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

Reported to be closing, independent Winsted Citizen finds buyer at the last minute

By Terry Cowgill

WINSTED — It's been quite the rollercoaster ride for the fledgling Winsted Citizen, but Thanksgiving weekend brought news that fans of the independent community newspaper can be thankful for.

After its editor, Andy Thibault, had indicated that the monthly paper would cease publication, an announcement was quickly made that it had actually been bought out by a much larger media company.

Jedd Gould, a board member and spokesperson for Connecticut News Consortium Inc., which created the Winsted Citizen in January, announced Wednesday, Nov. 22, that the Citizen had been acquired by American Business Media (ABM) of Simsbury. The consortium said in a statement issued last Wednesday that it never intended

to close the paper permanently, but was seeking to change the current business model.

"We're delighted to turn this project over to someone who shares our vision, and has the media infrastructure to support and grow it," Gould said. Terms of the deal were not disclosed. The acquisition was effective immediately.

See NEWSPAPER, Page A10



PHOTO BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

Tony Zunino, HVA president, left, with Jeet Sandhu of Ridgefield.

Historic NWS weather station moves to Great Mountain Forest

By Jennifer Almquist

NORFOLK — The Icebox of Connecticut is the rather whimsical nickname of Norfolk, yet it is rooted in the fact that it is often the coldest town in the state.

In 1956, the record shows it snowed 175 inches in one winter in Norfolk. For the past 92 years, a daily record has been kept of the temperature, precipitation, and the water content of the snow on the ground at Great Mountain Forest (GMF), the 6,000-acre conservation area and woodland habitat that straddles Norfolk and Falls Village.

The official name of the weather station is Norfolk 2SW, because the station is 2 miles southwest of the Post Office in Norfolk. At 1,400

feet, GMF is one of the highest National Weather Service (NWS) station elevations in Connecticut.

The week of Thanksgiving, after nearly a century of steady weather reporting, Norfolk 2SW has officially been relocated by the NWS from its original location in Norfolk to a more prominent and accessible location at the working headquarters of GMF in front of the forestry office. This month, a three-man crew under the direction of Deanna Marks, lead NWS representative for this region, arrived from the Albany, New York, office. With the help of GMF staff, excavators and tractors, they dug new holes, trenches for coaxial

See STATION, Page A10



HVA auction nets record \$205K for the environment

By Debra A. Aleksinas

MORRIS — Sen. Richard Blumenthal made a big announcement at the 34th annual Housatonic Valley Association's (HVA) Auction for the Environment, held Sunday, Nov. 19, at South Farms.

"I am again selling myself," he told the sold-out crowd in a tonguein-cheek nod to his annual donated auction item: a chance for a group of four to eight to join him on Capitol Hill, starting with breakfast in the Senate dining room, where the elite meet, followed by a visit to the floor of the Senate and a tour of

"It's on me, it's not on the taxpayers," he deadpanned, eliciting laughter from the crowd of about 130 supporters of the environment

who turned out en masse in support of HVA's climate-ready mission to restore and protect clean, cold waters and a sweeping woodland corridor across the entire Housatonic Valley.

Blumenthal's donation drew seven competitive bidders egged on by spirited auctioneer Sherry Truhlar. In increments of \$2,000 per bid, the senator "sold" for

"Fourteen thousand dollars in a few seconds is not bad," noted Lynn Werner, HVA's executive director, who later estimated that this year's auction netted a record \$205,000.

Actress Christine Baranski, who returned as the auction's host, credited Werner, the HVA board and

See HVA, Page A8

Colonial Theatre's 21st century comeback

By Kathryn Boughton

CANAAN — Back when movies were new, when a Saturday matinee or an evening show was an adventure for a rural town, Seth Moseley, a wealthy New Haven hotelier, built The Casino in Canaan as a fancy trinket for his young wife's birthday.

The entertainment center, purchased by the Boscardin family in 1929 and renamed the Colonial, soon became the entertainment hub for the community, featuring the brand-new "talkies," vaudeville shows, high school graduations, roller skating and community balls in the ornate upstairs ballroom.

In a day before cell phones, tab-



lets and large-screen televisions, the theater was packed on Friday nights and Saturdays, and there was even a town meeting to discuss whether the sanctity of the Sabbath could be disturbed by Sunday screenings. But that was long ago, and movie theaters have struggled over the intervening decades. The Colonial, once virtually derelict, has been shuttered since 1997 except for an extensive refurbishment and brief revival in the early 2000s.

Now the excitement is returning. In April, Lenore and Marc Mallett and David and Stacey Fiorillo, two Salisbury couples, purchased the old theater, rolled up their sleeves, and plotted a future designed to bring life and activity back to downtown Canaan.

See THEATRE, Page A10

Russell Russ, Weather Observer of Record at Norfolk 2SW in new location.

Blumenthal inaugurates Cornwall officials

By Riley Klein

CORNWALL - Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) swore in Cornwall's newly elected officials at Town Hall Monday, Nov. 20.

"I'm here to say 'thank you.' Really, thank you to everyone who will serve in the next two years," said Blumenthal. "You answer to people about the most important needs that government performs in their lives."

Board by board, commission by commission, 15 of Cornwall's winners from the Nov. 7 election raised their right hands and swore an oath



PHOTO BY RILEY KLEIN

Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) shook the hand of Planning and Zoning Commission Chair Anna Timell at the swearing-in See INAUGURATION, Page A8 ceremony on Monday, Nov. 20.

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Regional

In The Journal this week

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OBITUARIES A5, A7	CALENDAR	B
OPINIONA6	OUR TOWNS	B
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Online This Week

Cornwall appoints committee members

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway along with newly elected selectmen Rocco Botto and Jen Markow began the term with a series of appointments to town positions and committee seats. Learn more on www.tricornernews.com.

POLICE BLOTTER: TROOP B

Charlotte Hungerford Hos-

pital by Norfolk EMS. Mach-

affie was issued an infraction

Sex offender registry

approximately 10:30 a.m.,

Troopers from Troop B ar-

rived at a residence on Bragg

Street in North Canaan to

serve an arrest warrant for

Christopher Brown, 21. The

warrant was issued by the

state Sexual Offender Regis-

try for the charge of failure

to verify address. Brown was

taken into custody and re-

leased on a \$5,000 non-sure-

Two-vehicle accident

at approximately 7:30 a.m.

Kyle Lundquist, 38, of Gos-

hen, was traveling north on

Route 63 in Cornwall in a

2023 Toyota Tacoma and

approaching North Goshen

Road. Lundquist signaled a

right turn. Carlos Medina

Marin, 22, of Bridgeport, was

driving a 2011 Nissan Fron-

tier and didn't have enough

distance to stop, so he went

off the road to avoid Lund-

quist's Tacoma, but traveled

through grass and struck the

Tacoma in the rear passenger

side door. Medina Marin was

found at fault for failing to

drive a reasonable distance

apart, resulting in a motor

The Lakeville Journal will

publish the outcome of police

charges. Contact us by mail at

P.O. Box 1688, Lakeville, CT

06039, Attn: Police Blotter, or

send an email, with "police

blotter" in the subject line, to

johnc@lakevillejournal.

vehicle accident.

On Wednesday, Nov. 22,

ty bond.

On Tuesday, Nov. 21, at

for following too close.

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.

BMW flips on its side

On Sunday, Nov. 19, at approximately 6:50 a.m., Helen Ong, 65, of Falls Village was traveling northbound on Housatonic River Road in Salisbury in a 2015 BMW 328xi Sport Wagon but failed to maintain the established lane entering a right curve. The vehicle left the road, striking a boulder and ended up resting on its passenger side. Ong was issued a written warning and transported to Sharon Hospital for minor injuries.

Car-tractor collision

On Friday, Nov. 17, at approximately 5:30 p.m., Ty Jurgilewicz, 20, of Norfolk, was traveling southbound on Winchester Road in Norfolk on a 1979 John Deere Model 4430 tractor. Laura Beeman, 51, of Torrington, was northbound in a 2014 Mazda Cx-5 and failed to grant half of the roadway, colliding with the tractor in a side-swipe. Beeman was transported to Charlotte Hungerford Hospital by Norfolk EMS and was issued a written warning for failure to grant one-half of the roadway.

Rear-ended in Norfolk

On Monday, Nov. 20 at approximately 5:30 p.m., Rebekah Lamont, 20, of Ancramdale, New York, was traveling eastbound on Route 44 in Norfolk in a 2023 Chevrolet. Jamie Machaffie, 33, of Hillsdale, New York, was following Lamont's vehicle, which had slowed for a vehicle making a turn. Machaffie's vehicle, a 2005 Nissan X-Terra, collided into the rear of Lamont's vehicle. Lamont was transported to

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Ocean State Job Lot

CONTACT US

John Coston Editor-in-Chief johnc@lakevillejournal.com

Riley Klein Managing Editor rileyk@lakevillejournal.com

Alexander Wilburn Special Sections Editor alexw@lakevillejournal.com

Sandra Lang Circulation Manager circulation@lakevillejournal.com

Susan Hassler Publisher, CEO susanh@lakevillejournal.com

James Clark Chief Operating Officer jamesc@lakevillejournal.com

Amenia Christmas concert and tea

By Leila Hawken

AMENIA — For many residents, nothing kicks off the holiday season like the annual Christmas Concert and Tea put on by The Smithfield Church, an event now celebrating its 18th consecutive year.

This year's concert and tea will be held Saturday, Dec. 2, beginning at 4 p.m.

The traditional event is a part of the Bang Family Concert Series, which presents eclectic performances by gifted regional musicians. The popular Smithfield Chamber Orchestra returns to The Smithfield Church to ring in the season, performing classical, jazz and pop music with a holiday flair.

The Smithfield Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Matt Finley, will perform in the church sanctuary, which is fully decked out for the holidays.

The 13-instrument ensemble will feature Michelle Demko and Lynnette Benner on flute, Charlie Gray and Kay Sutka on clarinet, concertmaster Rob Murphy on violin, Piotr Kargul on viola, Jean Vilkelis on cello, Lou Pappas on bass, Larry Ham on piano, Steve Hubbert on trombone, Denise Jordan Finley on percussion and Jeff Siegel on drums. The



Ringing in the season at the 2022 Smithfield Church Christmas Concert.

arrangements are by Finley, who will play trumpet and flugelhorn. Norman Baker will play a guest solo on clarinet.

A formal tea and baked

Expect to hear holiday favorites including songs and carols, some of "The Nutcracker," and even the "Hallelujah" chorus for good measure. Added to that will be an original composition or two and a bit of Brazilian

"We are so proud of the amazing regional talent coming together in The Smithfield Chamber Orchestra to capture the sense of joy and community we feel through music," said Susan Bang of the Bang Family Concert

Sharon Christmas fair Dec. 2

The Sharon United Methodist Church will hold its annual Christmas Fair Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 112 Upper Main St.

Handcrafted decorations, ornaments and balsam wreaths will be offered at \$25 each, along with hand-knit hats, scarves and mittens.

The jewelry table will feature real gem necklaces accentuated with Swarovski

Correction

In the Nov. 23 issue, it was stated that Charles Perotti was elected to the North Canaan Board of Selectmen in 2017. Perotti was elected First Selectman in 2017, but was initially elected to the Board of Selectmen in 2009. He served four terms as selectman before running for first selectman.

crystals and plenty of glass beading supplies to create your own piece. There will also be some sterling silver jewelry and Honora pearl necklaces.

Two tables of home-baked goods will include cookies, bars, pies and breads. There will be a large selection of puzzles and books, housewares, and several new and used items for gifting.

