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

# Boat inspections to be enforced at Salisbury lakes amid hydrilla threat

#### By Debra A. Aleksinas

SALISBURY — The discovery of invasive hydrilla in East Twin Lake last summer has prompted the Twin Lakes Association (TLA) to make sweeping changes in how it plans to safeguard water quality and prevent further infestation in 2024 and beyond.

Plans include blocking off passage under the Isola Bella Bridge on East Twin and reverting the state boat launch to its initial mandate of providing access only to nonmotorized car-top watercraft.

TLA President Grant Bogle said the goal is to have all trailered boats and jet skis access the lake via the privately owned O'Hara's Landing Marina, where negotiations are underway to establish a monitoring and education station.

"We are not trying to limit access. What we are trying to do is establish a method of inspecting boats that come in and off the lake," said Bogle.

"The reason is, we are virtually



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Although the Lakeville Lake boat launch remains closed to boaters, lake officials are exploring the possibility of allowing access to car-top watercraft such as canoes, kayaks and paddleboards.

sure hydrilla came in from a boat that had been on the Connecticut River and brought fragments into East Twin Lake. What we don't want is boats bringing any more in or cutting hydrilla that's there and taking it out of the lake."

Meanwhile, at Lakeville Lake, also known as Lake Wononscopomuc, although water testing last fall for the highly disruptive hydrilla, also known as water thyme, turned up negative, the lake association closed its launch as a precaution.

"The launch will remain closed. We are waiting for the state [Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)] to come up with a plan," said Bill Littauer, president of the Lake Wononscopomuc Association.

"It is possible we may allow car-top watercraft such as paddleboards and kayaks. The theory is they would be dry by at the time they went into the water."

Littauer said he has also had discussions with the town about purchasing six to 12 electric powered boats suitable for fishing to be made available at a modest rental at the Town Grove.

"So far no one seems to know how to eradicate this weed, so the feeling now is that it's best not to allow it into the lake in the first place," he noted.

#### Hydrilla has invaded five more lakes

On the first day of summer last year, a routine monitoring of some waters in East Twin Lake by the TLA's limnologist found hydrilla fragments in the shallow waters north of the state boat launch, making it the first lake in the state to confirm the presence of hydrilla, first noted in the Connecticut River in 2016.

Since then, said Bogle, the highly invasive Connecticut River variant has found its way to at least five

See HYDRILLA, Page A10

# Eversource seeks 19% rate hike for CL&P customers

By Mark Pazniokas CT Mirror

Eversource filed a request Thursday, Feb. 15 for a \$784 million rate adjustment that would bump its Connecticut Light & Power (CL&P) electric rates by nearly 19%, costing an average residential customer an additional \$38 a month May 1.

The United Illuminating Company, an Avangrid subsidiary and the smaller of Connecticut's two regulated electric monopolies, filed a request Friday, Feb. 16 to raise rates by 12%, or \$26 a month, on May 1.

Twice a year, the utilities seek rate adjustments to recover costs imposed by public policies, notably a directive that they purchase electricity at a favorable rate from Millstone, the state's

See CL&P, Page A10

# Harding named minority leader

#### By Patrick L. Sullivan

State Sen. Stephen Harding (R-30) was chosen to replace state Sen. Kevin Kelly (R-21) as minority leader in the state Senate on Friday, Feb. 16.

The 30th Senate DIstrict in-



# Regional leaders seek waste solutions

#### By Riley Klein

Since the closure of Hartford's waste-to-energy plant in July 2022, towns across the state have been forced to find independent solutions for trash disposal. Municipal solid waste (MSW) contracts with the state are due to expire in June 2027, after which time, towns will be on their own when it comes to trash and recycling.

During the February meeting of the Northwest Hills Council

this problem to make sure that we have capacity in place for our municipal solid waste to go," said COG Chair Dan Jerram of New Hartford.

cludes all six Region One towns.

In a phone interview Sunday, Feb. 18, Harding praised Kelly's work and said he considers the job to be "an incredible honor, an incredible opportunity."

The Republicans are outnumbered 24-12 in the state Senate in the state House, it's 98 Democrats to 53 Republicans.

Asked what the plan is moving forward, Harding said that, under Kelly, the Senate Republicans notched significant wins, including retaining "economic guardrails" on state budgets and spending and the abandonment of a planned regulation to ban sales of new gasoline-powered vehicles beginning in 2035.

Harding said his plan is "to work collaboratively, as a team" with the other 11 members of his caucus, to focus on "practical



PHOTO SUBMITTED Stephen Harding (right) with Billy Buckbee, the state represetnative from New Millford.

policy" while highlighting issues that concern middle-class voters in the state, and to promote "positive messaging."

He also said he would like to work closely with his counterparts in the state House, not because of differences in opinion, but on coordinating their efforts.

"The different chambers have different procedures, so there's a navigation aspect to it." of Governments (COG), held remotely on Zoom, first selectmen throughout the region discussed options for addressing the issue as a group.

"On a go-forward basis, we're doing everything we can to solve Jerram provided an update from the recently formed Municipal Solid Waste Subcommittee. As of the Feb. 7 meeting, about half of COG

towns had no solutions in place for

See WASTE, Page A10

### Housatonic FFA gives back to local nonprofits

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE — A successful season at the FFA Holiday Store in December 2023 resulted in surplus funds, which the members of Housatonic Valley FFA donated back to the community Thursday, Feb. 15.

A total of \$6,000 was donated to

See FFA, Page A10

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PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Kayla Jacquier, vice president of Housatonic Valley FFA, thanked the recipient organizations for their dedication to the community.

# Regional

## In The Journal this week

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OUR TOWNS A3-4 OBITUARIES A4-5	
OPINIONA6	CALENDARB4
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#### **Online This Week**

#### **Falls Village approves POCD**

The 2024 Plan of Conservation and Development is headed to town meeting. More on www. 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.* 

#### Two arrests made

On Sunday, Feb. 11, at approximately noon, troopers were conducting a patrol check on Sharon Valley Road in Sharon and stopped at the residence of Donna Peterson, 62, who had an active arrest warrant for failure to appear in court. Peterson was taken into custody and transported to Troop B headquarters, where she was processed under a court-set bond of \$10,000. Peterson said was having difficulty breathing and was transported by North Canaan EMS to Sharon Hopspital for evaluation.

During the course of serving the warrant on Donna Peterson, contact was made with Peter Peterson, 67, of Sharon, residing at the residence, who was in violation of a protective order. Peterson was transported to Troop B and issued a \$10,000 surety-bond.

#### **Rollover in snowstorm**

On Tuesday, Feb. 13, at approximately 10 a.m., Sebastian Castro Restrepo, 27, of Wingdale, New York, was eastbound on Route 4 in Cornwall heading to Mohawk Mountain Ski area. Traveling at a reduced speed in a 2000 Honda CRV, the vehicle lost control in snow and ice, hit an embankment and rolled over on its passenproached the Stop sign in a 2015 Volkswagen Golf and came to a full stop. The Subaru began to continue straight onto Route 4 when the Volkswagen collided into the rear of the vehicle. The Volkwagen sustained disabling damage and was towed from the scene. Shepherd was issued an infraction for following too close.

#### Transported to hospital

On Thursday, Feb. 15, at approximately 10:15 a.m., Heather Blass, 41, of Falls Village, was southbound on Route 7 in Canaan in a 2009 Hyundai Accent. Sonia Malloy, 52, of Norwalk, was eastbound on Route 126 in a 2023 Toyota Highlander and was stopped at the Stop sign in the intersection. The Highlander failed to yield at the intersection and struck the Hyundai's passenger side. Blass complained of leg pain and was transported to Sharon Hospital by Falls Village EMS. Both vehicles were towed from the scene. Malloy was issued a written warning for failure to grant right of way at a highway junction.

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



# New committee to head up event planning in North Canaan

The Town of North Canaan has created a new committee called the North Canaan Events Committee (NCEC) redefining how the town manages events throughout the year.

This new structure was set up to coordinate multiple events in North Canaan, throughout the year. Longtime Railroad Days events coordinator, John Lannen, is stepping back to focus on family and retirement and stands by to assist the new committee's Co-Chairs, Jenn Crane and Ann Talmadge, with the town's premiere event, Canaan Railroad Days.

The North Canaan Events Committee is an all-volunteer organization that works to promote economic growth, success and unity within the community through communication, events and celebration. Passionate and dedicated volunteers are planning events during each season.

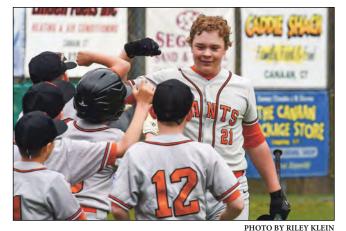
The North Canaan Events Committee will continue to host Canaan Railroad Days retaining the traditional events that have made the festival the mainstay of the Northwest

### Sharon Kindergarten registration

SHARON — Children born in 2019 between Jan. 1 and Aug. 31 are eligible to encroll in early Kindergarten.

Sharon Center School will hold Kindergarten registration April 25 and 26. Please contact Kim Robinson at (860) 364 - 5153 or krobinson@sharoncenterschool.org

before such meeting.



The dugout congratulated Cooper Bunce after a HR.

# Steve Blass little league registration now open

NORTH CANAAN — Northwest Connecticut Steve Blass Little League signups for the spring 2024 baseball season have begun.

Boy and girls aged 4-15 from the towns of Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon are eligible to register.

The deadline to sign up is Sunday, March 10. Registra-

#### tion can be completed online at the team website: leagues. bluesombrero.com/nwctsbll

As of mid February, a total of 46 players had registered for the coming season. Roster spots are still available for all age divisions.

The season will start in mid-to-late April.

Contact league president Bob Foley with questions at nwctll.pres@gmail.com

**LEGAL NOTICES** 

Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury, CT and virtually (Zoom). The Meeting Link will be posted on the Town salisburyct.us/agendas/. The application is available on the Town website for review or by contacting the Salisbury Town Clerk's office: www.salisburyct.us.

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF **DILLION MICHAEL** MILLER

#### Late of Dover Plains, NY (23-00478)

The Hon.Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated February 6, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. The fiduciary is: Jacqueline A. Miller c/o Matthew Edward Dodd The Dodd Law Firm, LLC 1781 Highland Ave. Cheshire, CT 06410 Beth L. McGuire Chief Clerk 02-22-24

Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated February 8, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such

The fiduciary is: Magdalen Gaynor c/o Jennifer Dale Port Ivey Barnum & O'Mara,

170 Mason Street, Greenwich, CT 06830 Megan M. Foley Clerk 02-22-24

NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** ESTATE OF **BRENT PRINDLE** Late of Sharon **AKA Brent N. Prindle AKA Brent Noble Prindle** (23-00026)The Hon.Jordan M. ichards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated February 8, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. The fiduciary is: Brent Prindle 468 Cornwall Bridge Road Sharon, CT 06069 Megan M. Foley Clerk 02-22-24

#### Legal Notice CANAAN FIRE DISTRICT WARNING All persons eligible to

Corner during the summer.

This year's 60th Anniversary

Railroad Days festival will

include community dinners,

a carnival, Firemen's parade

coupled with a drone show

and fireworks. New activities

Residents and visitors can

join monthly meetings on the

4th Monday of each month at

5:30 p.m. held in the North

Canaan Town Hall. Follow

NCEC on Facebook and In-

stagram and find more in-

formation on their website

at www.northcanaanevents-

committe.org. The Co-Chairs

can be contacted at northca-

naaneventscommittee@gmail.

com.

are still in the planning.

vote in meetings of the Canaan Fire District are hereby warned that the Annual Meeting of the said District will be held at the North Canaan Town Hallon Tuesday, March 5th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon the following items:

1. To name the legal depositories for the funds of the Canaan Fire District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

2. To name an auditor to inspect the accounts of the Canaan Fire District for such fiscal vear.

3. To elect three members of the Executive Committee to serve for three-year terms.

business proper to come Dated at North Canaan, onnecticut this 22nd day

of Salisbury website: www.

February 22, 2024.

# claim. 02-22-24

# LLC

4. To transact any other

ger side. Castro Restrepo was issued a written warning for failure to maintain lane.

#### Crash at Stop sign

On Thursday, Feb. 15, at approximately 10:15 a.m., John Pickering, 67, of Sharon, was driving a 2007 Subaru Forester, which was stopped at the Stop sign by Routes 7 and 4 in Cornwall. James Shepherd, 62, of Sharon, ap-

#### **Correcting Errors**

We are happy to correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We are also happy to correct factual and/ or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning.

#### **CONTACT US**

John Coston Editor-in-Chief johnc@lakevillejournal.com

**Riley Klein** Managing Editor rileyk@lakevillejournal.com

Alexander Wilburn Special Sections Editor alexw@lakevillejournal.com

Sandra Lang Circulation Manager circulation@lakevillejournal.com

James H. Clark Publisher, CEO jamesc@lakevillejournal.com



WEEKLY THURSDAY CHAIR YOGA 10:30am in the Community Room

WEEKLY FRIDAY CHAIR ZUMBA 10:30am in the Community Room

#### JANET NEWMAN ART **EXHIBIT OPENING**

February 23rd from 4pm-6pm in the Learning Center Wine and light snacks will be served

#### **ORGANIZE YOUR FINANCES** WITH THE WEALTH GROUP **FROM UNION SAVINGS BANK**

February 28th at 2pm in the Learning Center

For more information or to register for programs visit our website at www.noblehorizons.org

17 Cobble Rd. Salisbury, CT 06068 860-435-9851 · noblehorizons.org

of February, 2024. Anthony J. Nania Warden 02-22-24

#### LEGAL NOTICE **SALISBURY** HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

The Salisbury Historic District Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 9:05am to act on an Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Replacement of an Exterior Rear Door at 24 Main Street, Salisbury, CT, 06068. This Public Hearing will be held at Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, Salisbury, CT and virtually (Zoom). The Meeting Link will be posted on the Town of Salisbury website: www.salisburyct. us/agendas/. The application is available on the Town website for review or by contacting the Salisbury Town Clerk's office: www. salisburyct.us. February 22, 2024.

02-22-24

#### LEGAL NOTICE SALISBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT **COMMISSION**

The Salisbury Historic District Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at 9:05am to act on an Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for Updated Signage at 38 Main Street, Salisbury, CT, 06068. This Public Hearing will be held at Salisbury

NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** ESTATE OF **JANICE FADOR DUDEK** Late of Sharon (24-000041)

The Hon.Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated February 6, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is: Michael H. Dudek c/o Louise F. Brown, LLP Ackerly Brown LLP 5 Academy Street P.O. Box 568 Salisbury, CT 06068 Megan M. Foley Clerk 02-22-24 NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF JOHN F. GREEN Late of Cornwall (24-00045)

The Hon.Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the

#### NOTICE TO **CREDITORS** ESTATE OF **ROBERT ANDREW** PARKER Late of Cornwall (24-00049)

The Hon.Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated February 8, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is: Stephanie Weaver c/o Andrea Doyle Asman, Litwin, Asman, PC, 1047 Bantam Rd., P.O. Box 698, Bantam, CT 06750 Megan M. Folev Clerk 02-22-24

# **Dur Towns**

### **Black History Month**

# Students share hidden history

#### By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Three teams of students from Salisbury School made the initial presentations of their local history projects at the Scoville Memorial Library Thursday, Feb. 15. The presentations were also streamed online.

