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The Lakeville Journal

TriCornerNews.com

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Celebrating Our 125th Anniversary

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

U.S. House, 5th District

A competitive race with national implications

By Lisa Hagen CT Mirror

Connecticut is rarely in the spotlight when it comes to House races or part of the equation for how Republicans seek to build a majority in Congress. But this year has been a major exception, with the 5th District becoming a hotly contested battleground awash with millions of dollars in spending.

At stake is a seat in the western and central parts of Connecticut that Democrats have held for 16 years. Incumbent Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-5) faces Republican George Logan for a third term in a campaign that largely mirrors themes reflected at the national level on the economy and abortion.

The race has essentially boiled down to experience versus change. Hayes is firmly defending her four years in office with the hopes of building on legislation recently passed by Democrats. Logan, meanwhile, is looking to "offer an alternative to the status quo" and give Republicans representation in Congress for the first time in over



PHOTO BY MARK PAZNIOKAS / CTMIRROR.ORG

George Logan



PHOTO BY YEHYUN KIM / CTMIRROR.ORG

Jahana Hayes

a decade.

Targeting the 5th District is part of national Republicans' larger strategy to contest districts in deep-blue New England in a year when the odds are in their favor to make enough gains to flip

See 5TH DISTRICT, Page B4

Spongy moth potentially a threat again next year

By Willard Wood

It wasn't unusual, driving in the Northwest Corner this summer, to see whole hillsides with their trees stripped of foliage, the trunks and branches clearly visible where weeks before there had been an even canopy of leaves.

Over 45,000 acres of forest in Litchfield County were defoliated by spongy moth in 2022, according to a recent tabulation by the Connecticut Agricultural Extension Service (CAES). This followed a 40,000-acre defoliation in 2021 over much of the same area, centering on Sharon and Cornwall. Many of the trees hit hard by spongy moth two years in a row are likely to die.

The hardwoods most severely affected, mainly oaks but also red maple and beech, can gen-



PHOTO BY WILLARD WOOD
This is a flightless female spongy moth, who has laid her eggs on the trunk of an oak and covered them with a felted mat of her own hairs.

See SPONGY MOTH, Page A8



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PHOTO BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

The Flash Mob Zombies from South Kent School danced to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" on Halloween. Turn to page A8 for photos of Lakeville's festivities.

Cornwall's new advocate aims to help with housing

Newly appointed to the volunteer position of Cornwall's Housing Advocate, resident Jessica Brackman brings her experience, love of the community and energetic enthusiasm to the task of creating viable housing opportunities to ensure a vital future for the town.

"I come at this really wanting to help," Brackman had said at the Wednesday, Oct. 19, forum convened by the Housing Plan Implementation Committee, where Brackman will serve with other town leaders working toward a common goal of promoting diversity in housing opportunities.

"I spent my first two undergraduate years at Connecticut College in New London and then transferred to University of California, Berkeley, graduating with a B.A. in History," Brackman said in an

NW CORNER PROFILE LEILA HAWKEN

interview on Sunday, Oct. 23.

After working as a journalist in San Francisco for a few years, she returned to New York to manage a family business in stock photography, a company she sold when she married Charles Melcher. They have a son, Daniel, who attended Cornwall Consolidated School.

Charles had been weekendending and summering in town since he was 12 years old and had developed a bond with the town and a grasp of its sense of community, Brackman said.

See HOUSING, Page A8



PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Rooted in the community and determined to assist in the work of expanding housing opportunities, Jessica Brackman is Cornwall's new volunteer housing advocate.

Election day registration available

By Patrick L. Sullivan

LAKEVILLE — The last day to register to vote before the Nov. 8 election was Tuesday, Nov. 1.

But in Connecticut eligible persons may register and vote on Election Day.

From the Secretary of the State's website:

"Election Day Registration permits anyone to register and vote in person on Election Day who meets

the eligibility requirements for voting in this state and is not already registered, OR is registered in one town but has moved to another town. By law, a person is eligible to register and vote if he or she is (1) a US citizen, (2) age 18 or older, (3) a bona fide resident of the town in which he or she applies for admission, and (4) has completed confinement if previously convicted of a disenfranchising felony."

In the six Region One towns

(Cornwall, Falls Village, Kent, North Canaan, Salisbury and Sharon), the EDR location is listed by the state as the town halls. People can register from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you are in line at the EDR site at 8 p.m., you can remain in line to complete your registration and vote. You will need to provide proof of identity and residency.

For more information go to portal.ct.gov/SOTS/Election-Services/Voter-Information/Voter-Fact-Sheet.

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In The Journal this week

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POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

The following information was provided by the Connecticut State Police at Troop B. All suspects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Semi truck overturns

On Thursday, Oct. 27 at approximately 7:30 a.m. a 1998 Heil semi truck owned by Berkshire Heavy Haulers Inc. was traveling northbound on Route 7 in Canaan when it approached a gray

Canaan Ford Maverick at a full stop with its traffic signal on to make a left turn. The driver of the Heil semi truck was unable to stop in time to avoid the Maverick, causing the operator to swerve right onto an embankment. The truck rolled over on its right side. The truck was towed from the scene and the operator was issued an infraction for following too close. No parties were injured.

Sharon's Taghannuck Grange sets benefit square dance Nov. 5

SHARON — The Taghannuck Grange at 7 Dunbar Road is having a Square Dance / Contra Dance on Saturday, Nov. 5 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Bob Livingston will be calling for square, circle and contra dances with live music by Jim Prentice, Ren Nickson, Jane Prentice and Friends.

There is a suggested donation of: \$5 per child, \$10 per adult or \$20 per family. This will help us fund our community service work of awarding EMR/EMT scholarships, the giving of dictionaries to 3rd graders at five

schools, donations to food banks, animal shelters, Meals on Wheels, FFA of CT, Sharon Fire Dept, CT Farmland Trust and The Heifer Project.

For more information please contact President Barbara Prindle at (860)-364-5373.

Correction

The Corner Food Pantry in Lakeville distributes food on Fridays from 3 to 4:30 p.m. In an article in the Oct. 27 edition it was incorrectly stated that the time is from 3 to 4 p.m.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Application #2022-0201 by Abigail Raymond Salaway for a 2-Lot residential subdivision at 300 Between the Lakes Road Salisbury, Map 67, Lot 7 per the Salisbury Subdivision Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, November 7, 2022 at 5:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter. The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburycr.us. Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to landuse@salisburycr.us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission
Martin Whalen, Secretary
10-27-22

Legal Notice

The Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury will hold a Public Hearing on Special Permit Application #2022-0204 by owner Janet Andre Block for the vertical expansion of a nonconforming dwelling and an attached accessory apartment at 4 Main Street, Salisbury, Map 15, Lot 15 per Section 503.2 and 208 of the Salisbury Zoning Regulations. The hearing will be held on Monday, November 7, 2022 at 5:45 PM. There is no physical location for this meeting. This meeting will be held virtually via Zoom where interested persons can listen to & speak on the matter.

The application, agenda and meeting instructions will be listed at www.salisburycr.us. Written comments may be submitted to the Land Use Office, Salisbury Town Hall, 27 Main Street, P.O. Box 548, Salisbury, CT or via email to landuse@salisburycr.us. Paper copies may be reviewed Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission
Martin Whalen, Secretary
10-27-22
11-03-22

Notice of Decision Town of Salisbury Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following action was taken by the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on October 24, 2022:

Approved - Application 2022-IW-085D by Brit B Hoyt for the construction of a farm pond. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's map 16 as lot 1 and is known as 143 & 145 Housatonic River Road, Salisbury. The owner of the property is Anne McGrath.

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

11-03-22

NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF SHARON

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of Sharon, Connecticut, will be held at Sharon Center School, 80 Hilltop Road, Sharon, Connecticut, on November 10, 2022 at 6:00p.m. to



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

DEA Rx Takeback

Chelsea Kapitancek of the McCall Center for Behavioral Health in Torrington, left, Trooper Roy Dungan of Troop B, and Marissa Kent of the Housatonic Youth Services Bureau were on hand Saturday, Oct. 29 at Troop B as part of a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) program promoting safe disposal of unwanted prescription drugs.

Winter clothing drive, giveaway

SALISBURY — All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church will again hold its winter clothing drive. The event will take place on Saturday, Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, which is at 313 Twin Lakes Road in Salisbury.

Winter clothing may be donated and dropped off at

the church at any time between now and the first week of November.

Please be sure clothing is clean and in good condition.

We will accept winter clothing for all ages, including coats, sweaters, hats, gloves, scarves and boots. For more information please call 860-824-1340.

Salisbury Bank holds food drive

Salisbury Bank announced its 15th annual Fill-the-Basket food drive through Dec. 16.

All fourteen branches, located in Berkshire, Litchfield, Dutchess, Orange, and

Ulster counties, will collect donations of non-perishable food items and household supplies. Cash donations will also be accepted.

Local pantries need donations including, but not limited to: canned goods, cereals, macaroni and cheese, cake mix, peanut butter, condiments, rice, and sauces. Household necessities such as paper towels, diapers, shampoo, and soap are also appreciated.

Online This Week

Look for these stories and more, exclusively at www.tricornernews.com.

Running in costume at Kent's Pumpkin Run
Hundreds competed at the Kent Green on Sunday, Oct. 30 in the 46th year of the event. See video at www.tricornernews.com/multimedia

North Canaan's Railroad Street smoothies
Nutrition on Railroad serves up healthy meal alternatives. See video at www.tricornernews.com/multimedia

Hunt Library bat talk Nov. 12

FALLS VILLAGE — On Saturday, November 12 at 1 p.m. the David M. Hunt Library will host a nature talk on bats in Connecticut with Ginny Apple, Master Wildlife Conservationist with the CT DEEP.

Bats are one of the world's most beneficial and misunderstood animals. With over 1,300 different species around the world, nine can be found in Connecticut, eight of which are at risk.

Apple will discuss the economic value of bats, their migration and hibernation patterns, decline and disease as well as steps the public can take to help ensure the health and safety of our bat populations.

The in-person event is free to the public. David

M. Hunt Library, 63 Main Street, Falls Village CT, 860-824-7424. Those wanting to participate via zoom should register on the library's website at huntlibrary.org or go to this link: us02web.zoom.us/j/8608247424

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• Ocean State Job Lot



Salisbury Republican Town Committee



Meet the Republican Candidates on the November 8th Ballot



Bob Stefanowski
Candidate for Governor



Laura Devlin
Candidate for Lt. Governor



Dominic Rapini
CT Secretary of the State



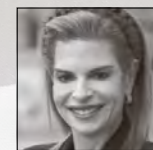
Harry Arora
CT Treasurer



Mary Fay
CT Comptroller



Jessica Kordas
CT Attorney General



Leora Levy
Candidate for U.S. Senate



George Logan
Congress, 5th District



Stephen Harding
CT Senate, 30th District



Chris DuPont
CT Gen'l Assembly, 64th District



Jordan Richards
Judge of Probate Court

A vote for Bob Stefanowski and the rest of the State ticket, including the candidates for the Connecticut Senate and General Assembly, is a vote to begin the hard work of restoring Connecticut's economy, which for the past twelve years has been near the bottom of all 50 states in virtually every meaningful economic metric, leading to the State losing more population during this period than all but three other states (Illinois, Mississippi and West Virginia).

A vote for Leora Levy and George Logan will send much-needed new blood to Congress to begin work on finding common sense solutions to the numerous major problems the Democrats refuse to address, such as runaway inflation, chaos at our southern border and an alarming rise in crime in our major cities.

Paid for by the Salisbury Republican Town Committee

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.

Our Towns

Norfolk's food pantry at Battell Chapel reaches far and wide

By Emily Edelman

NORFOLK — Well-known for housing five stained-glass windows designed by none other than Louis Comfort Tiffany, the Battell Chapel in Norfolk is also home to the Norfolk Food Pantry.

Volunteer Director Lynn Deasy said though the pantry has been in existence for decades, "it's really taken shape in the past 15 years."

A grant from the Draper Foundation Fund received about a year and a half ago allowed the pantry to purchase a new refrigerator, freezer and shelving over the summer. The Battell Chapel also features a commercial kitchen in which volunteers prepare meals to be handed out.

The pantry does not collect identifying information from its customers — "We don't turn anyone away," said Deasy — but many travel from Winsted and Torrington, and also over the nearby Massachusetts border to visit the pantry.

"I think they like that they can choose what to take," said Deasy, referring to the layout of the Norfolk pantry's offerings on open shelving rather than the pre-packed distribution in boxes or bags utilized by many pantries.

Donations come in mostly via local businesses and individuals, and range from seasonal produce from local farms and fresh eggs raised by town residents to non-perishable food and personal care items purchased from



PHOTO BY EMILY EDELMAN

The front shelves at the Norfolk Food Pantry display a variety of nonperishable food items next to a list of fresh foods contained in the pantry's refrigerator.

grocery stores. The pantry regularly stocks items for those adhering to gluten-free, low-sugar, and low-salt diets. Foods for special diets are most needed by the pantry, as are canned meats and soups.

Deasy said from July 2020 through June 2021, the pantry served an average of 33 people per five-week period, who were feeding 97 family members. From July 2021 through September 2022, however, an average of 56 people per five-week period visited the pantry to feed 180 family members (that last number is an average, as well: Deasy said there were weeks when the pantry fed up to 240 people).

Though located at the Norfolk United Church of Christ, the food pantry is

one of the many programs run by Norfolk NET, a grassroots organization founded in 2017 with the purpose of being "a safety net of Norfolk resources."

Norfolk NET connects "people who have the resources with people who need the resources," said volunteer Kelly Hughes.

Primarily a source for those in financial need, Norfolk NET also maintains a gifting board at the Norfolk Hub, a community center. People list services and items they have to offer; and a "Happy to Chat" table, also at the Hub, at which people can sit if they are interested in friendly conversation with passers-by.

