

Towns & Villages
Inside



New life at
Kent shop
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How we
live now
Compass

The Lakeville Journal

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THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020 \$1.25

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

Bard professor studies whether social quarantine for COVID-19 is extreme

By Debra A. Aleksinas

ANNANDALE-ON-HUDSON, N.Y. — The best methods for pinpointing COVID-19 transmission rates continue to elude public health and infectious disease experts in the U.S. and globally.

Now, it appears that mathematics may help connect the dots, particularly for small, rural areas such as Litchfield and Dutchess counties.

Three college professors, including Matthew Junge, assistant professor of mathematics at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, N.Y., have been awarded a \$60,000 Emergency Grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to develop forecasting models that better capture the geographic and social complexity of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Junge, lead investigator on the project, said his research team aims to develop network models and mathematical theory to test the robustness of some prominent models being used by governments to justify the extreme levels of intervention of the COVID-19 quarantine.

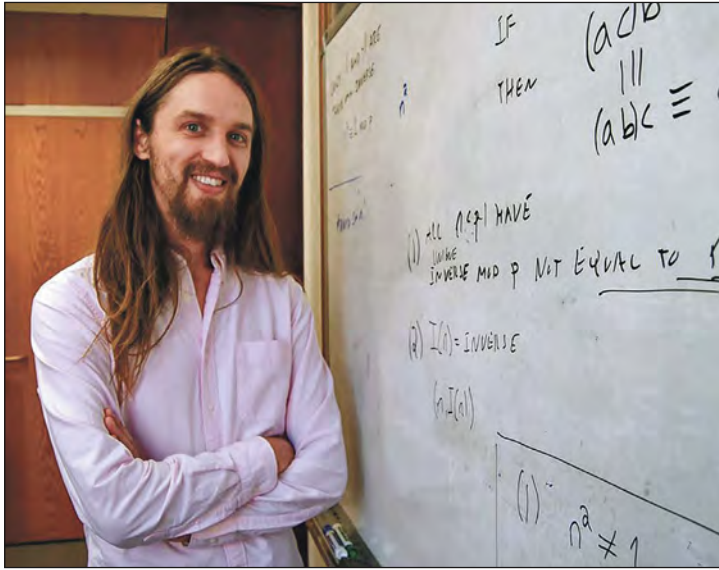


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Matthew Junge, assistant professor of mathematics at Bard College, has been awarded a national research grant to calculate COVID-19 transmission rates.

"Possibly we will provide some evidence that targeted intervention allows for many people to resume some semblance of normal day-to-day life," said Junge, who will be working with Felicia Keesing, a biology professor at Bard and Nicole Eikmeier, a computer science professor with Grinnell College in Iowa.

While some of the research

"will be purely theoretical," said Junge, the goal is to provide insights to those who are developing strategies to mitigate the spread of the disease.

"Our models may help resolve questions about specific

"Possibly we will provide some evidence that targeted intervention allows for many people to resume some semblance of normal day-to-day life."

Matthew Junge

communities, like, 'Can Bard College hold class in person this fall without risking another spike in infections?' or 'If Dutchess County reopens restaurants, what should the occupancy limits be?'"

The grant was awarded through the NSF's Rapid Response Research program, which provides support for urgent scientific research that responds to emergencies and unexpected events. It includes

See BARD, Page A9

Memorial Day schedules

Most towns in the region have canceled their annual Memorial Day ceremonies and parades due to COVID-19 restrictions.

In some towns, there will be observances by military veterans. Many are not open to the public due to concerns about maintaining social distance.

Doctor describes dangers of new COVID-19 spread

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — Dr. James Childs of the Yale School of Medicine described the complexities of dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic during an online talk sponsored by the Scoville Memorial Library on Thursday, May 14.

Childs, an epidemiologist, began by saying COVID-19 is the third coronavirus in the last 20 years.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), in 2003, reached pandemic levels. Mid-

dle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) in 2013 did not.

But "neither killed more than 1,000 people."

COVID-19 "is unprecedented, but not unpredicted."

SARS was not infectious until "symptoms developed," so screening at airports and other public venues was effective.

But COVID-19 can be spread by people who have no symptoms.

"This will not stop" until there

See COVID-19, Page A9



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Incumbent state Sen. Craig Miner (R-30), shown here in a photo from 2018, will seek reelection this November.

Incumbent Craig Miner will seek Senate seat again

By Patrick L. Sullivan

State Sen. Craig Miner (R-30) is running for reelection, although he hasn't made a formal announcement.

"So I guess you'll be the first" he said in a phone interview Sunday, May 17.

Miner was elected to the state Senate in 2016, and represented the 68th District in the state House of Representatives for eight terms prior.

The 30th Senate District includes the towns of Brookfield, Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, Litchfield, Mor-

ris, New Milford, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Torrington, Warren and Winchester.

Miner said he normally doesn't begin campaigning in earnest this early, and he has been busy with constituent services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Asked how he thinks Gov. Ned Lamont (D) has done in dealing with the public health emergency, Miner was generally supportive.

"This is a 100-year plus crisis," he said. "I don't know that anyone else would have done any better."

He said his office received dozens of calls from constituents having trouble with unemployment claims, and he and his

See MINER, Page A9



PHOTO SUBMITTED

David Gronbach will run against incumbent Republican Craig Miner for a Senate seat in the 30th District.

Former New Milford mayor runs for 30th District seat

David Gronbach, a former mayor of New Milford, is the Democratic challenger to state Sen. Craig Miner (R-30) in the November 2020 election.

Gronbach is an attorney and works for a biotech company. He is actively involved in special education and asylum issues. He and his wife, Vanessa, also owned and operated a bookstore in New Milford. Gronbach was mayor of that town from 2015-17.

Interviewed by telephone on Wednesday, May 13, Gronbach was asked why he is running for the state Senate. He said that in public service he sees an opportunity to work on "big projects and ideas."

Despite his term as mayor, he doesn't consider himself a politician — but as mayor he did learn about the relationship between municipalities and state

See GRONBACH, Page A9

Plans for the August primaries

By Patrick L. Sullivan

GOSHEN — Sue Larsen, president of the Registrars of Voters Association of Connecticut, told the 21 first selectmen, mayors and town managers of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments (COG) that all registered Republicans and Democrats in the state will receive applications for absentee voting in the mail for the Aug. 11 primary elections.

(The primary date was originally scheduled for June but was postponed to August.)

Larsen spoke to the COG in a Zoom meeting online on Thursday, May 14.

She went down a list of changes — coming from Secretary of the State Denise Merrill — to election procedures, emphasizing that they apply to the party

See PRIMARIES, Page A9



PHOTO BY KATE HOCHSWENDER

These peach tree blossoms in Lakeville were at their peak just before last week's snow and frost.

Not a killing frost (probably)

By Cynthia Hochswender

It's worrisome when fruit trees have begun to blossom and then a frost and a snow come in and threaten their safety — and their ability to produce fruit in late summer and autumn.

Peter Montgomery of Montgomery Orchards in Warren, Conn., has been checking his blossoms regularly (10 times he day, he said, perhaps joking and perhaps not). So far, he said, there don't

See FROST, Page A9

Delay in opening of hair salons

By Cynthia Hochswender

Hair salons and barber shops were originally expected to reopen on May 20 as part of Connecticut's slow-return-to-normal plan.

Gov. Ned Lamont announced on Monday, May 18, that their opening will be delayed until June.

The announcement follows several days of lobbying by the group Ct Stylists For Late Stage Openings and the Con-

necticut Beauty Association, who had threatened a protest in Hartford on that afternoon.

The stylists were protesting on behalf of women employees of salons who feel that returning to work now is unsafe and who are unsure whether they can get childcare at this time when schools are still closed.

The workers said they fear they will be fired by salon owners if they don't return to their jobs.



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Did you know ...

Chickens are birds raised for eggs and meat:

- Chicks hatch in three weeks;
- Meat birds mature in nine weeks.
- Laying hens need another seventeen pasture weeks.
- Too, egg-makers love sunlight. They lay more eggs in summer, with 14-16 hours of sunlight, than they do in the winter.

NW CORNER FARMS

These farms are raising their very own chickens and eggs:

- Moon In the Pond \ Sheffield \ mooninthepond.org
- Mountain View Farm \ Falls Village \ mountainviewfarm.farm
- Q Farms \ Sharon \ qfarms.net
- Whippoorwill Farm \ Salisbury \ whippoorwillfarmct.com
- Freund's Farm Market \ East Canaan \ freundsfarmmarket.com



Plantin' Seeds' mission is to raise awareness of the intersections we share.



In The Journal this week

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Three-day forecast

Friday..... Cloudy, high 75°/low 55°
 Saturday..... Rain, 75°/51°
 Sunday..... Cloudy, 73°/53°

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.

DUI

On May 6 at approximately 6 p.m. Troop B responded to a report of a vehicle operating erratically on Route 7 in Falls Village. After failing a field sobriety test, Mark Sweeney, 40, of Wappingers Falls, N.Y., was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs and failure to drive in the proper lane. He was scheduled to appear in Torrington Superior Court on June 3.

Trespassing to cut down a tree

On May 9 at approximately 9 a.m. Daniel Stephen Chiles, 63, of Sharon turned himself in on an arrest warrant stemming from an incident when a neighbor reported Chiles entering his property without permission and cutting down a tree. He was charged with criminal trespassing in the first degree and criminal mischief in the third degree.

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

Pursuing funds & internet as towns look to the future

By Patrick L. Sullivan

GOSHEN — The first selectmen, town managers and mayors of the 21-town Northwest Hills Council of Governments (COG) were urged to form local committees to address the reopening and recovery of municipalities as COVID-19 restrictions are gradually lifted by Gov. Ned Lamont.

The COG met online on Thursday, May 14.

Marty Connor, chairman of ESF-14 (Emergency Support Function, a part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, charged with coordinating state, local and federal recovery efforts) asked the elected officials to "look for unmet needs" with their committees.

He recommended the membership of the committees be made up of people representing a cross section of their towns, and specifically said first responders should not be included, as they are well represented elsewhere. "You should be getting plumbers, zoning enforcement officials involved."

A federal internet grant

Kim Maxwell of Northwest-ConneCT and an advocate for better internet and cell phone service in the region, said the

existing infrastructure in the Northwest Corner is the reason why there are so many technical problems in online meetings.

Maxwell said Congress is considering broadband subsidies. Specifically, he asked the COG for a letter of support in seeking \$110 million to establish a regional fiber optic network.

"We need to treat broadband like roads and sewer systems," he said.

John Field, the coordinator for Region 5 (including Northwest Connecticut) for the state Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security told the COG members they should be signing up for reimbursements from FEMA for expenditures incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He said his agency continues to provide personal protective equipment as available, and that he would keep elected officials informed about the governor's executive orders and guidelines, "which are constantly changing."

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

Check them out inside.