Salisbury School is an independent boarding school for boys in grades nine to 12.

Teacher Rhonan Mikriski opened the presentations, noting it would be the first run-through. The final presentations will be included at the Troutbeck Symposium May 1-3 in Amenia.

Mikriski said the students are delving into forgotten corners of local history, particularly when it concerns marginalized groups.

The first group — Jasper Nadal, Derrick Dellea and Will Mumby — took a look at the treatment of mental health in Northwest Connecticut and the Hudson Valley.

The students made the point that institutions varied greatly in the quality of the care they provided, and in their philosophies. Were the institutions there to cure patients, or to simply house them?

The students touched on the Lakeville Home for Imbeciles, on the sprawling Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center in Dutchess County, and on the methods used to treat mental illness.

The latter category reads like a horror movie script. The techniques used included prefrontal lobotomies, insulin shock, hydrotherapy (immersion for long periods



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN Tino Harper, Zach Walsh, and Duke Gentzler presented on William Grimes.

of time in cold or hot water, sometimes in sequence), and electroshock treatment.

The next group — Jack Kennedy, Judd Phillips, DJ Duntz and Parker Revnolds — took as their starting point the painting "The Last Moments of John Brown" by Thomas Havendon.

The painting shows Brown being escorted to the gallows for his actions in the infamous raid on Harper's Ferry in 1859. He is pausing to kiss a Black infant.

The local connection is this: The painting was commissioned by the Battell family of Norfolk. The group found the painting to be a conscious attempt to rehabilitate the image of Brown, who was widely considered to be a terrorist for his anti-slavery

activities. Brown was also a native of

Torrington. The group also included a clip from D.W. Griffith's 1915 film "The Birth of a Nation," noting the film is famous for its technical sophistication and infamous for its blatant racism. The clip showed Black legislators during Reconstruction drinking alco-

hol and otherwise clowning around while on the floor of a legislative chamber. The final group focused on

William Grimes, a slave who escaped and made his way to Connecticut in 1814. He became a successful

businessman with barbershops in Litchfield, New Haven and Bridgeport. He married and had a large family.

Grimes was subsequent-

ly tracked down after nine years of freedom. He wound up turning his businesses over to secure his continued freedom.

He also wrote a book about his experiences, "Life of William Grimes, the Runaway Slave," published in 1825.

The group noted that when Grimes was tracked down, slavery had not yet been abolished in Connecticut.

The students also suggested that the choice of barbershops as a business was in part a way to get around laws that prohibited large gatherings of African Americans.

And they discussed the cultural and social significance of African American hairstyles.

# Cannabis regs head to public hearing

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN -The Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) has finalized regulations for recreational marijuana in town.

Months of deliberation among board members has resulted in a proposed text change that can be viewed at www.northcanaan.org/entities/planning-zoning-commission. Residents will be able to testify on the regulations at a public hearing in Town Hall Monday, March 11, at 7 p.m.

Under the proposed regulations, eight of the nine cannabis license types recognized in Connecticut would be permitted, with limitations, in three district types. A special permit would be required for all operations.

Cannabis delivery service, cannabis food and beverage manufacturing, cannabis micro-cultivator (indoor grower up to 10,000 square feet with the ability to expand to 15,000 square feet), cannabis product manufacturer, and cannabis transporter licenses could be applied for in Industrial Zones. All of the Industrial Zone license types will be limited to a maximum of one establishment per category.

Cannabis dispensary, cannabis hybrid retailer, and cannabis retailer licenses could be applied for in the Commercial Zone and Central **Business District.** 

A maximum of one dispensary license and one hybrid retailer or retailer license will be granted. If a dispensary (medical sales only) becomes a hybrid retailer (medical and retail sales), no additional cannabis retailer licenses can be approved in

ENI LUCIA BUC

town.

The draft showed all license types were buffered with setbacks: no cannabis establishment may be located within 1,000 feet of a public of private school nor within 500 feet of any charitable institution, church, convent, hospital, licensed child care center, licensed dependency treatment center, military installation, playground, public library, public park, public recreation trail, recreation center or facility, or veterans' home.

An overlay zone will be applied to the Central Business District specifically for retail/medical/hybrid operations. Two areas of Central Business will be eligible for these license types regardless of buffers.

"It's a cluster of about 10 parcels on North Elm but south of Bragg Street... [and] the area across from Church Street Commons," said Chairman Tim Abbott in a conversation with The Lakeville Journal. Buffers will need to be met for retail, hybrid, and medical licenses in Commercial Zones

On-site consumption of cannabis or any cannabis product was prohibited in all licensed establishments. P&Z also set limits on the hours of operation for each license type. The one license type not permitted under the drafted regulations was cannabis cultivator (large-scale growing operation).

The public hearing on March 11 will precede the regularly scheduled P&Z meeting that night. On the regular agenda will be a newly submitted application for a subdivision on Honey Hill Road.



# **Danbury Hospital** Recognized among the top 5% in the nation

Danbury Hospital, part of Nuvance Health, is proud to be the recipient of the America's Top 250 Best Hospitals award from Healthgrades. Danbury Hospital delivers top quality care, and is now also recognized as among the top 10% of hospitals in the nation for stroke, cardiac and surgical care (Healthgrades 2024). This means that you and your family have access to nationally-ranked specialty care, right in your community where you live and work. Danbury Hospital is proud to be recognized among the top 5% in the nation, because quality of care matters. And, what matters most to you, matters to us.



# **Dur Towns**

# **OBITUARIES**

#### **Robert Lincoln Rumsey**

Bob loved nothing more

LITCHFIELD — Robert (Bob) Lincoln Rumsey, born

Feb. 4, 1938, passed away on Feb. 10, 2024, surrounded by loved ones at the hospital where he was born 86 years prior in New York City.

Born in New York City and raised for much of his childhood

in Scarsdale, New York, Bob spent most of his life raising a family and living happily thereafter through his remaining years in Connecticut.

He was passionate about art, history, writing/reading, constantly learning, and connecting with others until his last days. He founded Norfolk Construction Company and took pride in his work designing and building homes for people throughout the Connecticut area. He constantly sought education and the perspective of others whether loved ones or strangers, obtaining his master's in history later in life and teaching at the Taconic Learning Center until the end of his life.

than a good intellectual conversation or debate and was always willing to be challenged and open to changing his mind. He'd often sit quietly and ponder, then share his findings and thoughts with us. He enjoyed spending time at

Mt. Tom State Park in Litchfield, where he'd take his chair and sit by the pond, drinking his coffee and people (or duck) watching.

He was an active member at St. Michael's Church. He found joy and community in being part of the vestry board, leading morning prayer services (including over Zoom in recent years), participating in bible study, and being a regular Sunday service speaker.

His gentle ways, compassion, curiosity, and interest in others made a lasting impression on many, from family and loved ones, to friends, his church community, and his peers and students.

All those who knew him will miss him dearly. He had a rare ability to connect with those in his circles and strangers in passing, something that he did, not to be self-serving, but to improve their existence, if only for a passing moment.

He is survived by his children, Alissa, (Peter Knocke) and Benjamin (Amy) Rumsey; Benjamin and Amy's children; Isla Rae and Riley Lincoln; his brother David (Abby); the mother of his children and wife for much of his life, Beth (and David) Ciarcia, as well as countless nieces and nephews that loved him dearly.

There will be a memorial service at his beloved St. Michael's Church in Litchfield, Connecticut on April 6, 2024, at 2 p.m.

His children wish that any memorial contributions made by those who knew him be made to the Taconic Learning Center (www. taconiclearningcenter.org/ donatenew.php) and/or St. Michael's Church (www.stmichaels-litchfield.org/product/ memory-gift/).

To share memories or condolences, please visit www. bit.ly/BobRumsey.



Guests took in features of the new pathway on a cold Saturday morning, Feb. 17.

# Community storytelling pathway opens at Hunt Library

#### By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — On a brisk February morning Saturday, Feb 17, Meg Sher, executive director of the David M. Hunt Library, cut the ribbon on the "Village Voices: A Community Storytelling Pathway" installation on the library lawn.

The Village Voices project includes stories, poems and artwork from community organizations including the Falls Village Daycare, the Lee H. Kellogg School, and the Falls Village Equity Project. The outdoor displays are digitally linked with additional content on the library's website.

The outdoor displays include Julia Orff's recollections of her grandparents modeling for painter Norman Rockwell; Carol Taylor's "A Closeup View of an

African-American Family in the Segregated South"; a discussion of slavery in and around Falls Village from Lee H. Kellogg School students; and the story of Milo Freeland of Sheffield, who was the first African American to enlist in the U.S. Army in the Civil War and who is buried in East Canaan (from the Falls Village-Canaan Historical Society).

It was cold out, so after giving the pathway its due, everybody trooped inside for hot drinks, cookies and conversation.

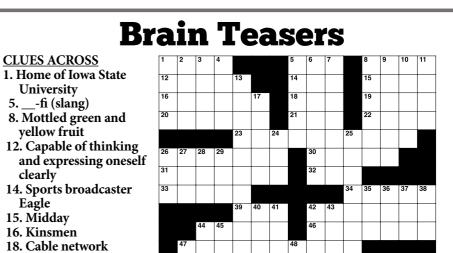
The crowd included Nina Safane, executive director of Libraries Without Borders, who was pleased that her organization's mission of expanding and enhancing library assets and community connections synchronized with the Hunt's strategic plan.

She said the Hunt Library was one of six in the state chosen for the project.

The state librarian, Deborah Schander, was also on hand. She said the Connecticut State Library's mission is, at its core, to "preserve the history of the state on behalf of its citizens."

Asked how she found herself in the job, she laughed and said she grew up in a household of readers, and that an aptitude test revealed she should be either a librarian or a drill instructor.

Part of Schander's job involves finding funding for projects such as Village Voices. In this case, the project was made possible in part by the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the federal Library Services and Technology Act, as administered by the State Library.



### Timothy Michael Haymann Snyder

MILLERTON — Timothy went on to study Electrical Michael Haymann Snyder,

37, of Millerton, passed away on Feb. 13, 2024, at Hudson Valley Hospice House in Hyde Park, New York. Timothy was a Mechanical Foreman with Metro North Railroad in Poughkeepsie.

Born on May

15, 1986, in Poughkeepsie, he was the son of Dorothy Jean Delaney Snyder of Dover Plains, and the late Michael Paul Snyder. Tim was a graduate of Dover High School Class of 2004. He



Construction and Maintenance at Hudson

> Valley Community College in Troy, New York, graduating in 2010. He had great pride for his career at Metro North Railroad and above all sharing that passion with his two young

sons.

Tim is survived by two sons, Benjamin Haymann Snyder and Nathaniel Haymann Snyder and their mother, Cornelia Haymann Snyder of Millerton; his mother, Dorothy Delaney

Snyder; three sisters, Renee Harris and her husband, Robert of Staatsburg, New York, Stephanie Sutherland and her husband, Kenneth, of Wappingers Falls, New York and Erin Todriff and her husband, Timothy of Dover Plains, New York, and several nieces and nephews.

Timothy loved spending time with his two boys, his friends and the outdoors. He was an avid NY Rangers and NY Mets fan and loved the time he spent on the ice playing hockey. Funeral services will be private. To send the family a condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

#### Marion Ellen Morris

SALISBURY — Marion Ellen Morris, 78, of Thurles, County Tipperary, Ireland, passed away Feb. 17, 2024, in Salisbury, Connecticut.

Marion was born June 17, 1945, in New York City, the daughter of the late William and Marjorie Morris.

Marion graduated from Bishop McDonnell High School in Brooklyn, New York, and Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Marion moved to Connecticut in 1985, living in Falls Village and later Salisbury. While in Connecticut, Marion was very involved in the arts, especially the Tri-Arts Theatre in Sharon.

Upon retiring from a successful career in finance at Harris Upham, Solomon Brothers and First Boston,

she enjoyed the companionship of her beloved cats and dogs. She is survived by her brothers, Michael and

Marion moved to her pres-

ent home in Ireland where

Richard of Seabrook Island, South Carolina, as well as many nieces and nephews.

Plans for a memorial service will be forthcoming at a later date.

For more obituaries, see page A5

### Sharon gets \$1.1 million TRIP grant

#### By Leila Hawken

SHARON — A grant of \$1.1 million from the state Transportation Rural Improvement Program (TRIP) was unanimously accepted by the Sharon Board of Selectmen at its regular meeting Friday, Feb. 16.

The regular meeting had been postponed to later in the week because of a snowstorm Tuesday, Feb. 13.

TRIP grants are awarded through the state Department of Transportation to rural towns seeking to improve infrastructure. The town's project to rehabilitate sidewalks surrounding the Town Green qualified for the funding program.

First Selectman Casey Flanagan reported that the project to improve deteriorated sidewalks that encircle the Town Green has been regularly part of the town's five-year capital plan,

"It's a much-needed project," Flanagan noted, citing the safety of the town's pedestrians as paramount. He said that the grant will cover construction costs only. The town will need to pay the costs of surveying, engineering and design, all steps that precede the start of construction.

Because it is a state grant, Flanagan pointed out, stringent state regulations governing the grant will need to be followed, including the bidding process.

Selectman John Brett agreed to represent the town as municipal coordinator for the project.

The selectmen determined that residents who live in homes surrounding the Green will be kept informed about the project as it progresses, particularly when construction is being scheduled.

#### Sharon Day Care **Road Race**

Now a local tradition, the annual road race to benefit the Sharon Day Care program has been scheduled for Saturday, May 4, following action by the selectmen, who needed to approve the event's use of town roads. The race will follow the same route as last year, beginning at Veterans' Field and heading to Mudge Pond before returning to the starting point.

Selectwoman Lynn Kearcher reported that this year's race will honor the memory of Jan Dudek, who served for many years as a trustee and teacher at Sharon Day Care.

