



The Lakeville Journal

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



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Congresswoman Jahana Hayes is seeking reelection to her seat in the 5th District.

Hayes cautious and connected as she seeks reelection

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — Congresswoman Jahana Hayes (D-5) said that her primary emphasis is on health care moving forward. The first-term member of the House of Representatives is running for reelection against Republican David X. Sullivan. Hayes was interviewed by telephone on Monday, Oct. 12.

Hayes tested positive for COVID-19 on Sept. 20. She said her symptoms included a

fever for a couple of nights, but the main problem was shortness of breath and fatigue.

Hayes said the pandemic has put a spotlight on "inequities" in the health care system. "We need to make sure people have access to health care, and to address the disparities" between different locations and communities.

She said she is focused on maintaining the Afford-

See HAYES, Page A6



PHOTO SUBMITTED

David X. Sullivan is running against incumbent Congresswoman Jahana Hayes for a seat in the 5th District.

Former Prosecutor Sullivan wants to represent 5th District

By Patrick L. Sullivan

Former federal prosecutor David X. Sullivan is the Republican challenger to Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-5) in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District.

Sullivan spent 30 years as a prosecutor in the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut, where he specialized in drug trafficking and white-collar crimes involving asset forfeiture, criminal tax, money laundering, unli-

censed money remitters, mail fraud, wire fraud, and structuring of financial transactions. He teaches at Yale Law School and at the University of New Haven, and formerly taught at the Quinnipiac University law school.

In a phone interview Tuesday, Oct. 6, Sullivan said his top priorities are public health and safety, the economy and accountability in government.

See SULLIVAN, Page A6

Enrollment is lower at HVRHS this year

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Official enrollment for Housatonic Valley Regional High School for the 2020-21 school year is 305 students. That is a decrease from last year's enrollment of 342.

The number of students at three area pre-K to grade eight schools has increased significantly, however (see chart this page). Those schools are Salisbury Central School (up by 29), Sharon Center School (up by six) and Cornwall Consolidated School (up by 15).

The reported numbers do not include 38 out-of-district students who are enrolled in the pre-K to grade eight schools and 15 out-of-district

students enrolled at Housatonic Valley Regional High School for 2020-21.

Last year (2019-20), there were 35 out-of-district students who are enrolled in the pre-K to grade eight schools and 48 out-of-district students enrolled at Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

In addition, 59 Region One children are being home schooled this year, as opposed to 30 last year.

Enrollment totals are officially counted each year on Oct. 1. The figures are used to calculate the assessments paid by the six Region One towns for the following year's budget. That is, the 2020-21 enrollment determines the assessments for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Region One Enrollment Figures				
	2020-21	2019-20	2018-19	2017-18
Cornwall Consolidated School	93	78	73	83
Lee H. Kellogg School (Falls Village)	69	70	73	66
Kent Center School	191	192	223	213
North Canaan Elementary School	247	248	277	253
Salisbury Central School	305	276	298	287
Sharon Center School	109	103	133	115
Out-of-district tuition Pre-K to grade eight	38	35	*	*
Housatonic Valley Regional High School	305	342	364	368
Out-of-district tuition Housatonic Valley Regional High School	15	48	*	*
Home schooled students	59	30	*	*

* Data unavailable

New transfer station opens on Oct. 15

By Patrick L. Sullivan and Cynthia Hochswender

SALISBURY — First Selectman Curtis Rand of Salisbury made it official at the Monday, Oct. 5, meeting of the Board of Selectmen: The new Salisbury-Sharon Transfer Station will open for business on Thursday, Oct. 15, at 8 a.m.

The new location is at 410 Millerton Road/Route 44, just before the New York State border and the town of North East/Millerton.

The old location, which is on property owned by The Hotchkiss School and had been leased by the town for decades, was closed from Monday, Oct. 12, for the move.

Transfer Station Manager Brian Bartram said the old station on the Sharon Road/Route 41 has to be shut down before the new one can

open, according to the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection. There will be a sign at the old site directing patrons to the new location.

He said on Friday, Oct. 9, that there were still many small details that had to be tidied up before the move, which had been scheduled to happen several times earlier this summer. The transition has been complex.

Bartram warned that at the new station, all users are expected to unload their trash for the "general hopper" and carry it to the hopper by hand or in one of the carts provided at the transfer station. Everyone has to be careful about returning the carts, so they don't roll or get blown into vehicles and/or people.

At the old location many patrons with large loads back their vehicle up to the hopper, and throw their trash directly from the truck bed or car trunk into the hopper. To do that now, vehicle owners will have to pay \$10 fee per visit at the entrance to the new station.

Another change: Anyone who

brings leaves from their yard will now have to put those leaves into kraft paper sacks, because the new station, though large, is not large enough to accommodate a leaf mountain like the one at the old site.

All stickers must be up to date and will be checked at the entrance to the new station.

For the next few weeks, it would be a good idea to expect a transfer station trip to take a little longer than usual, as everyone gets used to the new layout.

Bartram said that signs have been placed at the old transfer station this week in anticipation of the move; and that brochures will be handed out with information on what goes where at the new station.

The Salisbury Sharon Transfer Station closed its old location on the Sharon Road in Lakeville on Monday, Oct. 12 (which was also a federal holiday), so the station could move to its new location at 410 Millerton Road.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER



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Regional

In The Journal this week

LEGAL NOTICES.....A2	COMPASS.....B1-2
OUR TOWNS.....A3-4	OPINION.....B3 & B5
HEALTH.....A5	VIEWPOINT.....B4
OBITUARIES.....A5	CLASSIFIEDS.....B5-6

Three-day forecast

Friday.....Rain, high 62°/low 44°
 Saturday.....Rain, 57°/39°
 Sunday.....Cloudy, 58°/42°

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.

Backed into vehicle at bridge

On Oct. 1 at approximately 5:30 p.m. on Sharon Goshen Turnpike in Sharon a 2002 Toyota Tacoma driven by George Massey, 74, of Salisbury began to enter the Covered Bridge and then backed up to make room for another vehicle. The Toyota then backed into a 2017 Nissan Murano driven by June Russell, 55, of Goshen, Conn. Massey was given a verbal warning for unsafe backing and operating an unregistered motor vehicle.

Low-hanging wire

On Oct. 3 at approximately 4 p.m. on Lime Rock Station Road in Falls Village a 1989 Mack Truck registered to Allyndale Corp., and driven by Brian D. Allyn, 59, of North Canaan clipped a low-hanging wire on an Eversource utility pole. Eversource was notified; no police action was taken.

Domestic incident

On Oct. 8 at approximately 1:45 a.m. Troop B responded to an active domestic disturbance at an apartment residence on Main Street in North Canaan. Following an investigation, Randall Tilley, 32, of North Canaan was charged with disorderly conduct and assault in the third degree. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on that same day.

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 cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com

FAMILY & FRIENDS



PHOTO SUBMITTED

Meaghan Bain was promoted as the manager of the North Canaan branch of Salisbury Bank and Trust.

Meaghan Bain VP at Salisbury Bank & Trust

SALISBURY — Salisbury Bank and Trust Company announced the promotion of Meaghan Bain to Assistant Vice President, Branch Manager of the North Canaan branch.

"I am pleased to welcome Meaghan to our Branch Management Team," said Amy Raymond, executive vice president, chief retail banking officer, CRA officer. "Meaghan brings with her over 14 years of banking experience and strives to provide an excellent customer experience. Meaghan has strong ties to the town of North Canaan and is excited to be working in a community

she considers home."

Bain started with the bank in May 2006 and has been working as the assistant branch manager in Lakeville and Salisbury. She transitioned to the new role in August.

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

Check them out inside.

- CVS
- Aetna

IAN INGERSOLL FINE FURNITURE

SALE
 SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17TH
 9AM-3PM
 422 SHARON GOSHEN TPKE, WEST CORNWALL, CT

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 CLOCKS | CHESTS | MIRRORS | STOOLS | CONSOLES | CABINETS
 BEDS | BENCHES | DRESSERS | OCCASIONAL TABLES

WWW.IANINGERSOLL.COM

Young child dies in car crash in Amenia

By Whitney Joseph

AMENIA — A two-car motor vehicle crash in Amenia on Thursday morning, Oct. 8, at around 8:20 a.m., ended with the death of a 2-year-old girl, who was the passenger in a car driven by her mother.

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office released a preliminary investigation report on Oct. 9 that said a 2018 Nissan Sentra operated by 26-year-old Millerton resident Renisha Johnson was traveling southbound on Route 22. Her daughter, Ellie Dunlop, was in

the car with her.

Johnson had stopped for "an uninvolved vehicle making a turn," according to the Sheriff's Office.

A 2000 Ford Explorer operated by 73-year-old Amenia resident Forrest McBreairsty struck Johnson's Nissan in the rear, apparently failing to notice it had stopped, according to the police report.

Both Johnson and her daughter were injured upon impact; the child was seriously hurt.

They were initially transported to Mid-Hudson Re-

gional Hospital in Poughkeepsie, and were flown from there to Westchester Medical Center, where the child died.

According to the release from the Sheriff's Office, "Driver inattention and sun glare are thought to be the primary contributing factors in the crash."

The Sheriff's Office Detective Bureau and Crash Investigation Unit are continuing to investigate; at the present time, no charges have been filed.

The Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by the New York State Police and the Amenia Fire Department.

Workshops on Medicare 2021

SALISBURY — On Saturday, Oct. 17, from 10 a.m. to noon, Margaret Foran Ackley, a Licensed Health Insurance Professional, will present information about the basics of Medicare, including the different parts of the program, eligibility requirements and enrollment windows. Attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions about their coverage options and how to find coverage that best meets their health and financial needs.

Each attendee will receive a "Medicare Guide," an easy-to-use reference for understanding Medicare options and frequently used Medicare language.

Contact Ackley directly at 860-361-6029 or margaret@ackleyis.com. To register for this free Zoom program, go to www.scovillelibrary.org and look for "events."

On Thursday, Oct. 29, at 11 a.m., representatives from

the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging (WCAAA) will offer a Zoom program explaining the many changes to Medicare in 2021. This program is open to all area residents.

Attendees will receive an update on Part D (prescription drug) plans, Medicare Advantage plans, Supplemental/Medigap plans and Medicare assistance programs to help them find the plan best suited to their needs.

Registration for Noble Horizons' free and private Medicare enrollment sessions with WCAAA counselors on Sunday, Nov. 8, will also be available.

WCAAA is funded by federal, state and local sources and does not sell insurance products; it serves as an advocate and resource for older adults, providing information that is transparent and unbiased.

Register at www.noblehorizons.org for the Zoom link.

Vehicles stolen in Kent

KENT — Two vehicles were stolen in Kent during the night of Sunday, Oct. 11, into Monday, Oct. 12. Town officials released a warning on Monday at noon. They said the cars were stolen from "the Whatley Farm Road area (west on Route 341). Both of these cars were unlocked, and the keys were in the vehicles."

Police from the State Police at Troop L and Kent Resident State Trooper Andrew Fisher were investigating the thefts, but all area residents are reminded that there have been many recent incidents in all

Tri-state area towns of groups coming here from larger cities and breaking into cars and sometimes stealing them for one-time use in drug deals and other illegal activities.

In the email blast from the town, RST Fisher reminded area residents to "be vigilant with regard to your personal property; lock your vehicles; never leave valuables in your vehicles; keep your homes secure."

Contact Troop L in Litchfield with any information regarding these incidents by calling 860-626-7900.

Food boxes from FFA, Oct. 31

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic Valley FFA chapter will distribute food boxes on Saturday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., in front of Housatonic Valley Regional High School at 246 Warren Turnpike in Falls Village.

The Housatonic FFA chapter is participating in the federal Farmer to Family Food Box Program.

The program provides fresh produce, dairy and meat products in family-sized boxes, which will be distributed to members of the community.

Masks and social distancing will be required at the event.

Noble Horizons' high rating

SALISBURY — The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced it has again awarded the rare 5-Star designation to Noble Horizons. The perfect score makes Noble Horizons one of the highest-rated senior communities in the region and one of only a select few to be awarded 5-stars in the Eastern New York, Western Massachusetts, or Western Connecticut region. CMS utilizes three vital stan-

dards of care when calculating their star ratings: staffing, the quality of care, and data collected from health inspections. Noble Horizons excelled in all three categories, and most importantly in how much time their registered nurses dedicate to each resident on a daily basis.

