

Lime Rock **Memorial Day** Page A7

Waterston talks water Compass, Page B2



Different Memorial Day, Columns, Letters, Opinion, Pages B3-4

Tag Sales, Help Wanted, Services, **Real Estate** Pages B5-6



# Gardense The Lakeville Tournal TriCornerNews.com

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THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023 \$2.00

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



Salisbury's veterans marched during the Memorial Day parade Monday, May 29. For more Memorial Day stories and photos, turn to page A9.

# New look for youth agency

By Debra A. Aleksinas

LITCHFIELD — Established in 1904 as a residential program for troubled boys on a sprawling campus off Route 63, the Connecticut Junior Republic recently unveiled a new brand, mission statement and website to better reflect its evolution and growth in meeting current and future needs of at-risk youth and families, including those residing in the state's rural Northwest Corner.

The private charitable organization, with deep roots in Litchfield County, has undergone an official name change: it is now known as the CJR, and its new logo is a dragonfly, which has long been a symbol of happiness, new beginnings, and

CJR has also been awarded two significant grants, including one submitted by U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-5) to the House Committee on Appropriates for \$750,000 to support repairs, maintenance and renovation to the aging farm facilities on its Litchfield campus. The funds will also allow CJR to make its programs and facilities more relevent and available to students from other regional agriculture





Pictured after unveiling a new branded sign at the entrance to CJR's Litchfield Campus on Route 63 are from left: Frederick "Rick" F. Judd III, Chair, CJR Board of Directors and Executive Vice President, Union Savings Bank; Daniel Rezende, CJR President and CEO; and Matthew Karpas, Prior CJR Board Chair, current CJR Board member, and Founder, Karpas Strategies LLC.

The beneficiaries of these funds will include young people and families who are among the most vulnerable and at-risk in Connecticut who would benefit from the educational and therapeutic opportunities afforded by agricultural education, according to CJR.

The organization was also one of six to receive a grant this month from the Connecticut Health and **Educational Facilities Authority** 

(CHEFA) in the amount of \$140,000 to address health disparities across

The CHEFA grant is anticipated to benefit 1,500 children, youth and family members over two years, according to CJR officials. The funds will help increase access to psychiatric services provided at five Wellness Center clinics located in four of

See CJR, Page A10

#### LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

# CT tightens gun control

By Mark Pazniokas CT Mirror

HARTFORD — Gun controls demanded by Gov. Ned Lamont, plus elements of a tougher approach to gun crimes urged by four urban mayors, won overwhelming passage Thursday on a 96-51 vote by the House of Representatives.

The legislation would prohibit the open carry of firearms and further tighten restrictions on military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines largely banned after the Sandy Hook school shooting. It would also target repeat gun offenders with dedicated court dockets, higher thresholds for bail and probation, and tougher penalties.

Passage is assured in the Senate, promising the Democratic governor a victory as he continues to scuffle with members of his own party over a budget deal with less than two weeks before the legislature's constitutional adjournment deadline of midnight June 7.

'We need to do everything we can to keep our communities safe and prevent those who intend on doing harm from accessing these deadly weapons," said Lamont, a Democrat who made gun control an issue in winning election to a second term last year.

The vote comes as America's divide on guns widens, with the U.S. Supreme Court's conservative ma-

See GUNS, Page A10

# **CT House okays** traffic cameras

By Mark Pazniokas **CT Mirror** 

HARTFORD — Connecticut municipalities would have the option to use automated cameras to enforce speed limit and red light violations under a traffic safety bill passed Tuesday by the House on a 104-46 vote and sent to the Senate.

House Bill 5917 is a reaction to the deaths of 239 drivers and passengers and 75 pedestrians in 2022, the deadliest year on Connecticut roadways in decades, according to the state Department of Transportation.

To win passage, sponsors of the bill shed provisions that would have required helmet use by motorcyclists and banned the consumption House Bill 5917 is a reaction to the deaths of 239 drivers and passengers and 75 pedestrians in 2022

of alcoholic beverages by passengers in most motor vehicles.

"The series of recommendations, though modified, before you will result in improved traffic safety, improve livability for our communities and avoid the tragic fatalities in many cases that we've seen throughout Connecticut," said Rep. Roland Lemar, D-New Haven.

The speed limit and red light cameras would be limited to school

See TRAFFIC, Page A10



#### A sleuth of bears

James Clark of Salisbury saw this scene outside his home on Monday, May 22. Alarmed, the mother bear sent her five cubs up a tree.

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# Regional

#### In The Journal this week

REGIONAL	A2
LEGAL NOTICES.	A2
OUR TOWNS	A3-4
OBITUARIES	A5
OUR TOWNS	A6-7
SPORTS	A8

MEMORIAL DAY	YA9
COMPASS	B1-2
OPINION	B3
VIEWPOINT	B4
<b>OUR TOWNS</b>	B5
CLASSIFIEDS	B5-6

and approximately 10 feet of

wooden guardrail. The Suba-

ru came to a rest in grass off

the roadway and was towed

from the scene. Langella was

issued an infraction for dis-

tracted driving other than

Restricted turn

at approximately 9:50 a.m.,

state police were dispatched

to 20 Bunker Hill Road in

Cornwall for the report of

a motor vehicle accident.

Brandon Manuele, 29, of

Manchester, was driving a

2008 Nissan Quest that ran

off the roadway and struck an

Eversource utility pole. Man-

uele was issued an infraction

for making a restricted turn.

The vehicle was towed from

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.com

the scene.

On Wednesday, May 24,

use of hand-held devices.

#### **Online This Week**

#### Meet with Comcast Tuesday June 6, 6 p.m.

Ask about the high-speed internet project at Sharon Town Hall. Go to www.tricornernews.com

Memorial Day parade and ceremony photos Images from all six Region One towns. Go to www. tricornernews.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.

#### Under the influence

On Wednesday, May 17, at approximately 5:45 p.m. State Police received multiple 911 calls about an erratic motor vehicle. The operator, Samantha Whaples, 18, of Glastonbury, was located on East Main Street in North Canaan and exhibited signs of impairment. The odor of an alcoholic beverage was detected. Whaples did not perform to standard on a sobriety test and was charged with operating under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Whaples was released on a \$500 non-surety bond.

#### Distracted driving

On Sunday, May 21, at approximately 11:40 a.m., Frank Langella, 85, of Millerton, was traveling eastbound on Sharon Station Road in Sharon in a 2015 Subaru Forester when he lost control while reaching down to grab an item from the floor. The vehicle entered the shoulder, striking a utility pole

#### 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. Notice of such error must be given to us after the first run of the advertisement.

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

Check them out inside.

- Ocean State Job Lot
- Herrington's

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# Willis honored for lead in education

HARTFORD —A large group gathered on a busy day in the Connecticut Capitol to praise former State Rep. Roberta Willis' legislative and leadership accomplishments on behalf of higher education in Connecticut.

Willis received the 2023 Connecticut Higher Education Excellence Award presented by the New England Board of Higher Education on Wednesday, May 17.

Willis, a Democrat, retired in 2017 from the Connecticut General Assembly, after having served for 16 years as the representative from the 64th House Dis-

During her tenure, she



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Former State Rep. Roberta Willis on Wednesday, May 17 at the Capitol.

was the House Chairman of Higher Education and **Employment Advancement** Committee and was co-chair of the Higher Education Appropriations subcommittee from 2002 to 2016.

During that time, Willis also served on the New England Board of Higher Education. The Connecticut Board of Regents for Higher Education praised her as a "tireless advocate" for students, who fought to protect and expand state scholarship funds, and the need for capital investments to improve college campuses.

Her legislative and leadership work include passing a "Dreamers" bill for in-state tuition, permitting students without immigration documentation to attend state colleges at in-state tuition prices, supporting the early development of high tech-advanced manufacturing at Connecticut community colleges, and supporting the expansion of the University of Connecticut Health Center and medical school.

Before her retirement, in a surprise move, the legislature voted unanimously to rename the Governor's Scholarship Program, the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship Program, in her honor. The program provides financial aid to tens of thousands of Connecticut students attending public and private

#### Roxana Robinson receives Authors Guild award

NEW YORK — The Authors Guild Foundation's 31st Annual Benefit packed The Plaza Hotel's Grand Ballroom in a celebration of writers and the power of the written word on Tuesday, May 9.

The Guild paid tribute to three honorees, including Roxana Robinson, the recipient of The Authors Guild Foundation Preston Award for Distinguished Service to the Literary Community. presented by Pulitzer Prize winning author Elizabeth Strout.

Robinson is the author of ten books, nine works of fiction and the biography of Georgia O'Keeffe. She lives in Cornwall and has contributed columns to this news-

Others honored were Christopher Finan, the recipient of The Authors Guild Foundation Award for De-

Make the move

to Bank Local.



Roxana Robinson, right, received an award for distinguished service to the literary community by The Authors Guild in New York on May 9. Pulitzer Prize author Elizabeth Strout, left, presented the award.

fending Free Speech and Expression, and Angie Thomas, the recipient of The Authors Guild Foundation Award for Literary Activism

Robinson underscored the power of writing when she said, "In a democracy we needed to know the truth about civic life, public life, and it was writers who set down those truths. Their stories have informed us what it means to be human."

"Through their written work and their bold advocacy, each of tonight's honorees has demonstrated the critical importance of the written word and the dire need to protect it. We honor their courage and passion, more important than ever in this unsettling period of growing book censorship and intolerance," said Mary Rasenberger, CEO of the Authors Guild and Authors Guild Foundation.

"Chris, Angie, and Roxana exemplify the mission of the Authors Guild and the Authors Guild Foundation to advance the rights of today's writers and foster an ongoing commitment to the artistic and educational benefits that a vibrant American literary and creative culture offers," she added.

#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### **Legal Notice BAUER FUND AND FOUNDATION COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

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

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

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

New and returning application forms for the 2023-2024 school year are available at: www. bauerfundfoundation.org.

Completed and fully documented applications must be returned to The Bauer Foundation at PO Box 1784 Lakeville CT 06039-postmarked no later than June 22, 2023. Scholarship awards will be announced by August 23, 2023.

05-25-23 06-01-23 06-08-23 06-15-23

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

Notice is hereby given that the following actions were taken by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on May 22, 2023:

Approved with conditions - Application

2023-IW-006 by owners Rick and Linda Cantele for the renovation and second story addition of an existing single-family residence, including a septic system, driveway, and associated site improvements. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 58 as lot 3 and is known as 204 Between the Lakes Road, Salisbury.

Approved - Application 2023-IW-007 by owner The Hotchkiss School for the repair of a jetty. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 6 as lot 8 and is known as 11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville.

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

06-01-23

#### **NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF BERNICE JUNE BANKS** AKA B. JUNE BANKS Late of Conwall Bridge (23-00173)

The Hon.Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated May 16, 2023, 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: Nancy Banks Kalms 136 Popple Swamp Road Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754

Megan M. Foley Clerk 06-01-23





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# Nuthatches and timber doodles: Seventh-grader tells all about birds at Salisbury Central School

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Emma Sisk, a seventh-grader at Salisbury Central School, knows about birds.

She spoke at the Scoville Memorial Library Saturday, May 20 and immediately launched into a detailed look at the dark-eyed Junco.

They are prevalent in northwest Connecticut during the winter because they come from an even less hospitable climate, she explained.

And if that's not enough for identification purposes, the birds have two white stripes on their tails.

Sisk, showing considerable presence of mind, sailed through a brief technical difficulty with the slide

show without missing a beat.

The difficulty was resolved quickly as she noted that the European starling, seen widely in spring, is not a native bird to the area.

And if anyone was wondering about the story behind the white-breasted nuthatch's name, Sisk said it's because the birds crack nuts against trees.

They also climb headfirst down trees, and have a call that sounds as if the bird is "maniacally laughing at

Sisk began by explaining that her interest in birds began during the COVID-19 pandemic.

She went on walks with her family to look at birds, and watched bird talks on-

She connected with Bethany Sheffer at the Sharon Audubon Center, who shared her knowledge and experience. Sisk is now a volunteer at Sharon Audu-

Recently, Sisk helped put up a purple martin complex on the campus of The Hotchkiss School.