- CVS
- Ocean State Job Lot

Send obituaries to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com

LJ seeking recipes from area fundraisers

By Cynthia Hochswender

During the quarantine, most nonprofit organizations have had to cancel their annual (and much loved) fundraising meals, from pancake breakfasts to chili suppers.

This is not only a loss to the community, it is also a loss to the nonprofits, which count on the money those meals provide to do good works in our towns.

The Lakeville Journal Co. is preparing a special issue of Compass arts and entertainment that will be included with our issue of July 2. In that issue we will include recipes from some of our local organizations for the ham or lasagna or corned beef

or roast beef or cakes or cookies or pies they might serve at a fundraising meal or sale.

We are now collecting those recipes from any nonprofits that would like to participate. We will publish them with a short explanation of what that organization does in the community.

And we will remind our readers that the \$5 or \$10 or \$20 they spend on at the firehouse or the legion hall is meaningful even in normal times; and is even more meaningful at this time.

We hope that seeing delicious reminders of those favorite meals and food sales will not only spark some nice memories, but will also encour-

age readers to make donations large or small to the nonprofits that work so hard to keep our communities intact.

Any nonprofits and all cooks/bakers are asked to send in their recipes by Wednesday, June 3, to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com. If you do not get confirmation, check back with us, it might mean we didn't receive it. If you have a lovely photo of the finished food, please feel free to include it.

It would be wonderful if you could share some of the history of your recipe and who first developed it and how long it's been used (and of course please indicate which nonprofit event it is/was made for).

Some fundraiser meals have a single recipe that is used again and again; others function on a donation basis, where home bakers or cooks provide their own best lasagna or pie or cake or cookies. Please do send us recipes whether it's used by everyone each year or whether it's something you cooked or baked individually and donated.

Restaurants are also invited to send in a recipe for a dish that is served at a fundraising event each year, such as the chicken pot pie dinner at The White Hart for the Salisbury Winter Sports Association.

We look forward to working together with you on this issue. For questions and recipes, email Cynthia Hochswender at cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com.

BEAR WATCH

Beware of the black bears, they are out and about

By Cynthia Hochswender

Bears are definitely done with hibernation and are now busy ambling around residential areas and crossing major roads at all hours of the day.

Area residents are emphatically reminded that they should not leave bird seed or garbage or compost out unless they don't mind having a big ursine visitor take a swat at it and possibly come back for frequent meals.

In recent years it has not been uncommon for the bears even to enter homes, where they can be dangerous and very messy.

Lakeville Journal Co. Production Coordinator James Clark took this photo of a large bear near his Salisbury home on Wednesday, May 13, in the middle of the day.

His two young daughters were home and, naturally, "They loved seeing it."

A nearby neighbor was not as excited. She out into her yard and, from about 20 feet away from the animal, she yelled at it to go away.

"It then doubled back, across Route 41 and headed into the woods toward Cobble Road,"

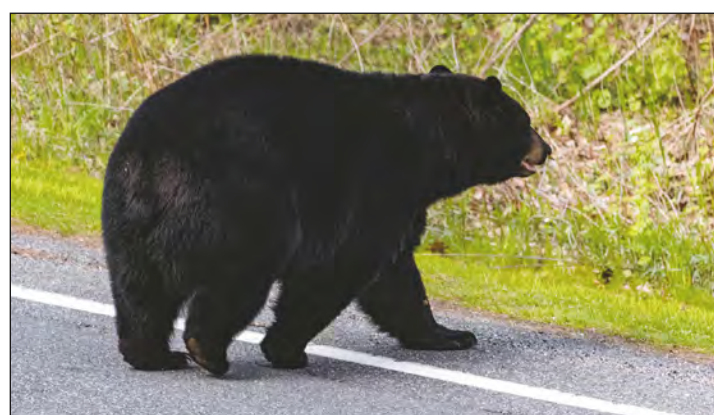


PHOTO BY JAMES H. CLARK

A large black bear lumbered around the Undermountain/Route 41 area in Salisbury last Wednesday, May 13. Bear sightings have been plentiful in the region this month.

Clark said.

Although the black bears are not usually aggressive toward humans, it's generally not a good idea for humans to be aggressive toward the bears. Always be cautious around them.

If a bear becomes a nuisance and returns often and does property damage or feels like a threat to animals or children, call the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). Learn about how to react to bears and how to seek state intervention at the DEEP website at www.portal.ct.gov/DEEP/

Wildlife/Nuisance-Wildlife/Living-with-Black-Bears.

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LEGAL NOTICES

INVITATION TO BID

The Region One Board of Education located in Falls Village, CT is accepting sealed bids for the sale of the following items: 2001 Primero 3351-8 Crane Logging Trailer, 2002 GMC B-Series 24-Passenger Bus, and 2002 Maure Red Equipment Trailer.

Signed and sealed bids will be received by Mr. Sam Herrick, Region One School District, Superintendent's Office, 246 Warren Turnpike Road, Falls Village, CT 06031. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope bearing the full name and address of the bidder, plainly marked **INVITATION TO BID - HVRHS**. Bids must be submitted prior to 9:00 A.M., Thursday, June 4, 2020 at which time bids received will be opened publicly and read aloud. Contact Dave Moran or Audra Leach at dmoran@hvrhs.org or aleach@hvrhs.org to schedule a time to view the items. Bid terms & conditions and the "Official Bid Form" may be obtained online at www.region1schools.org. The Region One Board of Education reserves the full and unqualified right to award the bid, waive any and all bid conditions or formalities, award the bid to other than the bidders, reject any and all bids received, should they deem any of the foregoing to be in the best interest of the school district. Dated at Falls Village, CT, this fifteenth day of May 2020. 05-21-20

NOTICE OF INSOLVENT ESTATE

ESTATE OF DIANA M. GHI, Late of Canaan (19-00316)
 The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, at a hearing held on April 30, 2020, found the above estate to be insolvent. Any creditor who fails to present his

or her claim to the fiduciary at the address below, on or before September 27, 2020, shall be forever barred from asserting or recovering on such claim from the fiduciary, the estate of the decedent, or any creditor of the state.

The fiduciary is:
 Jill S. Ghi
 c/o Douglas K. O'Connell
 Howd Lavieri & Finch, LLP
 682 Main Street
 Winsted, CT 06098
 Beth L. McGuire
 Clerk
 05-21-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF GLORIA R. GRAMAGLIA

Late of Canaan (20-00163)
 The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, May 5, 2020 ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
 Mary A. Gramaglia
 c/o Stephen K. Gellman
 Shipman & Goodwin LLP
 One Constitution Plaza
 Hartford, CT 06103
 Beth L. McGuire
 Clerk
 05-21-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF DEBORAH C. BECKER

Late of Falls Village (20-00165)
 The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, May 05, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in

the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
 Teeuw H. Sanderson
 c/o Louise F. Brown
 Ackerly Brown, LLP
 5 Academy Street
 P.O. Box 568
 Salisbury, CT 06068
 Beth L. McGuire
 Clerk
 05-21-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF MICHAEL JOHN FINAN

Late of Falls Village (20-00183)
 The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, May 6, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
 Charles H. Finan, III
 13 Elmer Drive
 Danbury, CT 06810
 Beth L. McGuire
 Clerk
 05-21-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF OTTO VON AHN

Late of Sharon (20-00172)
 The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, May 6, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
 Kathleen Blackshaw
 c/o Emily D. Vail
 Ackerly, Brown, LLP
 5 Academy St.

PO Box 568
 Salisbury, CT 06068

Beth L. McGuire
 Clerk
 05-21-20

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF ANTHONY PIEL

Late of Sharon (20-00170)
 The Hon. Diane S. Blick, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Litchfield Hills Probate Court, by decree dated, May 7, 2020, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

The fiduciary is:
 Lizbeth B.H. Piel
 c/o Matthew J. Lefevre
 Law Offices of Matthew Lefevre, Esq PC
 38 Woodland Street
 Hartford, CT 06105
 Beth L. McGuire
 Clerk
 05-21-20

TOWN OF CANAAN (FALLS VILLAGE) Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted on May 28, 2020 at 7:00 PM by the Canaan (Falls Village) Board of Finance regarding the proposed spending plan for 2020-2021 via ZOOM. Log-in information for the hearing will be available at canaanfallsvillage.org
 Henry W. Todd
 First Selectman
 05-21-20

The deadline for legal notices is Friday at 4 p.m. for publication the following Thursday.
 Notices can be emailed to legals@lakevillejournal.com or mailed to The Lakeville Journal, ATTN: Legal Notices, PO Box 1688, Lakeville, CT 06039
 Go to www.tricornernews.com/legalnotices to view current and past legal notices.

Congratulations to Whetstone Builders and Geoff Haydock

Happy 30th Anniversary!

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Sharon adopts 2020-21 budget

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — In the absence of the traditional town meeting because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Selectmen acted on behalf of voters to adopt the 2020-21 town budget and set the mill rate at their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 12.

Earlier in the month, the Board of Finance had reviewed and approved the proposed budget, clearing the way for the selectmen to take action. The mill rate suggested by the finance board and adopted by the selectmen will be 14.40, the same as this year's mill rate.

Selectmen Dale Jones and Casey Flanagan praised the work of the Board of Finance. Jones thanked that board for having asked productive questions during the budget process and

for supporting raises for Town Hall employees. He added that the finance board had found ways to raise funds without increasing taxes.

Flanagan said, "I give the Board of Finance a lot of credit. It wasn't easy."

First Selectman Brent Colley agreed. "It was definitely a challenge."

The mill rate determines property taxes in Connecticut towns.

A mill represents \$1 in tax for every \$1,000 of assessed property value. A 15-mill tax rate would translate into a tax bill of \$1,500 for the owner of a home assessed at \$100,000.

The grand list is the total assessed value of all taxable property in a town.

Properties are assessed at 70 percent of their total value.

Railroad spraying and dead trees still an issue

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — The continued presence of dead trees along the Housatonic Railroad tracks as they pass through Cornwall remains a subject of concern to the Board of Selectmen, who discussed the matter at their meeting on Tuesday, May 5, held online.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway reported that the town has received notice from the Housatonic Railroad Company that they will begin their annual

spraying program on May 18. The company did not indicate any plans to remove the dead trees along the tracks that are the result of spraying in the past.

Ridgway said that he would contact the railroad company asking that the existing damage be remedied. At the urging of the selectmen, Ridgway will also ask that the spraying contractors not spray in heavily settled areas along the tracks, specifying Cornwall Bridge and West Cornwall and extending to the Trinity Retreat Center.

Taking action to remove storage trailer

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Ongoing concerns about a storage trailer on Drum Road were the focus of a discussion by the Sharon Board of Selectmen at their regular meeting on Tuesday, May 12, held on Zoom.

Following discussion, the selectmen agreed that a meeting with the state police would be the next step in pursuing action to remove the trailer and a skid steer from the property.