For information, call Judy at 860-364-5814.

Correcting Errors

We correct errors in news stories when they are called promptly to our attention. We are also happy to correct factual and/or typographical errors in advertisements when such errors affect meaning.

delicacies in the church community hall will follow the concert. Admission is free, although a \$20 donation for the event is suggested in sup-

port of the concert series. The Smithfield Church is located at 656 Smithfield Valley Road in Amenia.



LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notice Notice of Decision **Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning** Commission

Notice is hereby given that the following actions were taken by the Planning & Zoning Commission of the Town of Salisbury, Connecticut on November 20, 2023:

Approved—Special Permit Application #2023-0232 by owner Biagio Lubrano, for a Home Occupation in accordance with Section 210.2 of the regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 28 as Lot 11 and is located at 373 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville.

Approved with Conditions — Site Plan Application #2032-0231 by agent Todd Ritchie to construct a new garage building. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 04 as Lot 16 and is located at 497 Lime Rock Road, Lakeville. The property is owned by Lime Rock Park II, LLC

Approved - Special Permit Application #2023-0234 by owner A Slice of, LLC to construct a detached apartment on a single family residential lot in accordance with section 208 of the regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor 's Map 40 as Lot 29 and is located at 79 Old CNE Road, Lakeville.

with Approved Conditions — Site Plan Application #2023-0235 by owner A Slice of, LLC

to demolish existing and rebuild new single family residence and associated site improvements in the Lake Protection Overlay District in accordance with section 404 of the regulations. The property is shown on Salisbury Assessor's Map 40 as Lot 29 and is located at 79

Old CNE Road, Lakeville. Any aggrieved person may appeal these decisions to the Connecticut Superior Court in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes §8-8.

Town of Salisbury Planning & Zoning Commission Martin Whalen, Secretary 11-30-23

Salisbury Housing Committee Annual Meeting

The Salisbury Housing Committee (SHC) is holding its annual meeting to elect officers for the coming year on Wednesday, December 6 at 5:00 pm, by Zoom. Members of the public are invited to attend this meeting and may submit nominees for the Board before the meeting. Nominations may be made to SHC, PO Box 10, Salisbury. The Zoom address will be available at salisburycthousing.org after December 1. SHC is the proprietor of affordable rental units located in Salisbury. Anyone interested in renting at any SHC location should call Tammy Broderick at 860-435-0049.

11-30-23



Our Towns



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Virginia Bush Suttman hard at work on a hat during the Salisbury Handmade holiday market Nov. 25.

Salisbury market offers handmade creations

By Patrick L. Sullivan

SALISBURY — The White Hart in Salisbury was bustling Saturday, Nov. 25, with the first of two holiday markets sponsored by the Salisbury Handmade group

Karin Gerstel of Undermountain Weavers said, at about 1 p.m., that the first shoppers arrived before the 10 a.m. start time and the flow never stopped.

Virginia Bush Suttman, who had handmade winter hats of all descriptions for sale, was working on one when a reporter hove to. Distracted by the camera flash, she said "You made me drop a stitch!"

She swiftly remedied the error and then downed tools to assist a customer on the question of hat sizing.

The proceeds from Suttman's hats go to Kent Affordable Housing.

Alice Yoakum of Lakeville bought some fancy candles from Hawk Dance Farm of Hillsdale, New York. The proprietor advised putting them in a bag to guard against breakage. Then he helpfully stowed the bag away, to be picked up after Yoakum had

Gerstel said the artisan group, formerly Salisbury Artisans, is now known as Salisbury Handmade to avoid confusion with another concern.

browsed the other offerings.

There were enough applications from vendors this year to warrant two holiday markets, with the second to be held Saturday, Dec. 16, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the White Hart.

Gerstel also noted that the White Hart asked Salisbury Handmade to make the check for the facility rental out to the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service.

Salisbury Association

TO WISH YOU A JOYFUL SEASON

THE SALISBURY ASSOCIATION **INVITES YOU TO A**

FFA holiday store open for business

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Housatonic Valley FFA holiday store at Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS) opened Saturday, Nov. 25, and was busy from the start.

Agriculture education department chair Dave Moran said customers started arriving an hour before the official 10 a.m. opening time.

The FFA store ordered 825 Christmas trees this year, up 50 from last year.

And they were moving

From about 11 a.m. to noon, a reporter counted seven trees being tied to car roofs and loaded in pickup truck beds, and he wasn't watching all the time.

One of those trees was bundled up by Riley Mahaffey of Amenia, as her father, PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Riley Mahaffey baled a Christmas tree for a customer Saturday, Nov. 25, at the Housatonic Valley FFA holiday store. The customer just happened to be her father.

Blake, watched.

The Mahaffeys run a cattle farm in Amenia, and Riley works there.

After considering the options, the Mahaffeys decided to send Riley to HVRHS specifically for the Ag-Ed

See www.region1schools.

org for agendas and login de-

"We raise and show beef cattle," said Blake Mahaffey. "We didn't have an appropriate program" in New York

"This is a huge stepping stone" for Riley and her college plans, he added.

Harold MacMillan, who used to run the Housatonic River Outfitters fly-fishing shop in Cornwall Bridge and still offers a guide service — came bearing gifts. He donated 15 spinning rigs to the Ag-Ed program, hoping to get students interested in angling.

He was accompanied by his son Lucas, an HVRHS graduate.

He bought his tree, and then came back in to ask if the cashiers could break a \$100 bill so he could tip the student who helped him.

Moran said tips go in the till as donations, and added "You just gave us 15 fishing rods. That's a donation."

MacMillan grinned and set off.

Meanwhile the shop was bustling, as students rang up purchases of poinsettias, wreaths and immense blocks

Another face from the past, Cady Staats, said she traveled from her Westchester County, N.Y., home to get her holiday supplies because the pickings were slim at home.

The always-popular wreath production nights are Wednesday, Nov. 29, and Thursday, Dec. 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. On a typical night, a visitor can expect to encounter three generations of alumni pitching in to assemble holiday wreaths.

Region One requests \$5.6 million for high school improvements

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — The Region One Board of Education will hold a public hearing Monday, Dec. 4 on borrowing \$5,600,000 for costs of the planning, design, acquisition, construction, furnishing and equipping of various capital improvements and renovations to Housatonic Valley Regional High School.

There will be a region-wide referendum vote on the project Monday, Jan.

The hearing will be in Room 133 at HVRHS and







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Our Towns

Military veterans joined the second graders at North Canaan Elementary School Tuesday, Nov. 21, following a ceremony honoring 23 veterans in the school's gym.

NCES students honor veterans at ceremony

By John Coston

NORTH CANAAN — The North Canaan Elementary School honored 23 military veterans Tuesday, Nov. 21, at a school-wide assembly.

The gymnasium was filled to capacity with parents, grandparents, teachers, students, and veterans from five branches of the military.

Students read brief essays to the veterans, who were seated in a lineup in front of the stage.

The messages were full of thank-yous and reflected themes of admiration.

"You are our superheroes," said Autumn Ellison, a second grader.

'Thank you for keeping us safe," said Parker Dennis. The essays, read aloud by

11 students, drew strong ap-

The second grade sang military songs from the stage as the veterans lined up in front. The familiar patriotic songs included: "Marine Hymn," "The Caissons Go Rolling Along," "Semper Paratus," "Anchors Aweigh," and "The Army Air Corps."

Three seventh graders Mason Routhier, Julian Swanson and Justin Sorrell — read "In Flanders Fields," a World War I war poem.

Principal Alicia Roy introduced each veteran, who then came up to receive a certificate honoring their service. Each certificate was presented by a member of the second grade. One recipient, U.S. Marine Magnolia Zucco, appeared via Zoom because she was serving in North Carolina.

The ceremony concluded



Master Sgt. Andros Thomson III gives his second-grade daughter, Roslyn Thomson, a hug.

with more songs from the second grade, which were led by conductor Jeff Reed and was accompanied by Danielle O'Neill on the piano.

The students received a standing ovation.

NORTH CANAAN -

The annual Parade of Lights

drew a big crowd on Sunday,

Nov. 26 with dozens of floats

coursing through town, rain-

ing candy for the young set.

gan at 6 p.m. on a clear cold

evening, parade watchers

lined Route 44 and at the

intersection at Route 7, se-

corn was provided for free,

and Salisbury Band's Christ-

mas Brass & Hot Chocolate

Society played holiday favo-

ries in the Pavilion next to

from an antique fire truck,

with the Grinch right behind.

Fire companies from many regional towns participated

Santa waved to everyone

— John Coston

Hot chocolate and pop-

curing favorite spots.

Lawrence Field.

in the event.

Even before the event be-

Closed since pandemic, Geer seeks new tenant for Lodge café

By Debra A. Aleksinas

NORTH CANAAN — The café inside the Geer Village Senior Community Lodge, which served for decades as a popular community space for residents, families and the community, has been shuttered since the start of the pandemic.

Now, Geer officials are seeking a new tenant to lease the space and have the café up and running by the start of 2024.

"We had hoped to bring back the Railway Café, but it didn't work out" for the former owner, who has successfully relocated her business to Main Street in Winsted, noted Shaun Powell, Geer's acting CEO. "So we put out a request four weeks ago and we're actively searching for a third party to operate under some sort of similar format, hopefully by the first of the

Powell noted that the café's closing left a void that needs to be filled. It had been managed by four operators since the building opened in 2002 and had various types of menus and hours of op-

Parade lights up North Canaan

The planned reopening of the café coincides with Geer Village Senior Community being honored on Nov. 16 by the state Office of Rural Health as Connecticut's 2023 Community Star.

"It was very popular. It's great for Geer and great for the community to have a gathering space," said Powell. Under past management, the café had served as a space where people would meet up for a light bite, order takeout or relax in the Lodge with coffee and the newspaper.

According to the Request for Proposals, the space is equipped with Geer-owned furniture and appliances, and all items will be available for use of the restaurant tenant and the tenant is permitted to provide outside catering using the leased space.

Hours of operation will be between the hours of 7 a.m. and 2 p.m. during designated days of the week, and preference is for healthy food choices along with takeout or ready prepared options.

Powell noted that while under the prior operation of Railway Café, business hours were 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., the hours of operation are negotiable.

'We're open to a scaledback version to that. We just want someone to lease it," Powell said, noting that in addition to serving as a community gathering space, the cafe' "will also bring people to our campus, to learn about it, so that's a good thing."

Geer named "Connecticut's 2023 Community Star"

The planned reopening of the café coincides with Geer Village Senior Community being honored Thursday, Nov. 16, by the state Office of Rural Health as Connecticut's 2023 Community Star.

In making the announcement in celebration of National Rural Health Day, Lori Fedewa, director of the Connecticut Office of Rural Health (CORH), noted that Geer's award is a "well-deserved honor for a partner who does so much for the community it serves in Northwestern Connecticut.

"Geer offers care across the aging spectrum, and provides independent, assisted, and skilled living facilities, low-income senior housing and transportation to the community as the area Dial-A-Ride provider and operator of Go Geer, the on-demand transportation service," said Fedewa,

CORH, based at Northwestern Connecticut Community College in Winsted, joined communities across the state and country in celebration of National Rural Health Day, which the national organization has set aside as the third Thursday of November.

The annual event is an opportunity to celebrate the "Power of Rural" and honor the individuals and organizations dedicated to addressing the unique health care needs of people living in rural communities, said Fedewa.

"It's a time to recognize the great work that's happening in rural areas."

Geer Village Senior Community offers care across the entire aging spectrum to seniors in Litchfield County; Fairfield County; Berkshire County, Massachusetts; and Columbia County, New York, and values its position as a nonprofit leader.