Noble Horizons has remained COVID-free. For more information go to www.noblehorizons.org or call 860-435-9851.

Register to vote on Oct. 27

There will be a statewide voter registration on Tuesday, Oct. 27, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

There will also be a registration session Monday, Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., if you have just turned 18, become a U.S. citizen, moved into town or have been on military leave.

There is also Election Day registration on Tuesday, Nov. 3.

Call your town's registrars of voters for details; phone numbers are on each town's website and in the annual Towns and Villages special issue of The Lakeville Journal, which can be found online at www.tricornernews.com.

Send Family & Friends announcements to editor@lakevillejournal.com

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 34 Bridge St, Great Barrington, MA 01230
www.berkshire.coop | 413-528-9697

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2020-0108 by Metcalf for a detached apartment on a single family residential lot at 104 Interlaken Road, Lakeville Map 39, Lot 17 per Section 208 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. Instructions for this virtual meeting will be listed on the agenda and at www.salisburyct.us. Comments may be submitted in writing to the Land Use Office before 4:00 p.m. on Friday October 16, 2020, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to aconroy@salisburyct.us. This application is on file in the Town Hall, and at www.salisburyct.us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission
 Martin Whalen, Secretary
 10-08-20
 10-15-20

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2020-0102 by Weigel to construct a detached apartment on a single family residential lot at 69 Belgo Road, Lakeville Map 10, Lot 9 per Section 208 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 6:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. Instructions for this virtual meeting will be listed on the agenda and at www.salisburyct.us. Comments may be submitted in writing to the Land Use Office before 4:00 p.m. on Friday October 16, 2020, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to aconroy@salisburyct.us. This application is on file in the Town Hall and at www.salisburyct.us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission
 Martin Whalen, Secretary
 10-08-20
 10-15-20

Our Towns

More concerns expressed about housing plan

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Salisbury Planning and Zoning Commission's (P&Z) public hearing (held online) on the Salisbury Housing Committee application to build affordable housing in Lakeville continued on Thursday, Oct. 8.

The Housing Committee is applying to put up a building with 13 apartments at a town-owned site, 11 Holley St., now occupied by a small park and a parking lot at the intersection of Holley Street and Main Street (Route 44) in Lakeville.

The hearing, which was continued from Oct. 1, ran for longer than three hours and was continued again to Monday, Nov. 9, at 5:30 p.m.

P&Z Chair Michael Klemens said that if anyone wants to add to the record, submissions for the next round must be received by noon on Thursday, Nov. 5.

And he reminded the public that commissioners are not allowed to discuss the matter

outside of the hearing.

He also said it was important that people understand that the commission's decision will be based on state law and local regulations. He said the popularity of a proposal does not enter into the decision.

Concerns raised during the Oct. 8 session included: traffic safety; public parking at the site vs. parking for the residents; the size of the proposed apartment building; the impact of construction on nearby properties; the impact on access to nearby properties.

Other concerns: Does the design of the building match the intentions of the original donors; did the Board of Selectmen act legally when it extended the option to buy the property; have the P&Z meetings on the subject been properly warned and neighbors properly notified.

Klemens summed up after the meeting ran over its allotted time, acknowledging the concerns expressed and adding his personal opinion that



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

A proposed affordable housing project in the Lakeville village has raised a number of concerns among area residents and the town's Planning and Zoning Commission.

the applicant should consider a smaller building.

Several commissioners echoed that sentiment.

Jon Higgins said that the administrative and/or legal issues raised needed to be addressed,

and Bob Riva said he was more concerned about the parking issues than anything else.

The plans for the site and other relevant materials are online at the town website, www.salisburyct.us.

Long-awaited North Canaan road project begins

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — After years of planning, work began this week on a long-awaited improvement project in the town center, upgrading two sets of railroad tracks along state Route 44 and improving the intersection of state Route 7 North and Route 44.

"They are starting," First Selectman Charles Perotti announced to the Board of Selectmen at the regular meeting on Monday, Oct. 5.

Work began the next morning on the project, which will eventually result in a smoother railroad crossing experience for motorists at the two places where the tracks cross the highway. Lights and gates will be installed. The railbed will be raised 6.5 inches in the vicinity of the Union Station depot (now home to a brewery and a railway museum).

Perotti said that two sets of 20-foot long rails had been delivered to the construction site in recent days.

Updating the progress during a conversation on Thursday, Oct. 8, Perotti noted that railway crews were already welding the rail sections, preparing them for installation later in the project. Eventually the super-long rail sections will be lowered into place.

The first phase of the work centers on drainage, during which the roads can remain open to traffic.

Perotti said crews are now working on upgrading catch basins near Roma's restaurant and also farther east at Lawrence Field, across from McDonald's.

The work is a project of the state Department of Transportation. Work is expected to continue into the fall and finish around July 2021, Perotti estimated.

Looking for safe ways to hold an annual town meeting

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — With resolve to keep residents safe during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cornwall Board of Selectmen discussed a plan by which the annual town meeting could occur and meet all legal requirements, particularly for an in-person vote.

The discussion occurred at the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen, on Tuesday, Oct. 6, remotely by Zoom.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway reported that he has spoken with the town attorney.

"We know we need an annual town meeting," he said, adding that the 5-year capital improvement plan, approved by the selectmen and soon to be considered by the Board of Finance, needs a vote. At

town meetings, the town report is officially submitted and town taxpayers vote on whether or not to accept it.

Ridgway concluded that the town meeting needs to be in-person, although it could be outdoors.

Ridgway suggested that "sooner would be better than later," if the town decides to hold an outdoor town meeting, also noting that all property owners in town would be eligible to vote in the ensuing townwide referendum on the subject of the West Cornwall project.

A tentative date for the meeting has been set as Saturday, Nov. 21. The time and location are yet to be set.

Septic plan advances

The West Cornwall wastewater treatment project took a step ahead, Ridgway announced. A funding application through the U.S.

Department of Agriculture (USDA) has received a response that the project could be eligible for an estimated 45% coverage of the project costs. The funding would not cover purchase of a site for a treatment facility or annual maintenance of the system.

The next step would be for the town to schedule a public informational hearing on the project, eventually followed by a townwide referendum vote within two weeks after the town meeting.

A virtual public informational hearing was Ridgway's suggestion during which the substance of the project could be described by Zoom.

"We've been working on this for a long time," Ridgway said. "People generally know whether they want to commit to this amount of money." He added that specific numbers will need to be shared and ex-

plained and the town would need to have a bond counsel involved in the process.

Selectwoman Priscilla Pavel said that she preferred to move ahead with the meetings this fall. Selectwoman Marina Kotchoubey said that she could favor the fall, but she would also like to see more information about the project and its costs.

Ridgway said that he will continue to gather more information from the USDA and be ready to discuss the project in more detail at the next selectmen's meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 20.

As one of the 18 residents attending the meeting, resident Joanne Wojtuskiak praised the town's work to repair the Allen Cemetery, and asked whether the town could undertake needed repairs to the Calhoun Cemetery located along Route 7.



PHOTO BY CHERYL DUNTZ

North Canaan's new zoning enforcement officer, Ron Hirsch, is already at work reviewing zoning regulations and application procedures.

A varied and fascinating background for new ZEO

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — Having completed his first month of service as the town's new zoning enforcement officer (ZEO), Ron Hirsch praises the Town Hall staff and his new working environment within the Building Department.

Filling a position left vacant for about a year following the resignation of former ZEO Richelle Hodza, Hirsch began his duties in early September. Hodza's resignation was prompted by a procedural disagreement with the Planning and Zoning Commission (P&Z) about an application for a special permit. While awaiting appointment of a new ZEO, the Planning and Zoning Commission took on the duties of the zoning enforcement office.

"I enjoy working here," Hirsch said, taking time from his work for an introductory conversation on Tuesday, Sept. 29. "This job is one where I can use all of my skills."

He praised the Town Hall staff, calling them "good people" and the Town Hall a "lovely work environment."

Hirsch explained that his job is to support the P&Z in the application of the town's zoning regulations and its processes.

Every community has zoning regulations, Hirsch said. The regulations control what can be built and where it can be built; and they also control upgrades and renovations.

The ZEO maintains an interest in the regulations applied to new construction, additions, changes in use. The ZEO advises about whether plans meet or do not meet requirements as applicants come before the

Planning and Zoning Commission.

In his first weeks of service, Hirsch said that he has found "lots of problems" with the current regulations, particularly a lack of clarity. He said he will go through the regulations and come up with suggested wording to make the regulations less confusing. Those changes will then be discussed by the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Hirsch said he is also scrutinizing application forms to sharpen their usefulness, being sure that they are collecting the desired information. In short, he said that he is reviewing the entire process to recommend improvements.

Enjoying the freedom of an early retirement from his career as an executive with the nonprofit American Bar Association, Hirsch moved in recent years from southwestern Michigan to Great Barrington, Mass. Since his retirement and before his move, he served as a legal consultant for seven years. He has frequently worked in volunteer positions, particularly in nonprofit executive positions.

His own legal background includes a specialty in European Union law, and he has been active in legal aid work. Relevant to North Canaan's current wave of development, Hirsch has experience with aiding a Michigan historical society seeking to retain the character of its town while encouraging economic development.

An avid blogger and author, Hirsch hosts blogs focused on politics and Buddhism, as well as continuing his passion for composing classical music, earning critical acclaim for performances of his music throughout the U.S.



A Message From Scoville Memorial Library

We are happy to announce expanded hours and services to support our patrons and to provide resources for students going back to school.

VISITING THE LIBRARY

We are now open Tuesday through Friday, 10-5 and Saturday, 10-4 by appointment. Book a half-hour time slot by calling the Library at 860-435-2838. We welcome one group at a time, upstairs or downstairs. Appointments for the children's floor and the main floor must be made separately. If you wish to use both floors, please let us know when booking your time.

HOME DELIVERY/PICKUP

We continue to provide curbside pickup and home delivery in Salisbury, Lakeville and Sharon. Arrange for this by calling the Library. You may reserve any item in our catalog viewable at www.scovillelibrary.org, or ask us to make a recommendation for you. You can even borrow items not owned by the Library through our Interlibrary loan, now available.

WIFI AND COMPUTERS

We are also accepting appointments for using Wi-Fi in the Library. We have three separate locations, each of which may be booked for two hours a day. Wi-Fi is also available outside the building and in the parking lot behind the Library. You may also book a 30 minute slot to use a Library computer.

REMOTE ACCESS HELPLINE

Please call 860-435-2838 for help with using the library's digital services such as checking out and renewing items or accessing downloadable books, audio books or streaming services. A librarian is available to answer your call from 10-5 on Tuesdays through Fridays and 10-4 on Saturday. You may also ask us to select items for you. Just give us

hints about what you like and how many items you want. You can also reach us by email at scovlibn@biblio.org.

24/7 STREAMING

Thousands of films, audio and e-books are available free to cardholders. Call 860-435-2838 or visit our website at www.scovillelibrary.org to learn how to access Hoopla, Kanopy, Libby, Acorn TV, RB Digital and how to get unlimited one-week passes to the New York Times online.

RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS

Free tutoring for students by students. To request a Hotchkiss student to tutor your child age 7 - 14 in math, English, literature, Spanish or science, contact the Children's Librarian, Molly Salisbury at msalisbury@biblio.org. We also provide a helpline to locate source material for homework. Call 860-435-2838.

OUR GROUNDS REMAIN OPEN

Restore spirits with a visit to our Children's Garden. Admire changing leaves or read while relaxing on one of our cedar benches or Adirondack chairs. Our Wi-Fi requires no password and can be accessed from anywhere near the exterior of the building.

GET THE LATEST INFO

Go to our website for links to reliable information sources on COVID-19, listed under the Helpful Links menu. We are doing our best to help you and your family stay informed and safe during this challenging time.

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What a great idea.

Our Towns

Halloween safety guidelines in North Canaan

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — The North Canaan Board of Selectmen agreed that if COVID-19 guidelines are observed, town residents could enjoy the annual Halloween traditions this year.

Discussion occurred at the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen on Monday, Oct. 5. "We can leave it up to the people," Selectman Craig Whiting said — unless the state changes the guidelines in the meantime.

"We have kids who have been cooped up. The kids need it," Selectman Christian Allyn observed.