A complaint was received in March 2019 by Land Use Administrator Jamie Casey asking the town to take action on alleged violations of town ordinances governing abandoned vehicles and abandoned property.

No action has been taken yet, so Casey brought the matter to the attention of the selectmen.

Town attorney Randall DiBella has been working with Selectman Dale Jones on the issue, particularly the problem of the storage trailer and skid steer impinging on the town right-of-way by 1 foot.

In the meantime, Casey said the unsightliness of the vehicles has worsened.

Jones said that enforcement has been pursued but without result and he agreed that more action is needed to get the situation corrected. DiBella indicated that he has conferred with First Selectman Brent Colley and he has reviewed the town's relevant ordinances.

The state police have indicated an unwillingness to pursue the matter because the offending

vehicles are not situated in the travel portion of the road.

DiBella reasoned that if the town files a lawsuit, it might not achieve the desired outcome. To his suggestion that the town's zoning regulations governing storage might help, Casey replied that local zoning enforcement rules indicate that it is not a zoning issue.

Current town ordinances, according to DiBella, are not sufficiently effective to support enforcement. He added that to pursue action through the courts is costly.

Jones suggested that he and Colley could meet again with state police officials and request enforcement, arguing that such vehicles do not need to be blocking travel portions of the road in order to be tagged for removal.

DiBella said that the items could be tagged for being on town property, giving the owner 48 hours to remove the vehicles; after that, the items may be towed away by the town.

How to achieve victory in your vegetable garden

By Leila Hawken

CORNWALL — Gardeners and farmers these days need to be nimble and react deftly to market changes, as the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on the food supply chain become apparent.

Cornwall First Selectman Gordon Ridgway, who is a farmer by profession, predicted a healthy season for area farmers markets as consumers seek fresh produce and other farm products, while facing shortages on grocers' shelves.

In a Zoom talk on Saturday, May 9, sponsored by the Cornwall Library as part of the Cornwall Gardens series, Ridgway presented a number of tips on growing vegetables in backyard gardens, and also spoke of the pressures on farmers unable to sell to restaurants and to larger distributors.

"It's important to pivot," Ridgway said of managing his sizable CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) farm on Town Road in Cornwall.

"People need to be on their toes," and be ready to replace restaurants as the main buyers of farm foods. More and more farms will turn to CSAs for their annual income. With a CSA, members sign up at the beginning of the season and purchase a share of the eventual farm bounty. The membership funds help the farmers to pay their upfront costs; and the members join the farmers in coping with whatever nature brings in a year's



PHOTO SUBMITTED
Staying on your toes while on your gardening knees is good advice from Cornwall farmer Gordon Ridgway, at right in photo, who shared tips in a Zoom talk on May 9.

growing season. Sometimes the tomatoes are abundant; sometimes they're not.

The two farmers markets in Cornwall will open for business again on Saturday, May 23, with a stringent set of health guidelines. Customers can no longer provide their own bags. Instead farmers will provide paper bags, and they will pre-package some vegetables, particularly the leafy sort.

Cash collection will be by a separate cashier who does not touch the produce.

Masks and social distancing will be required. There will be a system of pre-ordering and picking up.

Ridgway noted that there will be some new vendors this year; but he also noted that this year more than ever people are keen to start their own vegetable gardens.

"People in Cornwall like to play in the dirt — or have some-

one play in the dirt for them," Ridgway said of local enthusiasm for gardens. He applauds everyone who connects with the soil.

For home gardeners attempting a few vegetables, Ridgway offered some tips. Seeds are best if they come from local sources; he suggested Johnny's of Maine and Hart's as possibilities. Also, if buying plants, locally started plants are best because they are acclimated to growing conditions here.

Feeding the soil is important for healthy growth. Ridgway makes his own compost and noted that last year's multi-layered compost is now ready for spreading nutrients back into the soil.

Where the garden is placed in the yard is important. Plenty of sun is essential; so too is a spot where the soil is well-drained.

"Plants don't like to have wet feet," Ridgway said.

Be aware of the calendar. Wait

on planting until the soil registers about 50 degrees and the air is at about 60 degrees.

As for plant choices, "diversify against adversity."

"Last year, peas did not do well, but a late crop of spinach and lettuce came in," Ridgway said. Warming trends have brought his farm the possibility of growing and marketing more fruit.

Battling the rise in food insecurity, Ridgway described the growth of grant-supported cooperative efforts among farmers and growers to provide fresh produce through a network of distribution points throughout the region.

Speaking of the business of farming, Ridgway said that agriculture is not just about growing things, it includes marketing, too. For more information about Ridgway Farm products, go to www.ridgwayfarm.com.

North Canaan's town budget ready for scrutiny May 26

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — The Board of Finance met remotely on Wednesday, May 13, to receive the budget proposals for both the town and the school.

This year because of COVID-19, towns are not holding town meetings. The selectmen are in charge of approving both the municipal and education budgets.

Alicia Roy, principal of North Canaan Elementary School, explained the school budget for the finance board members.

There is an increase in the technology line and a previously negotiated increase in salaries. Nonetheless, she said, the school budget will not increase from this year's budget (the fiscal year begins July 1).

First Selectman Charles Perotti said that in the municipal budget there are salary increases due to the hiring of a new building inspector; and there is an increase in trash hauling fees at the transfer station. The budget for legal fees is also higher.

The proposed budget for 2020-21 totals \$2,779,143, an increase from the current year's appropriation of \$2,625,049.

"We're doing the best we can," Perotti said, adding that the town has increased its collection rate on property taxes to 98%.

Nancy O'Connor, chair of

the Board of Finance, said that \$228,944 would need to be taken from the general fund in order to keep the mill rate flat for the coming year.

"The taxpayers would probably appreciate that," she noted.

No comments were offered by residents attending the remote meeting.

The proposed town budget is posted on the town's website

at www.northcanaan.org, under Forms and Publications. Sort the listing by date in descending order to bring the proposed selectmen's budget link into view.

Taxpayers who wish to pose questions or offer comments on the budgets can email Perotti at selectman@northcanaan.org. Emails must be received by 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26.

The Board of Finance will

meet remotely that day at 7:30 p.m. to discuss any comments received. Residents wishing to attend the remote meeting will find a Zoom link on the posted Board of Finance agenda.

After the finance board meeting, the Board of Selectmen will meet to decide on adoption of the budget, and then the finance board will reconvene to set the mill rate.



As we celebrate 10 years in business we would like to thank our customers and this community for your continued support!



Our Towns

Yard-and-garden maintenance at Kent garden center

By Debra A. Aleksinas

KENT — The ink was barely dry on the closing documents transferring ownership of the venerable Kent Greenhouse & Gardens to Fairfield County-based Hoffman Landscapes when the pandemic struck.

“We signed the paperwork two weeks before the world kind of went crazy,” recalled Mike Hoffman of the Feb. 21 real estate deal, in which he purchased the garden center and gift shop in the heart of Kent from long-time owners Deborah and Bruce Bennett for an undisclosed purchase price.

As if the impact of the coronavirus on the new venture wasn't enough to contend with, Mother Nature threw in an unseasonably cold spring and even some snow, but neither challenge has dampened Hoffman's enthusiasm.

“If we have a tough spring, so be it. This is a longer-term thing,” said Hoffman, a seasoned landscaper who has been at the helm of Wilton's premiere gardening and landscaping company since its inception more than three decades ago.

“Working with the Bennetts has been so fantastic. I am happy to have gone through this crisis with them.”

Bruce Bennett said he is excited for not only his loyal customers, but also for his dedicated employees.

“I know both will benefit from the partnership with Hoffman Landscapes,” said Bennett, who with his wife, Deborah, launched Kent Greenhouse & Gardens in 1973. The business started out small back then, but over the years the couple expanded it into an expansive garden center and retail gift shop that has become a destination for garden enthusiasts from near and far.

Hoffman said he first met the Bennetts about five or six years ago when he pitched a business opportunity. He had heard of Kent Greenhouse's reputation as one of Litchfield County's premiere garden centers.

“I wanted to do maintenance for their customers. We had a few conversations, but it didn't work out at the time. But I was glad to have met them.”

Hoffman Landscapes, based in Fairfield County, is no stranger to the area. It has served customers in Litchfield County from its Wilton and Stamford locations for more than 30 years.

“We've long hoped for a home closer to our Litchfield County customers, and we have found that home at Kent Greenhouse



PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Kent Greenhouse & Gardens has a new owner and will now offer lawn and yard maintenance services.

& Gardens,” said Hoffman, who started his business in 1987.

The company's award-winning team has been recognized many times for its landscape design and maintenance, including a 2019 Award of Excellence from the National Association of Landscape Professionals for property maintenance.

Hoffman said Kent Greenhouse & Gardens will retain its name, location and current offerings, including its popular retail store.

“With the exception of expanding maintenance capacity,” customers can expect business as usual, he said. “We're eager to expand the services currently offered by introducing comprehensive property care programs, including weekly mowing, spring and fall clean-ups, irrigation, lawn care, plant care and more.”

The knowledgeable staff at Kent Greenhouse provide a

perfect complement to Hoffman Landscapes' existing team, said its owner. In addition to an assortment of annuals, herbs, perennials, shrubs, large and small specimen trees and tropical plants, the retail shop offers an assortment of seasonal items for the garden and for home decor.

“They have so much experience,” Hoffman said of the Kent nursery's approximately 20 employees, several of whom have worked there for decades. “Customers can come in and ask questions and have a good conversation with the employees here,” whether picking out a plant or seeking gardening advice. “We're proud to be a part of it.”

Kent Greenhouse and Gardens is at 30 S. Main St., and can be reached by phone at 860-927-4436.

Their website address is www.kentgreenhouse.com.



PHOTO BY JOERG LEHMANN

“Living Bread” by Bread Alone founder/owner Dan Leader is the first title to be featured in a Zoom talk series to benefit the Hotchkiss Library of Sharon. The book includes recipes for yeast-based foods including the pizza in the photo above.

Authors online for Sharon library, beginning May 29

By Cynthia Hochswender

SHARON — The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon last week announced its plans for an alternative to the annual Summer Book Signing fundraiser, which is normally held in early August.

Instead of the book signing in the tent outside the library, this year there will be a series of on-line author events. The first will be May 29; they will continue throughout the summer.

The Zoom events will feature a presentation or reading by an author followed by a moderated question and answer session.

These are ticketed events, which also offer an option to purchase the book with a signed bookplate, available by mail or pick-up after the event.

Friday, May 29, at 7 pm, Daniel Leader (founder of Bread Alone in Rhinebeck, N.Y.) will discuss his new book, “Living Bread.”

Look for an interview with Leader in the May 28 issue of The

Lakeville Journal.

Friday, June 12: David Kamp, a Salisbury resident and author of “Sunny Days: The Children's Television Revolution That Changed America,” will talk about the cultural movement that created Sesame Street, the Electric Company and other programs.