Back to the birds. Sisk noted, with evident amusement, that common nameds for the American woodcock are "bog suckers" or "timber doodles."

And as for the ruby-throated humming bird, she said that it is the only hummingbird native to Connecticut.

"If you see another one, I'm really jealous, and it's really lost."



Emma Sisk shared her extensive knowledge of birds, including the dark-eyed Junco and the timber doodle, at the Scoville Memorial Library on May 20.

# Sharon targets road drainage problems

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Persistent problems with drainage backup affecting two town roads were discussed by the Board of Selectmen at its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 23, leading to a unanimous vote to proceed with an engineering study to find a solution.

Drainage problems have long troubled residents living along Rolling Hills Drive and Dug Road, First Selectman Brent Colley said, outlining the extent of the problem. Run-off water was so powerful in the area, the flow dislodged rocks and caused them to block the area's drainage culverts, he explained.

As the expenditure of \$28,500 in fees for completion of the study is included in the 2023-24 budget approved by the town, the selectmen voted to have Colley sign the contract with Cardinal Engineering Associates of Litchfield. Additional incidental costs associated with completing the study are estimated at around \$11,000.

Selectman Casey Flanagan commented that residents should be involved in discussions as solutions are proposed and selectman Dale Jones agreed, saying that the final project design may include changes.

In an effort to create more efficient communication among residents and the town during power outages or other emergencies, and after extensive research into options, the selectmen voted to use software provided by CivicPlus. The vote was unanimous to expend the initial cost of \$8,577 to access the service, an amount that was included in the annual budget approved by the town's residents. CivicPlus specializes in communication systems to fit the needs of small-town government.

Under the new system, the town will be able to send updates to all residents and, in turn, residents will be able to contact town officials and road crews directly to report problems such as downed trees, wires or other emergency situations. Road crews

He foresaw that the project

will be better able to chart and respond promptly.

The future use of the vacated Community Center building was discussed with a view toward community involvement in any eventual

Following discussion, the selectmen agreed to hold an informational meeting on Saturday, Sept. 9, beginning at noon. The location is yet to be determined.

Flanagan favored holding the informational meeting, enabling residents to hear brief presentations from interested groups describing proposed uses.

"We have to move expe-

ditiously, but make sure that we are following a process," Flanagan said.

Residents who attended the meeting voiced support for the idea of converting the building to affordable housing units. Bob Whelan, Sharon Housing Trust, offered preliminary designs for use as such and expressed his initial concern at the idea of delaying the informational presentations until late sum-

"I don't want others to feel that the decision has already been made," Flanagan said. "I'm trying to get a consensus from the town on how we should move forward."

# Millie Johnson turns 110

Millie Johnson blew all the candles out first try.

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN— Mildred "Millie" Johnson celebrated her 110th birthday at Geer Village in North Canaan on Friday, May 26.

Born May 28, 1913, Johnson has two daughters, seven grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren, and 23 great-great grandchildren and counting. Johnson danced her way leather motorcycle jacket before blowing out the made in the 1930s.

candles in one breath.

"I'm going to make it to 115, which is a lot older than you," Johnson said to a reporter.

When asked what's the secret to 110 years, Johnson said, "Ask my mother, because I don't know."

Johnson enjoys deep sea fishing and riding shotgun on her granddaughters trike.

"I've been riding since was a teenager," Johnover to the cake in her son said as she recalled a cross-country ride she

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# Swift House planning must wait for budget

By Leila Hawken

KENT — Eager to plan the next steps in meeting with architects in connection with renovation of the historic Swift House, Charity Zanne, chairman of the Swift House Task Force appealed to the Board of Selectmen to allow for a preliminary meeting with architects on the scope of the project.

Funds for the Swift House architectural study are included in the proposed 2023-24 town budget that will be the subject of the annual Town Meeting scheduled for May 31 at the Town Hall, beginning at 7 p.m.

First Selectman Jean Speck indicated that meetings with architects would need to wait until the town approves the budget for 2023-24 and the new fiscal year begins.

Zanne worried about the delay, hoping that work could begin sooner, projecting that architects might take on other projects and become unavailable as the weeks pass. She suggested that preliminary meetings could occur.

"The budget has not yet passed," Speck said, noting that the Board of Selectmen would need to enter into a contract with the architects before they would begin work. She added that the Swift House Task Force will be involved in the contract development.

"We can't start a relationship until we have the funding in place," Speck explained.

"We can wait a week," said selectman Glenn Sanchez, also a task force member, "as long as it's in process."

would proceed smoothly after the budget is approved.

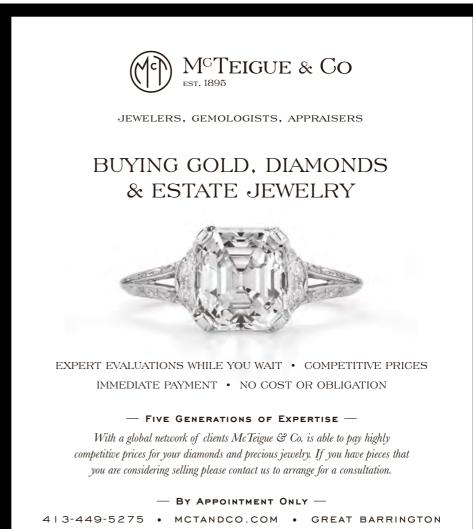
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With gratitude and good wishes, D. Elizabeth Mauro EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR







Inductees held candles that represented the pillars of the National Honor Society: scholarship, leadership, service and character.

# **HVRHS** honor society inducts 19 students

By Peter Vermilyea

FALLS VILLAGE — The Eleanor Roosevelt Chapter of the National Honor Society at Housatonic Valley Regional High School welcomed 19 new members in a ceremony held at the school Thursday, May 25. Inducted into the chapter were: Kathleen Bodwell, Veronica Bonett, Finn Cousins, Logan Dean, Kara Franks, Lorelei Gnerre, Thalia Gualan, Ayla Hill, Kayla Jacquier, Aron Ladanyi,

Haley Leonard, Spencer Markow, Anne Moran, Grace Riva, Dana Saccardi, Hudson Sebranek, Haley Swaller, Yaritza Vega, and Eason Zhang.

English teacher Taylor Monico was selected as the honorary faculty mem-

Students are selected for membership in the National Honor Society based upon their demonstration of outstanding scholarship, leadership, service and

# HVRHS places second in Geographic Challenge

By Peter Vermilyea

FALLS VILLAGE — A group of five students from Housatonic Valley Regional High School finished second at the Connecticut Geographic Challenge, held at the University of Connecticut on May 24. The theme of this year's event was "Borders: Security and Conflict."

Teams competed in four events: Map Reading, Problem Solving, Orienteering, and Quiz Bowl. Questions were related

to the theme of the event. Wethersfield High School finished first among the fifteen teams, and Brookfield placed third. The Geographic Challenge, now in its 30th year, is sponsored by the University of Connecticut's Geography Department.

The Housatonic team consisted of Linus Barnes, Finn Cousins, Manny Matsudaira, Melody Matsudaira and Harry Sanders. They are coached by social studies teacher Peter Vermilyea.



Left to right are: Finn Cousins, Harry Sanders, Manny Matsudaira, Linus Barnes, and Melody Matsudaira.



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Bubble making at opening day of the Kent Farmer's Market, May 19.

#### Kent farmer's market opens for season

By Lans Christensen

KENT — The Kent Farmers Market started the 2023 season under bright skies on Saturday, May 19. For the second year, the market is now located on the expansive Kent Land Trust fields just south of the village. Market Coordinator Nancy Rohr said she had Village Farm, Ridgeways, and assigned 18 spots for farmers and vendors.

"Everyone is so happy to be there and open again," she

Many of the favorite farmers are back again and were heartily greeting old customers and friends. The other favorites were joined by newcomers like The Striped Cow and Hoadley Farms. Bakery, fish, honey, meats, and flowers and more are available and shoppers were toting well-loaded bags. The Market is open on Fridays from 3 p.m. to 6 pm.

# Sharon passes amended school budget

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — During a brief special meeting held on Wednesday, May 24, the Board of Education voted unanimously to approve a change to its proposed 2023-24 budget to amend the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) line as recommended by the Board of Finance.

The ECS is a formula-based program whereby the state distributes \$2 billion to local and regional school districts annually.

Board of Education chairman Doug Cahill said that the initial late-April ECS estimate of \$9,338 has been increased to \$18,677 to reflect current estimates provided by the state Department of Education. Adding that total to the \$1,756 already on that line, the new total ECS line stands at \$20,433, Cahill said.

As identifying efficiencies within the budget has been important to the Board of Finance, Cahill said that \$200,000 in possible efficiencies were identified and

he praised the efforts of the school staff in finding them.

After the vote, Cahill said, "We will move forward with the 2023-24 budget. We have clarity about what the finance board and town are looking for. We are in a pretty good spot."

The Board of Finance scheduled a special meeting for Friday, May 26, to consider the revised budget and if they vote to approve it, the Board of Selectmen plan to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, May 30, to set a town meeting date. The town meeting would have two purposes, to vote on the proposed Board of Education budget for 2023-24 and to approve the 5-year capital plan submitted by the school board.

**Email reporter Patrick Sullivan** at patricks@lakevillejournal.com



The Lake Wononscopomuc Association

**Annual Meeting** Saturday, June 3, 2023, 9:30 AM Town Grove Senior Center

#### **Brain Teasers**

**CLUES ACROSS** 

1. Flat tableland with steep edges

5. Where there's \_\_\_, there's fire

10. Talked incessantly

12. Skill

14. Without shame

16. Where teens spend their days (abbr.)

18. Boxing's GOAT 19. Used to anoint

20. Cluster cups

22. Footballer Newton

23. They make up a forest 25. Split pulses

26. Self

27. Post-office box

28. Test for high schoolers 30. Large, flightless bird

31. Expectorated 33. Falsehood

35. Prickly, scrambling

shrub 37. French river

38. Told on

40. Hillside

41. Peyton's little brother 42. Soviet Socialist

Republic 44. Cathedral city in

Cambridgeshire

45. Witness

48. Brews

50. Yellowish-brown

52. Arctic explorers, abbr.

53. Mexican agave 55. A type of "cast"

56. Encourage

57. Atomic #52

58. Relating to position north of south of equator

63. Gadget whose name you forget 65. Another recording

66. Small blisters

67. Dark brown or black

**CLUES DOWN** 1. Licensed for Wall Street

2. "\_\_ and flow" 3. A very large body of

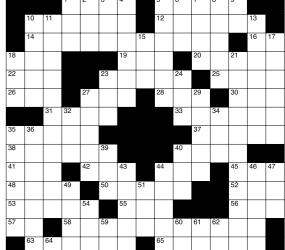
water 4. Accumulate on the

surface of 5. Central cores of the stem 6. Angry

7. Ceramic jar

8. Scraped a car

9. \_\_ route



10. Soviet labor camp system

11. Strong hostilities

13. Vitamin of the B complex

15. Go quickly

17. Toast

18. A team's best pitcher

21. A Philly culinary

specialty 23. Small child

24. Unhappy

27. Trims away

29. Characterized by crying

eyes 32. Soft touch

34. American spy organization

35. A person's chest

36. Came from behind to win 39. Fall back

40. Nellie \_\_\_, journalist

43. Great places to kayak

44. Suffer patiently 46. Majestic bird

47. Electroencephalograph

49. Organic compound used as an antiseptic

51. Objects connected to the web (abbr.)

54. Ship as cargo

59. The bill in a restaurant 60. Upper-class young

61. Judge in OJ Simpson

trial 62. One's grandmother

woman (abbr.)