There are a number of other resources in town aimed at easing the current burden of living. The room adjacent to the food pantry in the Battell Chapel holds the Clothes Closet, which operates during the same hours as the pantry and offers a large variety of previously worn clothing items, shoes and accessories for adults and children. All items are free and seasonally appropriate. Contributions of perishable items are accepted at the pantry itself during its hours of operation: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

The United Church of Christ will host the benefit dance event "Foot Stompin' for the Food Pantry" on Saturday, Nov. 12, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Sharon sets vote on Comcast plan

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Years of study and planning by town officials and the Sharon Connect Task Force have led to Comcast proposing a partnership with the town to expand their existing service to underserved homes and businesses within the town.

A town meeting and vote on the proposal to wire 28.5 miles of road, offering high speed internet service to 250 households that currently lack service, has been scheduled by the Board of Selectmen for Thursday, Nov. 10, at Sharon Center School, beginning at 6 p.m.

Under Comcast's proposal, the company would partner with the town. The town would pay \$1.6 million in construction costs, with the first half (\$800,000) due at the start of construction and the second half due when the project is completed. In turn, Comcast would be responsible for the re-

mainder of all construction costs.

Updating the Sharon community on Friday, Oct. 28, Sharon Connect co-chair Jill Drew urged all Sharon property owners to attend the town meeting and vote on the proposal. All adult residents, owners of real estate or personal property assessed at more than \$1,000 are eligible to vote, Drew noted.

Since Comcast's proposed partnership was developed and is ready to proceed, Frontier Communications is now seeking to create a similar proposal for a partnership with the town. Accordingly, Frontier planned to present a preliminary partnership plan in an information session on Tuesday, Nov. 1.

If the Frontier plan materializes, Drew said, it could mean that some Sharon residents might have a choice between two high-speed internet providers, Comcast or Frontier.

Sharon examines future of its health department

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — With both officials in the town health department planning to leave their posts in April 2023, the Board of Selectmen at its regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 25 looked ahead to how the work of that office might be handled

in the future.

Attending the meeting was health department Sanitarian Jamie Casey, who suggested to the selectmen that the town consider becoming a member of the Housatonic Valley Health District (HVHD), rather than maintaining its own health department. Casey in-

dicated that the town's health director, Michael Crespan, also plans to leave his post on April 30, 2023. He presently serves on the HVHD board.

Casey cited the COVID-19 pandemic pressures affecting the small department as it is required to meet the demands of federal, state and local regulations.

She suggested and the selectmen agreed to schedule a meeting with Lisa Morrissey, the current HVHD director, to explore options.

Selectman Dale Jones was receptive to the idea. "It's a big decision," he said offering to help facilitate the process of determining the health department's future.

STEPHEN

HARDING

30th

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KRISTEN MOSTOWY

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at Salisbury Town Hall, from 6:00am until 8:00pm

Paid for by: Salisbury Democratic Town Committee, Pamela Kelley, Treasurer, P.O. Box 465 Salisbury, CT 06068

OBITUARIES

Cheryl Cortesi Downey

FALLS VILLAGE — deeply loved, and will be missed tremendously.



FALLS VILLAGE — Cheryl Cortesi Downey, 77, a lifetime resident of Falls Village, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2022, at Sharon Hospital. She was the loving wife of 41 years to her husband, Kevin Downey of Falls Village.

She is survived by her loving husband, Kevin Downey, of Falls Village; her daughters, Carrie Feliciano (David), of Ware, Massachusetts; Christa Zucco (Joseph), of Falls Village; her son, Chad Olsen (Carrie), of Falls Village; her daughter, Kelly Friberg (Robert), of Webster, New Hampshire; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. In addition, she is survived by her brother, Dr. Paul J. Cortesi III (Midge), of Torrington; and her sister, Elizabeth C. Knickerbocker (Ron), of Millbrook, New York.

Born on July 28, 1945, in North Canaan, she was the daughter of the late Paul Cortesi and Amelia (Vassella) Cortesi Downey. Cheryl graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1963. She worked at Housatonic Valley Regional High School for several years as a secretary/receptionist. Prior to retiring, she worked at Edward R. Hamilton Bookseller for approximately 20 years.

Cheryl will be remembered for her sense of humor, quick wit, and her dogged determination. Throughout her life, she enjoyed gardening, challenging puzzles, and in the most recent years, her daily scratch ticket. She was

A Celebration of Life will be held at the VFW in North Canaan on Sunday, Nov. 13 at 12:00 p.m. Memorial contributions may be made to the Falls Village Volunteer Fire Department, 188 Route 7S, Falls Village, CT 06031 or The Little Guild, 285 Sharon-Goshen Turnpike, West Cornwall, CT 06796.

Mary F. Hoysradt

MILLERTON — Mary F. Hoysradt, 95, a lifelong



area resident, died peacefully on Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2022, at the Meadows at Brookmeade in Rhinebeck, New York. Mary was a homemaker and private housekeeper for many years prior to her retirement.

Highland, New York; eight grandchildren, Todd Atkins, Matt Atkins, Gianna Murtagh, Kristian Murtagh, Alex Hoysradt, Taylor Hoysradt, James Murnane and Alicia Wheeler and five great grandchildren, Thomas Wheeler, Kaylee Wheeler, Joseph Murtagh-Robert, Siles Murnane and Cameron Murnane; her brother, John Cavevari and his wife Mary of Florida and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, Mary was predeceased by her son, William Albert Hoysradt in 1977 and her brother, Charles Canevari of Millerton.

Born February 1, 1927, in Millerton she was the daughter of the late Charles and Albina (Scasso) Canevari. She attended and graduated from Millerton High School in 1945. On Sept. 12, 1947, at Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia, she married James O. Hoysradt. Mr. Hoysradt died on Nov. 21, 1999. Mary was a longtime parishioner of St. Patrick's Church in Millerton and Immaculate Conception Church in Amenia and was a member of the Alter Rosary Society for many years. She was an avid gardener and her flower gardens grew beautifully every season.

Calling hours were held on Friday, Oct. 28, at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY. A funeral service took place at the funeral home. Reverend Robert K. Wilson officiated. Burial followed at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Church Street, Millerton. Memorial contributions may be made to the Millerton Fire Company, P.O. Box 733, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Mary is survived by five children, Theresa Murtagh and her husband Joe, Madalyn Hoysradt and James Hoysradt, all of Millerton, Charles Hoysradt of Pine Plains, and Michael Hoysradt and his wife Mary of

Millerton. She was an avid gardener and her flower gardens grew beautifully every season. Mary is survived by five children, Theresa Murtagh and her husband Joe, Madalyn Hoysradt and James Hoysradt, all of Millerton, Charles Hoysradt of Pine Plains, and Michael Hoysradt and his wife Mary of

Lori Jean Parsons

PINE PLAINS — Lori Jean Parsons, 63, a lifelong



area resident, died Thursday Oct. 27, 2022, at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, New York. Lori worked for ARC in Wassaic for over 23 years before retiring in 2018.

by three brothers, William Parsons and his wife Rosie of Pine Plains, Dennis Parsons of Ancram and David Parsons of Ancramdale; two sisters, Kathleen Sigler and her long-time companion Don Bird of Stan-fordville, and Pamela Miles and her husband Michael of Ancramdale. Lori is also survived by several nieces and nephews and many friends. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her sister, Donna DeWitt of Millerton.

Born Sept. 15, 1959, in Sharon, she was the daughter of the late William Parson, Sr., and Elizabeth Ann (Milton) Swartz.

There are no calling hours. Graveside services will be private. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Lori was a graduate of Webutuck High School and furthered her education at Bard College in Red Hook and Marist College in Poughkeepsie. She adored her three cats and enjoyed gambling and playing cards in her spare time. She will be dearly missed by her loving family. Lori is survived

Harry Joseph Jenkins

AMENIA — Harry Joseph Jenkins, Jr., 98, a lifelong res-



ident of Amenia, died on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2022, at his home. Mr. Jenkins worked in the accounting field his entire life and retired after many years as the Controller with Sullivan Highway Products in Monticello, New York.

Born on March 17, 1924, in Amenia, he was the son of the late Harry Joseph Jenkins, Sr. and Mary Elizabeth (Johnson) Jenkins. He proudly served his country in the United States Army during World War II in a field hospital in the Phillipines.

On Aug. 4, 1962, in Pawling, he married Evelyn Tompkins who died on April 8, 2010.

Mr. Jenkins participated in and was honored by several accounting management groups and was a member of the Amenia Historical Society and a past deacon of the former Amenia Presbyterian Church. Mr. Jenkins was a history buff who was interested in ancestry, a Fox News enthusiast, and an avid

Republican. He is survived by a nephew, Paul Jenkins and his wife, Stephanie, of Syracuse, New York, and three nieces, Janet Kelly and her husband, Bill, of Elgin, Texas; Lynn Smith and her husband, Todd, of Tin Top, Texas and Mary Ellen Danielson and her husband, Lee, of St. Augustine, Florida.

Besides his parents and wife, he was predeceased by three brothers, Edwin Alton Jenkins, John W. Jenkins and Marvin W. Jenkins.

Calling hours will be held from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 9, at Hufcut Funeral Home, 3159 Route 22, Dover Plains, NY. Funeral services will follow at 1 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will take place at Amenia Island Cemetery in Amenia.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hudson Valley Hospice, 374 Violet Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 or online at <https://www.hvhospice.org/>. To send the family an online condolence, please visit www.hufcutfuneralhome.com.

Dorinda Marie Truax (Pedersen)

SHARON — Dorinda Marie Truax (Pedersen), 56, of Michael Koury Terrace, Torrington, passed away on Oct. 23, 2022, at Hartford Hospital after a long illness.



Dorinda was born Aug. 5, 1966, at Sharon Hospital, the daughter of the late Edward and Claire (Johnson) Pedersen. Dorinda grew up in Sharon, and graduated from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in 1984. She held several jobs after high school before working as a Night Shift Supervisor at Taconic DDSO for a little over ten years. In 2000, she left Taconic DDSO to pursue an Associates Degree in Nursing, which she obtained in 2004 from Berkshire Community College. She made the National Deans List in 2002, 2003, and 2004. She was also a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She was a registered nurse and worked as a nurse until 2016 when she had to take a step back due

to several health issues.

She is survived by her brother, Brian Pedersen of Sharon, his wife Lisa, and their son Hans.

Dorinda was an animal lover and especially loved German Shepherds. She had several German Shepherds over the years and loved every one of them. During the past few years, she enjoyed being an aunt to her only nephew. She would brag about her nephew to anyone she met.

A public memorial service will be held at the Sharon United Methodist Church on Saturday, Nov. 5, at 11:00 a.m. She will be laid to rest at the Ellsworth Hill Cemetery next to her parents. The burial service will be private.

Memorial contributions may be made to the The Little Guild (Animal Shelter), 285 Sharon-Goshen Road, West Cornwall, CT, 06796 or www.littleguild.org. The Kenny Funeral Home has care of arrangements.

Sharon voters give approval to Green project, equipment

By Leila Hawken

SHARON — Although the town meeting to decide whether to approve a proposal by Comcast to expand internet service in the town had been postponed to a new date of Thursday, Nov. 10, the scheduled town meeting was still held on Friday, Oct. 28 at the Sharon Center School to decide two other items concerning the current year's budget.

The 25 residents at the brief town meeting voted

unanimously to approve spending \$105,432 from the Capital Non-Recurring Account to fund Phase 2 of the Green Rehabilitation Project.

The second action, also approved unanimously by voters, cleared the way for spending \$410,402 to purchase two town trucks, using \$150,000 from the town's Equipment Account and the balance to come from the Undesignated Fund.

Both actions had received prior approval from the Board of Finance.

Thomas Henry 'Tom' Dean

MILLERTON — Thom-



as Henry "Tom" Dean, 85, a lifelong area resident died peacefully on Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022, at Sharon Hospital in Sharon, following a brief illness. Tom worked as a laborer and equipment operator for the Village of Millerton Highway Department for over 29 years prior to his retirement in 1991.

Born June 16, 1937, in Sharon, he was the son of the late Martin A. and Marjorie (Bussett) Dean. Tom attended school locally and married Violet "Vi" Macneil on July 1, 1961, in Sharon. Mrs. Dean died in 1989. Tom was a former member of the Millerton Gun Club; a longtime member of the Men's League at Washington Lanes and he enjoyed socializing with the members of the Millerton Fire Company. Seasonally he enjoyed deer hunting and fishing. He will be dearly missed by his loving family and many friends. Tom is survived by his daughter,

Vicki Horton of Lakeville, and his son John H. Dean

of Millerton. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews and many friends. In addition to his parents and his wife, he was also predeceased by four brothers, Marty Dean, Dave Dean, Dan Dean and Ernie Dean and his son-in-law John Horton.