Friday, June 26: Journalist Michael Isikoff on “Russian Roulette.”

Friday, July 10: Jerry Mitchell, author of “Race against Time, a Reporter Reopens the Unsolved Murder Cases of the Civil Rights Era.”

Friday, July 31: Amity Gaige will read from her new novel, “Sea Wife.”

Friday, Aug. 14: Elise and Robert Bildner, authors of “Berkshires Farm Table Cookbook; 125 Homegrown Recipes from the Hills of New England.”

Links to the talks are at the library's website, www.hotchkisslibrary.org.

Many hiking trails to visit

By Cynthia Hochswender

KENT — One of the most popular outdoor recreation destinations in Kent opened again to the public on Sunday, May 17, at 9 a.m.

Town officials hope you won't go there. First Selectman Jean Speck sent out an email to town residents announcing the opening of the area around Bull's Bridge.

“As we all know, it is an ongoing challenge to manage the overcrowding of visitors in town and at some ‘hotspot’ recreation areas,” Speck said in the email.

The town will work hard to maintain “the delicate balance that encourages our visitors

while keeping public health and public safety primary in our mission.”

In an effort to spread visits around to the many other outdoor recreation areas in Kent, the email included a link to the town's website, where free copies of maps from the Conservation Commission's guide to 14 hiking trails can be found.

The maps were drawn by architect and Kent resident John Milnes Baker.

To see the maps, go to www.townofkentct.org/conservation-commission/pages/trail-maps.

Welliver to read a Hemingway tale

CORNWALL — The Cornwall Library presents a special Cornwall Reads Great Fiction event when town resident Titus Welliver (star of Amazon Prime's television series “Bosch,” based on the thrillers by Michael Connelly) reads Ernest Hemingway's short story “The Snows of Kilimanjaro.”

The reading on Zoom will begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, May

29. Welliver will read the story, and Roxana Robinson will lead a discussion afterward.

Email subscribers will receive a Zoom link to the program on the morning of the event. Anyone not on the library's list can contact the library director at director@cornwalllibrary.org or 860-672-6874 and request their name be added so they may receive the Zoom link.

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Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

1. It's now called Experian
4. You can draw it
7. Very fast aircraft
10. Go quickly
11. Fifth note of a major scale
12. Biochemical abbreviation
13. Make somebody laugh
15. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
16. City in NE Morocco
19. Colorless gas
21. NE football player
23. A snake is one
24. Small spot
25. Inform
26. Republic of Ireland
27. Large statues
30. Documents about an individual
34. Helps little firms
35. Namibia's former name
36. Large insects
41. Thirsty
45. A well-defined track or path
46. One who utilizes
47. Plant-eating mammals
50. Not in tip-top shape
54. Alternate names
55. A part of a broadcast serial
56. City in central Italy
57. LOTR actor McKellen
59. Trees provide it
60. Men's fashion accessory
61. Type of screen
62. Snake-like fish
63. Possesses
64. When you aim to get there
65. Tooth caregiver

CLUES DOWN

1. Hit heavily
2. Italian rice dish
3. Some are cocktail
4. A citizen of Israel
5. Read-only memory
6. Passed by
7. Northern diving ducks
8. References
9. Iranian language
13. Swiss river
14. Woman (French)
17. Gov't department (abbr.)
18. Consumed
20. Ailments
22. Balkan Jewish appetizer
27. Reciprocal of a sine
28. Skywalker mentor — Wan
29. Resinous secretion of insects
31. Similar
32. Female sheep
33. Cool!



37. Borders the Adriatic Sea

38. Flowers

39. It's sometimes upped

40. Immobile

41. Female body parts

42. Common request

43. Made a second thrust

44. Fell into deep sleep

47. Subway resident

48. Brew

49. The event of being born

51. Aspirations

52. Doctor of Education

53. Punk musician — Dee Ramone

58. A subdivision of a play

Look for the solution in next week's issue.

May 14 Solution

S	E	M	B	R	O	A	R	A	B	L	E		
S	I	D	E	C	A	R	S	A	L	A	M	I	S
U	T	A	P	P	E	T	I	T	E	S	G	N	
S	H	O	T	T	G	A	D	S	A	D	H	E	
H	E	N	S	T	O	T	E	S	L	A	T	E	
I	R	S	P	A	N	S	I	S	F	E	Z		
L	W	E	I	T									
S	P	A	N										
E	L	I	T	E									
O	A	S	E	A	D	V	A	N	I	A	N		
A	C	H	E	R	D	R	U	I	N	A	L	C	
T	A	T	A	R	A	P	E	A	R	S	O	N	
E	T	S	O	A	P	I	N	E	S	S	R	A	
D	E	M	E	S	N	E							
N	A	T	I	O	N	S							
D	E	L	A	Y	S								
A	R	I	S	E	S								

Sudoku

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

Level: Intermediate

May 14 Solution

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



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OBITUARIES

Ralph 'Dusty' Sandmeyer Jr.

CORNWALL BRIDGE — Ralph "Dusty" Sandmeyer Jr., 73, of Cornwall Bridge passed away at home surrounded by his family on May 13, 2020, after a long battle with Parkinson's disease.



Born Oct. 23, 1946, Dusty grew up in Cornwall, where he lived most of his life.

As a boy, he attended Rumsey Hall School and later Kent School. In 1968, he joined the Army and fought in the Vietnam War as a helicopter pilot, rising to the rank of captain.

During his service, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Bronze Star in addition to numerous other commendations.

Upon returning home, Dusty enrolled at the University of Hartford, graduating magna cum laude.

He married his wife, Sandy, in 1978 and soon welcomed their daughters, Kate and Kira. After graduating with an MBA from Babson College, Dusty returned to Cornwall, where he started a business, Northwest Lumber and Hardware.

Over the next 20 years he built a successful company. Never content to sit back in an office all day, you could often find him sweeping the stoop of

the store, loading trucks for deliveries or talking to customers.

He was an active member of the Cornwall community, involved in many town organizations and boards.

As a longtime member of the United Church of Christ in Cornwall, he loved singing in the choir.

After retirement, Dusty and Sandy traveled the world together and spent winters at their home in Nokomis, Fla.

He was beloved by all who knew him.

Dusty is survived by his wife, Sandy; his daughters, Kate Ward and Kira Woods; his grandchildren, Austin, Fallyn, Wilson and Turner; and many close cousins.

He was predeceased by his father, Ralph Sandmeyer; and his mother, Dorothy Sandmeyer; and his sister, Sally Jo Sandmeyer.

Always patient, always generous, Dusty was cherished by his family and friends, who will miss him every day.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Parkinson's Foundation or United Church of Christ, Congregational in Cornwall.

Toale Brothers Funeral Homes, Ewing Chapel, in Venice, Fla., is handling arrangements.

Janet Louise (Morrison) Gold

CORNWALL — Janet Louise (Morrison) Gold, 91, passed away quietly in her sleep on May 4, 2020, a victim of the COVID-19 virus.



A devoted grandmother, mother and wife, Janet will be sorely missed.

Born on April 30, 1929, in Amherst, Pa., Janet and her brother, William Morrison, grew up working on a small family farm outside Philadelphia. After graduating from Germantown High school, she attained a Bachelor's Degree from Goucher College in economics and in later years a degree in library science from Rutgers University, which launched her lifetime career as a school librarian.

While in college, she worked as a sitter for cousins who lived in Connecticut, where she met Jim Gold, who would become her husband of 62 years.

Settling initially in Lumberville, Pa., she raised three sons and would spend summers in Cornwall with family and friends, eventually retiring there in 1995.

Hired by the New Hope Solebury school system in 1959, Janet worked as the elementary school librarian in what at the time was the oldest single-room schoolhouse in the state. For the next 36 years she brought the

joy of reading to thousands of students while at the school, and

for 20 years after retirement as a volunteer in the Cornwall Library. In addition, she volunteered for many years at Cornwall Consolidated School as a teacher's assistant and was a loyal participant in the annual Rummage Sale and wreath building for the local church.

In Pennsylvania she was active in the Episcopal church fundraising and social activities and in the Phillips Mill community association. Her passion for gardening and small animals meant the house was always full of beautiful cut flower arrangements and a vast menagerie of assorted dogs, cats, fish and other wildlife. She loved spending endless hours enjoying the view from her porch and talking about world and local events with anyone who would sit down and relax with her.

Janet leaves Douglas Gold and his wife, Janice, of Bolton, Mass., Peter Gold and his wife, Mary Lou, of Avon, Conn., and William Gold and his wife, Marie, of Cornwall Bridge; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

A memorial celebration of Janet's life will be scheduled in early fall.

Memorial Day salutes and taps

NORTH CANAAN — The honor guard from Couch-Pipa VFW Post 6851 in North Canaan will offer salutes and taps to honor those who served on Monday, May 25.

The honor guard will depart from the VFW on Route 7 at 6:30 a.m. and visit cemeteries in Falls Village, North Canaan and East Canaan.

There will be two separate Salutes at Geer Village and Geer Nursing home, at 9:15 and 9:30 a.m., respectively.

The public is encouraged to witness the salute to the Fallen who are buried in our communities, but to remain socially distant with masks readily available.

At the Doughboy Monument at 11 a.m. in North Canaan there will be a short memorial service, salute and taps. This year they honor Donald Reid, Korean War veteran, who passed away on May 10, 2020.

Send obituaries to cynthiah@lakevillejournal.com

Walter Everett Barton

ANCRAMDAL — Walter Everett Barton, 67, passed away on May 8, 2020. Husband, father, brother, friend and beloved grandfather, he passed away peacefully at Vassar Brothers Hospital in Poughkeepsie as a result of complications from the coronavirus.

Born in Great Barrington on Feb. 22, 1953, Walter was the sixth child of Carolyn (Chadbourne) and Kenneth Barton of Ancramdale.

Walter grew up in Ancramdale and attended Stissing Mountain High School in Pine Plains, where he excelled on the track team.

Walter had a passion for cooking, fishing, skiing, the Connecticut seashore and cars. He had quite the stable of autos, ranging from British Minis



and Morgans to Ford Saleens and GT6s. Walter spent many

glorious summer and autumn days driving road rallies, as well as tooling around the countryside with his wife, Susan, and annual trips to Lime Rock Park with his family and friends. Gatherings throughout New England with the 3/4 Morgan Club were always a highlight for Walter.

Walter spent most of his professional career selling heavy equipment to local municipalities and other companies in New York.

Walter was predeceased by his parents; his sister-in-law, Karen (Schweizer) Barton; a

nephew, Frederick J. Barton; and a brother-in-law, John Seiber.