Geer Lodge, where the café space is located, is an independent, assisted living and memory care facility that has 114 apartments, up to 120 residents, visiting family members, and is open to the public for events. The facility also houses a YMCA, which is a tenant and also has access to the café.

Geer's employees are rooted in the fabric of the communities it serves and volunteer for numerous nonprofit organizations, schools and town programs. According to officials, the senior living community spends over \$500,000 each year at more than 50 different local busi-

Geer Lodge Executive Director Stacie Nicholas, who accepted the Community Star award at CORH on Nov. 16, is currently accepting applications for the café lease.

For further information, or to set up a tour, contact Nicholas at (860) 824-2618.



PHOTO BY JOHN COSTON

Cowlle MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Free Library Programs

DECEMBER 2023

Families @ Scoville

Friday, December 1, 3:45 PM

PARENT AND CHILD BOOK GROUP

The first book of this new program for children grades 3-5 and their caregivers is *The Tale of* Despereaux, by Kate DiCamillo. Upon registration, each child receives a beautiful copy of the book to add to their own library. Hosted by Miss Rita -This program will occur monthly.

Saturday, December 2, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

MERRY & BRIGHT CRAFTS Stop by the library during Salisbury's Merry &

Bright festival to create something fun and festive for the holiday season! Event will take place in the Wardell Room at the Library.

Wednesday, December 6, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm STORYFACES: AN INNOVATIVE

STORYTELLING AND ART PERFORMANCE

Come by the library after the early dismissal from school to see Christopher Agostino paint the faces of audience volunteers to illustrate stories as he tells them.

Saturday, December 16, 10:30 am - 11:30 am **EXTRASPECIALFABULICIOUS SATURDAY** MORNING STORY TIME WITH MISS RITA!

COZY WINTER STORY TIME

Gather on the story time rug for a fun morning filled with cozy stories, rhymes, songs, games, and crafts. Every Wednesday at 10:30 am beginning on December 13th.

Activities for Adults

Saturday, December 2, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

BOOKS & BLING SALE!

It's time for the Friends of Scoville Library's Annual Books & Bling sale. Do your holiday shopping AND help support the library's programs. The sale includes an impressive collection of gently used jewelry, books, puzzles, and more.

Tuesday, December 5 , 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm **SMALL BUSINESS SEMINAR: PITCH DESK DOJO**

Learn how to pitch your business at this Small Business Seminar presented by the Entrepreneurial Center at CT State Northwestern. Registration Required. See the online events calendar or call the library for more information.

UPCOMING BOOK DISCUSSIONS:

Saturday, December 9, 4:00 PM - The Rabbit Hutch, by **Tess Gunty**

Saturday, January 6, 4:00 PM - Overreach, The Inside Story of Putin and Russia's War on Ukraine, by Owen Matthews. Led by Peter Kaufman.

Activities for Teens

Sunday, December 3, 2:00-4:00 PM

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OBITUARIES

Jerry Doolittle

WEST CORNWALL — Jerry Doolittle, a writer and unusually well-informed amateur herpetologist who helped to resettle several Vietnamese and Lao families in the Northwest Corner of Connecticut in the 1970's, died on Nov. 19, 2023, at the age of 90, at Noble Horizons in Salisbury of complications of sepsis.

The 51-year resident of West Cornwall, was wellknown for his scathing wit. For instance, Elizabeth Kolbert of The New Yorker in 2004 wrote: "Jerome Doolittle, a White House speechwriter who sometimes composed funny lines for Carter, likened his role to that of Franklin Roosevelt's tap-dance coach."

He was born in Pittsburgh in 1933 to a socially prominent family. His father, the late William M. Doolittle, relocated the family to the Northwest Corner to assume the headmastership of Indian Mountain School in the late 1930's. His mother, Mary ("Sue") Hill Doolittle, struggled with alcoholism and addiction, and when Jerry's father volunteered for service in World War II, Jerry and his siblings were left largely to their own devices on the campus of Indian Mountain School. The fields, woods, hills and ponds of Indian Mountain were where Jerry spent hours alone, often reading books from the school library, and where he developed his lifelong love of nature, especially snakes. He became an expert downhill skier on Indian Mountain's old rope tow runs, a skill that served him well during his years at Middlebury College, where he was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. He was graduated from Middlebury in 1954, and remained an active skier into his 70's.

Jerry in his youth traveled widely within the U.S., holding a number of blue-collar jobs including oil field roustabout. Upon graduation from college, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he served at military bases in the U.S. His experience as an enlisted man instilled in him a life-long skepticism of authority figures in general, and commissioned military officers in particular.

Also, during his military service in 1956, he was married to Gretchen Dewitt Rath, a Middlebury classmate formerly of Washington, D.C., and now of West Cornwall, who survives him. After Jerry completed his Army service, they settled in Arlington, Virginia, while Jerry began a career as a newspaper reporter and editor with newspapers there, including the Washington Post. This included assignments covering the Beatles' first American tour, and Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech on the National Mall. Jerry also profiled Washington big-wig Leonard Marks, who soon thereafter was appointed director of the former United States Information Service (since merged with the State Department), and offered Jerry a diplomatic position as the Press Attaché, or spokesman, of the U.S. diplomatic mission in Morocco.

Jerry and Gretchen moved

to Casablanca in 1966 for several years with their four sons, Tim, Ted, Jon and Mike. Matthew was born in Morocco. Jerry's second posting was to the U.S. embassy in Vientiane, Laos, in 1969, during the height of the U.S.'s secret air war in Laos. Since the U.S. at that time was denying its involvement in the bombing, the job of embassy spokesman required misleading the press on a daily basis. He ultimately quit this job as a matter of principle, but not before confidentially working with his former Washington Post colleague, Les Whitten, to help The Post prove U.S. involvement in the bombing of Laos. The story of how Jerry, Les and another American named Fred Branfman exposed the secret air war in Laos is told in a chapter of the 1979 book, "The Best of the Post." Jerry in 1973 published an influential anti-war op-ed in the New York Times about America's campaign of lies about U.S. involvement in Laos, later in large part reproduced in Howard Zinn's book, "A People's History of the United States."

When Jerry and Gretchen returned to the U.S. in 1972 with five young sons, they settled in West Cornwall, directly across the street from the red covered bridge. Jerry continued his career as a freelance writer, publishing extensively in national periodicals such as Esquire and Playboy. He self-published a volume called "Understanding Gum Disease," advertised in the classified section of Organic Gardening magazine, and over a period of years sold his full print run out of his home office via mail order. He also authored two non-fiction books in a Time-Life series on American wilderness areas: "Canyons and Mesas" (1974) and "The Southern Appalachians" (1975). For both books, Jerry and Gretchen packed the five boys up for extensive summer vacation research trips in their Chevy Suburban, sleeping together every night in a massive seven-person canvas tent in national parks and other campgrounds.

During this period, the Vietnam conflict was coming to a close, and Jerry, still feeling the weight of America's involvement in that misbegotten war, organized

James Edwin Morehouse

SHARON — James Edwin Morehouse, age 90, of 44 Jackson Road passed away Nov. 18, 2023, at his home. He was predeceased by his wife, Avis E. Morehouse, of 66 years on April 10, 2022.

James was born Dec. 13, 1932, in Sharon, the son of the late William and Sophia (Aakkar) Morehouse. James was a Korean War Veteran. He was self-employed as a welder, mechanic, equipment fabricator and forester.

James is survived by his daughters Kathleen Visconti and Diane James and his son-in-law Mark Visconti; His grandchildren Darren, Nathan, and Bradley Visconti, Dylan, Will, Elizabeth and Lyndon Morehouse; His great-grandchildren Scarlett and Sienna Visconti and Odin Arancibia. James was predeceased by three sons Gary, Peder and William

Calling Hours will be held at the Kenny Funeral Home in Sharon on Saturday, Dec. 9 from noon to 2:00 p.m. with a service to follow in his memory at 2:00

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sharon Volunteer Ambulance, P.O. Box 357, Sharon, CT. 06069.

several Northwest Corner churches to sponsor Vietnamese refugee families, including one family that lived for a period in an apartment in the Doolittle family home in West Cornwall. Jerry also personally sponsored a Laotian family, Khammone and Thongsai Mitsri and their children Pepe and Jojo, who thrived here and still live in Danbury.

Jerry had a lifelong intense interest in politics, and joined the Jimmy Carter presidential campaign as a speechwriter and spokesman in 1976. That led ultimately to two years in the Carter White House as a presidential speechwriter, then two years as the head of public affairs for the Federal Aviation Administration.

Jerry's first published novel, "The Bombing Officer," about a young American diplomat caught up in the secret air war in Laos, came out in 1982. Jerry taught expository writing at Harvard from 1985-1990. The Cambridge setting, combined with Jerry's many years watching various sons wrestle in high school, yielded the Tom Bethany novels — a series of six critically well-received murder mysteries featuring a Cambridge-based private investigator with progressive politics, an airplane pilot's license, Olympic-level wrestling skills and an ACLU litigator girlfriend. Starting with "Body Scissors" in 1990 and continuing annually thereafter, each volume was named after a different

wrestling hold. Post-Bethany, Jerry's writing started to focus on his blog, Bad Attitudes, where he and a few collaborators several times per week or more posted brilliant and often hilarious political and social commentary. Commercial publishers were not willing to take a chance on his masterpiece, "The Dead Zoo," a novel inspired by Ronald Reagan's boyhood interest in taxidermy, and which Jerry's "Tom Bethany" editor Bill Grose, by then retired, called the creepiest book he ever read.

Jerry had the true soul of an artist and creator, which in his case came with a strong sense that he actually had no option in life other than to pursue his craft as a writer, even when other easier routes were available, such as the lucrative communications position with a large New York bank that he turned down after serving in the Carter Administration. Having been functionally abandoned by his parents as a boy gave him a fierceness in his convictions and a survival-driven complete lack of interest in what others around him wanted or expected him to do. He had a single-minded dedication to excellence in whatever he deemed to be important and if his list of what was important coincided with yours, then great; if not...still okay.

His pursuit of excellence in things he thought were important was relentless. In addition to his craft as a writer, he was a skillful whistler, a very able sketch artist, a photographer with an uncanny knack for capturing the explosiveness of plants, particularly in blossom, and later in life became one of the best sourdough bread bakers in the state. This came, quite typically, after he determined that good sourdough bread was unavailable in Northwest Connecticut, which to him

just meant he would have

to make his own. He thereupon set forth on a project of trial-and-error experimentation which in a year or so took him to near perfection a steady supply of chewy but tender, delicately spiced or flavored loaves with a deep, rich sourness, all produced in a modestly appointed home kitchen.

He not only supplied himself and his family and friends with this superior bread, but also decided to sell loaves at the local farmer's market until he had enough money to buy a new, highend Apple computer for his wife Gretchen.

He and Gretchen loved to have the house full over the holidays and in the summer. Jerry typically spent the weeks leading up to Easter recruiting every family with young children in the village of West Cornwall to come to Jerry and Gretchen's house for a massive Easter party and Easter egg hunt. Decades ago, he helped launch a series of extended family reunions where his own family got together with the families of his sister, Patsy and brother Billy, the latest of which took place in July and included a joyful celebration of his 90th birthday.