Calling hours will be held on Friday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Scott D. Conklin Funeral Home, 37 Park Avenue, Millerton, NY 12546. A funeral service will take place at 12 p.m. at the funeral home. Pastor William Mayhew will officiate. Burial will take place at Irondale Cemetery in Millerton privately. Memorial contributions may be made to the Millerton Fire Company, P.O. Box 733, Millerton, NY 12546 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. To send an online condolence to the family, please visit www.conklinfuneralhome.com

Worship Services

Week of November 6, 2022

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

<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 10:00 a.m. www.salisburyucc.org Sharing God's shalom: Wholeness, harmony, justice, and joy! (860) 435-2442</p>	<p>Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon 9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Rev. Dr. Martha Tucker All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org</p>
<p>St. John's Episcopal Church 12 Main Street, Salisbury, CT Rev. Paul Christopherson SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 a.m. Eucharist with music (Rite II) In-Person and on YouTube www.stjohnssalisbury.org 860-435-9290</p>	<p>St. Thomas Episcopal Church 40 Leedsville Road Amenia Union, NY SUNDAY WORSHIP @ 10:30 IN-PERSON AND ONLINE Visit our website for links Rev. AJ Stack 845-373-9161 www.stthomasamenia.com A Community of Radical Hospitality</p>
<p>North Canaan Congregational Church, UCC Joyfully opening our hearts and doors to all God's people 172 Lower Rd/Rt. 44, East Canaan CT Worship services Sundays at 10 am www.facebook.com/northcanaancongregational 860-824-7232</p>	<p>Trinity Episcopal Church 484 Lime Rock Rd., Lime Rock In person services on Sundays 8:00 and 10:30 A.M. Livestream at 10:30 on www.trinitylimerock.org The Rev. Heidi Truax trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627</p>
<p>FISHES & LOAVES FOOD PANTRY, A MISSION OF OUR CHURCH is at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Ave., Canaan Tuesday 4-6 pm & Thursday 12-2 pm www.fishesandloavesnorthcanaan.org</p>	<p>Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT WE ARE NOW MEETING IN PERSON! Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons The next meeting will be Sunday, November 13 at 10:30 a.m. "The Puritan Roots of Evangelicalism" For information, contact Jo Loi at joialoi@gmail.com All are Welcome</p>
<p>The Lakeville United Methodist Church 519 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:30 a.m. Worship Service 9:30 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" Pastor Joy Veronesi 860-435-9496 Lakevillemethodist@snet.net</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 a.m., Immaculate Conception Church DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Wednesday 6pm St. Joseph Chapel or Church Thursday 8am Immaculate Conception Church Friday 8am Church of St. Mary ALL ARE WELCOME! For information, please call 860-824-7078</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>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>The Smithfield Presbyterian Church 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thsmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building</p>	<p>Sharon Congregational 25 Main Street, Sharon, CT Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. Visit our website sharoncongregationalchurch.org for current online Bible studies and Sunday services In-person Bible study will be held Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m., light supper included Contact us at 860-364-5002 or info@sharoncongregationalchurch.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 We hope you will join us!</p>	<p>SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA PARISH 860-927-3003 Rev. Robert Landback The Churches of Sacred Heart, Kent St. Bernard, Sharon St. Bridget, Cornwall Bridge MASS SCHEDULE SATURDAY VIGIL 4 PM - St. Bridget SUNDAY MASSES 8 AM - St. Bernard 10 AM - Sacred Heart WEEKDAY MASSES Monday & Friday 9 AM - Sacred Heart Tuesday 9 AM - St. Bernard</p>
<p>The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Join our intimate Episcopal service via Zoom Sundays at 9:00 a.m. 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.</p>	<p>All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M. Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 allsaintsofamerica.us</p>

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Our Towns

North Canaan's Douglas Library holds 200-year legacy of a bookish bachelor

By Kathryn Boughton

NORTH CANAAN—In the middle of summer, the Douglas Library Board of Directors held a cocktail party, quietly celebrating a significant milestone in the life of what is said to be Connecticut's fourth-oldest public library.

The library reached its 200th anniversary in 2021, but the celebration was delayed because of the continuing Covid pandemic. So, finally, in July 2022 the institution was belatedly feted as it moved steadily into its third century of service to the community.

The little library found its origin in a bookish bachelor, William Douglas, who spent his evenings reading beside the fireside in his "Lower City" home. Lower City was located on Route 7 where Geer Village is found today and, until 1858, was the site of the Town Hall, a number of coaching taverns, as well as numerous homes.

Douglas died in 1821, aged only 48. His short life was to have lasting impact on the town, however, as his will reflects the importance of books in his life and his interest in sharing them with the town.

Among the provisions made for his estate was that "one moiety" (one-half) of his library be given to his friend, John Faxon, and the other to Leman Church. He further ordered that his executor should buy for Seth Andrews "... as a small testimony of my respect and es-



Copyright 1905 by the Rotograph Co.
A 3298 Town Hall, Canaan, Conn.

COURTESY OF THE CANAAN HISTORY CENTER.

The 1858 North Canaan Town Hall, built after the towns of North Canaan and Canaan (Falls Village) separated. It was located behind the Doughboy on Granite Avenue. All the library's books were housed here, instead of breaking them up.

teem ... the works of Doctor Benjamin Franklin."

But his biggest bequest was reserved for the town itself. He set aside \$800 (the equivalent of \$20,251 today) to establish a library. He decreed that \$400 would be for the purchase of books and \$400 for an endowment to build a future collection. The

collection was to be housed in the old Town Hall, a building close to the Douglas home and one he knew well as his father, Benajah, was Town Clerk there for 29 years.

The 1823 regulations governing the institution stipulated that books could be loaned to people who paid 10 cents for membership. If two people wanted the same book, the right to "draw" the book went to the highest bidder. Douglas Library became a true public library only in 1895, when books were circulated for free.

Douglas's home, built in 1761, still exists—albeit much altered—beside the road leading into the Canaan Country Club, but the old Town Hall burned in 1915, some 57 years after it ceased its municipal function. The original town divided into North Canaan and Canaan (Falls Village) in 1858 and the division created problems in deciding what to do about the library.

In 1830, a lawyer's opinion stated that the library, which had been given to all in the town, could not be broken up. The books were moved to a town hall built for North Canaan, but it was not until 1890 that the town

was allowed to buy out Falls Village's interest.

Ironically, this transaction took place just as Douglas Library was to move to its first dedicated building. In that year, Mrs. Edmund Lawrence erected a small brick building on Railroad Street, next to today's Heavenly Spa and Nail Salon. The library was soon squeezed in this location and town father Samuel Eddy negotiated the purchase of the late Hattie Peet's home on Main Street.

The Peet building was purchased through subscriptions from some of Canaan's most influential citizens and was given to the town with provisions that the municipality maintain it.

It has remained in that location from 1927 until today, enjoying modest building expansions and improvements over the years. Today, the library serves as a hub for community life, including providing computer access, public programs, and story times for tots.

Passion for space rocks drives a lifetime pursuit

By Judith O'Hara Balfe

MILLBROOK — Ron Pastrano has for years been an independent investigator of meteors, meteorites and moon rocks. When a meteor would come crashing to earth, he was among the first to rush to the site, to get samples of the piece that has landed, to get photos and record the incident.

In his lifetime he collected an extensive array of these special rocks, cataloging them, photographing them, and presenting programs on them to audiences all around the country. His collection includes medals and certificates from NASA, and letters from dignitaries, one being from George H. W. Bush when he was vice president. Pastrano worked closely with NASA, although he was never on their payroll.

Today he champions the International Space Society and is trying to get a chapter started as New York State is one of the few states that does not have a chapter. The association has chapters in countries around the world. He thinks it's important now because NASA has downsized so much, and more exploration is needed than is currently being conducted by NASA and the government.

The exhibition of some of his samples and collection was presented on Thursday, Oct. 27, in the cafe at The Fountains in Millbrook.

Pastrano, 83, has led a fascinating life. Besides working closely with NASA, he was also a teacher and is an ordained minister. His degrees are in geology and history, and



PHOTO BY JUDITH O'HARA BALFE

Ron Pastrano with a space rock at a moon rock exhibit on Thursday, Oct. 27, at The Fountains in Millbrook, New York.

he also obtained a master's degree in counseling and sociology. Add to that a doctorate in science and theology, and you have a man of many talents, skills and aspirations.

In 1986 he was chosen by NASA to be an independent researcher, looking into moon rocks for almost 29 years. He left the field in 2014, when his wife became ill. During that time he shared his rocks and his findings with many people, including schools and private concerns as well as scientific institutions.

Although Pastrano says he has sold off most of his collection, there is still much to see and examine. Everything is carefully labeled, and what is significant is the age of some of the pieces of space rock. Many crashed to earth in the 1400s and 1500s, some later. One in particular is larger and heavier than most; it comes from Argentina, from an asteroid, and crashed in 1591, containing nickel and iron.

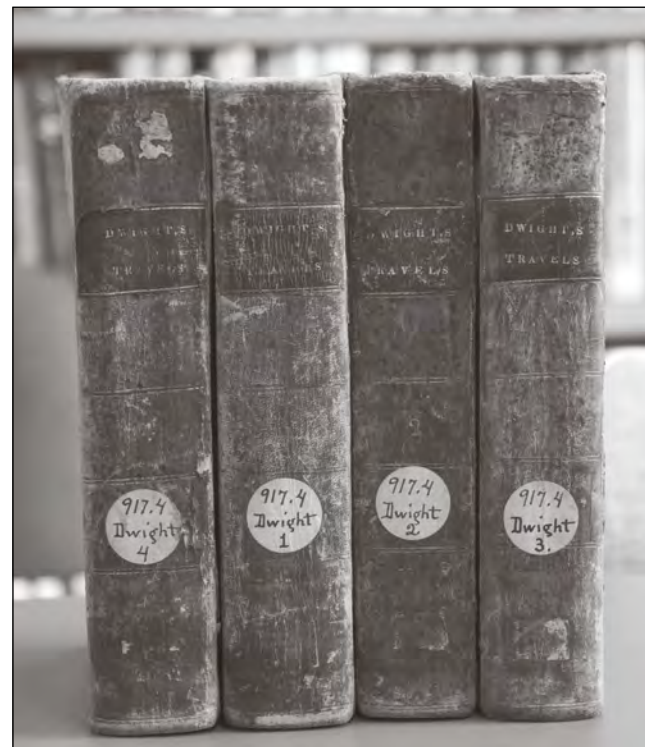


PHOTO BY KATHRYN BOUGHTON

The first four books purchased for Douglas Library in 1821, "Travels in New England and New York," by Timothy Dwight, president of Yale College. They are still in the library's collection, though not circulated.

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Our Towns

Railroad Street savors healthy food alternative

By Riley Klein

NORTH CANAAN — One of the latest examples of revitalization on Railroad Street in North Canaan comes in a tumbler with a straw.

Nutrition on Railroad, a business started in May of 2021 during the pandemic, has become a steady favorite.

It serves up smoothies, protein shakes, acai and oatmeal bowls — the kind of healthy meal alternatives that have become popular in major cities across the nation.

“We wanted to offer something that Canaan didn’t have before,” said owner and North Canaan native Cassidy Considine.

Nutrition on Railroad, located at 5 Railroad Street, first opened its doors after Considine moved back to North Canaan after stepping away from a teaching career.

Since then, area thirst-quenchers have been lining up for all-natural drinks and meals.

“I like that we finally have a healthy option in Canaan,” said one regular customer as she purchased lunch. “I was here for breakfast this morning too,” she added.

Iced teas flavored with

HVA’s benefit auction set for Nov. 20

CORNWALL BRIDGE — The Housatonic Valley Association’s (HVA) Auction for the Environment will take place on Sunday, Nov. 20 at South Farms in Morris.

Proceeds benefit HVA’s education, land conservation, and clean water projects to protect the natural character and environmental health of the Housatonic Valley.

HVA Board member Christine Baranski, an award winning actress and star in CBS’s *The Good Fight* and HBO’s *The Gilded Age*, is chairing the Benefit Auction Committee along with Rebecca Neary, Pat Kennedy Lahoud, Thomas Potter, Pam and Jack Baker, Philippa Durant, Margo Martindale, Diane Meier, Seth and Alexi Meyers, and Anne Swift and Lee Lord.

“With climate change a clear and present reality, it’s so important that we act now to protect this place we love for our children and grandchildren,” said Baranski. The auction includes vacation getaways, experiences with local luminaries, art, wine and culinary offerings, home good selections, and outdoor adventures.

HVA is dedicated to the 2,000 square-mile tristate Housatonic Watershed, protecting the natural character and environmental health of the valley from the Berkshires to Long Island Sound.

Seating is limited, and tickets can be purchased by visiting hvatoday.org or by calling 860-672-6678.

Norfolk Covid clinic Nov. 10

NORFOLK — A free COVID vaccination clinic will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Town Hall, 18 Maple Ave.

No appointment is needed for ages 6 months to 11 years and 12 years plus. Bring health insurance card and ID, but no one will be turned away without them.



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Nutrition on Railroad offers all-natural smoothies, protein shakes and acai bowls. Owner Cassidy Considine (left) opened the shop in May of 2021. A year later she partnered with Kelly Wolfe (right) to open KayCee & Co. Gift Boutique in the attached space in May of 2022.

all-natural sweeteners are the top selling drinks.

“I’m a diabetic so I like their sugar-free drinks,” said another customer as he sipped his Sweater Weather Iced Tea.

For food, the acai bowls are most popular, particularly the Peanut Butter and Jelly Bowl.

“We strive to be part of people’s daily routine,” said Considine. “For the winter we’ll be offering more hot drinks. And that includes coffee from a new roaster up the street.

Considine’s coffee beans are sourced from ILSE Coffee, which began roasting activities at 35 Railroad St. in August.

About a year after Nutrition on Railroad opened, KayCee & Co. Gift Boutique

opened in the attached indoor space.

“The idea behind the boutique was to create a place in Canaan where people could buy gifts and browse while they wait for their order,” said boutique co-owner Kelly Wolfe.

The boutique carries products from local artisans and custom gift baskets are created by Wolfe.

Both shops are open Tuesday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (closed Mondays).

Online ordering is available for grab-and-go customers. The link to order online (nutrition-on-railroad.square.site) can be found in the bio of their Facebook and Instagram @nutritiononrailroad.

Bear-feeding off the table after North Canaan vote

By Leila Hawken

NORTH CANAAN — During a brief town meeting on Monday, Oct. 24, residents voted to adopt a new ordinance prohibiting the attracting and feeding of black bears. All but one of the residents at the meeting voted to enact.

Brian Allyn was elected to serve as moderator for the town meeting.

The ordinance seeks to discourage intentional placing of food that would entice, attract and then habituate bears to a property, seen by town officials as endangering the safety of residents. The ordinance also extends to cover unsecured storage of pet food, birdseed, garbage or any other items that might entice bears to visit a property.

Enforcement includes a fine of up to \$250 for the first offense, after a warning, with fines increasing by \$100 for each subsequent offense.

While the fines will be administered by the Board of Selectmen, enforcement will be the responsibility of the

local Animal Control Officer, the resident state trooper, or state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection personnel.

