

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

Salisbury, NBT merger to end an era

By John Coston and Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The merger of Salisbury Bank and Trust Co. (SBT) with NBT Bancorp Inc. is scheduled to be completed at a shareholders' meeting on Wednesday, April 12 at the Interlaken Inn, marking what would be the end of a nameplate familiar to Northwest Corner banking customers since 1925, when the Salisbury Savings Society merged with the Robbins Burrall Trust Co. to form SBT.

New signage will appear across the Northwest Corner, and Salisbury banking customers will become part of a bigger bank. NBT Bank operates at 140 banking locations in New York, northeastern Pennsylvania and in New England states from Connecticut to Maine. Salisbury Bank has 14 banking locations and 13 ATMs in Litchfield County and in nearby Dutchess County, Orange and Ulster Counties and in Berkshire County.

The news that Salisbury Bank was in merger talks with NBT

broke in early December, 2022. But the origins of the merger date to 2017 when Richard Cantele Jr., Salisbury's president and chief executive officer, first met John Watt, his counterpart at NBT. Since that meeting, Cantele had numerous conversations with various institutions to assess the value of a combination that would serve Salisbury Bank's strategic and operational goals.

Throughout the pandemic, Salisbury continued to evaluate potential acquisition targets as part of its growth strategy, according to a proxy statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In 2020 and 2021, Cantele met with institutions larger than Salisbury, including NBT, as well as with those of comparable size and smaller ones. Cantele and NBT's Watt didn't discuss discuss the possibility of a strategic transaction during those meetings, the proxy states.

The Salisbury Board of Directors during these years also was evaluating Salisbury's growth prospects, and discussed the implications of



At the time of the Salisbury Bank and Trust's centennial in 1948, the bank's main office was at 12 Millerton Rd.

selling the franchise, remaining independent, looking for a merger partner, or seeking growth by acquiring smaller institutions, the proxy states. By the fall of 2022 and after numerous meetings and discussions involving Cantele, the Salisbury Bank Board and other banks, NBT produced a letter of intent, offering to combine with Salisbury. NBT Bank has approximately \$11.5 billion in assets and approximately \$10 billion in deposits. By comparison, Salisbury has \$1.5 billion in assets and approximately \$1.3 billion in

See BANK, Page A10

Veteran climate czar recalls legacy of service

By Riley Klein

SALISBURY — On Tuesday, March 28, Salisbury Forum presented an interview with Carol Browner, the nation's first climate czar, to discuss a lifetime of public service dedicated to conservation and environmental protection through government regulation.

Vivian Garfein, member of the Salisbury Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission and former Central Director of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, conducted the interview and recounted Browner's long legacy of environmental protection.

Browner's career in public service has spanned four decades.

See CLIMATE, Page A10

Progress on spraying issue

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — State Representative Maria Horn (D-64) and State Senator Steve Harding (R-30) said there has been some progress in getting state and town officials together with the Housatonic Railroad to discuss the spraying of herbicides along the train tracks.

Both Horn and Harding, reached by telephone on Sunday, April 2, expressed guarded optimism that a meeting would occur in the next few weeks. "Nothing's been scheduled," said Horn. "There's a lot of swirling going on."



Housatonic Railroad trains are a familiar sight in North Canaan.



First Selectman Charles Perotti sat behind his colorfully decorated desk within North Canaan Town Hall.

She said there is a possibility of two meetings, one with local advocacy groups and one with state officials.

Officials seek to discuss the railroad's herbicide spray approach.

Harding said he has been in touch with Horn to coordinate on getting a meeting scheduled. "The hope is for a meeting in the very near future to address the concerns community leaders have, and we have."

Repeated attempts, by phone

and in person, by this newspaper to speak with railroad represntatives have been unsuccessful, and first selectmen and members of the legislature have not had better luck until recently.

"I hope the communication continues," Harding said.

Spring frolic

Children tore around Community Field in Kent on Sunday, April 2 gathering up some 1500 plastic, candy-filled easter eggs. For a story on Sharon's Easter Bunny visit, turn to page A8.





PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

North Canaan's Perotti reveled in selectman's job

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — After a lifetime of public service to the town and people of North Canaan, First Selectman Charles Perotti (R) has announced he will not seek a fourth term this fall.

Perotti was first elected to the role in 2017 following Doug Humes' departure and has since served three terms as first selectman. Prior to that, Perotti served eight years as second selectman. He was also a long-standing member of the Canaan Fire Company, having joined in 1967 following a major fire in town, and operated as Chief of the department from 1985 to 2005.

Looking back at his long legacy of civil service, Perotti said it was his love for the work that kept him going.

"I just love doing it, you know? But I'm not getting any younger,"

See PEROTTI, Page A10

Flanagan running in Sharon

SHARON — The Sharon Democratic Town Committee announced Monday, April 3 that Selectman Casey Flanagan is running for First Selectman in November's municipal elections.

Current First Selectman Brent Colley is stepping down after five terms.

The Lakeville Iournal

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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.

Stolen vehicles leads to juvenile arrest

On Tuesday, March 28, at approximately 6:30 a.m. Troopers from Troop B were dispatched to 39 Greene Ave., in North Canaan for the complaint of two stolen vehicles. A subsequent investigation led to the location of both vehicles in New York State. One vehicle was involved in a serious accident and the other was located abandoned. A juvenile was arrested and charged with larceny in the first degree, burglary in the second degree, criminal trespass and operating a motor vehicle without a license. The accused was released to his mother and is to appear in Bridgeport Juvenile Court.

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.....B3

.....B4

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Cruelty to animals

On Thursday, March 30 at approximately 2 p.m. Roger L. Carol, 46, of Sheffield, Massachusetts, turned himself in on an active arrest warrant and was charged with criminal mischief in the first degree and cruelty to animals. Bond was \$5,000 cash/surety.

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

Cary gets beaver-struck over engineering skills

By Elias Sorich

MILLBROOK — The return of the Cary Institute's in-person Friday night talks on March 31 was met with a turnout of 150 people packed into its auditorium, and about 400 tuned in online.

Talk of beavers—their oddities, their history and their impact on ecosystems—was what drew in the crowds, and the hour-long conversation with Leila Philip, author of "Beaverland: How One Weird Rodent Made America," featured many tidbits of information for fans of nature's second-best engineer.

From a tail that can sense water pressure to a tendency to shape environments to promote higher levels of biodiversity, the understanding of beavers as a keystone species has advanced considerably over the 20th century. With environmental resilience benefits that include flood mitigation, increased water storage and wildfire mitigation, the 300-year period from 1600 to 1900 in which beaver populations were significantly reduced is called "the great drying" in some ecology circles. Once numbering somewhere between 60 and 400 million in North America alone, beavers were hunted to near extinction after the arrival of European colonists. In recent decades, thanks to the efforts of conservationists, they now



PHOTO BY ELIAS SORICH

'Beaverland' author Leila Philip signed a copy of her book on Friday, March 31, at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies.

number between 10 and 15 million.

Though much of Philip's discussion centered around



The Banjo Babies performed at Norfolk Library on April 1. From left, Jackson Earles, David Chernack, Ella Vorenberg, and Sam Dallas.

Pickin' and fiddlin' band plays at Norfolk Library

By Riley Klein

NORFOLK — As part of its Music Among Neighbors concert series, the Norfolk Library hosted The Banjo Babies on Saturday, April 1. The bluegrass band out of New York City rocked the house and had the sold-out crowd stomping and swinging to upbeat tunes.

Led by Ella Vorenberg on lead vocals, the group performed a 16-track set list plus an encore by popular demand in just their second show as a band.

The Banjo Babies first formed in October 2022 after meeting during a jam session at Mona's Bar in Manhattan.

"We started playing together in the fall. In New York there's a bluegrass jam every Monday night. I've been going there for years, Sam has been going for years, and I met these guys who were new on the scene. They asked if we wanted to be in a band and I said 'sure!' This is our second show so it's still pretty new," said Vorenberg.

In addition to Vorenberg, the band consisted of Sam Dallas on bass, Tom Gause on fiddle, Sam Chester on banjo, David Chernack on guitar, and Jackson Earles

CONTACT US

John Coston

Multiple car thefts result in 2 deaths

By Christine Bates

POUGHKEEPSIE — The Dutchess County Sheriff's office is continuing investigation into multiple vehicles stolen during the late-night hours of Monday, March 27, and early morning Tuesday, March 28, in northern Dutchess County and Connecticut. Law enforcement believe these thefts are the work of an organized group operated out of Connecticut.

Connecticut officials reported the drowning death of a 17-year-old Waterbury high-school student who attempted to flee officers who were investigating stolen cars from Millerton, N.Y., and Ridgefield, Conn.

When discovered by police around noon on Tuesday, March 28, the teen was sitting in one of the stolen vehicles with three other teenagers ages 14, 16 and 17. Two of the teens ran into nearby woods and one was tackled by police, but the other entered Lakewood Lake and drowned.

The three surviving teens have been charged with theft of a stolen motor vehicle and interfering

Online This Week

Millerton Police suspended by trustees

The Village of Millerton force suspended pending

with police. Reportedly the police knew the teens from previous arrests.

The Millerton Jeep Cherokee recovered In Waterbury near the scene was stolen on March 27/28 on Dutchess Avenue in the heart of the Village of Millerton and returned to the owners a few days later.

Another teen stole a Toyota 4 Runner stolen in Connecticut during the same evening hours and later crashed head-on into a 2017 Chevrolet van on Route 9 in the Town of Rhinebeck, killing driver Jonathan Kiech.

The 14-year-old driver of the stolen vehicle suffered minor injuries and was remanded to a secure detention facility.

Capt. John Watterson of the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office told The Millerton News that there has been a recent uptick in car thefts along the Connecticut/New York border. Watterson cautioned residents to never leave keys or automatic fobs inside a car; to lock their cars; remove valuables; and to never confront perpetrators, as they are considered armed and dangerous

Kids fishing derby April 8 LAKEVILLE – Anglers

up to age 15 are invited to the Kid's Fishing Derby at the Lakeville Town Grove on Saturday, April 8, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m., with prizes awarded at 9 a.m. Come try to catch the elusive Golden Trout. The Grove is at 2 Ethan Allen St. in Lakeville. For more information go to www.salisburyct.us/recreation.

on mandolin. Their set list

included traditional blue-

grass songs like "Home of the

Red Fox" and "Blue Virgin-

ia Blues," as well as country

numbers like "John Deere

For a relatively new group,

Tractor" and "Sin Wagon."

they seamlessly complement-

ed one another as they per-

formed into a single micro-

phone. The players stepped

in and out of center stage on

cue to highlight the techni-

cal skills of each performer

during their instrumental

solo sections.

hiring of a chief. Go to www.tricornernews.com Webutuck Warriors need new mascot Webutuck Warriors need new mascot New York State requires change from use of Native American imagery. Go to www.tricornernews.com LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice LEGAL NOTICE TAX COLLECTOR **TOWN OF** SALISBURY CT Pursuant to Sec. 12-145 of the Connecticut State Statutes, the taxpayers of the Town of Salisbury are hereby notified that the fourth installment on the Grand List of October 1, 2021 is due and payable on Aprill, 2023. Payments must be received or postmarked by May 1, 2023. If said Real Estate and Personal Property taxes are not paid on or before May 1, 2023, interest at the rate of one and one half percent (18% per year) will be added for each month or a fraction thereof which elapses from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until the same is paid. Minimum interest charge is \$2.00. Pursuant to Section 12-173 of the Connecticut State Statutes, unpaid Real Estate tax on the Grand List of October 1, 2021 will be LIENED on JUNE 2, 2023. Payment must be received by 12:00 p.m. on June 2, 2023 to avoid a Lien. Tax Office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9am- 4pm. Closed 12:30pm-1:30 pm. Taxes can be paid by mail addressed to: Tax Collector, P.O. Box 338, 27 Main Street, Salisbury, CT 06068, There is a drop box in the vestibule of the Town Hall which is available 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday. The Town is urging taxpayers to mail checks or use the option of paying by credit card or E-Check. Please check the Town website salisburyct.us for additional information. Dated at Town of Salisbury, CT this 8 day of March 2023. Jean F. Bell, CCMC

Tax Collector Salisbury CT 06068 03-23-23 04-06-23 04-20-23

NOTICE OF CHANGE

The Hotchkiss School for mooring for a launch of the rowing team. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 6 as lot 8 and is known as 11 Interlaken Road, Lakeville.