He loved nothing better than playing with his many grandchildren when they were very small; when they got bigger, he didn't take them to the movies, ballgames or for ice cream like the other grandpas, but rather loaded them into his old Honda Element (which he would pull the back seat out of to sleep in Wal-Mart parking lots during his book research trips), and took off for adventures like meeting the cows and exploring the barn at the tiny Cornwall dairy farm where he picked up his raw milk every week, or driving them into remote wild corners of the Berkshires where he had located south-facing slopes with rattlesnake hangouts. Jerry would carefully — slowly and gently — lift up the pieces of corrugated tin, plywood or old carpet he had pre-positioned in the hope, often fulfilled, that the snakes would be waiting for him.

He is survived by his loving wife of nearly 68 years, Gretchen Doolittle of West Cornwall; his sister, Patricia Shure of Ann Arbor, Michigan, two brothers, William Doolittle, Ir. of East Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania, and Mickey Doolittle of Colebrook, and a step-brother, Ian Ingersoll of Cornwall. Also surviving are five sons; Timothy and wife Colleen Doolittle of Oakdale, Minnesota, Theodore Doolittle and wife Kathryn Engustian of West Hartford, Jonathan Doolittle and wife Blair McElroy of Greenbrae, California, Michael and wife Amity Doolittle of New Haven, and Matthew Doolittle of New York, New York; as well as grandchildren Nick Hanzalik, Eliza Doolittle, Lauren Hanzalik, Bethany Doolittle, Sam Doolittle, Tessa Doolittle, Anayis Doolittle, Hannah Doolittle, Georgia Doolittle, Eve Doolittle, Wyatt Doolittle, and Brooks Doolittle.

Funeral services will be held at the North Cornwall Meeting House (United Church of Christ) on Cogswell Road in West Cornwall on Sunday, Dec. 3 at 12:30 p.m. A celebration of life for family and friends will also take place in 2024 at a time and place to be determined.

РНОТО ВУ PATRICK L. SULLIVAN Children made custom wrapping paper at the David M. **Hunt Library** on Nov. 25.



Freestyle wrapping at Hunt

By Patrick L. Sullivan

FALLS VILLAGE — With nothing more complicated than tempera paint and some plain brown paper, children created festive holiday wrapping paper at the David M. Hunt Library Saturday, Nov.

The library's Brittany Spear-Baron hustled around the children's area, providing some additional paint here, offering a suggestion there.

At one point she ran out of small plastic dishes with depressions in them, designed to hold different colors of paint. She improvised with a plain paper plate.

Some children daubed with brushes. Others used

blocks with patterns.

Spear-Baron looked on approvingly as a youngster carefully applied a dinosaur pattern. "I like that dinosaur thing you've got going on there," she exclaimed.

The children got started with a test piece of paper to get them used to the idea that, in this context, less paint is better. Why? Because the paint has to dry out before the wrapping paper creations can be safely rolled up and

A handful of parents looked on, but the bulk of the action was handled by the children themselves as they experimented and collaborated with different designs and methods.



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

Christ Church Episcopal in Sharon

9 South Main, Sharon CT Sunday Holy Eucharist at 9:00 A.M. Transitioning through prayer All welcome to join us 860-364-5260 www.christchurchsharon.org

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 You-Tube

North Canaan

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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

The Lakeville United Methodist Church 319 Main St., Lakeville, CT 06039 9:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:00 a.m. Sunday School "Open Hearts - Open Minds - Open Doors" The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-435-9496

The Sharon United **Methodist Church** 112 Upper Main Steet, North End of Sharon Green

Touching Lives - Lifting Spirits 10:30 a.m. Worship Service, Nursery Care No Sunday School in Summer The Rev. Dr. Anna C. Camphouse 860-364-5634 sharonumc5634@att.net

Falls Village **Congregational Church** 16 Beebe Hill Road, Falls Village 10:00 a.m. Family Worship

Coffee Hour A Friendly Church with a warm welcome to all!! 860-824-0194

The Smithfield **Presbyterian Church** 656 Smithfield Valley Rd. Route 83, Amenia, NY

Services every Sunday 10 a.m. www.thesmithfieldchurch.org 21st Century Theology in an Historic Building **Canaan United**

Methodist Church 2 Church St., Rte 44, Canaan, CT 11 a.m. Worship Service Hearts – Open Minds – Open Doors Rev. Lee Gangaware 860-824-5534

canaanct-umc.com canaanctumc@gmail.com We hope you will join us!

The Chapel of All Saints, Cornwall Holy Eucharist: Sundays at 9 a.m.

Trinity Retreat Center Chapel Lower Řiver Road, West Cornwall

Congregation Beth David A reform Jewish Synagogue 3344 East Main St., Amenia SERVICES SATURDAY 10:30 AM (Calendar at congbethdavid.org) ALL ARE WELCOME Rabbi Jon Haddon 845-373-8264

All Saints of America Orthodox Christian Church 313 Twin Lakes Rd., Salisbury, CT Vespers Saturday at 5:00 P.M

info@congbethdavid.org

Divine Liturgy Sunday at 9:30 A.M Special Services Online Rev. John Kreta 860-824-1340 | allsaintsofamerica.us

Millerton United Methodist Church 6 Dutchess Avenue, P.O. Box 812 Millerton, NY 12546

Services on the 1st & 3rd Sunday of each month at 10:00 A.M. 518-789-3138

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The Revs. Heidi Truax & Felix Rivera trinity@trinitylimerock.org (860) 435-2627

Unitarian Fellowship of NW CT JOIN US FOR OUR HOLIDAY PROGRAM Cobble Living Room, Noble Horizons

The next meeting will be Sunday, December 10 at 10:30 a.m. Christmas Reflections on Giving and Taking Joy For information, contact Jo Loi at jokiauloi@gmail.com All are Welcome

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For more obituaries, see page A7

EDITORIAL PAGE A6 THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023

EDITORIAL Saving Winsted's paper

ast week brought the news that the Winsted Citizen, a monthly newspaper with a goal to become a weekly and started by Winsted's own Ralph Nader, was throwing in the towel. It had produced nine issues starting in February. That was Monday. By Wednesday, it became a rescue story. American Business Media LLC, a Simsbury-based national media company, would acquire the Citizen newspaper.

The new owner publishes seven magazines across the country, largely focused on the banking and mortgage fields, numerous email newsletters and manages an events business as well as providing other services in the communications domain.

We celebrate the news that the Winsted community will continue to be served. (See story on Page A1.)

The Lakeville Journal knows about the challenges facing local journalism. A little more than six years ago, in August 2017, The Journal announced that it was folding its own Winsted newspaper — The Winsted Journal into The Lakeville Journal. The decision came after more than 20 years of separate publication that began in 1996.

At the time, The Lakeville Journal reported: "Change is never easy...however, there has not been enough support from the Winsted area to sustain continued publication."

That news report from 2017 is another reminder of the chill across today's newspaper landscape. Veteran journalist Andy Thibault, who launched the Citizen with Nader, echoed that reality again last week when he noted that the operation never recovered from a shortfall in funding from almost its start as a nonprofit, called the Connecticut News Consortium.

We have reported several times about the death knell sounding for newspapers across the United States. We have described the so-called news deserts, where residents in more than half of America's counties now have little or no news coverage. And some say it's different coverage when a town has its own newspaper, compared to having a daily come in to cover an event.

According to a recent study by Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, the rate of newspaper closures has increased to an average of 2.5 per week from a rate of two last year.

Thanks to our own readers and supporters, The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News survive today to serve the Northwest Corner and Dutchess County.

Most newspapers that lose a paper don't get a replacement. Winsted won't be one of them!

CEO, Publisher and Editor-in-Chief Vincent Valvo of American Business Media has a strong journalistic track record. He has served on the board of directors of the Connecticut chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists and was president of the Connecticut Council on Freedom of Information. In making the announcement, Valvo said that he has been cheering on the creation of the Winsted Citizen from the beginning.

Waterbury's family-owned Republican-American covers Winsted, and so does the Hearst-owned Regis--Citizen in Torrington.

Now, once again, we can look forward to Winsted's

future with a newspaper.

LISTEN, YOUNG MAN: IF YOU DON'T STOP DISRUPTING CLASS, I'M GOING TO WARN YOU TO STOP DISRUPTING CLASS GAG ORDER

The deadline for letters to the editor is 10 a.m. each Monday. You may email letters to publisher@ lakevillejournal. com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vigil on Israel-Gaza hardly representative of Salisbury

I was surprised that one of the top, front page articles in last week's Lakeville Journal reported on an "Interfaith Vigil" as if it were representative of how people feel in Salisbury about the Israel-Gaza situation. Based on all the quotes of the participants in the article, one would think that poor Israel is the sole victim, and the problems it faces are a result of Palestinian aggression and antisemitism. The first sentence of the article states that the speakers were unequivocal in their support for Israel. This would appear to be contrary to the sentiments of most Americans, who are disgusted by Israel's gratuitous killing of tens of thousands of innocent people, including many thousands of babies and children. One should be ashamed to justify this under any circumstanc-

Did the vigil organizer open their event to the public? I think not, as it wasn't

publicized for "security reasons." However, the group was presented as representing an interfaith voice of Salisbury. This is spurious given that the group was self-selected, with participants overwhelmingly representing one side. How many Arab-Americans or Muslims (not necessarily the same as Arab) were invited to this "interfaith" gathering? I suspect none. Perhaps the attendees don't want to accept that the vast majority of demonstrations throughout the world, including in the U.S., are against Israel's obvious genocide of Palestinians. I participated in an anti-war demonstration in front of the White Hart Inn in Salisbury last Saturday where signs were displayed stating Stop Palestinian Genocide, No More Occupation, Palestinian Lives Matter, Ceasefire Now, Stop Using My Tax Dollars to Fund Palestinian Genocide, We Will Not be Silent and Stop Bombing

Babies. Here are the results of my very informal "poll" of several hundred cars that passed by. About half the people in the cars reacted. The overwhelming majority of that half either made the peace V sign with their fingers or honked as if they were in favor. Only two parties gave the middle finger. I believe that this informal poll better reflects the sentiments of the people of Salisbury, the U.S., and the world.

I fear that antisemitism will only get worse due to the selfish, short-sighted objectives of Israel and their American government enablers. Maybe one should ask the interfaith vigil attendees how they might feel if they were locked up in an openair prison all their lives and had their dignity stripped away as they endured abuse by a racist, apartheid regime. And then they were bombed to oblivion. Would they despise and want to kill their

prison-keepers? The objective of Israeli policy towards the Palestinians has been to expropriate the Palestinians' homes and land while treating them like and calling them "animals." The Israelis and their lobby accuse anybody who dares criticize them as being antisemitic. I guess that means if one criticizes the American government for their hegemonic policies (or any other reason, for that matter), they are anti-American. Go figure.

The Israelis have been inflicting a slow death on the Palestinians for years, and now they are trying to exterminate and maim them via carpet bombing. Imagine that one out of every one hundred residents of Gaza have already been killed, and many more injured. That is the equivalent of killing 3.2 million Americans, or over one thousand 9/11's. The result of these actions will be to unfortunately create Hamas 2.0. The Israelis can do better than that towards their fellow human beings. After all, Judaism considers all life sacred.

Israel has the means to solve the conflict with their fellow neighbors by granting equal rights to all human beings living in Israel and the territories which they occupy or subjugate. They really can have peace if they want it, but a continued land grab and the inhumane treatment of Palestinians needs to end. Instead of unequivocally supporting Israel's policies, it is in everyone's interest if the attendees of the interfaith vigil were to have urged Israel to adopt more sensible and just policies aimed at a longterm resolution of conflict.

Lloyd Baroody

Lakeville

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

Norma Bosworth

100 years ago -November 1923

Philo Lyon of Lime Rock had an attack of acute indigestion and was on the sick list a few days the past week.