64. Siberian river

#### **May 25 Solution**



#### Sudoku 4



	May 25 Solution										
	8	7	3	1	5	9	4	6	2		
	4	1	6	8	2	3	7	9	5		
	5	9	2	6	4	7	1	3	8		
ı	1	3	5	4	8	2	9	7	6		
ı	9	4	8	7	1	6	5	2	3		
ı	2	6	7	9	3	5	8	1	4		
ı	6	8	4	3	9	1	2	5	7		
ı	7	5	9	2	6	4	3	8	1		
ı	3	2	1	5	7	8	6	4	9		

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## **OBITUARIES**

#### Evelyn Williams

NORTH CANAAN — Evelyn Williams, 93, for-

merly of Roxbury, Connecticut, died in her sleep early Sunday, May 7, 2023, at Geer Village Lodge. Evelyn was born Evelyn Virginia Atkinson on Sept. 13, 1929, in Haledon, New Jersey, the first

child of Edward and Evelyn Atkinson. She grew up in Hawthorne, New Jersey, where she often roller-skated to the deli for a dill pickle (5 cents) and, in high school, spent lunch times dancing non-stop to the music coming out of the juke box at the drug store soda fountain.

Evelyn graduated from New Jersey College for Women in New Brunswick, New Jersey, and married Frederick Picton, who graduated from Rutgers and went to work on Wall Street. They settled in Watchung, New Jersey, and had four children: James, Mark, David, and Glynis. The local minister said to the family later that when he visited Fred in the waiting room at the hospital while Evelyn was giving birth to their fourth child, Glynis, Fred said, "Jesus, Reverend, I hope this one is a girl, because my wife doesn't give up easily!" But Fred died young, at 43, leaving a 40-year-old widow with four children to raise. In 1972, Evelyn married Robert Williams, a manager at Bell Labs in Holmdel, New Jersey, bringing three more children to the family. The youngest, Andy, predeceased Bob. Lori lives in Phoenix, Arizona,

and Scott, the oldest, lives in Sheridan, Wyoming.

> When Bob retired, he and Evelyn built a home in Roxbury and started the Christmas tree farm they called Clover Knoll. The cutyour-own farm was open to the public, and every-

body in the extended family was employed there each year from Thanksgiving to Christmas, from the youngest to the oldest, which was Evelyn and Bob's real reason for operating the business. Evelyn also pursued her many other interests, among them making and wearing remarkable clothes, knitting whole couches as well as fine sweaters, acting in the local theater company, square and swing dancing with Bob, cooking, and drumming. After Bob died in 2002, Evelyn scaled back and concentrated on loving and caring for her growing family which, at the time of her death, included her four grown children, seven grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren, spread from Maine to Virginia and west to Alaska, as well as Bob's two grown children, one grandchild, and one great-grandchild.

A memorial celebration will be held Saturday, June 10 at 11:00 a.m. at the First Church on the green in Washington, CT. Memorial contributions may be made to the Housatonic Valley Association, PO Box 28, Cornwall Bridge, CT 06754 or online at hvatoday.org.

#### In Appreciation Ann Ritter Brown

I read of the passing of Ann Ritter Brown with regret. I worked at the Housatonic Daycare Center (and also later, when it became Housatonic Childcare Center) for twenty years. Many of those years were with Ann Brown as director. I remember her as loving her work. She loved interacting with the children and their parents and the staff. She was someone you could go to with a problem and she would help you solve it. She "retired" from the day care once, but willingly came back when another director left and her help was needed.

Many times during the day you could hear her sing out "Laaa Ahhh!" I believe it was her joy in life spilling out into song.

I remember Ann encouraging me as an artist and illustrator. She took interest in the life of everyone she met. She would sometimes bring her golden retriever to see the children and her husband, Dale, often stopped in to say hello. It was a warm and inviting environment.

Thank you Ann Brown. Your love of life was wonderful to see and helped many

- Robin Roraback

#### Turning guns into garden tools at a Salisbury garden on June 10

SALISBURY — On Saturday, June 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hewat Community Garden in Salisbury, guns will be be turned into garden tools and perhaps a bit of jewelry, too.

Bishop Jim Curry, retired bishop of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, is one of the founders of Swords to Plowshares program. He will bring his portable forge to the parking lot of the SVNA and Housatonic Day Care Center next to the Salisbury Family Services Hewat Community Garden for a demonstration of guns being forged into garden tools.

Community members will be invited to take a few swings at the anvil. There will be testimonials, and thoughtful conversation as well as refreshments and a presentation of a garden tool to the leadership of the Hewat Community Garden. Also,

books and jewelry available

contact Pastor Heidi Truax at Trinity Episcopal Church 860-435-2627 or rector@ trinitylimerock.org.

(518) 789-3462

there will be garden tools,

For more information A common necessity Far from an uncommon

Pine Plains library seeks voter support By Elias Sorich

PINE PLAINS — Come November, voters in Pine Plains are likely to see a question on the ballot asking them to increase the budget of the Pine Plains Free Li-

The library plans to ask for \$166,900 through a mechanism called a Chapter 414 initiative, after a chapter of education law passed in 1995 that allows libraries to pursue voter-directed funding.

This will create a special library tax and assure that the library will get a certain amount of funding each year that is not subject to increase or decrease by the town. And if the library needs to increase its budget again, it will have to run another Chapter 414 initiative to do so.

Currently the library receives a budget of \$99,500 from the town of Pine Plains which, after grants and fundraising, puts its total budget at \$148,000. That amount, according to both Alexis Tackett, director of the library, and Claire Gunning, president of the library's board of trustees, is inadequate to meet operating costs and community demand.

Already, the library is having to make use of funds set aside for emergencies, planned Americans With Disabilities Act-accessibility improvements, and community space upgrades to meet its operating costs.

For this year alone, Tackett shared the library had to use \$30,000 of that money to keep afloat.

Unless the library is able to secure an increase in funding, Tackett and Gunning indicated that it will have to undergo drastic changes to its hours, offerings, staff and programming in as little as three years. What that would look like, according to Tackett, is a reduction to 20 hours per week, becoming a single-staff library, and a slashing of programming.

These changes would result in the library's failure to meet the New York state minimum standard, as well as the loss of its connection to the Mid-Hudson Library Association, both of which grant the library access to resources, databases and other amenities.

In the current phase of its initiative, the Pine Plains Free Library is collecting signatures of support, which must total at least 108 in order to make it to the ballot. To Gunning, at this stage, supporting the initiative is primarily about supporting the democratic process.

"Signing this does not guarantee you're voting yes, it's just saying that we get to vote on the question," said Gunning.

step, according to Rebekka Smith-Aldrich, executive director of the Mid-Hudson

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From left: Library director Alexis Tackett, intern Hannah Johnson, and library assistant Annie Mallozzi at the Pine **Plains Free Library.** 

Library System, over half of the libraries in the Mid-Hudson system use the Chapter 414 mechanism to get their funding.

"I really worry about the libraries that don't have voter directed funding," said Smith-Aldrich. "We really see that the libraries that don't have [it], they just fall behind every single year."

The Pine Plains Free Library is one of only two libraries out of 26 in Dutchess County that do not have voter-directed funding. And though the library is not permitted to spend any money in pursuit of the initiative, putting its budget to a public vote represents a significant commitment of time and energy on the part of the all-volunteer board, and other volunteer groups like the Friends of the Pine Plains Library.

#### Regional success stories

The Clinton Community Library in Rhinecliff is close to Pine Plains in terms of its size and demographics, and in 2017 and 2022, it pursued voter-directed funding initiatives to roaring success. According to Carol Bancroft, director of the Clinton Community Library, those efforts were "a lot of work for the board and staff" but deeply necessary, as the library had previously gotten its funding through a "patchwork quilt' of grants, town funding and fundraising.

Receiving \$115,000 in 2017 and \$149,800 in 2022 through voter-directed funding, the Clinton Library was able to ramp up its programming, build support and goodwill in the community, and solidify its role as a gathering space for the town.

Though the town of Pine Plains increased the library's budget in 2017, 2019 and 2022, the increases were relatively small (from \$96,550 in 2021 to \$99,500 in 2022) and in the intervening time, the Pine Plains Free Library has seen a dramatic uptick in usage.

If that alone weren't enough, the rising cost of inflation, wages and price-gouging from publishers on digital assets have all contributed mightily to the Pine Plains Free Library's funding insecurity.

While the voter-directed budget increase is directed largely at stabilizing the library's funding sources, Tackett also indicated that the amount that's being asked for is intended to increase the library's offerings to meet community demand.

"If it passes, what people will see is the increase in hours that they've been asking for, they'll see an increase in materials that they've been asking for, both digitally and physical, and they'll see more programs and services offered," said Tackett.

By way of hours, Tackett's hope is to increase from 32 hours per week to 40 and to keep the library open on Mondays, bringing its open days to six per week.

The Pine Plains Free Library provides a wide slate of programming, from story hours for children to tech assistance and tech literacy training, and any of the other 300-plus programs offered annually.

When those programs exist, Gunning stated, people come together and communities remain connected.



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"Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors Pastor Joy Veronesi Lake villemethod ist@snet.net

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#### **Unitarian Fellowship** of NW CT Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons

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# Pilot program to reduce, divert waste stream flow

By Leila Hawken

KENT — Historically, municipal waste went directly to local landfills, but since 1996 when landfill operations were closed, towns moved to trucking their waste, first to in-state trash-to-energy plants, and more recently trucking out of state to disposal sites. The latter is seen as costly, undesirable and unsustainable.

Through the efforts of the Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority (HRRA), the town of Kent has received a \$55,000 grant to participate in a pilot Sustainable Materials Management (SSM) program that will divert a portion of the waste stream and convert it to useful products.

During a public information session on Friday, May 12, state and HTTA officials reviewed the need for the program and details of the implementation of the voluntary pilot program in Kent.

"Connecticut is facing a waste disposal crisis," said State Department of Energy and Environment commissioner Katie Dykes, introducing the program. She noted that costs for municipal waste disposal have doubled

Dykes estimated that 20% of a town's waste is made up of residential food scraps that could be converted to energy, animal feed or compost.

over the past ten years.

Dykes estimated that 20% of a town's waste is made up of residential food scraps that could be converted to energy, animal feed or compost, but the question is how to get scraps from the dining table to the collection or processing points.

Dykes reported that Kent is one of the four towns selected for the pilot waste diversion program, from among the 45 towns that applied. She praised state Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) for her efforts on behalf of Kent and the program.

"What you're doing really matters," Dykes said.

Describing the details of the pilot SSM program, Jennifer Heaton-Jones, HRRA Executive Director, explained that the trash to energy plants in Hartford and Wallingford are now closed. She estimated that 142,000 tons of municipal waste are collected within the HRRA region annually. Paper and food waste make up 45% of that tonnage.

Kent residents currently pay an annual fee of \$150 (\$130 for seniors) to allow them to discard as much as they want, Heaton-Jones said. The one-year voluntary pilot program would introduce a system of "pay as you throw," where residents would only pay for the amount they discard. A further incentive would be a food scrap collection system to remove that element from

Under the new pilot program, Heaton-Jones said, the tonnage could be expected to drop by half, a significant saving to the town in waste trucking fees, and participating residents would gain free compost in the process.

the charge.

Participants in the voluntary program would pay a lower annual fee for trash disposal. Each household would receive organic collection bags for food scraps, a one-and-a-half gallon bin for the kitchen and a six-gallon ECO-caddy container with a lock-lid and handle for transporting to the collection site. Acceptable food waste for the program would include flowers and vegetable matter, houseplants, bones and meats, fish and shellfish, breads, plate scrapings, and more.

A private hauler would pick up the waste from the collection site and transport

Acceptable food waste it to New Milford Farms, a private enterprise that makes compost mulch.

At the end of the pilot program, participants will receive free garden compost.

"We are looking to reduce waste and help the town to save money," said Heaton-Jones.

The recent informational session about the pilot program was the first in a series. Heaton-Jones' next session will be offered in person at the Town Hall and by Zoom on Tuesday, June 13, beginning at 6 p.m. The topic will be "How to Reduce Waste and Recycle Correctly."



#### New health care center takes shape

Construction is under way for a Community Health and Wellness Center on East Main Street in North Canaan. The center is a Federally Qualified Health Center intended to provide care to an underserved area or population.





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







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# North Canaan eyes public access site to Housatonic

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN -An effort is underway to treat Ruggles Landing in similar fashion to Beckley Furnace, with the state and town sharing responsibility for the site and a volunteer group to oversee it.

The Douglas Library hosted a meeting of concerned citizens over the fate of Ruggle's Landing on Tuesday, May 23. The former Masonic building on Route 44 along the Housatonic River has fallen into disrepair, but those in attendance at the library saw a bright future for the location.