First Selectman Charles Perotti cautioned that people should be aware of and follow the state guidelines found on the website www.CT.gov; search for Halloween. Also look at guidance from the CDC in this week's Lakeville Journal on Page A6.

The selectmen agreed that if people don't want to participate in trick-or-treating, they can simply leave their porch lights off.

In part, state guidelines classify traditional trick-or-treating as a "high risk" activity for COVID-19. They urge small, family at-home activities instead. But they do offer sug-

gestions for a lower-risk way to deal with ghosts and goblins at the door. The one-way option involves leaving candies or treat bags, appropriately sanitized, outside on the porch in a large bowl so that spooky visitors can help themselves.

Or, appropriately masked, the homeowner could remain 6 feet away and drop the candy directly into the goblin's bag. Remember, too, that Halloween masks are not a substitute for a COVID-19 mask.

The selectmen also designated Saturday, Oct. 24, as a community clean-up day. Se-

lectman Allyn reported that sufficient funding remains in the HUB Grant account to allow for the purchase of trash bags and other supplies. Residents wishing to volunteer for the activity will meet at the Town Hall parking lot at 9 a.m. The effort is to pick up trash along roadsides. When bags are full, they can be left by the roadside for collection by the town.

Due to the upcoming election (which is on Tuesday, Nov. 3), the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 4.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

German Vargas has a new men's barber shop in the Main Street location where Mario Sebben had his barber business for many years.

A new barber shop for men in North Canaan

By Patrick L. Sullivan

NORTH CANAAN — There is a new men's barber in North Canaan.

German Vargas opened for business last month in the same Main Street shop (opposite the depot and Collins Diner) where the late Mario Sebben cut the hair of generations of men.

A native of Colombia, Vargas said he has been in the U.S. for about 25 years and has been a barber for 20 years.

A haircut is \$22, and walk-ins are welcome (although if you want to call ahead, his number is 413-

230-8775). He is open Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Depending on his schedule, a couple nights per week he stays until 7 p.m.

A reporter whose personal head-type area was in dire need of attention sat down and asked for a "military" haircut.

And that is what he got — very carefully and thoroughly done, not just a quick run-through with the clippers.

Vargas said he looks carefully at the shape of the customer's face before making a recommendation on how to proceed.

"Your haircut is my business card," he said with a grin.

Chris Sorrell retires as resident state trooper

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — First Selectman Curtis Rand said at the Oct. 5 meeting of the Board of Selectmen that Resident State Trooper Chris Sorrell, who has worked as Salisbury's resident State Police trooper for nine years, has retired.

Rand said the State Police handle choosing a replacement, and that four troopers have applied for the position. He said the new resident trooper should be on the job by the end of the month.

The resident state troopers are assigned to towns that request them, and the towns pay a majority of the trooper's salary and benefits. They have an office at town hall but are still employed first by the State Police at Troop B, which has its headquarters in North Canaan. The program offers public safety continuity for towns that choose to participate. In the Northwest Corner, the towns with resident state troopers are Salisbury, North Canaan and Kent.

Rand said he has received numerous complaints about speeding, particularly on Taconic Road, Wells Hill Road,

Salmon Kill Road and Belgo Road. He said he is researching the cost of additional electronic speed warning signs, which the town would have to pay for. "I think it's a wise investment."

The town has also chosen an engineering firm to design flashing traffic beacons for the crosswalk in the center of Salisbury village and for the crosswalk at The White Hart, and for a traffic safety upgrade on Salmon Kill Road, where the Rail Trail crosses the street.

Selectman Chris Williams, who is on the Pathways Committee, reported that the town has received a \$400,000 grant to build a sidewalk between Lincoln City Road (where Salisbury Central School is located) and the firehouse on Brook Street.

And the town has received the permit from the state Department of Transportation to extend the sidewalk on Main Street (Route 44) from the library toward Lakeville.

Rand noted that people have complained about "free-ranging" domestic cats killing birds.

"There's nothing to do about it right now," he said. "But it is an issue."

Schools discuss keeping campuses clean

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Region One Board of Education considered the idea of hiring a regional substitute custodian during the regular monthly board meeting Monday, Oct. 5 (held online).

The All Boards Chair committee of the Region One board recommended hiring a substitute custodian who would be available to all six pre-kindergarten-to-grade-eight schools and Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) to fill in. The All Boards Chair committee is made up of the chairmen of the six elementary school boards of education and the regional high school.

Region One Business Manager Sam Herrick said that the idea had been discussed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and was brought up again recently.

During the discussion, several questions arose, including: Does establishing such a position mean the pay and benefits come out of the Regional School Services Center budget? Herrick estimated the cost at

between \$50,000 to \$80,000 per year, depending on whether the substitute custodian signed up for health insurance. And does the position require negotiating with the unions at all seven schools?

After considerable back and forth, the board voted to refer the matter to its personnel committee, which met Wednesday, Oct. 7. Out of that meeting came the suggestion of raising the pay rate for substitute custodians throughout the region, and keeping personnel decisions at the town level. Herrick and Interim Region One Superintendent Lisa Carter will bring proposals for both approaches to the regional board, possibly in a special meeting later this month.

The board also discussed how to spend some \$1.1 million in federal funds granted to Region One in response to the pandemic. The funds must be spent by the end of the calendar year. (Some of it could possibly be used for the substitute custodian.) There will be more information on this at the November board meeting.

Football unlikely for spring

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Region One Athletic Director Anne MacNeil reported at the Oct. 5 meeting of the Region One Board of Education that the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference, which canceled high school football this fall due to the pandemic, is considering an alternative season for football and other sports in the spring. She said it is "unlikely" that the MCW United football coop team (with HVRHS, Wamogo and Oliver Wolcott Technical School) would be able to participate, especially considering winter weather conditions.

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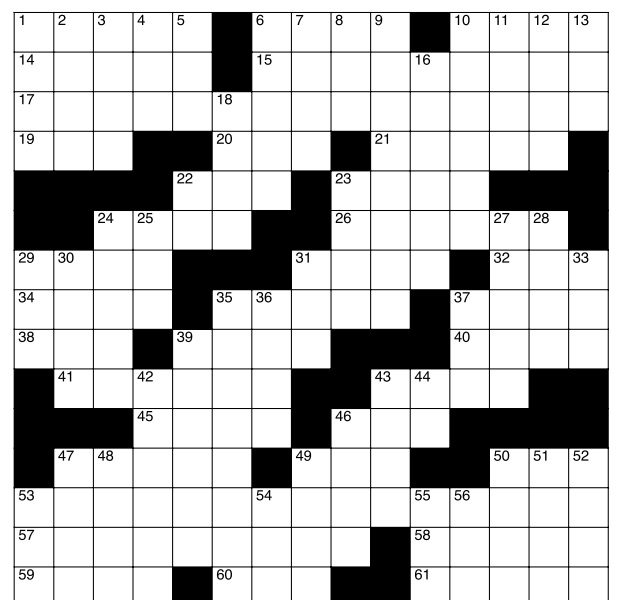
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- Battered corners: dog—
- ___ Mater: one's school
- National capital
- Frogs and toads order
- Bathrooms (French)
- Praise
- Witch
- Consume
- Pork and lamb are two types
- Rocky peak
- Women's undergarments
- From end to end
- Bed sheets
- South Sudanese king
- Dislike immensely
- Diving seabird
- Breathe noisily
- Full of roots
- Inside
- Small island in a river
- Tear into pieces
- "CSI" actor George
- Make less dense
- Derogatory term for a country native
- Pike and pickerel genus
- Important in respiration and other biochemical reactions (abbr.)
- Belgian city
- "The Joy Luck Club" author
- Essence of "Aloha"
- Suggestions
- One who overindulges
- Expression
- Maize dough
- Make into leather
- British noblemen

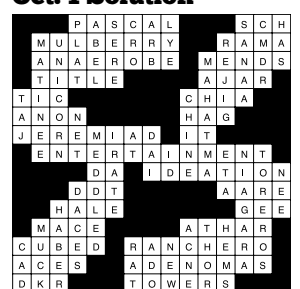
CLUES DOWN

- One of two or more people or things
- Small, deerlike water buffalo
- Part of a ladder
- Unit of work
- Patriotic women
- Fragrant essential oil
- Aggressive, uncouth man
- One thousandth of an inch
- Brisk and cheerful readiness
- Serving no practical purpose
- Prevent from going forward
- Camera part
- Former CIA
- Colorless, odorless gas
- Long division of time
- Atomic #73
- Make a bleating sound
- The kids love him
- Female condition prior to menstrual period
- Founder of Sikhism
- Sudanese swamp

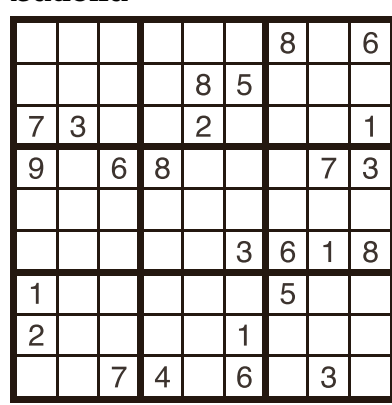


- He/she can help with your finances
- Part of the human body
- Mortar trough
- Greek island
- Change pagination
- Queens hip hop group
- Precursor to the EU
- A way to go on
- Slender marine fish
- Georgetown's mascot
- Farm state
- Military leader (abbr.)
- Russian river
- Teams' best pitchers
- In a more positive way
- Long French river
- Reactive structures in organic chemistry
- Distinctive practices
- Male gypsy
- When you hope to get there
- Men's fashion accessory
- Journalist Tarbell

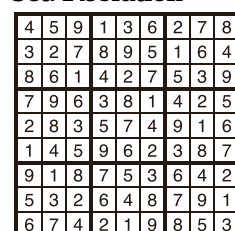
Oct. 1 Solution



Sudoku



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OBITUARIES

Roger A. Gregoire

MILLERTON — Roger A. Gregoire, 74, a 45-year resident of Millerton, died Oct. 9, 2020, at Vassar Bros. Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., with his family at his bedside.

Mr. Gregoire retired as a maintenance supervisor from Taconic DDSO in Wassaic, a career that spanned more than 33 years.

Born Nov. 7, 1945, in Waterbury, Conn., he was the son of the late Verla (Austin) and Antonio Gregoire.

Following school, he served his country in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War and was honorably discharged following his last tour of duty.

On Oct. 17, 1971, at St. Patrick's Church in Millerton, he married Margaret Ann Cooke. Mrs. Gregoire survives at home.

Mr. Gregoire was a life member and past captain of the Millerton Fire Company and was a life member of the American Legion Millerton Post No. 178.

He was an avid hunter and enjoyed bowling for many years. He also enjoyed spend-

ing time outdoors caring for his lawn and fixing anything that needed repair at his home and for his neighbors. He will be dearly missed by his loving family and many friends.

In addition to his wife, Margaret, he is survived by his daughter, Dawn Herpfer of Hillsdale, N.Y.; his grandson, Hayden Herpfer of Hillsdale; two sisters, Claudette Chamberlin of Amenia and Elaine Rivard of Florida.

He was predeceased by his brother, Ronald Gregoire of Sharon.

Calling hours will take place on Friday, Oct. 16, from noon to 2 p.m. at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home in Millerton. A funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. at the funeral home, the Rev. Robert K. Wilson officiating. Burial will follow at St. Patrick's Cemetery in Millerton with Naval Military Honors.

Memorial donations may be made to the Millerton Fire Company, P.O. Box 733, Millerton, NY 12546.

To send an online condolence, go to www.conklinfuneralhome.com.

Send obituaries to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com

Alec Calhoun Frost

CORNWALL — Alec Calhoun Frost died Oct. 8, 2020, in Tunbridge, Vt.

Alec was born April 11, 1932, in Torrington, a son of Folger Weston Frost and Lou Calhoun Frost and the brother of Peter and John "Denny" Frost.

Alec grew up in Cornwall and was a graduate of Housatonic Valley Regional High School. He majored in English Literature at Colgate University (Phi Beta Kappa, 1954) and then served in the U.S. Army from 1954-56.

After a short stint in advertising, Alec attended Columbia University's School of Architecture, winning upon graduation a six-month fellowship to travel through Great Britain and Scandinavia, studying housing and the new towns.