- 19. Simpleton 20. Brunch beverage 21. Fed
- 22. European capital
- 23. Native inhabitants
- 26. Mechanical device
- 30. Rare geese native to Hawaii
- **31. Bedroom furnishing** 32. The products of
- human creativity
- 33. Mass transit option
- 34. Made a mistake
- **39. Sacred sound symbol** 42. Large N. American
- reindeer
- 44. Dull and flat
- 46. Partner to huffing
- 47. Written works 49. Monetary unit of
- Serbia 50. Midway between east
- and southeast 51. Peninsula of
- southwestern Asia 56. Widely used
- multiuser OS 57. Aggressive dog
- 58. Varnished
- 59. Hindu queen
- 60. Time units, abbr.
- 61. Farm animals
- 62. Capital of Latvia
- 63. Where golfe 64. Takes to civil court

#### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. One who graduated 2. An inspired holy
- person 3. Electronic counter-
- countermeasures
- 4. A place to store things
- 5. Indian instrument
- 6. Spanish saloon
- 7. Whole number
- 8. Not fastened

Nob

HORIZONS

10. Lounges about 11. Interested in 13. Remove salt 17. Type of sword 24. Naturally occurring solid material 25. Gets involved without being invited 26. Feline 27. Bobby \_\_, NHL champ 28. "Kill Bill" actress Thurman 29. Hawaiian dish 35. Moroccan coastal region 36. Baseball statistic 37. Long period of time 38. Moved earth

9. Gives a boost

- 40. Central Netherlands
- city
- 41. Take stock of
- 42. Central processing
- unit

8

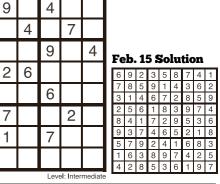
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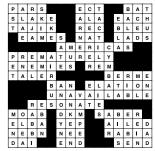
Sudoku 4 2 9 Δ



Senior Living • Rehabilitation • Skilled Nursing

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43. Distinctive qualities

one generates

44. Getting stuck

45. Loss of bodily

movements

49. What cats do

53. Type of cheese

organization

Feb. 15 Solution

55. Automatic data

52. Expresses pleasure

54. Professional STEM

processing systems

47. Veranda

48. Abrupt

# **OBITUARIES**

### Alex L. Taylor III

er with Time and Fortune magazine who covered the auto industry with understated and unsurpassed flair for nearly three decades, died on Feb. 8, 2024, in Lakeville, where he lived. The cause was complications from Parkinson's disease.

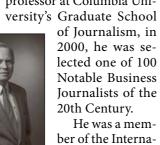
Born on Jan. 1, 1945, Alex grew up in Old Greenwich, the oldest of five siblings.

His father, Alex L. Taylor II, owned the Alex Taylor & Co. sporting goods store in Midtown Manhattan, and his mother, Cherry (Grafton), was a teacher.

A graduate of Kent School, he earned a bachelor's degree from Middlebury College and a master's in journalism from the University of Missouri.

He began his journalism career at a radio station in Indiana. He went on to a series of reporting stints at WZZM-TV in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and The Detroit Free Press. As a newsman for Time and Fortune magazine, Alex was regarded as a smart, dogged reporter with meticulous storytelling skills and one of the most knowledgeable journalists covering the auto industry. He won numerous awards for his writing, including three first prizes from the Detroit Press Club Foundation and "Journalist of the Year" from the Washington Automotive Press Association. A former adjunct has care of arrangements.

LAKEVILLE — Alex L. professor at Columbia Uni-Taylor III, a longtime report- versity's Graduate School tional Motor Press



of Journalism, in

Association and

was on the jury for

the North Ameri-

ca Car of the Year Awards.

Alex was the author of "Six-

ty to Zero: An Inside Look

at the Collapse of General

Motors - and the Detroit

Auto Industry." Drawing

on more than thirty years of

experience and insight as an

automotive industry report-

er, the book was released to

remembered for his love of

his family and friends, ten-

nis, nonfiction books, and

Brooks Brothers. He was

admired for his wit and all-

around generosity, as well as

his good cheer and courage

of 41 years, Mary; son, Alex,

daughter, Madeleine; sisters

Holly and Faith along with

nieces and nephews. He was

predeceased by his parents

and his brothers, John and

in Alex's honor to The Mi-

chael J Fox Foundation for

be held on June 15 at the

Congregational Church of

Parkinson's research.

Please consider donating

A memorial service will

The Kenny Funeral Home

David.

Salisbury.

He is survived by his wife

living with Parkinson's.

Beyond his work, Alex is

positive reviews in 2010.

even a little, you loved him. Intelligent, humorous, compassionate, talented, athletic and (sometimes) cantankerous – how could you not?! Jack is survived by Mau-

reen (his "Mo"), his wife of 56 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> years and best friend.

MILLBROOK — Jack Nu-

gent passed away quietly at

the age of 90 at his home in

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, on

Feb. 9, 2024. If you knew him

Jack is also survived by his sister Frannie and her daughters and grandchildren, his nephews in New York and North Carolina, additional nieces and nephews in the northeast and especially his seven Texas nieces and nephews, who previously lived near Jack and Mo in the Northeast and were privileged to spend many happy times with Jack. Their 24 Texas grand nieces and nephews also treasured him.

Background: Jack was born and raised in New York City. He grew up -mostly- in Jackson Heights, Queens, New York – as one of five children of hardworking parents, John Nugent and Henrietta Johnson Nugent. He remained close to his family into adulthood. After graduating with distinction from Queens College, Jack entered the U.S. Army and did his service in Germany. Always athletic, Jack learned to play soccer in Germany before it became cool in the U.S.

After the army, Jack worked in advertising in Manhattan (think "Mad Men"). With the young crowd of advertising and creative people in New York, Jack met Maureen, who worked with radio stations

#### Theresa Marie Murtagh

MILLERTON — Theresa Marie Murtagh, 74, a thir-

Sharon Hospital.

In addition to her

husband, Mrs. Murtagh is survived by two children; Kristian J. Murtagh of Canaan, and Gianna M. Murtagh of Millerton; her grandson, Joey Murtagh-Robert of Millerton; her sister, Madalyn Hoysradt of Millerton; three brothers, James Hoysradt of Millerton, Charles Hoysradt of Pine Plains and Michael Hoysradt and his wife Mary of Highland, New York; her uncle and aunt, John and Mary Canevari of Florida and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brother, William Albert Hoysradt in 1977. Private family visitation was held on Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024, at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. A private funeral service followed the visitation. Private burial also followed in the Graveyard at St. Patrick's Church in Millerton. Memorial contributions may be made to the Millerton Fire Company, P.O. Box 733, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family or to plant a tree in Theresa's honor please visit www.conklinfuneralhome. com.

JONATHAN J. RYAN

### Jack Nugent

purchasing ad time. Coincidentally both had grown up around Jackson

Heights and both were christened within months of each other at neighboring parishes in Rockaway, New York. Instantly compatible and fun loving with their group, they

continued skiing in winter, including in Switzerland and Colorado. Summers meant tennis, tennis, tennis, where they made some wonderful friends, especially in Florida.

for music. With his guitar and lilting voice, he entertained friends and family. He introduced his nieces and nephews to ballads that they will always associate with love and safe and happy times – the Kingston Trio, the Clancy Brothers, all the Irish classics.

Jack and Mo made a leap early on - left advertising and the city and moved to Millbrook, New York, in the Hudson Valley, where they opened "Jamo's," an ice cream parlor, coffee shop and lunch restaurant that became an institution in the village. For seventeen years, Jack was the cook, Mo scooped the ice cream and they made many close friends - some famous, some not, didn't matter — around town and at the daily coffee klatch at Jamo's. They happily shared their lives with Maureen's parents, Molly and Curly, who had also retired to Millbrook after selling their restaurant in Rockaway.

other interests in the village. Maureen had an antique shop space and Jack pursued small carpentry

avid

computer and cellphone and

was a lifelong learner. There

was always a crossword puz-

Jack visited Ft. Lauderdale

and stayed for a few months

at the apartment they had

purchased in Coral Ridge

Tower over forty years ago.

When they decided to move

for good to Florida, they pur-

chased a larger apartment

in the same building, where

they have lived for the past 20

years. Thanksgiving, Christ-

mas, Easter were spent with

their dear friends, John and

Maryanne Stevens, whom

they met in the elevator with

tennis rackets in hand.

Each winter Maureen and

zle nearby.

and painting work

and both became

ers. Jack kept up

with technology,

learned to use a

garden-

Maureen and Jack sold

Jamo's and started pursuing

Throughout all, Jack helped people. Jack and Mo were always the cool aunt and uncle, providing a haven, listening ears, good food and sweet visits to their family. In Millbrook, Jack helped with civic matters and elections, worked in literacy programs, supported job training programs and helped elderly friends. In Ft. Lauderdale, for ten years, Jack was a volunteer driver taking people to their treatments and appointments for cancer. For the past several years, Jack was the chief cook and caregiver of Maureen. He successfully kept her healthy and despite his own health challenges, he kept up with Maureen's medications and appointments. Jack and Mo's helpers in recent years, especially Yvonne Joseph, took good care of this good man. Jack's quick mind and good memory stayed with him until the end.

A Man for Others:

Jack is already - dearly missed. Arrangements are still being finalized. A private burial will be held in Millbrook in the Spring.



Chabad of Northwest CT

on Jan. 15, 2024, at her home in Millerton with family, including cats, next to a hot Born on Nov.

Nancy Lynne Briggs

MILLERTON — Nancy In addition to Dan, Nancy Lynne Briggs, 69, of Milleris survived by three sons; Jeff

> Briggs and his wife, Katherine Kimbrell, of Boston, Massachusetts, Matthew Briggs and his fiancée, Taylor Larsen, of Saugerties, New

ty year resident of Poughkeepsie, and most recently a twenty year resident of Millerton, died unexpectedly on Feb. 13, 2024, at Mrs. Murtagh was a retired secretary, having worked for

friends.

spent winter weekends skiing in Vermont and Cool: Jack had a true ear

28, 1954, in Pough keepsie, Nancy was the daughter of the late Vincent and Cora (Tobin) Hynes.

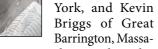
woodstove.

ton, passed away

After marrying Daniel Briggs in 1973, she joined the US Peace Corps and moved to the Philippines, where she worked on programs that focused on family health. Returning to the United States in 1975, she enrolled at Dutchess Community College and began a long career in nursing starting at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Hudson. She moved on to Sharon Hospital, where she started working in Labor and Delivery, then earning a Bachelor of Science from Empire College. The second half of her nursing career was spent at Danbury Hospital, where she became a manager and mentor.

Nancy enjoyed traveling. With Dan, she traveled across southeast Asia in her formative years and never stopped exploring. The outdoors, live music, books, knitting and quilting were priorities throughout her life. This did not slow down during her illness. At her core was a life in service to others, be it her family, new lives brought into the world, her staff at Danbury Hospital, or numerous cats at The Little Guild who needed a kind word and a gentle pet.

> For more obituaries, see page A4



Briggs of Great Barrington, Massachusetts. She is also survived by a brother, Vin-

cent Hynes of Poughquag, New York, a sister, Carol Robin of Poughquag, New York and five grandchildren; Owen Briggs, Zoe Briggs, Lila Jane Larsen Jones, Tobin Kimbrell and Alexander Larsen Briggs.

Calling hours will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 29, 2024, at Hufcut Funeral Home, 3159 Route 22, Dover Plains, NY. A memorial service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, March 1, 2024, at Christ Church Episcopal, 9 South Main Street, Sharon, CT.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to The Little Guild Animal Shelter, 285 Sharon-Goshen Turnpike, West Cornwall, CT 06796 or online at www.littleguild.org/. For directions or to send the family a condolence, please visit www. hufcutfuneralhome.com

CHRISTOPHER E. RYAN, SR

Marine Midland

Bank in Wappingers Falls, She also worked as a secretary for a medical laboratory in Poughkeepsie for many years.

Born Nov. 12, 1949, in Sharon, she was the daughter of the late James O. and Mary F. (Canevari) Hoysradt. She graduated with the class of 1967 from Our Lady of Lourdes High School in Pougkeepsie. She then studied business at Dutchess Community College. On Nov. 8, 1969, at St. Patrick's Church in Millerton, she married Joseph P. Murtagh. Mr. Murtagh survives at home in Millerton.

Mrs. Murtagh enjoyed gardening, crocheting and crafts. She was an avid reader and traveled extensively with her husband. She was a parishioner of St. Patrick's Church for many years and was a former volunteer and auxiliary member at Noble Horizons in Salisbury. She will be dearly missed by her loving family and many



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**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 Ion 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

#### The Sharon United Methodist Church

112 Upper Main Steet, 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

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

The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83. Amenia. NY

860-824-0194

Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org

21st Century Theology in an Historic Building

#### **Canaan United**

**Methodist Church** 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, Cl 11 a.m. Worship Service Open Hearts – Open Minds – Open Doors **Rev. Lee Gangaware** 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!

#### The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall

Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m. Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower River Road, West Cornwall

**On The Green** 69 West St. Litchfield, CT 06759 Childrens Camp | Shabbat Services Hebrew School | Cteen | YJP Iudaism With A Smile chabadNW.org 860.567.3377 | office@chabadNW.org

#### **ST. MARTIN OF TOURS** PARISH

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

#### **UCC in CORNWALL**

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

#### Sharon Congregational

25 Main Street, Sharon, C' Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for Sunday services

Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org

#### **Promised Land Baptist Church**

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

#### **All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church**

313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta

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# Jpinion

The Lakeville Iournal

EDITORIAL PAGE A6

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024

# Editorial 'Stay Informed'

The mid-1990s were witness to big change. It was the post-Cold War era. The Soviet Union dissolved. It was a decade marked by significant advances in technology, including gene-therapy advances and the improvement of the World Wide Web. A generation of Millennials was about to be replaced by Generation Z, which was born into a world increasing going online.

Email made its debut in our everyday lives in the end of the 1990s, emerging from its roots in business, government and other industrial and institutional organizations. By the time the smartphone entered the picture in the early 2010s, the Boomer group was entering middle age and/or about to turn 65 as the oldest of the generation.

The first iPhone gave us desktop-like email and a web browser. Its impact as a smartphone - combining "phone, internet and email," as Steve Jobs put it back then — became obvious overnight, and its evolution continues to propel change in our lives.

The iPhone was launched in the summer of 2007. Back then, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News were carrying ads in their pages noting that these newspapers were "your best source of weekly news and information about towns, people, schools, sports and organizations in the tri-corner region." The big heading on the advertisement read "Stay Informed."

How things change.

Today, about nine in ten adults get some of their news online, whether it's from a mobile phone or tablet or desktop. Traditional newspapers, adapting to change, have adopted a digital presence — and there also are new sources of news that never existed as a print product, making their start on the web. Some print publications also have been reborn as web 'papers.'

Last fall, The Pew Research Center published a study showing that a smaller and smaller share of America's adult population is following the news closely. It also found that the old media — local TV, newspapers and radio - are losing the war for readers, watchers and listeners to new kinds of platforms, such as podcasts. Out of 136 newspapers included in the Pew analysis, 120 reported declines in circulation in 2022. Overall, daily newspaper circulation nationwide continues to decline — including digital subscriptions and print circulation.

