochak and her children Anna, Ivan, Marek, along with Henry Kinsella, enjoyed smores provided by the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department.

Falls Village calls Oct. 24 town meeting

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — There will be a town meeting Friday, Oct. 24, 6 p.m. at Town Hall, in-person only, for the purpose of an additional appropriation to the waste management budget from the road maintenance budget for \$6,315.89 to cover the overage in expenses for fiscal year ending 2025.

The Board of Selectmen called for the town meeting during the regular monthly selectmen's meeting Tuesday, Oct. 14.

The selectmen voted unanimously to approve the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department's request to use the town Green Saturday, Nov. 1 for the Ed McGuire Cannonball Run road race, and to close Main Street on Friday, Oct. 31, at 5 p.m. for the Recreation Commission's Halloween trick-or-treat event.

The selectmen also accepted, with "deepest grati-

tude, the resignation of Emily Peterson as recreation director.

The selectmen signed a letter to Peterson, which ended with "Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and the positive changes you have brought to our recreation programs will be enjoyed by generations to come."

The selectmen appointed Greg Marlowe, Eileen Kinsella, Catherine Wales and Chris Wadsworth to the STEAP Grant Implementation Committee, effective Oct. 14. The committee will serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Selectmen.

The selectmen received notice from Kathleen Kucka of Furnace-Art on Paper Gallery at the town-owned 107 Main Street (also home of the Falls Village Cafe) that she will be leaving the space as of Dec. 31.

Kucka's email included this: "We have had the best time running a little art gallery in Falls Village."



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OUR TOWNS

Hundreds attend ‘No Kings’ protests in Northwest Corner

By Ruth Epstein

The Northwest Corner was well represented among the 7 million nationwide who took to the streets Saturday, Oct. 18, for “No Kings” protests against the Trump administration. Rallies were held in Salisbury, North Canaan, Cornwall and Kent with hundreds carrying signs, chanting messages and bonding with one another toward a common cause.

In Salisbury, the lawn of the White Hart Inn was filled to the brim as people from many towns gathered to voice their concerns and listen to a group of speakers. Here, as in the other local rallies, the energy level was high with participants loudly cheering for the messages being given.

Sophia DeBoer, one of the organizers, began by quoting Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, who said rallies express the love of America. “We will not let Trump and his administration turn this into an authoritarian society,” she said.

Andrea Downs of Falls Village, who with her family has hosted 31 students from 19 countries through the AFS program at Housatonic Valley Regional High School, said such initiatives serve to break down barriers of prejudice and bring peace and understanding to communities. Housatonic has been in the forefront of hosting students and sending others abroad. For many years it held the record as the school with the longest, continuous hosting in the country, she said.

“Sadly, the numbers of students and families participating in exchanges has dropped dramatically over the last few years,” said Downs. “Connecticut and western Massachusetts had traditionally hosted between 21 and 23 students each year. This year their number was zero.” She said it is almost impossible to get families to commit to hosting when they have to worry that their students will be targeted by ICE, or stopped at airports.

Downs said, “These are not the principles the United States has stood for in the past. We celebrated diversity and considered the rights of all individuals. We need to find a way to promote programming that emphasizes people-to-people connections. These are the types of values that make us stronger as a nation and a world. By making these sorts of connections we grow, mature and evolve.”

Twelve-year-old Jackson Maygar spoke about how this government is affecting



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

“No Kings” protesters gathered on Main Street in Kent on Saturday, Oct. 18, in opposition to the Trump administration.

youth. “Students need to be educated and not just believe what they see on TikTok,” he said. The Salisbury Central School student said many of his classmates are experiencing homophobia. “When you have bullying in office, what can you expect from kids?”

He received loud applause when he said there should be due process “and that’s the end of the conversation.” He then gave some positivity, saying, “It’s not hopeless. Come to rallies. Listen to the news. Follow John Lewis’s message of good trouble.”

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) said the importance of showing up for rallies such as this one cannot be underestimated. She lamented what is happening, saying what disturbs her most as a former federal prosecutor is the behavior of masked ICE members.

History teacher Larry Rand focused on the constitutional breaches of the administration. He called the rally “one of the most important protests in American history.” He said Trump is pushing every edge of executive power and listed all the actions he’s taken to violate the constitution, such as setting tariffs, which is up to Congress, and using the Department of Justice for revenge of his political opponents.

“Trump is a champion of lying,” Rand said. “He makes Pinocchio look like a Boy Scout. So what can we do? We need more movements like this. We need to run a candidate with charisma who listens to constituents. And we must get out and vote no matter how hard Donald Trump makes it.”

Some residents performed music, including the Berkshire Resilience Brass Band; a trio of Alice Yoakum, Jo Loi and Sharon Charde who made up their own lyrics to a few ditties and Louise Lindenmeyr, who led a group in a rendition of “Hit the Road,



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

There was a large presence at the “No Kings” rally in Cornwall Bridge on Saturday.



PHOTO BY TOM ZETTERSTROM

Signs lined the edge of Main Street in North Canaan.