Alec worked for the architectural firm of Pedersen and Tilney in New Haven, and for Moore & Salsbury Architects in West Hartford and Avon, Conn., where he became partner. He eventually established his own solo practice.

His focus was broad, ranging from private to public architecture, and his projects included the Farmington Library, major additions to the New Britain Museum, Newington Children's Hospital and the Norfolk Library, and work for Kent, Ethel Walker and other

preparatory schools in Connecticut.

Alec married Nan Huber in Sharon in 1963, and they raised their family in Harwinton, Conn.; his retirement years were spent in Cornwall and Tunbridge. Almost every summer of his life included time at the family camp in the Adirondacks.

Alec served on the planning commission for Harwinton and on the library boards there and in Cornwall. It is hard to imagine him without a camera in his hand, and his photographs of barns and old houses were used for calendars that benefited the Cornwall and Tunbridge historical societies, in which he was active.

In addition to Nan, Alec leaves his three children, Ruth Frost and Ben Nilson of Kelowna, B.C., Matthew and Amy Frost of Tunbridge and Adam and Andrea Frost of New Salem, Mass.; as well as eight grandchildren and a large extended family.

Donations in his memory may be made to the libraries of Cornwall or Tunbridge. A celebration of Alec's life will be held at a later date.

A private message of sympathy for the family can be shared at www.boardwayandcillee.com. The Boardway and Cillee Funeral Home in Chelsea, Vt., is in charge of arrangements.

Women can now self-refer for mammogram appointments

SHARON — The Nuvance Health group, which includes Sharon Hospital in Sharon, Conn., is now offering self-referring screening mammograms for women who meet the following criteria:

- Age 40 and older
- Not experiencing symptoms of breast cancer
- Don't currently have breast cancer
- No history of breast cancer
- Last mammogram was at least 12 months ago

Women who don't meet these criteria for a screening mammogram should speak with their physician. Women who don't have a physician can call 888-525-4767, Monday through Friday, 7a.m. to 6 p.m., to be connected with a Nuvance Health Medical Practice physician.

The imaging center at Sharon Hospital is one of the Nuvance hospitals that will accept self-referral patients.

To schedule a screening mammogram by phone, call 845-790-8855 and then press option 1 for imaging. To request a screening mammogram online, go to www.nuvancehealth.org/breastcare and select Request an Appointment Online. A scheduling specialist will then contact patients by phone to confirm their appointment.

Worship Services

Week of October 18, 2020

Call ahead or visit websites for updates on remote or in-person services.

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St. John's Episcopal Church
12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT
Rev. Marilyn Anderson
Rev. Paul Christopherson
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10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II)
WEDNESDAY HEALING SERVICE
At Noon - with Eucharist
www.stjohnssalisbury.org
860-435-9290

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Morning Worship - 11:00
Evening Service - 6:00 PM
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Sat. Bible Studies for Men & Women 3:00 PM
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sharonumc5634@att.net

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Virtual Sunday service 10:30 AM
Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page
Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study
Rev. Heidi Truax
trinity@trinitylimerock.org
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www.trinitylimerock.org

Canaan United Methodist Church
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9 AM - St. Bernard
SATURDAY VIGIL
4 PM - St. Bridget
SUNDAY MASSES
8 AM - St. Bernard
10 AM - Sacred Heart
Face masks required

HEALTH

Nuvance seeking COVID-19 patients for clinical trial

SHARON — Anyone who has been exposed to or diagnosed with COVID-19 and did not require hospitalization may be eligible to take part in clinical studies examining both the treatment and prevention of the virus.

Nuvance Health is seeking volunteers through the early fall of this year to participate in two clinical trials to test the effectiveness of convalescent blood plasma for outpatient COVID-19 study intervention. The trials aim to recruit 1,100 people from across the country to help researchers determine if convalescent blood plasma therapy can effectively be used to treat people in the early stages of COVID-19 illness or prevent the infection in those at high risk of exposure to the virus at their homes or jobs.

Nuvance Health was selected by Johns Hopkins to offer these studies at Danbury Hospital and Norwalk Hospital in Connecticut and Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

The study intervention is a transfusion of a blood product from COVID-19 survivors that contains antibodies that may help the patient's immune system fight the virus.

"Preliminary studies on convalescent plasma use in severely ill, hospitalized patients have shown that convalescent plasma is safe," said Joann Petrini, PhD, vice president of Innovation and Research at Nuvance Health. "These new studies will test whether a transfusion of plasma containing antibodies from persons who have recovered from COVID-19 is an effective treatment for patients with early illness and a way to

prevent the infection among those who have been exposed to the virus."

People who may be eligible for the prevention trial are those who have been exposed to COVID-19 in their home or at work as healthcare providers.

For the companion trial, participants will have been diagnosed with early COVID-19 disease, meaning they are within eight days of their first symptoms but are not sick enough to be in a hospital.

All participants will be over age 18.

Participants will receive one IV infusion of the convalescent plasma that contains antibodies for COVID-19 or placebo plasma that does not contain the antibodies, at an outpatient facility, which usually takes about an hour.

As part of the trials, participants who have been exposed to the virus will be evaluated over four weeks for development of COVID-19 infection, including symptom checks and laboratory testing for the virus and antibodies.

Participants with COVID-19 will be monitored over four weeks to determine the course of the disease and its severity. The researchers will examine the long-term immunity of both groups at three months after infusion with convalescent or placebo plasma.

There are no FDA-approved vaccines to prevent infection with the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which causes COVID-19 disease, nor approved study interventions for the illness in its earliest stage. Currently, only hospitalized patients have ac-

cess to any type of therapy for COVID-19.

There are no other outpatient therapies to prevent hospitalization or death.

Physicians have used the study intervention for severe diseases in hospitals for more than a century, often during epidemics such as the influenza pandemic of 1918 and the more recent outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) in 2003. Laboratory experiments in the past have shown that the therapy neutralizes many viruses.

For more information on the plasma trials and eligibility, email COVID19plasmaStudy@nuvancehealth.org or call 203-739-7341 (TTY: 800-842-9710) in Connecticut or 845-230-1411 (TTY: 800 421-1200) in New York.

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With thanks to those who serve.

HAYES

Continued from Page A1

able Care Act's provisions on pre-existing conditions, allowing young people to stay on their family's health insurance, and to expand Medicare and Medicaid to include vision and dental care.

She also said that prescription drug prices continue to rise, and that when a COVID-19 vaccine is ready, it must be affordable.

On the economy, Hayes said the first thing to do is make sure people are healthy, to avoid the "circular" problem of businesses reopening and then closing again because of a COVID-19 outbreak.

She said the federal government should offer more in the way of financial assistance to businesses, and added that she wants to increase support for apprenticeship programs and trade schools so that, as the economy revives, businesses will find the district an attractive place to relocate.

She said that the pandemic has also underscored the role that public schools play. "Schools are doing double duty," she said, providing vital nutrition programs as well as education.

And she re-emphasized the "equity gaps," pointing to the differences between school districts in broadband access and the purchasing of personal protective equipment.

"These are not temporary problems," they have been thrown into sharp relief by the pandemic, she said. "None of these things are new."

What is new is the number of people who are looking for assistance. "For so many people, this is their first time at a food bank."

People in the 5th District "are paying closer attention, and demanding solutions."

Hayes said her COVID-19 experience was troubling in terms of her reelection campaign, but that the response from volunteers was gratifying. "People were stepping up, asking 'How can I help?'"

She said if anything her illness "energized" the campaign.

Asked if she plans to come to the Northwest Corner, she said there is nothing planned at the moment, but she is regularly holding online town hall-style meetings.

"I'm still being very cautious," she said. "We just have to be imaginative."

She said she was reluctant to bring up President Donald Trump's rallies, and said she would not be doing anything similar.

"This is not the year for that. I'm not just a candidate, I'm an elected official. I have to lead by example."

She said she and her staffers "followed every precaution — and I still got it" (as did one of her staff members).

"I'm not going to put people at risk."

Hayes said she enjoys coming to the Northwest Corner, and has to be careful that people in the rest of the district don't get annoyed.

She said when people ask her to describe the 5th District, she replies, "It's like seeing a part of the rest of the country" with the mix of urban, suburban and rural communities.

At one point, when Hayes and her husband were quarantined, they took a ride to Cornwall on a Sunday, without getting out of the car.

"There's so much peace," she said. "It keeps you grounded."

SULLIVAN

Continued from Page A1

He said he has children in public schools in New Fairfield. "We've got to make sure we reopen schools safely."

He said prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, many people in Connecticut were not participating in what he called a "robust economy."

"We've got to change the culture in Connecticut. But before we do that we need to focus on safety and health."

Sullivan said he is highly supportive of law enforcement, and is against removing school resource officers from schools. "It's the best place possible for children to see law enforcement officers as their friends and protectors."

He was sharply critical of the press and the Obama administration. "Where are the Woodwards and Bernsteins today?" he asked. He referred to then-breaking stories about President Obama, Vice President Joe Biden and other administration figures meeting with intelligence officials in the waning days of the Obama presidency about the incoming Trump administration.

Sullivan said that Hayes does not represent the views of people in the 5th District. "She talks like a moderate but votes with [House Speaker Nancy] Pelosi.

"She's aligned with 'The Squad,'" he continued, referring to a group of progressive Congresswomen of whom the most visible is Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez (D-N.Y.).

Asked how his campaign is proceeding, Sullivan said, "This a grass roots campaign. I've got no Washington money or contacts.

"I'm trying to appeal to the values of the voters, and to the roughly 40% who are unaffiliated."

He said he has been busy campaigning, within the limitations of the pandemic.

"I've been to all 41 towns. No team. I've been everywhere."

At the gathering of 30th State Senate District Republicans in Kent on Sept. 10, Sullivan spoke of the threats of Marxism and socialism.

Asked about that on Oct. 6, he drew a distinction between the two terms.

He said there is a big difference between constitutionally protected protests versus riots, and pushed back at the criticism that mentioning Karl Marx is reminiscent of the McCarthy-era Red Scare.

"I didn't bring it up," he said, noting that many on the American left openly call themselves Marxists.

He said the Medicare for All bill that Hayes supported would place some 19% of the U.S. economy under federal government control.

"That's socialism."

Asked if the constant hubbub surrounding President Donald Trump helps or hurts his chances, Sullivan said he has found that some people support the president (and believe that social media is the only way Trump can get his message past a hostile press); some support Trump but dislike his style; and some dislike Trump, period.

"I want to work with everybody," he said. He added that in his career as a prosecutor he served under Presidents George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Barack Obama and Trump.

"I respect our process and the office."

Halloween guidance: Skip trick-or-treating this year

By Cynthia Hochswender

Halloween is kind of a big deal here in the Tri-state region, and many homeowners are wondering whether they need to go out and buy 700 pieces of individually wrapped candy for trick-or-treaters this year.

The answer is: probably not. The state of Connecticut has issued a warning that trick-or-treating is a high-risk activity this year, because of COVID-19. The state refers to the guidance from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which categorizes holiday activities into low, moderate and high risk, for Halloween and Thanksgiving.

Going door to door in a costume is listed as high risk. Also on the high-risk list are indoor Halloween parties; trunk-or-treat parties (where bags of candies are in the trunks of cars, and children walk from vehicle to vehicle and collect treats); indoor haunted houses, where people in close proximity might scream; and hayrides and tractor rides.

The CDC offers ideas for moderate-risk activities. One is to have outdoor costume parties — but the website warns that you can't count on a costume mask to protect you from transmission of the coronavirus; at the same time, you shouldn't wear a costume mask over a protective mask, because it's likely to impede breathing.

Outdoor horror film screenings are a moderately risky activity. Walks through haunted forests are moderate, as long as social distancing is practiced (if there are likely to be a lot of screams, the recommendation is to remain more than 6 feet apart).

You can visit pumpkin patches and apple orchards, but only if people use hand sanitizer before touching the pumpkins and apples and if masks are worn and social distancing is enforced.

You can also try what the CDC calls "one-way trick-or-treating," which is when "individually wrapped goody bags are lined up for families to grab and go while continuing to social distance (such as at the end of a driveway or at the edge of a yard). If you are preparing goody bags, wash your



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

The CDC warns families that trick-or-treating is a high-risk activity.

hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after preparing the bags."

Low-risk activities include carving pumpkins at home with members of your family, or carving pumpkins outdoors with close friends and family. You can organize a scavenger hunt by giving your children a list of things to look for during a walk through the neighborhood, admiring decorated houses from a distance.