But Pew researchers found that about half of all Americans listened to a podcast in 2022, and that most of the listeners come across news in the programming. And podcasts are popular: of those who listen, one in five reports that they listen every day.

We are grateful for our readers and advertisers and supporters of our 501 (c)(3) nonprofit. Because of you we are still here, 127 years later. Every week!

Our mission is to deliver high quality coverage of your community. And for years, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News have published news and information online. Last month, the papers launched a major and modern upgrade. In updating our web presence, we geared the look-and-feel to work well on mobile phones. Our sites are not behind a paywall. Anyone can go to www.lakevillejournal.com or www. millertonnews.com — for free. In 17 years there have been 34 iterations of the iPhone. Today, our appeal to you still works. We invite all generations to 'Stay Informed' by visiting www. lakevillejournal.com and www.,millertonnews.com.

The undersigned are an affordable housing goal of 5%. In the Plan's Proposed

Pope Land Design Committee Plan for Salisbury

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sites for Affordable Housing, the SAHC listed "Salmon Kill Road" [the Pope Property] as accommodating "33-64 units". In the subsequent 2023 Affordable Housing Plan, however, the SAHC noted that the dramatic increase in cost to rent or purchase a home since the pandemic, have made Salisbury even more unaffordable for its working-class residents. In this Plan, it listed the Pope property as capable of accommodating "up to 64 units."

The PLDC, to assist in the

FHI and Mr. Barlow presented to the Committee numerous preliminary designs for its consideration. After lengthy deliberations over the course of several PLDC public meetings with citizen input, the Committee chose Design Concept #6 as the plan that achieves optimal use of the Pope Property for the housing and recreational needs of Salisbury residents. Design concept #6 has been subsequently revised and is now the preferred design concept.

We are still at an early stage in the design process. When FHI develops more finished plans, these must

### Long Red Tie

I do not like the long red tie When he opens his mouth, out comes a lie Why he's not in jail, I know not why But when he is, I'll laugh not cry Then the country will return to normal I'll go out and celebrate in a formal Michael Kahler Lakeville

### **Praise for** article **'Rethinking Big Lawns'**

Props to Fritz Mueller for his timely paean to the forest we'd mostly be living in if things were left to their own devices ("Rethinking Big Lawns," Lakeville Journal, Feb. 15).

Also a reminder that the NW Conservation District holds its annual sale of native trees and shrubs at the Goshen Fairgrounds April 19th-21st-online pre-orders start in March.

Now if we can just give the poor hemlocks a fighting chance—hug a deer hunter! Spencer Reiss

Salisbury

tee still plans to schedule a public discussion of its approach in the spring. We should point out, of course, that we are unlikely to reduce the number of housing units or recreational spaces now recommended via Design Concept #6. Our charge was to determine if "up to 64 [housing units]" and additional multi-purpose fields and related facilities could be accommodated. They can be.

Whether they should be is up to the elected and appointed town Commissions referred to above, and ultimately the citizens of Salisbury who will have to approve any plan in a Town vote before it moves forward.

# BORDER OF THE NITED STATES OF AMERICA COME RIGHT IN The Republican Porty

("PLC"), and also reviewed the Town of Salisbury's 2018 Affordable Housing Plan drafted by the Salisbury Affordable Commission ("SAHC)".

members of the Pope

Land Design Committee

("PLDC"), an advisory body

formed by the Selectmen in

September 2021, with the

charge to: "...work with res-

idents and consultants to ad-

vise the Board of Selectmen

to develop a plan, based on

recommendations from the

Salisbury Affordable Hous-

ing Commission and Recre-

ation Commission, for use

of the developable land on

the January 2021 92-page

report of its predecessor,

the Pope Land Committee

Our Committee reviewed

the...Pope Property."

We noted that as of 2018, 2.1% of the housing units in Salisbury were deemed affordable (one of the lowest percentages in Connecticut), and that Salisbury would have to add at least 75 units over the next ten to achieve planning process, retained FHI Studio, and charged its principal, Phil Barlow, with drawing up and presenting to the Committee varied "design concepts", that accommodated, if possible, 64 units of affordable housing, as well as the additional recreational facilities sought by the Salisbury Recreation Commission (SRC).

Over the next ten months,

be presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Historic District Commission, and the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

Although the Committee has made an informal presentation to these Commissions, none of them has approved Design Concept #6, and none will, until finished designs are presented, and public hearings are held to discuss them. Given that, our Commit-

**Pope Land Design** Committee Raymond G. McGuire, Chair Vivian Garfein Lisa McAuliffe **Tim Sinclair Elizabeth Slotnick** 

Deadline for letters is Monday at 10 a.m. Send to publisher@ lakevillejournal.com.

### Paving Lakeville's Community Field

I am writing in response to the two articles that appeared in the Feb. 15. Lakeville Journal about Community Field.

The First Selectman says "There is no plan to pave 30% of Community Field. It's absurd." My question is how much is it planning to pave? Many of us do not want any of it changed from its green space, but let's do the math, because under the proposals, he is right. It isn't 30%. It's 27% of the entire field.

Community Field is not exactly a square. It measures roughly 280' x 490'. That is 137,200 square feet.

The Colliers Report calls for thirty-six parking spaces, each space of 9' plus and extra 18' for two ADA ramp accessible spaces and that measures 178' x 70' to allow for cars to back out of the spaces. If you picture eighteen spaces at LaBonne's you can see it there. That is 12,460 square feet. To accommodate the inbound and outbound flow of traffic, it will require a roundabout and a two-way lane in and out. For the sake of argument, let's assume another 12,460 square feet for that. There is also a recommendation to put in an 8' wide track around the perimeter. That would consume 12,320 square feet making the total loss of green space, 37,240 square feet or 27% of the entire field.

The P&Z claims in the article that it is not officially proposing paving, but then why is it cherry picking some things and not others in the Colliers report, and why do they decide with no public input? I urge everyone who cares to go to the Salisbury P&Z section in the town website (www.salisburyct. us/planning-zoning-meeting-documents/), listen to the replay of the Jan. 2, 2024, meeting beginning at the 2:40 time stamp. You will hear the commission discussing specifically adding paved parking, the track around the field

and paved walkways through Bauer Park to the POCD.

As to why, they say that it was including "things it liked" about the report and putting in items "we prioritize." Adding we put them in because we felt "strongly" and adding there are some things "it didn't like."

For something as disruptive as paving a park, the Selectmen, and the P&Z need to solicit the views of the people who live in Lakeville, use the park and live next to it and not cherry pick items to add to the POCD.

**Theodore O'Neill** 

Lakeville

### Protecting our children from gun violence

Remember duck and cover drills? As children in the '50s and '60s, we hid under our desks for "protection" against nuclear attacks that, thankfully, never happened. But it was frightening all the same. Now, in Connecticut and nationwide, children practice active shooter drills, preparing for horrific, indiscriminate violence that they know can and does occur in schools and other public places. I am sickened by the prospect that my three small grandchildren will grow up with these fears and could even face such violence directly. The 11 children shot in Kansas City last week remind us yet again - not that we should need reminding — that this madness can only end when enough Republicans are voted out of office. Congresswoman Jahana Hayes is fighting for sensible gun safety laws and programs. By supporting her and others like her, we can help protect our children. Pamela Jarvis

Sharon

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THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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# Viewpoint

# It's time to plan the vegetable garden

Now, in the thick of an unusually gloomy, depressing winter might be a good time to plan your new vegetable garden. What? You weren't planning such a thing? Give it another thought.

It might be a good way to start to lift yourself out of the winter doldrums.

This winter has given us nearly a month of sunless days.

Maybe you weren't contemplating any kind of garden at all. But nearly everyone here in the NW Corner has a little bit of outdoor space that could be transformed into a small flower or vegetable garden.

And for those who do not, the Town of Salisbury has a community garden with dozens of bedroom sized individual plots and a wide variety of enthusiastic gardeners, most of whom are glad to help should you need it and are friendly companions in any case. Contact Salisbury Family Services to secure a plot.

Give a look at the seed catalogs and garden supply houses online. They should help you find what you might need and get your imagination going.

Start by thinking about where you might have your garden. A home vegetable garden needs lots of sunlight to be successful. Think about what would be the right size based on the available area and your available time and energy for caring for it. And your appetite. It should be located in an easily accessible spot to induce you to go there frequently.

Will you need fencing? Probably not unless you are beset with marauding deer. (If so, the deer fence should probably be at minimum six feet high.) While some flowers are edible (i.e., daylilies), most flowers are not grown for food but for beauty and can be easily grown outside

### OCCASIONAL OBSERVER By Mac Gordon

of a special garden. Vegetables seem to need more of their own ilk as companions. However, vegetable gardens are often enlivened to good effect with flowering plants nearby.

For those with a scale, or even just a ruler, it may be very helpful to draw a scaled plan of the proposed garden that locates what goes where, spacing plants in the drawing the recommended distance apart. And leave yourself enough room to walk around without stepping on your plants.

#### 'To plan a garden is to think of tomorrow.'

#### Audrey Hepburn

Most seed varieties available today are able to grow in whatever low quality soil they are planted in. Most garden vegetables prefer a soil that is not alkaline but is just slightly acidic. This can be quickly determined with a simple soil testing kit. Probably any problem with the existing soil can be corrected with the addition of a few inches of hummus (decaying organic vegetable matter), raked or tilled into the existing soil below. Any additional fertilizer should be used very sparingly if at all (many chemical fertilizers such as those recommended for lawns are more like amphetamines than plant food).

Whatever crop(s) you choose to grow will require copious amounts of water, gently applied. Unless your plot is extremely tiny, you will need a garden hose and perhaps a sprinkler. Make sure you have a reliable water source easily available. I determine when to water by watching the weather and sticking my fingers into the soil to judge dryness.

Many inexperienced gardeners with small plots try to grow too many different items. A more rewarding solution might be to select just a couple of favorite vegetables, especially ones that even roadside stand vendors cannot match in taste quality. I am planning a batch of crenshaw melons, a particularly delicious fruit that has not been available in the local stores for years.

Unless you are considering a rather large plot, corn is not a very good choice: it takes up a great deal of space snd excellent corn is available in season at the farmstands.

Consider fruits. Strawberries are a good choice and small enough to commingle with vegetables, fruit trees such as peaches, pears. nectarines and apples can be planted nearby. All are available in easy to pick dwarf varieties.

Our growing season here in the NW Corner is very short. But it can be lengthened a few weeks by starting seeds indoors in little specially made "flats" and then planted outdoors in prepared ground when the danger of freezing is past. I grow various varieties of string beans that take anywhere from 40 to 70 days to mature. With indoor starting I can have fresh beans for nearly four months.

Gardening, particularly too much at once, can be exhausting. However, unlike regular work, it can usually be done in modest doses at one'sconvenience. Planting a vegetable can be a revelation. As noted garden writer, Michael Pollan put it: the garden is "a place where we can meet nature halfway".

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville

# Our Town, Our Future ...Just Not Here

Voices from our Salisbury community about the housing we need for a healthy, economically vibrant future.

e all care about the resale value of our homes. I have heard neighbors express concerns about a possible negative impact on their property values if affordable housing is built nearby.

Since Covid there has been a huge increase in median home sales prices. In Salisbury, median sales prices rose by 80% in just 5 years from \$500,000 in 2019 to \$904,000 in 2023. Homes near affordable housing, whether Salisbury Housing Trust single family homes or affordable rentals such as at Sarum Village or Faith House, have risen just as much as homes elsewhere in town. Let's take some examples in Salisbury. We've got 9 Salisbury Housing Trust homes in and around Dunham Drive. Right next door a home is currently on the market for \$795,000.

A home across the street is currently listed for sale for \$699,900. Our tax assessor says that "current sales data has shown that proximity to affordable housing has had no impact on sales prices. Properties near affordable housing are selling particularly high."

The Center for Housing Policy, supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, has done a great deal of research on this issue. Based on many studies over the past thirty years it has published "Insights from Housing Policy Research." To quote its publication, "The vast majority of studies have found that affordable housing does not depress neighboring property values and may even raise them in some cases. Overall, the research sug-

#### AFFORDABLE Housing Mary Close Oppenheimer

gests that neighbors should have little to fear from the type of attractive and modestly sized developments that constitute the bulk of newly produced affordable housing today." It goes on to say, "Much of the research suggests that the type of affordable housing matters less than the quality of the properties' design, management, and maintenance."

'The vast majority of studies have found that affordable housing does not depress neighboring property values and may even raise them in some cases.'

#### The Center for Housing Policy

The Salisbury Housing Committee, Inc. is a local volunteer-led nonprofit that builds and manages affordable rentals. It has worked with QA+M Architecture for their last four projects including the third phase

NOW

LIVE!

of Sarum Village which is now in construction. Drive into Sarum Village and take a look to see how attractive the new buildings are. To manage their properties, the Housing Committee uses Connecticut Real Estate Management, which has been successfully managing affordable rental housing in our region for over a decade. Aside from making sure the properties are well managed, they also process people's applications for housing and do thorough background and credit checks on every prospective tenant.

It's natural to be apprehensive about the unknown, but rest assured that embracing more affordable housing in our town will only enhance our community, help our local services and businesses and bring more vitality to our town centers. It will also provide much needed homes for people who often work here but can't afford to live here and people who want to downsize as they age but have nowhere to go to remain in our community.

If you're interested in making sure that new affordable housing projects are as good as they can be you can volunteer to work with local nonprofit groups that are working hard to make that happen.

Mary Close Oppenheimer is a board member of the Salisbury Affordable Housing Commission.

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**TURNING BACK THE PAGES** 

#### 100 years ago — February 1924

SALISBURY – Seven of Sherwood Wright's little friends helped him to celebrate his fourth birthday on Tuesday.

It is understood that Mr. and Mrs. I. Kent Fulton will soon start on a tour of the West Indies.

37 donors have contributed \$65.00 toward expense of running the Snow Plow. While this is very gratifying it would appear to the committee that more people in the Fire District must be interested in having the Snow Plow run in front of their property. There seems to be a difference between being merely interested and interested financially.

The funeral of Mr. Michael Dunn who died very suddenly while sitting in a chair at his home in Lime Rock last Wednesday took place from St. Mary's Church on Friday morning with interment at St. Mary's Cemetery, Salisbury.

The dance given by the Friendly Club last Thursday evening was a great success and cleared nearly \$25. Kegler's Orchestra furnished the music and the affair was more than usually enjoyable for the large crowd present. The proceeds were turned over to Miss Frink to be used to buy clothing for some

needy children of the town.

#### 50 years ago — February 1974

Jury selection began Wednesday in the Litchfield murder trial of Peter Reilly, 18, of Falls Village. State and defense attorneys had agreed Tuesday to the surprisingly sudden start of trial proceedings. Friends of Reilly were hopeful Wednesday evening that his \$50,000 bond might be posted "within hours."