Approved - Application 2023-IW-003 by Robert Palmer to replace existing foundation and add dormers to second floor of existing multi-family residence. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 218 as lot 19 and is known as 363 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville. The owner of the property is Robert Palmer. Any aggrieved person may appeal this decision to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §22a-43(a) & §8-8.

ecology, she also focused on the sociological side of humanity's connection with beavers.

The animal plays a prominent role in many Native American mythologies and cultural practices, and accordingly Philip's book begins with the story of Great Beaver, which describes the forming of the Connecticut River Valley as preserved in the oral traditions of the Algonquian people.

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

Check them out inside. • Ocean State Job Lot • Herrington's *Editor-in-Chief* johnc@lakevillejournal.com 860-435-9873, ext. 601

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Rain or shine Sorry, no pets on either day

TO ORDINANCE TOWN OF SHARON

The Town of Sharon at Town Meeting held on March 16th, 2023 voted to revise the Ordinance for the Sharon Energy & Environment Commission membership.

The full text of this ordinance is on file with the Sharon Town Clerk, where a copy can be obtained.

This document is prepared for the benefit of the public, solely for the purposes of information, summarization and explanation. This document does not represent the intent of the legislative body of the Town of Sharon for any purpose. (CGS - 157)

This change to take effect fifteen days from publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Sharon.

> Submitted by: Linda R. Amerighi CCTC Sharon Town Clerk 04-06-23

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 March 27, 2023:

Deemed Exempt -Request for jurisdictional ruling 2023-IW-004D by 04-06-23

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF MARGARET K. GREEN Late of Salisbury (23-00104)

The Hon.Jordan M. Richards, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated March 28, 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: Eugene F. Green c/o Mark J Capecelatro Mark J. Capecelatro, LLC 117 Main Street P.O. Box 1045 Canaan, CT 06018 Megan M. Foley Clerk 04-06-23



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Our Towns

Frontier fiber optic coming to Salisbury

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — At a March 23 meeting of the Economic Development Committee, Allison M. Ellis of Frontier Communications presented an overview of the company's plans for bringing fiber optic internet and voice service to Salisbury, including how the town will almost certainly be asked to contribute to the cost of providing fiber optic access to the entire town.

Ellis first spoke of Frontier's recent bankruptcy, which concluded in May of 2021. She said the subsequent restructuring of the publicly-traded company eliminated some \$10 billion in debt, brought in an entirely new board of directors and senior management team, which she described as the "most sophisticated we've ever had.

Ellis said the company is building fiber optic infrastructure in Connecticut now, and added that committee members had probably noticed trucks out on major roads.

She described how the fiber optic lines reach customers, beginning in the company's central office. The line goes to a "neighborhood hub," then to a "fiber terminal," and then to the customer's home.

Ellis said one advantage of fiber optic systems is they use much less power than existing systems. "You just need power at either end for it to work."

Another significant advantage is much higher capacity. Frontier is offering a \$69.95 per month internet connection that provides 1 gigabit symmetrical service (meaning both upload and download speeds are the

same).

There are less expensive options, including a 500 Mbps at \$39.99 and 100 Mbps at \$29.95.

By comparison, Xfinity's Economy Plus internet service, used by this reporter on Main Street in Lakeville, offers up to 3 Mbps down and up to 2 Mbps up for \$29.95 per month. At noon on April 2, it was running at .84 Mbps up and 3.38 Mbps down, as measured by Ookla.

Ellis said the capacity of the fiber optic lines are such that the service is "scalable into the future."

Customers in the parts of town where Frontier is expanding will be able to sign up in June, she said.

The committee members asked about those areas that will not be covered by the Frontier buildout.

Ellis said that Frontier and towns in the state are discussing how much a town should kick in as a one-time contribution in order to get every address covered.

She noted that Frontier has been negotiating with Falls Village on this subject. (Falls Village's Board of Finance held a public hearing on Frontier's proposal Monday, April 3.)

Committee member Kitty Kiefer said she thought that as soon as residents in the more remote parts of Salisbury get a look at the fiber optic service their friends are getting, the demand will be there.

EDC member Tom Shachtman asked what Frontier's time frame is for getting a decision on whether the town wants to chip in.

Ellis said ideally the subject would have been broached six months ago. She said she has reached out to First Selectman Curtis Rand.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Bringing in Spring with a dip in Lake Wononscopomuc

On Sunday, April 2, more than 150 Hotchkiss students plunged into the frigid waters of Lake Wononscopomuc on behalf of The Jane Lloyd Fund. The Polar Plunge has become a cherished early spring tradition that has raised thousands of dollars to assist cancer patients in the community.

Trade Secrets returns to Lime Rock Park

LAKEVILLE — Lakeville Project SAGE (formerly Women's Support Services) announced that Trade Secrets is returning for its 24th year. Community Events are on Saturday, May 20 and the Rare Plant and Garden Antiques sale is Sunday, May 21.

The Saturday Garden tour features four gardens, including a visit to Bunny Williams and her husband John Rosselli's garden in Falls Village.

The Sunday Trade Secrets sale, a staple on the society gardener calendar, features over 60 of the finest garden antiques and flower vendors and takes place for the second year at Lime Rock Park in Lakeville.

Speaking about last year's event, after a two-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Project Sage Executive Director Elizabeth Mauro said "surrounded by the beauty of the Litchfield Hills, the Park welcomed people from all over the country to this lovely setting. Veteran attendees reconnected with old friends and favorite vendors.

New patrons discovered the wide range of treasures offered. Everyone enjoyed the hospitality and beauty of the venue, which helps make Trade Secrets so special."

"Our move of the Trade Secrets event to Lime Rock Park was a huge success. I have often felt that as the event has grown, this is where we should be. The facilities of the Park make it much more convenient for all attending, both in parking and pickup," said Trade

Secrets co-founder Williams.

Project SAGE hosts Trade Secrets. Its mission is to create social change to end interpersonal and relationship violence by challenging attitudes and beliefs about power, control, and gender norms and advocating for victims and survivors.

"With Project SAGE supporting over 800 victims and survivors of domestic violence last year, the need for our services has never been greater. Trade Secrets, our

signature fundraiser, provides us the vital resources to ensure support for all those in need. I am enormously grateful for the generosity of Bunny Williams, honorary chair of this event, as well as of our vendors, volunteers and patrons who make Trade Secrets such a success. Lives are transformed because of such generosity," said Mauro.

Tickets are on sale now. To purchase tickets, visit www.tradesecretsct.com or call 860-364-1080

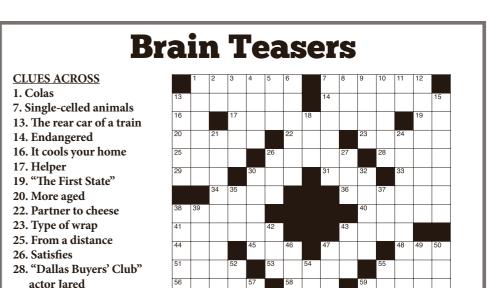




PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

World class violinist plays Elfer's Hall

Violinist Daniel Hope performed with the Zurich Chamber Orchestra at a free concert at The Hotchkiss School Wednesday, March 29.

Cake auction at Kent library

KENT — Kent Memorial Library is excited to announce a special cake auction and cocktail reception on Saturday, April 22 at 3 p.m.

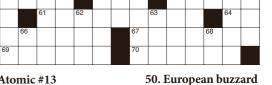
Join KML at the height of Daffodil Days for a special live auction of flowery cakes, donated by local friends, businesses, and celebrities. Learn baking tips and tricks from local expert Barbara Marcone and raise a glass to spring. All funds raised will go to the Library.

For more information call 860-927-3761 or go to kentmemoriallibrary.org.





29. God of battle (Scandinavian) 30. Cooking utensil 31. Soviet Socialist Republic 11. Atomic #13 33. Able to perform 12. Tranquillizing 34. Big man on campus 13. Metric weight unit 36. Second epoch of the 15. Indicates **Tertiary period** 18. Unwanted rodent **38. Porticos** 21. Partly cooked with hot 40. Alban and Peter are two water 41. Gets up 24. One who can be 43. Humble request for recommended help 26. Resembles a bag or pouch 44. One-thousandth of an 27. Midway between south inch (abbr.) and southeast 45. Unhappy 30. Sets up for a photo 47. Hint or indication 32. California white oak 48. A way to plead 35. More (Spanish) 51. Digits 37. After B 53. Broadway actress Daisy 38. Decorated tea urn 55. Jewish calendar month 39 Island 56. Author Gore 42. Car mechanics group 58. Peacock network 43. Wordplay joke 59. White poplar 46. Cut a rug 60. Promotional material 47. Prickly plant 61. A period of calm 49. Speech in praise of a 64. Take too much deceased person 65. Emit energy 67. Something you can take 69. Mended with yarn 70. Inconsistent **CLUES DOWN** 1. Calm down 2. One quintillion bytes (abbr.) 3. One who pretends 4. Hang glide 5. Distinctive practice 6. Mariner 7. Peaks 8. Queens ballplayer



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- 54. West African
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- 55. Siskel's partner
- 57. Skinny
- 59. Oblong pulpit
- 62. Consumed
- 63. Small, mischievous sprite
- 66. Powerful lawyer
- 68. Indicates position

March 30 Solution



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9. Geological times

10. Twofold

HORIZONS

OBITUARIES

Judith Emma Belter

LAS VEGAS — Judith Emma Belter passed away on

Oct. 6, 2022, while residing in Las Vegas, Nevada. She was born in Sharon, in November of 1950. She was the daughter of the late Garwood H. Belter, Jr and the late Emma Belter.

Judith grew up in Lime Rock on

the family farm and attended Salisbury Central School and Housatonic Valley Regional High School. She was known for her school spirit and always helping and encouraging others. Her yearbook honors her as "most school spirit". She was a jovial, people loving gal.

Leaving Connecticut to California in the mid-1970's, Judith held a variety of work positions before deciding to further her education. During the years while completing a Certification in Web Design and Development at Santa Rosa Junior College she was employed with Apple Computer and MCI Electronics Data Services in Napa, California. After graduating in 2002 she moved to Las Vegas. While finishing a BS degree in information Technology at the University of Phoenix, she contin-

ued her business career with Miles Kimball and Mower Communications. After receiving her IT degree in 2005 her focus was on systems analysis

and support for customer service then as a specialist and the management of highprofile clients for

Williams-Sonoma. In 2010 a desired position opened for her at Zappos where she remained until they were purchased by Amazon. Her retirement in 2021 concluded over a decade of in-depth experience with the combined Zappos/ Amazon in their Customer Loyalty Teams where she was known to be an accomplished expert at troubleshooting and problem solving. She enjoyed helping people and finding solutions.

She is survived by her sisters; Sylvia Cooley (husband Skip Cooley), Jeanne Bond (husband Vincent) and Garma Waldron and her niece Lindsay Waldron and grandniece Lily Dolan. She was pre-deceased by her brother-in-law David Waldron and her nephew Gared Waldron.

She will be missed by many friends and family.

Phyllis Cushman Foster

KENT — Phyllis Cushman Foster, 97, passed away

peacefully at Geer Village Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Canaan, on March 31, 2023.

A vibrant and beloved presence in Kent, Phyllis lived at Templeton Farms from the age of 65, having first served as program

director for the affordable housing facility.

Bridgewater State Teach-

1950s, Phyllis raised her three children on her own. Though

she had experienced tremendous loss and personal tragedy, she always had a listening ear for those who might need it, offering her wisdom, empathy and wonderful sense of humor. She loved to laugh, particularly

at her own expense. Foster is pre-deceased Phyllis was educated at by her first husband Richard Andrews and second

FALLS VILLAGE — On March 22, 2023, Mary Ella Fitch Blass passed away peacefully at her home in Falls Village in the presence of loved ones.