Lowest risk of all: A costume contest on Zoom.

Halloween is, of course, a time when we like a little horror and fear, which the CDC guidelines kind of provide.

The fear level is less welcome when it comes to Thanks-

giving but, as the saying goes, if these recommendations seem onerous, imagine how much worse it would all be if you or a loved one were in the hospital on a ventilator.

So, the CDC guidance is that you should not travel long distances to be with family; and that you should only have a small dinner with your housemates/close family members. You should not rush out to a Big Box store on Black Friday; you should do what we've all kind of been doing anyway, which is to shop online. And you should remain at home to watch sports events; you can text or Zoom with your friends to recreate the aura of rowdy camaraderie.

The list of moderate-risk activities is fairly limited, and pretty much only includes having an outdoor dinner (unlike-ly to happen here in New England) with close friends and community members.

High-risk activities include all the things we normally associate with Thanksgiving: large dinners with lots of people who have traveled long distances, followed by shopping in large, crowded stores and then settling down on a sofa with several close friends to watch football.

To get the full list of CDC holiday recommendations, go to www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.



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Salisbury Republican Town Committee

WHY VOTE REPUBLICAN?

Because the Democrat controlled State Legislature created over \$2 Billion in new taxes and fees, passed an anti-police bill that will impair the ability of our State Troopers to perform their job safely and effectively, and refuses to do anything to solve the State's crippling pension liabilities which are a time-bomb for future generations.

Craig Miner, a small business owner who served as the First Selectman of Litchfield for 10 years, has ably represented our District in the State Senate since 2016. **Brian Ohler**, who served Army tours in Iraq and Afghanistan and was awarded three purple hearts, ably represented our District in the General Assembly from 2016 to 2018. Together they will advance the interests of taxpayers and small business owners who seek a more favorable business climate, which currently ranks 48th in the country in long-term growth prospects.

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Your Guide to Tri-State Events

October 15-21, 2020

DAY TRIP: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

A Spectacular Day of Dining, and Admiring Waterfowl

It isn't only the leaves that put on their most spectacular show of colors in autumn. It's also waterfowl, who moult their dowdy summer plumage in October and November and put on their finest feathers, as their six-month mating and courtship period begins.

That's what makes autumn the most perfect time of all to visit the Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy in Litchfield, Conn.

I traveled to Ripley last week, just as the ducks and cranes and swans were plucking at their old feathers, in preparation for the burst of autumn feather glory. Normally, of course, I wouldn't have known that's what was going on; I would have just thought they were, I don't know, itchy or something. But I was lucky enough to have as my tour guide Andrew Ocampo, who is the conservancy's director of aviculture and who is certainly the best informed expert on all avians of anyone I've ever met.

When I first drove up to Ripley, which turned out to be an easy 40-minute trek from my house in Lakeville, Conn., I was greeted by Executive Director Gavin Berger (who lives in Miller-ton, N.Y., and is an advisor to The Lakeville Journal



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

Rare Siberian cranes are now in residence at the Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy in Litchfield, Conn., and can be visited on weekends (or during the week, if you book a guided tour).

Co.) and Cate Hogan, the conservancy's chief operating officer — and a pair of statuesque Siberian cranes, who had arrived at Ripley one week earlier from their home at Zoo New England in Boston, Mass.

"The cranes are extremely rare," Hogan told us, and they had been sent to Ripley on sort of an avian couples retreat. The idea: To find the ideal environment for them to

breed, and thus to help revive a dying breed. Once you've seen these birds, you know they're eminent-worth saving. They are tall and magnificent, mostly white but with black feathers on their wings, which they unfold to greet you when you enter the conservancy grounds. They live near the entrance — in a tented area, not just to protect the cranes from human visitors but also to protect the visitors themselves; these are very large, very strong birds.

At first I'd thought our visit to Ripley would be just a nice day outdoors looking at cranes and ducks and geese and swans. Once Ocampo joined us on the tour, however, it became clear that there is much more going on at Ripley than just paddling. Ocampo himself has an understated "aw shucks" quality; it takes Hogan to explain that he is one of the most sought-after bird breeders in the

world. When I first heard this, I figured there would be test tubes and science involved, but as we walked around the grounds and the many ponds and pens, Ocampo explained that breeding birds has much more to do with creating the right mood, making sure the birds feel safe and that they are well-fed and comfortable. From there, nature does its thing (birds want to breed, Ocampo explained; like all animals, they have a biological imperative to replace themselves).

The next step is to keep the eggs and baby birds safe so they can make it to adulthood.

Ocampo won't always be available to act as a tour guide, but there are plenty of signs at each of the ponds and pens explaining what's what. You can also sign up for a guided tour, which will make your visit much more meaningful. There is a fee for the tour, however; but once you've spent a little time at the conservancy you'll know for sure that the money you give will be well-spent. For tour information, go to the website at www.ripleyconservancy.org/guided-tours-field-trips.

You can also of course visit on your own, and you will still have a spectacularly good time, with lots of arresting visuals. This is a

Continued on next page

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FILM: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

For Those Who Just Can't Wait: Horror Films

The suspense is killing us! No one knows yet whether trick-or-treating will be organized by towns on Halloween this year, which is leading to some perhaps seasonally appropriate terror (well, OK: anxiety) about what will happen on Oct. 31 and whether homeowners need to go out and buy large bags of candy in advance of the arrival of costumed children.

Until we know what's happening, there are other ways to express the yearning for Halloween horror — with horror film screenings at the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., and the Center for Performing Arts in Rhinebeck, N.Y.

There isn't room here to lay out ticket information, social distance requirements and other details, or even a summary of all the films, but here are the basics.

COMING UP AT THE MAHAIWE

The screenings are indoor but with limited capacity and social distance protocols.

Jordan Peele's 2017 "Get Out," will show on Saturday, Oct. 17, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 18, at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.

Two high-definition screenings of the National Theatre's production of "Frankenstein" will show on two Wednesdays, Oct. 21 and 28, at 7:30 p.m. Actor Benedict Cumberbatch portrays Doctor Frankenstein in the Oct. 21 screening and The Creature on Oct. 28.

"Hocus Pocus," the 1993 film starring Bette Midler, Kathy Najimy

and Sarah Jessica Parker is Friday, Oct. 23, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 24, at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.

A true horror double-feature is saved for Friday, Oct. 30, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 31, at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m., with the original black-and-white film of "Frankenstein" from 1931 starring Boris Karloff and then the 1940 science fiction thriller "The Devil Bat," starring Bela Lugosi.

Go to www.mahaiwe.org or call 413-528-0100 during box office hours (Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 4 p.m.).

COMING UP AT THE CENTER

Screenings are outdoors, on the side of a barn and 40-feet wide, on Fridays and Saturdays at 7 and 8:30 p.m.

The double features this weekend, Oct. 16 and 17, are "The Invisible Man" at 7 p.m. and "The Werewolf of London" at 8:30 p.m.

On Oct. 23 and 24, it will be "The Wolfman" at 7 p.m. and "Frankenstein Meets the Wolfman" at 8:30 p.m.

On Oct. 30 and 31, it's "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein" at 7 p.m. and "Creature from the Black Lagoon" at 8:30 p.m. On Halloween, Oct. 31, each car will be given a bag of treats.

Go to www.centerforperformingarts.showare.com or call 845-876-3080.

FILLING IN THE MISSING NOTES WITH CRESCENDO

Listening to music is in itself a pleasant experience, but that experience becomes infinitely richer if you have some knowledge about what you're listening to and how it came to be.

Crescendo is a music and performing arts organization that is based at Trinity Church in Lime Rock, Conn. This year, because of COVID-19, all of the group's performances will be online, beginning this month with weekly dialogs and music from Crescendo Founding Artistic Director Christine Gevert and distinguished scholars and performers. The talks will give background and context to the works the group presents.

Then more than 60 performers from the U.S., Europe and Latin America

will come together for a Virtual Christmas Concert on Dec. 19 at 4 p.m. Taking part in the concert will be the Crescendo Chorus and Vocal Ensemble, soloists, Period Instrument Orchestra and Andean Instruments. Together they will perform excerpts of Johann Sebastian Bach's Christmas Oratorio BWV 248, works from the Colonial Latin American Baroque, 20th-century Argentinian music, and Gospel/Spiritual-based works.

To view the videos and get updates, go to www.worldclassmusic.org. Coming up on Friday, Oct. 23, the topic is "Fun facts about the Baroque trumpet," with Christopher Belluscio.

— Cynthia Hochswender

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

Look for a new calendar of events at our website, www.tricornernews.com/events-calendar.

We will also include the calendar in our print edition as space allows.

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LEARN TO MAKE A HOLIDAY WREATH, ONLINE

It's only October but it's not too early to start thinking about holiday wreaths. Connecticut Landmarks is offering a step-by-step evergreen wreath workshop, on video.

All of the necessary supplies to make an evergreen wreath with a decorative bow will be available for pick-up at several participating sites. Wreath kits include greens, a 12-inch wire wreath ring, wire, red bow, a link to the on-demand tutorial and written instructions.

In addition to the provided materials, a pair of gardening gloves and clippers are recommended for a more comfortable crafting experience. If participants wish to forage for pine cones, holly and other natural materials from their yard or garden (or purchase additional decorations), the how-to video will cover how

to add them to the completed wreath.

Once assembled, the wreaths will be approximately 24 inches in diameter. A live Zoom session will be available by appointment for additional troubleshooting.

The cost is \$45 per wreath kit (\$35 for members). Registration is due at www.ctl-wreath-making.eventbrite.com by Sunday, Nov. 15. The nearest pick-up site (on Friday, Nov. 27, 2 to 4 p.m.) is the Bellamy-Ferri-day House & Garden in Bethlehem, Conn.

For best results, greens should be assembled by Dec. 11. Completed wreaths can be shared on social media by using the hashtag #CTLWreathMaking. The wreath with the most "likes" by Tuesday, Dec. 15, at noon will win a prize.

To learn more, go to www.ctlandmarks.org.

CLAY WAY STUDIO TOUR IS ON OCT. 17 & 18

The fourth annual Clay Way Studio Tour of artists who do ceramics and pottery in the Tri-state region will be held this year on the weekend of Oct. 17 and 18.

As always, some artists will show their

work in the studios of other artists, so that there will be a total of 15 artists and nine studios in two states.

The tour is free and self-guided, so visit the website at www.clayway.net to see the map.

PHOTOGRAPHY: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

How we Survived the Quarantine — in Portraits

Cornwall's Lazlo Gyorsok spent the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic visiting (with masks and social distance) people in Cornwall, Conn., and seeing how they were spending time during the quarantine. The result is a collection of portraits called "While We Were Home," now on display at the Cornwall Library in Cornwall.

The photos can also be soon "virtually" at <http://lazlo.us/home>. You don't need to know any of the people in the images to understand what they're about; you see a little bit of all the characters who inhabit our part of the world.

There are young farmers with big smiles, full of hope and aspiration; refugees from city life, adapting to wearing blue jeans every day as their new uniform, looking for a quieter life closer to the earth; there are men with big beards; older women who are still beautiful in spite of (or because of) a light reliance on cosmetics; confident

youngsters; and dogs (lots of dogs).

The subjects of the photos are identified but there isn't any running text. Gyorsok's wife, Christina, summed up what people told her husband as he photographed them: "While we were home, we made music and art, walked with or without our furry friends, biked, spent more time with our families, honored our fallen soldiers, farmed, welcomed newcomers, worshiped, volunteered to feed our neighbors, sacrificed our safety to do essential jobs, spent more time outdoors and found new ways to care for each other. While we were home, we did what we do best: We did 'Cornwall.'"

The library show will remain up until Nov. 14. Any of the pictures can be purchased, framed, at the Housatonic Fine Art and Framing shop in Cornwall Bridge for \$125; of that, \$25 will be donated to the Cornwall Food and Fuel Fund.

For information on hours and COVID-19 protocols, go to www.cornwalllibrary.org.