Walter is survived by his wife Susan (Meagher) Barton. They were married at Ancramdale Presbyterian Church on Oct. 8, 1989; his son, Hunter, and his wife, Kristin (Kotzur) Barton; two grandchildren, Benjamin and Maximilian Barton of Millbrook; his sibling, Kenneth Frederick Barton of San Antonio, Fla.; a nephew, Brian Barton; a niece, Kristin Barton McNary; Gerald and Shirley (Hall) Barton of West Copake; his nephews, Jeffrey and Michael Barton, Richard Barton of Copake Falls and Robert Barton of Sarasota, Fla.; Eliza-

beth Barton Podris and Robert Podris of Ancramdale; and his nephews Jason and David Podris. He is also survived by many great-nieces and -nephews.

His stepchildren are Scott Simmons and his wife, Desi, of Seattle, Wash.; Robin (Simmons) Patchin and her husband, Kyle Patchin, of Raleigh, N.C.; and Jason Simmons of Pine Plains; and his grandchildren are Ella Grace, Brenna and Sara Patchin, Maria, Zoey and Alexander Simmons.

Memories of Walter for all who knew him will center on his gentle, kindly and compassionate heart. A memorial service will be held at a later date and time when family and friends can safely come together to celebrate Walter's life.

To sign the online register, go to www.peckandpeck.com.

Chester 'Chet' Marcy

CLAVERRACK, N.Y. — Chester "Chet" Marcy, 84, of Claverack, N.Y., passed away on May 11, 2020, due to complications from congestive heart failure.



Chet was born on June 1, 1935, in Sharon to Beulah (Hagadorn) and Chester Marcy. A lifelong resident of Smithfield, Chet married Doris Burdick in 1954. The couple resided in Smithfield, where Chet worked with his father on Heathcote Farm.

Chet and Doris raised their children, Denny and Sandy, in Smithfield and, later, Millerton. Chet was a member of Smithfield Presbyterian Church.

Chet was the service manager for George M. Taylor & Son, Dover Plains, for 26 years until his retirement in 2000.

He and Doris enjoyed watching auto racing at Lebanon Valley Speedway, following UConn girls' basketball, traveling, raising/showing sheep with their family, going to plays and spending time together as a family, especially their granddaughter Mercay.

When they moved from Millerton to Dutch Village in Claverack, they enjoyed watching all of Mercay's soccer games and attending her school events. Chet and Doris were members of the Claverack Seniors group.

Over the years, the couple enjoyed many trips and the music shows in Branson, Mo., fishing trips, family trips to Disney World and cruises to Jamaica

and Nova Scotia.

The couple celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in 2019, and spent their married life enjoying their close relationship as a couple and as a family.

Chet is survived by his wife, Doris Marcy; his son and daughter-in-law, Dennis and Susan Marcy of Milan, N.Y.; his daughter and son-in-law, Sandra and Randolph Reuter of Craryville, N.Y.; his beloved granddaughter, Mercay Reuter of Boston, Mass.; his sister and brother-in-law, Janet and Peter Zito of The Villages in Florida; his nieces, Lisa Dean and Holly Driscoll; and his cousin, Jeff Hagadorn.

A memorial service will be held in the near future.

The family wishes to thank the medical staff at Albany Medical Center in both the ER and on the Cardiac Unit for their care and kindness to the family during this time.

A special thank you to Chet's longtime cardiologist, Dr. William Alderisio, who's taken care of Chet's heart for 25-plus years. Thank you also to the team at Ghent Assisted Living Facility for making Chet's last days more comfortable.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Arrangements are with the Peck and Peck Funeral Home of Copake, N.Y. To send an online condolence, go to www.peckandpeck.net.

Thomas Patrick Anderson

DOVER PLAINS — Thomas Patrick Anderson, 72, of Dover Plains, died peacefully on May 11, 2020, at Sharon Hospital.

All services are private.

The Scott D. Conklin Funeral

Home in Millerton is assisting the family.

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

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Worship Services

Week of May 24, 2020

**Services are canceled or being held online.
Call ahead or visit websites for updates.**

<p>The Congregational Church of Salisbury, U.C.C. 30 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here! Online worship, Sundays at 10am www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p>Falls Village Congregational Church 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Marilyn Anderson Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICES 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) Said 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) WEDNESDAY HEALING SERVICE At Noon - with Eucharist www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 AM Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people Pastor Savage Frieze 172 Lower Rd./Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am AT THE PILGRIM HOUSE 30 GRANITE AVE, CANAAN: FISHES & LOAVES Food Pantry and CLOSETS for clothing Tuesdays from 5 to 7 and Thursdays from noon to 2 www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational</p>	<p>Greenwoods Community Church 355 Clayton Road, Ashley Falls, MA Sunday Service 10:30 AM Kidz Connection K-6th grade (during Sun. Service) Nursery Care All Services Pastor Trip Weiler 413-229-8560 www.greenwoodschurch.com</p>
<p>North East Baptist Church Historic Meeting House, Main & Maple Millerton, NY God's word is always relevant! A Warm Welcome Awaits You SUNDAY SERVICES Family Bible School - 9:30 AM Morning Worship - 11:00 Evening Service - 6:00 PM WEEKDAY MEETINGS Wed. Prayer Meeting 7:00 PM at Parsonage 33 S. Maple Ave. Sat. Bible Studies for Men & Women 5:00 PM FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON First Sunday of each month after AM services Pastor Henry A. Prause 518-789-4840</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY VIRTUAL SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 Please go to www.stthomasamenia.com to log on. Followed by a virtual coffee hour Rev. AJ Stack www.stthomasamenia.com 845-373-9161</p>
<p>The Sharon United Methodist Church 112 Upper Main Street, North End of Sharon Green Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:45 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock Virtual Sunday service 10:30 AM Trinity Lime Rock Facebook page Virtual Coffee Hour & Bible Study Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627 www.trinitylimerock.org</p>
<p>Canaan United Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534 canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT The format for our Unitarian Fellowship has changed to zoom. Sunday, June 14 at 10:30 a.m. If you need help with zoom, call (860) 435-2319 All are Welcome</p>
<p>Promised Land Baptist Church 29 Granite Ave., Canaan, CT Where you will find: A Warm Welcome! Helpful Bible Messages, A Place to Grow! Sunday School - 10am Sunday Worship - 11am Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer Meeting - 7PM (860) 824-5685 VISITORS WELCOME! www.promisedlandbaptist.org</p>	<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service Sunday School 9:15 a.m. "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Margaret Laemmel 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</p>
<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9am Email Rev. Mary Gates at: mrgates125@gmail.com for an invitation to the Zoom service If you don't have a computer you can participate via phone. <i>We hope you will join us!</i></p>	<p>ST. MARTIN OF TOURS PARISH Immaculate Conception, 4 North Street, Norfolk St. Joseph, 4 Main Street, Canaan St. Mary, 76 Sharon Road, Lakeville MASS SCHEDULE Saturday Vigil 5 pm, St. Joseph Church Sunday 9 am, Church of St. Mary Sunday 11 am, Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</p>
<p>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>UCC in CORNWALL Congregational Worship Sunday, 10 am Cornwall Village Meeting House 8 Bolton Hill Rd, Cornwall Outstanding Church School (10 am) Mission Opportunities Warm Fellowship following Worship 860-672-6840 FB - UCC in Cornwall Rev. Micki Nunn-Miller, Minister Welcoming all - including the LGBTQ Community</p>
<p>Sharon Congregational Church 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online sermons. Bible Study Guides also available by request: info@sharoncongregationalchurch.org Or contact us at 860-364-5002</p>	<p>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH 860-927-3003 The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge MASS SCHEDULE 9 AM - Sacred Heart Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & First Friday SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM - St. Bridget SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart</p>
<p>Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546 Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 9:30 A.M. 518-789-3138</p>	

Stories you can only find in your local newspaper

It was a story taxpayers, especially those laid off or furloughed by the pandemic, must have found quite interesting, not to mention the loan-burdened UConn students and their parents.

The story, on May 10 by Hartford Courant investigative reporter Jon Lender, provided some new information on the rather costly retirement last year of UConn's former president, Susan Herbst.

In his Government Watch column, Lender reported that Herbst will be joining the faculty at the university's Stamford campus this fall after completing her one-year, post-presidency sabbatical for which she was paid \$711,072.

That's the same salary she received in her eighth and final year as president. She will take a cut to about \$319,000 a year when she becomes a tenured professor of political science in Stamford.

According to Lender, the university's Board of Trustees awarded Herbst the sabbatical at her final year's salary as president and agreed to hire her as a professor at a salary equal to the university's highest paid faculty member. That faculty member is Yiming Qian of the university's School of Business. If Qian's pay goes up, so does Herbst's.

According to her deal, Herbst will not be required to teach more than two courses, which amounts to \$109,500 a course, but she's scheduled to teach only one course in the fall semester. That's \$319,000 to teach POLSCI 3625 Public Opinion, a three-credit course for juniors or higher.

To be fair, or unfair, if you prefer, most tenured, full professors at UConn and other large uni-

versities have light course loads in order to have time to engage in scholarly research. Many classes are taught by lower-ranked and lower-paid instructors, part-time adjunct professors and graduate assistants. Students, of course, pay full tuition without regard for the status of their teachers. And need we remind you that the cost of attending college, adjusted for inflation, has doubled since the 1980s.

Herbst has a private pension plan, according to Lender, but she and her husband will be eligible for lifetime health benefits when she completes 10 years of Connecticut public employment next year.

Lender decided these employment details were worth looking at because UConn didn't bother to mention them when Herbst's retirement was announced last year.

He also thought it was appropriate at a time when "the world is falling apart because of the coronavirus — people are hurting financially (and) new UConn President Thomas Katsouleas has announced a spending freeze and hiring restrictions."

And I thought Lender's effort was worth citing here because it's the kind of story you only find in a good local newspaper, the kind we need more than ever to keep things honest.

Lender did his investigation at a time when The Courant, like most daily and weekly newspapers, is hurting. His newspaper, owned by the Tribune Company, which also owns the Chicago Tribune, New York Daily News, Baltimore Sun and other major dailies, has drastically cut each paper's news staff and required non-union employees, earning between \$40,000 and \$67,000 a year, to take unpaid furloughs.

IF YOU ASK ME

DICK AHLES

The pandemic is only the latest in a series of blows to print journalism in the past several decades. More than 2,000 American newspapers have closed down so far in the 21st century, with many more to come.

As a consequence, "the first draft of history is not being written," according to a report by PEN America, a highly regarded nonprofit devoted to free expression. Local news — school board, town council meetings and the like — are not being adequately covered and the citizens are paying the price of not knowing what's going on in their local governments.

Fortunately, the newspaper you're now holding is surviving, but it had to close a sister publication in Winsted a while back, 2017, after having founded it in 1996. That newspaper was preceded in that town by the Winsted Evening Citizen, which had served that part of the state as a daily from 1856 to 1983. Now, the residents of the area have to rely on sporadic news coverage of their communities from neighboring daily newspapers.

We can only hope dailies like The Courant will continue to have the resources for investigative reporting or weeklies like this one will have the staff to cover this region. It depends on the support they can get — from advertisers and readers.