Born on July 1, 1952, in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, Mary was the eldest daughter of the late George and Ella (Jackson)

REGIONAL

School-based health center serves students at Webutuck district

By Deborah Maier

AMENIA — In a region like northeast Dutchess County, where health care options are limited and changing all the time, a more centralized, "wraparound" approach, at least for the children in a family, can be a major time-, money- and academic life- saver. Such is the case with the School-Based Health Center (SBHC), the first in Dutchess County, in the Webutuck Central School District (WCSD).

Located in a hallway between Eugene Brooks Intermediate School (EBIS) and Webutuck High School, the clinic was initially set up in May 2022, and has been running full steam since September. It is a fully functioning facility open to all students residing in WCSD.

Officially known as part of the Nita M. Lowey Center for Health in Schools, reflecting the Westchester congresswoman's efforts on behalf of children's health, the Center is accepting enrollment on an ongoing basis. Currently at about 35% of the district's total of 625 students, the staff hopes to reach 70% in the near future.

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) are facilities that offer health care to individuals in local communities without regard to whether or not those patients can pay for services or are insured. For some students, the school-based FQHCs replace primary care providers. On March 30, Livia Santiago-Rosado, MD, FACEP, commissioner of Dutchess County's Department of Behavioral & Community Health, paid a visit to Webutuck's SBHC. In the early days of her tenure as commissioner, Santiago was dismayed to note the incidence of school absenteeism in some communities, and set about seeking reasons and remedies. The burdens on parents to find providers who have appointments available, take time off work to take their children to the appointments, and other delays result in loss of academic and work time.

Mary Ella Fitch Blass

Fitch. She is predeceased by husband William S. Blass and survived by a loving and expansive crew of folks: her daughter Heather Vansvik and husband Viktor of Dingle, Sweden; her son William Blass of Falls Village and dear friend Katie Ross of North Canaan; her daughter Sonja Zinke and husband Eric of

To the commissioner's

query as to whether parents

and teachers partake of ser-

vices, operations director

Sara Hodgdon of Open Door

Medical Center- with cen-

ters in Westchester, Putnam,

Ulster and now Dutchess

counties - noted that New

exceptions.

quired.

as needed.

North Canaan; her brother Gilbert Fitch and wife Janice of Lakeville; her brother William Fitch and wife Karen of Dunsmore, West Virginia; her sister Susan Kelsey of Falls Village and her sister Sally Greco and husband Richard of Hickory, North Carolina; numerous nieces and nephews and many friends from all walks of life; and her faithful guard cat, The Dread Pirate Roberts Blass.

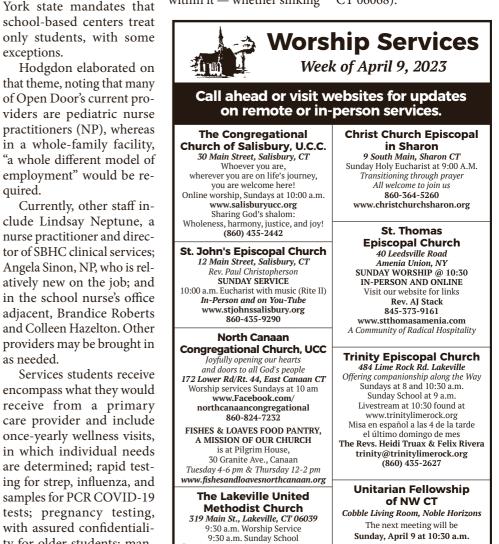
A long-time resident of Falls Village, Mary graduated from the Housatonic Valley Regional High School where she was voted the class clown of the class of 1970. One of her many adventures took her to Georgia, where she studied at Athens Tech to become a medical assistant.

Those who knew Mary are full of stories of her adventurous spirit, creativity, and generosity. She was a free spirit who lived in the moment and was up for any adventure. Mary cherished the natural world and moments spent within it — whether sinking her toes into soft green moss or foraging for mushrooms in Sweden with her daughter. She saw beauty in objects that most people would overlook and she incorporated nature's magical offerings into her art. Some of her most cherished times were those she spent with children at her feet. She could truly tap into children's imagination, which kept her young at heart. Mary was known for her overflowing generosity, and she helped anyone in need in any way she could.

Mary made magic wherever she went, sprinkling little bits on everyone and everything around her.

May all those who knew and loved Mary carry on her legacy by going forth and having "a sparkling day".

Donations in memory of Mary may be made to the Falls Village Congregational Church (PO Box 72, Falls Village, CT 06031) or the Visiting Nurse and Hospice of Litchfield County (30A Salmon Kill Road, Salisbury, CT 06068).





ers College, Massachusetts School of Art, and UConn where she received a BA later in life. Among her many jobs, Phyllis was a recreation director at a women's prison, an art teacher, a certified graphologist, a nursery school director, a social worker at CT Division of Youth and Family Services and a caregiver to elders.

Active in the women's movement in the 1970s, Phyllis started a women's consciousness raising group, which she hosted in her home. She was a champion for human rights and equality for all, and used her voice to advocate for those marginalized or disenfranchised. She tutored women at a female detention center, was passionate about LGBTQ issues, and helped out during the AIDS crisis.

Phyllis enjoyed the outdoors and walked three miles a day well into her seventies. She loved the ocean, which reminded her of her treasured childhood home in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Always singing or humming, Phyllis was a member of the choir at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Kent. She served on the Kent Memorial Library Book Selection and Acquisition Committee, the Kent Social Services Task Force, and the Night of the 1,000 Pies benefits that raised funds for Kent Affordable Housing.

After losing two husbands to the polio epidemic of the husband Walter Foster. She is survived by children Joel Foster of Wassaic, Jennifer Andrews of Cornwall, and John Foster of Olympia, Washington, and daughters-in-law Tonia Shoumatoff Foster and Dana Squires. She leaves five grandchildren, Matthew Wolf of Barkhamsted, Stefan Wolf of Sharon, Zoë Foster of Thomaston, Maine and Kajaat and Rama Squires of Olympia. Her three great-grandchildren, Ida and Thea Foster and Celeste Wolf, brought her tremendous joy. Countless friends and neighbors enriched Phyllis's life and brightened her days. Foster was loved by many and will be dearly missed. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Kent Affordable Housing, P.O.Box 265, Kent, CT 06757.

ty for older students; management and forestalling of asthma attacks; arranging prescriptions, if needed, to be immediately available to parents; and other services.

Occasionally it is as simple as supplying a place for a student to rest a while, then sending them back to class.

Another exception to the students-only rule is in mental health services available at the Webutuck location.

Families may be brought in to figure out whole-family solutions to issues that present in children and teens.

All present agreed that "it's a brilliant use of space" when students can have their physical and mental/social-emotional health needs met in the place where they spend most of their waking hours.

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The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Steet, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer Pastor Sun Yong Lee 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net

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

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

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

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

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860-927-3003 Rev. Robert Landback The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge HOLY THURSDAY MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 7 PM - St. Bernard GOOD FRIDAY CONFESSIONS 10-11 AM - Sacred Heart THE PASSION OF THE LORD 3 PM - St. Bridge HOLY SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL MASS 7:30 PM - Sacred Heart EASTER SUNDAY 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - St. Bridget 10 AM - Sacred Heart

Our Towns Showers don't spoil April Fool's fun

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL — Mother Nature's rainy prank did not fool Cornwallians during the Park and Recreation Spring Celebration on Saturday, April 1. Despite heavy rain at Foote Field, approximately 70 people of all ages were in attendance for fun and games at the April Fool's Day extravaganza.

The Easter Bunny made an appearance after working hard all morning to lay eggs across the field. Santa and the Grinch joined as well to prank their fellow festive mascot and steal some of the bunny's thunder in the spirit of foolishness.

Children donned umbrellas, boots, and raincoats to enjoy crafts, games, activities and a refreshment spread before the long-awaited egg hunt commenced.

A few lucky seekers found the coveted golden eggs and won a special bag of prizes to take home. After clearing out the field, participants returned to the shelter of the



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Riley Hall and Alex Lunderborg made the best of the rain during Cornwall Park and Rec's Spring Celebration.

pavilion to dry off and review a large turnout for the event. the haul.

Park and Recreation Commission Chair Michelle April Fool's part to it," said Shipp was pleased to see such Shipp. "This speaks to the

"Isn't this great? The weather just adds that little kow. "This is New England!"

hardiness of our children." "And the hardiness of our families," added Park and Recreation Director Ien Mar-



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAI

New faces on the farm

The last couple of weeks have been busy at Beavertides Farm in Falls Village, where Dan Carr and Marlene van Gulick have welcomed several lambs into the fold. These are about two weeks old.



By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Friday, March 31 public hearing on the proposed spending plans for education and municipal spending was uneventful except for some minor technical difficulties with the Zoom feed.

About 30 people showed up in person at the Emergency Services Center, and three people were online.

School board chair Pat Mechare was asked about the price of propane for the Lee H. Kellogg School.

Mechare said that contract is negotiated by Region One Business Manager Sam Herrick for the six K-8 schools and Housatonic Valley Regional High School, so she did not have any particulars other than observing that Herrick had found that some propane suppliers are not willing to do business with schools.

Board of Finance chair Dan Silverman asked Mechare if she would get an answer to the question in time for the Board of Finance meeting Monday, April 10. Mechare said she would.

During his presentation First Selectman Henry Todd said that several capital accounts "needed

help" and received boosts in the selectmen's spending plan.

He said the town has not been putting enough into the accounts for replacing fire trucks, ambulances and highway department trucks.

'If we didn't have volunteer fire and ambulance it would cost us millions," he said. "So it's up to us to do this."

Todd also said the town has a stellar record of getting the most bang for its vehicle buck.

"Our town keeps trucks running longer and better than any other town in the state."

Silverman thanked both Mechare and Todd. "We appreciate all you've done to control costs."

The proposed budget for municipal spending has a total of \$2,247,689, an increase of \$110,455 (5.17%).

The proposed spending for all education is \$3,639,209, an increase of \$17,669 (.49%).

The Region One assessment for Falls Village is \$1,402,578, a decrease of \$94,678 (6.32%).

The spending plan for Lee H. Kellogg School has a bottom line of \$2,236,631, an increase of \$112,347 (5.29%).

The proposed spending plans are available on the town website.

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Sharon Hospital

Sports

Hotchkiss tennis pre-season swings into action

By Riley Klein

LAKEVILLE — The Hotchkiss School's girls varsity tennis team began their season with a scrimmage against Millbrook School on Wednesday, March 29. Hotchkiss' players outperformed their Millbrook counterparts across the pre-season. board and didn't drop a set, pulling off a clean sweep of 19-0.

Hotchkiss Coach Maja Clark was pleased to see her team out on the courts for the first time this year and couldn't have asked for better conditions to start the



Addie Cirulis prevailed over her opponent when Hotchkiss hosted Millbrook to begin tennis season.

"It's gorgeous today. This is tennis weather," said Clark. With sun shining on the

'49 Field Courts at Hotchkiss and temps in the mid 50s, it didn't take long for the Bearcats to warm up. Their bright start to the 2023 season gave plenty of reason for confidence as the team gets set for league matches.

"We're excited. We feel optimistic," said Clark. "It's a young, promising team."

Hotchkiss is still working out their varsity line-up for the season, but they appeared to have no shortage of talent on the roster. The Bearcats' first doubles team, which included freshman Minnie Li and junior Eva Lependorf, served up aces and played to each other's strengths in their opening scrimmage set to win 7-2 on center court.

Next up for Hotchkiss is an away meet against Darien High School on April 5. The varsity tennis team is set to begin Founder's League play on April 12 at Loomis Chaffee.



Minnie Lu and Eva Lependorf were all smiles after winning their opening scrimmage on center court as Hotchkiss' first doubles team, March 29.

Kent baseball struggles in home opener

By Riley Klein

KENT — The Kent School Lions' varsity baseball team lost 11-1 in their home opener against the Brunswick School Bruins on Friday, March 31. Kent struggled to shake off the winter jitters in this non-league game at G. Foster Sanford Field.

The Lions started the game with senior Eli Robbins on the mound. Robbins couldn't seem to loosen up as he walked the first four batters and allowed two runners to score on wild pitches.