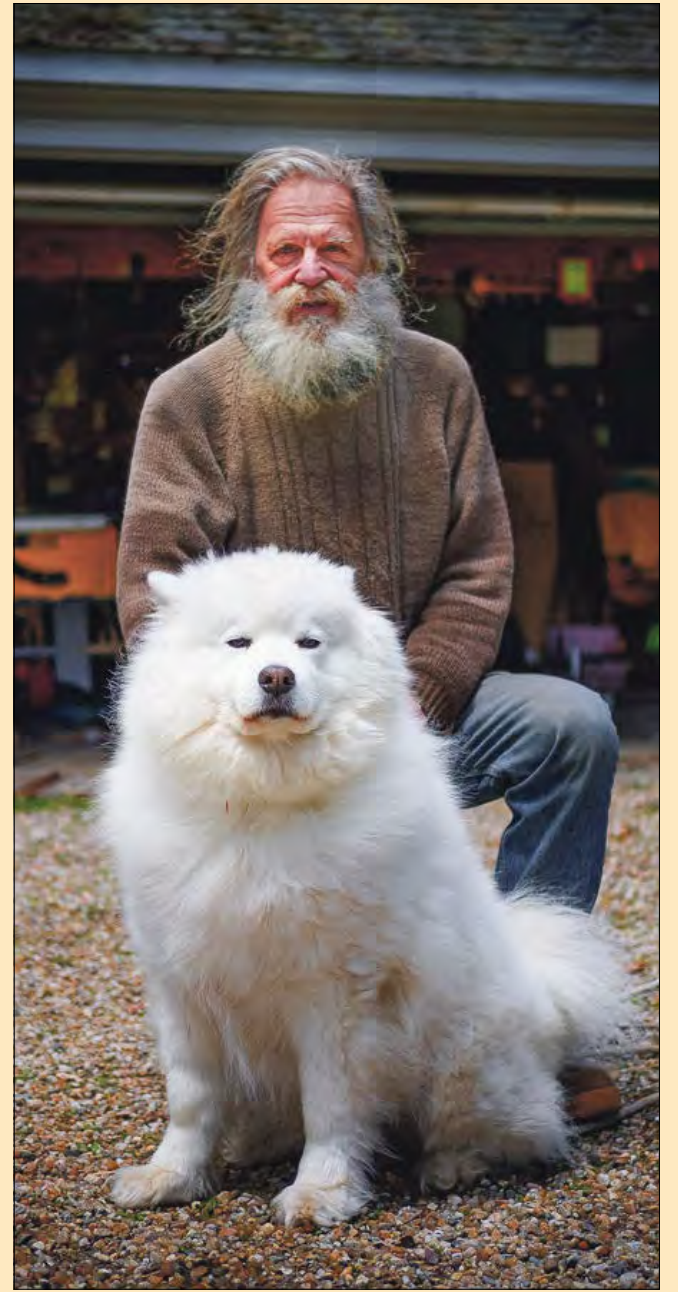


PHOTO BY LAZLO GYORSOK

This photo of Richard Manyak is part of a collection of portraits by Lazlo Gyorsok now on display at the library in Cornwall, Conn.

... dining and rare waterfowl Continued from previous page

very quiet, low-key preserve, probably not a great place for kids who want to run energetically and chase the swans. Although it's not stated explicitly, this is also not someplace you'll want to bring your dog.

You can only visit on your own until the end of November, but you can arrange tours all year. You can also organize a special raptor tour, with Ocam-

po himself; the website offers information on the different raptor opportunities, but for one of them, visitors can have a raptor land on their arm, which I think would be about the most thrilling and terrifying experience ever.

The Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy is in Litchfield, Conn., on Duck Pond Road. Within an easy 10 minute drive are several culinary stops that will round out your visit and make it completely worth it to take a day trip to Litchfield:

- Thorncrest Farm and Milk House Chocolates, 280 Town Hill Road in Goshen, Conn.; www.milkhousechocolates.net. Handmade chocolates, created with milk from the

cows on the (exquisitely clean) farm.

- Dutch Epicure, 491 Bantam Road, Litchfield, www.dutchepicure.com. A second-generation shop that is like a treasure trove of delicious baked goods, soups and curries, and European preserved goods (from pasta to jams) — and 30 varieties of licorice.

- The three Arethusa emporia, which include the ice cream and cheese shop, the sandwich and coffee shop (Arethusa a mano) and the luxury restaurant (Arethusa a tavola). All are within steps of each other.

- The sandwich shop is at 833 Bantam Road; you can park there, put in the order for your glorious sandwich, and while you

wait you can walk next door to buy some loaves of exquisite, freshly baked bread from Bantam Bread, 853 Bantam Road, www.bantambread.com.

- For an old-school coffee house meal, you can go instead to the famous Patty's, which is next door to Dutch Epicure and, for now at least, has outdoor dining under tents. Patty's Restaurant is at 499 Bantam Road, www.pattys-litchfield.com.

- And if a visit to Ripley inspires you to seek out other nature preserves in the area, you will pass by the White Memorial Conservation Center as you leave Ripley and head to the more epicurean sites on this list. www.whitememorialcc.org.



PHOTO BY CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

After working up an appetite on a tour of the Ripley Waterfowl Conservancy in Litchfield, Conn., get lunch and treats at some excellent area shops and restaurants, including Dutch Epicure, which carries 30 types of licorice (among other rare delights).

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EDITORIAL

Next steps for local journalism

As promised last week, here is more on the way this newspaper will continue to find ways to maintain a viable business model for local journalism. As noted, this is the first week The Lakeville Journal Company is instituting a price increase for single copy sales at dealers, as well as for print and online subscriptions. During the COVID-19 pandemic changes, in a cost-saving measure, we took the opportunity to shutter our Millerton News office, now operating both The Lakeville Journal and Millerton News from our Falls Village office, and remotely. The world has changed since March, and in order to stay up and running, every business, large or small, has to change as well.

Another way we have targeted to save money is by changing printers this week, from our longtime partners at Trumbull Printing in Trumbull, Conn., to The Berkshire Eagle, New England Newspapers, in Pittsfield, Mass. Sometimes change needs to happen in order to minimize costs and maximize efficiency, and that is what we hope will come of this move. It is also a way we can support the local, independent journalism that is happening now at the Eagle and their other New England Newspapers.

One of the things that makes The Lakeville Journal Company unique is not just that it's a provider of local journalism, but also that it's independently owned. Most of the local media in our region was bought by large corporate owners over the past decades, and it was not easy for this little media company to retain its individuality. It is owned by a board who cares deeply about keeping local journalism alive, and independent. In fact, if you look through the newspaper this week, you will find them listed in the statement of ownership required by the U.S. Postal Service to be run for the public to see every October. Only gratitude to our owners on behalf of those who work at the company and our readers. If it weren't for their dedication to this cause, it's very likely this local media would either no longer be around, or would be owned by a large corporate entity and look very different than it does now.

Our commitment is to provide the best coverage we can for our communities during this time of massive change. Last year at this time, we did a survey of our readers and established a for-profit membership model that was very successful, from our point of view. This year, as we analyze the way to survive through 2021 and beyond, we will maintain that basic model, calling it a contributors' model, while still having people on our board and advisory board looking into options for a possible non-profit arm of the company. Please take note of an inserted letter and return envelope in the newspapers Oct. 22, which is from our ownership on planning and needs as we continue through our 124th year in business.

And thank you for your support of local journalism. It is readers like you who have kept us going for 124 years.

Fighting for our children, and the soul of America

At around 2 a.m. on Friday night, a pickup truck in need of a new muffler slowly pulled up in front of our house and stopped. Attracted by the four Democratic candidate signs planted in our front yard, a young male emerged from the vehicle, ran onto our property and went about the business of trying to steal signs. How do I know this? Because my husband was working late and witnessed it from his home office window.

With the crime in progress, my husband banged on the windowpane, interrupting the thief who fled back to his truck with only our Biden/Harris sign. He sped away before he could pilfer the remaining signs. About 15 minutes later, the thief returned, stopping his truck in front of our house, and turning off his headlights. Presumably, he came back to steal the Jahana Hayes, Maria Horn and David Gronbach signs he left behind during his first attempt. This time, my husband was near the front door with a flashlight in hand. He shined his light on the truck, and the thief sped away empty-handed. I learned about these nocturnal happenings on Saturday morning. I must say that I was appalled but not surprised. These last four years it seems like our standards of decency have taken a nosedive.

I told our 17-year-old son of the theft, and he likewise was not surprised, but he did not seem to be appalled. When I asked him why he was not outraged, he said that this sort of thing is just "normal." He added, "All sorts of awful things happen, and nobody cares because it's normal." His words made my heart hurt, but his take on things makes sad sense to me. Normalization of outrageous behavior is the natural outcome of our near-daily exposure to the Trump administration's lies, deceit, cruelty and callousness. When we turn on the news or read in the newspaper of Trump's latest infraction, we become numb to it and begin to think of it as just another day in America. The list of Trump administration disappointments is endless. Some of the more memorable outrages include: Trump lying to the public about the coronavirus because he cares more about the election than he cares about us. Trump saying that white supremacists are "fine people." Trump calling fallen soldiers "losers" and "suckers." Trump separating children from their families at the border, while the First Lady wears a coat that screams, "I REALLY DON'T CARE DO U?"

The fact of the matter is that there are many people who care deeply, who don't think the shameful things that are happening in our nation should be normalized. Joe Biden, Kamala Harris and Connecticut Democrats are fighting for fairness, honesty and decency. They don't want our children growing up in a nation where bad behavior, callousness, and cruelty are "normal." As Joe Biden so often says, we are "fighting for the soul of America."

Lianna Gantt

Kent

More letters pages B4 & B5.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Holley Place is too big for the block

We are all for building much needed affordable housing in Salisbury/Lakeville. But it was our understanding that construction of it at Holley Block (the corner of Route 44 and Holley Street leading to the Grove) would be sized and designed to fit in with neighboring buildings, including several affordable rental buildings already there.

Readers may be as surprised as we were to discover that the proposed Holley Block Plan is now a 13-family, 33-foot high complex with a 13,290 square foot footprint fronting Route 44 in a design that resembles modern ski chalets.

It seems to us there has been virtually no outreach effort to consult with or even alert owners of property and businesses who will be most affected by a building with a mass and scale far exceeding that of buildings nearby and a design glaringly discordant with Federal, Victorian and other Early American-style architecture in a historic district.

It's incorrect to say that the town "voted" on Holley Block.

In support of Holley Place Housing

Holley Place will be a major benefit for our town's healthy future.

I am a member of the Salisbury Housing Committee. I have participated in a number of long-range planning sessions for Salisbury over the last 35 years. The unvarying result: Keep Salisbury the same, and we need more affordable housing. Affordable housing is always identified as a pre-eminent need in northwest Connecticut towns as it is in Salisbury's Plan of Conservation and Development, and affordable rental housing is the greatest need. Holley Place adds 13 affordable rental units, 1-bedroom, 2-bedroom and 3-bedroom apartments. And this project goes better than keeping the town the same, it restores a building to the Holley Street corner that had to be torn down. Historic restoration. Holley Place helps answer Salisbury's greatest housing need as the gap between working peoples' wages and the cost of housing becomes a canyon.

The usual neighborhood suspects came out to affirm their devotion to affordable housing before throwing all their oppositional dry spaghetti at the wall in hopes that some of it might stick: Too big! Too dangerous! Too much traffic! Not enough parking!

And there were suggestions as to where opponents might

Vote for Horn, she knows the needs of the 64th

The letter by Janet Lynn that ran in the Oct. 8 edition of The Lakeville Journal isn't informative. It's the "us versus them" argument, around which a lot of the support for Brian Ohler is built. The argument goes like this: Because Brian Ohler is from here, he knows and cares more than Maria Horn who, because she moved here to raise her children, is somehow out of touch with local people and issues. This thinking is counterproductive.

What if instead of state representatives you were choosing between mechanics to fix your car? Mechanic 1 has lived in the area for only 10 years but knows his stuff, gets the job done quickly, and for less money. Mechanic 2 was born and raised in town, you've known him all your life, but you've heard that his turnaround time has slowed and his prices are creeping up. Are you going to take your car to the guy who won't do as good of a job because you've known him for longer?

Don't assume that because Brian Ohler is from here that he is voting in your best interest.

The "vote" was not a vote. It was simply an invitation to put a sticky on a map of several proposed locations for affordable housing. When we applied our stickies, we assumed that a real vote would be held after the costs, finances and risks of each of the sites, including the Pope property, had been assessed, compared and clearly presented to the public.