Mrs. Cantine is spending Thanksgiving at Senator Rudd's. On Friday she will go to New York where she will spend the winter.

About six inches of snow fell in the storm of Saturday night but little of it remains at the present time. It is said that fully 10 inches of snow covered the ground on Mt. Riga. For a starter winter gave us a bigger dose of snow than is usual at this time of the year.

50 years ago — November 1973

Close the public schools for a month, beginning Dec. 14? The proposal, offered Tuesday by Connecticut's acting education commissioner, brought quick and negative response from two Northwest Connecticut school superintendents. State Board of Education member Adela Eads of Kent also told The Lakeville Journal Wednesday that her first reaction had been that "There has to be a more logical way"

of meeting the energy short-

Drivers in New York State and Northwestern Connecticut now find few filling stations open Sunday or in the evening. Even before President Nixon called for a voluntary halt to Sunday sales of gasoline beginning Dec. 1, area gas stations have been closed Sundays. Several have been closed for as much as three months due to the energy crisis. In an effort to help its readers share resources and save gasoline, The Lakeville Journal is inaugurating a free listing of car pools for distances of 50 miles or more. The listings will appear under "Car Pools" on the classified advertising pages.

Four accordion students from Gary Ross's Lakeville School of Music took honors recently in the Eastern Cup Accordion Championships in New York City. Three members of one family from Great Barrington, Mass., placed high in their respective age groups. Brenda Raimer took second place in the 7-year-old category; her brother James was fourth in the 9-year-old division and their older brother

John took first place among the 11-year-olds. John also came in second in an optional polka category. Another of Mr. Ross's students, Ronald Schurack of Southington, took second place in the 16-year-old division and in a polka category.

25 years ago — November 1998

In a scene devoid of politics and replete with shovels, Falls Villagers gathered Sunday at the Lee H. Kellogg School. At a few minutes past 1 p.m., Barbara Bornemann, a member of the original Kellogg school building committee of 1949, took a golden shovel and struck the dirt. Thus a long-awaited renovation project officially began.

AT&T Wireless Services, now armed with approval from Connecticut's Siting Council, has begun plans for construction of a telecommunications tower on Herb Road in Sharon. The site is on the ridge several hundred feet above the Housatonic River and Route 7, less than a mile north of the Kent town

In the 4 ½ years since Gregg and Nancy Tidd opened Canaan Valley Pet,

the business has done nothing but grow. Good news financially, but not so great when it comes to meeting demands from their cramped quarters. So it was with great excitement, mixed with relief, that they this week purchased a roomy downtown Canaan storefront, the former Scott's Discount Paper building on Railroad Street. Sons Matthew and Joshua were involved in the business from the start. Matt helped design the computer system and Josh is the animal expert. Both work on a regular basis at the store, deftly handling customers and chores. The Tidds plan to spend Thanksgiving Day moving into the new store, with Friday Nov. 27 marking their first day in business there.

Sharon Hospital emergengency services at Sharon.

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

cy physician Dr. Jared B. Zelman received the Emergency Physician of the Year Award last Thursday. Dr. Zelman, the sixth recipient of the award, is director of emer-

Publisher Emeritus

THE LAKEVILLE JOURNAL

(USPS 303280)

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

editorial coordinator.

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Viewpoint



First Lady Rosalynn Carter

Rosalynn Carter's legacy

"To kindness and love, the things we need most."

The Grinch

In the era of Jimmy Carter's presidency, the media was accustomed to covering First Ladies on the Women's pages of their publication. Yes, Jacqueline Kennedy was a three-year headline stealing JFK's charismatic thunder and establishing a historically rich, renovated White House. But it was Rosalynn Carter, the Steel Magnolia from Georgia, who like Hillary and Eleanor, was a politician in her own right, loved campaigning, drove mental health policies, solo visited heads of states, was a lifelong advocate and on-the-ground champion for human rights and alleviating human suf-

Rosalynn and Jimmy Carter founded the Carter Center in 1982 and spent over 40 years actively engaged (being there, traveling the world, wielding a hammer, overseeing an election) to eradicate disease, build democratic states, resolve conflicts, and strengthen the treatment of mental health. Small and rather soft spoken, Rosalynn always walked visitors to the door — savoring that last moment to influence, position, gain an ally.

GUEST COMMENTARY

By Kathy HERALD-MARLOWE

Rosalynn Carter lived a superbly useful and powerful life. She was a role model for the world. We heard far too little about this tenacious mover during Carter's presidency and after as he with the Carter Center was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace in

Following Rosalynn, Barbara and Laura Bush championed childhood literacy, Hillary Clinton health care, Michelle Obama childhood obesity and girl education.

More recently, Melania Trump has seemingly endured being First Lady dragged into a position she never sought, pressed into a costume that didn't fit. Melania's official initiative, Be Best, was aimed at eradicating cyber bullying-increasingthe "well-being "of children. Be Best was announced in the Rose Garden in May of 2018, and immediately was followed by Trump's Presidential proclamation of Be Best Day, May 7. The effort fully reproduced an Obama-

era guide developed for teenagers regarding the Internet - reprinted the guide with a new name on the cover and all the original's typos within.

Be Best goals were outlined — not advanced. Cyberbullying was a peculiar choice for Donald Trump's First Lady — who boarding a plane to visit immigrant children separated from their parents and held in cages at the U.S. border wore a jacket with "I Really Don't Care — Do You?" in bold white letters across the back. Cyberbullying? Caring?

The "Bully Pulpit" Franklin Roosevelt coined in the 1930's as a terrific platform for Presidential advocacy of a national agenda — "bully" as in wonderful or superb — "bully" good. Mangled now, Trump's bully pulpit is that which Melania's Be Best initiative targets for prevention: venomous hurled words to abuse, violate, endanger others. Donald Trump endlessly bullies from his self-preservation pulpit — not a shred of decency, not a trace of in-

Enter please better angels, Roslynn Carters to bless the world, to champion human rights and alleviate suffering. Come soon a silencing of violent threats/abusive barbs robbing us of unity and peace.

to come early to Wall Street The bullish momentum

that has driven equities higher over the last few weeks is beginning to slow down. That does not mean this bull run is over. It is just catching its breath.

The gains registered by stocks have been breathtaking. The S&P 500 Index has won back all its losses since October. It rose more than 8% heading into Thanksgiv-

Normally, this kind of action would have been reserved for the latter part of December during the yearly "Santa Claus Rally," which occurs from mid-December into January of the following year. The moves higher have been bolstered by a lot of positive news this month.

Both the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Producer Price Index (PPI) came in cooler than expected in October, which was contrary to economists' expectations. Only 7 of the 31 core components of the CPI registered inflation. The used car and housing components are the most important indicators to me. Those two carry a lot of weight in the index. The downsize inflation sur@THEMARKET

By BILL SCHMICK

Santa Claus rally appears

prise supports the bulls' case that the Fed' actions to beat down inflation are making headway. But there was more good news as well.

In mid-November, the credit agency, Moody's Investors Service, lowered its outlook on the U.S. government debt to negative from stable. It cited the cost of rising interest rates and political polarization in Congress. Readers may recall my column of a few weeks ago in which I worried that Moody's might follow credit agencies, Fitch and Standard and Poor's in reducing the country's AAA rating. Fortunately, the agency maintained its rating despite the negative outlook.

While not good news, it was better than many, including myself, had feared. One wonders if Moody's negative outlook might have helped break the political shutdown logjam in Washington since Nov. 14 saw the surprise passage of another continuing

resolution by both the House and the Senate. The strong bipartisan vote averts a government shutdown until next

That will hopefully give the politicians time to pass the 12 appropriations bills needed under regular order. This removed yet another concern for investors.

On the macroeconomic front, the weekly jobless claims, another closely watched indicator, rose to a three-month high. U.S. industrial output fell the most in 4 months and U.S. manufacturing declined another 0.7% from a month earlier, which was more than the 0.3% decline expected. While all this data is bad news for the economy, the financial markets liked what they heard. It indicates that the economy is slowing, which should put the Fed on hold as far as future monetary tightening.

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

OBITUARIES

Kenneth L. Farwell

LAKEVILLE — Kenneth L. Farwell, 92, passed away peacefully Saturday, Nov. 18, 2023, at Sharon Health Care Center, surrounded by his loving family.

Kenneth was born in Brockton, Massachusetts, on April 24, 1931, son of the late Junia Farwell and had been a lifelong area resident.

He got his first job at 14 mowing grass with his own equipment and at 15 he got his second job at House of Herbs. At 17, he joined the Army and served during the Korean War from 1949-1952,

serving in a mortar battalion and the 278th Regimental Combat team. His best friend, Don Hoysradt, who he joined the army with and was deployed with, was killed in Korea. After returning from

Korea, he worked for the railroad and later had several jobs over the years including delivering groceries, owning a soda company, working at Pfizer's in Can from 1955-1969, and Becton Dickinson from 1969-1985, at which point he moved to Las Vegas.

In the 1950s, Ken was president of American Legion Post 70 in Salisbury and served for many years as the Marshal of the Memorial Day Parade. Ken was a founding member of the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance Service and was a member of Lakeville Hose for a few years. He spent 17 years at Lime Rock Park running Tuesday and Friday practices. He enjoyed collecting coins and eagle memorabilia.

Survivors include four children, Kate L. DeVries and her husband, Dale, of Falls Village, Karen S. Hansen and her wife, Allie, of Lakeville, Nancy Shapcott and her life partner, Andy, of Lakeville, and Kenneth Farwell, Jr., and his wife, Patty, of Cairo, New

York; two siblings, Dave and Carol; 13 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. Kenneth was predeceased by his first wife, Lucy (Lovett) Farwell; his second wife, Arlene, three children, Michael, Donald, and Wen-

dy; his oldest grandson, Michael Farwell, Jr., and three siblings, Sue, Butch, and Red.

The family would like to xpress their sincere thanks to the staff at Sharon Health Care Center, and his caregivers while still at home, Patty, Tammy, Tina, and Vanessa, for the love, kindness, and care shown to Kenneth during his illness.

Memorial services were held on Saturday, Nov. 25, 2023, at 1 p.m. at Ryan Funeral Home, 255 Main St., Lakeville. Full Military honors followed.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Salisbury Volunteer Ambulance (salisburyambulance.org/gifts) or Lakeville Hose Company (lakevillehose.com)

To offer an online condolence, please visit ryanfhct.

For more obituaries, see page A5

On getting a good night's sleep

ll over the world, more and more people are complaining of insomnia particularly women and elderly people. Contributing factors include physical pain, anxiety over persomal problems, economic insecurity, threats of wars and many other causes.

We all pay a steep price for going without enough sleep for very long. Sleep significantly impacts brain function. If we sleep too little, we become unable to process what we've learned during the day and we have more trouble remembering it in the future.

Sleep is vital to the rest of the body too. When people don't get enough sleep, their health risks rise. Immunity is compromised, increasing the likelihood of illness and

In the Middle Ages, communal sleeping was quite normal. Masters and their servants would share their beds as would children and visitors, not to mention various animals. Even more peculiar to modern folks was the then normal practice of having first and then second sleeps with a typical two hour "intermission" between.

This practice of having two sleep periods tended to wane with the arrival of the Industrial Revolution and the introduction of artificial light which enabled people to stay up later in the evening instead of retiring shortly after dinner.

OCCASIONAL **OBSERVER**

By Mac Gordon

The circumstances of sleeping in the 21st century are much more comfortable than in pre-industrial times; heated and cooled rooms, excellent mattresses, pillows, warm blankets, down comforters, and more. But unlike pre- industrial people who typically followed their circadian rhythms, we have many obstacles hindering our living and sleeping in accord with these rhythms.