Ruggle's Landing could offer public access to the Housatonic River in North Canaan, but in order to achieve that there are some bureaucratic hurdles. Planning and Zoning Board Chairman Tim Abbott led the discussion and explained the current state of the site at the May 23 meeting.

"This property was purchased at the end of 2021," said Abbott. "It's state-owned and has been unused from that point. The conversations about 'how do we make it an amenity that we all can be proud of?' preceded that closing, and have continued."

The State of Connecticut is unable to maintain the site as a point of public access to the river. In discussions with the state, Abbott said they would like to see the town provide upkeep for the



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

The site of what may soon become Ruggle's Landing along Route 44 in Canaan.

property if it were open to the public.

"It's not near other staffed state areas. The closing of gates, mowing of lawns, monitoring of use and dealing of garbage is not something that the state felt they had the capacity to handle right now," said Abbott. "They proposed near the end of the transaction that it really be a partnership with the town."

North Canaan's Board

of Selectmen has expressed support of the site being used as public access to the river, but they do not want the town to take on liability and responsibility for the property.

"Which leaves us with the model that Beckley Furnace enjoys," said Abbott.

Beckley Furnace is a Connecticut state park and industrial monument that is maintained by a non-profit known as the Friends of Beckley Furnace. This group is responsible for upkeep of the site along the Blackberry River under a similar arrangement to what has been proposed at Ruggle's Landing.

"The state wants to enter into a contract with the town because municipalities are durable. But it is very excited for the town to assign that contract, and the negotiations around it, and the agreements within it, to an entity that's qualified to do that work," said Abbott.

In order to achieve this goal, a non-profit organization must be created for the friends group.

"We need five people who are willing to be the incorporating board," said Abbott.

Once a non-profit is formed, discussions about preparing the property for public use can begin with the state. A follow-up meeting was planned for Tuesday, June 13 in Douglas Library at 6 p.m. to move forward with the process.

PHOTO BY DARRYL GANGLOFF

#### Color Run benefits HYSB

On Sunday, May 21, Hotchkiss and Salisbury School students collaborated on a Color Run to benefit the Housatonic Youth Service Bureau. Student volunteers showered runners with color throughout the course, culminating with a swim and barbecue at Lake Wononscopomuc.

#### Canaan Fire District budget approved

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — The Canaan Fire District (CFD) presented its spending proposal for 2023-24 at the annual budget meeting on Tuesday, May 16. Qualified residents in attendance of the meeting at Town Hall voted unanimously to approve the new budget 19-0.

Warden Anthony Nania

and Emily Minacci provided a detailed overview of the budget and showed an overall decrease compared to last year's total spending. The bottom line of the 2023-24 budget came to \$944,382, down \$33,321 (-3.4%) from a total of \$977,703 spent in 2022-23.

The new budget contained a 4% salary hike for CFD employees to match the raise given to town employees in

North Canaan for the coming fiscal year. CFD's new budget did not propose any change in the mil rate or sewer user charge.

A notable decrease in the 2023-24 budget was a reduction in bond debt due to CFD having paid off a long-term

The newly approved budget is set to go into effect on July 1, 2023.

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# **Sports**



**Berkshire League** 

# Dodge wins gold in heptathlon

By Riley Klein

FALLS VILLAGE Housatonic Valley Regional High School sophomore Mia Dodge placed first overall in the Berkshire League Festival girls heptathlon. The twoday event began in Thomaston on Tuesday, May 23 and concluded at HVRHS on Wednesday, May 24.

The heptathlon was composed of seven events: the 100-meter hurdles, high jump, shot put, and 200-meter race took place on day one while the long jump, javelin, and 800-meter race were held at HVRHS.

As the athletes entered day two of the event, Dodge led the pack with a total score of 1786. Olivia Blasko of Thomaston High School was right behind her with 1767 points and Lily Copley of Northwestern High School held third at 1703.

Action on the HVRHS track and field got underway with the long jump. Dodge leaped farther than the competition with a distance of 4.47 meters. Copley followed her in second at 4.30 meters and Blasko placed third with a jump of 4.12 meters.

Javelin was won by Carley Bannerman of Northwestern with a throw of 31.96 meters. Haley Bethen of Thomaston took second in the event with a distance of 20.43 meters and Dodge placed third, throwing 20.04 meters in her first ever attempt at

The 800-meter foot race was won by Blasko with a time of 2:31.8 minutes. Dodge finished in second at 2:40.8 minutes and Copley placed third at 2:55.0 minutes.

Left, Dodgeleaped 4.47-meters in the long jump on her path to winning gold in the heptathlon. Below, Dodge finished the 800-meter race in 2:40.8.

After the final scores were tallied, Dodge was awarded the gold medal, having won the overall event with 3061 points. Blasko placed second at 3044 points and Copley took third with 2735 points.

The two-day Berkshire League festival also featured the boys decathlon. The boys completed the 100-meter dash, long jump, shot put, high jump, and 400-meter

After day one, Evan Bryant of Litchfield High School was the leader with 2695 points. Jebediah Leach of Gilbert High School held second at 2307 points and Patrick Money of HVRHS was in third with 2289

race in Thomaston on May

vault.

points. The boys competed in the 110-meter hurdles, discus, pole vault, javelin, and 1500-meter race at HVRHS on May 24.

Leach won the hurdles in 17.1 seconds, followed by Bryant at 18.9 second and Money at 20.1 seconds.

In discus, Isaac Sobek of Litchfield threw the farthest with a distance of 27.69 meters. Marc Hafner of HVRHS took second at 21.79 meters and Maddox Lahey of Thomaston placed third at 21.03

HVRHS' Marc Hafner placed third in pole

Sobek won the pole vault as well after clearing 9'6" while Bryant placed second at 8' and Hafner took third with 7'6".

The javelin was won by Lahey with a distance of 30.87 meters. Sobek's throw of 28.58 meters earned him second place in the event and Ethan Perez of Nonnewaug took third at 27.5 meters.

The decathlon concluded with the 1500-meter race. which was won by Lahey in 4:45.6 minutes. Perez took second in 4:49.1 minutes and Bryant placed third with a time of 4:49.6.

Bryant was named the winner of the Berkshire Festival decathlon after finishing with a score of 4485. Lahey's day two performance propelled him from fifth up to second place with 3728 points. Money held on to third and earned bronze for HVRHS with a score of 3717.

# Mustangs vs. Camaros at Lime Rock Park

By Lans Christensen

LAKEVILLE — The Trans Am Memorial Day Classic, first of Lime Rock's major racing weekends, took place May 26-29. The first Trans Am at Lime Rock was held in 1967, and has been a fan favorite ever since.

As in those early races, the battle is still between Ford Mustangs, and Chevy Camaros. Legendary drivers like Mark Donohue, Peter Revson, and Lime Rock's own, Sam Posey, were all winners during those first



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

The classic battle: Mustangs and Camaros in the Trans Am Memorial Day Classic.

As well as the premier TA event, this years racing included classes for Inter-

national GT cars, predominantly Porsches and Ferraris, and several groups of Sports Vintage racers from the early 1970s and 1980s. The weather was perfect

and the crowds on the hill

Coach Guillermo Rincón

the team has been commend-

able. I am very proud of all

of them."

"It is always very satis-

# Hotchkiss defeats IMS in tennis finale

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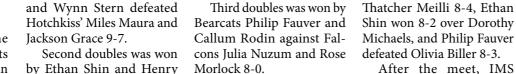
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By Riley Klein

LAKEVILLE — The Hotchkiss School Bearcats hosted the Indian Mountain School Falcons for the final tennis meet of the season on May 24. The Bearcats' boys JV team defeated the IMS co-ed varsity team by a score of 6-1 on the Hotchkiss courts.

"We get to play our rival from down the road to end the season," said Hotchkiss coach David Werner.

Each team put forth six singles players in the meet along with three doubles teams. Singles matches were determined by the first player to win two-out-of-three sets of six games, while doubles matches were awarded to the first team to win eight games in a single set.

In the top ranked singles match, Hotchkiss' Jared Hurst defeated IMS' Max Blumenthal 6-0, 6-1.

In second singles, Philip Lee of Hotchkiss won 6-3, 7-5 over Russell Fan of IMS.

In third singles, Julian Brown of Hotchkiss defeated Tate Collins of IMS 6-0, 6-0.

In fourth singles, Charlie Winter of IMS won 6-4, 6-1 Hotchkiss' Hayden Scott.

In fifth singles, Nick Chang of Hotchkss beat Charlie Nogaki of IMS 6-0,

In sixth singles, Harrison Hoffman of Hotchkiss won 6-1, 6-0 over Letitia Liuof

In the top ranked doubles match, IMS' Jayden Li by Ethan Shin and Henry Shattuck of Hotchkiss, who defeated Clarisse Moucha and Julia Van Den Braak of IMS 8-4.

Morlock 8-0.

Three singles exhibition matches were played as well. Hotchkiss won all three as

reflected on the 2023 season. Jackson Grace defeated fying as a coach to see how much these kids can grow their tennis in only two months!" he said in a statement. "Their commitment to



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Ethan Shin and Henry Shattuck shook hands with Clarisse Moucha and Julia Van Den Braak after Hotchkiss' second doubles team won the match against rival IMS.



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# Memorial Day



The Salisbury Band played the National Anthem as a breeze caused the flags to fly at the cemetery.



It took a team effort to raise the flag on Memorial Day.

### A traditional observance honors sacrifices of fallen

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — As they have done for generations, townspeople gathered on either side of Main Street to view the Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 29, and then move on to the Veterans' Memorial by the clock tower for wreath-laying, rifle salute, prayers, patriotic music, and speeches.

Under perfectly sunny skies and a refreshing breeze, the parade brought out polished emergency vehicles, and cars, both antique and classic, honor guard, veterans, a contingent from the Sharon Center School, decorated bicycles, a motorcycle, tractors, and more. All were cheered by onlookers some of whom waved small flags with enthusiasm.

At the Veterans' Memorial, prayers were offered by the Rev. Sun Yong Lee of Sharon's United Methodist Church.

"We gather to remember the sacrifices made by those who served our country to defend our freedom," said Lee.

Guiding the ceremony was Bob Loucks, Commander of American Legion Post #126.

Marine Sergeant Tate Begley, with a long family history of service spanning four generations, gave the address, noting that less than 3% of Americans have served in the military.

"Our nation will always need heroes," Begley said, speaking of the names engraved on the Veterans' Memorial. "Because of these fallen heroes, we have a today and tomorrow."

"Guide us and make us worthy of the sacrifices of the fallen," Lee said in her closing



By Patrick L. Sullivan

TOWN — The Salisbury Memorial Day parade kicked off promptly at 10 a.m. under clear blue skies.

As the band struck up and flashing lights and the occasional whoop of a siren began on Main Street by the Scoville Memorial Library, down at the intersection of Main Street and Undermountain Road, emergency personnel issued last-second parade avoidance directions to unwary motorists.

The parade included the Salisbury Band, Salisbury Central School band (as one unit), the Redhawks hockey team, the Rotary Club, the Lakeville Hose Company, the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service, and Salisbury's veterans, most in uniform.

At the cemetery, Rev. John Nelson of the Salisbury Congregational Church gave the invocation.

"May those who committed their lives to neighbor and country live in our memory, and their best dreams join with ours, to build harmony and grace on

Michael Anthony Parris recited the Gettysburg Address, and David Bayersdorfer read the "Roll of Honored Dead."

Rev. Heidi Truax of Trinity Lime Rock Episcopal Church provided the benediction included "Grant us the wisdom and strength to carry forward the lessons of remembrance, so that the sacrifice of the past may serve as a beacon of hope for future generations."

The parade then reassembled itself and retraced itself. Many in the crowd following along stopped for an ice cream sandwich on the Green by the White Hart, where the Salisbury Visiting Nurses Assocation was handing out the treats as fast as they could open the boxes.

#### Citizen awards at Falls Village celebration



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

Children watch the proceedings on Memorial Day in Falls Village.

By Alexander Wilburn

FALLS VILLAGE — Several awards were presented on Monday, May 29, at The Memorial Day ceremony held on the town green in Falls Village. At a gathering led by First Selectman Henry Todd, five individuals were recognized for their contributions to the town.