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



From Sharon Health Care's head

Thanks to many for so much

As the administrator of Sharon Health Care Center in Sharon, I wanted to write to say thank you to the countless community members who have supported our center during our transition to a COVID Recovery Facility. To those who donated food to us at the start, whose names are endless. To those who wrote cards and letters of encouragement to our staff and residents. To Sharon Center School and their students for the beautiful artwork. To Lydia Kruge Moore, Jill Drew and Lori Carlson for organizing the Meal Train, and to all who purchased meals from area restaurants providing us with many days of wonderful local food. To the Northwest Connecticut Mask Makers who provided masks from the very beginning. Huge thanks to The Hotchkiss School for playing a big role in donating materials and allowing Nancy Vaughn to coordinate the sewing of masks and gowns, to its students who made masks, and to family members for the donations of surgical and N95 masks and thermometers.

To the Sharon United Methodist Church for the recreation supplies and treats. To Cynthia Hochswender and The Lakeville Journal for taking the time to learn the facts, writing thoughtful articles for the paper, and for being supportive of my team and what we are doing. To Sharon Hospital and Geer Village for helping when we needed you. For the donations of beautiful hearts and signs of support placed around our facility. To our local Sharon EMS team and Jamie Casey, who was supportive from the start and came in anytime we needed without hesitation.

I was born and raised in this community and thought I knew a fair amount of people, but it was so inspiring to see the amazing support from a much bigger community than I ever knew existed. To my family for supporting me in my new role, and understanding what my job entails in these uncertain times, and to my fiancé, Jeff, and his family, for making sacrifices due to the nature of my work. To the families of my staff members who were afraid for their own families and loved ones working at our facility and understanding it was their job and what their job was all about.

Thank you to all of the families of residents who trusted us with your loved one's care. I know that it is not easy not to be able to see your loved ones or to be near them during these times.

Thank you to my corporate team for being so supportive and stepping up to try to be a solution to the spread of COVID-19.

I know that not all of the media has been kind to you; those who don't take the time to see the big picture and everything behind the scenes. Thank you for listening to me, and for being there for me and everyone at our Sharon facility.

Last but not least, I want to thank my staff. To help those of you who are not on the front lines, better understand us, nursing homes and health care workers are highly regulated. Nursing homes get bad reputations or negative press coverage because people hear the term "nursing home" and they associate a certain stigma. Staff working at health-care facilities may not have glamorous jobs. Each and every one of them could have chosen to do something else that is more appreciated, with better pay, and where they don't have to perform work that can be unpleasant or distasteful.

Caring for our elderly and infirm, and those who are unwell, is a daunting task for most people to do on a daily basis even when we are not in these unprecedented times. We lose more people who are part of our "family" in a year, than most people lose in a lifetime. We are under constant scrutiny and regulations to ensure the care we provide is the best it can be, and to safeguard our residents against any type of breach of conduct. We have high and rigorous standards that we are required to meet, more so than any other health-care provider or any industry and if we don't meet them, we are fined and worse. New regulations are continually launched and are updated.

It is hard work. But we are all here, working together, because we care about people. Our staff chose their jobs because these people mean something to them; they care for them at their best

GUEST COMMENTARY

SAWYER THORNTON

It is hard work. But we are all here, working together, because we care about people.

and their worst. It takes a dedicated and amazing team to care for a whole family of residents. Yes they become our family too, because we are there for them each and every day, no matter what.

So thank you to my tireless, devoted, hard-working, selfless staff, who have been coming into work, and putting their own lives at risk, because they care about people. They are not only part of our Sharon Health Care Team, but part of our Sharon and local community. During this coronavirus pandemic, they have all worked very long hours, under great pressure, sacrificing a lot. I know it has not been easy. Thank you for coming into work even though you were fearful. You continued to maintain such positive attitudes as you endeavored to make life better for people who needed you, and to help them recover from COVID-19. You, above all, are my true heroes!!

I feel very blessed to live and work in such a great community who came out to support us in a big way. Thank you. It means more than words can say.

Sawyer Thornton is the administrator at Sharon Health Care Center in Sharon.

Coronavirus III

What is to be done?

We live in evolutionary competition with microbes — bacteria and viruses. There is no guarantee that we will be the survivors. The aphorism from Joshua Lederberg, a founder of molecular biology, is remarkable for its humility and for the challenge it defines. Before the germ theory of disease, which appeared in the second half of the 19th century, medicine was helpless against infection. We have since become good at preventing and treating many infections, so it is galling that we remain stymied in our battle with COVID-19.

The natural world creates new viral genomes by mutation or exchange between two viruses. Some of these viruses escape the surveillance of human immune systems and spread as epidemics or pandemics. What the natural world can mount in the way of threats is greater than anything we could build ourselves, but when a new disease appears, we have an innate tendency to blame other humans, as if nature could not be so clever. Thus, President Trump and Secretary Pompeo have been blaming the Chinese. But Chinese virologists did not make SARS-CoV2.

The genome of SARS-CoV2 is almost 30,000 nucleotides long and is arranged in a code that can be translated into the proteins of SARS-CoV2. On Jan. 9, Chinese virologists deposited the sequence in GenBank, the NIH-sponsored resource for the world's scientific and medical communities. It had taken them 10 days to sequence and analyze the genome. From that sequence, skilled virologists can make vaccines and begin other studies. Two and a half months into the pandemic, the flow of scientific reports on COVID-19 has become a reassuring flood.

That the Wuhan Institute of Virology deposited the sequence so fast is not the act of people hiding information. Perhaps the more regressive and suspicious functionaries of the Chinese Government, who had already chastised Dr. Li Wenliang (who

described the syndrome and then died from it), probably knew nothing about GenBank. Perhaps (purely my guess) the critical sequence information slipped by them, like a fastball low and away.

How did the pandemic develop? Imagine a person with COVID-19 who infects between two and three other people. Thus R naught is 2-3, compared to flu at 1.3 to 1.4. If everyone is taking maximum precautions, they are both much less. Social distancing, hand washing and staying at home reduce R naught. A good vaccine could reduce it to nearly zero, but that is months away.

The COVID-19 coronavirus produces many copies of itself that exit a lung cell in little blisters. If replication of the virus is not slowed, the inflammation and cellular destruction that result cause the blood vessels around the alveoli of the lungs to leak. Liquid and the defensive cells of the immune system fill these air sacs and breathing becomes difficult without supplemental oxygen and often a ventilator. Some people recover, but ventilation is often a long haul.

Between now and the appearance of new vaccines, the best we can do, beyond isolation, is to find drugs that slow the virus infection and protect front-line medical staff. There will probably be a new surge of virus in the fall and it would be criminal to ask nurses, doctors and others to return to emergency rooms without much better protection than they have had.

Drugs that slow viruses similar to SARS-CoV2 exist, and are entering clinical trials quickly. Some, like hydroxyquinoline, don't work and have been abandoned. Remdesivir blocks the production of the RNA genomes for new viruses. More trials are necessary according to Dr. Anthony Fauci, for whom this is familiar territory from the battle against HIV. Tests of dosage and early use in the course of an infection may make remdesivir more effective. Another drug, baricitinib, blocks the cytokine

THE BODY SCIENTIFIC

RICHARD KESSIN

A good vaccine could reduce it to nearly zero, but that is months away.

storms and inflammation that occur days after infection. The NIH is beginning a clinical trial that asks whether the two drugs have additive benefits. Many such experimental treatments with other drugs are being done around the world (see www.ClinicalTrials.gov).

Prof. Arturo Casadevall of The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health speaks of layered defenses. What he has in mind is the convalescent antisera of people who have recovered from COVID-19. Francis Collins, Director of the NIH, has noted that almost all patients who have recovered from COVID-19 have circulating antibodies to the virus. This approach to stopping the virus by supplying such antibodies to the circulation has entered clinical trials in the United Kingdom and will soon be in double-blind trials in the United States. Anecdotal evidence (a scientific oxymoron) says that Italian patients benefited.

It is good to use a layered defense, trying all therapies because there will be a COVID-25, a pandemic flu strain, or a respiratory form of Ebola virus in our future. In this pandemic, we have not performed brilliantly up to now. Science and organization count and we should reinforce them — a lot.

Richard Kessin is Professor Emeritus of Pathology and Cell Biology at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center. He lives in Norfolk and can be reached at Richard.Kessin@gmail.com.

Realtor® at Large

As a follow up on the current real estate market, sales to date in the northwest corner are up 16%. Salisbury was particularly strong with having a 50% increase of sales over the same period a year ago. The average sale price has increased 4% over last year and the dollar volume is also up 20%. Conversely, housing inventory is down substantially at this point, 30% lower than a year ago. With housing inventory dropping, land will once again become attractive to buyers. And a key indicator on the strength of the real estate market locally is that the pending sales are 26% higher now than a year ago. With this in mind, if you are considering putting your property on the market, happy to discuss your properties values and marketing strategies in this new environment.



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EDITORIAL

Budgets are not boring

In looking through this newspaper's coverage over the past weeks, much of what wasn't taken over by the need-to-know details of the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic was information gathered by our reporters on the Northwest Corner towns' municipal and education budgets. Usually, end-of-school-year events are ubiquitous at this time, so there is plenty of distraction from the seemingly mundane budgetary discussions that are happening. But this year, they stand out as among the few things happening despite the state shutdown due to the pandemic.

And those discussions are just as important as ever to the lives of every town and the entire region. Those who organize them have had the added challenge of arranging Zoom meetings in order to have the selectmen come together and have the communities informed while being unable to gather in person. But they've persevered and are doing it.

We at The Lakeville Journal are glad we are here to report on the way budgets have come together this year throughout the Region One towns. The selectmen are approving both the municipal and education budgets, but are not doing so without public input. Not only did we have reporters joining those meetings, but interested residents were able to take part in public comments by either giving the selectmen their questions before the meeting or taking part at the time of the meeting.

Thank you to the town leaders who found a way to make these budgetary meetings work. There was no simple way to be sure our towns and schools would continue to be funded through this extraordinary time of coronavirus restrictions to public activity. While having the meetings online excluded the opportunity for some with limited or no internet access to take part, the approach was the best option for the most citizens to have access to the discussions of how their taxes are being spent.

And, this moment is perhaps the best proof of the critical importance of having better internet access for all in the Northwest Corner as a high priority going forward.

Thanks to first responders

I am writing to recognize the responsiveness and service of the teams from the Salisbury Transfer Station, Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Squad, Northern Dutchess Paramedics and Sharon Hospital Emergency Department who assisted me the

weekend of May 9 and 10. At a time when medical providers are under more stress than ever, their professionalism and commitment to community service stands out. Thank you.

David Bright

Salisbury

Finger pointing is not helping the tough situation we're all in

When my husband and I moved to Sharon, 15 years ago, we were amazed at the way we were welcomed and drawn into the Northwest Corner. Almost immediately, we met so many great people and became immersed in community activities.