“I’m glad to see the ordinance,” said Tim Abbott, conservationist and chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission, the only resident to offer comment during

the hearing. He added that he had hoped that the ordinance would include more because as it was written, it did not cover unsecured trash or bird feeders left out through the night. He said he thought that the town should explore broadening the ordinance to include bird feeder management and unsecured trash.

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Salisbury Republican Town Committee

Vote “No” on the Ballot Issue re “Early Voting”

The November 8th ballot includes a proposed Constitutional Amendment that would give the State legislature a blank check to enact early voting requirements of any kind and for any duration, and to impose those requirements – with their attendant expense – on every town in the State.

The State Constitution has long prohibited early voting, and this same proposal was decisively rejected by voters in 2014. But the proposal is once again being pushed forward by Democrats in Hartford under the guise of voter rights and increased voter participation.

As Republican Secretary of State candidate Dominic Rapini has pointed out, this proposal “is a solution looking for a problem.” Connecticut already has one of the highest voter participation rates in the country. And voting prior to the election is always possible by means of an absentee ballot.

Early voting is simply not right for Connecticut. While most early voting states have full-time election officials, Connecticut has mostly part-time Registrars. Early voting would bring chaos to our town Registrars, requiring them to take away time devoted to their employment and leaving the towns scrambling to find funds to pay for overtime and/or replacement personnel.

Vote “No” on this unneeded and extremely disruptive proposal.

Paid for by the Salisbury Republican Town Committee

Sports

Yellowjackets sting Raiders in 42-22 victory

By Riley Klein

TORRINGTON — The Gilbert/Northwestern/Housatonic Yellowjackets faced the Torrington Raiders at Robert Frost Sports Complex in Torrington on Friday night, Oct. 28.

Game attendance was estimated at approximately 1,000 as the two teams took to the field on a brisk, clear night.

Despite their efforts, the young Torrington team could not stop the relentless onslaught of the GNH offense.

The Yellowjacket back-

field put on a clinic, rushing for six unanswered touchdowns in the first half. Fred Calder-Camp led the pack with two touchdowns and 159 total yards for GNH. Greyson Ursone contributed another two touchdowns, including a dazzling 94-yard run to the endzone.

Aiden Avenia ran it in twice as well and closed out the first half with the final touchdown of the night for the Yellowjackets. All six GNH scores were complete with successful extra points from kicker Daryl Sharack.

After a scoreless 3rd quarter, and with the Yellow-

jackets using some of their bench players, Torrington found the end zone three times in the 4th quarter to bring the final score to 42-22.

The win was the third consecutive victory for GNH. The Yellowjackets improved to 5-2 on the season as the Raiders fell to 1-6.

With just two regular season games remaining, every win counts as the Yellowjackets vie for a playoff spot.

Gilbert/Northwestern/Housatonic will host Derby (0-7) on Saturday, Nov. 5 at 1 p.m. at Gilbert School in Winsted.



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Salisbury's Teddy Williams turned the corner against visiting Phillips Exeter Saturday, Oct. 29 at Salisbury. Phillips Exeter won the game 35-15.

Phillips Exeter dominates Salisbury School 35-15

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The Salisbury Crimson Knights lost to the visiting Phillips Exeter Lions 35-15 Saturday afternoon, Oct. 29. Phillips Exeter improved to 6-0 in Northeast Prep Conference play, while Salisbury dropped to 2-5.

The tone was set early,

when Lions running back Xaviah Bascon scored the first of his five touchdowns at 9:05 in the first quarter.

Salisbury quarterback Brady O'Sullivan was hampered by well-timed blitzes from the Lions.

The Salisbury defense managed a safety in the first quarter, when the Lions were pinned down at

their own half-yard mark.

And with an interception by Ben Eeve that was returned for a touchdown (extra point failed), the score was just 14-8 at the half.

But the Knights had no answer for the speedy and evasive Bascon, who visited the end zone four more times in the second half.

Salisbury receiver Teddy Williams had a solid game, including a lengthy punt return.

It was Senior Day for the Knights, who honored 14 players in the Class of 2023.



PHOTO BY SAVAGE FRIEZE

Gilbert/Northwestern/Housatonic's Steven Santiago in action against Torrington Friday, Oct. 28. The GNH Yellowjackets totaled 391 all-purpose yards in front of an estimated 1,000 spectators at Robert Frost Sports Complex in Torrington.

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Photo by Dupont for the 64th, Dustin Bingham, Treasurer. Approved by Chris Dupont.

CHRIS DUPONT
FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE
NOV. 8 ★ VOTE ROW B

The Public Hearing to determine whether Nuvance can close maternity at Sharon Hospital has been rescheduled for December 6th. We will share the schedule details once they are available. In the meantime, you can still email your written testimony to ohs@ct.gov.

Thank you to U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, who has already submitted his testimony to the CT Office of Health Strategy! Here is an excerpt:



US Senator Richard Blumenthal speaking at the October 16, 2022 Save Sharon Hospital rally

"I strongly urge the Office of Health Strategy to reject the application of Vassar Health Connecticut/Nuvance Health to termination of certificate of need for labor and delivery services at Sharon Hospital. The health interests of the people in northwestern Connecticut require the provision of a comprehensive suite of health care services at Sharon Hospital including, critically, labor and delivery.

Certificate of Need (CON) are not just about dollars and cents. Ending a CON service cannot be justified solely because the holder cannot make a profit on a discreet health service. It cannot be ended because the holder finds it difficult to fill certain health care professional positions.

Rather, the key word [in] CON is need. And in this instance, it is clear that Sharon Hospital's labor and delivery services are critical to ensuring people in the region have [a] safe, readily accessible place for their maternity health needs. ...

Yet, here we are today – again fighting [for] the rights of the people of Northwestern Connecticut for comprehensive, quality health care at Sharon Hospital. ...

OHS must stop these health care moves that are based on economic interests rather than health care needs.

OHS must reject the proposed termination of Sharon Hospital's CON for labor and delivery needs."

SAVE SHARON HOSPITAL
Learn more at www.savesharonhospital.org

HOUSING

Continued from Page A1

The family's search for a country home when Daniel was a youngster, naturally brought Charles back to Cornwall, Brackman said.

"When I came and experienced the natural beauty, along with the casual, warm, intergenerational spirit of the place, I was quickly convinced. I'd never before encountered a community quite like it," she said. "I fell in love with it and knew I wanted my son to grow up in this remarkable place."

When her son went to college, Brackman returned to graduate school and earned a degree in social work to become a therapist and in 2019 attained an LMSW (licensed in New York and Connecticut). She went on to certification as a life coach.

"When I became aware that the town had an Affordable Housing Committee and was developing a plan for addressing this issue that included the designation of a Housing Advocate, I thought that this might be a way I

could be of service," Brackman said.

During her social work studies in the city, Brackman worked with people experiencing housing insecurity. She said that it was gratifying to be in a position to help them navigate the challenges, obtain assistance and to be of emotional and logistical support, just some of the skills she will use locally as a housing advocate.

Brackman anticipates working closely with Heather Dinneen, the town's social services director. She praised Dinneen for her tireless and imaginative work helping residents deal with immediate housing, food and fuel emergencies.

"She has her hands full and can use back-up in addressing the longer-range issues of the broader and longer-term housing needs of the town — helping families develop strategies to get on a stronger economic footing and working with the Cornwall Housing Corporation

and other agencies toward creating more affordable housing options," Brackman said.

Currently, Brackman is exploring those options and how they might assist Cornwall, including the local parcel program administered through the Cornwall Housing Corporation (CHC) where land is leased to a homeowner with the CHC paying for driveway and well water installation costs, thereby reducing the cost to a homeowner who would need to be responsible for building the home.

Brackman encourages anyone seeking help with housing to contact her. She also wants to hear from homeowners who might be interested in exploring ideas for affordable rentals in their homes or on their property. Donations to help address immediate needs or long-term solutions are also welcome. Brackman can be reached at: housing@cornwallct.gov.



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Trick or treat

Left, Alex Collins of Salisbury Bank provided the first candy stop as the initial wave of trick or treaters made their way from the bank parking lot to the residential streets of Lakeville. Below, Ella Rydingsword waited in a coffin at the Grove for unwary Halloween celebrants to scare.



On Corvairs and coyotes

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — Videographer Eric Veden continues his chronicle of Falls Village with the 27th episode (available at the David M. Hunt Library).

The new video starts with Steve Dutton and his collection of Corvairs.

The Corvair was the vehicle that everyone remembered from Ralph Nader's 1965 book "Unsafe at Any Speed," Dutton notes while waving an autographed copy of the book.

"It wasn't just the Corvair, but all cars of that era" that were unsafe, Dutton says.

He credits Nader for bringing auto safety to the forefront.

Dutton said cars of the 1960s were not safe by the standards of modern cars, with their shoulder belts, airbags, and advanced braking systems.

"It all started with Nader." Next up is artist Clifton

Jaeger, who discusses how he came to buy the old St. Patrick's church on Beebe Hill Road for use as a studio.

In 2003, the Roman Catholic Church was embroiled in a massive sex abuse scandal, and the church was selling off real estate in order to buy insurance against future problems, Jaeger says.

So buying the property required a certain amount of tact — and signing a nondisclosure agreement.

The space was perfect for Jaeger's work creating large murals.

Master wildlife conservationist Ginny Apple follows with a Hunt Library Zoom talk on coyotes. She notes that the animals are intelligent and exceptionally adaptable, ready to move on from any habitat if it doesn't have enough food and shelter.

"If it's not working where they are, they move on."

Rika Laser, working with a group at the library, demonstrates how to make an ac-

cordion book, in a session marked by lots of lively chatter and laughter.

Apple makes a second appearance, talking about Connecticut's changing landscape. She includes information about how Native Americans used a crop rotation system and thinned out forests to improve the growth of berry-bearing plants some 500 years before the first Europeans arrived.

Laser also makes a second appearance, this time supervising the painting of the crosswalk at Beebe Hill Road and Main Street.

And the video concludes with Mickey Palmer reminiscing about life as a child in Falls Village in a very different era. Palmer recalls cutting firewood to heat the family home in winter, carrying water because the family did not have running water, and milking cows — sometimes by hand, of the power was out.

Veden's videos are also available on YouTube.

Spongy Moth

Continued from Page A1

erally regrow their leaves once, although they become more susceptible to drought and disease. But the double punch is often fatal.

Jeffrey Ward, who recently retired from CAES, has been following a forest stand on Sharon Mountain where the oaks were defoliated in 2021 and 2022. He noted that 70% of them had recovered less than a quarter of their foliage by late summer.

"From experience and the literature," said Ward, "this indicates that approximately 70% of oaks in those areas will be dead within a couple of years."

The culprits of spongy moth defoliation are the caterpillars, which hatch in the spring as tiny, quarter-inch crawlers and climb to the canopy to start feeding on leaves. Over the spring and early summer, they will molt through four or five stages (instars), finally reaching about two to three inches in length.

It's the voracious appetite of the later instars that we typically notice, both because of the leafless trees above and the obnoxious frass or droppings below.

In late June or early July, the caterpillars will stop feeding and pupate, emerging either as a dark male moth or the flightless white female moth that lays her eggs in tight clusters, by preference on the trunks of oaks, and cover them with a tan-colored felt made from her own hairs. Where infestations are heavy, egg masses can also be found on the trunks of beech

and white birch, and even on the sides of houses and in the wheel wells of cars.

Each year, the CAES performs a winter survey of spongy moth egg masses across Connecticut, and when the counts are alarmingly high, as they were last spring in western Litchfield County, the state entomologist, Victoria Smith, will put out a bulletin.

The main check against spongy moth infestation is an introduced fungus, Entomophaga maimagia, now endemic in the Northeast. When spring rains are abundant, the fungus becomes activated and invades the bodies of late-instar spongy moth caterpillars, killing them. These can be seen hanging motionless on the trunks of trees, a grisly but welcome sight that signals the end of an infestation.

Some caterpillars manage to pupate despite the fungus, develop into moths, and lay their eggs for next spring's crop.

To get a rough sense of the spongy moth presence in your area, locate ten or twelve large oaks and examine the trunks attentively for the tan, felt-like patches of the spongy moth egg masses. If you see none or only one

or two on each tree, chances are you will escape a heavy infestation next year.

The CAES ranks anything less than 200 egg masses per acre as a light infestation. If you see four or five egg masses on many trees or, as sometimes happens, clusters of twenty or more, you might think of taking action.

A licensed arborist will have a variety of options for treating a backyard tree or woodlot for spongy moth, and the programs will range from benign to aggressive. The CAES website has a thorough and well-illustrated section on the pest.

If you decide to take matters into your own hands, you can either spray the egg masses with an agricultural oil or insecticidal soap, soaking them completely, or you can scrape them into a container and dispose of them (scraping the eggs onto the ground doesn't work).

Will it protect your trees? Well, the first-instar caterpillars trail a fine filament behind them as they climb and use it to balloon in the wind, traveling up to 150 yards.

But each egg mass can contain up to 1,000 eggs. And they do make a satisfying crackle when tossed into the fire.

"From experience and the literature this indicates that approximately 70% of oaks in [areas on Sharon Mountain] will be dead within a couple of years."