Volunteer of The Year Award was awarded to Timothy and Andrea Downs, for their continued participation in the AFS Intercultural Program, which places international high school students with a United States host family for a semester. The Downs have hosted since 2010, with a total number of 29 international students staying with them in their Falls Village home.

Awards were also presented to two Falls Village residents who will be retiring in 2023 after many years of service at Falls Village's Town Hall. Hazel McGuire served as assessor for 18 years. Linda Paviol began as Fall Village's tax collector in 1995. In 1997 she was appointed town treasurer, a position in which she has remained until her retirement this November.

Finally, Todd acknowledged Emergency Medical Technician Michelle Hansen for her leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. She was given the Community Service Award. "Through hurricanes and tornadoes, through accidents and emergencies, she has kept a clear head to bring the town through," said Todd.

### Honor veterans every day, not just at holiday

By Ollie Gratzinger

KENT — With summerlike weather and sparkling skies, Kent's Memorial Day Parade kicked off at Kent Center School at 9:30 a.m., featuring wreath laying ceremonies, prayers from

local clergy, music from the Center School's marching band and more to honor those who died in the line of duty.

Antique vehicles and trucks from the Kent Volunteer Fire Department donned American flags as they took their place in the lineup, along with Boy Scouts from local troops and members of the Kent Lions Club.

From the school, the procession made its way down Main Street, with stops at St. Andrews' Cemetery, the Veterans Memorial and Kent Memorial Library before concluding at the cemetery of the Congregational church. The march was led by local veterans, who at each stop performed a gun salute. Empty shell casings were doled out as a prize to children cheering on the side of the road.

At the library, the parade paused to hear remarks from Jean Speck, Kent's first selectman.

"Today's a remarkable day — a day for honoring those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country to ensure our freedom every day," she said.

After the parade, the town was invited to a picnic at the Kent Land Trust field.



One of many rifle salutes during the Memorial Day Parade in Kent.

# Cornwal

PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Children cavort after the solemn ceremony.

#### Cornwall marks Memorial Day in several locations

By Lans Christensen

CORNWALL - Cornwall's Memorial Day celebration began with a commemorative service at the North Cornwall Cemetery. From there it went to the covered bridge for the Seaman's memorial service.

The final parade and ceremonies then took place at the Town Green in

Cornwall Village. First Selectman Gordon Ridgway welcomed the crowd, and the address was presented by Lieutenant Colonel Aulay Carlson. His words reflected the spirit of the day, and all Memorial Days: "Remember those who did not come home."

A carnival followed at the United Church of Christ on Bolton Hill



Army Colonel Kirk Harrington led North Canaan's Memorial Day ceremony at the Doughboy statue. He thanked Korean War veterans Nicholas Gandolfo, seated left, and Ray Baldissari, seated right, for their service, and recognized 110-year-old Millie Johnson, seated middle. (See story about Johnson, page A3.)

#### North Canaan remembers those who gave their lives

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN Veterans, service members, and residents of North Canaan breathed life into history as they celebrated Memorial Day. Festivities began with a parade that departed from Town Hall on Pease Street around 10:30 a.m.

The parade featured North Canaan's finest including veterans, fire fighters, emergency medical responders, Boy Scouts, the North Canaan Elementary School band, and Little League baseball players.

After marching through town, the parade culminated at the Doughboy statue on the corner of Main Street and Granite Avenue. Hundreds gathered at the statue to pay respect to those who gave their lives in service to the nation.

"We gather here today to honor those brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We are here to honor the true heroes and to remember their achievements, their courage, and their dedication," said First Selectman Charles Perotti.

#### **Guns**

**Continued from Page A1** 

jority striking down a New York law that restricted carrying firearms, inviting other challenges to gun control. And red-state legislatures have repealed requirements for permits to purchase guns.

"In Connecticut, we're not doing that," said Rep. Steve Stafstrom, D-Bridgeport, who negotiated the final draft of the bill as co-chair of the Judiciary Committee. "We're gonna continue to lead in order to continue to make our state safer by tightening up our gun laws."

Passage came on a largely party-line vote in a House where Democrats hold a 98-53 advantage over Republicans. Seven Republicans voted for passage; five Democrats were opposed and four were absent. Democrats control the Senate, 24-12.

House Bill 6667, An Act Addressing Gun Violence, is the most comprehensive piece of gun legislation taken up in the past decade in Connecticut, a state with a storied history in the manufacture and marketing of firearms, including Colt's bringing the AR-15 to a civilian market decades ago.

Among other things, the bill would regulate the sale of body armor to civilians, limit the sale of handguns to three in any one month, increase training requirements for gun permit holders, and raise the minimum age to purchase a semiautomatic rifle from 18 to 21, the same threshold as handguns.

The AR-15, a semiautomatic version of the M-16 rifle carried by U.S. forces in Vietnam, is both popular and despised. The NRA once dubbed it "America's Rifle," but it also has become synonymous with mass shootings in schools, including Sandy Hook in 2012 and Uvalde, Texas, a year ago.

"Too often we see that when somebody goes in and shoots a school around the country, what are the two common things they have? They have an AR-15 and wearing body armor," Stafstrom said.

Republicans lined up in opposition, complaining it was too focused on law-abiding gun owners and the mass shootings that generate headlines and not enough on more commonplace gun

crimes: Street shootings with illegal handguns, often involving shooters and victims with criminal backgrounds.

"An Act Addressing Gun Violence, it's a joke. That is a joke of a name," said Rep. Doug Dubitsky, R-Chaplin. "This bill does not address gun violence. This bill should be called an act attacking law

abiding citizens' right to pos-

sess firearms." The Democratic mayors of Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury — the cities where the chief state's attorney says 80% of the reported gun violence occurs successfully lobbied for provisions that require more stringent bail conditions on defendants defined as a "serious firearms offender."

With universal background checks to purchase firearms and a risk-warrant law allowing the seizure of firearms from people deemed a threat to themselves or others, Connecticut's gun safety laws already were ranked among the strongest in the

FBI statistics on violent crime consistently show Connecticut among the safest states, but shootings in Bridgeport, Hartford, New Haven and Waterbury have spiked, often involving a small cohort of shooters and victims who are young and have criminal records.

Dubitsky noted that the police chief of New Haven had testified that about 90 people were responsible for most gun crimes.

"They said that in a city like New Haven with 135,000 people there are about 90

House Bill 6667, An Act Addressing Gun Violence, is the most comprehensive piece of gun legislation taken up in the past decade in Connecticut

> people who engage in all of the major violent crimes — 90 people out of 135,000. We know who those people are. We have their names. We have their photographs. We have their fingerprints. We know where they live," Dubitsky said. "This bill is not directed at them. It's directed at the people who don't commit crimes."

Rep. Craig Fishbein, R-Wallingford, the ranking House Republican on Judiciary, contributed to the bill's final form. He suggested the inclusion of provisions sought by gun owners, such as a safety valve for gun permit seekers whose applications sit too long after the state-mandated time limit of eight weeks for action.

Obtaining a gun permit requires passing a criminal background check, a suitability review by local police and a final review by state police. Under the bill, the state police would be free to issue a permit if the local authorities fail to act within 16 weeks.

Fishbein, a gun owner, praised the criminal justice changes sought by the mayors. But ultimately he voted against the bill as too focused on restricting gun sales as opposed to enforcing criminal gun laws.

"This state and legislature is in a seemingly perpetual cycle of blaming the law abiding while ignoring the law breaker," Fishbein said. "Ninety per cent of this legislation impacts legal gun

owners and does nothing to reduce the gun violence it was purported to address."

Other Republicans said they were torn, finding much to applaud and to oppose.

"I hate that I'm struggling with this bill," said Rep. Irene Haines, R-East Haddam.

She voted no.

Watching from the gallery were members of Connecticut Against Gun Violence and Moms Demand Action, two gun control groups.

"We applaud the House for recognizing the multi-faceted approach needed to address gun violence in our state by passing this comprehensive gun safety package," said Joanna Taczanowsky, a volunteer with Moms Demand Action. "Passing this bill is crucial to keeping Connecticut a national leader in the gun safety movement and ensuring the safety and well-being of Connecticuters across the state."

The Journal occasionally will offer articles from CTMirror.org, a source of nonprofit journalism and a partner with The Lakeville Journal.

#### TRAFFIC

Continued from Page A1

zones, defined pedestrian safety zones and other locations chosen by local officials and approved by the Office of State Traffic Administration. Speeders would have to be going at least 10 miles per hour over the limit to get an automated ticket.

"This is a hard choice we need to make," said Lemar, co-chair of the Transportation Committee. "There needs to be new behavioral norms in Connecticut. What we've seen on our roadways, frankly, is shocking."

Rep. Kathy Kennedy of Milford, the ranking House Republican on Transportation, said 90 people were killed on the roads in the first four-plus months of 2023.

"It's really scary," Kennedy said, describing accidents and reckless driving she's witnessed on her commute to Hartford. "I don't know that this bill will stop this. But we have to start somewhere."

Acknowledging that the use of cameras to enforce traffic laws is controversial, Lemar said the bill includes safeguards against abuse. Camera locations would be subject to approval by local legislative bodies every three years.

Automated enforcement zones must be clearly marked, and fines would be capped at \$50 for a first offense and \$75 for a second offense regardless of a violator's recorded speed. The revenue would go to municipalities and must be used for traffic-related expenses.

Violations would be handled more like a parking ticket than an infraction issued by a police officer. No points would be assessed to a driver's license.

But opponents objected to the automation of law enforcement, the prospect of giving municipalities a profit incentive to give tickets, and the potential of discriminatory enforcement.

Despite Lemar's protestations to the contrary, Rep. Craig Fishbein, R-Wallingford, said the bill was written to give discretion for issuing infractions. He noted that a municipal official after reviewing a recorded violation "may" issue a ticket.

"Ît's discretionary whether or not that ticket is issued," Fishbein said. "So we are opening the door to disparate treatment."

Fishbein offered an amendment that would have struck the sections allowing enforcement by automated

"I think this is a bridge too far at this point, given the significant due process concerns," Fishbein said.

Rep. Tom Delnicki, R-South Windsor, said Chicago has raised \$1 billion over 10 years from its camera enforcement.

"That's an amazing number," Delnicki said.

Lemar said Chicago had a fine structure far more onerous that the limits of \$50 for a first offense and \$75 for a second offense in the Connecticut bill.

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Send news tips to johnc@lakevillejournal.com

#### CJR

Continued from Page A1

Connecticut's eight counties and through school-based services currently provided in 21 schools in Litchfield, Hartford and New Haven Counties.

According to Hedy Barton, CJR's director of development, The Wellness Center is CJR's fastest- growing program, with clinics in Torrington, Litchfield, Danbury, New Britain and Waterbury.

CJR, which also operates a residential group home in Winsted, provides behavioral health services in a growing number of elementary, middle and high schools by special arrangement.

In its most recently completed fiscal year, said Barton, the Wellness Center served 860 young people and families, an increase of 33% over the prior year, including clients from Salisbury, North Canaan, Cornwall, Norfolk and Goshen.

"Seventy percent of those children and families were from Litchfield County," she said. "Every single year since we opened the program in 2015, the need has gone up, heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic. The prediction was that the need for mental health services was going to be the next pandemic."

"The prediction was that the need for mental health services was going to be the next pandemic."

Hedy Barton, CJR development director

CJR officials noted that the rebranding represents a commitment by the organization to continue to build on treatment, education, and support programs for children, young people and families while remaining true to the values that have guided the organization since 1904.

"CJR's continuum of care has never been more comprehensive, accessible, or needed than it is today," said Dan Rezende, the organization's president and CEO, in making the announcement.

"We are incredibly excited to roll out a new brand designed to better connect us with those we serve and support in deeper and more meaningful ways during Mental Health Awareness Month."

"The beneficiaries of these funds will include young people and families who are among the most vulnerable and at-risk in Connecticut and who would benefit from the educational and therapeutic opportunities afforded by agricultural education," according to the request.

The agency's 16 campus and office locations throughout Connecticut serve more than 1,700 individuals and families annually with residential, education, community, and wellness services.