PHOTO BY RUTH EPSTEIN

State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) speaks at the “No Kings” rally in Salisbury.

Trump.”

In Cornwall, the triangle at the intersection of routes 7 and 4 was filled.

One of the organizers, Dick Sears, said, “I’m very happy with the energy and unity we’re seeing here. People want their democracy back.” Both sides of Kent’s Main Street were lined with protesters during its rally, waving and showing thanks to the legions of passersby who honked their horns.

SPORTS



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

Longest drive award goes to Jonas Johnson

At the Berkshire League golf all-star tournament Tuesday, Oct. 14, Housatonic Valley Regional High School golfer Jonas Johnson hit the longest drive. Coach Peter Vermilyea reported Johnson’s drive landed “about 300 yards” down the fairway. “And it was uphill.” The post-season meet was held at Fairview Farm Golf Course in Harwinton. Johnson is a junior at HVRHS.

Hole-in-one

LAKEVILLE — Justin Roux had his first-ever hole-in-one on Thursday, Oct. 9, at the second hole of The Hotchkiss School’s golf course. He used his 9-iron for the shot, and his playing partners, Patrick Merrill and Russell Sears, said that the ball landed on the green, deflected off of a mound and then rolled right into the cup.



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LEGAL NOTICES

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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,

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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, View/PayTaxes Tab. Dated at Salisbury, CT this 9th day of September, 2025.

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Sports

Homecoming week for Housatonic athletes



The boys soccer team celebrates Anthony Labbadia's game-winning goal Oct. 16.

Boys soccer beats Lakeview

FALLS VILLAGE — Housatonic Valley Regional High School boys varsity soccer defeated rival Lakeview High School 1-0 on Thursday night, Oct. 16.

The deadlocked game was scoreless for more than 70 minutes of play until Antho-

ny Labbadia found the back of the net with just seven minutes remaining.

Hundreds were in attendance for the rare Falls Village night game that was made possible by gas-powered lights arranged around the soccer field. Parents filled the hill above the field while students lined the track to

cheer on their peers, drowning out the hum produced by the lights.

The win put HVRHS in 2nd place in Berkshire League standings with a record of 9-3-1. Lakeview remained in 5th place at 7-6-1.



Chloe Hill serves in front of the Class of '26 balloons.

Lakeview takes volleyball match 3-0

FALLS VILLAGE — Lakeview High School varsity volleyball won in straight sets at Housatonic Valley Regional High School Thursday, Oct. 16.

It was senior night for HVRHS, celebrating the

team's athletes from the Class of 2026: Victoria Brooks, Chloe Hill, Neve Kline, Abby Sherwood, Katie Crane and Anna Gilette.

The win put Lakeview in 4th place in Berkshire League standings with a record of 7-10. HVRHS moved to 5-10 and sat in 5th place.

Girls soccer wins 3-1

LITCHFIELD — Housatonic Valley Regional High School girls varsity soccer took home a 3-1 win over Lakeview High School on Thursday, Oct. 16.

The game was played on a chilly fall day, about 50 degrees and windy with clear blue skies above.

Lakeview applied pressure with three shots early in the game that were each saved by HVRHS goalie Vi Salazar. Housatonic quickly established possession control and took a 2-0 lead by halftime.

Lakeview scored about 10 minutes into the second period. HVRHS added to its lead with 13-minutes remaining for the win.

Housatonic's goals were scored by Ava Segalla, Lyla Diorio and Georgie Clayton. Lakeview's goal was scored



HVRHS's Lyla Diorio stops on a dime to keep the ball in play in the game against Lakeview Oct. 16.

by Grace Olson.

HVRHS's record remained in 3rd place in the Berkshire League with a record of 12-3. Lakeview moved to 6th place with a 5-9 record.

Segalla breaks scoring record

Senior Ava Segalla, No. 10, surpassed the Housatonic Valley Regional High School varsity girls soccer scoring record on Wednesday, Oct. 15. The achievement occurred at Mount Everett Regional High School in Great Barrington, Mass., during a non-league game.

Segalla scored her 121st varsity goal. She bested the previous record of 120 goals set by her sister Sydney Segalla, Class of '22. Ava Segalla has committed to playing soccer at Sacred Heart University next year.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN



PHOTO PROVIDED

Runners medal at BL final

Housatonic Valley Regional High School cross country runners competed in the cold and windy Berkshire League championship at Black Rock State Park in Thomaston Thursday, Oct. 16. HVRHS had three runners medal at the meet, each of whom earned BL second team honors. From left, Olivia Brooks placed 11th, Hannah Johnson placed 17th and Finn Malone placed 18th.

School spirit

Spirit Week at Housatonic Valley Regional High School concluded with a pep rally in the gym Friday, Oct. 17. Varsity captains expressed gratitude to their coaches, teammates, peers and fans for supporting their teams through the fall season. Students then competed by class in challenges like an obstacle course (won by Abram Kirshner), musical chairs (won by Phoebe Conklin) and fashion walking (won by Alex Wilbur).



PHOTO BY SIMON MARKOW

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