Noah Webster, father of the American dictionary, lived and taught school in Sharon nearly two centuries ago. Now U.S. Sen. James Buckley plans to donate the old "Noah Webster Schoolhouse" on his property to the Sharon Historical Society. Senator Buckley confirmed the donation will relate to Sharon's part in the Bicentennial celebration of the American Revolution. Plans, incomplete as yet, call for moving the ancient schoolhouse to the grounds of the Society's Gay-Hoyt House near the Sharon Green.

After a fervent protest by citizens opposed to the X-rated movie policy at the Millerton Theater, it appears hopeful that GP (general public) films will once again be shown on a regular basis. In a last ditch effort, the Victory Theater Corporation presented nightly this week the first GP movie in nearly four months. James Severine, president of the corporation, said "it's the most people we've had since "The Poseidon Adventure" (the show last summer that has brought in the largest attendance since the theater opened in June).

During the past year, Canaan center was stripped of two of its major food outlets, the A&P store and Jack's Market, and the village was left bereft of a general food store within easy walking distance. But now that trend has apparently changed. This week, James Blakey, former proprietor of Helbing's Delicatessen, and Martin F. Emory of West Cornwall and New York City, purchased the little delicatessen and announced a major expansion of the business. Among the announced plans for the business is the installation of a quality meat market operated according to Blakey "by an old friend" of the community.

Geer Memorial Extended Care Facility has officially opened its long-awaited new wing, and is now accepting new residents. Ambler Travis, director of the Volunteer Services at the facility, said that new residents "are coming in fast" to fill the additional 30 beds supplied by the addition.

Young John Taylor, 11-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Taylor of Railroad Street in Canaan, had his first lesson in flying on Saturday. He received his instruction from a qualified FAA instructor at Great Barrington Airport in a Piper Cherokee 180. John, who cannot, by law, solo until he is 16, is a sixth-grade student at North Canaan Elementary School. Although Saturday was his first formal lesson, he has flown before with his father.

The stunt flying of Canaan's Stanley Segalla, as he performs it every Sunday at the Old Rheinbeck Aerodrome, will be featured on the half-hour television program "Go-Show" this Sunday. The flying centers around the Aerodrome's show of antique aircraft from the First World War. A skit is presented in which the Red Baron duels with his alied counterpart. Narrator for the Go-Show presentation will be Artie Johnson, the "little German" of Laugh-In fame.

#### 25 years ago — February 1999

LIME ROCK – Skip Barber is selling a majority interest in his famed racing school to Sports Capital Partners, a privately-held investment fund. The sale, which should be completed in 30 days, is expected to be valued between \$25 and \$30 million.

Students in sixth through eighth grades at Cornwall Consolidated School will dedicate this year's Jump Rope for Heart to retired librarian Sally Hart, who is recovering from a heart attack.

Fred King, a former resident of Cornwall and a 1966 graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School, has recently accepted assignment as crew chief/ mechanic on a UH-1 helicopter owned by the NC Forest Service. Mr. King is retired from the U.S. Marines and has worked as a helicopter pilot for the NC Forest Service in Kinston, N.C., since 1997. Mr. King and his family live in Jacksonville, N.C.

SALISBURY – Some people will soon have to drive a little farther for a video, as Academy Video will be

closing its doors. Owners Rory and Andrea O'Connor opened the store five years ago. According to Mrs. O'Connor, the reason for closing the video store was not because of a lack of business, but rather a lack of time. "I just had my third baby 10 months ago," she said. "That's why we're closing. It's a lot of work managing two businesses and three kids. This way it will be a little bit easier on everybody." The couple also owns Oscar's Ice Cream Shoppe next door, which will reopen in the spring.

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



As we approach celebrating the resurrection on Easter this March, it might be of interest to know that nature also has been doing this for millions of years. One example is the humble wood frog, who we will soon hear croaking in the spring vernal pools. With the first cold temperatures of winter, the wood frog simply goes under the leaf litter and freezes solid until spring. No breathing, no heart pumping, absolutely frozen solid. Somehow in the spring the heart is the first to thaw and start pumping to bring its body back to life. The woods frog's trick is to create enough antifreeze to keep its cells safe. For more information on this, please visit www.shakerlakes. org/frozen-frogs. Also in this link is a video prepared by the Smithsonian that is fascinating to watch. Wood frogs are the first to enter the vernal pools, so when you hear their croaking calls, it may be good to reflect upon how special they are and why it is so important to protect them and their habitats.



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# **Our Towns**

# Sharon solar buffer plan buffeted

#### By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Plans for meeting the conditions imposed on the Hilltop Road solar array by the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) were heard at a regular P&Z meeting Wednesday, Feb. 14.

Representing Verogy of West Hartford, engineers for the project, was engineering manager Kyle Perry, who reviewed proposed plans for screening the solar array from the view of neighboring property owners.

The first version envisioned polyethylene plastic mesh being installed only on the portion of the chain link fencing that would be visible to neighbors. The plastic mesh could be expected to last five or six years before needing to be replaced. Under that proposal, the town would need to pay replacement costs as needed, estimated at \$7,000. Existing trees would remain and two additional small trees would be added, as presented by Perry, but not well received by the P&Z.

"I thought some trees would be added to soften the view," said P&Z Chairman Laurance Rand, expressing the stance of most P&Z members, who expected to see plans for a more substantial buffer. In all buffer planning for the project, however, the buffer extends no further than to seek to improve the view of the neighbors along Hilltop Road.

An alternative plan that would see the planting of 21 young white pine or western cedar trees could thicken the buffer for the neighbors, but the cost for that option was estimated at \$14,000.

First Selectman Casey Flanagan observed that the goal is to keep costs down while providing adequate screening on behalf of neighboring property owners on the western side of the project. If the alternative plan were to be approved, the CT Green Bank organization, represented at the meeting by Nikki Dow, solar project manager, would agree to guarantee and maintain with regular watering the newly planted trees for one year, replacing as necessary.

"The more trees planted, the lower the savings," Flanagan noted.

"We asked for a screening plan. The P&Z charge is to be sure that neighboring property owners are not impacted," Rand said.

Following clarifying discussion of Verogy's preliminary screening plans, the P&Z agreed that Verogy and

(Canaan), Naomi Lesamana

the CT Green Bank should return to a future meeting with a detailed plan for meeting the conditions of the approval, including a more definitive screening plan.

Land use administrator Jamie Casey recalled the history of the project and that it had been first proposed two years ago and that such projects are guided by state statutes.

"This is basically a municipal project," Casey said.

"You seem to be seeking to minimize the cost rather than doing it the right way," a resident commented.

Another plan offered by the Sharon Energy and Environment Commission (SEEC) and introduced at the meeting by SEEC member Mike Nadeau, would see the planting of 41 trees along with habitat plantings to enhance the existing nature trail, but because the P&Z had not reviewed that plan in advance, it could not be discussed further.

Nadeau also suggested planning for a rain garden to support the habitat plantings.

P&Z member Stanley MacMillan asked about responsibility for mowing and learned that the town would mow the area outside of the chain link fence around the perimeter and that CT Green Bank would mow inside the fence and between the solar panels.

Marijuana prohibition By unanimous vote fol-

lowing a public hearing with no public comment, the P&Z adopted an amendment to current zoning regulations to prohibit the retail sale of marijuana anywhere in Sharon. Recreational marijuana establishments are also prohibited.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

### Mozart at Hotchkiss

The Hotchkiss Philharmonic Orchestra welcomed guest conductor Lawrence Golan and flautist Brandon Patrick George on Saturday, Feb. 17, for an eclectic program featuring George in Mozart's Flute Concerto in G Major. Also on the program: Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings, "Old American Songs" by Aaron Copland (with the Hotchkiss Philharmonic Chorus), and two selections from John Williams' score from the film "Raiders of the Lost Ark." The next concert at The Hotchkiss School is Thursday, Feb. 29, at 7 p.m., with en evening of jazz inspired by the Harlem Renaissance. The concerts are free. Visit www.hotchkiss.org for more information.

### Hospice volunteer training

WINSTED — Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County announced that it will offer a hospice volunteer training course beginning in March.

The course runs for sixweeks starting Friday, March 8, for people interested in becoming volunteers for the agency's Medicare-certified hospice program.

Volunteers provide companionship to patients with visits that include holding hands, reading to them or even taking them outside. The main goal is to be a source of comfort for the patients. The hospice staff trains prospective volunteers to help and support terminally ill patients and their families. Hospice care is based primarily in the home, focuses on the needs of the entire family and emphasizes the quality of life.

The course runs through Friday, April 19, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Visiting Nurse & Hospice of Litchfield County, Winsted Branch, 32 Union Street.

For more information or to register, get in touch with Martha Babbitt, Hospice Volunteer Coordinator, at 860-397-9417 or www.vnhlc.org

# HVRHS quarter two honor roll

FALLS VILLAGE — Principal Ian Strever announces the second quarter marking period Honor Roll at Housatonic Valley Regional High School for the 2023-2024 school year.

#### HIGHEST HONOR ROLL:

GRADE 9: John DeDonato (Salisbury), Adelyn Diorio (Canaan), Sydney Howe (Canaan), Jonas Johnson (Canaan), Daniel Lesch (Cornwall), Finian Malone (Sharon), Meadow Moerschell (Kent), Ishaan Tantri (Salisbury), Ivy Zheng (Canaan).

GRADE 10: Mia DiRocco (Cornwall), Shanaya Duprey (Canaan), Mollie Ford (Falls Village), Anna Gillette (Salisbury), Maureen Graney (Falls Village), Adam Hock (Kent), Madelyn Johnson (Canaan), Abram Kirshner (Kent), Alexa Meach (Canaan), Madison Melino (Austerlitz), Ibby Sadeh (Falls Village), Celeste Trabucco (Kent), Silas Tripp (Falls Village).

GRADE 11: Daniela

ley Mahaffey (Amenia), Deiby Romero Gualan (Canaan), Ava Segalla (Salisbury), Cole Simonds (Canaan), Alex Woodworth (Salisbury).

GRADE 11: Tyler Anderson (Sharon), Zachary Bezerra (Kent), Bernice Boyden (Falls Village), Dylan Deane (Canaan), Tessa Dekker (Falls Village), Andy Delgado (Sharon), Cole Dennis (Canaan), Tara Djeladin (Falls Village), Amelia Dodge (Canaan), Leah Drislane (Canaan), Damian Forero Ovalle (Canaan), Lou Haemmerle (Salisbury), Harper Howe (Canaan), Katelin Lopes (Falls Village), Khyra McClennon (Amenia), Katerin McEnroe (Sharon), Jassim Mohydin (Salisbury), Sophie Nason (Canaan), Ledvia Orellana-Lemus (Canaan), Olivia Peterson (Sharon), Diana Portillo (Canaan), Olivia Robson (Salisbury), Junxin Zhang (Kent).

GRADE 12: Kathleen Bodwell (Cornwall), Myranda Cables (Canaan), Mia Claydon (Canaan), Finn Cousins (Sharon), Logan (Falls Village), Liam Mac-Neil (Canaan), Kyle McCarron (Kent), Patrick Money (Kent), Keira Ongley (Canaan), Tristan Oyanadel (Falls Village), Angelica Perez (Falls Village), Maximillian Posse (Kent), Gabriela Titone (Salisbury), Abigail White (Canaan), KoriAnn Wiggins (Canaan).

GRADE 12: Evan Bockting (Canaan), Leonid Clayton (Salisbury), Joshua Crump (Sharon), Juan Estrada-Arbelaez (Canaan), Kara Franks (Kent), Ayla Hill (Salisbury), Spencer Jasmin (Canaan), Aden Labshere (Canaan), Amber Ramcharran (Salisbury), Eason Zhang (Kent).

### Trust your banking to the same great team.



Brennan (Canaan), Madison Gulotta (Sheffield), Sara Huber (Salisbury), Rosemary Koller (Canaan), Tess Marks (Salisbury), Manasseh Matsudaira (Cornwall), Lola Moerschell (Kent), Elinor Wolgemuth (Salisbury).

GRADE 12: Mary Ireland (Salisbury), Anne Moran (Norfolk), Dana Saccardi (Cornwall).

#### **HIGH HONOR ROLL:**

GRADE 9: Hayden Bachman (Falls Village), Byron Bell (Cornwall), Selena Black (Cornwall), Sophia Camphouse (Sharon), Hadley Casey (Canaan), Karen Chavez-Sanchez (Salisbury), Georgie Clayton (Salisbury), Christian DeDonato (Salisbury), Natasha Dennis (Canaan), Layla DiDomenico (Kent), Lydia Fleming (Canaan), Grace Graney (Falls Village), Alexa Hoadley (Kent), Aiden Krupa (Torrington), Makenzie Lidstone (Salisbury), Francisco Mendoza Ratzan (Canaan), Daniel Moran (Norfolk), Logan Padelli (Canaan), Gustavo Portillo (Canaan), Darwin Wolfe (Falls Village), Nathan Zani (Ashley Falls).

GRADE 10: Elizabeth Allyn (Salisbury), Everet Belancik (Cornwall), Lily Beurket (Cornwall), Colton Bodwell (Cornwall), Olivia Brooks (Salisbury), Victoria Brooks (Salisbury), Nichard Crane (Canaan), Elizabeth Forbes (Wassaic), Sara Garcia Pulido (Canaan), Chloe Hill (Salisbury), Hannah Johnson (Canaan), Delanie Keeley (New Marlboro), RiDean (Falls Village), Lorelei Gnerre (Salisbury), Owen Hosier (Cornwall), Kayla Jacquier (Canaan), Abby Jones (Salisbury), Aron Ladanyi (Salisbury), Haley Leonard (Canaan), Riley Marshall (Amenia), Grace Riva (Canaan), Alexis Rougeot (Cornwall), Yaritza Vega (Salisbury), Isaac Watkins (Kent), Ryan Zani (Ashley Falls).

#### HONOR ROLL:

GRADE 9: Sofia Bindley (Cornwall), Braeden Duncan (Salisbury), Carmela Egan (Salisbury), Kellie Eisermann (Salisbury), Levi Elliott (Millerton), Conor Joseph (Cornwall), Jackson Olson (Salisbury), Juan Xeche Coche (Canaan).

GRADE 10: Peter Austin (Kent), Steven Barber (Cornwall), Ryder Conte (Falls Village), Nicholas Crodelle (Sharon), Taylor Green (Kent), Sara Ireland (Salisbury), Brooke Jenkins (Sharon), Melanie Rundall (Kent), Joseph Villa Arpi (Cornwall).