Rick Judd, chairman of CJR's board of directors, said his agency's brand refresh process involved many of CJR's key constituencies, "enabling us to capture and convey CJR's voice today with greater impact."

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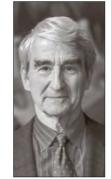
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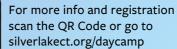
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# COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

**BOOKS: ALEXANDER WILBURN** 

# When JMB Met JMB

hese days the work of Jean-Michel Basquiat is so prevalent -Basquiat-branded phone cases, skateboards, BE@RBRICK collectible toys, even t-shirts at Abercrombie & Fitch — it's hard to imagine a time, before his estate decided to sell-out and cash-in, that the gay Black young man was an artist who spoke for those on the outside. Before dying of a heroin overdose at the age of 27 in 1988, the Brooklyn-born son of a Haitian father and a Puerto Rican mother began his career as a graffiti artist and by 22 was one of the youngest to exhibit at The Whitney Biennial in New York. The

visual appeal of his erratic, chaotic acrylics often bellied their biting commentary on racial politics and class warfare, notably in his work "Irony of Negro Policeman."

In "JMB," a beautiful new limited edition book by Kent, Conn., based photographer Jeanette Montgomery Barron, whose famed portraits of New York City's art world have transfixed us with their moody mystery, Barron collects her intimate sittings of Basquiat through the 1980s. She will discuss "JMB" at House of Books in Kent on Saturday, June 3, at 6 p.m. For more go to www.houseofbooksct.com



Jean-Michel Basquiat and Andy Warhol by Jeanette Montgomery Barron

#### **BOOKS: MAUD DOYLE**

# The New York Men Who Made The City Modern

The Haystack Book Festival, a program from the Norfolk Foundation in Norfolk, Conn., will inaugurate its fifth year with a series of events around the theme "New York Stories." Punctuating the

summer months from June 4 to Aug. 5, the festival's four read-

ings, performances, and conversations will tell the story of how modernism infiltrated and

cross-pollinated dance, poetry, music, photography, and painting in New York between the mid-1940s and the mid-'60s.

The line-up will include discussions of the work of photographer George Platt Lynes, who worked with Lincoln Kirstein and George Balanchine, co-founders of the New York City Ballet, a reading of the epic autobiographical poem "I Remember" by Joe Brainard, and a discussion of the influence of music on the work of poet John Ashberry, followed by a performance by Melvin Chen, director of the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival.



Moviehouse

While the more established September Haystack Book Festival is known as a more traditional literary conference, in which a committee pursues books and writers for a weekend of literary edification,

the festival's co-directors, Steve Melville and Michael Selleck, conceived of the summer festival as a way of integrating Norfolk's historic ethos as a home to the arts into its biannual

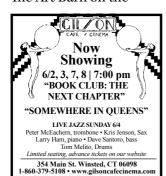
celebration of literature.

I Remember

GRANARY BOOKS

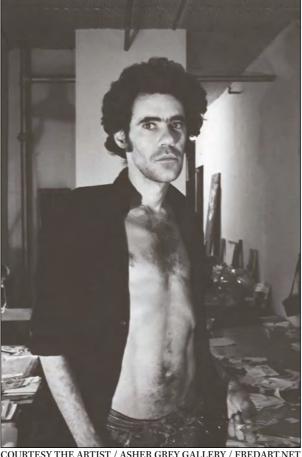
This festival's four events will be held in conjunction with the celebrated local arts institutions based at the Ellen Battell Stoeckel Estate in Norfolk — in June, the Yale Summer School of Art; in July, the Yale Summer School of Music and the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival; in August, the Yale Poetry Center — to explore a range of different art forms through the lens of contemporary literature.

The festival will begin on Sunday, June 4 at The Art Barn on the



SHOWTIMES & TICKETS





Joe Brainard, 1975 by Frederick Fulmer

Stoeckel Estate, with a participatory reading of "I Remember," Brainard's book-length autobiographical poem. Brainard, who died of AIDS complications in 1994, is better known for his work as a visual artist of the New York School, working primarily in painting and drawing, collage, and  $assemblage -- a \ style \ that$ is echoed in "I Remem-

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ber," a series of memory fragments brought into

harmony by the titular refrain.

On Friday, June 23, also at The Art Barn, will be a conversation between artist and writer Jarrett Earnest,

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS the author of "The Young and Evil: Queer Modernism in New York, 1930-1955," and Allen Ellenzweig, author of "George Platt Lynes: The Daring Eye," the first complete biography of George Platt Lynes. Inspired in part by this year's theme at the Yale Summer School of Art, "Freedom of Form," Earnest and Ellenzweig will look beyond Platt Lynes's more established role as a portraitist and fashion photographer to explore his work as the principal photographer of Balanchine's dancers as well as his pioneering engagement with the male nude, to locate the his place in the development of American Modernism.

Timed with the opening events of the Norfolk

Music Festival, "John Ashberry's Playlist" Sunday, July 9, at The Norfolk Library,

will explore Ashberry's poetry and the soundscape in

which he wrote it. "I have always felt that my ideas came out of music," Ashberry has said. "I listen to music all the time, especially when I am writing." A discussion between Karin Roffman, author of "The Songs We Know Best: John Ashberry's Early Life," and Melvin Chen, Deputy Dean at the Yale School of Music and director of the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival (Chen also happens to be Roffman's husband), will be followed by a performance, by Chen, of some of the music that inspired Ashberry's work.

The festival will close

Continued on next page





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#### ACTIVISM: ALEXANDER WILBURN

#### Waterston champions ocean conservation

n 2016 an annual review from the Australian Institute of Marine Science read, "A decade ago, the general narrative was that coral reefs face an uncertain future under climate change. Now, as evidence from observational and experimental research is mounting, providing more signal to the noise, the narrative focuses increasingly on the consequences for society..."

Climate change has had a profound impact on ocean life, from rising sea temperatures to the loss of vital aquatic habitats. Founded in 2001, Oceana, an ocean conservation nonprofit led by actor Ted Danson, has lobbied for marine preservation, particularly in regard to halting overfishing, offshore drilling and wind farms. On Friday, June 2, The Salisbury Forum will welcome Academy Award-nominated actor and Chair of the Board of Oceana Sam Waterston to Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village, Conn., to discuss the organization's conservation efforts to save our oceans.

During a phone interview from his home in Litchfield County, Conn., Waterston remarked that he grew up in New England believing the ocean was an endless expanse that would limitlessly provide. "Then I was reading the newspaper on the beach in Rhode Island in the '70s and learned the cod fish industry had collapsed. It

#### ...Modern Continued from B1

on Saturday, Aug. 5, with "Modernism and Tradition: The Foundations of American Art and Culture," a conversation between Jennifer Homans, author of the Pulitzer-finalist "Mr. B," a biography of George Balanchine, and Hugh Eakin, author of "Picasso's War: How Modern Art Came to America."

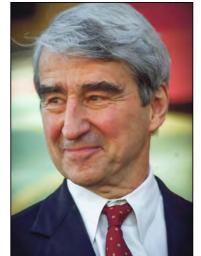


PHOTO BY ANGELA GEORGE

was simply unbelievable, impossible..." he said. "The sea was not inexhaustible. I became more at more aware of how the environment was suffering because of our treatment, and carried this fear for Earth with me, and didn't know what to do with it."

Waterston's talk is ahead of International World Ocean Day on June 8. Since its official recognition by the United Nations in 2008 the annual event has had a theme, with 2023's announced as "Planet Ocean: Tides Are Changing." Streaming live with presentations by UN representatives and celebrities, we can only hope they tell us the change is for the better.

# Opening at The Berkshire International Film Festival

he 17th Annual Berkshire International Film Festival, held over four days in Great Barrington and Lenox, Mass., beginning June 1, will showcase two notable documentaries about pioneering female voices whose resonant and sincere work has

marked them as masters of American storytelling — the folk-singing duo The Indigo Girls and author Joyce Carol Oates.

Coming off its premiere at this year's Sundance Film Festival, "It's Only Life After All" directed by Alexandria Bombach recognizes the groundbreaking career of Amy Ray and Emily Saliers, the platinum-selling lesbian icons of confessional rock. With lyrics peppered with references to Galileo Galilei, Grigori Rasputin, and "The Iliad," the musical poetry of Ray and Saliers has always been literary their 1992 album "Rites



"IT'S ONLY LIFE AFTER ALL" STILL COURTESY OF SUNDANCE INSTITUTE / PHOTO BY JEREMY COWART

of Passage" even features a song about reading the diaries of Virginia Woolf. Combining sing-along acoustic melodies with intricate turns of phrases to explore unrequited love, existential pondering, and optimism in the face of loneliness, the out-and-proud pair created anthems in the '80s and '90s for gay women whose intricate feelings of longing were rarely heard on the Billboard chart.

If the harmonizing vocals of Ray and Saliers often created a seemingly single voice, Joyce Carol Oates is their opposite: a solitary intellect who shapeshifts into any and all man, woman, and beast; a chameleon writer. In Swedish director Stig Björkman's "Joyce Carol Oates: A Body in the Service of Mind" the 84-year-old author of over 50 novels shows no signs of slowing down. The identities of her first-person narrators



JOYCE CAROL OATES COURTESY MANTARAY FILMS

are as varied as their voices are frighteningly realistic and fully realized, from Marilyn Monroe in "Blonde" to a Jeffrey Dahmer stand-in in "Zombie," to a fictionalized version of Mary Jo Kopechne, the girl who drowned in a car driven by the U.S. senator Ted Kennedy. With an eye for the true horror that

lives within the cracks of American society, Oates has courted controversy as she channels the inner worlds of those who live on the fringes, who indulge in acts we wouldn't dare, and who keep secrets in the dark.

For tickets and a full schedule of films and events go to www.biffma.

# CALENDAR



COURTESY MAHAWIE / PHOTO BY IENNY ANDERSON

#### **SUTTON FOSTER LIVE**

The Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., announced a live performance by two-time Tony-winning Broadway star Sutton Foster on Saturday, Aug. 19. Foster is known for her turns in "The Music Man" and "Anything Goes" as well as starring in the television series "Younger" and "Bunheads." For tickets go to www.mahaiwe.org

#### **HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL ART**

The Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield, Mass., will unveil "Romance & Nature" featuring paintings from the Hudson River School of Art on Saturday, June 3. For more go to www.berkshiremuseum.org



# Five Points Arts



JUNE 3 and JUNE 4, 2023 10AM - 4PM

#### **BIG INK Printmakers** Be part of the excitement as artists pull enormous

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#### **WBSL FM 91.7**

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

# The Lakeville Lournal

EDITORIAL PAGE B3

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023

# **EDITORIAL** A different **Memorial Day**

he tiny state of Connecticut has done something remarkable, something that no other state has tried: Create a coherent gun control law.

The constraints are few: You can walk around your own property with a gun. You can't own an assault rifle unless you actually need one. You can only buy three handguns a month. You can't own a ghost gun, an untraceable gun made from a kit bought online.

And now in Connecticut the legal age to buy a "long gun"—shotguns, rifles—will be raised to 21, in stark contrast to a state like Florida, where the legislature is in the process of lowering the long-gun age to 18, and also basically making it possible for anyone to carry guns anywhere, any time.

The story in today's issue from our partners at CT Mirror gives the details of Connecticut's latest effort. As Mark Pazniokas describes it: "The legislation would prohibit the open carry of firearms and further tighten restrictions on military-style weapons and high-capacity magazines largely banned after the Sandy Hook school shooting. It would also target repeat gun offenders with dedicated court dockets, higher thresholds for bail and probation, and tougher penalties."

Connecticut has been a leader in gun control legislation since the 2012 Sandy Hook tragedy. In December of that year, a 20-year-old man walked into the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut and shot and killed 26 people, including 20 children.

Last year on Memorial Day, long-time Lakeville Journal publisher Janet Manko penned a passionate editorial just after the Uvalde, Texas, school massacre, in which 19 students and two teachers were killed.

She wrote: "Americans who value gun ownership more than the lives of children will be judged by history, whether such violence occurs on the streets in urban neighborhoods where most gun deaths of young people occur, or in classrooms in suburban and rural ones. If the United States cannot find a way to overcome its love for guns, it will continue to pay too high a price in the loss of innocent lives."