An estimated one in seven Americans have long-term insomnia. Sleep difficulties become more common as we age. Approximately one in three older people regularly take some type of sleep medicine.

OTC sleep aids often contain an antihistamine. This drug treats allergies, but it can also make one drowsy.

Prescription sleeping pills are of three main types: anti-depressants (Prozac), benzodiazepines (Lorazepam), and Z-drugs (Ambien). Many people experience a hangover effect after taking sleeping pills and doctors usually only prescribe sleeping medicines for short term use. Nearly all have troublesome side effects and tend to become both addictive and ineffective over time.

More and more sleeping aids are being made from the cannabis plant, commonly known as marijuana. While now legal in more than half the states, it is not legal at the federal level and has thus not been through the extensive testing programs necessary for regulatory approval. Some people take supplements of melatonin, valerian, chamomile, lemon balm, and foods such as warm milk (which contains tryptophan). Often these and other ingredients are combined in various home remedies to promote sleep.

Other than counting sheep, what can we as individuals do to make it easier for us to sleep? Health care and sleep professionals have a long list of common sense recommendations for getting a better sleep.

These include:

• Maintaining a healthy diet, starting with an ample breakfast, lunch, and modest supper and avoiding caffeine in the PM. Although alcohol may make one feel drowsy, it often disrupts sleep later in the night.

- Having a regular sleep schedule, going to bed and getting up at roughly the same time even on weekends. This reinforces one's sleepwake cycle.
- Spending significant time outdoors every day, getting plenty of daylight.
- Including physical activity in your daily routine, which can promote better

active too close to bedtime. • Limit daytime naps. Long daytime naps can in-

sleep; but avoiding being

- terfere with nighttime sleep. If you choose to nap, limit yourself to up to 30 minutes and avoid doing so late in
- Make the bedroom ideal for sleeping:at night: cool, dark, and quiet.
- · Avoid use of light emitting screens including TV and backlit devices just before bedime.
- Relaxing activities before bedtime, such as taking a bath, listening to calming music, or using relaxation techniques might promote better sleep. Consider practicing meditation. Seasonal affective disorder, or "the "winter blues," affects a large portion of adults in northern climates such as New England's and strategies for coping with it are in many respects, similar to those for dealing with insomnia.

Most important: try to resolve your worries and concerns before bedtime if possible. Other than physical pain, nothing gets in the way of a good night's sleep as much as worry. These recommendations may not work for everyone or be as powerful and fast-acting as sleeping medications but they seem to help most people get better sleep.

Architect and landscape designer Mac Gordon lives in Lakeville.



Realtor® at Large

Just spent a day up on the Cape with my sons walking the beaches earching for sea turtles who have become stranded because of the cold water temperatures. There are four species of sea turtles, including the endangered Kemp's Ridley turtle, who come north to feed and some do not migrate south in time. The result is that they become cold stunned and wash up on the beaches at high tide. There are volunteers who walk the beaches who will notify Mass Audubon of any turtles that are located and these are taken to their facilities to be revived and overwintered. While we did not find any turtles, it was fantastic to walk the beaches and join the effort. For more information, please go to the Mass Audubon website at www. massaudubon.org/places-to-explore/ wildlife-sanctuaries/wellfleet-bay/ projects/sea-turtles



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ADVERTISEMENT

HVA

Continued from Page A1

staff for working "not just for years, but for decades to anticipate the challenges ahead."

In her welcoming remarks, Baranski, a longtime resident of Litchfield County, referred to those in attendance as "a community with a shared sense of value" in safeguarding the region's natural resources.

The Emmy Award-winning actress, known for her razor-sharp wit, launched the live auction by announcing to the crowd: "Open your hearts, but also open your pocketbooks, all right? Let's get on with it."

Scoping out the goods

Shortly before the live auction, HVA board member Thomas Potter of Richmond, Massachusetts, HVA's board member representing Berkshire County, and Dan Mathieu, perused the auction items.

Potter and Mathieu were the highest bidders last year for a wine trip to Burgundy and were considering the possibility of bidding on the auction item again this year.

Nearby, Louise van Tartwijk, formerly of Litchfield County and currently residing in Florida, said she returned to Connecticut specifically to attend the auction and to visit with her friend Baranski.

"Preservation of land and water here is what makes this part of Connecticut so special," she noted. "But it takes work, and a lot of people don't realize that."

This year, Elyse Harney Morris of Salisbury served as co-chair of the auction committee. Numerous committee members and staff were also on hand to assist during the

Jack Baker of Warren, co-owner of Litchfield Distillery, had donated spirits for the evening at the open bar, and miniature bottles of bourbon graced the table settings. "I've been to every auction since they started," noted Baker.

Tony Zunino, HVA board president, noted that over the summer, the agency's board and staff worked together building a strategic plan for the next five to seven years. The goal, he said, is to protect another 50,000 acres of connected core forest, and to meet the climate change challenge of another 250 miles of rivers and streams restored to the point that they will stay cool, clean and connected.

"It is really the people in



this room that provide the strength for HVA's mission, and I don't just mean financially," said Zunino. "It is the strength you bring through your care and love of our watershed?

Reflecting on the evening, "It was a huge win for the environment and everybody at HVA is so grateful for all who came," said Werner, including those who gave of their time, donations and services to make the event a "joyful" one.



PHOTOS BY DEBRA A. ALEKSINAS

From left, John Kiker and Dan Hulseberg of Lyme greet Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) during HVA's 34th annual Auction for the Environment.

INAUGURATION

Continued from Page A1

of service to the town.

First Selectman Gordon Ridgway said, when Blumenthal called him and offered to lead the swearing-in ceremony, he responded by saying, "We don't have a swearing-in ceremony," to which Blumenthal said, "Well, we do now."

"It is very much an honor that he hasn't forgotten the small towns," said Ridgway.

U.S. Rep. Jahana Hayes

(D-5) and State Rep. Maria Horn (D-64) joined the gathering as well.

Hayes said that the last time she was in Cornwall Town Hall, she "learned how to square dance."

She addressed the group, "When I see you and I feel you encourage me and you remind me that you're paying attention, it's like a hand to my back that holds me up."

Horn praised Cornwall's

FOUNDATION

voter turnout (55.1%) compared to low levels across the rest of the state (33.2% statewide). "People here pay attention. They show up," said Horn. "A tiny town like Cornwall punches way above its weight."

Attendees mingled with the officials while nibbling on cheese and crackers provided by the Cornwall Association.

"If you make it a tradition, I'll be back," said Blumenthal.

The Lakeville Journal

Dear Friends and Readers,

There is GOOD NEWS to report about The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News! We have added more journalists to our staff, expanded our news coverage and we are about to launch new websites for both papers with seven-day-a-week news coverage.

Like many newspapers across the country, we face financial pressures that threaten our ability to continue this vital work. Even after a successful matching campaign, we still need your help. As a non-profit news organization, we must close the gap between what we earn by selling newspapers and ads and our operating expenses. That's why we are reaching out to you, our loyal readers and community members.

The papers led the way this year in reporting on important issues to our community: Sharon Hospital, affordable housing, and environmental challenges to our lakes and state parks. And, of course, we remain the place to catch up on the police blotter, town meetings, local elections, local sports, festivals, movies, and the latest bear and wildlife sightings.

Since The Lakeville Journal and The Millerton News were converted to non-profit status last year, you have kept us in business with your generous contributions. We are asking you once again to consider a tax-deductible contribution as part of your year-end giving. Every donation goes to support our journalists and the mission to deliver the stories that matter to you.

To donate, please visit www.tricornernews.com/contribute or fill out the form below and mail a check. For information on donating shares of stock, please email donation@lakevillejournal.com.

Thank you for your continued support!

Noneen Doyle

Noreen Doyle, Chair

Susan Hassler, CEO, publisher

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The Lakeville Journal Millerton News



Brain Teasers

12. Foolish person (Brit.)

13. Of the wind

16. Grand home

20. English river

ownership

surprise

27. Apart from

29. Satisfaction

34. Sea bream

37. Double-reed

instruments

40. South Dakota

43. An orderly crowd

45. Indicates position

50. Nonsense (slang)

38. Center

48. __-pedi

Sudoku

26. Pouch

25. Exclamation of

22. Symbol indicating

31. The bill in a restaurant

36. Port in southern Japan

17. Sound

CLUES ACROSS

1. Old English letters 5. Sculpture

11. Showing up again

14. Tie the knot again 15. Washington city

18. Stiff structures in invertebrates

19. Mark over a vowel 21. Explosive

23. Popular race: __ 500

24. Pile up **28. Mint**

29. Commercial 30. A minute amount

(Scottish) 32. Small Eurasian deer

33. Baseball stat

35. Numbers cruncher

36. Japanese masked drama

39. Gastever and de Armas are two

41. Blood group

42. Assist in wrongdoing

44. Language spoken in Cameroon and Chad

46. Grayish-white

47. A woolen cap of Scottish origin

49. Microorganism 52. Place under

prohibition

56. Calm, dependable

58. Congressman 60. Force

62. As a result of this document

63. One of two main branches of Islam

CLUES DOWN

1. Make a mistake

2. Gordon and Snider are two 3. Geographical region

of Finland

4. Ejected saliva

5. A way of performing 6. Scotland's longest

7. One of the six noble

gases (abbr.) 8. Body art

9. Two-toed sloth

10. Electronic countercountermeasures

8 9 3 9

Nov. 23 Solution

51. Republic of Ireland

53. Nocturnal flyers

54. American state

55. Clusters in fern

57. Patriotic women

59. Breed of sheep

"Despicable"

61. Popular film

58. A person's brother or

fronds

sister

Nov. 23 Solution



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GNH Yellowjackets ice St. Paul in 35-0 win

By Riley Klein

BRISTOL — Gilbert/ Northwestern/Housatonic co-op football wrapped the 2023 regular season with a shutout victory against St. Paul Catholic High School in Bristol on Tuesday, Nov. 22.

Despite wintry conditions on McPhee Field, the GNH backfield was on fire. The Yellowjackets produced four rushing touchdowns and QB Nolan Risedorf connected with wideout Owen Riemer for an 80-yard pass touchdown.

St. Paul found considerable success passing and strung together several long drives. But GNH's ice-cold defense locked down the red zone and prevented the Falcons from getting on the board.

Temps hovered around 35 degrees throughout the game with intermittent torrents of sleet battering the field. Enthusiastic fans bundled up in coats and blankets beneath the protection of umbrellas to take in the final game of the season at St. Paul Catholic High School.

GNH got to work in a hurry, scoring twice in their first four offensive plays. On the opening drive, Evan Schibi rushed in a 17-yard touchdown. On the next possession, Risedorf launched a deep pass to Riemer, who went the distance for an 80-yard score.

Aiden Avenia took a 41-yard run to the house early in the second quarter. Just before halftime, Risedorf scrambled out of the backfield for a 10-yard rushing touchdown to put GNH up 28-0 at the break.

A shroud of freezing rain covered the field as the sec-



The Yellowjackets' offense could not be stopped in their final regular season game.

ond half got underway. With frigid fingers and a slick ball, both teams stuck to the ground game for the rest of the match.

The cold slowed the pace of play and third quarter came and went without a touchdown.

In the fourth, GNH chipped away at the clock with a long drive down field. Brett Maguire finished the game with a 5-yard rush to the endzone to bring the final score to 35-0.

The Yellowjackets' backfield combined for 299 rushing yards in the game. Aiden Avenia led the pack with 114 yards on nine carries and Evan Schibi totaled 101 yards on 10 carries.