Jeffrey Ward, recently retired from CAES

★★★

In honor of our veterans:

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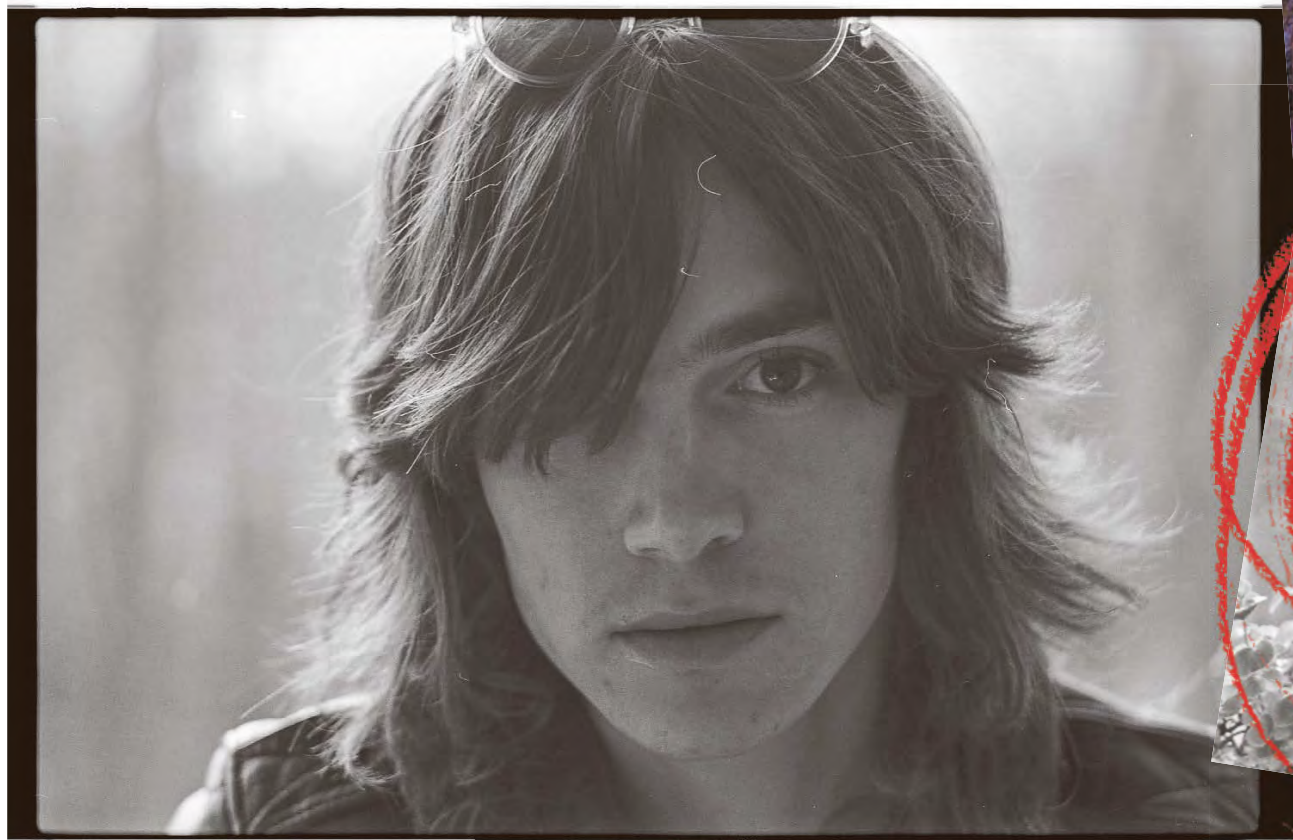
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Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

ART: ALEXANDER WILBURN



The last pictures by Dorian Gray

Duncan Hannah was cool his whole life, which is pretty impressive considering most people aren't even cool for a year. He also stayed cool while living in Connecticut, which is a bit like breathing on the moon.

I first met Hannah on a snowy morning in 2018, during a bitterly long New England winter that would last through May. I was at his home in West Cornwall, a short walk from the covered bridge, to interview him on the release of "20th Century Boy," a published collection of the personal diaries he kept from 1970 through 1981.

In old photos next to Debbie Harry and Andy Warhol, Hannah appears as the portrait of effortless youth; smooth chest, bedroom eyes, a cigarette dangling from his lip. When not painting, he lived it up among the luminaries of New York's grimmest decade, bumping shoulders in the dirty downtown bathrooms of Max's Kansas City,

CBGB, The Mudd Club. "A great cross-section of lunatics and rock stars," Hannah told me.

At 65, layered in a pink button-down, olive sweater vest, and corduroy suit, he had settled into the out-of-time style of the old prep establishment, just the kind he had bucked against. There was a playful wit to this later life style (perfectly captured in a 2019 Esquire Magazine spread) a puckish nod to an Anglo-mania academia dress code that doesn't exist anymore — at least of all in today's prep school teachers.

We sat in striped club chairs against walls lined with hardbacks, Saki and The Secret History, Tom Wolff and Tom Swift.

Hannah showed me a fan letter he had received from a girl at Phillips Exeter Academy. She had read his diary excerpts printed in The Paris Re-



PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WILBURN

'Joan' (2020) by Duncan Hannah

view that autumn.

The entries start in 1970 when 17-year-old Hannah was a real life angel-faced Holden Caulfield, flung out of his private boys' academy and into the hallways of a Minnesota public school. He grows out his hair and distributes

his own dirty 'zine, records all he takes in: the concerts, the albums, the film — The Stooges, David Bowie, "Chloe in The Afternoon." He gets into Bard and discovers de Kooning, gets hit on by Allen Ginsberg, loses 20 pounds and fakes a lurid gay life to dodge the draft, struggles with his art professor's criticism, meets many girls, and has sex the way no one born after the mid-80s has sex anymore, which is to say, thoughtfully. "We get horizontal, a nudging cunnilingus, she tastes like the sea," he wrote in 1973.

"I was thinking, it's so funny," Hannah told me as we talked about the fan/love letter, "she knows better, but she thinks she's writing to the 20-year-old kid."

What's so obvious to me now is exactly why the girl at Exeter was swept away by the diaries, that voyeuristic view into the inner life of the ghost of a boy long gone. No 21st Century boy could write the way Hannah did, because no one has a private life anymore. Our diaries exist online, soullessly and self-consciously

curated, eager to be discovered by an audience as we posture and pretend. If you don't take photo of yourself reading Keats, did it happen? But in sharing so much, we have lost the personal connection to ourselves. The dangerous thrill the girl experienced was reading secret, literary, lively written by a boy her age, lustfully connected his life, to himself, to his inner world of screw-ups, eroticism, beat poetry, and artistic discovery, none of it ever meant to be shared.

"Duncan Hannah finds himself in the very modern predicament of painting pictures that seem infuriatingly attractive. He has been called "the Barry Manilow of the New Wave" and the prophet of "the Age of Valium," Glenn O'Brien wrote in the Summer 1984 issue of ArtForum. "He makes beautiful paintings that, like beautiful boys and girls, look like they should be popular. If he's the prophet of anything it's that living and painting well is revenge enough."

His titillating oil paintings were as sincere as his diaries, Hopper

minus event a hint of loneliness, a subdued pastel playground of coy pleasure, gamine elegance, and an endless array of perfect breasts — the dreamworld of a dreamboat.

Hannah died this year of a heart attack at 69. When I heard, I opened my copy of "20th Century Boy" and found a piece of hotel stationery he had slipped in, telling me to go read Tim Dlugos.

Dlugos was an openly gay young poet in the 1970s New York scene who continued to write as he died of AIDS complications at the end of the 1980s. In his most famous work "G-9," named after his hospital room, Dlugos writes, "Duncan Hannah visits, and we talk of out-of-body experiences. His was amazing." He recalls Duncan's drunk nightmare in his dormitory at Bard, waking to find an imagined naked boy sleeping on the floor. "He struggled out of bed, walked over to the youth, and touched his shoulder. The boy turned; it was Duncan himself."

"Collected Works by the Late Duncan Hannah" is now on view at The Cornwall Library in Cornwall, Conn., through Nov. 27.

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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR



PHOTO COURTESY OF NEON

Triangle of Sadness

In his 2014 dark satire “Force Majeure” the gleefully cynical observer of modernity Ruben Östlund showed us you never know who you are — or who you’re married to — until disaster strikes. A little snow was all the Swedish direc-

tor needed to unravel the relationship of two business-class yuppies on holiday with their children in the French Alps. In “Triangle of Sadness” (an early punchline title too good to spoil), he has a fuller cast of characters on board his

luxury superyacht, and therefore more disaster must be conjured to stir up his raging tempest in a teacup. The winner of the Palme d’Or at Cannes this year, the film stars Harris Dickinson and the late Charlbi Dean as two runway models and

social media influencers who straddle economic worlds in their of-the-moment social class. They are beautiful people invited to beautiful places, cogs in the machine of digital marketing, their posh trappings disguising their low wages and working class hustle. Dickinson’s hapless male model is a laugh-out-loud skewering of a man negotiating his own masculinity, well-versed in the theoretical gender debates of our time but completely unable to understand the actual women around him.

“Triangle of Sadness” begins at the The Moviehouse in Millerton, N.Y. on Nov. 4.

Uncaged

Objet trouve or “found object” is the exaltation of the everyday, the unremarkable item pulled from the scrapyard and turned into art — think of Marcel Duchamp’s porcelain urinal fountain or his bicycle wheel mounted upside down on a stool. Found sound we’re probably more familiar with thanks to the work of Foley artists, a whole division of sound producers who use all sorts of objects to create the audio effects we hear on television, from footsteps to crunching leaves to laserbeams. In post World War II America, avant-garde John Cage took the noise of ordinary objects to create symphonic compositions no one else could have heard. His “Imaginary Landscape” series included parts for tin cans, electric buzzers, frequency recordings, and radios. In 1960 he performed “Water Walk” on the game show “I’ve Got A Secret” using — among found songs — a



PHOTO BY NANA WATANABE

Tan Dun

bathtub, rubber duckies, a blender, and a watering can. His work “4’33” contains no purposeful sound at all, but as Cage said, “There’s no such thing as silence.” Cage’s lifelong romantic partner was the influential American dancer and choreographer Merce Cunningham, whose own exploration beyond tradition labeled him “the father of contemporary dance.” The Bard Conservatory of Music will present a concert in honor of John Cage, with orchestral direc-

tion by Chinese-born American composer Tan Dun. In 2001 Dun won the Academy Award for Best Score for his work on Ang Lee’s martial arts romantic epic, “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.” The score featured several cello solos played by Yo-Yo Ma, a frequent collaborator of Dun’s.

“Uncaged” will be performed at Fisher Center’s Sosnoff Theater at Bard College in Annandale-On-Hudson, N.Y., on Nov. 4 at 8 p.m. as well as streamed live at www.fishercenter.bard.edu



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Soccer Mommy

Decades after Janis Ian “learned the truth at seventeen,” sad girl music has become a genre-spanning library on Spotify. Log on to find “sad girl workout,” “sad girl country,” and of course, ‘tis the season, “sad girl autumn,” indie anthems for when twilight falls early over the dead leaves and the season depression wraps you up in your unwashed duvet. These playlists, often accompanied by images of sweater ‘n’ schoolgirl uniform-clad Rory of “Gilmore Girls” or Irish heartthrob Paul Mescal in the S.A.D. (seasonal affective disorder) inducing “Normal People,” are where Soccer Mommy lives.

“I’m so tired of faking, ‘cause I’m chained to my bed when they’re gone, watching TV alone ‘til my body starts aching,” sings 25-year-old Sophie Allison on her 2020 breakout track “circle the drain.” A former NYU student, Allison was raised in Nashville, Tenn., the music mecca most Southern up-and-comers dream of moving to and being discovered. Instead, she found her start in Yankee territory, playing gigs in Brooklyn’s up-and-coming (but now probably “arrived”) Bushwick neighborhood.

Soccer Mommy will be performed at MASS MoCA’s Hunter Center in North Adams, Mass., on Nov. 5 at 8 p.m.

Verdi’s La Traviata

Class, courtesans, and consumption... These were the topics 23-year-old Alexandre Dumas dove into with his semi-autobiographical novel recounting his affair with his Parisian mistress, the convivial and highly-courted lady of the salon, Marie Duplessis. Grieving her death by tuberculosis in 1847, Dumas, the illegitimate son of the famed “Three Musketeers” author of the same name, penned “La Dame aux Camélias,” or The Lady of the



Marie Duplessis by Édouard Viénot

Camellias — a title that still feels illicit in its implication. The color of the camellias worn by the fictional courtesan Marguerite (French for daisy) indicated her availability to high-profile clients and noblemen based on her menstrual cycle. Dumas’s work, including a

later play that coined the descriptive term demi-monde or “half-world” to describe the social scene of luxurious hedonism occupied by kept women and their paramours, was part of a wider literary interest in the subject during France’s Belle Époque. Within that golden period of peace Honoré de Balzac and Émile Zola would also write about the seductive but socially frowned-upon world of prostitution. The sub-genre was perhaps blithely perfected by a woman — no surprise — with Collette’s 20th-century novels “Gigi” and “Chéri.” In Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi’s adaptation of Dumas’ story “La Traviata” (the fallen woman), the famed courtesan Violetta (a new flower) is wooed by an idealistic, and thoroughly smitten, young bourgeois. With any third act must come that blood stained handkerchief however, as disease and societal disapproval plague the happy union, ultimately tearing the two teary-eyed lovers apart.

“La Traviata” will be broadcast as part of The Met Opera Live in HD on Nov. 5 at both Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center in Great Barrington, Mass., and The Moviehouse in Millerton, N.Y.



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Our Towns



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN

Runners set off from the starting line of the Pumpkin Run in Kent. The 5-mile course led runners around the Kent Green on the afternoon of Sunday, Oct. 30.

Big turnout for Kent's 46th Pumpkin Run

By Riley Klein

KENT — Kent's largest one-day community event, the Pumpkin Run, drew hundreds of competitors to Kent Green on a clear autumn afternoon, Sunday, Oct. 30. It was the 46th year of the event.

Over 300 competed in the 5-mile race through the village. Many racers were also competing in the concurrent costume contest, creating a festive scene as runners toured the town.

"We love to see such a great turn out," said race director Dave Dunleavy.

The runners took to the starting line at noon and as the cannon shattered, they were off.

The race led runners

north along Route 7, east on Cobble Lane, south on Cobble Road, and west on Route 341 before rejoining Route 7 and heading back to the Green.

Chris Angelo was the first to cross the finish line 26 minutes and 17 seconds later. Angelo, who was dressed as a runner, averaged a 5:16 per mile pace.