This Memorial Day, we'll add the victims of the Sandy Hook massacre, and other senseless episodes of gun violence, to our list of remembrances. There have already been 24 school shootings this year. There have been 168 since 2018.

Jessica Rekos (age 6), Olivia Engel (age 6), Avielle Richman (age 6), Jesse Lewis (age 6), Grace Audrey McDonnell (age 7), Noah Pozner (age 6), Ana Marquez-Greene (age 6), Emilie Parker (age 6), Charlotte Bacon (age 6), Catherine Hubbard (age 6), Josephine Gay (age 7), Daniel Barden (age 7), James Mattioli (age 6), Caroline Previdi (age 6), Allison Wyatt (age 6), Dylan Hockley (age 6), Madeleine Hsu (age 6), Chase Kowalski (age 7), Jack Pinto (age 6), Benjamin Wheeler (age 6), Victoria Soto (age 27), Lauren Rousseau (age 30), Dawn Hochsprung (age 47), Mary Sherlach (age 56), Rachel Davino (age 29), Anne Marie Murphy (age 52).

Arlington, Va. (Sept.19, 2003) As the winds from Hurricane Isabel swept over Arlington National Cemetery, the soldiers who guard the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given, for the first time in history, permission to abandon their posts.

#### Storm-Warned

"The hell I will," I hear him grunt, (my sentry pacing overhead,) such offered refuge, an affront, to him, who's charged to guard the dead.

Roots lift, the wind is holding sway on fields familiar, once, with plow; my guard keeps vigil, kneels to pray, though nothing more could harm us now.

For decades it has been the same, the task, an honor they bestow: to guard this tomb that bears no name for each of us of who lies below.

Five hundred thousand of us fought, that winter, nineteen forty-four; the Ardennes, once a peaceful place now hell, to some, for evermore.

Four Score of years have gone around, the horror — picture if you can: our boys strewn bloodied, on the ground, that darkest Christmas known to man.

My Ma and Pa — for ages gone, their rented hearts long in them lay, such hopes for me, their only son; they'd heard the news on New Years Day.

But we are blessed who share this tomb where Earth's great arms embrace each son. You need not weep — the soil's our home; we are together; we are one.



#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Combating scam calls to ensure safety for Connecticut seniors

I recently witnessed the potentially devastating impact of scam calls on seniors. Like many others from their generation, my parents feel more comfortable and secure using a landline. Unfortunately, this choice exposes them to a relentless stream of undesired and deceitful calls that exploit their vulnerability.

A staggering 85% of landline calls (www.joinimp.com/ blogs/news/landline-landscape-2022-q-4-report) are now unwanted or spam. My parents have become frequent targets, facing relentless intrusion into their daily lives. Recently, they narrowly avoided falling victim to a caller who requested their of verifying their account. It nancial losses. The FBI's Elder

was a close call that spurred me into action.

After extensive research, I promptly added their number to the Do Not Call list and began exploring options for a spam call blocker. However, my journey revealed a stark truth: there needs to be more resources to educate and protect seniors effectively in the face of this growing menace. And it's a more significant issue than you think, with half a million seniors in Connecticut (www.communityphone. org/landline/ct#landline-usage-statistics) still relying on a landline today.

The consequences of these scams are not limited to emotional distress; they bank details under the guise also result in significant fiFraud Report of 2022 (www. ic3.gov/Media/PDF/AnnualReport/2022\_IC3Elder-FraudReport.pdf) revealed that a staggering \$33,660,316 was lost due to scams, and 908 senior victims over 60 in Connecticut alone were targeted. On average, seniors lose \$500 or more when they fall victim to these malicious schemes.

State and local authorities must step up and take bold, decisive action to address this urgent issue. Our seniors are counting on us. It is high time we allocate the necessary resources to develop robust educational programs that equip them with the knowledge and tools they need to protect themselves."

Seth Kavanaugh

# Remembering the soldiers on D-Day

(D-Day: June 6, 1944)

t the altar where I first joined the sanctuary of God I ask to seek divine guidance for me in the great struggle that looms ahead," General Douglas MacArthur would write Dr. W.P. Witsell, rector of Christ Episcopal Church at Little Rock, Arkansas, prior to the Normandy invasion.

An event that would rivet world attention and turn U.S. country bumpkins into national heroes in a matter of weeks. I have a list of 134 young men and a few women serving their country from the town of North East then which pretty much exhausted the young male popula-

My father Martin Conklin and my friend Bill Roberts' dad Harry hit those beaches of Normandy. Sheer terror, brutality and heroism was experienced by most. Many involved hardly ever uttered a word of their experiences, my dad being one of them although Harry did so toward the end of his life when interviewed by a reporter. Harry was the first Army Ranger to scale the cliffs of Normandy to neutralize enemy

#### Veteran's CORNER LARRY CONKLIN

positions slaughtering those crossing the beaches. Though seriously wounded Harry fought on later being nominated for The Congressional Medal of Honor, which he refused. His words: "I'm proud I served but I don't have to be proud of the people who try to glorify it. The heroes are the ones who died. For every medal I received, someone had to die in front of me and behind me."

My father would not discuss his time in hell, though I believe if he had, it would have been a proud legacy for his family. I can perfectly understand that revisiting past traumatic events could likely rekindle demons of the past and no one wants that. D-Day — a day when the greatest armada of ships, airpower, airborne and infantry of that era was assembled to rescue our allies from infamy and preserve our own freedoms. God bless those brave

men and women and you pa-The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. Monday. Email letters to publisher@lakevillejournal.com.

Publication is at the discretion of the editor.

triotic readers and families. Stay safe and healthy and enjoy this summer together.

Town of North East resident Larry Conklin is a Vietnam veteran and a member of both the Millerton American Legion Post 178 and the VFW Post 6851 in North Canaan, Conn.

#### **TURNING BACK THE PAGES**

Norma Bosworth

100 years ago — 1923 Olin E. Gibbs of Norfolk visited Arthur M. Everts of Ore Hill on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Barnett motored to Boston on Friday, returning on Monday. Their son William returned with them.

#### 50 years ago — 1973

A touring Gov. Thomas J. Meskill gave Northwest Connecticut a categorical assurance Tuesday that the state has no plans to expand Route 7 north of New Milford. The governor also said that he will review the capital gains tax and that he may move to repeal or reduce it.

Norbert Noyes, music director at the Canaan Elementary School, will end 19 years of service to the community this June. Mr. Noyes recently announced his intention to resign and move to Damariscotta, Me., where he will be employed as music director for three of the local schools. Mr. Noyes and his wife, Drucilla, are both originally from Maine and have often thought of returning to their native state.

#### 25 years ago — 1998

Air Force Airman Jeffrey R. Fowlkes has graduated from the law enforcement apprentice course at the Air Force Security Police Academy, Lakeland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Mr. Fowlkes, a 1997 graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School, is the grandson of Raymond and Evelyn Fowlkes of Farnam Road in Lakeville.

In a unanimous vote May 19, the Falls Village Board of Selectmen recommended the town accept the National Iron Bank building. A powerful factor in making the recommendation, First Selectman Gabriel Seymour said, were reports that if the town rejects the building, the Iron Bank will donate it to a non-profit organization and the town would lose the tax revenues it generates.

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

#### THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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Thursday, June 1, 2023 Volume 126, Number 43

#### **Mission Statement**

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

John Coston Editor-in-Chief Susan Hassler **Publisher and CEO** 

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**Advertising Manager** In Appreciation

Ianet Manko **Publisher Emeritus** A. Whitney Ellsworth **Managing Partner** Robert H. Estabrook 1918-2011 Editor and

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**Betsy Sprague** Salisbury

# Viewpoint TRI-CORNER CALENDAR Tales of healing and hope

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

#### JUNE 2

#### **Queer Creative Voices**

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

The David M. Hunt Library celebrates LGBTQ+ Pride Month on Friday, June 2 at 7 p.m. with an evening of "Queer Creative Voices," a panel discussion featuring director and choreographer MK Lawson, and poets Janan Alexandra and Emma Wynn, all educators at the Hotchkiss School. They will explore the artistic work of each panelist, including readings by the poets, and how their queer identity shapes and informs their work. Nibbles and drinks will be served. This event is free and open to the public.

#### New Documentary, Las Abogadas: Attorneys on the Front Lines of the Migrant Crisis

Triplex Cinema, 70 Railroad St., Great Barrington, Mass. thetriplex.com

A new documentary about immigration at the U.S.-Mexico border, Las Abogadas: Attorneys on the Front Lines of the Migrant Crisis, will hold its Massachusetts premiere at the Berkshire International Film Festival on Friday, June 2, at 5:15 p.m. The screening will take place at the Triplex Cinema in Great Barrington.

#### **Volunteers Needed Housatonic Meadows** State Park in Sharon

Housatonic Meadows State Park, 90 US-7, Sharon, Conn.

Volunteers needed for replanting work including cutting flats into smaller plugs, following hole diggers and dropping in plants.

Times include Friday, June 2, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m., Saturday June 3, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. and Sunday, June 4 (raindate), 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.

Volunteers need to bring gloves, trowel, hat, sunscreen; and a bucket would help.

Please RSVP/sign-up or contact kfreygangml@ gmail.com

#### JUNE 3

#### **Lakeville Hose Company** is Hosting a Pasta

Lakeville Hose Co., 4 Brook St., Lakeville, Conn

On Saturday, June 3 The Lakeville Hose Company is hosting a pasta dinner, dine in or take out, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. at the firehouse on Brook Street in Lakeville.

#### **Lakeville Community** Group - Duchy of **Belgo Tag Sale**

Belgo Road, Salisbury, Conn.

On Saturday, June 3, 12+ families will hold simultaneous tag sales at multiple houses on Belgo Road.

An extensive inventory of high quality antiques, rugs, sports equipment, garden tools, children's items and household goods will be sold. Of particular interest to shoppers will be crystal, china, antique sewing machines, new and

vintage clothing, and original art.

One day only: Saturday, June 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The tag sale will help support The Salisbury Housing Trust.

#### **Sharon Grange Plant & Rummage Sale**

7 Dunbar Road, Sharon, Conn.

The Sharon Grange Plant & Rummage Sale will be on Saturday, June 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. & Sunday June 4 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 7 Dunbar Road in Sharon off Route 4 between Sharon and Cornwall Bridge. Signage will be out.

#### JUNE 4

#### **SML Middle Grade Book Club Meets for the Last** Session of the Season

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

The Scoville Memorial Library's Middle Grade Book Club meets for the last session of the season, Saturday, June 4, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

This club is for for middle grade students (ages 11-14) to explore literary genres. The group meets to talk about the stylistic differences between the "classics," historical fiction, non-fiction and graphic novels on our reading list. Registration is required.

#### JUNE 6

#### **Follow the Forest**

Housatonic Valley Association, 150 Kent Road, South Cornwall, Conn., hvatoday.org

Get ready for a handson training session with Julia Rogers, Housatonic Valley Association's Senior Land Protection Manager. You'll learn about the HVA's Follow the Forest initiative, wildlife movement, and conduct a linkage assessment using an easy-to-use tool to identify areas where wildlife may be moving between areas of core

Tuesday, June 6, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

#### Falls Village-Canaan **Historical Society**

Housatonic Valley Association, 150 Kent Road, South Cornwall, Conn., hvatoday.org

The "1st Tuesday at 7" summer talks return at 7 p.m. at the South Canaan Meetinghouse, 12 Route 63, in Falls Village, with speaker Peter Vermilyea. Vermilyea's talk is titled "The Strange Case of Dr. Beckwith: The Problem of **Medical Examinations in** the Civil War."

The talks are open to the public and are free. For more information, call 860-824-5607.

#### JUNE 8

#### Yale Summer School of **Art in Norfolk Presents: Freedom to Form**

Art Barn on the Ellen Battel Stoeckel Estate, 17 Stoeckel Road, Norfolk, Conn. norfolkart.yale.edu

The Yale Summer School of Art in Norfolk Presents: Freedom to Form, the 2023 Public Lecture Program. All lectures are open to the public.