GRADE 11: Niya Borst (Cornwall), Brandt Bosio (Canaan), Georgette Campagne (Salisbury), Lucas Caranci (Canaan), Kaylin Clark (Canaan), Lola Clayton (Salisbury), Ian Crowell (Canaan), Madison DeWitt (Canaan), Melanie DiGirolamo (Salisbury), Rose Fitch (Cornwall), Ava Gandarillas (Canaan), Ney Guaman Asqui (Canaan), Antonis Karampasis (Canaan), Ellanor Karcheski (Canaan), Leesean Kelly-Santiago

From left to right: Kevin Cantele, Tara Decker, Nicole Chase, Steve Brandfield, Adam Higgins, Andreas Kapetanopoulos, Deb Oakliff, Aidan Gilligan, Meaghan Bain, Michael Hogan, Jessica Elliott

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# Sports Housy beats Nonnewaug in quarterfinal clash

#### By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) girls basketball advanced to the Berkshire League (BL) tournament semifinals after a 34-31 win over Nonnewaug High School Friday, Feb. 16, in the opening round.

The game went back and forth for four quarters before the Mountaineers pulled ahead in the final seconds and hung on for the victory. HVRHS' voracious manto-man defense tipped the scale in this otherwise evenly matched showdown. The Mountaineers secured revenge over the Chiefs, who eliminated HVRHS last year in the 2023 BL tournament.

It would be hard to find two more balanced teams, which both ended the season in a deadlock tie. HVRHS was seeded fourth in the tournament and hosted the quarterfinal game after winning a coin toss to determine home-court advantage against Nonnewaug.

Action got underway



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

The HVRHS bench jumped with joy after the Mountaineers secured a win over Nonnewaug in the opening round of the Berkshire League tournament Feb. 16.

with Nonnewaug scoring back-to-back easy layups. HVRHS then embraced coach Jake Plitt's defensive scheme, particularly Kylie Leonard, who stuck to Nonnewaug's star guard Ireland Starziski like glue. Leonard rose to the challenge and relentlessly pestered Starziski from baseline to baseline.

HVRHS took a narrow

11-10 lead at the end of the first quarter. Nonnewaug briefly reclaimed the lead in the second quarter before Leonard took a charge from Starziski at midcourt and stopped Nonnewaug's momentum in its tracks.

By halftime, HVRHS led 19-14. Coming out of the locker room, the Mountaineers looked relaxed with smiles all around. On the other end of the court, the Chiefs glared with determined intensity.

Nonnewaug seized control and went on an 8-0 run to open the half. HVRHS snapped back to reality and resumed lockdown defense.

Entering the final quarter, the game was tied at 25-25. Leonard got things going



Kylie Leonard and Ireland Starziski battled from start to finish in what proved to be the most critical matchup of the game.

by nailing a three-pointer to open the period. Nonnewaug responded and clawed back to a 31-30 lead with less than two minutes to go.

The refs were letting them play and keeping their whistles silent. HVRHS' Daniella Brennan took control down the stretch with a remarkable sequence. She reeled in an offensive rebound and scored the go-ahead basket to take a 32-31 lead. On Nonnewaug's next possession, Brennan ripped the ball from the Chiefs' guard and stormed down court with the time ticking away. Lou Haemmerle iced the game with a layup as the buzzer blared.

HVRHS won 34-31 and advanced to the BL semifinals. Players rejoiced as the home crowd cheered on the victors.

Leonard finished with a team-high nine points and held Starziski to a total of two points in the game. Daniella Brennan scored seven points. Tessa Dekker and Haemmerle each scored six points for the Mountaineers.

Nonnewaug was led in scoring by Juliette Nichols with 14 points. Emma Jackson scored eight points.

HVRHS advanced to the semifinals to play Thomaston on neutral ground at Shepaug Valley High School Tuesday, Feb. 20.



Isaiah Chappell drove the lane against Brewster. Ollie Jones controlled the tempo from the perimeter.

# South Kent prevails 77-65 over Brewster

By Lans Christensen

gradually started to even the with South Kent securing a 13-17.

#### in your community. PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN



Please donate to The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News at akevilleJournalFoundation.org/donate or by mail PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039

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KENT — The Brewster Academy Bobcats came to South Kent School Wednesday, Feb. 14, for a much-anticipated game between two strong and evenly matched teams.

The South Kent Cardinals were hungry for revenge after a bitter three-point loss to Brewster earlier in the season. The seven-time National Prep Champion Bobcats wouldn't go down without a fight, and the Valentine's Day showdown proved there was no love lost between the two teams.

Sparks flew from the jump. On the opening possession, Brewster's Harris Jackson splashed a perfect three-pointer and the game was on.

South Kent immediately seized momentum and took a six-point lead just minutes into the match. The Cardinals' defense and rebounding ability fueled the early run.

Brewster was forced into many mid- to longrange shots and struggled to rebound effectively. The Cardinals' lead was steadily building thanks to control of the paint and some clutch three-pointers by forward Jojo Wallace.

By halftime, South Kent's lead ballooned to a staggering 20 points with the score at 45-25.

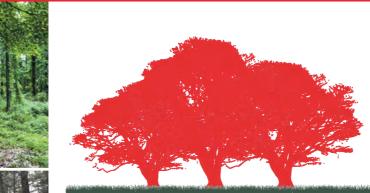
This unexpected and lopsided score didn't deter the Brewster Bobcats. An effective full-court press and strong playmaking on offense

score.

Brewster's comeback was cut short by the clock, and the final score was 77-65, hard-fought victory.

South Kent's record advanced to 15-14 on the season and Brewster fell to

Both teams will get set for the AAA New England Prep School tournament beginning Feb. 28.



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#### CL&P

#### **Continued from Page A1**

last nuclear plant and its biggest source of carbon-free power.

Eversource said the Millstone credit authorized by the General Assembly in 2017 caused \$605 million of the \$784 million in unrecovered costs; another \$160 million is blamed on mandated benefits for the poor and medical hardship cases.

The filing comes as Eversource is looking to raise cash by selling Aquarion Water to offset a one-time \$1.9 billion loss on off-shore wind investments and a day after it told stock analysts that Connecticut regulators were making its cash crunch worse.

Eversource complains that a change that the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) unanimously adopted in December 2020 in its methodology for assessing biannual rate adjustments have slowed cost recovery.

The company's cash issues were "primarily driven" by PURA's shift in methodology away from forecasts of recoverable costs to using actual costs in the previous year as a benchmark, said John M. Moreira, the Eversource chief financial officer.

'We've been significantly under-recovered at the CL&P franchise in 2023 by a sizable

#### WASTE

#### **Continued from Page A1**

the dreaded 2027 expiration of disposal contracts.

COG has sought legal counsel on the viability of a regional ordinance to handle the issue.

Jerram reported the subcommittee suggested authorization for "the director to issue a non-binding letter of intent to the MIRA [Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority] Dissolution Authority expressing interest from the COG in the Torrington Transfer Station" and a separate ordinance "pursuant to the creation of a regional resource recovery authority, sometimes called a regional waste authority."

The idea that COG could purchase the Torrington Transfer Station was proposed in the December 2023 meeting as a potential solution to the issue. Sending the MIRA Dissolution Authority a formal letter of intent would request information on the environmental status of the site to determine if it is a viable option for the COG to take over. If remediation of the **Torrington Transfer Station** is necessary, it is the hope of the COG that funds from the MIRA Dissolution Authority could be used for environmental cleanup.

Station. The ordinance model utilized in this joint operation could potentially be used as a rubric for the larger regional waste authority proposed by the subcommittee.

wheel?" asked Jerram.

"Help yourself to any of it," said Rand. "We can use any of it or none of it." Jerram noted the ordi-

nance must be approved by every town that intends to use it.

or press statement.

PHOTO BY SEAN D. ELLIOT/THE DAY OF NEW LONDON

Two lawmakers on the Energy and Technology Committee said they saw new messaging around the filing as part of the broader campaign against Gillett.

"It's pretty clear that the utilities are not a great fan of Marissa Gillett," said Sen. Ryan Fazio, R-Greenwich. "I think she has the interest of consumers at heart, and whether every decision she and the other commissioners make is right or wrong is a complicated question. Each of those decisions should be examined and judged on their merits."

He called the campaign against her "untoward."

Sen. Norm Needleman, D-Essex, co-chair of the committee, was blunter.

"In my opinion, they are just trying to get her fired. And that's as simple as it is," Needleman said.

Lamont has both praised Gillett for her close oversight of utilities' expenses and rates, but he has urged her to work more collaboratively with her two colleagues on the PURA commission as well as the companies.

The governor's office reacted with caution Thursday night.

'We need to review the filing. We agree that we ought to work together to lower electric costs," said Julia Bergman, the governor's spokeswoman. "We'll continue to collaborate with all the parties to do that."

Whether the numbers are correct, the types of expenses claimed by Eversource clearly are recoverable, lawmakers

FFA

Hydrilla

#### **Continued from Page A1**

other Connecticut lakes, and the highly disruptive plant has become a key focus for the TLA and the stewards of other lakes in the state, all of which are taking remedial steps.

Through the Connecticut Federation of Lakes and other working groups, the TLA has assembled a coalition of state and local officials, scientists and aquatic specialists to share information and gain a stronger, unified voice in Hartford.

#### Boat ban sought at state launch on East Twin

TLA officials noted that its board is working with the state and town to revert the state boat launch to its original mandate, which was to provide access only to car-top watercraft.

"It was never meant to be creating a significant volume of traffic," said Bogle. From 1991 to 2020, he noted, it was a very isolated ramp, with huge boulders in place to keep trailers from backing down into the water.

"They were removed by the state in 2020, and what we're asking is that they are put back in place," said Bogle. 'We are pushing for a decision" from the state.

Bogle noted that the state boat launch is not listed as ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible on its website, "and it shows the boulders in place." He said nearby O'Hara's Landing has accessible docks for those who require assistance.

To prevent further spread of hydrilla, the TLA also plans to have a barrier installed blocking passage under the Isola Bella Bridge, which joins the northern parts of East Twin.

"It's been recommended that we close that bridge," said Bogle, who noted that the area is a valued connector used frequently by canoeists, kayakers and waterboarders.

With hydrilla possibly pervasive north of the state boat launch, the TLA cannot risk the plant spreading via the natural current to the vulnerable cove east of the bridge, according to officials.

the plan as part of the association's herbicide permit.

"We know that there is hydrilla there. We know there were some escapees from the marina even further than we treated last year," Bogle explained.

"Is it an inconvenience? Yes. We recognize that, but we feel it's the right thing to do. We are trying to get ahead of this to the extent we can," explained Bogle.

#### Lake management budget soaring

To that end, the TLA board has spent the off-season establishing three subgroups focusing on fundraising, lake management and boat launch access.

Bogle noted that the cost of lake management has skyrocketed.

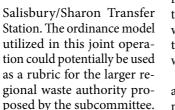
The board estimates the TLA will spend about \$250,000 in 2024 on lake management, and similar amounts in future years to control invasives and eradicate hydrilla. The association's new budget dwarfs any previous TLA budget, and it far exceeds estimates of only months ago, said officials.

The good news, according to the TLA newsletter, is that the organization has the funds to get through 2024 due to generous donations and a campaign that raised \$101,600 in December when all members were asked to consider contributing \$500 to \$1,000.

The campaign garnered 86 individual donations and an anonymous matching contribution of \$30,000. Those funds complement an expected \$75,000 from the Town of Salisbury and a \$75,000 state grant that is expected to be confirmed by early spring.

"We are thrilled with the response from our fundraising request. It speaks volumes as to the commitment of our members and the community," said Bogle.

Because fundraising on the needed scale is beyond its volunteer board's current ability, the TLA has hired Deko Design, a local tech systems and support consultant to organize and integrate the TLA website, dues collection, newsletter, membership rolls, fundraising campaigns and accounting. According to officials, the board has authorized up to \$2,500 for this work this year, and an anonymous benefactor is footing the bill. Despite the challenges that lie ahead this coming year and beyond, Bogle said he is optimistic "that we are in a much better position than we were last year."



Millstone nuclear power station.

amount, close to \$1 billion,"

Moreira told stock analysts

on an earnings call Wednes-

estimate, however, of how

using the older methodol-

ogy would have mitigated

the proposed increase by

allowing some cost recovery

earlier. Eversource proposed

Thursday that the increase be

has a broader subtext: Ever-

source and Avangrid, the

owner of United Illuminat-

ing, have been urging Gov.

Ned Lamont not to reappoint

Marissa P. Gillett, the author-

on the filing. Neither she nor

the other two commissioners,

John W. Betkoski III and Mi-

chael Caron, were mentioned

by name in the Eversource

filing or accompanying letter

Gillett declined comment

ity's chair, to another term.

The criticism of PURA

Eversource offered no

day.

phased in.

"Why reinvent the

Curtis Rand, first selectman of Salisbury, offered copies of the existing ordinance shared between Sharon and Salisbury for COG to review.

of New Milford, blamed Democratic policies. "This proposed rate increase comes at a time when

residents simply cannot afford to pay more out of pocket to cover the financial ramifications of policy decisions that have been made by the Democrat-controlled legislature, the governor's office, and his regulators," Buckbee said.

said. Fazio said the method-

ology challenged by Ever-

source did not change that.

The ranking House Re-

publican, Rep. Bill Buckbee

Actually, the Millstone bill had more Republican support in the House than Democrat — Buckbee among them. In 2017, Republicans held half the seats in the Senate and were five short of a majority in the House. The governor was a Democrat, Dannel P. Malloy.

At the time, Millstone's profits were eroded by competition from electricity generated by what then was plentiful and cheap natural gas, and its owner said its future was threatened without help.

The bill allowed the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and PURA to permit Millstone to compete in a more favorable market against solar, wind and hydro power that commands higher prices.

What resulted was a fixed price for much of the electricity generated by Millstone. Eversource and Avangrid would buy it and immediately resell it on the competitive market.

When the market prices were low, the utilities took a loss that PURA would let them recover from ratepayers. When the prices rose, as occurred during the first year of the war in Ukraine, the utilities turned a profit on the Millstone power that flowed back to ratepayers.

Millstone's electricity is once again above market rates, meaning UI and Eversource are owed a recovery of their costs.

As for a regional waste authority, Jerram noted that one already exists with the

"There could be long term strategy in everybody's best interest," said Jerram. "We are a team. We're all in this together."

Jerram requested COG Executive Director Rob Phillips set aside funds to retain a lawyer for review of the Salisbury/Sharon model. A draft ordinance for the broader goal would then be reviewed by each town leader.

Both recommendations from the subcommittee were approved by COG members unanimously.

"Time is our enemy here and we want to work as hard as we can to make positive progress at every meeting," said Jerram.

#### Continued from Page A1

area food banks and support agencies. FFA gave \$1,000 to each food bank: Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry, Corner Food Pantry, Cornwall Food and Fuel Fund, Kent Food Bank, and Sharon Food Bank. Additionally, \$500 was donated to The Little Guild (animal rescue) and Jane Lloyd Fund (cancer support).