As for the costume contest, Lee Sohl, dressed as a clown, won first overall for the second year in a row.

"Last year I went as a lion tamer and my dog was dressed as a lion," said Sohl. "This year it's a different dog but we still won. I guess they liked the makeup."

The event was also a food drive for the Kent Food Bank. Monetary donations

and non-perishable items were collected as the food bank prepares for winter.



Lee Sohl, winner of the costume contest, poses with her dog after completing the 5-mile Pumpkin Run.

Recalling short history of Salisbury High School

By Matthew Kreta

SALISBURY — Did you know that Salisbury had a high school?

It did, from 1929 to 1939.

The first documented mention of public schooling for the town of Salisbury was in 1743, when a schoolmaster was hired for one year.

Unlike today, when Salisbury Central School (SCS) has two separate buildings, in 1743 there was no designated school building, and class was held in both public spaces as well as private residences.

It was not until December of 1743 that the town voted to begin construction on "a log house for the use of the school in this town, near the house of Cornelius Dutcher, in Weataug, 18 feet square and seven feet from floor to floor."

As the 1700s continued, the town population doubled from about 1,000 to 2,000. The median age was only 16.

By 1820, the region had 14 school districts and a student population of 869.

In 1928, Edith Scoville deeded land to the town for the construction of a school. The next year, the Salisbury High School was finished and opened for grades 7-12. This building is now the lower building of SCS. Elementary school students were still educated in district schools across the region, including Lakeville, Ore Hill, Taconic, Amesville, Lime Rock and Grove.

From the 1930s to the 1950s, these schools closed one at a time, ending with Grove in 1951.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Class of 1939 was the last at Salisbury High School. Housatonic Valley Regional High School opened its doors later that year. The Salisbury High School building is now the middle school at Salisbury Central School.

Front row; from left: Florence Tompkins, Dorothy Mills, Yvette Mojon, Katherine Hayde, Florence McK-one. Second row, from left: Evelyn Doty, Avis Barton, Margaret Parkins, Rena Marcon, Gertrude Sylvernale, Laura Bartle. Third row, from left: Margarite Fowlkes, Jack Linehan, Robert Sylvernale, Frank MacArthur, Piene Harsen, Dot Curtis. Fourth row, from left: Robert Pente, Edward Jenks, James Sweeney, John Hahne, Richard Gotliebsen, William Parsons.

Housatonic Valley Regional High School opened in 1939, and students from the former Salisbury High School attended class there. An addition to the old high school was proposed, to make room for the stranded elementary school students. The upper building, which today houses elementary grades and administrative offices, was completed in November 1953. The new elementary and middle school complex was named Salisbury Central School.

The upper building was designed by architect Elliot Noyes. Noyes' personal love of simplicity in form

is reflected in the building's design. He said: "I'm going to use huge sheets of glass, as large as can physically be manufactured."

The school won architecture awards every year for nearly a decade after its completion. In 1965, Noyes was hired again due to a need for more space to add four classrooms, a library, specialist's offices and a small conference room and storage space.

In 1990, a town referendum vote approved the addition of two additional classrooms, a large music room, an art space and a new gymnasium and the first computer lab in Region One.



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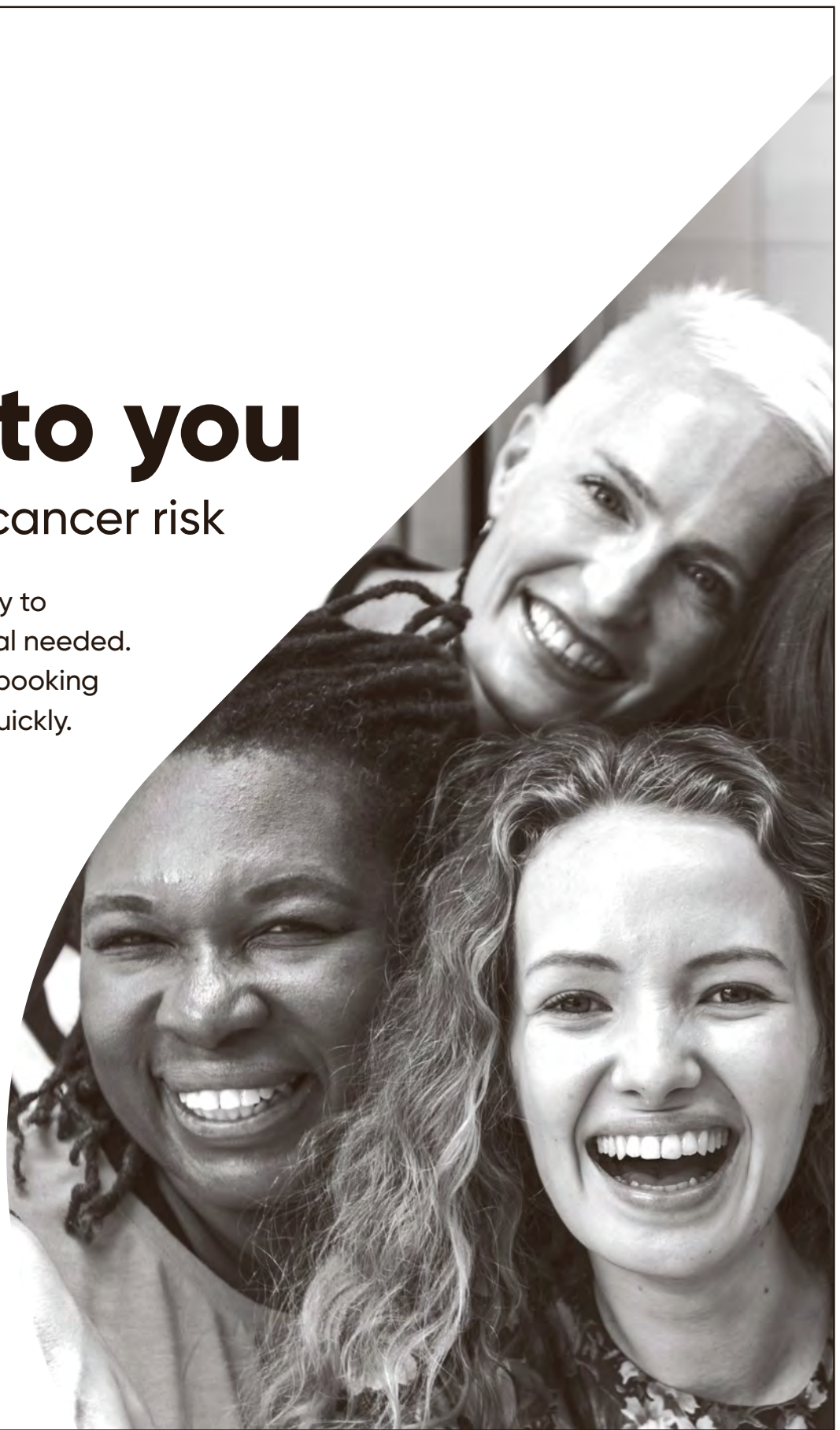
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5TH DISTRICT

Continued from Page A1

control of Congress. Republicans have been out of power in the U.S. House since 2019.

With the initial lack of public polling, the deluge of money and the big-name politicians flocking to the area were a big indicator that Republicans felt like they had a promising shot, and Democrats were taking the challenge seriously.

But a poll from WTNH/The Hill/Emerson College solidified what election forecasters have been predicting about the race: It is a toss up. The survey found Logan edging out Hayes by 1 percentage point — within the margin of error — and 4% of likely voters remaining undecided.

Recent historical trends in the district have favored Democrats. Hayes won the seat twice by double-digit margins in 2018 and 2020, and President Joe Biden had a similar victory there. But during the same year when Hayes was first elected, Republican gubernatorial nominee Bob Stefanowski carried the 5th in his 2018 campaign.

Some analysts also point out that Democrats benefited from a wave election in 2018 and likely from anti-Trump sentiment in 2020.

“All of this, plus the fact that the district had a long history of being represented by Republicans, would suggest the district could be ripe for the picking, under certain circumstances,” said Aaron Weinstein, a political science professor at Fairfield University.

The 5th District has not seen this level of investment from outside groups in at least a decade, when Hayes’ Democratic predecessor, Elizabeth Esty, first ran in 2012. With just days to go until the Nov. 8 race, national outside groups have spent \$8.3 million, according to California Target Book, with Democrats holding an advantage in both party and candidate spending.

“Outside group activity is off the charts — not just here but in federal contests,” said Erika Franklin Fowler, a government professor at Wesleyan University who also serves as co-director of the federal campaign ad tracker Wesleyan Media Project. “I don’t remember the last time, if ever, that the Hartford media market made the top list of media markets.”

Building on her record
A former history teacher at Waterbury High School, Hayes, 49, garnered national attention when she was named the 2016 National Teacher of the Year. She catapulted into the political arena two years later with a surprising primary victory over Mary Glassman, a more well-known Democrat, in 2018. Hayes went on to become the first Black woman

“All of this, plus the fact that the district had a long history of being represented by Republicans, would suggest the district could be ripe for the picking, under certain circumstances.”

Aaron Weinstein, political science professor at Fairfield University

to represent Connecticut in Congress.

Hayes said that much of her work is personal. As a mother at 17, she said she benefited from many of the same programs — including the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) — she now works on to support lower income families.

The standalone legislation that Hayes has introduced over her two terms hews toward education, veterans and hunger. During the baby formula shortage, her bill to expand access for WIC benefit recipients overwhelmingly passed Congress with bipartisan support.

Logan has knocked Hayes and Democrats for “excessive spending” that Republicans argue has contributed to inflation, but she remains

“Outside group activity is off the charts — not just here but in federal contests. I don’t remember the last time, if ever, that the Hartford media market made the top list of media markets.”

Erika Franklin Fowler, co-director of the federal campaign ad tracker Wesleyan Media Project

steadfast in her support for large Democrat-led bills like the federal pandemic relief package known as the American Rescue Plan and the Inflation Reduction Act, which, among other things, capped the price of insulin at \$35 per month and allowed Medicare to negotiate prescription drug costs.

“We passed the American Rescue Plan that really stabilized families even if it was in the short term,” Hayes said in an interview, noting that no Republicans voted for the bill.

‘A voice for moderate and conservative voters’

Logan, 53, is new to national politics but no stranger to competitive districts. He knocked off a 24-year Democratic incumbent state senator in 2016 and squeaked by in his reelection race after a recount. But he narrowly lost in 2020 and went back into the private sector as a government affairs official for Aquarion, a water company owned by Eversource.

He first came to a state Senate in an 18-18 tie, and he was the only Black Republican during his time in office. Hayes claimed at a recent debate that he wanted to shy away from talking

about his thin record, but Logan pushed back that he is proud of his time in the state legislature. He pointed to his work on a bill requiring health insurers to cover prosthetic devices as well as a bonding cap to limit how much the state borrows in a past budget.

Logan’s family, which has roots in Jamaica, immigrated from Guatemala to Connecticut. He highlighted his fluency in Spanish in his campaign’s second TV ad featuring his mother as he ticked through the rising prices of food.

If elected, Logan would be the first Republican to win a U.S. House in Connecticut seat since 2006.

“We’re going to finally have a voice — moderate voters and conservative voters in Connecticut,” Logan said at a fundraiser in Middlebury in August.

Logan said he would consider the environment in any legislation that comes before him but would have opposed the Inflation Reduction Act since the climate change provisions could not be separated from the health care and tax policy measures. He said weaning the country off of fossil fuels is a “good goal,” but he wants the U.S. to first reach energy independence.

The ‘contrasts’ on policy

The economy remains the biggest concern for voters in the 5th District, in Connecticut and around the country. The WTNH poll found that 46% of likely voters in the district see economic issues — jobs, inflation and taxes — at the top of their list, followed by abortion access at 16% and threats to democracy at 14%.

And in recent weeks, Hayes and Logan’s differences on abortion have come into sharper focus. The issue was front and center over the summer when the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade.

The two disagree on national legislation to ensure abortion is protected. Hayes, who believes the decision should be between a patient and a doctor, has previously voted for a bill that would codify abortion access into federal law.

Logan would not vote for such legislation, arguing that the issue should be left to the states and pledging to uphold Connecticut’s law protecting abortion rights. He supports parental notifications for

minors seeking abortions but would not support any national bans like the one proposed by Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.

Other national issues arising in the 5th District include differences on education: who should be informing curriculum and how topics like racism should be addressed in those lessons.

While teaching high school, Hayes said she never encountered critical race theory. She argued that “we are doing our children a disservice if we are not teaching them their history.”

Logan, meanwhile, wants K-12 schools to focus on math, reading comprehension and science but said history and social issues should be part of that curriculum.

Another point of contention in the race has been over police funding.

Logan and Republicans have sought to paint the congresswoman as soft on crime and aligned with “Defund the Police” activists because of her endorsement from the Working Families Party.

Hayes, whose husband is a police officer, said that both support for law enforcement and accountability are necessary. She has voted for funding and training for police officers and supports school resource officers. Hayes is also a co-sponsor for reforms in the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act.

Logan wants increased funding for law enforcement. As a state senator, he voted

against Connecticut’s police accountability bill in 2020 that among other things bans chokeholds in most circumstances and makes changes to qualified immunity that protects officers from liability.

What would they pursue in the 118th Congress?

Hayes, like Biden, sees codifying Roe as a major priority if she is elected for another term, though she acknowledges the unlikelihood if Democrats do not hold their majorities. The congresswoman, who sits on the House Agriculture Committee, would also want to address food insecurity when

Congress tackles the expiration of the Farm Bill next year as well as try again on stalled efforts around voting rights legislation.

If he is elected to Congress, Logan would seek to provide more support for law enforcement and establish “incentives for states and schools to implement school choice options.”

The Journal occasionally will offer articles from CTMirror.org, a source of nonprofit journalism and a partner with The Lakeville Journal. A longer version of this story appears online.