Several P&Z meetings to discuss this project were held over the summer. Notice was not made public enough, in our opinion. We found out about the one last Thursday by chance and Zoomed in just in time to hear a traffic consultant hired by the project declare the corner of Route 44 and Holley Street safe because no data proved otherwise. But if he'd spoken to neighbors, he'd have discovered that no "data" exists because people know not to walk there. All of us who live in the area caution children to stay away from this corner. Thankfully, a crosswalk has recently been installed but unfortunately truck drivers barreling down the hill don't

want to have affordable housing built: somewhere else, and at a location without any near term path to funding.

Too big? It mirrors what was there.

Too dangerous? Many people noted too much speeding on Route 44. Let's address this problem. Someone made the suggestion that having children in the apartment would inevitably lead to their injury or death. I believe working parents will keep their children safe. My recollection is that it is the older pedestrians getting injured crossing the street. In any event, except for trips to Deano's, I believe almost all exiting from Holley Place, whether on foot, bike or car will be onto Holley Street, a very safe entry into the outside world. And how lucky for families and children to be able to walk very safely to the Grove

Increased traffic? I suggest 13 apartments might mean 20 cars.

If each makes two trips a day, that's 80 trips between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. or about six cars an hour onto Holley Street, which is by no means a busy street.

Not enough parking? This is a manufactured problem. There appears to be sufficient parking there. Most of the apartment parking is under the building, and the design consciously maintains some public parking.

During his 2017-2018 term Brian Ohler voted for a budget that raised more than \$1 billion through a combination of tax increases and fees on middle-class families, voted to end the earned income tax credit for working families, voted to cut funding to UConn which is a backdoor tax to residents, voted to cut pensions for state employees and teachers forcing them to take a paycheck cut to fund it themselves, voted NO on a needs-based scholarship program for community college students, and voted NO on increasing the minimum fair wage to \$15 by 2021.

We can't fall prey to an "us versus them" mentality because we are all in this together. Brian Ohler is from here yes, but Maria Horn chose to live here. She has successfully worked to increase educational and economic resources and protect our environment so that people will continue to choose to live and work here, and more importantly, choose not to leave here.

Eliza A. Little

Norfolk

seem to see it. For our town to site housing for 13 families on this corner seems an irresponsible invitation for "data" to occur.

There is one last meeting before P&Z votes whether or not to approve current plans for the Holley Block project. The meeting is virtual; anyone with a screen can attend. It is scheduled for Monday, Nov. 9, at 5:30 p.m. The Zoom link will be posted on the town website under "Planning and Zoning." We urge all of our neighbors to attend and become fully acquainted with the details of this project, which can now be viewed on the town website at www.salisburycyct.us/offices/planningandzoning/meeting-documents.

You can also make your voice heard by sending an email to Land Use Administrator Abby Conroy at aconroy@salisburycyct.us. Any correspondence with your name and address will be considered before the vote if it is received by Oct. 25.

Helen and Donald Ross
Lakeville

Holley Place is a great opportunity for our town to get state funding to increase its affordable rental housing. In the public gatherings to discuss housing options, this location scored the highest. Holley Place will bring change and will inconvenience some, but it is extraordinarily important for the successful future of our town.

George Massey
Salisbury

We need David Sullivan

At stake in the upcoming election is the congressional seat held by first-term incumbent Jahana Hayes. Ms. Hayes won election in 2018 as a Democrat who would represent all constituents in our widely diverse 5th District.

Since taking her seat in Congress, Ms. Hayes has tacked strongly left, supporting such economically unsustainable programs as Medicare for All and the Green New Deal. While representing a district composed of cities and towns of wildly varying characteristics, and constituents whose views encompass the entire range of the political spectrum, Ms. Hayes has been consistently far left on virtually every issue. In fact, Ms. Hayes has the most far-left voting record of the State's entire congressional delegation; of the 435 members of Congress, she is ranked by the Luger Center among the lowest, 4%, in terms of bi-partisanship.

Voters in the 5th Congressional District have an opportunity to elect a congressman who will represent the broad cross-section of voters in this district. David X. Sullivan is a mainstream Republican who holds views and advocates positions on crime, taxes, the economy, immigration and foreign policy that are more in keeping with the values of most voters in this district.

David has been visible and vocal on the key issues — re-opening our schools with sensible precautions, achieving effective and bipartisan police reform, stopping the rioting and violence plaguing our cities, restarting our economy and re-shoring jobs from China. These are the key issues that are important to families in the 5th District.

David is a career federal prosecutor who has served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Hartford for 30 years. Anyone who has met David will readily see that he is intelligent, mild-mannered and soft-spoken — traits that are sorely needed in our overly loud and boisterous political environment.

Vote for David Sullivan for the Congress, he will serve us well.
Tom Morrison
Chair, Salisbury Republican Town Committee
Salisbury

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Viewpoint

Anxiously awaiting the final vote count

Trump emerged from his three-day stay in Walter Reed's Presidential Suite "feeling great." Offering no real information on the symptoms that had brought him to the hospital, he also showed no new appreciation of (or compassion for) the suffering, loss and anxiety Americans are feeling nine months into the pandemic. What our president apparently learned was only that, "You don't have to be dominated by the coronavirus."

This is despite the fact that he is among more than half a dozen people, including First Lady Melania Trump, press secretary Kayleigh McEnany, top aide Hope Hicks, former counselor Kellyanne Conway, and an ever-growing number of administration officials, White House housekeeping staff and members of Congress who tested positive following the Rose Garden ceremony to nominate Justice Amy Coney Barrett to the Supreme Court. The atmosphere there was made more elegant by flamboyant ignoring of all coronavirus safety measures.

Though Trump is back in the White House, few of us were likely reassured by his homecoming display of fitness that included climbing a flight of stairs, giving multiple thumbs up, straightening his suit, sucking in his belly and removing his mask only to gasp for air. In the meantime, with deaths from COVID-19 in the U.S. climbing to over 215,000 by the time you read this, most Americans don't think Trump has done a good job handling the virus. Not surprisingly, Trump's poll numbers, which were lagging behind Biden's a week ago, have noticeably dropped as a result of the Rose Garden debacle.

Since Trump remains determined to continue for a second term, suggesting that only if he wins will he believe that the election hasn't been rigged, we face critical questions about our votes that would never be raised by a normal election. Will Trump agree to the election results if he doesn't win? Or will he challenge all evidence that Biden has won with the accusation that among the absentee ballots are those of thousands (millions?) of individuals with no right to vote? And, even if Biden does clearly win the popular vote, will Trump encourage state Electoral College officials to vote for him, or call on his white-supremacist, anti-Semitic followers to "stand by" in his behalf, as he threatened during his 90-minute temper tantrum that substituted for a debate with Joe Biden?

Having lived through a steady stream of reporting on Trump's tax evasions, his many financial entanglements and his ongoing warnings about election fraud, I take deep breaths and do my best to ride the daily waves of news, hoping against hope that, when the election results are counted, we will all experience a measure of relief. The fact that this long-awaited election comes after more than half a year of isolation due to the coronavirus means that we are all raw in ways that we would not otherwise be. As I've written in a previous column, probably the hardest aspect of the virus, other than our isolation, has been the uncertainty it has brought — an uncertainty only exacerbated by the election. Daily, most of us ask ourselves, are we doing enough to keep ourselves and those we love safe? Moreover, as we watch businesses and schools across the country open and then be forced to close because of rising infections, there is the long-term uncertainty of whether and when a vaccine will allow Americans to return to "normal," and what this new normal will look like.

ON REFLECTION

CAROL ASCHER

Though my life under coronavirus has been easy, and I have managed the uncertainties of the virus fairly well, I long for the sense of order, transparency and kindness that I believe Joe Biden can bring to the Oval Office. Imagine the pleasurable relief of a president issuing a clear science-based explanation of how the virus is communicated, along with careful directives for what all Americans (including those likely to get a light case of the virus) need to do to stop its spread. And imagine Americans unifying to implement these directives as a way to care for each other.

Carol Ascher, who lives in Sharon, has published seven books of fiction and nonfiction, as well as many essays and stories. She is trained as a spiritual director.



Trump wants only pro-American history

If Joe Biden is elected president, he plans to remove the words "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance. We know this is true because Donald Trump told us so and Donald Trump is the first president since George Washington who has never told a lie.

Actually, Biden has never mentioned altering the words of the pledge, but Trump said he did after one group at the Democratic Convention skipped the two words in reciting it.

"The pledge," I wrote in this newspaper in 2001, "has hardly had a moment's peace" since it was written in 1892 for a magazine contest to celebrate the 500th anniversary of what was then celebrated as Christopher Columbus' discovery of America. It didn't achieve official status until Congress made it part of the U.S. Code in 1942.

It may unsettle President Trump to know the pledge was authored by a socialist, of all people. Francis Bellamy, the winner of the contest sponsored by the Youth's Companion magazine, had been a Baptist minister until his Boston congregation fired him for expressing "radical" views in his sermons.

The pledge quickly caught on and was just as quickly subjected to censorship and demagoguery. Bellamy's original draft read, "I pledge allegiance to my flag and the republic for which it stands, one nation indivisible, with equality, liberty and justice for all." But with the pledge being recited to start the school day all over this "indivisible" nation, some school boards weren't too happy with their children calling for equality for blacks and women, so the word equality was edited out.

Then, in the 1920s, with immigrants under attack, the Daughters of the American Revolution and the veterans in the new American Legion lobbied to change the reference to "my flag" to "the flag of

the United States of America," so there'd be no confusion about what flag was being pledged to by one of those undesirable aliens from Ireland or Italy or points east.

After the pledge became official in wartime 1942, a few states decided to make its recitation mandatory in school. Some churches objected, saying public pledges of allegiance were due only to God. But the Supreme Court upheld the states and when children of Jehovah's Witnesses wouldn't stand and pledge, their classmates responded by beating them up.

This led to a second appeal and this time, the Court upheld the Witnesses, with Justice Robert Jackson writing, "If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion or other matters of opinion."

Finally, in 1954, with Joe McCarthy riding high and loyalty oaths all the rage, the American Legion, the Knights of Columbus and the Hearst newspapers convinced Congress to sandwich the words "under God" between "one nation" and "indivisible."

The old pledge has lived in peace until now when the president and other officials, "high or petty," have found it a handy tool for demagoguery in this dreadfully divided nation.

You can bet the pledge will get some attention from the new "1776 Commission," announced last month by President Trump to establish "a pro-American curriculum that celebrates the truth about our nation's great history" in the public schools.

The federal government has no power over the curriculum taught in local schools but that historical fact went unmentioned

when Trump called what some schools teach about slavery and racism an insult to the country and its exceptionalism.

The president has also established a National Garden of American Heroes to contain statues honoring what he called some of the most famous names in American history, like Susan B. Anthony, Martin Luther King and George Washington. But so far, the only hero Trump has named is one Cesar Rodney of Delaware.

You remember the heroic Cesar Rodney, don't you? But if you don't, the president reminded us how Rodney, though "desperately ill from very advanced cancer, rode 80

miles through the night through a severe thunderstorm from Dover to Philadelphia to cast his vote for independence" in 1776. This is all true, except for the advanced cancer—he lived eight more years—but of greater importance, Rodney was from Delaware, home of a well-known candidate for president.

So in honoring Rodney, the owner of 200 slaves, Trump was able to attack Joe Biden for saying nothing when Dover removed his statue and put it in storage, pending "an overdue discussion about the public display of historical figures and events," according to the mayor.

"Joe Biden said nothing as to his home state's history," said Trump, "and the fact that it was dismantled, dismembered and a Founding Father's statue was removed."

A fact checker found Cesar was indeed in storage, but with his "dismembered" head still on his shoulders.

Simsbury resident Dick Ahles is a retired journalist. Email him at rahles1@outlook.com.

IF YOU ASK ME DICK AHLES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Privileged beyond the law

Amy Coney Barrett is nominated to be a Justice on the United States Supreme Court. She is nominated to join a powerful constitutional body whose decisions shape the nation: upholds life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Ms. Barrett is the mother of seven, on the faculty at Notre Dame, a former clerk for Antonin Scalia — impressive credentials. The SCOTUS nominee celebrated her nomination (not her confirmation) at the White House with a few hundred others — 200 politicians, news celebs, Trump campaign staff, Notre Dame faculty and five of her children under 10. Her splendid shindig was held in Washington, D.C., where wearing a mask, limiting social encounters to 10 or less and social distancing are all locally mandated to protect public health at the height of a pandemic.