Robbins had given up four runs with only one out by the time the Bruins had batted around the order. Kent Coach Jake Bennett promptly swapped him out for sophomore Phillip Mc-Coy, who similarly struggled to find his rhythm. By the bottom of the inning, de-



Kent Coach Jake Bennett relieved starting pitcher Eli Robbins after Robbins struggled to shake off the

gloomy afternoon.

"Find a cookie," said Coach Bennett from the third base line. "Dig through the jar and pick one you like."

Senior Drew Martin stepped in the box, picked a winner, and sent a grounder to the shortstop. Brunswick turned the double play, but the hit brought home junior Gio Digiulian and put Kent on the board.

In the next inning, Brunswick extended their lead with two more runs and later tacked on the final score of the day in the fourth inning. Bennett made another pitching change in the fourth and brought in junior Shinn Saimaru to close out the game. Saimaru cauterized the bleeding by throwing some serious heat and prevented the Bruins from adding to their lead.

Brunswick stuck with



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Catchin' trout in the rain

The Limestone Trout Club in East Canaan opened for the season Saturday, April 1, and in true April Fool's fashion, it poured rain in the morning, only to clear up in the afternoon. Joe Cieslowski, also of East Canaan, got his first couple of trout of 2023 using his favorite fly, the Green Weenie.

spite having only given up one hit, the Lions trailed by eight runs.

Kent looked confident as they took to the batter's box. Brunswick's pitcher

winter jitters in the Lions' home opener.

Player Crosby seemed destined to meet the same fate as his Lions counterparts as he walked the first two hitters. A

sacrifice fly from Robbins to center field loaded the bases and gave the Lions a glimpse of daylight on an otherwise

Crosby on the mound for the entirety of the game. Crosby, whose four-seam reaches over 90 mph, is headed to Coastal Carolina University for Division I ball next year.

With a 10-point deficit on the scoreboard by the end of the fifth inning, the mercy rule went into effect just as rain started to pour down. Kent will be back on their home field on April 8 when they host Choate Rosemary Hall for a 3:30 p.m. game.



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Susan Dickinson Vice President Lakeville Branch Manager MLO #532620



Shinn Saimaru closed out the game on the mound for Kent in their season opener against Brunswick.

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This show was originally scheduled for April 2020. Many thanks to the vision of Trustee Emeritus Samuel Posey P'97, 01 for its return



Our Towns Easter Bunny comes to Sharon

By Debra A. Aleksinas

SHARON — The Easter Bunny's job is not all it's cracked up to be.

The costume is hot, vision is poor and rambunctious youngsters hug the stuffing out of you.

Nonetheless, Elise Cecil, administrator at Sharon Health Care Center (SHCC), hopped into a furry bunnysuit and entertain dozens of children during a community Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 1.

The family-friendly event featured photo ops with the popular white rabbit, a/k/a Cecil, as well as crafts, games and refreshments.

The nursing home's resi-

dents, too, got in on the fun by hiding some of the colorful, plastic eggs that were hunted down by the excited tvkes.

"One resident just told me that this was the best program she's participated in, and she's been at other facilities," noted Cecil.

Melissa Kimma of Sharon brought her daughter, Lilyan, 10, to the event.

"I'm glad they did it. During the past few years and COVID, there weren't many events like this. And it's nice to have the residents be part of the festivities," noted Kimma.

Nearby, Lilyan clutched a basket that overflowed with glittering eggs. As she posed

for a picture, she was photo-bombed by an energetic toddler who was taking in all the action.

A few feet away, Elianna Decker, 8, of Millerton, New York., who got all dressed up for the occasion, smiled for her photo with the Easter Bunny as her family proudly captured the moment.

The center's recreation director Terry Emerson, and advertising and marketing director Stephani Distabile, were also on hand to meet and greet visitors and keep the fun flowing. Emerson's grandson, Bradley Robinson, had traveled from Torrington to partake in the egg hunt.

When asked for an estimate of attendance, Cecil laughed. "I'd be happy to tell you, but I couldn't really see," to which Distabile responded, "about 30 children."

As the festivities came to a close, the SHCC administrator traded her bunny suit for civilian clothes.

Still a bit sweaty from the costume and winded from an enormous bear hug by 4-year-old Nicky Moore of Sharon— who attended with his big sister, Charlotte, 6, and mom, Lydia- Cecil reflected on the importance of community events such as this, which help to connect residents with the public.

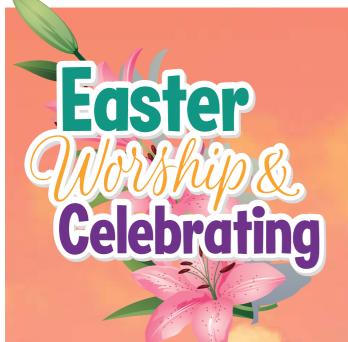
"It was fun, and everyone had a good time, and I got to interact with the residents as well," said Cecil, who was



Elianna Decker, 8, of Millerton, N.Y., posed with the Easter Bunny, a/k/a Sharon Health Care Center administrator Elise Cecil.

appointed administrator of SHCC, which is owned by Athena Health Care Systems, in October of 2022.

"Plus," she said flashing a smile, "there was no paperwork!"



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Maundy Thursday service 5 PM APRIL 6th **Good Friday service** 5 PM APRIL 7th Holy Saturday Silent/ **Meditation/Retreat Day** 9 AM - 2 PM APRIL 8th Arrive and leave as you wish anle lunch will be provide Easter service 10:30 AM APRIL 9th

Falls Village Congregational Church



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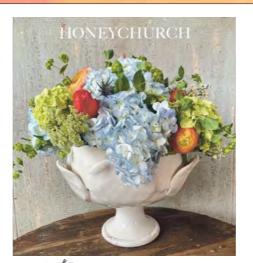
Maundy Thursday Service: 7:00pm Easter Sunrise Service: 5:45am At the Church on Beebe Hill Rd. Followed by Breakfast Easter Service: 10:00am

All are welcome.

16 Beebe Hill Rd, Falls Village, CT | (860) 824 - 0194 | thefvcc@gmail.com

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76 Sharon Road, Lakeville Immaculate Conception 11 am







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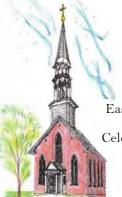
> **GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 7** Noon Liturgy

EASTER CELEBRATION | APRIL 9 10:00 a.m. Rite II, Eucharist with music

Rev. Paul Christopherson presiding

Also live on YouTube: St. John's Church, Salisbury, CT sjepiscopal@gmail.com

CHRIST CHURCH EPISCOPAL, SHARON HOLY WEEK WORSHIP



<u>April 6th</u> 4:30 PM Maundy Thursday Stripping of Altar <u>April 7th</u> 12:00 PM Good Friday April 9th Easter Sunday, Sunrise Service 152 East Street, Sharon Celebration of the Resurrection 9:00 AM Holy Eucharist Celebrant, Rev. Roger White Easter Egg hunt following the service

Organist, Jon Lafleur

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St. Joseph's Church 9 am

Trinity Episcopal Church

> **Good Friday** April 7

12 Noon: Way of the Cross

7:00 PM: Words of the Life of Iesus Reflections & meditative music for harp and organ

Easter Vigil

April 8 7:00 PM: Traditional Vigil Mass With the New Fire, chants, hymns & Andean music

Easter Day!

8:00 AM: Eucharist with hymns

10:30 AM: Festive Eucharist Featuring Trinity Choir & Crescendo; music by Philips and Mouton. Easter egg hunt at 11:40

> 4:00 PM: Misa de Pascua Con música de "Sin Fronteras" y después, una búsqueda de huevos de Pascua

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Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, April 6 Communion & Tenebrae

7 pm Worship

Good Friday, April 7 Music & **Meditation**

12 noon



6:30 am Ecumenical Sunrise Service Town Grove, Lakeville 9:45 am Hand Bell Prelude 10 am Easter Worship



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30 Main St, Salisbury, CT • 860-435-2442 SalisburyUCC.org for link to live stream

Our Towns

Plant catalogs: A sure sign of spring

fter teasing us since January, we can reliably feel Spring's energy rising from the roots to the tips of branches. If you are the less optimistic type who doesn't catch Spring fever until May, you still have the plant catalogs arriving now. Snow may still threaten but these catalogs are a sure sign that spring is near.

I'm at the point where most of the catalogs immediately go into the recycling bin. The plants they feature are likely to be non-native and, while I am not against exotics in a garden bed, I do follow the "native first, native cultivar ('nativar') second, non-native third" rule. Also, I often find the colors on offer to be garish. Nevertheless, the arrival of plant catalogs in the mailbox induces in me a Pavlovian response — to purchase plants.

Ideas for this year's planting have been a low hum in my mind all winter and now I begin to make lists and sketch out ideas. This work is motivated by the plants themselves, much the way a fashion designer goes first to the fabric as inspiration for design. I am neither a fashion nor a garden designer but over the years I

The Ungardener Dee Salomon

have several resources where I find the plants that really excite me.

Last year was not a planting year for me — I was too busy battling spongy moth to think about adding any new plants, with one exception: I always want to support the Northwest Conservation District's plant sale as it is their only fundraising event of the year. Last year I ordered three pots of Yellowroot (Xanthorhiza simplicissima) a plant I did not know anything about; the foliage in the photo was attractive as was its description. When I got to the pickup location in Goshen, Karen Nelson told me that a neighbor had great success with this plant. So I bought five more and planted them in between four inkberry shrubs, augmenting the native plant border by the river. And they were indeed successful, so I am ordering a few more, along with a few bayberry plants which I will use to fortify the river bank. The sale ends April 12 so hurry and visit the shop at www.nwcd.org/shop/

I wrote about native ros-



Yellowroot for sale at the Northwest Conservation District annual plant sale

es in the February column and purchased some of the roses recommended by horticulturalist Robin Zitter via different online resources. Three pots of climbing Prairie Rose, sourced through Prairie Nursery (www.prairienursery.com/) will go on the border between our neighbor's property so that we can both share the pink blossom.

A flat of Swamp Rose plugs, and several gallon containers of Carolina Rose were sourced from Izel Plants (www.izelplants.com/), a consolidator of native and nativar plants from nurseries across the country. The swamp rose is appropriately destined for the swamp as are plugs of Cattail and Sweet-flag, also purchased through Izel Plants. In several weeks I should have about two hundred plugs and I am concerned about timing the planting so as not to disturb the tender growth of skunk cabbage and thalictrum. I can access the stream banks from the the stream itself but may have to wait with the rest until I can step without crushing precious young plants.

Finally, a shopping list will accompany me to Earth Tones Nursery in Woodbury so that I don't get carried

away at what I consider to be the Disneyland of native nurseries. I hope to come back with eight pots of staghorn sumac and a couple of nine-barks, which are hard to source as straight natives.

In addition to this buying spree I will experiment with the curious and fantastical Aralia Spinosa or Devil's Walking Stick. Despite being one of three native Aralias in our region, it looks more like a small palm tree or giant fern than an East Coast plant. This tree loses all of its branches in the fall and spends the winter as a single stem with a barbed coat, which explains its common

name. A copse of about twenty grows heartily on a hillside; five or so of the smaller ones will be dug out and added to the native path. I have wanted to write about Aralia in this column for some time. I will let you know how this transplant goes and write about the other Aralias in an upcoming column.

Thanks to those who have joined our woodland workshop; we have had a fantastic response. It is now closed to new applicants but I hope to open enrollment again in the summer.

Dee Salomon "ungardens" *in Litchfield County.*

School board approves budget proposal

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Adhering to state Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR) constraints, the Board of Education voted unanimously on Thursday, March 30 to submit its 2023-24 proposed budget for Sharon Center School to the Board of Finance, not with a decrease in spending as had been suggested, but rather with a slight increase. The meeting was conducted on Zoom. Following discussion, board members agreed to increase the capital expense line by \$1,756 and resubmit the spending plan to the Board of Finance. The finance board had called for reducing the budget by a total of \$39,000 to be found in the capital expense line. As originally submitted earlier in March, the Board of Education budget showed no increase in spending, retaining the current year's total budgeted spending level of \$4,512,571. The budget estimated that the current year's expenditures would total \$4,387,450.

led off discussion by defining three possible courses of action, including the reduction by \$39,000, taking no action, or increasing the capital line by \$1,756.

Region One Business Manager Sam Herrick explained some of the major budgetary factors to be considered.