About a dozen FFA members and officers presented the checks to representatives of each organization in the Ag-Ed Center at Housatonic Valley Regional High School. Students and agencies expressed mutual respect for the good deeds performed all around.

"We're very appreciative of young people being interested in helping the food insecure in our area," said Louise Riley of Fishes and Loaves.

'We couldn't do this without you being part of the team," said Tanya Tedder of the Jane Lloyd Fund. "Because of donations like yours, we haven't had to turn anyone away."

"Thank you all for everything you do on behalf of our team here, our chapter and community," said Kayla Jacquier, vice president of Housatonic Valley FFA.

In addition, about 25 acres of water up to 4 feet deep north of the state boat launch will be restricted and set apart with buoys, beginning in April, to prevent propellers from chopping hydrilla plants and having fragments float away and root elsewhere.

The area will be controlled with a system of "floating limnocorrals" and light-suppressing mats to prevent growth at the insistence of the state, which must approve



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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

#### **BOOKS: ALEXANDER WILBURN**

# **Banned Book Awards champions** children's right to read

There can be no question that democratic freedoms are currently being attacked and restricted in the United States, and somehow, children and the information they have access to have been the ongoing targets of attack.

As AP News reported in 2023: "More than 1,200 challenges were compiled in 2022, nearly double the then-record total from 2021 and by far the most since the American Library Association began keeping data 20 years ago." Conservative groups across the country have become well-organized machines harassing individual public and school librarians with threats of legal and violent action. The message from these groups, often supported by government leaders, is that children should not have access to books books meant for young readers — that engage

with topics of race, gender or sexual identity. At Fisher

Center at Bard College, the inaugural Eleanor Roosevelt



erary accomplishments and for championing stories full of independent thought, compassion and important social messages.

The award ceremony was hosted by Anna Eleanor Fierst, Roosevelt's great-granddaughter and chair of the Eleanor Roosevelt Center at Val-Kill. Fierst was joined on the stage by speakers Emily Drabinski, the president of the American Library Association; George McCalman, author of "Illustrated Black History: Honoring the Iconic and Unseen"; Matt Nosanchuck, the deputy assistant secretary for operations and outreach in the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education; Lee Rowland, policy director at the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU); and Cameron Samuels, a student at Brandeis University and the executive director of SEAT, a youth civic organization. Last

year, at age 18, Samuels testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee addressing book bans. The recip-

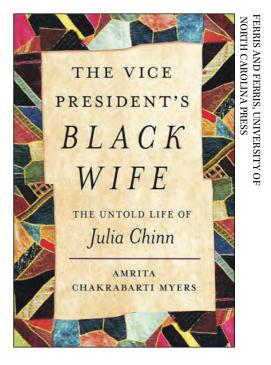


Judy Blume connected digitally at the ceremony and was honored with a lifetime achievement award.

Sundance Festival film in 2004 starring Kristen Stewart. "Speak" tells the story of a 14-year-old girl who is raped at a party the summer before her first year of high school and finds herself ostracized by her fellow students as she finds the strength to name her assailant. Twenty years later, Anderson wrote "Shout," a companion memoir about her own adolescence. "Speak" was a National Book Award finalist, but in 2020, was also named the fourth most banned and challenged book in the United States. - Mike Curato for "Flamer" from Macmillan. A semi-autobiographical graphic novel written and illustrated by Curato, set in 1995, it details a summer at a sleepaway Boy Scouts camp where a 14-year-old Filipino boy navigates changes in his male friend group -which include bullying and homophobic slurs - leaving him isolated,

hating himself and contemplating suicide. PEN America reported that "Flamer" was banned in schools in at least six states during the 2021-22 school year, and in Utah's Alpine School District, was filed as "pornographic."

- Alex Gino for "Melissa" (previously published as "George") from Scholastic. "Melissa" has appeared on the American Library Association's Top Ten Most **Challenged Books list** every year since its publication. The children's novel follows a 10-yearold transgender girl named Melissa, known as "George" to her family, whose one wish is to play the role of the talking spider Charlotte in her fourth-grade class's production of "Charlotte's Web." The novel was at the center of the 2018-19 Oregon Battle of the Books controversy, a school reading challenge that two school districts refused to participate in because of the inclusion of "Melissa" on the read-



# **BOOKS: ALEXANDER WILBURN** <u>Never a secret</u> The Black wife of a vice president

'n a new American biography, Amrita L Chakrabarti Myers, a multi-award-winning author and director of the graduate studies history department at Indiana University Bloomington, uncovers the hidden story of the wife of Richard Mentor Johnson, the ninth vice president of the United States, serving under President Martin Van Buren.

"The Vice President's Black Wife: The Untold Life of Julia Chinn" from Ferris and Ferris explores the lost account of Chinn - a woman with no official portrait, no legal record of her marriage and no surviving letters or diary to expose her own thoughts or feelings. What we do know: Chinn was a Black woman born into slavery in Scott County, Kentucky; trained as a household domestic worker from a young age; and taken as Johnson's common-law wife as a teenager when Johnson was 15 years her senior. Chinn was never legally freed from slavery, but she would also come to wield significant authority over the management of Johnson's property, overseeing the slave labor she was born into, now from a position of power. On Sunday, Feb. 25, at 2 p.m., staff from Martin Van Buren Park will lead a talk on Chakrabarti Myers' book at the Kinderhook Library in person and over Zoom. "Sex across the color

line began [in America] the moment various ethnic groups came into contact with one another on this side of the Atlantic. Those interactions were varied and complex, ranging from one night of mutual pleasure to intricate business transactions, from violent assaults to more compliant relationships," Chakrabarti Myers said at a talk held recently at the Filson Historical Society in Kentucky. "What my work seeks to do is illuminate how some Black women were able to use sexual alliances with white men to acquire a modicum of power in the Old South while simultaneously revealing the limits of that power. How much autonomy did Black women in these unions really have? What were the societal limits of their privilege? Did Black women have any choice when it came to participating in these relationships?" In a conversation held through the University of North Carolina Press with Randal Maurice Jelks, author of "Letters to Martin: Meditations on Democracy in Black America," Chakrabarti Myers discussed the purposeful erasure of Chinn's life following her and Johnson's death by the vice president's surviving brothers. The brothers conspired with a probate judge in Scott County to declare that Johnson had no living will, had never wed and had no children or grandchildren — despite his mixed-race descendants being present at the hearing. Johnson was hardly an outlier at the time for having an intimate, long-standing interracial relationship, so why was the legacy of Chinn perceived as so threatening in the eyes of the family? As Chakrabarti Myers said to Jelks: when we look to historical examples like President Thomas Jefferson or

**Banned Book** Awards was held Saturday

night, Feb. 17, honoring a group of middle-grade and young adult authors with the first Awards for Bravery in Literature. These recipients, authors of some of the most challenged books in the country by counties, local governments and school boards, were acknowledged for their lit-

ients of the MACMILLAN Eleanor Roo-

sevelt Awards

for Bravery in Literature were the following, in alphabetical order:

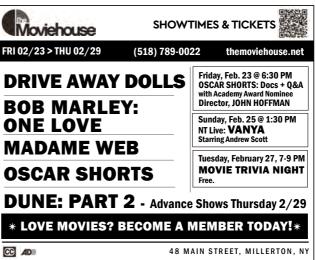
– Laurie Halse Anderson for "Shout: The True Story of a Survivor Who Refused to be Silenced" from Viking Books. Anderson is the author of the 1999 young adult novel "Speak," adapted into a

Continued on next page



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Continued on next page



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#### **MUSIC: MATTHEW KRETA**

# String quartet dazzles Hotchkiss Library

he Guild at Hotchkiss Library presented the Ivalas String Quartet in collaboration with Music Mountain Sunday, Feb. 18.

It was immediately apparent that the members of the quartet have a perfect understanding of each other as performers. Comprised of Reuben Kebede and **Tiani Butts playing** 

violin, Pedro Sánchez playing cello and Marcus Stevenson playing viola, the quartet would make constant movements, eye contact and audible breathing to guide and communicate with each other. This made their complex program sound effortless, even though their selections certainly sounded difficult to navigate. The four made use of

a wide variety of techniques unique to string instruments such as harmonics, a bright and high-pitched whistling sound explained to the audience by Butts before the second piece and pizzicato, where performers deftly pluck the strings of their instruments rather than glide over them with a bow. Helping this virtuosity were the surprisingly good acoustics

of the Hotchkiss Library, with the sound bouncing along and off of the wide lobby and plethora of books.

The first selection was one of Haydn's final string quartets, String Quartet in F Major, Op. 77 No. 2. Consisting of four movements, this piece quickly engaged listeners with the familiarity of a prolific composer.

Much of this quartet sectioned the performers in pairs, playing small duets together. Ivalas brought great expression to the composition, leaning heavily into well executed ritardandos and accelerandos.

A highlight of this movement, the andante. Containing a much slower tempo than the rest of the piece, it allowed the performers to truly explore its beautiful melodies and let them linger in the room.

The second piece was introduced by Butts as a composition by a friend of the Ivalas Quartet, Carlos Simon. The piece, titled "Warmth from Other Suns," has three movements and was composed in 2020. It was based off of a book of the same name by Isabel Wilkerson, which details the story of three African Americans migrating north from the American South.

PHOTO BY MATTHEW KRETA

#### **Ivalas String Quartet**

harmonics technique,

as well as long sliding

notes that captured the

image of light peeking

through the cracks. The

second movement, aptly

named "Flight," depicted

a dangerous and thrilling

chase with its extremely

quick tempo and flurry

The performers slowly

of notes across every

traded volume across

themselves through this

movement, shifting the

sound from the left to

right side of the room

meticulously and pre-

cisely. The final move-

ment, "Settle," slowed

the pace significantly

and marked the end

of the journey, yet still

contained a few clash-

ing harmonies that left

the future hopeful but

instrument.

uncertain.

The final piece performed was String Quartet No. 2 by Eleanor Alberga, a Jamaican composer currently residing in the UK. This piece was also composed recently, in 1994. It was defined by its constant shifting in tone and feeling, intense and charged one moment before calming and exploring slow, wide harmony.

One section of this piece showcased all four members of the quartet plucking their strings in pizzicato for an extended period. Ultimately, this piece's constant changing captured just how talented the Ivalas Quartet is, and was an excellent capstone to the afternoon program.

### Support local journalism in your community.

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#### ...banned books Continued from previous page

#### ing list.

 George M. Johnson for "All Boys Aren't Blue" from Farrar, Straus and Giroux. A coming-ofage memoir, Johnson details their '90s youth in Plainfield, New Jersey, with a focus on coming to terms with their Black and queer identity while also addressing Black, queer male readers today as they search for role models and representation in their own lives.

In 2021, a Flagler County school board member and a retired teacher filed a criminal complaint against the Florida

school's

superintendent for carrying the book.

- Maia Kobabe for "Gender Queer" from Simon and Schuster. The graphic novel written and illustrated by Kobabe has been in the

gkin. "I am a transgender man. Do you really think that the girls in my high school would feel comfortable sharing a restroom with me?"

"A Kids Book About Racism" from Penguin Random House. The young reader's book for ages 3-6 was initially written for Memory's own children — his four white step-children and two Black biological children

mitted the book for publication. The introduction tells children, "This is a book about racism. For reals! And yes, it really is for kids. It's a good book to read with a grownup. Because you'll have lots to talk about

afterward." The ceremony's Lifetime Achievement Award was presented by NYCLU's Lee Rowland to the incomparable author

captured the complexity of puberty as childhood innocence slips away and the shadow of adulthood looms, but taken the emotions and plights of young girls seriously. Tackling stories centering on faith, death, virginity and love, Blume's novels continue to be a lifeline to readers grappling with understanding a world that often deliberately hides uncomfortable truths, even when it comes to a girl's own body and mind.

"As someone who argued with [former White House communications director] Pat Buchanan over masturbation, I'm sorry to say I've heard a lot [when it comes to challenging books]," Blume said at the ceremony. "It is different today. It is scarier because it is coming from the government more and more, and from state legislatures. It is very political now. We just have to keep going. We just have to

er...," Blume has not only

piece was its third

The first movement, "Rays of Light," had beautiful use of the







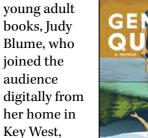
MACMILLAN

— Jelani Memory for

before he sub-

of beloved

eye of the book-banning storm since its publication, publicly challenged by conservative politicians like South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster and Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin, among others, citing the novel to be "obscene for unrestricted viewing by minors." In a town hall in 2023, Youngkin was called out on his views on the book and trans youth by a transmasculine Arlington high school student named Niko. "Look at me," Niko said to Youn-



Florida. SIMON AND SCHUSTER

publication of "Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret" in 1970, the name Judy Blume has been synonymous with the inner heart of girlhood. The author of classics like "Blubber," "Tiger Eyes," and "Forev-



Since the

together." Her advice to her fellow authors, as well as to young aspiring novelists, was clear: "You've got to knock the critic off one shoul-

keep working

der, and you've got to knock the censor off the other shoulder. When you're locked up in your little room writing, you cannot think of what will happen. You just have to go for it."

# ...vice president

Kentucky U.S. Senate **Representative Henry** Clay, "The men who were having 'outside relationships' and children with enslaved women didn't publicly flaunt it. Most of them were married to white women. Jefferson did not begin his relationship with Sally Hemings until after his wife had passed away and even so, he did not flaunt her as his wife. She did not entertain guests as the mistress of Monticello. It was gossip, but he never said, 'Yes, this is my family.' But

Julia was Richard's only wife. Adaline and Imogene [Johnson's mixedrace daughters] were his only children. They lived together, he educated his daughters, and his wife was standing by his side when he was visited by former presidents."

Chinn was head of the household, the mistress of the parlor, the overseer of the labor force, and the manager of Johnson's Choctaw Academy, an American Indian boarding school located on Johnson's Blue Spring Farm. "She

#### Continued from previous page

carried the keys to the farm," Chakrabarti Myers said, both metaphorically and literally. In her new life, one a woman of her birth was never meant to ascend to, riding through town in a carriage, Chinn wore the status and position of a vice president's wife with great public spectacle. As we have more presently witnessed in the media treatment of Meghan Markle, a Black woman usurping marital power supposedly "meant" for a white woman is a dangerous love story to live.

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# COMPASS

#### **ART: LEILA HAWKEN**

# Artists leap into 'Let's Dance'

he broad local constituency of residents who appreciate art and those who create it mingled at the highly anticipated opening of "Let's Dance."

The now traditional annual exhibit and sale invites local artists to show their works at the Sharon Historical Society Gallery. The festive opening was held Saturday, Feb. 17.

Historical society President Chris Robinson reported that 53 artists are participating in this year's juried show that he recalled is now in its 10th year. Local artist Thomas Gibb served as judge, choosing top winners from among a variety of works using media

ranging from the traditional oils, watercolors, photography, sculpture and quilting to the more contemporary works exploring digital photographic techniques.