Sleet battered McPhee Field in Bristol on Nov. 21.

GNH concluded the regular season with an overall record of 6-4, enough to qualify for the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Class SS

tournament. St. Paul ended with a record of 1-9 this year.

The Yellowjackets traveled to Tolland for the state tournament quarterfinal round on Tuesday, Nov. 28.



Cornerback Brett Maguire broke up a deep pass.



Jackson Haefner finished with eight tackles.



PHOTOS BY RILEY KLEIN Evan Schibi rushed in one of GNH's five touchdowns.

Members of the public are invited to

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

State Project No. 0174-0451 Horizontal Curve Warning Signs on Local Roads

District 4

December 14, 2023, 6 p.m.

Register: https://portal.ct.gov/DOT0174-0451

YouTube Livestream: https://portal.ct.gov/ctdotvpimarchive

The purpose of this meeting is to provide the community an opportunity to learn about the proposed project and allow an open discussion of any views and comments concerning the proposed improvements. A Q&A session will immediately follow the presentation.

The purpose of the project is to reduce the number of fatal and serious injury crashes on curves located on locally-owned and maintained roads. Enhanced horizontal curve delineation may be beneficial when: the curve radius is sharp; there is limited sight distance to and around the curve; or there are unexpected geometric features within the curve, such as an intersection or change in the curve radius. Improved horizontal curve delineation is recognized nationally as a low-cost proven safety countermeasure.

Right-of-way impacts associated with the proposed project are not anticipated.

Construction anticipated to begin Summer 2024. The estimated construction cost for this project is approximately \$305,000. This project is anticipated to be undertaken with 100% Federal funds.

Please register for the virtual public information meeting at https://portal.ct.gov/DOT0174-0451. Registration is required to participate. Once registered, you will receive a confirmation email with a link to access the meeting.

Members of the public can submit comments and questions during the two-week public comment period following the meeting. Please direct comments and questions by December 28, 2023 to: **DOTProject0174-0451@ct.gov** and 860-594-2020 or Balazs Szoke, (860-594-2745; **TrafficSafety.DOT@ct.gov**).

ACCESSIBILITY

This meeting will also be livestreamed on YouTube, and closed captioning will be available. Non-English translation options will be available on Zoom and YouTube. The recording will also be available on CTDOT's YouTube Virtual Public Information Meeting playlist:

https://portal.ct.gov/ctdotvpimarchive

Persons with limited internet access, use the call-in number 877-853-5257 and enter Meeting ID 817 0426 9388. Persons with limited internet access may also request that project information be mailed to them within one week by contacting Balazs Szoke (TrafficSafety.DOT@ct.gov; 860-594-2745).

Persons with hearing and/or speech disabilities may dial 711 for Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS).

Language assistance may be requested by contacting CTDOT's Language Assistance Call Line (860) 594-2109. Requests should be made at least five business days prior to the meeting. Language assistance is provided at no cost to the public and efforts will be made to respond to timely requests for assistance.



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NEWSPAPER

Continued from Page A1

ABM publishes seven magazines across the country as well as numerous email newsletters, and produces more than two dozen conferences at venues from Mohegan Sun to Los Angeles. Thibault referred inquiries to ABM.

ABM's publisher and CEO, Vincent Valvo, himself a former business journalist, said in a statement that he believes "in the power and the mission of community journalism," has been "cheering on the creation of the Winsted Citizen since the first of the year," and is "delighted to be able to ensure that it will have a strong future." He also expects the Citizen will sharpen its focus on Litchfield County, while "adding stronger online and social media offerings, community events, and articles that dig deeply into the fabric of the region and its people."

In response to questions from The Lakeville Journal, Valvo said in an email that ABM "acquired all of the assets of the Citizen — name, trademarks, customer lists, etc. We did not acquire the liabilities of the publication, which remain with the Consortium." Valvo added that there will be no layoffs and no changes to the Winsted Citizen's editorial production. Founding publisher and editor Thibault will continue as a contributing editor, though Valvo said he has not yet decided how many other staff members will be retained.

The Citizen operated out of a very small Winsted office whose lease expired more than a month ago. Most employees and contributors worked remotely. Valvo said ABM does not intend to renew the lease but has ample space and resources at its Simsbury headquarters half an hour east of Winsted.

Valvo indicated that he would like to see the Citizen evolve into more of a multimedia platform "providing news and information via multiple channels" with "a new website, more robust social media outreach, email newsletters and print pub-

"We are working with the people whose efforts made the Citizen real for the past few months, and adding the expertise of our national media company staff to broaden and refine what comes next in this project," Valvo said.

The Citizen was initially backed by legendary law-

yer, consumer advocate and Winsted native Ralph Nader, who has insisted Winsted has been a "news vacuum" since the closing of The Lakeville Journal-owned Winsted Journal in 2017. The rollout event for the Citizen was held in Nader's National Museum of Tort Law, a shrine to lawsuits that Nader opened in a former Main Street bank building eight years ago.

After Nader's initial funding expired in February, the paper was placed under the management of the nonprofit News Consortium. The paper has run deficits ever since. The deal to acquire the Citizen came together over the Thanksgiving holiday, Valvo said.

"We beat the Grim Reaper every month for most of the year," Thibault said earlier in a staff memo leaked to the Hartford Business Journal. Thibault characterized the Citizen's deficits at that time as "untenable."

"We haven't had a chance yet to hear everyone's voices," Valvo told The Journal. "But we are experienced, capable and thoughtful enough to move quickly and competently to the next stage of what a great community publication can be."

Stacey and Da-

vid Fiorillo and

Marc and Lenore

Mallet (shown

left to right), new

owners of the Co-

lonial Theatre in

STATION

Continued from Page A1

cables, and placed the array of measuring instruments within a split-rail fence.

According to Russell Russ, weather observer of record at Norfolk 2SW: "The idea of the relocation came from me. The idea was to consolidate it at the GMF forestry office area where it could continue for many years, no matter what happens to the private land it was on. The original location was on private land owned by the Childs family. My request for the move had to be thoroughly reviewed by the NWS, and they approved it. When I asked the NWS people how many stations they have moved, they said that relocations are rare. Only one had done a relocation and that was 20 years

"NWS really likes the Norfolk station — for its location, for its long and unbroken length of time of observing, for the station's meticulous record keeping for nearly 100 years, and for the exceptional care of the station and equipment that all observers have done here over the years. "

Once a family-owned forest, GMF is one of the oldest conservation areas in the country. In 1909, Frederic C. Walcott, U.S. Senator from Connecticut, and his Yale roommate Starling Childs initially purchased 400 acres around Tobey Pond that had been laid bare by the charcoal industry in the early 1800s. Childs and Walcott began restoring and conserving the land, planting native species, eventually amassing thousands of acres of forest-

land that became GMF. GMF is a "working forest," which means it is "actively managed to generate revenue from multiple sources, including sustainably produced timber and other ecosystems services," according to the definition established by the World Resources Institute.

In 2021 GMF gained membership in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), whose mission is to assess the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

The Childs family legacy continued as Edward "Ted" Coffin Childs grew into his father's role and began man-



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Jody Bronson, left, and Russell Russ by the woodstove up at Great Mountain Forest.

aging the forest. His interest in the weather began as a boy. Ted credited his love of weather to his boyhood in New York City where, he claimed, "You could tell the temperature in New York by the squeaking of the milk wagons."

Recording the weather became part of his master's thesis at the Yale Forest School (its original name) in 1932. Ted began his official daily observations of Norfolk weather at his home on Windrow Road on Jan. 1, 1932, and GMF became a volunteer NWS Cooperative Weather Observer Station, one of 165 in Connecticut. He and his wife, Elisabeth Calder Childs, raised their four children at GMF.

Since 2003, forester Russell M. Russ, property manager of GMF, has been the daily weather observer of record for the Norfolk 2SW. Each morning without fail, he treks up the mountain to read the data, recorded by precision instruments, of the previous 24 hours of weather, including high and low temperatures and precipitation. The discipline of his work comes from the example set by his father, Darrell Russ, who worked as a forester at GMF for 50 years, and was a longtime weather observer at Norfolk 2SW, one of a small group that garnered some of the highest honors given to private citizens by the NWS.

In 1992 Ted Childs received the Helmut E. Landsberg award for his 60 years of weather-observing service, as well as the Thomas Jefferson Award from the NWS for outstanding achievements in the field of meteorological observations. Paul K. Bar-

ten, an assistant professor at what is now called the Yale School of the Environment said: "Childs' data is one of the most complete and precise meteorological records in this part of the world. It will add an unparalleled opportunity to study the longterm effects of climate on hydrologic processes."

In 2002, Darrell Russ was given the Edward H. Stoll Award for his 50 years of weather observation. His son Russell observed that, "Weather observation is critically tied to forestry and tree growth. It enhances research studies of insects, trees, plants, animals, fish, disease, and maple syrup production."

Recently there has been a flurry of interest from researchers in the data from Norfolk 2SW, as it is a rare bellwether for scientists studying climate change. Over time, subtle variations begin to show up as patterns indicating change. Russ explained that "The forest area hasn't changed in the past 100 years, reducing the effect that a changing landscape has on temperature. Our conditions have remained constant, and that makes GMF attractive to researchers and others who

use our weather data." Russ shaded his eyes against the beams of light from the sun setting beyond the pine woods, saying: "My feelings of honor and duty are mostly due to Ted and my father [Darrell] and continuing their hard work and dedication — much more of a reason for me than doing it for the NWS or GMF. Those two men watching from above help get me there at 8 every single day."

THEATRE

Continued from Page A1

The couples, all of whom have other "day jobs," quickly fell in love with the theater when they first toured it. "They had just reduced the price and we decided to take a look," said Lenore Mallet. "We just popped in and when we saw how beautiful the interior is, we said, 'Oh, my God, and the wheels started turning. When we walked out the door, we knew we were going to buy it."

They devised a plan to return the building to its status as a community hub, offering the space for events as varied as corporate meetings, charity events, birthday and anniversary parties, weddings, live performances, educational seminars, movies, and dances. "We're really excited," said Mallet. "It was a little slow at the beginning, but now our phones are ringing off the hook."

Indeed, the neon marquee once again lights up Railroad Street, advertising events as diverse as a "Dragons" game-playing convention and sponsored movies, many of them free for patrons. In the coming weeks, area residents can expect to see classic holiday movies such as "Elf," sponsored by SHG Event Planning; "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation," supported by Rick and Sasha McCue; and the all-time favorite "It's a Wonderful Life," underwritten by the Community Health and Wellness Center.

Sadly, the whimsical "Ratatouille," the animated tale of a kitchen rat turned Parisian chef, and a corresponding food event by Tory Hill, is fully subscribed.

Many events are sponsored by local businesses, whose names appear on the marquee in the week before the event. While sponsored movies have been free to date, Mallet said the theater may soon charge a nominal fee. "Because the movies are free, we have had a lot of noshows," she said. "We think if we charge something like \$2 for kids and \$5 for adults, it will encourage people to come." Half the funds would be used for operational expenses and half would be donated to local charities.

For some children, the experience of going to the



movies in a theater resurrects the excitement felt by children in the first decades of the 20th century. A small boy was seen sobbing in a seat when AHA sponsored "Legos II." Concerned adults moved to console him, but soon learned his tears were tears of joy. "So excited," he

kept saying. Over the Thanksgiving weekend, two ski films were screened, the first from Teton Gravity Research titled "Legend Has It," and the second, Warren Miller's "All Time."