"We calculate on October the number of resident students who are attending the high school," Herrick said, noting that the state's resident student numbers do not match the school's count and that his office is working to reconcile the difference. "We have to be sure that students get charged to the town. We only look at resident kids," Herrick said,

adding that care is taken that outside or exchange students are charged to the correct town.

Education board member Deborah Rathbun commented that potentially declining enrollment numbers could benefit the town by sending fewer students to the high school.

"But you still have the lol costs continuing," Cahill responded. He also noted that the increase of \$1,756 would likely be returned to the town at year's end as unexpended funds, unless something unexpected should happen. The addition of \$1,756 was supported by Herrick who indicated that the town would be likely to receive that much more in state cost sharing funds, while also remaining in compliance with the MBR requirements.

Cahill praised the work of Herrick who had reviewed the situation for the school board prior to the Board of Finance's meeting to discuss budget proposals on Tuesday, April 4.

"They will understand our osition that we need to stav above water on the MBR," Cahill said.

Concert to benefit Corner Food Pantry April 30

LAKEVILLE — On April 30 at 2 p.m., The Hotchkiss School musicians, many of whom recently performed at Carnegie Hall, invite the community to a concert at the Lakeville Town Grove that will benefit The Corner Food Pantry. Guests are encouraged to the concert which will include classical music performances, a jazz ensemble, and the school's all-male and all-female acapella groups. Students have requested non-perishable food donations for the Corner Food Pantry.

To ensure enough seating and refreshments for

Doug Cahill, chairman of the Board of Education, enjoy the refreshments and reception following all guests, please RSVP to clburchf@hotchkiss.org.

Salisbury Congregational Green Expo April 23

Salisbury Congregational Church's Green Team will host a Green Expo on Sunday, April 23 after the 10 a.m. service in the Parish Hall. Members of the Green

SALISBURY — The Team will "show and tell" a variety of earth friendly products and explain how using them can help the environment. Products will include household items such as laundry soap, paper products, and smart power strips.

Those who come are encouraged to bring their electric bills to learn about potential savings. Call 413-274-5028 or email angela. lomanto@gmail.com for info.

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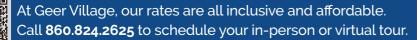
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BANK

Continued from Page A1

deposits.

If the merger is completed, Salisbury shareholders will receive 0.7450 shares of NBT common stock for each share of Salisbury common. At the close of trading on Monday, April 3, NBT shares were \$33.51; Salisbury shares were \$24.74.

Cantele is expected to join NBT as executive vice president of strategic integration. Other officers of Salisbury also are expected to join the new bigger bank.

A history of the bank

The Salisbury Savings Society was funded in 1848. In the 1948 booklet com-

memorating the centennial of the bank's founding, the process was described:

"The General Assembly of Connecticut at the May session of 1848, granted a charter to the following named persons, giving them authority to organize the Salisbury Savings Society."

"Lakeville in 1848 was a small straggling settlement of perhaps forty buildings, and Salisbury village had about the same number of inhabitants. The Treasurer's report of October 1, 1849, showed 126 depositors having \$11,111.36 to their credit. Fiver percent interest had been paid depositors for the year and the bank's operating expense was listed as \$44.78."

In 1925, the Salisbury Savings Society merged with the Robbins Burrall Trust Company (established 1874) to form Salisbury Bank and Trust.

The two entities occupied the same building at 12 Millerton Road, where the Assured Partners insurance office is today.

Continued from Page A1

said Perotti. "I'll be 75 in De-

cember and I've done it all

ure as first selectman, Perotti

highlighted the replacement

While reviewing his ten-

Perotti

my life."

Above, the back of this obotograph reads: The new safe being hauled up Holley St. to the Salisbury Bank and Trust from the railroad freight station. Early 1900s. Right, a letail from a Salisbury
letail from a Salisbury Savings Society passbook From thelate 19th century.
iom metale i sui century.

In 1909 there was an unsuccessful attempt to rob the bank by assaulting the door to the vault. No money was taken.

The Salisbury branch was opened in 1963, and the Sharon branch in 1983. In the 2000s, the bank began to expand rapidly, acquring a People's Bank branch in 2001, Canaan National Bancorp in 2004, and a New York Community Bank branch in 2007.

In 2007, SBT opened branches in Dover Plains, and Sheffield, Massachusetts.

7677 9107 Salisbury Savings Society in acc' 1893 2/4 apr sg 18 3 12 24550 600 top= J 0et 1876 sy apri

PHOTOS SUBMITTED

In 2009 SBT acquired a Webster Bank branch and opened a branch in Millerton.

In 2014 SBT opened a branch in Great Barrington and continued to expand in New York.

In 2018 the bank hit \$1 billion in assets.

In 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, SBT processed 932 federal Paycheck Protection Program applications for \$100 million in loans (including one from the Lakeville Journal Company), and another 472 PPP applications for \$48 million in 2021.

acres of wetlands and in return they agreed to a restoration project. Browner identified a large farm that was purchased by Disney and restored to its previous

wetland status. It was around this time that she first met Bill Clinton while they were both responding to the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew in 1992. Later that year she traveled to Little Rock to interview for the role of EPA administrator.

CLIMATE

Continued from Page A1

She served as chief legislative

assistant under U.S. Senator

Lawton Chiles (D-FL) from

1986-1988, legislative direc-

tor for U.S. Senator Al Gore

(D-TN) from 1988-1991 and

became Florida's secretary of

environmental regulation

ministrator of the Environ-

mental Protection Agency

(EPA) under President Clin-

ton and held the position from

1993-2001. She later served as

Director of President Obama's

White House Office of Energy

and Climate Change Policy

retary of environmental reg-

ulation in Florida, Browner

undertook to protect the

Everglades. Browner indi-

cated that her approach was

centered on the belief that

economic development and

environmental protection

with an example of a deal

she brokered with Walt Dis-

ney World. Disney, seeking to

build their Animal Kingdom

theme park in the early 1990s,

was planning to destroy about

400 acres of wetlands for the

said that's not going to hap-

Disney to alter about 100

pen," said Browner.

"We took a look at it and

The compromise allowed

project.

She illustrated this point

could exist harmoniously.

During her time as sec-

Browner became the Ad-

from 1991-1993.

from 2008-2010.

After being confirmed by the senate 98-0, Browner was sworn into the position in 1993. Her legislative accomplishments in the Clinton administration secured clean air and safe drinking water protections. She explained how the regulatory power of the EPA was used to lift the standards of corporations and curtail environmental pollution.

"I'll do it for a year," said Browner. "I ended up staying for two," she added.

Browner's focus at this time was the push for clean energy. She recalled that the efforts of the Office of Energy and Climate Change Policy in the early Obama White House "gave birth to the huge investments in electric vehicles." At the time, their policies represented the largest investment ever in clean energy.

"What Biden just did has way surpassed it," said Browner.

While talking about the recent Inflation Reduction Act that has allocated hundreds of billions of dollars to invest in clean energy, Browner noted the difference in approach compared to her efforts in the past. Browner's approach was largely based around the use of regulatory power, or "sticks," as she referred to it, to enact change. Under Biden's plan, she said the driving force for change is money and tax credits, or "carrots."

"Will you get further with carrots than you got with sticks? We made a lot of progress with sticks," said Browner.

Browner recognized that the state of the climate and policy making is different today than when she served.

"The reality is we are already starting to live with the consequences of climate change and we are going to have to adapt," said Browner.

Browner indicated her focus today is on building resiliency within the environment and embracing modern solutions for the changing climate. Browner said she finds hope in the next generation and technological advances.

Today Browner operates as senior counsel at Covington and Burlington LLP and assists clients as they navigate climate change policy. She said she meets with two or three young companies and leaders each week to discuss climate solutions with an emphasis on new technologies.

"Times have changed. What worked 20 years ago is very different than what

of Toby Hill Bridge and the herding the town through a repaving of numerous roads period of great uncertainty.

"I just love doing it, you know? But I'm not getting any younger,"

Charlie Perotti

lenges that came with shep-

Street." he said. At present, Perotti is focused on getting the town Sons Inc. is run by Charles and his brother, Frank, who has worked there since 1954. Perotti said he is looking forward to continuing the tradition of grand holiday motifs at his home each December. "It's getting a little older to carry the stuff out, but you know the kids are getting pretty good now," said Perotti on decorating the house and yard with his grandchildren. "It's well worth it. I know the Geer bus comes up every year. This year they asked if they could drive through my circle driveway, I said, yeah,

in 1966. William Perotti &

in North Canaan among his greatest accomplishments.

"The bridge was in dire need and we got it done," said Perotti.

Perotti also expressed pride over the revitalization of downtown North Canaan as businesses have opened up in the village.

"The brewery is great. We got the railroad station done and the accordion [museum] is in there. So that's bringing people in. It's the attractions. And a new restaurant is going to be coming in," said Perotti.

His time as first selectman also spanned the entirety of the COVID-19 pandemic. Perotti recalled the chal-

"It was stressful. We did clinics here for COVID and we fought to get them here with Torrington Area Health," said Perotti on the struggle of setting up the initial vaccination station outside North Canaan Town Hall. "We had over 500 people the first time. I was sat there the whole day."

Perotti said there is still work to be done before he departs later this year. One such project is a collaboration with the state to improve parking in the center of town.

'They're going to be upgrading all the parking signs on Railroad Street and Main through budget season. He is optimistic he can get this year's proposal passed and is pleased to be able to offer a reduced mill rate.

What's next for Perotti? He said he is looking forward to spending more time with family, completing home projects, and continuing to work in his plumbing shop that was founded by his father in 1928.

"I want to make some new stuff. So I'll have more time for that and I still go to work at my shop at six in the morning," said Perotti, who has worked in the family plumbing business since he graduated high school

Perotti's advice for the next first selectman was to "have an open door and don't commit to something you're not going to be able to work through." He added that it is important to listen to both sides of any issue and "treat everybody fairly."

why not? That's what it's for."

"We really figured out how to make the agency start working for the American people," said Browner.

After eight years in the Clinton White House, Browner joined the Albright Group. She said her time here was spent helping members of the private sector navigate government regulation and policy making around the world.

When President Obama was elected in 2008, he reached out to Browner and asked her to become his climate czar.

works today," said Browner. "It's an all-hands-on-deck moment. Put it all on the table."

Despite a lifetime of conservation efforts and environmental protection, Browner said, "we're way behind. We run the risk as a generation of leaving to our children a planet that is permanently altered."

When asked what action a private citizen can take to combat climate change, Browner stated, "there's one answer: vote. Take the time to become an informed citizen and participate in our democratic process."





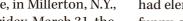
Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

FILM: ALEXANDER WILBURN

Kyra & Kevin at The Moviehouse

't's a premise that could easily be _mistaken for sci-fi on a family-run Rhode Island flower farm, a young man (Kyle Allen, "West Side Story") announces one morning to his salt-of-the-earth parents (Kevin Bacon and Carrie Preston) that he's been selected by a technologically-advanced, privately-funded expedition to Mars. It's a one-way trip — the red planet is where these space explorers plan to die – and he wants to spend as much time with his family as he can before his departure. In "Space Oddity," the directorial film debut by actress Kyra Sedgwick, what unfolds is a contemporary tale about a family here on Earth, and a flirtation sparked with a girl (Alexandra Shipp) who accepts this wouldbe Martian, despite his delusions. Distributed by Samuel Goldwyn Films, the charming romantic dramedy had its premiere at the 2022 Tribeca Film Festival and is now playing in select theaters and on demand.

Sedgwick and Bacon, longtime residents of Sharon, Conn., were special guests at a screening of "Space Oddity" at The Moviehouse, in Millerton, N.Y.,



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PHOTO COURTESY OF SAMUEL GOLDWYN FILMS

Kevin Bacon stars as the patriarch of a Rhode Island flower farming family in "Space Oddity," directed by his wife, Kyra Sedgwick, right, who discussed her film after a screening at The Moviehouse.

previously worked with Kevin Bacon on the Amazon series "I Love Dick," set in Marfa, Texas, and based on the novel by Chris Kraus.