Kent Library hosts Thursday night meetings for young adults

KENT — Kent Memorial Library will hold a series of game and refreshment nights on the third Thursday of every month for those who are 21 to 30 years in age starting on Thursday Nov. 17 at 32 North Main Street.

Billed as a young locals board game night, it also will be held on Dec. 15, Jan. 19 and Feb. 16.

To register email kla-bmcallister@biblio.org

Calico Fair planned Nov. 5

NORTH CANAAN — North Canaan Congregational Church’s Calico Holiday Fair will be held on Saturday, Nov. 5 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Pilgrim House, 30 Granite Avenue in North Canaan.

Food, vendors, a teacup auction, entertainment, arts and crafts and attic treasures will be featured.

Proceeds support of the community services of Pilgrim House.

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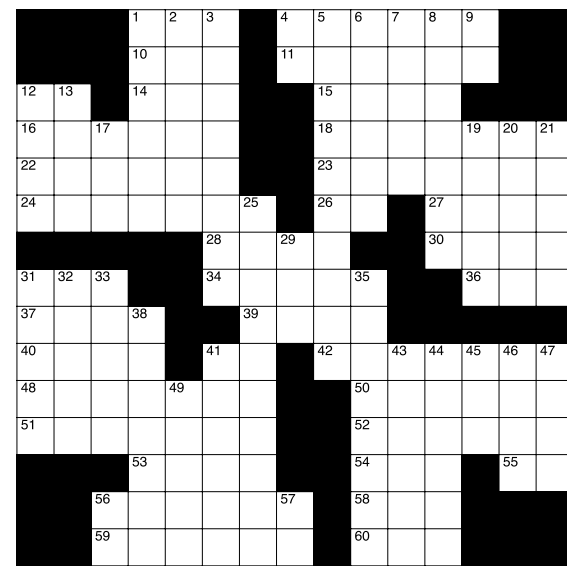
Brain Teasers

CLUES ACROSS

- The central bank of the US
- Direct one’s ambitions
- Only
- “Nothing ventured, nothing —”
- Lead
- Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- Indicates the pitch of notes
- Set up to blame
- States of rest
- Complete
- Be around longer than
- Instructs
- Childless (abbr.)
- Coffee machines do it
- Bowfin
- A group separate from established Church
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Mends with a needle
- When you hope to get there
- Popular 80’s pop duo
- Beloved Mexican dish
- Extremely small amount
- Special therapy
- Cause to move slowly
- A person’s natural height
- Elicited
- Legislator
- Baking ingredient
- Sandwich store
- Peyton’s little brother
- Southeast
- Popular Mexican beer
- Baglike structure in a plant or animal
- Car body manufacturer
- Midway between south and southeast

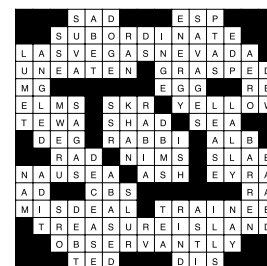
CLUES DOWN

- Colorless volatile acid
- A way to tangle
- Jam rock band devotee
- The nation’s highest lawyer (abbr.)
- Inviolable

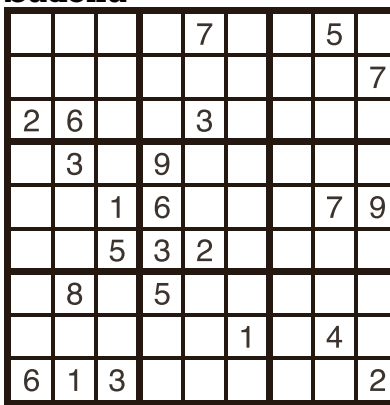


- Collision
- Clumsy
- Bends again
- “Pollock” actor Harris
- Flew off!
- Soft creamy white cheese
- Comedienne Gasteyer
- Exclamation used for emphasis
- Expel from one’s property
- Philly transit body
- Small amount of something
- Retirement account
- Holey type of cheese
- Young pig
- Climbing palm
- Discomfort
- Bullfighter
- High-level computer language
- Fleshy extensions above the throat
- Request
- Equal to 10 meters (abbr.)
- Bruce and Spike are two
- Precipice
- Wombs
- A radio band
- Emphasizes an amount

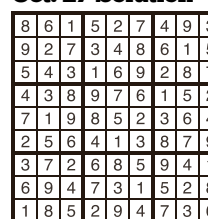
Oct. 27 Solution



Sudoku



Oct. 27 Solution



Level: Intermediate

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EDITORIAL

Vote; and appreciate those who guide us through the process

Until last year, for every election cycle in the life of this newspaper, there has by now been an endorsement editorial in this space. We have always welcomed the letters to the editor relating to election preferences, and this year those continue unrestricted. But as for the newspaper's endorsements, those have come to an end due to the nonprofit status granted to us in 2021.

It's not as if we've ignored our political candidates. That we would never want to do. They are far too important to our lives as humans, Americans and citizens. We have published profiles and interviews with various candidates, and then trust our readers to make their own informed decisions on the best people for the jobs up for grabs.

This is a particularly fraught election year, with the work of elections officials being questioned in some places as being partisan, deliberately inaccurate or just sloppy. In years of covering elections and their outcomes, however, the experience of this newspaper is that these folks are extraordinarily devoted to getting the votes counted correctly and as quickly as possible. There may be exceptions to that rule, but if these officials are continuously berated and threatened, as is also happening, those who do the work out of belief in our democratic system will step aside and leave it to others.

With fewer people running the elections, voting will become harder and more time consuming, as is already happening, even with early and absentee voting made more available through the pandemic. So now would be the time to thank those who do the work, and if longer lines due to turnout happen, to try to come up with constructive criticisms rather than angry ones.

And step up to work at the polls. As longtime poll workers age, or grow weary of being on the receiving end of abusive rhetoric, new ones need to take over if our system is to continue to function. If we can all take part in our elections, not only through voting but through ensuring that all can cast their ballots, democracy just might have a chance.

But still, of course, vote on Tuesday, Nov. 8. If we don't do that, we cannot complain about the governing that is happening once those who are voted in begin to implement their planning pre-election. And listen carefully to what those plans are, to better judge which candidates you want to have in office.

Shared world more important than profit

I'm finding it nauseating that this election has veered from principles to payouts.

School taught me that democracy and elections are ways each of us could collectively shape the way our land is governed. The Constitution pointed me towards ideals such as justice, tranquility in our homeland, defending each other from threats, promoting general welfare, and looking after our posterity.

Judging by roadside signs on and rhetoric from the right, however, this upcoming election is all about money, kale, moolah, hard cash, whatever you want to call it. Forget about making our union a better place; let's elect whoever promises to put more money in your pocket. "If you like inflation and taxes, vote Democrat", say the signs. Might as well say, "Vote for Mammon instead."

Am I the only one who finds this sickening? In essence, some Republicans are telling us that American votes are for sale to the party who bids the highest. My disgust stems not only from the dishonor this stance casts on well-meaning American voters who sincerely want to make our world a more just, humane, and safe place for ourselves and our descendants—and are willing to make sacrifices to do so.

I'm disgusted also that these Republican rhetors believe we're naive/credulous/

stupid enough to believe that the cause of current inflation is one and a half years of Democrat policies rather than a side effect of a newly pusillanimous Russia and a legacy of two brutal years of a global killer pandemic that threw oil production, supply chains, and consumption patterns into a whirlwind. And I'm insulted that I'm expected to believe that by magically hand-waving (and by not being Democrats) the right will actually solve our current economic woes, given that they have come forward with no strategy to do so other than to cut taxes on the rich.

Meanwhile those who are existentially threatened by poverty in our country risk the rug being pulled out from beneath them, even more so than four years of the previous administration accomplished. So may I politely suggest, in spite of my disgust, that we all put on our thinking hats when we place our votes in the coming weeks, rather than give up these precious, powerful essentials of our hard-won democracy to those who believe we would sell them to grub for a little more spending capability?

Let's vote on behalf of our towns, states, country, fellow citizens, and our shared world, not for more HDTV's, gas guzzlers, and fatter wallets.

Robert Buccino
Salisbury



PHOTO BY JANET MANKO

Autumn at the Housatonic

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hayes is the best for the 5th

Representative Jahana Hayes works hard for all of us in the 5th District and that includes our state and local police forces. A Connecticut Republican Party flyer that appeared in my mailbox today falsely claims that Hayes, who is actually married to a police officer, is anti-police. Nothing could be further from the truth.

She helped pass the Invest to Protect Act, which funds the purchase of body cameras, de-escalation training programs, and improves recruitment and retention for town and city police forces. She supported a law that authorizes law enforcement officers to petition for a protection order preventing individuals who pose a risk to themselves or others from purchasing and possessing firearms.

Jahana has worked to fund crime intervention and mental health programs. Her opponent on the other hand, voted against a bipartisan Connecticut State Senate bill banning devices that increase the capacity of firearms, and criticized a proposed ban on assault weapons, like the ones used recently in Bristol to gun down three Bristol police officers. He also voted against a bill that among other things, would have raised Connecticut State Trooper pay.

Jahana has worked tirelessly for veterans and their families, so much so that her office has been named the only certified Purple Heart office in the Northeast. She helped expand early childhood education and the Child Tax Credit for families and passed a law lower-

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

NORMA BOSWORTH

100 years ago — 1922
Mr. Stephen Newberry has been suffering from an infected leg caused by the falling of a stick of cordwood, while he was sawing wood recently.

— William Parmalee is moving to Mr. Sanger's house, where he will be the caretaker.

— Halloween night passed very quietly and with little damage. Signs were

changed, wagons and other loose articles moved from one place to another and the same old stunts carried out.

50 years ago — 1972
Austin Barney, his wife Faye and their 10-year-old daughter Darlene fought their way through smoke and heat to escape their burning home shortly after 7 Saturday morning as fire leveled Town and Country Motors on Route 4. Little over an hour later, despite efforts of firefighters from Sharon, Cornwall and Lakeville, flames had consumed the building.

— Sharon Hospital's \$2.5 million modernization program took center stage last Thursday at the annual meeting of the Sharon Hospital Auxiliary as the auxiliary presented a \$10,000 check to the Building Committee.

— William Barnett, Salisbury's First Selectman, is recovering at Sharon Hospital from injuries suffered in a fall from a ladder last Wednesday. Mr. Barnett was painting a section of the exterior of his home when the accident occurred.

— A state grant of \$10,500 has enabled the Housatonic Valley Regional High School to purchase several new business machines to expand and improve their program in typing, dictation and office procedures.

25 years ago — 1997
Twice the stately red brick building on the hill on Route 7 has been closed. The last time it was scheduled for demolition. What seemed like a hopeless situation took a dramatic turn last week with the news that Geer Corp. will receive a \$1.9 million federal grant to renovate the old Geer Memorial Hospital building, turning it into apartments for the elderly.

— Veteran Northwest Corner journalist Ruth Epstein of Kent will become editor of The Lakeville Journal effective Nov. 17. David Parker, Journal editor since January 1995, announced the appointment this week.

— Bettina Bucklin of Clinton Corners, N.Y., and Stephanie Wakelin of Fort Myers, Fla., have donated 60 acres of land next to Route 112 in Lakeville to The Nature Conservancy. The women are the children of former Lakeville residents Bettina Verbeck and the grandchildren of Ruth Bauer, who also lived in Lakeville.

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

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

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Character counts in Connecticut

When I was looking for candidates to support in this year's election, whether they were running for office in the legislature in Hartford or for office in Congress in Washington, I was searching for candidates with strong solid character. That is the most important thing to look for, candidates who will stand up for what they believe in.

Politicians in elected office face a variety of decisions on subjects which many of us have no opinion about. They are forced to compromise in order to get support from

the other party, in order to get the bills passed into law. Getting laws passed takes meetings in many committees before the bill is shaped legally to be put up for a vote. If the candidates you support are backing the issues you feel strongly about, you can feel sure, if they are elected, they will make good choices when voting in the legislature in Hartford or in Congress on the many bills they will confront.

We are very lucky this year to have three women candidates with very strong

and outstanding characters: Jahana Hayes running for U.S. Congress in the 5th District, Maria Horn running for state Representative in the 64th District and Eva Zimmerman running for state Senate in the 30th District. They are candidates who stand up for what they believe, compromise when necessary, but would not lower their standards if challenged when creating legislation.

Liz Piel

Sharon

More letters pp. B6 & B7.

Experience matters for the Court

There is one race on the Nov. 8 ballot where party affiliation is totally irrelevant and that is the election for Judge of Litchfield Hills Probate Court. While party affiliation is of no consequence, experience is. Jordan Richards, the Republican candidate for this position, is the only candidate with Probate Court experience.

A graduate of Cornell University and Quinnipiac Law School, Jordan has spent his entire professional career practicing probate law and has represented hundreds of clients in probate courts throughout Connecticut. White the primary business of the Probate Court is to administer wills and adjudicate disputes over them, the court is also responsible for administering Guardianships for minors and Conservatorships for disabled or incom-

petebt persons. Jordan has experience in both of these fields.

Jordan is a lifelong resident of Litchfield, where his family has lived for generations. In addition to his law practice, Jordan is active in the Litchfield-Morris Rotary Club and serves on the Litchfield Planning and Zoning Commission and is Vice-Chair of the Litchfield Conservation Commission.

Jordan's opponent, a criminal defense attorney, is a newcomer to Litchfield County with little or no experience in probate law. Jordan not only has the requisite experience, he also has the compassion necessary to deal with minors and the disabled in Guardianship and Conservatorship matters. In fact, one reason Jordan is running for this position is that he wants to "serve and protect

every person who finds their way to the court, including those who are unable to hire or afford an attorney." Jordan deserves your vote on November 8th.

Tom Morrison

Chair, Salisbury Republican Town Committee
Lakeville

Proposal needs scrutiny

While COMCAST is under consideration for a contract with the town of Sharon, CT., perhaps it would be important to note the following: COMCAST has come under serious criticism for spending huge amounts of money to further the proposition of destroying net neutrality.