About this year's theme, "Let's Dance," board member Robert Lindgren said that artists were free to interpret the theme literally or expressively.

"I'm so excited. I did not expect it," said Kent-based artist Mary Terrizzi, who arrived to find that her digital photographic work, "Isitshikitsha," had earned the top prize. She noted that her immediate family are all involved in the arts, with daughter Naya Bricher excelling as both a painter and dancer,

and husband Scott as a painter.

"I do experimental things," Terrizzi said, with "Isitshikitsha" serving as an example. She works in printmaking and digital collage using Photoshop, collating many different images into one piece, layered on board.

"Digital collage has given me freedom to explore," Terrizzi explained.

"When I heard the theme, I knew which one to submit," said artist Scott Bricher, as he pointed out his work "Anti-Gravity," depicting joyful dancers who seem to be suspended in air. The piece that began as a sketchbook doodle had earned an honorable mention. Bricher said

that this work had been included in past showings at the New Britain Museum of Art and at the Silvermine Art Center in Norwalk.

"I like the fluidity of it," Bricher said.

The exhibit in the historical society's impressive gallery space coincides with the society's exhibition of the curated collection of dance photographs by Frances Morehouse Kelsey. The present exhibit, the first in a series, captures the Sharon Dance School in the 1950s and 1960s.

The "Let's Dance" gallery exhibit will continue through Friday, March 29. All exhibits are free and open to the public during historical society hours.



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Local artist Paul Neuman displayed two of his sculptural works at the juried exhibit at the Sharon Historical Society Gallery that opened with a reception Saturday, Feb. 17. The theme this year is "Let's Dance." The exhibit will continue until Friday, March 29.

#### **GARDENING: JANNA SILLER**

# At The Bad Grass series: new science about old trees

he Bad Grass lecture series taking place at Salisbury's White Hart Inn this winter is highlighting land care methods that increase biodiversity.

During the Thursday, Feb. 15, installment, speaker Christopher Roddick introduced upward of 60 attendees to conservation arboriculture, an approach to tree care as a form of ecosystem management.

Roddick's career as the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's head of arboriculture and lead foreman has sent him up into

if canopy reduction is necessary, prune from the tips; start trees from seed if possible or buy saplings that are not root bound in their container; keep young trees well watered; and prune trees for the first five to 15 years if they start off root-bound.

Roddick called trees holobiont (super-organisms) and described how almost every part contains fungi and other microorganisms essential to healthy function. The tree care techniques he recommends should therefore all be in service of maintaining those

Rather than healing from injury like humans do, trees grow new cells in new positions and shed or wall off dead cells.

Imagine a bristlecone pine that sprouted 5,000 years ago. While you can touch parts of the trunk that were growing vibrantly in the Bronze Age, the oldest part of the tree that is still actively growing is only 50 years old, and the needles are only a few years old. "The great duality of being a tree is that it is both young and old at the same time," said Roddick

For Roddick, trees'



of those are trees. He emphasized the importance of preserving trees

and maintaining natural landscapes. More information and tickets

series' ticket sales will be directed toward extending Falls Village's pollinator-friendly roadside beds to the steps of the David M. Hunt Library.

trees' canopies and down into their root systems, teaching him the difference between vigor and vitality.

'Vigor is a plant's ability to grow," said Roddick. "If it's growing really fast, we assume it is healthy. Actually, what health is is vitality, the amount of stored energy in the plant. The more energy a tree has in reserves, the more it can adjust and respond to stressors while increasing habitat for wildlife."

He gave some practical tips for how to support tree vitality: increase soil health with compost or natural materials rather than synthetic fertilizers; allow leaves to fall and decompose in place; group trees together; avoid pesticides and fungicides; avoid clearing branches from older trees unless necessary for safety;

symbiotic relationships. He noted that the

trees we enjoy in our yards and landscapes are the same species that relied on being part of a system when they evolved in diverse and crowded forest environments. Their health hinges on our ability to provide them a system they can thrive in. Emerging forest ecology science is shedding light on how important relationships are to tree health- relationships with microbes, with the surrounding fauna, and with other trees in different life-cycle stages.

When you're rooted in place, you're an easy target, so trees have evolved to react, adapt and share resources among themselves. They economize by optimizing growth, getting rid of parts that are no longer needed, and compartmentalizing.

ecosystem services like providing nectar to pollinators, habitat for wildlife, clean air, and carbon sequestration are as important as their beauty and recreational value.

When asked the best way to increase biodiversity and ecosystem health on a property, he extolled the benefits of veteran trees that are embarking on the long process of dying, creating hollows for wildlife and nooks and crannies where fungi thrive. He also recommended planting keystone species like oak, maple, birch and willow that can host thousands of other species.

Of all the sunlight that hits the Earth, less than 1% gets caught by organisms that can use the energy. Roddick reminded the assembled gardeners that the vast majority

### Free trees for children

MILLBROOK - Millbrook Library is once again partnering with Neighborhood Forest to distribute free trees to children in time for Monday, April 22, which is Earth Day. Parents and guardians can sign children up by Friday, March 15, by filling out a short form at www.neighborhoodforest.org/parent-registration. Millbrook Library will make contact with registrants when the trees are ready to be picked up.

into their later years as a means of increasing earth's photosynthetic capacity.

The Bad Grass series is organized by local residents Page Dickey, Amy Cox Hall and Jeb Breece, whose goal is to "promote conversation and highlight the national thought leaders and practitioners we have in the region."

The final lecture for this year's series will take place at the White Hart Thursday, Feb. 29, at 5:30 p.m., and will be a panel discussion with Leslie Needham, Dee Salomon and Matt Sheehan on our human role in creating

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# COMPASS

# **TRI-CORNER CALENDAR**

Items are printed as space permits. All entries can be found at lakevillejournal.com/ events-calendar. To submit calendar items, email editor@lakevillejournal.com

#### FEBRUARY 22

#### Lunch & Learn: Copyright and Trademark Talk with Matthew Myers

The Scoville Memorial Library, 38 Main Street, Salisbury, CT 06068, www.scovillelibrary. org

Thursday, February 22, 12:00 - 12:50 PM. During this lunch-break overview of the complete trademark and copyright processes, you'll learn how to protect your brands and intellectual property including songs, illustrations, artwork, photographs, manuscripts, video, movies, podcasts, apps, and more. Enjoy Q&A and a light lunch provided by the library. Matthew L. Myers holds an MB from the University of Hawai'i and a BS with Honors in Economics from Cornell University. He is a frequent speaker at technology trade shows. Registration is required. To register, please visit scovillelibrary.libcal.com.

#### FEBRUARY 23

#### Live Guitar

Art Bar & Gallery, 75 E. Main St., North Canaan, Conn.

Stephen Bennett will play live music at the Art Bar on Feb. 23 from 8 to 10 p.m. Bennett is well known for his finger-style guitar playing. Whether he's playing his greatgrandfather's harp guitar or a standard 6-string, he is one of the most wellregarded guitarists of his generation. Sit back and enjoy delicious drinks and unforgettable music in the Art Bar & Gallery. Upstairs Great Falls Brewing Co.

#### Oscar-Nominated Millerton Director Q&A

The Moviehouse, Millerton NY Friday, Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m. Millerton-based director John Hoffman will join

Moviehouse audiences

for each exposure. The resulting images are striking and unique. Registration requested for artist's reception at: cornwalllibrary.org/ events

#### FEBRUARY 25

#### Live Reading

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

A reading of "Alabama Story" by Kenneth Jones, inspired by true events in 1959 Montgomery, Alabama, will be performed at Norfolk Library at 3 p.m. Cast members include Deron Bayer, Darcy Boynton, Troy Hanshe, Marinell Madden-Crippen, James Mead, Gloria Miller, and Ronnie Reid. After the reading there will be a discussion led by Miller. Admission is free, but a donation is requested. To reserve seats, use the following link: norfolklibrary.org/ events/a-reading-ofalabama-story

#### FEBRUARY 26

#### The North East Historical Society Dine Out for History

#### Millerton, N.Y.

The North East Historical Society's popular Dine Out for History series returns this month. This year two more dining establishments will participate, bringing the total to five.

On select dates through March 11, participating Millerton restaurants will host their own Dine Out for History nights, where 10% of the proceeds from all patrons that night will be donated to the historical society to support its research, digitize its collection and make historic content more available to the public, particularly educators. This pre-filmed 60-minute workshop will show how to mix the dough by hand.

Attendance is free with donation requested.

#### MARCH 2

#### Old Time Community Dance

Cornwall Town Hall, 24 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn.

Squares, circles, and contras taught and called by Bob Livingston to the lively music of Relatively Sound Band from 7 to 9 p.m. Beginners welcome. No partners necessary. Suggested donations to pay the caller and tip the band: \$15/adult, \$5/child, or \$25/family. For more information, contact Debra@ Motherhouse.us or 860-671-7945.

#### Litchfield County and the Civil War

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main Street Falls Village, CT

Local author and Housatonic Vallev **Regional High School** history teacher Peter Vermilvea will discuss his new book "Litchfield County and the Civil War" at the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village on Saturday, March 2nd at 2 pm. Told with first-hand accounts, the book relates the impact of President Abraham Lincoln's request for 600,000 troops in the summer of 1862 and shows how the process of preparing for war created a lasting bond between the community and its soldiers. Books will be available for purchase and signing.

#### MARCH 10

#### **Book Talk and Signing**

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

The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon will host a book



PHOTO SUBMITTED

# Ceramics at Hotchkiss

On exhibit now at The Hotchkiss School's Tremaine Gallery is "Between the motion and the act," a joint ceramics show featuring work by Tony Bright of Lakeville and Jon Riedeman of Norfolk. The work will remain on display through Saturday, March 2.

a working sugarhouse

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David M. Hunt Library, 63

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from the Falls Village-

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huntlibrary.org

approximately every 15-

can watch as pure sugar

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and \$5 for children (free

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boots, as the entire tour

are often muddy or snow

composer, Jake Runestad: The Hope of Loving and The Peace of Wild Things. The concert will be conducted by James Knox Sutterfield. Frostiana is a beautiful setting of seven of poet Robert Frost's most beloved poems, in honor of his 150th birthday. Rejoice in the Lamb is an unusual and creative musical setting of equally exotic text by the English poet and mystic Christopher Smart. Scottish poet Wendell Berry's brief poem, The Peace of Wild Things, is set to music perfectly by Jake Runestad, along with six sacred poems in his collection, The Hope of Loving. Tickets are \$20 at www.kentsingers.com/ category/tickets or at the door.

#### MARCH 16

### Audubon Bake Sale

Canaan Historical Society. "From the Great Falls to the Hilltops" allows a vivid peek into the past of Falls Village's people and places. There will be a reception with refreshments on Saturday, March 16, from 4 to 6 p.m. It will be preceded by a talk at 3 p.m. on the progress of photographic technology by Daniel Karp, a professor of photography at Bard College at Simon's Rock.

### 

Art Exhibition

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

David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village hosts WINTER WONDERLAND, an exhibition of painted winter scenes by art students at Lee H. Kellogg School. The exhibition will remain on display during operating hours through Friday, Feb. 23.

#### "The Art of the Stitch and Needle": A Group Show of Fiber Arts

Cornwall UCC Parish House, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall Village, Conn.

"The Art of the Stitch and Needle," a group show of fiber arts, is on view at the UCC Parish House in Cornwall Village. The show will continue until Thursday, Feb. 29. Artisans exhibiting their work will be Beth Dinneen, Eileen Gargan, Susan Hellmann, Jen Markow, Dana Saccardi and Susan Saccardi. A wide variety of crafts will be represented; some will be for sale.

live and in-person for a talk on his documentary short, "The Barber of Little Rock," nominated this year for Best Short Film at The Academy Awards, which will screen along with the other nominated shorts. "The Barber of Little Rock" explores America's widening racial wealth gap through the story of Arlo Washington, a local barber whose visionary approach to a just economy could reshape the future of banking. Tickets at www. themoviehouse.org

#### FEBRUARY 24

#### **Art Show Reception**

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. cornwalllibrary.org

The Cornwall Library will present artist Bela Selendy's latest images, "Complexity and Emergence," a photographic rumination on what he calls the "momentary and highly improbable confluence of events that is the reason we are all here at this indefinable moment." Using a photographic technique called light painting, Selendy initiates dozens of longexposure photographs of sculptures from a fixed camera, while all the time dancing around the sculpture with a modified flashlight, creating a different lighting effect

Monday, Feb. 26, Round III, 5523 NY-22, 5-9 p.m., 518-592-1240

Monday, March 11, Golden Wok, Railroad Plaza, 2 Main St., 5-10 p.m., 518-789-9236. Takeout only.

#### FEBRUARY 28

#### Workshop: Dough Talk with Richard Bourdon and Sarah Reynolds North

Online. secure.givelively.org/ event/dewey-memorial-hallinc/dough-talk-with-richardbourdon-and-sarah-reynoldsnorth

A virtual sourdough bread workshop with live Q&A will take place from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Join a virtual demonstration of sourdough bread making with Richard Bourdon, founder/ owner of the renowned **Berkshire Mountain** Bakery. Besides being a local legend, Bourdon has quietly influenced generations of would-be artisan bakers (including Chad Robertson, coowner of Tartine in San Francisco). He was also featured in the four-part Netflix documentary "Cooked." Bourdon will be joined by Sarah **Reynolds North of Found** Bread in her kitchen in New Marlborough.

talk and signing with James Traub, author of "True Believer: Hubert Humphrey's Quest for a More Just America" on Sunday, March 10, at 4 p.m. Traub reintroduces the largely forgotten but highly significant vice president and U.S. senator, Hubert Humphrey, whose shattering defeat in the 1968 presidential election cast a shadow over his achievements. In 1948 Humphrey defied segregationists and forced the Democratic party to commit itself to civil rights and as a senator in 1964, he made good on that commitment by shepherding the Civil **Rights Act through** Congress. Books will be available for purchase. This program is free, but registration is required at: hotchkisslibrary.libcal. com/event/12044393

#### **The Peace Of Wild Things**

The Kent Singers, St. Andrew's Church, Kent 3 p.m.

The Kent Singers will present The Peace of Wild Things on Sunday, March 10, 2023 at 3:00 pm at St. Andrew's Church in Kent, CT. The concert features Benjamin Britten's Rejoice in the Lamb, Randall Thompson's Frostiana, and two pieces by the young American Sharon, Conn.

Sharon Audubon Center will hold its annual MapleFest and Maple Bake Sale on Saturday, March 16, between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. Ongoing guided 45-minute to 1-hour tours will lead visitors through the Center's sugaring operation, including



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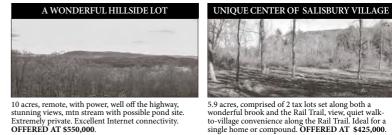
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