"I found the script utterly compelling and lovely, and loved that it involved people you could relate to," Sedgwick told Dunne during the post-screening conversation. "Dysfunctional families, or families that are struggling to be functional, that's my jam. I get so, so excited by that, because who doesn't have a family like that? For me, this script had elements that were funny, sad, hopeful and was also really about something." Bacon joked that his



PHOTOS BY ALEXANDER WILBURN



ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN Remembering **Ellsworth Kelly**

n 2013 when painter and sculptor Ellsworth Kelly received the National Medal of Arts from Barack Obama, the former U.S. president described him as "A careful observer of form, color and the natural world, Mr. Kelly has shaped more than half a century of abstraction and remains a vital influence in American art." Kelly was a New York State-native who lived and painted in Spencertown, in Columbia County, N.Y., from 1970 until his death at 92 in 2015.

Starting April 29, The Gallery at Spencertown Academy Arts Center will unveil "Ellsworth Kelly Centennial: An **Exhibition of Historic** Posters" featuring exhibit

and located in 16th arrondissement of Paris. Currently on view in New York City is "Ellsworth Kelly: A Centennial Celebration" at The Museum of Modern Art through June 11. MoMA's Kelly collection features the tremendous 1957 piece "Sculpture for a Large Wall," constructed from 104 anodized aluminum panels reaching 65 feet in length originally commissioned for the lobby of Philadelphia's Transportation Building. The massive sculpture, which Kelly made when he was 34 years old, and, per a New Yorker write-up at the time, was installed at the Transportation Building for four decades, was last on display in New York at Matthew Marks Gallery in 1998. Utterly captivating in their bold simplicity, the intensity of his minimalist paintings continues to provoke something primal and pure in the viewer, an overwhelming sensory encounter of how we experience color. In her book, "Ellsworth Kelly: Outside In," the British art historian Briony Fer wrote that Kelly's paintings, "with their clearly defined shapes and pristine flat surfaces, are sensual and direct — so much so that is it tempting to assume that we know where they stop, and where the world outside the picture begins."

on Friday, March 31, the night of its release. They were joined for a Q&A by actor Griffin Dunne, who

Bacon and Swedgwick were joined for the Q&A by moderator Griffin Dunne.

wife had wanted to shoot the film, which takes place in a small, countryside town, at their home in Sharon, but Sedgwick was dissuaded when she realized the time it would take to recreate the flower farm that acts as the main set piece in her own backyard. Ultimately Rhode Island's filming tax incentives



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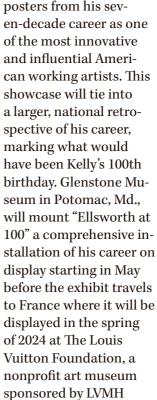
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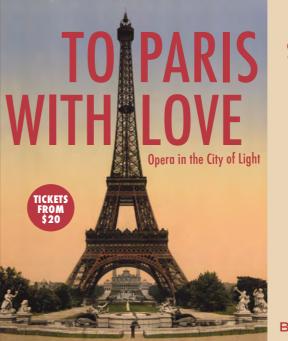
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led her to discover Robin Hollow Farm in Saunderstown, R.I.

"Luckily this is a working, mom-and-pop flower farm that we used," Bacon said, "and the owner Mike was very sweet to walk me through the paces of the job. Kyra was really adamant that I learned to really ride his tractor and cut flowers. When I look at the scenes now I think, oh that could have been better! And I'm not looking at my performance, I'm looking at my flower-tying technique."





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Easter Sunday Dessert from the Troutbeck Kitchen

'y name is Emma and I'm the pastry chef at Troutbeck in Amenia, N.Y. In 2013, I went to culinary school in Cambridge, Mass., and turned my passion into a career. Since then, I have worked at The Fearrington House Inn, a Relais & Châteaux property in Pittsboro, N.C., BakeHouse and Carmella's Kitchen in Charleston, S.C., and The Colony Hotel in Palm Beach, Fla. Now I get to share my recipes with you.

It's the perfect time of year for that crowd-pleasing carrot cake! Whether you want to impress your in-laws for Easter or just want a tasty dessert (or indulgent breakfast!) to enjoy with a cup of coffee, this carrot cake will not disappoint. Personally, I don't love overly sweet frosting, but this cream cheese recipe is the exception. The carrot cake is great but, for me, it's a vehicle for the frosting. A little sweet with a little tang, and a pop of orange, this cream cheese frosting will have you licking your spatula and bowl. Have fun, get messy, and enjoy!

CARROT CAKE

Makes one, two-layer carrot cake (8 or 9-inch). 2 cups (250 grams) all purpose flour 1 teaspoon baking powder 1 teaspoon baking soda 1 teaspoon salt

2 teaspoons cinnamon

4 large eggs

1 ¹/₄ cups (240 grams) sugar

EATS BY EMMA **EMMA ISAKOFF**

1 ¾ cups (385 grams) oil

1 cup (120 grams) walnuts (chopped)

carrots (pealed and shredded)

(optional, see notes) 1 teaspoon cardamom

(optional, see notes)

Method

1. Preheat your oven to 350F.

2. Lightly grease two 8 or 9 inch cake pans and line the bottom with parchment and set aside.

3. Sift flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, and cinnamon (cardamom if using) together in a bowl and set aside.

carrots and set aside (should be about 3 large carrots).

5. Chop your nuts into small/medium pieces and add to your shredded carrots.

6. In a large bowl, whisk together your eggs and sugar. Slowly add oil and whisk until combined.

7. Using a spatula, fold carrots and nuts into egg mixture (add orange zest if using).

8. Fold dry ingredients into mixture in three batches. Mix until all dry ingredients are incorporated. Do not over mix.

9. Divide your batter evenly into your greased and parchment lined cake pans.

10. Bake at 350F for about 20 to 35 minutes. Oven times may vary.

3 cups (330 grams)

Zest of one orange

4. Peel and shred your



Cook until a toothpick comes out clean from the center of the cake.

11. Remove from oven and let cool slightly. When cake pans are cool enough to touch, remove cakes from pans and let cool at room temperature completely.

Notes: If you want to jazz up the flavors, add zest of an orange! You can also cut the cinnamon in half and add a teaspoon of cardamom to spice things up.

CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

2 cups (450 grams) cream cheese 8 tablespoons (4 ounces) butter

1 ³/₄ cups (350 grams) powdered sugar Zest of half and or-

ange

2 tablespoons sour cream

1 teaspoon vanilla

1. In the bowl of a standing mixer, mix your cream cheese with a paddle attachment until smooth (Pull your cream cheese and butter out a few hours before and let come to room temperature).

2. While cream cheese is mixing, sift your powdered sugar and set it aside in a bowl.

3. When cream cheese is smooth, add room temperature butter and mix until smooth.

4. Add sour cream, vanilla, and orange zest. Mix until incorporated. 5. At speed one, add

sifted powdered sugar small amounts at a time.



Pharles

My Foolish Heart

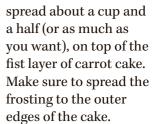
lighter and fluffier texture, switch to a whisk attachment and whip frosting on medium/high until fluffy.).

6. Use right away or store in the fridge until you a ready to use. Can be frozen for later use.

Notes: Pull your butter and cream cheese out the night before (or a few hours before). It will be smoother and easier to work with.

Assemble

1. When cakes are cool, trim off the domed top of each cake to make them level. 2. Using your spatula,



3. Flip the second layer of cake over and place on top of the frosted first layer.

4. Gently build more cream cheese frosting around the outside and top of the layers to cover the cake completely. In order to get a nice wavy texture, rotate your wrist in quick swooshing movements. Continue around the entire cake.

Enjoy!

TONY NOMINEE & TWO-TIME MAC AWARD WINNER

PHOTO BY JIM HENK

TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

New Fiction Book Group

The Current Fiction Book Group led by Claudia Cavne will discuss "What Storm, What Thunder" by Haitian-Canadian author Myriam J.A. Chancy about an earthquake disaster experienced through a diverse ensemble in Port-au-Prince. The book group will meet on Saturday, April 8, at 4 p.m. in the Oak Room at Scoville Memorial Library in Salisbury, Conn. To register go to www. scovillelibrary.org

Straight Line Crazy

National Theatre Live will present Academy Award-nominated actor **Ralph Fiennes in David** Hare's "Straight Line Crazy" directed by Nicholas Hytner and broadcast live from The Bridge Theatre in London. This one-time screening will be held at The Moviehouse in Millerton. N.Y., on Sunday, April 9, at 1 p.m. For tickets go to www.themoviehouse.net

Shakespeare's **Twelfth Night**

The Center for Performing Arts in Rhinebeck, N.Y., presents William Shakespeare's romantic gender-swapping comedy "Twelfth Night, or What You Will" directed by Peter Risafi with original music by Peter Kiewra on Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8 at 8 p.m. For tickets go to www.centerforperformingarts.org

Moviehouse

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Painting Course

Collette Hurst will hold a three-week watercolor course on painting water reflections in landscapes at The Cornwall Library in Cornwall. Conn. Classes will be held on Saturdays, April 8, 15 and 22, at 10 a.m. and cost \$75 for the bundle. To register go to www.cornwallibrary.org



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THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023

EDITORIAL Local news

The local newspaper can be greater than the sum of its parts. Today, people can find out what will happen with the weather by reaching for the phone in their pocket. With that phone still in hand, they can quickly look up any number of things, plus order dinner, shop for groceries and see what's at the movies if they are inclined to see a big-screen flick once in a while. They can do all these things and much more with ease. But taking the pulse of a community is another matter – unless they happen to be reading a local newspaper on the phone. Maybe it's a digital-first newspaper that "prints" its stories online first and then delivers a print version. But it's a newspaper.

Day-to-day or week-to-week, the newspaper can deliver the greater sum of a community's personality and character. With its range of stories about a place and its people, the newspaper can aspire to embody a community – and serve as a mirror that reflects the public back to itself, perhaps helping it to make sense of itself.

Even in an age when artificial intelligence, such as ChatGPT, appears ready to play a significant role, local news as a commodity remains vitally important. To quote an AI-generated, ChatGPT response: "A local newspaper serves as an important source for local news, events and information that directly impacts the community it serves. It help to create a sense of community and can provide a forum for community members to express their opinions and raise concerns. A local newspaper can also provide coverage of local businesses, schools and government, which can help improve transparency and accountability. Additionally, a local newspaper may serve as an important historical record of the community."

So back to print. It's hard to resist Norma Bosworth's "Turn Back the Pages" column, which appears on this page every week – "an important historical record." The local newspaper seeks to report all the news and information (which ChatGPT knows about), and to provide a forum for opinions and concerns and keep government accountable. That's good news.

This spring, we witness new and revived local news operations sprouting in our communities. In Kent, work is underway to bring back the Good Times Dispatch weekly newspaper. In Pine Plains, the New Pine Plains Herald has launched at www.newpineplainsherald.org. As we reported in January, the Winsted Citizen launched as a start-up, print-focused newspaper, backed by Ralph Nader.

These new community news sources and other ones like them that have been serving their communities for decades are vital to community health and spirit. Many of them are staffed by volunteers, a virtuous cycle. In sum, they tie our communities together as a region, a larger-than-life village square.

Letters to the editor deadline is 10 a.m. Monday for that week's publication. No more than 500 words. Send to johnc@lakevillejournal.com. Please include a phone number for confirmation. Publication of letters is at the editor's discretion and as space is available.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where are the good ones ?

Assessing government achievements is surely seen differently from a partisan perspective but most Americans would agree that achievements in economic enhancements, jobs, workplace conditions, clean water and air, enhanced education, voting access, disease prevention, poverty reduction, senior care are noteworthy achievements. In the past, achievements in these areas were the stuff of media headlines at the local, the state, and the national level. These issues and policy arenas were important, were the talking points of politicians, were what Governors and Senators leveraged to run for the Presidency. Seventeen Governors and seventeen Senators have been the American President. Today state governing headlines have been reconstructed: - Ten state Republican led legislatures refuse federally funded Medicaid for this nation's poorest Americans (Mississippi, Alabama at the bottom of the bottom fiscally, educationally, life expectancy....) - States, with Roe overturned, are enacting extreme abortion and contraceptive restrictions, prevention, incarcerations that are enhancing the U.S.'s already high maternal mortality. - Ten state Republican-led legislatures have introduced 27 election restriction legislation to accompany

150 voting suppression bills. Current election restriction laws focus on college students – make it harder for them to vote.