However, inside and outside the White House on Sept. 24, partying participants mingled in pre-pandemic social glee, including firm handshaking, hugging, cheek kissing, as they are privileged, they are in, they are people to be admired, they are behavioral exemplars. Present at the White House super event, Amy and her compadres showcased they are beyond responsible citizenry, beyond their oaths, beyond public health stipulations and recommendations. They are privileged beyond the law. Amy attended at the request of the president, what else might she do for the president — at his invitation, his behest?

The Trump family plus the White House Chief of Staff formed the front row of the first presidential debate audience in Cleveland, Sept. 28, highly visible in their refusal to comply with agreed-to rules as mem-

bers of this highly select audience. They in their privileged front row seats were highly visible, highly defiant of public health mandates, ignorant of ethical concern for others at the event and staging the event, proud to be a Trump-gifted in many financial and political matters. What was the Trump front row collective message to the American public watching — a display of dapper attire, a disregard for others, a disdain for public health? They are Trumps, they are privileged beyond the law.

How and when Trump contracted COVID, like most things Trump, is unclear, not recalled. Trump can almost never recall what he did and when he did it or the whats and whens are deemed classified, private, HIPAA. Trump coined a phrase, "Trump Defeats COVID," on a commemorative coin for sale from the White House four days after he commenced a drug bonanza at Walter Reed. COVID recovery isn't a sprint — a dash — it's a long-distance trek. The president can't executive order a reprieve, can't declare an infection over, can't invoke executive privilege against COVID.

Missing totally in the executive superspread is contact tracing and protocol quarantining. Trump is beyond treatment protocol for the COVID infected, he is beyond consideration of the health and safety of others (entourage, donors, essential service personnel), he is devoid of leadership principles and he certainly considers himself privileged beyond the law.

Time to air out the White House, reinstall presidentialism. Vote.

Kathy Herald-Marlowe Sharon

Ohler is the right one for the 64th District

I write this letter to express my support for Brian Ohler for election as 64th District State Representative.

I was aware of Brian before I knew him personally. This was about twenty years ago when I was an ambulance driver for our town's ambulance service and Brian was a 16-year-old member of the North Canaan Vol. Ambulance Service and Fire Department. Subsequently, at 17, Brian joined the military and was caught up in the post 9/11 attack scramble of war. After three tours in Iraq and Afghanistan during which he was seriously injured in combat operations, Brian came home a Wounded Warrior.

Of his wounds, Brian shook off what he could shake off and tolerates what he can't shake off but nothing has dampened his commitment to public service.

In or out of office, Brian shares his training, knowledge and experience with all who turn to him for advice and assistance

What COGs really do

Two recent letters to the editor revealed some misperceptions about who and what our Northwest Hills Council of Governments is. I would like to shed some light on this, particularly for residents who may have moved here from states with county governments. The state of Connecticut disbanded county governments in the 1950s. Instead, our first-level political subdivisions consist of nine Councils of Government constituted by the State Department of Policy and Management.

In 2014, two former regional planning organizations, the Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials and the Northwestern Connecticut Council of Governments, were consolidated to form the NHCOC. Councils of Governments bring together the Chief Elected Officials of the municipalities in the region to discuss matters of mutual interest and to address shared problems. The Council of Governments develops a regional plan for transportation, a regional growth plan and is also involved in planning for housing, economic development, emergency management and natural hazard mitigation.

These are usually five-year plans. Individual towns are themselves mandated by state statute to develop their own ten year Plans of Conservation and Development. Connecticut state law permits Councils of Government to apply for any grant money offered to county governments or their equivalents. Federal, state and private grant money is then distributed to the municipalities involved in the COG. All such funding must be pertinent to attaining the goals set out by both the regional as well as the town plans. In my experience as a member of Cornwall's Planning and Zoning Commission, I have attended many NHCOC training and informational sessions, learned of the surveys and public forums they have held to capture citizen concerns, attended annual Economic Summits that usually include well over 100 participants and generally developed a profound respect for the planning and land use expertise of NHCOCs planners. They deserve our respect and thanks for what they do.

Anna Timell Cornwall

with problems and concerns covering a wide range of subjects.

When I was an idealistic high school student, I could hardly wait to vote as an adult. I never imagined then that so many of my future votes would be default votes, that is, where I voted, with reservations, for the presumptive better of two unsatisfactory candidates.

When I cast my vote for Brian I will do it affirmatively without reservations knowing that Brian has the presence of mind and the strength of character to both defy his own party's bosses when warranted and to provide counterpoint to the "group think" that is, to some extent, a characteristic of both parties. Certainly change is needed to reverse the downward spiral of the once-vibrant Connecticut economy.

I am proud to support Brian as an agent for that necessary change.

Falls Village

Louis G. Timolat

More letters on pages B3 & B5.

Time to end the insanity

Insanity is not a joke
Watched on TV as he spoke
The words came out in a
spate

To my ears they just grate
Every day on TV
I think we can all agree

It's time for this all to end
And not let us pretend
That prison is coming soon
And we no longer see this
buffoon.

Michael Kahler

Lakeville



Realtor® at Large

Here is another lesson that has taken 20 years to learn: In purchasing farmland or commercial properties it is common to do some level of environmental review as part of one's due diligence. If a Phase 1 Environmental Review is presented by the seller, the report can be hundreds of pages of data, that to the layman it would seem that deciphering the Rosetta Stone would be an easier task. There is a solution, and that being to ask Rob Rein, LEP, to review the Phase 1 or 2 and to highlight the risks that a buyer should be concerned with. In addition, a clear path would be laid out on what addition tests should happen to protect the buyer and what the costs would be. Rob has just done this for a complicated property and my buyers now can make a knowledgeable decision to proceed or not. To contact Rob of Enviro Consultants, please call his cell at (203) 702-8833.



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Opinion

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cornwall's history should be protected, remembered

Open letter sent to Cornwall's P&Z, Cornwall Selectmen and Cornwall Historical Society:

Somewhere around 1990, Cornwall voters turned down a proposal to pursue recognition for Cornwall Village as a historic district, even though most did not live here nor would have been affected by its passing. Now, before an expected sale of the Foreign Mission School Steward's House, a National Historic Landmark, I want to advocate for the Cornwall Planning and Zoning Commission to protect our visual, historic heritage.

Before it was Rumsey Hall School, it was the Alger Institute and the Housatonic Institute, then a bequest by John and Nora Wise to the town of Cornwall. It was on the State and National Registry of Historic Property, but it was torn down. Landmark documentation in 2015 for the Steward's House included a recommendation that the village become a historic district.

Some of the first Foreign Mission School students calculated the date of a lunar eclipse, Aug. 2, 1822; systemized the Hawaiian language and translated the Bible from Greek to Hawaiian; wrote the Cherokee Constitution and met with a standing U.S. president after winning a Supreme Court decision; took Christianity to the farthest reaches of the world. Who will tell their stories, a history significant to the

early United States and relevant to today's racial injustice reawakening? The epic tales of love, tragedy, science and religion are Cornwall's and as great as any ever told by William Shakespeare.

This letter is not just about saving old buildings built and owned by dead white men, but about welcoming residents and visitors to share a remarkable history. It is about learning how our ancestors lived, keeping alive their stories, so that we may not repeat their mistakes, but build on their strengths and hard work. The future of Cornwall depends on the stories we tell. As essential as fast telecommunications are to the livelihood in the new economy, so too will tourism bring local jobs to Cornwall.

What stories will we tell ourselves and our visitors? Which artifacts and architectural structures will we preserve to remind us of our unique history?

Will the new owners of the Steward's House respect their role and invite Cornwall's school children and their parents to hear the stories of our early ancestors and how they changed U.S. history? Who will help its next residents become the good stewards of our ancestors' stories that need telling?

My role as steward for the Foreign Mission School is ending. Thirty-three years ago, when I returned to Cornwall to raise my family, this house was not considered

historic by the town historian. Now, it is among an elite few National Historic Landmarks along with the Liberty Bell and Statue of Liberty.

So now I say to the P & Z Commission: Are you ready?

Ben Gray

Cornwall

Correction to a previous letter

Thank you for publishing on Oct. 1 my letter on voting. But subsequently, the state Legislature and Gov. Lamont changed the deadline for taking back an absentee ballot already submitted. For only this election, the change was made for the deadline to retrieve a ballot already submitted. You must do so by the Friday before the election at the Town Hall Registrar by 5 p.m. These days it's always best, if you have any questions, to call your Registrar or Town Clerk. And you can sign up to receive a weekly update in text or by email from Gov. Lamont, too.

Kerry Noble

Salisbury

More letters pages B3 & B4.

Vote for Ohler in 64th

Connecticut is on the brink of fiscal collapse with huge unfunded liabilities and projected budget deficits, thanks to decades of a Democrat-controlled Legislature. Shameless spending to lock in minority and union votes is not compassion. Sadly, within a generation, invasive political correctness has metastasized into demands for socialism backed by violence.

The progressive Democrats are driving residents away, thereby increasing the tax burden on those who are left. Having been a big city lawyer and corporate financier, Maria Horn has significant qualifications and is adored by our local progressives. But will she have the courage and common sense to oppose her fellow Democrats, who persist in over-spending and who will further erode our individual rights?

Might there be a sound reason why the Connecticut Business & Industry Association gives her its lowest approval rating at 22%? Enough is enough. Get Brian Ohler back in office.

Peter Becket

Lakeville



PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

Salisbury vista

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HELP WANTED

UTILITY WORKER WANTED: Salisbury Central School is seeking flexible and versatile candidates for the position of Utility Worker. Duties will include a combination of custodial, classroom and cafeteria support for the rest of the 20-21 school year. Hours are 8:20 am to 3:20 pm for all days when we have in-person learning. To apply, please go to region1schools.org and click on Search Open Vacancies under Employment Opportunities. Call 860-435-9871 with questions.

ARCHITECT: Seeking a versatile architect with at least 5 years' experience. Successful candidate should possess strong design skills with capability in all phases of a project, residential and commercial. Submit resume and work examples with the subject heading "Employment" to ginger@clarkandgreen.com. Further details at www.clarkandgreen.com.

ASSISTANT SELF STORAGE MANAGER, PART TIME: The ideal applicant would be someone semi-retired looking to work 29 hours per week/50 weeks per year (including Saturdays), that would assist in managing a self-storage property while providing excellent customer service and maintaining the property occupancy and cleanliness standards, maintaining property rentals by filling vacancies and maintaining a secure premises. Competitive salary offered for this position to an individual interested in working in a rewarding work environment. Position starting pay is \$20 per hour. Applicant must have reliable transportation. Please send resumes to Millbrook@global-selfstorage.us.

IRVING FARM COFFEE ROASTERS: is hiring a full-time Kitchen Lead to work with our culinary team by driving our retail food program. This is an hourly position based out of the Irving Farm cafe in Millerton, NY. Submit resumes to jobs@irvingfarm.com.

HELP WANTED

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HELP WANTED CERTIFIED HEAD TEACHER FOR EXTRAS IN SALISBURY, CT: EXTRAS is an after-school program for school-age children. The program runs after school from 3:00 pm to 5:15 pm and school half days. Childcare experience is necessary. Must have Head Teacher Certificate for Connecticut or have the ability to get one. The Head Teacher is responsible for the day-to-day educational portion of the EXTRAS program. We are a Connecticut licensed day care. Fingerprints, a background check and a medical certificate will be required to work for us (to be completed after the interview). Please send a letter of interest and your resume to extrasprogram@gmail.com.

HELP WANTED LAWN MAINTENANCE AND LANDSCAPING: Well established business is seeking full-time employees. Must have valid driver's license. Competitive wages based on experience. Call for more information and schedule an interview, 860-824-0053.

HELP WANTED

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THE VILLAGE OF MILLBROOK: is seeking an experienced individual to serve as the Planning Board/Zoning Board Secretary. This is a part-time position consisting of approximately 5 hours a week. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 7pm, Zoning Board meets on demand. For more information, please visit www.villageofmillbrookny.com/pb If you are interested in applying, please submit a cover letter and resume for further consideration by October 30, 2020 via email to mayor@villageofmillbrookny.com or by mail to Village of Millbrook ATTN: Planning Board, 35 Merritt Ave., PO Box 349, Millbrook, NY 12545.

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