I, for one, would like to know more about how this might affect us here in Sharon, and whether we could have a say regarding this issue.

Mary Whitehead

Sharon

Letters to the editor deadline is 10 a.m. Monday of publication week. No more than 500 words. Send to publisher@lakevillejournal.com. Please include a phone number for confirmation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vote on internet access in Sharon

More than 250 homes in Sharon have no access to high-speed internet. The Sharon Connect Task Force formed in 2019 to change that. For years, our town had petitioned incumbent providers, Comcast and Frontier Communications, to either finish wiring unserved parts of town (Comcast) or upgrade its equipment to support stable high-speed internet (Frontier). The pleas were ignored. When the COVID shutdowns hit, too many families were unable to work or attend classes from home. That was unacceptable.

The task force concluded the best way to help these families — since Comcast and Frontier have no obligation under state law to offer universal access — was to determine the cost for Sharon to build its own network. In January, we presented a plan in which the town would pay \$12.5 million to construct a town-owned fiber-optic network to connect 100% of homes and businesses. The plan was well-received, though many gulped at the capital expense. At \$89/month, the town needed 550 homes to subscribe to cover annual operating expenses. We asked for pre-construction

commitments. An initial 47 households pre-subscribed.

We started to work on getting more pre-subscriptions. That's when we heard from Comcast, now willing to talk. In June, Comcast proposed a public-private partnership in which Sharon would pay \$1.6 million and Comcast would finish building its network along 28.5 miles of unserved roads and connect all 250 homes along these routes at no extra charge for the homeowner, regardless of distance from the road.

The task force members agreed the Comcast plan was the most cost-efficient, quickest and most reliable way to get our unserved homes connected. With the leadership of the Board of Selectmen and support from the Board of Finance, Sharon has a nearly finished contract.

The Comcast plan doesn't do everything — there are still families that want high-speed internet, but they live on roads already served by Comcast's network in homes that are more than 300 feet from the nearest Comcast box, so they'd have to pay extra to get connected. That can amount

to thousands of dollars. We will continue to work on connecting those homes.

Late last month Frontier Communications expressed interest in its own partnership with the town. Newly emerged from bankruptcy, Frontier has aggressive plans to string fiber-optic lines along its antiquated copper wire network. Our task force held an informational meeting on Nov. 1 to hear from Frontier directly about its plans. A video of that meeting is at sharonconnect.org. We will keep talking to the Frontier, but don't want the 250 unserved families to wait any longer to, as one of them said, "join the 21st century."

Please come to the Town Meeting next Friday, Nov. 10, at 6 p.m. at Sharon Center School to vote on whether to approve the Comcast contract. Any owner of \$1,000+ of property assessed in Sharon can vote — you don't need to be registered here. You must attend in person; there are no Absentee Ballots for this. If you're already connected, do it for your neighbors.

Jill Drew
Co-Chair, Sharon
Connect Task Force
Sharon

Remember our shared history; vote

On Sunday, Oct. 30, we at the Salisbury Congregational Church celebrated our 278th Annual Meeting. As a bit of history, starting in 1744, our congregation's first two Meeting Houses were used as centers for town gatherings and debate, which continued in the present Meeting House after 1800. Imagine how much of our town's history, people, events, these meeting houses have known. Imagine the heated debates the walls of our town's Meeting House might recall from the Revolutionary War days.

Mostly at the meeting, we were grateful for a communal place to share our cares, prayers and various perspectives in a peaceful way. We don't always agree, but we pledge to try and tell the truth, and to reach out to those in need.

In our upcoming elections, I know so many are working hard to secure a fair, just and safe election. Volunteers mostly; all citizens who care about our 246-year-old democracy, and its future.

On Nov. 8, we have a chance to vote for candidates who wish to extend the freedoms and privileges that belong to our democracy. While our church should not and will not promote any specific candidates, I am moved by my faith to select the candidates who will best represent our goals as a nation. We must choose those whom we feel in our hearts are telling us the truth. With peaceful, respectful communication, we can preserve our democracy.

Kerry Noble
Salisbury

More letters pages B5 & B7.

Vote for Jahana Hayes in the 5th

So much is at stake in this midterm election, so many wrongs to right. For me these issues stand out among many, as we watch in real time our Democratic Republic fade into authoritarianism:

Voting rights — our most fundamental right.

I want our representative for the Conn. 5th to fight for The John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.



Vote for Logan, a voice of reason

On Aug. 16, President Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act into law. Prior to its passage, 230 economists signed a letter addressed to the House and Senate stating that the bill will not actually reduce inflation. Separately, a non-partisan analysis published online on Aug. 12 by the Penn Wharton Business Model, a group of economists and data scientists who analyze public policies and predict their economic impacts, revealed "The Act would have no meaningful effect on inflation in the near term but would reduce inflation by around 0.1 percentage points by the middle of the first decade.

These point estimates, however, are not statistically different from zero, indicating a low level of confidence that the legislation would have any measurable impact on inflation."

According to the Penn Wharton Business Model, the Inflation Reduction Act is estimated to (1) spend \$385 billion on climate change initiatives, (2) increase taxes on businesses by \$200 billion, which will get passed onto consumers, and (3) allocate \$147 billion to the IRS, primarily for hiring and training of tens of thousands of new IRS agents. Didn't we just spend trillions of dollars

on other government spending packages, which in turn have been direct drivers of inflation?

When Republican candidate for Congress George Logan was asked what he thought about the Inflation Reduction Act, Logan made it clear that he does not support it. He said families and businesses in the district are telling him they're already paying double and sometimes triple what they were paying just over a year ago for everyday goods and services. "The same excessive spending packages that got us here are now being doubled down on," he said.

Logan is an engineer and small business owner. He knows that spending hundreds of billions on climate change initiatives while gas prices and food prices are at the levels they are right now is just simply not based on common sense. He has said before that he is in favor of renewable energy and the weaning-off of fossil fuels, but he acknowledges it doesn't happen overnight.

Logan is practical, approachable, and would be a voice of reason in Washington. I encourage everyone to vote for him on Nov. 8.

Paul Serbaniewicz
Lakeville

Vote for Hayes, for real progress

We are in a fight for our future on Nov. 8. Republicans are boasting and planning to undermine many of the economic steps that have been taken by the House. Although the Democrats have been stymied by universal Republican opposition to every effort to expand the social safety net, some positive steps have been accomplished by the Democratic majority in the House and the very slim majority in the Senate. All progress will end and we will be placed in a more defensive posture if the Republicans capture the House or the Senate.

For example, and this is no joke, the Republicans have stated clearly in writing — in a proposal by Florida Senator Rick Scott — Republican intention to sunset Social Security and Medicare, end their existence as earned benefits, and require periodic renewal by Congress if the Republicans win a majority in the House and the Senate. And don't believe that any Republican elected will not go along willingly with that program. Remember, the vast majority of Republicans have gone

along with the program and those who haven't are being driven out of the party.

Sunsetting Social Security and Medicare would jeopardize the economic security of millions of average working-class families by holding these benefits hostage to a vote of a majority in the House or a filibuster proof majority in the Senate — a disaster for every senior and wage earner in the nation, including you and your family!

Why would Republicans do this? Their pretext is fiscal integrity — debt control. The reality, however, is greed. This is nothing less than a corporate raid on the trillion-dollar Social Security trust fund that is held in Treasury bonds. Hedge fund kings are salivating at the possibility of gaining control over that mass of funds. And Republicans, with their business can do no wrong mentality, are just the ones to turn the funds over to their corporate friends.

Don't be bamboozled into risking and sacrificing your earned Social Security and Medicare benefits to corporate greed by voting Repub-

lican this November.

And please, do not despair about the numbing media hype about the polls. Voting numbers are up and have increased substantially. Millions more of us are aware of the stakes this November and are motivated to organize and mobilize to get to the polls and to help neighbors get to the polls to vote to defend the interests of working families by voting to increase Democratic margins in the House and the Senate. Do everything you can to help the forces of good by telling the truth about who stands with the working people, all working people regardless of color, age, sex, citizenship status, national origin or sexual orientation.

Jahana Hayes is one of the progressive Democrats who can be counted on to stand with all working families and support economic policies that strengthen our social safety net that will enable us all to thrive. She and other Democrats like her deserve your support and vote.

Leonard Polletta
Lakeville

Care for one another, and vote on Nov. 8

With the season of harvest and Halloween prompting Trick/Trunk-Or-Treats, costume parades, parties, and walks at dusk and in the dark, traditions spread, mainly bringing joy but not preventing all risks.

Hopefully the result is big fun and a sense of friendship. It's a time also to reflect on ancestors and life from over the decades. Remembering those in spirit over the fall season is a way to feel connected to loved ones and to the circle of life. Those who died recently remind us of the precious gift of each person who has walked the earth and had ties to many others over the generations and in each life.

The waves of compassion can be felt for those near or far. More ways to show that care would be helpful even

via social media but with practical care too if teams can be formed.

Along with the Connecticut police officers who died, the three graduate students from India who died recently in a car crash in Sheffield, Mass., also deserve our shared condolences. Unbelievably sad also is the loss of 150 so far (including 26 from other countries) in South Korea in an enclosed alley area during a festive gathering of 100,000.

Prevention of danger by governments and local people and pacing our plans for each part of life can bring more safe living, driving and events to fruition.

Yet with all the sorrow we face, there is magic that unfolds as well as miracles and healing. We can share in thanks if there is a turnaround

of danger such as close calls on the road or an unexpected remission or healing of cancer or other medical issue.

The Option Institute in Sheffield offers an amazing outreach to help people in many walks of life, particularly when facing challenges with a process of inquiry that opens hearts and minds. Their website option.org has an array of programs every country and state would do well to access for many people-centered concerns.

The founders, Barry also known as Bears and Samaria Kaufman have faced incredible challenges over the years and recently with Bears' cancer diagnosis. Thankfully, Bears so far has lived over five months beyond what was predicted with a remarkable remission.

Many of us have friends

and family who have shared their journeys on caring-bridge.com. There are people of all ages who have had support in facing a medical challenges plus extra care, funds, rides, meal trains and prayer chains. However people are able to ask and receive support is all part of the real magic that makes a community shine.

Thank you to all who are the bridge to help those in dire need and others along the way with many practical or difficult life issues. Now is the time to make more magic happen by voting for more people to have basics, health-care and reproductive rights. Every choice to care about one another with a team is a step toward shared success.

Catherine Palmer Paton
Falls Village

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Opinion

Evidence supports the need for L & D services at Sharon Hospital

I was a practicing attorney and resident of Sharon 33 years and have had years of both personal and professional experience at Sharon Hospital. The doctors, nurses,

healthcare workers and staff always delivered essential healthcare required in a rural community. Therefore, it came as no surprise that in its profile, Nuvance Health

describes itself "on a relentless drive to uncover new ways to help the community be healthy and stay healthy" comprised of "imaginative people who never settle" with

"the courage and agility to forge new and better paths together, the ingenuity to reinvent."

Those statements certainly describe the dedicated professionals who devote their lives to serve our community. But when the Nuvance Board presented its "transformation plan" to eliminate labor and delivery, to significantly limit surgeries and to cut intensive care unit, those themes of drive, courage, agility and empathy became hollow and empty, a mere marketing scheme.

The challenges of operating a rural hospital were clear for decades, so when it acquired Sharon Hospital, the complexities ahead of it were known. The board needed a long-term plan and an efficient strategy to meet the predictable problems. Alas there was no long-term approach, and this new plan to eliminate and cut services

equates to poor judgement that will end in disaster. Proof of the impact of the "transformation plan" is well established.

Articles abound, which confirm that OB closures mean women face lengthy journeys that contribute to preterm, outside hospital or emergency room births without OB care, all of which carry greater risks for mom and baby.

NBC News 11/21/2021: Due to cutbacks in OB services, pregnancy-related deaths have risen steadily in the U.S. and a lack of access to quality health care — before, during and after pregnancy put rural women at greater risk. U.S. News, 6/13/2019: Despite technology advances, the rates of maternal and infant mortality have increased substantially. It's more dangerous to birth a child than it was 20 years ago, and this is particu-

larly true for women of color and women living in rural communities. Center for Primary Care Harvard Medical School, 3/25/2021: There are alternatives to chop and slice measures.

I am certainly not qualified to provide the board with a comprehensive plan to combat long-term complex issues but two things are apparent.

First, the "transformation plan" to cut essential services will fail on its face to correct any problems.

Second, there are viable alternatives that must be considered. The Board must follow to its own words and "uncover new ways to help the community be healthy and stay healthy" to "never settle" and have "the courage and agility to forge new and better paths" "to focus on long term stability."

Amy D. Schuchat Sharon

Historical perspective on hospital

My connection with Sharon Hospital runs as deep. I lived in Sharon until my retirement last year at the age of 84. Sharon has and will always be my home. I was born in Sharon Hospital. My father and grandfather were born in Sharon. My children, grandchildren and my great grandson were all born in Sharon Hospital.

That is why I was sick to hear that the board of Nuvance Health would even consider the possibility of eliminating labor and delivery as well as cutting the surgical and intensive care services. I have devoted my entire life to serving the

Sharon community. I was a member of the Fire Department for 50 years and along with my father. I was in the FIRST EMT graduating class from Sharon Hospital. My father and I drove the only ambulance serving Sharon and Salisbury and I can tell you that it was something driving that big white Cadillac through the rural hills and dirt roads.

I learned the importance of a local, rural hospital and the needs of the surrounding communities that relied on the care and services it provided. As Chairman of the Sharon Planning and Zoning Commission for over 50

years, I personally witnessed the growth of this beautiful vibrant area and the role that Sharon Hospital has played in its development and success. Sharon Hospital is the lifegiving and live-sustaining anchor of our community. It is not only the largest employer in Sharon it is without question a fundamental part of our past, present and future. To cut essential services will never be sustainable. To eliminate labor and delivery, the very essence of life itself, will destroy the hospital and eventually the community.

Barclay Prindle Sharon
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