— Utah requires parental permission for minors to access social media.

— Book banning, Michelangelo art, anything with a diversity tag is scrutinized for suppression.

— Halley, Scott, Paul, and DeSantis condemn the due process of federal and state law, crimes being prosecuted in the judicial system where one is innocent until found guilty. Romney, Dick Lugar. All of these elected officials Republicans — all of these elected officials respected and regarded by the public, not just their party — the good and the great Republican politicians. Where have they gone? Will the likes of them ever return?

A fifth generation Nebraskan, thought in 2015 to be a potential Republican President, Senator Ben Sasse served Nebraska in the Senate from 2015 to 2023 when he resigned. Sasse was a beleaguered Republican like Romney — of the Grand Old Party until it was no longer grand — it was Trump's Party. Sasse accepted the presidency of Florida State University. Out of the frying pan, into the fire.

TURNING BACK THE PAGES Norma Bosworth

100 years ago — April 1923

Mr. Edward C. Williams had the misfortune to hurt his right wrist while cranking a car last Thursday. He went to the Sharon Hospital and had an X-ray taken of it, which showed that a small bone was fractured.

Mr. Madison Silvernale is slightly indisposed and is off duty at Roberts' Store for a few days.

Adv.: Odd jobs done at odd times by an odd man. J.R. Jordan, Lakeville, Conn. Lock Box 57.

George Roebuck has entered the employ of Grove Judd, who is now dismantling and moving the former hospital building on the grounds of the former Dr. Knight institution.

John Finkle has accepted a position as chauffeur for W.D. McArthur of Millerton and will assume his duties on Monday.

50 years ago — April 1973

Tri-state area housewives are definitely joining the nationwide meat boycott, according to an informal poll of 10 retailers conducted by The Lakeville Journal on Wednesday. Meat sales are down between 30 and 50 percent, according to some stores, while others report cautiously that they "have felt the effect." Only one store, the Lakeville Food Center, claimed that meat sales remain unchanged. Generally, retailers expressed mixed reactions to the housewife attempt at fight high meat prices. Some retailers felt the issue should be fought in Washington, not at the local level.

The State Highway Department started work Wednesday on modifications

Let's team up for shared success

What might we do locally to see the points shared by many about disparities in living in America (and yes, the world.) People with ties to other places may support missions or small areas. Let's learn from them help all in our towns and school districts.

Matthew Desmond, author of Poverty by America, asserts in an Apple Podcast that the systems for elderly or low-income are poorly designed, not readily supported nor easy to use for many.

About 1 in 5 people do not get one or more kinds of help who qualify!

Some people need help with access, filling out whether paper or forms on a laptop or even on an iPhone or Android (with phone apps.)

Teams doing outreach and offering support to every household would be a game-changer for many who are missing out on help, programs and funds and a general sense of connection for future needs.

The funds for TANF — Temporary Aid to Needy Families — go to states which can use them for programs, leaving a small percent for cash assistance. SNAP (formerly Food Stamps) is based on income limits and needs to be renewed every six months (with a month to review further if needed). Some states offered fuel assistance if someone with SNAP lived in the home. There is more help for elderly or special needs folks to live at home and have government funding for some help. Few know in advance about planning for such possibilities.

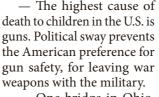
There is \$175 billion in uncollected or unpaid (or evaded) taxes in the top tier that could 'level the playing field,' Mr. Desmond suggests. He encourages more citizens. to join endpoverty.org.

Along with 350.org and others, I encourage people out of concern for climate change and sharing natural resources, to show how more schools, non-profits and businesses as well as individuals can join together along these lines for mutual benefit and shared advocacy.

With traditional efforts (such as nonprofits and the Schumacher Center) in the tri-corner area (MA/NY/CT, "The Many Connect Area" as I explore on my blog) we can make strides toward enhanced services, education, accessibility and more over the life span, especially 'at the beginning and in the later years'.

Let's get dreaming and teaming up for shared success this spring and each season of the year and of life!

Catherine Palmer Paton Falls Village



— One bridge in Ohio, Brent Sprint Bridge, has received key positive coverage as bipartisan, a vibrant community enhancement (Biden's infrastructure policies in action) that is too rare.

So where have all the good ones gone? Governors, Senators? My memory is jammed with nightly news snippets, newspaper/news magazines, internet postings regarding Senators Mike Mansfield, Everett Dirksen, Olivia Snowe, John McCain, Dick Lugar. Governors acclaimed for powerful accomplishments for their states, shaping the nation: Julius Gunter, Linda Lingle, Mitch Daniels, Larry Hogan, Charlie Baker, Mitt



PHOTO BY DEBORAH MAIER

Cloud brew

Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for tis better to be alone than in bad company.

—George Washington

Kathy Herald-Marlowe Sharon to the traffic intersection at the junction of routes 41 and 44 in Lakeville center. Acting First Selectman George Kiefer was not notified in advance of the state's plans for the corner, and as of press time The Lakeville Journal was unable to determine the purpose of the construction activities.

Continued on next page

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

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 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.

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Viewpoint

Possibly intractable

atie was still a puppy, only 3 months old. She was enchanting but trying. She was deeply affectionate towards my husband. When he sat down she put her paws on his knees and carefully licked every inch of his face. She was bright and cheery, and constantly in motion. Highstrung and hyper-active, she skittered through the house, carrying things around. She bit bushes in the woods, she bit at imaginary fleas and she sort of bit at me. She grabbed my bathrobe. She tore my parka. She never closed her teeth on my skin, but it was still unpleasant. She saw me as an adversary. When I said "No," she stood up on her hind legs and jumped in the air, snapping and growling. She was mostly housebroken, but once, when she was being adorable, I put her up on our bed and she squatted and peed on the bedspread.

She was my fourth black female Standard Poodle. I had never hired a trainer before — most Standards are smart and willing — but this time I was stumped. I found a trainer — whom I'll call Ingrid — and told her about Katie. How bossy and bold she was, how she growled and mock-bit me. Ingrid was concerned. I told her that when we first met Katie she had lunged at us, barking and snapping.

"I guess that was a bit of a red flag," I said.

"It was big red honking

My Dog: PART 3 **ROXANA ROBINSON**

alarm bell," Ingrid said.

I sent her a video of Katie lunging at me. We talked on the phone.

"She's trying to dominate you," Ingrid said. "That's why she stands on her hind legs. Never let her up on the bed. She must not be allowed to be on your level. You must let her know you are in charge. You must keep her in a crate or on a leash at all times, and "bonk" her whenever she misbehaves." Bonking meant hitting her on the head with a heavy rolled-up towel. I had always believed you should never hit a dog on the head, ever. Ingrid said even this might not work. "She may be intractable."

I had never heard this word used about a dog of mine.

"You may have to send her back to the breeder," Ingrid said. "Being so stern will be difficult, but it may save her life."

Save her life! Was Katie going to be put to death? I was devastated. I didn't want to give her up, on the other hand, this was like living with a piranha.

When Ingrid came over we went onto the lawn and I clipped on Katie's leash. At once Katie took hold of it with her mouth.

Ingrid grabbed the leash and yanked it so hard Katie yelped in pain — I thought she might have lost a tooth.

"Never let her do that," Ingrid said severely. "She wants was tentative. to take control."

It was true. Katie did want to take control.

It was a mournful session. Ingrid told me how stern I must be, how I must never allow Katie to jump up on anyone, never jump onto the bed, never to let her take control in any way.

When she stood on her hind legs, when she licked my husband's face, she was trying to dominate.

We tried to coax Katie with treats to "come," and "sit."

Katie ignored the treats, though she would sit for me. I had trained her. So maybe she wasn't intractable? Capering around us Katie was tense and challenging. She kept her eyes on us. She bowed and pranced, but Ingrid was not charmed.

"A dog like this..." she shook her head. "You must always be ready to punish her. You must bonk her while she's 'loading,' getting ready to be naughty. Punish her as she's thinking of it."

I nodded, disheartened. How would I know when she was "loading?" And how could I punish her before she'd done anything?

"I do have one suggestion, though," Ingrid said at the end of our awful session.

"What?" I hoped it didn't involve euthanasia.

"Would you be interested in seeing an animal communicator?'

For the first time Ingrid

I said yes instantly. For one thing I had always been intrigued by the idea, and for another it might help.

"Okay," said Ingrid. "I use one often for my dog. She also does reiki. My dog sort of blisses out."

"I'm in," I said, though I didn't know what reiki was. I had been crushed by Ingrid's response to my possibly intractable dog, and was buoyed by this ray of hope. Was my dog really a criminal? Was she a peril to the community? Would I have to consider ending her life? A three-month old puppy?

We hold their lives in our hands. We decide whether or not to keep our dogs safe, sheltered from weather, from traffic, from dangerous dogs and angry humans. To protect them from hunger and cold and disease. These things are in our hands. They put their trust in us, they have no choice. Their lives may be filled with joy or misery, because of us.

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Roxana Robinson is the author of ten books, including *six novels, and the biography* of Georgia O'Keeffe. She lives in Cornwall.

First-quarter gains were led by technology

The NASDAQ 100 index jumped

more than 20% from its December 2022 lows. The textbook definition indicates that when a market does that, it officially leaves a bear market and enters the bull market territory.

A handful of stocks can be credited with not only pushing the tech sector higher but also dragging the rest of the market up with it. I'm sure you can guess the names— Meta, Apple, Netflix, Google, and Microsoft-they all did yeoman's work in the first quarter.

In my opinion, the motivation for crowding into these stocks can be explained with a single word-fear. Fear of financial contagion. Fear of a gathering recession. Fear of a Fed that may have overstayed its role as an inflation fighter. All these companies represent a place to hide out. They have little debt, strong cash flows, and solid business models.

Fear is also the reason investors have flocked to gold and precious metal miners. Throughout history, whenever there has been a question of financial stability in the banking system, gold seems to shine. The fact that the government and the private sector have rushed to assure all of us that the system is stable, and a few bank failures are nothing to get upset about was commendable and expected. But has it assuaged the market's worries that we have yet to see another foot to fall in this sector? No, depositors are still moving money out of smaller banks into larger banks and into U.S. Treasury bills, money market funds, and out of checking and saving accounts.

On the positive side, the recent banking crisis has forced the Fed to pump money into the credit markets. That has caused the

THE RETIRED **INVESTIGATOR BILL SCHMICK**

billions of dollars from the central bank into the banking sector has effectively put the Fed's quantitative tightening program on hold for now.

In addition, many investors are convinced that the regime of interest rate hikes is over. They point to the impact the Fed's rapid rate rise over the last year has had on the banking system. Further hikes could translate into even more bank failures, which is something the Fed will need to avoid. As such, the next move by the Fed will be to cut interest rates and do so before the end of the year.

I am still thinking we have room to run here on the S&P 500 Index. In the next few weeks, my upside target of 4,370 could be achieved but it won't be a smooth ride. Near-term resistance on the benchmark index is right here, around 4,100. Investors for behavioral reasons are attracted to or repelled by round numbers. The 200-day moving average (DMA) has held like a champ throughout this period, which is an encouraging sign.

All the averages, however, are fairly stretched, so a stalling out and a bit of selling should be expected in the near term. One area that has shown exceptional strength is the precious metals area, especially gold, and silver. Aggressive investors in the short-term might want to dabble in these commodities if there is a pullback in price next week.

Bill Schmick is a founding partner of Onota Partners, Inc., in the Berkshires. None of his commentary is or should be considered investment advice. Email him at bill@schmicksretiredinvestor. com.

The team from Cornwall

Consolidated School was this

year's winner of the Region

1 Quiz Bowl. The Lakev-

ille Journal Co. Cup will be

presented annually to the

champions to house at their

school until the next winners

Salisbury School has em-

barked upon a major build-

ing project that will extend

over the next several years

and which will transform the

campus, but not the charac-

ter, of this all-boys school.

are named.