So it has been with surprise and chagrin that I have read and listened to the hostility accorded to those with "second homes" or "out of towners" who are being blamed for all manner of things. I read a recent letter suggesting that the reason toilet paper isn't always available locally (although, realistically this is a nationwide phenomenon fueled by the media) is probably because of people with second homes and their guests hoarding it.

Really? We are encouraged by everyone, from the CDC to our local government, to stay home and not shop as often. The supply chain, while adapting to new systems, is still working, although at a different pace, with toilet paper arriving regularly, if not often enough, in the markets. (It takes up a lot of space on grocery shelves so it is rarely overstocked, and people are home all the time, so home usage is greater.)

Things are different, but not because of hoarders or selfishness. Quite the reverse. We're in the middle of a global pandemic of extreme seriousness, and it has shifted everyone's way of life, almost everywhere. Yes, there are more people here than usual at this time of year. Every driveway is full of cars here in the Northwest Corner, because college students and young adults are suddenly back with their parents, and because so many people I know in this area have welcomed friends and family who have nowhere else to go.

Life isn't necessarily easy in these full households, at a time when we all have to stay home. It's not a house party. It takes a

lot of work and a lot of planning, and figuring out how to get along. But I am proud that we are that kind of generous community, whether we live here full time or not, where we take others in, where we open our homes and our hearts to the world.

We are all afraid and anxious, but blaming and finger pointing can only exacerbate that anxiety. The antagonist we are all dealing with is a virus that brought about a pandemic that has affected life in every corner of the world. Not our neighbors in this wonderful community.

Alexandra Peters

Sharon

Reflecting on better times, new meaning

With everyone on pause yet with options to create a "new normal" regarding living one's life by socializing more in public (still with masks until further notice), I thought I'd ask a question instead of sharing the things I find helpful (and which of course are mainly covered on my blog Livfully.org) So what does "Live Fully" mean to you? Consider your idea of Living Fully Pre-CV19, during the public regulation period, and as the restrictions lift?

You can also back that up in time to reflect highlights of your youth and times with special people whether family, school friends, being part of groups in person or even online since that's become more mainstream.

Focusing on what we want and doing more of that even if journaling about it, reviewing pictures and stories and creating the next versions can be empowering for not only individuals but groups, towns and states.

Leaning into a sense of shared meaning and networking, matching skills with needs and finding ways to create those connections (possibly with help from others) is what may contribute to growth and progress. Healing from difficulties may seem like treading water, but valuing one's insights, small steps forward and others who have also struggled as well as those helping people can put one back in the flow of a good life. How we define things, whether we have enough information or feel things may be a work in progress, will color our worldviews.

If you find one good idea or resource (even from Livfully.org), local papers and programs or those online or farther away, that makes it valuable not only to yourself but those who you share it with or benefit from it. Many know of AARP and may feel we need a version of These Corona Times to map



PHOTO BY MICHAEL MOSCHEN

A moose! Caught in the Cornwall woods

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Voting by absentee ballot in Connecticut

We are writing to commend Connecticut Secretary of State Denise Merrill for her plan to enable all registered voters to vote by absentee ballot. If the plan goes through, all registered voters will be sent a notice of this possibility, and those interested will be able to send back to their local town hall their intention to vote by absentee ballot. Once the town clerk has processed their request, the voter will receive their ballot in the mail and either return it in a postage-paid envelope or use a drop box at town hall.

Currently, Connecticut has strict laws regarding who can vote absentee. To cast an absentee vote, one must be: an active

member of the armed forces of the United States; be out of town during all the hours of voting on Election Day; have an illness, physical disability, or religious belief that makes it impossible to vote in person on Election Day; or perform duties as an election official at another polling place during all the hours of voting on Election Day.

Denise Merrill's office has issued an interpretation of Connecticut's absentee ballot law allowing any voter with a "pre-existing illness, including a chronic health condition or possible exposure to COVID-19, to vote by absentee ballot during the current pandemic." (Quoted from the Journal Inquirer, arti-

cle by Alex Wood, May 11, 2020, www.journalinquirer.com.) If and when this interpretation is accepted (probably by an Executive Order from Governor Lamont), the office of the Secretary of the State will send out information on mail-in voting, both for the Aug. 11 primaries and for the Nov. 3 presidential election. Please stay tuned; this is an important election!

Carol Ascher and Marel Rogers

Sharon

Support area restaurants

As our local restaurants and businesses start to reopen in the coming weeks and months, they will depend on their loyal customers returning so that they can hire staff and provide the services we value so much.

There will be a trying transition period, for owners, employees and customers alike. To promote this, I suggest that merchants start issuing debit cards, usable either at their own establishments or at all businesses in Salisbury.

These will provide businesses with badly needed cash up front, so that shops and restaurants can regain a more secure financial footing — enabling them to restock inventory and bring more employees back to work more quickly.

Residents could purchase these cards for varying amounts, and use them at their discretion, knowing that by doing so they are making an important investment in the future of our village.

John V H Dippel

Salisbury

Deadline for letters for the May 28 edition is Friday, May 22, at noon.
Letters can be no more than 500 words.

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TURNING BACK

THE PAGES

NORMA GALAISE

100 years ago — May 1920
SALISBURY — Mrs. Cora Pulver visited friends in Torrington and Winsted last week.

SALISBURY — A valuable cow on the Willard Farm sustained a broken leg one day this week and had to be killed.

LIME ROCK — The contents of the Methodist Chapel, consisting of an organ, good seats with hair cushions, center table and three chairs are to be sold.

SALISBURY — Little Mercedes Sherwood entertained a party of her little friends on her second birthday Thursday.

NOTICE — No more baseball is to be played by anybody, scholars or others, on the High School grounds on Sunday. By Order of Board of Education.

50 years ago — May 1970
Pamela Sue Prindle, daughter of Mrs. Kathryn Prindle of Lakeville, will be graduated next month from the International Fine Arts College of Fashion in Miami, Fla. After two years of intensive fashion studies which included study tours to New York City, Mexico and Europe, she will receive her Associate in Fine Arts Degree, Fashion and Merchandising.

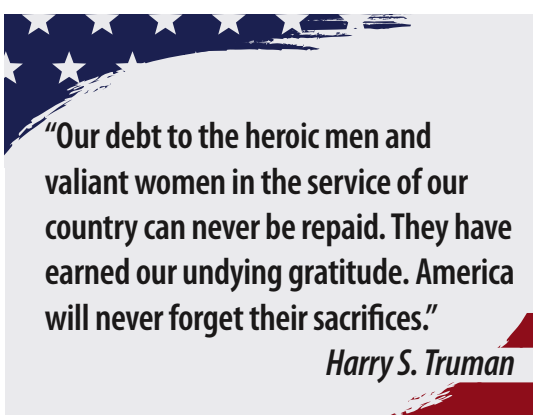
SHARON — Joseph Peter, the fourth son of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lamb of Caulkinstown Road, was baptized at St. Bernard's Catholic Church on Sunday May 17. Mrs. Arthur Lamb and James Danforth are the godparents.

KENT — Captain Andrew P. Stirnweiss, U.S. Navy (Ret.) has been selected to serve as Clerk of the Works at the Kent Center School construction site. Capt. Stirnweiss will represent the interests of the town and the School Building Committee while the elementary school is being enlarged. Reportedly, his salary is lower than the amount appropriated, at his request.

John Lee of Lakeville has been awarded a Kellogg Foundation Animal Husbandry Scholarship. He is a freshman at the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture at the University of Connecticut.

25 years ago — May 1995
A truck operated by the Reber company of Pennsylvania overturned on Dutcher's Bridge in Salisbury Monday afternoon, in an accident that saw traffic delayed or detoured for the next 16 hours. No one was injured when the tanker broke away from the cab and propelled the vehicle across the eastbound lane and into the guardrails.

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



COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Events

May 21-27, 2020

ART: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

While We Were Home

In the May 14 Compass, we wrote about historical societies and artists who are trying to collect images and texts that will someday remind us of how completely weird this year has been.

Photographer Lazlo Gyorsok, who lives in Cornwall, Conn., has already been working on something he calls the Pandemic Project, taking photos of people at their ease this spring at their Cornwall homes and farms. The photos are wonderfully normal, showing everyday folks doing their yard chores, playing with their dogs, delivering mail, framing artwork.

Gyorsok said he started taking the photos as part of the Front Porch Project, “where individuals/families are photographed outside their homes during the Pandemic.



PHOTO BY LAZLO GYORSOK

Cornwall residents Jerry and Pat Blakey were photographed on April 29 by Lazlo Gyorsok for his study of what life looks like during the quarantine.

“The photographers keep social distance while making an important human connection and documenting our new stay-at-home

lives.”

Gyorsok has taken about five dozen photos, with famous folk such as artist/architect Tim Prentice, and

everyday folk such as “Joe Zagata, our UPS driver.” There are children and families and farmers and artists and even a fly-fisherman.

The images will become part of the Cornwall Historical Society’s Pandemic Collection. They can be seen online now at www.lazlo.us/ home and in the windows of the Housatonic Art and Frame Shop in Cornwall Bridge. You can link to them from the town of Cornwall’s website at www.cornwallct.org; click on Cornwall Arts and Remote Entertainment Page, then scroll down to Cornwall Online Offerings and click on “While We Were Home.”

Gyorsok is offering to take additional portraits at no charge, depending on where the subjects live and on everyone’s schedules. Call him at 860-672-6729 or email lazlo1@optonline.net.

BOOKS: CYNTHIA HOCHSWENDER

The Notorious Madame Bovary

Perhaps you think the headline, above, adds too much sizzle to what might seem a dusty 19th-century novel. But I will contend that “Madame Bovary” was a notorious kind of a character whose downfall is still relevant to the modern world.

I had a teacher describe her once as “a woman who was ruined by her deco-

ror.” Madame B. is more commonly described as a bored provincial who tries to escape the boundaries of her small world by spending too much money on HGTV products, with tragic consequences for all involved.

Oh, sorry, wait, there was no HGTV in 19th-century France. Perhaps a modern remake will be made someday, and Emma Bovary will

be abetted in her ruin by television shopping channels and the internet.

I confess I never quite finished this book in French class. I found Emma so unlikeable that I didn’t want to read about her.

Roxana Robinson, a novelist and Cornwall, Conn., resident, understands that the novel’s protagonist can easily be loathed. In a New Yorker magazine article that she wrote in 2017, she reveals that she teaches “Madame Bovary” to her graduate writing students at Hunter College in New York City — and the question that frames their book discussions is “Does Flaubert want us to feel contempt or compassion for his characters?”

Perhaps you already have an opinion on this topic; perhaps you’ve never thought about it before but have now had your interest piqued ... Perhaps you’ll finally want to take on this

classic novel under the tutelage of a skilled expert.