There will be a lecture on Thursday, June 8 at 7 p.m. by Morgan Bassichis,

Wednesday, June 14 at 7 p.m. by Miguel Luciano, and Thursday, June 22 at 7 p.m. by Wayne Koestenbaum.

#### JUNE 9

#### North Canaan 8th grade art show and reception

108 West Main St., North Canaan, Conn

The graduating 8th grade of North Canaan Elementary School is hosting a reception for the 8th grade art show from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Douglas Library.

#### **JUNE 10**

#### **Kent Historical Society Announces Its Summer Exhibition at Seven Hearths Museum**

Seven Hearths Museum, 14 Studio Hill Road, Kent, Conn., kenthistoricalsociety.org

**Kent Historical Society** (KHS) staff and trustees are excited to announce the summer exhibition at Seven Hearths Museum.

Sticks & Stands: An Exhibition of Candlesticks and Candlestands from Private Collections opens in conjunction with **Connecticut Open House** Day on June 10, and the exhibition will run weekends this summer from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and by appointment.

Admission is free for KHS members with a suggested donation of \$5 for non-members.

#### The Writers Table Readings

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

On Saturday June 10 at 2 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, Connecticut will host The Writers Table Readings. Readers this year include authors and actors Gloria Parker and Howard Platt, a reading of an Alaskan mystery novel by Brenda Nielson and playwright and columnist Lonnie Carter. This event is free and open to the public.

#### **JUNE 11**

#### **The Great Country Mutt**

Lime Rock Park, 60 White Hollow Road, Lakeville, Conn. littleguild.org/mutt-show

The Great Country Mutt Show, benefiting the Little Guild, will be at Lime Rock Park on Sunday, June 11 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. A Westminster Style Mutt Show for dogs of all breeds. Event free for spectators. \$20 for people and their dog. Food will be available and there will be music by the Joint Chiefs.

#### **JUNE 16**

#### In the Deep Heart's Core: **A Mystic Cabaret From** the Works of W. B.

The Center on Main, 103 Main St.Falls Village, Conn. thefvct. org/center-on-main

On Friday, June 16, 7:30 p.m. at the Center on Main in Falls Village, see "In the Deep Heart's Core: A Mystic Cabaret From the Works of W. B. Yeats," composed and performed by Joseph Daniel Sobol, with singerviolinist Isabella Simon, singer/cellist Elisa Winter, and pianist Beth Falcone.

#### grief support group is an incredible support for people. Just having the space to be just as you are, without having to cheer anyone up or put on good face so you won't upset anyone, is such a relief. People are in such a similar space in their lives and that makes

an enormous difference. The following are a handful of dozens of inspiring stories of people who moved through deep loss and found their way out. This has not happened quickly; sometimes it has been a year or more before the possibility of happiness seemed real. But some have said after a few months that they woke up feeling happy and then felt guilty about that.

Grieving is such a roller coaster, but there are increased heights as time goes by. The anguish becomes deep sadness which becomes occasional sadness and tears at unexpected moments.

Jack was in total despair after his wife, Dina, died. He did not want to live and he said so in a flood of tears many times. "I just want to die. There is no point, no point to anything." He came back to the group for many months and the group listened and gave him the room to be in deep grief and be seen and allowed to be where he was. Simply by being present — not interrupting, not counseling, and not going over to give him a hug. The support enabled him to be just where he was, despair and all, and to work through it gradually. He even started making family visits again that he and his wife had

#### THE JOURNEY of Grief **EILEEN EPPERSON**

always done together. He began to see that he could survive without her, which was a revelation that transformed

Alicia lost her only child,

a son, to a rare cancer, and was totally overwhelmed. She was practically paralyzed for months but she kept showing up, week after week, to be with the compassionate faces in our group. After about eight months, she began to talk about her feelings and share who her son was for her. Then she became silent again for a few weeks. Then she spoke again. This pattern continued until after about 13 months Alicia started making things to sell at craft shows. She would send the proceeds to a cancer prevention organization. Alicia made dozens of bags, eyeglass cases, simple fleece quilts, potholders, business card holders and more. It was her way to take her grief and create beauty and then contribute to ending the disease that took her son. Alicia stopped coming to the group finally because she wanted to attend a sewing group at the same time.

Albert's mother died and he came to the group for almost three years.

His struggle was discovering how to invent a new life without his best friend and confidante. This retired son

and his mother took trips together, went to programs and museums and discussed everything with vigor. Al worked hard to reach out and try to make new friends. The group was supportive and encouraged him to meet new people when attending events. Slowly, he began to do that. One of the final times he attended the group, he had developed enough self-awareness to say, "You know, I am in a rut. Yes, I get out, go to lectures, take online courses at various places, but it's all the same. I need to risk more." The group smiled. This was the turning point for Albert and his life started to move forward.

After Frances's husband died, she was at terrible loose ends. There was a big house to deal with, endless loneliness, and the anxiety of living alone in rural area. Frances did not say much but she listened intently to everyone every week. She began to find her voice and share small victories, which the group applauded. She gained more confidence, sold her house, moved to a town where she used to live and had many friends. She wrote me that the group was invaluable and she knew when she was ready to move on. And she did.

The Rev. Dr. Eileen L. Epperson has lived in Salisbury for 20 years. She is a Life Coach specializing in grief support, forgiveness, communication coaching, and facilitating grief support groups. Reach her at elethegriefjourney@gmail.com.

# Right to roam in the U.S.

Dear EarthTalk: What is the "right to roam" and why is it controversial in the **United States?** 

- P.K., Bend, Ore.

The "right to roam" is a concept that allows people to access and enjoy natural areas, such as parks, forests and beaches, without being restricted by private property laws. In essence, it grants people the right to walk or hike freely in the countryside, and to camp, fish and pick berries, among other activities, without obtaining prior permission or paying fees. While this right is well established in some countries like Scotland and Sweden, it is not a widespread concept in the United States, where the notion of private property is deeply ingrained.

Proponents of the right to roam argue that it promotes physical activity, environmental stewardship and mental health by encouraging people to spend more time outdoors. They also claim that it is a democratic right that allows everyone, regardless of their socio-economic status, to access and enjoy public lands. In addition, they argue that the right to roam can have positive economic effects by stimulating outdoor recreation and tourism.

However, opponents argue that it undermines private property rights, reduces landowners' incentives to maintain their properties, and can lead to trespassing, vandalism and littering. They also claim that it can pose a threat to public safety by exposing people to dangerous terrain or wild animals.

While the right to roam is not enshrined in U.S. law, some states have passed

#### EARTHTALK FROM THE EDITORS OF E - THE Environmental MAGAZINE

laws that provide for limited forms of public access to private lands. For example, in some western states, such as Montana and Colorado, people can access certain types of public lands, such as rivers and streams, by crossing private lands without trespassing. Other states, such as Maine and Vermont, have passed "right-to-roam" laws that allow people to access certain types of private lands, such as coastal areas and abandoned railroad beds, for recreational purposes.

Despite these efforts, the right to roam remains controversial in the U.S., with many landowners opposing it as an infringement on their property rights. In some cases, disputes have arisen between landowners

and outdoor enthusiasts, with some landowners posting "no trespassing" signs or even blocking access to public lands. Advocates for the right to roam argue that such restrictions violate the public's right to access public lands and call for greater legal protections for outdoor recreation.

Indeed, the right to roam is a controversial concept in the U.S. that has generated debate between proponents of public access to natural areas and opponents who prioritize private property rights. While some states have taken steps to provide limited access to public lands, there is still a long way to go before the right to roam becomes a widely accepted and legally protected concept in the U.S.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at https://emagazine.com. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

# Realtor® at Large

that has become established here in the NW corner and is hell to try to get rid of. They tend to be in wetlands and around lakes and ponds choking out the native plants and wildlife. UCONN's Invasive Plant Working Group is a good place to understand the options to see what would work best for your property. One may also have to gain the approval of your local Wetlands Commission and CTDEEP, so it would be smart to call your Town's Land Administrator to confirm. To view UCONN's information, please go to: cipwg.uconn.edu/ phragmites.

Phragmites is an invasive plant



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**ADVERTISEMENT** 

# New Falls Village video from Veden

By Patrick L. Sullivan

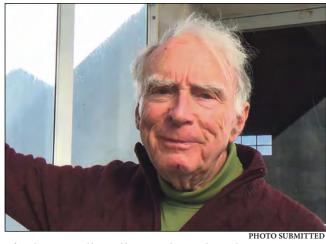
FALLS VILLAGE Documentary director Eric Veden is back with the 29th installment of his series on Falls Village.

The disc kicks off with Denise Cohn musing about her extensive family background in the town — and in the United States Postal Service — and the founding of the Falls Village Children's Theater and acquisition of what is now called the Center on

The children's theater idea came about because Cohn's daughter Emma loved performing arts. Cohn was enlisted as producer.

"I don't have a theatrical bone in my body," she says, but she asked for a list of what needed to be done and forged ahead.

Next up is Bosco Schell



The latest Falls Village video takes the viewer into Bosco Schell's greenhouse.

and his greenhouse, a modest space that produces a surprising variety of plants and is kept going using rainwater because the tap water is too

plants I have are given to me. Plant people exchange

Colter Rule is interviewed, and he goes into some detail about his formative years in various schools and in Manhattan in the 1960s.

"I had a pretty wild ride. Schell says "Most of the I knew I didn't want to be in a cubicle, so I went on stage."

The fourth segment is naturalist Ginny Apple's "Fearsome Foursome" talk on raccoons, possums, skunks and porcupines.

Apple, a state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection Master Wildlife Conservationist, spoke at the David M. Hunt Library Saturday, Feb. 18.

Among her revelations: Raccoons are often observed placing their paws in water. This is not to wash their food, as many people think. Rather, the cold water stimulates their nerve endings.

Carly Sugar from Adamah Farm discusses the acquisition and use of natural dyes with a group at the Hunt Library. The discussion sounds a little Harry Potter-ish, with terms such as "madder root" and "mugwort" thrown about. And the disc ends with an essay on the moose.

"Falls Village: Episode 29" is available at Hunt Library.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

#### Sharon Park and Rec seeks Mudge Pond lifeguards

SHARON — The town of Sharon's Parks and Recreation Department is looking for lifeguards to work at the Sharon town beach at Mudge Pond this summer.

The positions are fulltime hours, with starting wages of \$20/hour. The town will reimburse the cost of certification or recertification courses for any employees who maintain full employment for the summer.

Please contact Sharon Parks and Recreation at 860-364-1400 or email at sharon.rec.ctr@snet.net

#### To Place an Ad Call 860-435-9873 or visit www.tricornernews.com/classifieds

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# LAKEVILLE,

BELGO ROAD LAKEV-ILLEGIANTTAGSALE:

Saturday, June 3, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No early birds. 10 houses, collectables, furniture, antiques. Rain date Sunday, June 4.

#### SHARON, CT

Saturday, June 3, 9AM to 3PM & Sunday June 4, 10AM to 3PM at 7 Dunbar Road, Sharon CT 06069. Off Route#4 between Sharon and Cornwall Bridge. Signage will be out. Flowers and vegetables including Heirloom varieties ready to plant selling for \$2.00. Rummage includes large amounts of men's and women's clothing, electronics, books, like new bike, Sony 45"TV, computer wiped back to factory settings, kitchenware, house decor and much more. All priced to sell.

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**GARDENERS NEEDED!!:** Good pay, flexible hours! Please call or text 413-429 1531 ASAP.

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**SHARON COUNTRY CLUB:** is looking to fill a golf course maintenance position. This is a full-time and year-round position with benefits. Detailed description listed on Indeed. Contact 860 491 8490 or sharoncc1895@ mail.com for more infor-

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(To work pls. provide: CT-W4; Fed W4; VSC/5-19; copy of CT driver's license; direct deposit bank name, account #, routing; ARC certification) Contact: ericstoer@gmail.com

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As our Personal Assistant, you'll provide general office and clerical support, so we're looking for someone who is comfortable working with a range of computer programs, including MS Office, Excel, and Google Suite.

An art background or education is a plus, as is 3-5 years of relevant experience in the field. This is a full-time position, salary is commensurate with experience

If you're passionate about the arts, detail-oriented, and able to juggle multiple tasks in a fast-paced environment, we'd love to hear from you!

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