Early voting — approved by voters won't be simple to put into practice

ith a state constitutional amendment last November, Connecticut voters approved early voting in principle, but practice will be complicated and the details have been left to the General Assembly. Fortunately the new secretary of the state, Stephanie Thomas, has proposed sensible answers to the major questions.

early votes safely to the vault every night implies a security challenge for municipalities whose early-voting sites are not adjacent to the clerk's office — the transportation of the ballots when witnesses aren't around. This should be addressed.

The Chris POWELL COLUMN

registrars, town clerks, election workers, and the people in the secretary of the state's office — the unsung heroes of democracy.

Chris Powell is a columnist for the Journal Inquirer in Manchester, Connecticut, He

How long should the period of early voting be?

The secretary proposes 10 days of early voting, covering the two weekends before the election, the intervening five days, and the Monday before Election Day. Hours would be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. except for the Wednesday and Thursday before the election, when they would be 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Election Day hours would remain 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. All voters should find convenience in that.

What polling places will be used for early voting?

Municipalities would propose the locations with the secretary empowered to approve or disapprove them. Site criteria would include accessibility for the handicapped, parking, and public transportation. Most municipalities might have only one location but cities might need several.

What provisions would be made for the security of the ballots cast ahead of **Election Day?**

The secretary wants the early ballots stored just as absentee ballots are stored: in their original sealed envelopes in vaults at the municipal clerk's office. Getting the

Which elections would be covered by early voting?

The secretary proposes to cover general and primary elections but not municipal referendums and special elections, which aren't as important and draw much less participation even as covering them with early voting would incur equal expense.

Will the voter check-off sheets maintained by poll workers be available to the public, candidates, and campaign workers at the end of every day of early voting, to facilitate efforts to get out the vote?

This shouldn't be too difficult to arrange, and, after all, early voting's objective is to maximize participation. But the issue hasn't been addressed.

Who will pay for the extra expense: state taxpayers, municipal taxpayers, or a combination of the two?

The secretary wants state government to reimburse municipal costs, which will be substantial. Of course municipalities also want state reimbursement, which is not always provided with state mandates. While state government, overlooking its huge bonded debt and unfunded pension obligations, claims to be carrying a financial surplus in the billions of dollars, innumerable interest

groups are already competing for a share of it.

What would be the first elections with early voting?

The secretary hopes that the enabling legislation will be passed in time to begin with this November's municipal elections. Indeed, it would be far better to start with municipal elections than a state or federal election, when participation is much greater.

With so many votes cast in advance of Election Day, will vote tabulation be faster on Election Night?

Not necessarily. Early-voting ballots won't be counted until the polls are closed for good, and presumably early voting will produce more votes than single-day elections. The greater participation and the need to open so many more ballot envelopes may delay tabulation rather than hasten it. Already some municipalities, especially Hartford and Bridgeport, seem unable to report complete vote totals for a day or two after the election. But then of course there are many other things wrong with the cities, and the competence of their governments is stretched.

While simple in principle, in practice early voting will be a huge challenge for voter

can be reached at CPowell@ JournalInquirer.com.

equity markets to rise as the liquidity in the financial system increased. The flow of

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

Continued from previous page

This coming Monday is the day when the Salisbury Meals on Wheels unit begins actual delivery of hot midday meals to homebound persons within the township of Salisbury. Price of the meals is \$2 apiece.

Hal Borland of Salisbury, writer and naturalist, is the 1973 winner of the annual award of the Association of Interpretive Naturalists.

John W. Buckley of Lakeville was one of five new directors named by the National Rifle Association at its annual meetings last weekend in Washington.

Long-term residents of Kent will be interested to learn that Fred and Frank Straight, former residents of the Straight farm between New Milford and Kent, will be celebrating their 95th birthday on April 23.

25 years ago — April 1998 A packed benefit dance held at the White Hart Inn Sunday to help with Salisbury resident Jane Lloyd's cancer treatment bills was a resounding success, raising \$16,700 toward the cause, Jane's brother Jeff reported this week. An estimated 400 people crowded into the White Hart to attend the dance, which featured live music by the area band Advanced Phunk.

It used to be that ambulance crews in the Northwest Corner were concentrating their efforts on getting new ambulances. Now that these are in place, the push is on to get defibrillators and to have all emergency medical technicians trained and certified in the use of these life saving machines.



Spent a wonderful Sunday afternoon visiting vernal pools with Maria Grace, Chairman of Salisbury's Conservation Commission. Our group consisted of 10 volunteers who were being instructed by Dr. Michael Klemens on the criteria for rating the value of a vernal pool. Briefly this would be observing who is using the pool to breed, i.e. wood frogs, peepers, salamanders, etc., and if there are egg masses indicating the pools productivity. These volunteers are part of the Town's effort to locate and verify the vernal pools in Salisbury. Once documented, the pools can be protected from encroaching development. For more info, please contact Maria Grace at www.salisburyct.us/ conservation-commission.



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HELP WANTED

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WAREHOUSE WORKER/ PACKER NEEDED: come and join our team of friendly staffat our small warehouse. Lots of different tasks to be done daily like packing boxes, receiving inventory, answering phones, minor assembly, never bor-ing. Monday -Friday (no weekends). No experience needed as we will teach you everything you need to know but a good work ethic is required. You must be able to show up on time and have a good attitude. Training pay starts at \$17.00. There is no cap so there's lots of opportunity to grow and make money. Call Mike or Greg at 800-245-8222. Sharon CT.

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TRINITY CHURCH WALL STREET RETREAT CENTER HOUSKEEPER

Trinity Church Wall Street Retreat Center is seeking housekeepers. The Housekeepers are responsible for cleaning and preparing guest rooms, chapel, meeting rooms, common areas and restrooms at Trinity Retreat Center, including vacuuming, garbage, stripping beds, cleaning dining room, and dusting. Ensure that rooms are ready for visiting guests, including set-up to welcome guests and for programs. The payrate for this position is \$22 an hour.

The Retreat Center is located on the Housatonic River, adjoining more than seven hundred acres of conservation trust and state forest, the property includes 26 guest rooms, a historic stone chapel, a monastic garden, an orchard and working farm, a small donkey sanctuary, hiking trails, a community hall, meeting rooms, and quiet spaces for rest and reflection. The Retreat Center is an Episcopal mission of Trinity Church Wall Street and is open to everyone, regardless of denomination or faith.

Trinity Church Wall Street requires all candidates for employment or contract assignments, regardless of work location, to be fully vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19, and to show proof of vaccination to Human Resources or Safety and Security prior to meeting with prospective managers. Newly hired staff and contractors must be fully vaccinated by their start date. Applicants unable to comply with this policy due to an underlying medical condition or sincerely held religious belief may be eligible for an accommodation, unless such an accommodation would be unduly burdensome or present a direct threat to Trinity Church's employees, its congregation, or vulnerable members of the communities it serves.

To apply, visit trinitywallstreet.org/about/careers

Accepting online applications only



Millbrook School

Millbrook School, a private boarding high school located in Millbrook, NY, is seeking to fill the following instructor positions. Energy for adolescents, adaptability, humor, and integrity are the hallmarks of Millbrook's faculty. We seek educators who value creating inclusive classrooms and curriculum.

SPANISH INSTRUCTOR (temporary to cover maternity leave in APRIL 2023) l'emporary Spanish instructor to cover an upcoming maternity leave, beginning mid to late April 2023. The Spanish instructor will teach three sections of Spanish II and one section of Spanish III. Qualified candidates will hold a bachelor's degree, be proficient in spoken and written Spanish, and be fluent with the Spanish language. Prior teaching experience preferred.

LAWN MOWING **HELP WANTED**

Salisbury Association

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Salisbury Association seeks part-

public relations, fundraising and communications. Hybrid work environment with flexible schedule.

required. Salary range \$40K-\$50K commensurate with experience. Full job description available at

www.salisburyassociation.org.

Apply with cover letter & resume at

edsearch@salisburyassociation.org.

Position open until filled.

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time Executive Director to oversee

administration, operations, publicity,

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Administrative Assistant/ **Development Associate**

The Lakeville Journal Company seeks an administrative assistant/development associate to provide administrative support to the Publisher and development support for its nonprofit fundraising activities.

Support includes meeting scheduling, preparation, and follow up. This position assists with prospect and donor data management, including maintaining prospect contact information and creating various fundraising reports. Assists and staffs various fundraising and cultivation events and major gifts donor/prospect meetings throughout the year.

This is an opportunity for a mission-motivated person to join a new, growing team!

For more information and to apply, please contact Susan Hassler at publisher@lakevillejournal.com.



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The Lakeville Journal Company prohibits discrimination based on race, religion gender, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, marital status, pregnancy, nder expression or identity, sexual orientation or any other legally protected statu



Local Reporter

The Millerton News is seeking a part-time news reporter to cover Harlem Valley towns and school districts

Are you interested in your local news scene? Here is a chance to report on community news, business news, the environment, government, police and all the issues that affect the lives of Millerton News readers.

Writing skills and basic knowledge of how New York government functions are a must.

Email Resume and Writing Samples to Editor John Coston, editor@millertonnews.com.

Millerton News



Assistant Land Steward Position

The Sharon Land Trust is seeking part-time Assistant Land Stewards for the 2023 summer field work season to assist with operations and trail work projects, learn about conservation and land management, and help protect our local landscape and wildlife. Hours are roughly 5 days a week, 3 to 6 hours per day; some weekend work required. Pay is between \$16 and \$20/hour.

Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, with reliable personal transportation. We're looking for dependable, organized people who are comfortable working outdoors in all weather, capable of manual labor and hiking, and who have a passion for the environment. Work may include: trail building and maintenance, land management, working with volunteer groups, equipment maintenance, computer work (including social media) and coordination with the SLT staff, board, and the public.

Please email a cover letter, resume, and two references to timhunter@sharonlandtrust.org by April 12, 2023. Call or text (860) 499-0763 for more information.

FRENCH INSTRUCTOR

Full time French teacher, capable of teaching beginning through upper-level French, to be part of a vibrant World Language Department beginning in the 2023-2024 academic year.

The French program promotes student language proficiency through a curriculum that emphasizes authentic languages starting at the novice level, and the school is eager for a collaborative colleague who will embrace its strengths and further its development. Interest in 21st-century pedagogy, integrated performance assessment, and continued professional growth is essential. Qualified candidates will have a bachelor's degree, be a native speaker or have proficiency in spoken and written French, and fluency with French language instructional pedagogy. Prior coaching and teaching experience preferred.

MATH INSTRUCTOR

Full-time math teacher, capable of teaching Algebra through Calculus, beginning in the 2023-24 academic year. Millbrook's math department develops equally the skills of understanding and imagination and inspires students to see math as, fundamentally, a creative quest. A bachelor's degree with relevant coursework is required. Prior teaching and coaching experience preferred.

PHOTOGRAPHY INSTRUCTOR

Full time photography teacher for the 2023-24 academic year. The teacher will teach all levels of photography. Candidates should have the following technical experience: comfort with Mac operating systems and proficiency with Adobe Photoshop; knowledge of or willingness to learn Dropbox for archiving student work; large and medium format digital printing; experience with photographic alternative processes like cyanotype; and experience with darkroom development and printing.

In addition to teaching, the French, Math, and Photography instructor positions include coaching or supervising an afternoon program for two out of three seasons, supporting our social-emotional program on Saturday mornings, and serving as an advisor for up to six students. Housing may be provided and would bring with it residential life duties.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, resume, and references to Jasper Turner, dean of faculty at jturner@millbrook.org in addition to the department chair of the corresponding subjects:

Spanish & French Instructor: Donna Canada-Smith, Language Dept. Chair at dcanada-smith@millbrook.org

Math Instructor: Martha Clizbe, Math Department Chair at maclizbe@millbrook.org

Photography Instructor: Joe Raciti, Art Department Chair at jraciti@millbrook.org. Photography instructor candidates should also provide a link to a portfolio site, if possible.

For additional information or to learn more about Millbrook School, please visit our website at www.millbrook.org.

As an equal opportunity employer, Millbrook School does not discriminate in hiring or employment on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, citizenship status, sex, age, marital status, disability, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law. Moreover, Millbrook School recognizes the value of a diverse faculty and staff, and actively seeks candidates from a wide variety of backgrounds

Real Estate

REAL ESTATE

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limitation, or discrimination based on race, color religion, sex, handicap or familial status or national origin or intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. All residential property advertised in

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rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial

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