Robinson is offering area readers a sort of online master class in “Madame Bovary” through the Cornwall Library. She’s been reading aloud from great works online for the library for several weeks now. Her tour of great works of literature will end with a three-session dissection of Flaubert’s greatest novel. It will begin on Wednesday, May 27, at 4 p.m. and continue on June 3 and 10.

She will read sections out loud and then there will be discussion. The translation from the French that she will use is the one by Lydia Davis, considered one of the finest translators of all time of French literature into English. It’s surprisingly difficult to find a copy. Try abebooks or alibris online.

Robinson gives page assignments on the library website, so you’ll want to get the edition she’s using: the 2010 hardcover from Viking. The cover shows a sepia-toned photo of a woman with a Swiss dot veil tucked tightly over her face.

To sign up for Robinson’s Zoom classes on “Madame Bovary,” email director@cornwalllibrary.org and ask for the link.

MUSIC: FRED BAUMGARTEN

When Sports And Art Collide

By now you’ve probably heard Scottish sports broadcaster Andrew Cotter doing hilarious play-by-play commentary as his two dogs, Olive and Mabel, do what dogs do (eat, play, swim).

Cotter is one of a handful of sportscasters who has been dedicating their expertise to activities that do not involve balls, cleats or sweat.

What this tells us is that humans love competition, in sports and many other areas of life. Why not try it with the arts as well?

Fred Baumgarten has created a brackets-style competition involving music, to help Compass readers while away their time productively in quarantine. He explains the rules below.

— Cynthia Hochswender

Let’s play. Antonin Dvorák, the Czech composer best known for his “New World” symphony, wrote many beautiful songs — none more beloved than the “Song to the Moon” from his opera “Rusalka,” in which the title character, a water nymph, pleads for the return of a human lover. It is unforgettable, from its harp introduction to its ravishing English horn bridge to the dramatic octave-leap conclusion. “Song to the Moon” has been recorded many times both in the opera and as a stand-alone showpiece.

You’ll need a computer or other device to try this game. The best artists are represented in YouTube clips, but you can also try Spotify. And of course, play this with your own favorite classical tunes, or search for covers of popular tunes as well.

Who sang “Song to the Moon” best? Here are my favorites. These were all found on YouTube; to listen, go to the website and type in the singer, year and “Song to the Moon.”

1. RENEE FLEMING (2010)

The American soprano long owned this role. Her voice has a liquid quality, and she milks every note. This version is a bit slow and overdone, the vowels a tad

mushy, but it’s also romantic and vulnerable.

2. LUCIA POPP (1980)

Popp was a Slovak opera star who died (sadly) at age 54 of a brain tumor. If you can get past the fair recording quality, this is superb: phrasing, pronunciation and bell-like tone meld perfectly with the song in a stirring but straightforward interpretation.

3. KRISTIAN OPOLAIS (2011)

With her star turn as Rusalka at the Met a few years ago, the Latvian soprano snatched the crown from Fleming. Her version here displays her solid, powerful voice and flawless diction (a built-in advantage for Eastern Europeans), but also her weakness: lack of a strong distinguishing tone. The bad audio quality doesn’t help.

4. LEONTYNE PRICE (YEAR UNKNOWN)

I could listen to Price sing anything to anyone — to a rock if need be. However, this recording of unknown vintage does not do her nor Dvorák justice. The voice is there, but odd interpretive choices and the American difficulty with the pronunciation hamper it.

5. GABRIELA BENACKOVÁ (1993)

This recording from the opera’s Met premiere is intoxicating. The Czech soprano Benacková sings with passion and a smoky voice. I should have been there! Also good: the 1981 recording.

6. FEDERICA VON STADE (2012)

One of the great voices of all time, the American soprano here gives a ravishing performance (of course), but too slow and cautious for my liking.

Now, this isn’t actually like a brackets competition. I’m just going to announce my winner: Benacková.

However, if you’d like to live up your outdoor social distancing get-togethers with friends, bring out a laptop, smart phone or tablet computer and see what happens when friends face off over opera (or whatever music you prefer).

But remember: No high fives and no chest bumps.

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BARD

Continued from Page A1

funding for salaries, publishing costs and several undergraduate research assistants over a six-month period.

Junge explained that most existing models take a “zoomed-out” perspective — for instance, making statistical predictions using past infection and death counts. His team’s project, however, “zooms in,” he said, “and models individual connections in a community.

The zoomed-out models are better at answering questions like “How many Americans will die of COVID-19 by the end of summer?” he said, whereas the research team’s models aim to more precisely pinpoint the pandemic’s geographic and social complexities.

One advantage of a network model, which tries to accurately describe the face-to-face interactions each individual in a society has and how an infection might spread, is that it is relatively easy to implement social

distancing into the network.

“Mathematics are fairly adept at modeling the natural evolution of epidemics,” said Junge. “But most ‘off the shelf’ models were not built to describe the dramatic levels of intervention, such as business closures, travel limitations and social distancing, that we are living through during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Junge.

“The grant brings together a biologist, computer scientist and mathematician as well as a few undergrad research assistants, to tackle this problem over the next six months. Felicia is an expert in infectious disease, Nicole in modeling real world networks, and I am experienced in network infection models.”

Once the research is completed, Junge said the hope is that the team’s research will offer “an alternate perspective from the zoomed-out models. This work tests their robustness, and could possibly help smaller communities — counties not countries — make policy decisions about managing disease spread.”

MINER

Continued from Page A1

staff have been busy helping to resolve them.

Other issues include helping constituents deal with state agencies — such as the Department of Motor Vehicles — that are mostly shut down.

“If the governor had been a little more involved, people wouldn’t have waited” as long as they did.

On the other hand, “it’s not like he didn’t have anything else going on.”

Asked if he was concerned that the governor might be reluctant to give up the extraordinary powers he has assumed

during the crisis, Miner said he thought the governor had already exceeded the limits on special powers imposed by the leadership of the Legislature.

“I don’t think the General Assembly will allow that to continue. I don’t think he wants it either.”

Looking ahead to the election campaign, Miner said he doesn’t see how he can “press the flesh when you can’t be under 6 feet from someone.”

He didn’t think going to door-to-door, “with a mask and longish hair,” was very likely either.

He said the campaign is a secondary concern at the moment. “It’s been a serious few months,” he said. “Constituent service will be my focus.”

COVID-19

Continued from Page A1

is widespread testing and contact tracing, and enforcement of a 14-day quarantine for those who test positive, Childs said.

He said “we haven’t really started testing” in the United States.

“But we can’t just do hospitalized patients. We have to go out there.”

Childs said there are more than 100 possible viral vaccines under consideration. Trials on some drugs, including hydroxychloroquine and drugs used to treat human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), have had mixed results, with a lot of unwanted side effects.

Childs said the risk of becoming seriously sick from

COVID-19 “climbs dramatically after age 50 and is very high at 80 plus.”

People with underlying medical problems such as high blood pressure, diabetes and obesity are at additional risk.

And younger people are in danger as well, with reports of strokes and inflammation of blood vessels in those demographic groups.

“So we don’t have a handle on the problem in different age groups.”

He said he expected the number of new cases to drop during the spring and summer, and then increase again in the fall.

Colder weather means people stay inside. And COVID-19 is “highly transmissible in closed quarters.”

Childs said wearing a mask or face covering won’t prevent

an individual from infection, but it will help prevent people from infecting others.

Asked if the virus is mutating, Childs said, “Definitely,” but added that, “It’s not clear if it’s stronger or more virulent.”

He added that mutations make it more difficult to formulate a vaccine.

Asked about antibodies and immunity, Childs said that people who seem to have recovered from COVID-19 may get sick again.

“Antibodies are usually a good thing. But do they indicate you are safe? We don’t know.”

Asked about reopening businesses and returning to normal in general, Childs said working in confined spaces was “problematic” given the 6-foot distancing recommendation and the 14-day

quarantine period for those testing positive.

He said the wearing of masks should be enforced.

“Personal responsibility is important.”

Childs said as businesses reopen he expects there will be local outbreaks that require closing again.

“It will be like an on/off switch.” He reiterated: “The key to this will be contact tracing, and much more testing.”

He said that a nationwide reopening “will be piecemeal.”

New York state’s less-populated counties, for instance, will be able to reopen sooner than the New York City metropolitan area.

“But economically, socially, we have to do it.”

GRONBACH

Continued from Page A1

government.

“I think I can do more for the region.”

Gronbach said his priorities include protecting the middle class (particularly when it comes to health insurance), and protecting first responders.

He would like to see health insurance programs expanded to include more people, including small businesses.

“It’s not health insurance, it’s bankruptcy insurance.”

He said economic development is an issue that “segues into almost everything.” He spoke favorably of renewable energy programs in Vermont and Massachusetts.

Gronbach said getting better internet service in the district is a top priority. As the state recovers from the economic turmoil caused by the response to COVID-19, he wants “to return to the way things were — and make it better.”

To accomplish that, “we need advocacy from our state senator. I know how to advocate for these things.”

The 30th Senate District includes the towns of Brookfield, Canaan (Falls Village), Cornwall, Goshen, Kent, Litchfield, Morris, New Milford, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, Torrington, Warren and Winchester.

Asked about campaigning in the COVID-19 era, Gronbach said the restrictions on public gatherings have “thrown us off-course.”

“When COVID-19 hit we were just getting into the meet and greets.”

He said the campaign will use online meetings and social media to get its message to voters.

“It’s difficult. It’s a big district,” he said.

His opponent, incumbent Miner, is a veteran of the Connecticut General Assembly. Asked if he believed he could beat Miner, Gronbach said yes.

“I wouldn’t be running if I didn’t think I could win.”

PRIMARIES

Continued from Page A1

primaries only.

“We’re doing things for the primaries that we can’t do in November,” during the general election.

The eligibility restrictions on absentee ballots will be relaxed, Larsen said. Anyone over the age of 65 will qualify, as will anyone with an “underlying condition” that makes them susceptible to COVID-19.

Caretakers of the elderly or infirm will also qualify.

At polling locations, everyone will be required to maintain a distance of 6 feet from each other, and no more than five people will

be allowed into any location at a time.

Personal protective equipment will be made available at polling places, as well as Plexiglas shields and single-use pens.

Larsen said one problem is not having enough poll workers, who tend to be retired and/or elderly people.

The secretary of the state is upgrading the computer systems, and scanners for the expected increase in absentee ballots will be provided. This will require some initial financial outlay from municipalities, but Larsen said the state will “try to make towns whole” with reimbursements.

“Everything we’re talking about now could change by Aug. 11,” she reiterated.

FROST

Continued from Page A1

seem to be signs of irreversible harm from the frost and snow.

“Damage occurs in extended periods of weather below 32 degrees,” he said. “You have close to

a total loss when it goes below 29. Also, if trees are at the bottom of a hill or in a spot where cold air collects, they are at higher risk than on an open southern-facing hillside.”

Translated: There is reason for optimism. But no one will really know until later this summer.

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