But it's not all flicks — a comedy show is planned for Saturday, Dec. 1, when local comedian Ronnie Reed will host his comedically talented friends. A portion of the proceeds will benefit Canaan's Fishes and Loaves. It will be followed Sunday, Dec. 10, by a free book talk on "The Fabulist: The Lying, Hustling, Grifting, Stealing, and Very American Legend of George Santos" with author Mark Chiusano. The author will

sign books available for purchase at the event, courtesy of Oblong Books. Attendees are asked to RSVP.

Canaan.

At the front of the venerable building are two retail spaces. One is occupied by a hair salon, while the other space will soon host pop-up store Hither Lane, a housewares store "somewhat like William Sonoma." "She is testing the market to see where she wants to set up her business," said Mallet. "We need retail on Main Street, so we are really excited.

The two couples are also reviving another tradition first jobs for young people. They recently interviewed high school students who would be tasked with running the concession bar and greeting patrons. "So many people have told us this was their first job," said Mallet. "We want to offer that experience to a new generation."

For more information, visit www.canaancolonial. com



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COMPASS

Your Guide to Tri-State Arts & Entertainment

MUSIC: ALEXANDER WILBURN

A little winter night music

lose Encounters
With Music invites
its audience to
embrace the magic and
mysticism of December's
darkness with a thematic
concert titled "Nocturne
— Night and Dreams,"
held at the Mahaiwe
Performing Arts Center
in Great Barrington,
Mass., on Sunday, Dec. 3,
at 4 p.m.

With selections that include Frédéric Chopin's "Nocturnes" piano solos and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's original composition of his ensemble chamber serenade "Eine kleine Nachtmusik" ("A little night music"), Close Encounters' artistic director and internationally acclaimed cellist Yehuda Hanani has organized an evening based around the connective poetry of these pieces.

"In one aspect, night represents the sun going down; there's quiet, silence, and a sense of healing," Hanani said. "People draw close together, and you get a release from the brightness of the sun's heat. You get into the domain of the subconscious. So, this one aspect is soothing, peaceful, and full of fantasy and dreams. And then there is the other side, the 'dark side of night, if you like. And that's when you get a sense of the sinister, the menacing, the terrifying, the unpredictable things that go bump in the night. There's a scary part of the night, and ancient mythology and artists all recognize this duality. The same is true for the moon, which represents rebirth, regeneration, and the lunar cycle,

but also presides over lunacy and death."

No night-themed concert would be complete without Ludwig van Beethoven's "Piano Sonata No. 14," later popularized in Germany as "Mondscheinsonate," or "Moonlight Sonata" in English. Famous for its melancholy opening adagio sostenuto, a ghostly, wordless chant, the sonata is both morbid and romantic.

"Moonlight Sonata" is, of course, a magical piece of music, and it starts with a hypnotic slow movement," said Hanani. "Beethoven was a classical composer. He started as a student of [Austrian composer Joseph] Haydn, but he had such a forceful personality and an amazing, audacious imagination. He bent the whole of music history. He started as a Haydn follower, and he ended up being a romantic hero."

The ensemble will include Hanani joined by pianist Fabio Bidini, violinists Kobi Malkin and Grace Park, violist Luke Fleming, and double bassist Lizzie Burns. Baritone John Viscardi, who has sung with the New York City Opera, will perform arias from Charles Gounod's French opera, "Roméo et Juliette." William Shakespeare's romantic tragedy has been adapted to music many times, including the oft-performed "Romeo and Juliet" ballet composed in 1935 by Russian pianist Sergei Prokofiev and an orchestral work by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. Still, Gounod's opera, which



COURTESY OF CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH MUSIC Opera singer John Viscardi

had its premiere at the Théâtre Lyrique in Paris in 1867, remains sweepingly passionate with its grand melodies.

In addition to arias and sonatas, Close **Encounters With Music** will display prints of a few evocative works to enhance the mood further. "The Sleeping Gypsy" by post-Impressionist French painter Henri Rousseau is an 1897 oil painting depicting a passing lion in a moonlit desert and a slumbering mandolin player, unaware of any danger. Rousseau was a self-taught artist who painted in the flat style of Primitivism, with simple, two-dimensional compositions. The other hanging work will be "The Nightmare" by Swiss artist Henry Fuseli, who was a professor of painting at London's Royal Academy of Arts. Drawn to darkness and infatuated with the supernatural, Fuseli's 1781 oil painting is a memorable depiction of a midnight haunting, with a demonic incubus hunched over a woman restless in sleep. The painting was prominently featured in the 1986 period film "Gothic," a fictional account of Percy Shelley and Mary Godwin's fateful stay with Lord Byron at Villa Diodati. Hanini fittingly described Fuseli's beguiling work as "a pre-Freudian, psychosexual kind of terrible dream."

For tickets to "Nocturne — Night and Dream" at Mahaiwe Performing Arts, go to www.cewm.org



PHOTO BY JANNA SILLER

"Animals Panic": Hope Lyon-Edwards, Autumn Lynch, Jane Wood, Meadow Reeve, Dutch Dekker, Odhron King.

THEATER: JANNA SILLER

Children's tales from around the world

musical quartet featuring a donkey, a dog, a cat and a rooster whose screechy repertoire is so discordant, they startle a team of human bandits into abandoning their loot; a deer mouse so cunning she drives out a conquering army of tigers by convincing them the long, sharp quill of a porcupine is the intimidating whisker of her raja; a flock of birds who save themselves from the hungry tricks of a fox and a wolf with the tickle of a feather: These were some of the characters from global folk traditions that graced the stage of the Falls Village Children's Theater (FVCT) at the Center on Main last weekend.

"My kids love this podcast called 'Circle Round,' which shares folktales from all over the world," said "Folk Tails" director Amber Cameron of what inspired her to choose the script. Cameron, who choreographs for productions throughout the Northwest Corner and recently started Blue Studio Dance in Lakeville, wanted to bring global

voices to Falls Village's children in her second FVCT play.

The actors began the production of "Folk Tails" as themselves — local children with tales to tell but not tails, reminding us that storytellers are the ones who pass history, humor, entertainment and lessons down through the centuries.

They soon transformed into tailed characters from Indonesia and Germany. A colorfully painted map of the world hung behind them with stars highlighting the locations where the stories and music of the performance originated. The children made the backdrop themselves with the help of local artist Jaimie Sadeh.

The youths also wrote part of the script themselves, performing characters they chose and words they wrote. "We believe creativity isn't just what's happening on the stage but everything behind it as well," said "Folk Tails" musical director Brook Martinez.

Music was interspersed between the tales, including an American song that used cups for percussion and another from Brazil that involved jumping over moving bamboo rods. "Each song incorporated an element of play, movement and fun," said Martinez.

Martinez is also the creative administrator for the storied, stained-glass, high-ceilinged Center on Main, which houses the FVCT. "We want to serve our town as a beacon of community creativity, a hub for us to gather that fosters the joy of being together in creative ways."



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of someone not yet 4 feet

tall. A sea of naked legs

and hips with the more

1950s is almost every-

where he turns in the

crowded beach scenes.

was high for the audi-

ence of both films and

photos, and differences

between mores of the

1950s and now, were

instructive. The "child

was one; also, as phy-

sician Neil Hoffman of

Millerton pointed out,

obesity was nearly ab-

We are now "slightly

sent in the crowd scenes.

taller, and much heavier,"

according to the CDC.

get — a paltry \$35,000

— and the fact that its

entire sound track was

tion, from its raucous

carnies to its haunting

terous child bickering.

Morris Engel's photos

taken in Harlem are

seeing Orkin's famed

"American Girl in Italy,

Florence," with model

through a crowd of leer-

ing men, is a treat. The 33 images on view range

in price according to

or Lifetime, Signed or

or Engel. The Gallery

whether they are Vintage

Stamped, by either Orkin

show extends until Sun-

Jinx striding chin up

recorded in post-produc-

harmonica riffs and bois-

At Mad Rose Gallery,

particularly riveting, and

Other astounding

facts were the film's bud-

alone in public" concept

The nostalgia value

modest swimwear of the

Kathy Plesser, at left in the foreground, and Amy Singer peruse books on Ruth Orkin's work, sold at the gallery for Oblong Books. In the background, from left, Mary Engel, Lisa Aiba, Richard Block and Steve Aresty are deep in their respective conversations.

FILM: DEBORAH MAIER

Orkin & Engel at Mad Rose

crowd of about 70 aficionados gathered at The Moviehouse in Millerton on Saturday, Nov. 18, for a screening marking the start of the new Orkin/ Engel exhibit at Mad Rose Gallery.

Gallery owner Neal Rosenthal thanked audience members and The Moviehouse for the opportunity to recognize the significance of Ruth Orkin's contribution to both filmmaking and photography, and to enhance the meanings and references in the photographs in the gallery show. He then introduced filmmaker Mary Engel, the daughter of **Ruth Orkin and Morris** Engel, whose 18-minute Sundance Film Festival-accepted documentary was shown first.

"Ruth Orkin: Frames of Life" is a tribute to the younger Engel's

mother, by all accounts an extraordinary woman from a remarkable family. In 1939, 17-yearold Ruth bicycled across the United States, using her 2 1/4-inch Pilot 6 camera to document street life along the way and to form her unique style. The trip, and a handsome catalogue of those photos, is currently featured at the Cartier-Bresson Foundation in Paris. The documentary features luminaries Mary Ellen Mark and Cornell Capa, among others, extolling Orkin's eye and discussing what makes photography art or not.

The original 80-minute "Little Fugitive," available on Kanopy and other streaming services, is compelling for its story of a small boy on the loose in New York City subways and at Coney Island, and visually rich

with its black and white compositions that are clearly, as Rosenthal pointed out, the work of a consummate photographer. Orkin was responsible for the editing and other uncredited work on the film, and present in some cameos.

In a post-film Q&A, Mary Engel addressed "questions people always ask" and others. Though casting was done in the usual way by approaching professionals and schools, the young hero Joey was played by 7-year-old Richie Andrusco, who was discovered on the carousel in Coney Island. Andrusco's mother permitted her child to take part, with the proviso that she would not pay for it. "We'll pay you, and take him off your hands for a month", she was told by the producers. Now 77, Andrusco never acted again, but did buy his family a house in Queens.

As to who directed the film, the astonishing answer was the young Andrusco himself, who was plied with treats and allowed to follow his wishes. One of the pleasures of the film is the perspective of the shots as seen through the eyes



day, Dec. 31. At The Movies



NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE ROMEO & JULIET Dec. 3 @ 1:30 PM

powerful but painful. Lisle had a violent phys-

Word for Word A Writer's Life Laurie Lisle

BOOKS: MIKE COBB

Pen to paper

small group gathered to hear Laurie Lisle speak in the great hall of the Norfolk Library on Thursday, Nov. 16.

Addressing the audience in front of the library's grand stone fireplace, library director Ann Havemeyer introduced Lisle and welcomed her to the podium.

Lisle read passages from her memoir "Word for Word: A Writer's Life" (Artemis Editions, May 2021). She cited morality, liability and veracity as three major factors to consider when writing a memoir.

"My feeling now is that it's best to discuss your work with your subject. It can lead to new and deeper understanding," she said.

Lisle explained how liability is another factor and that the First Amendment gives authors latitude. But she advised caution and recounted how she had a lawyer review her first memoir. "Luckily there were no problems," she said.

Speaking of the importance of veracity, Lisle said, "Facts are easier than memories and perception, which is freeing."

Sharing insight into independent publishing, Lisle described some of the challenges of working with established publishers. "They often give unwanted edits or even try to change the cover design," she said.

Platforms like Amazon.com have made things easier for independent authors. Lisle has used the Alliance of **Independent Authors** and spoke highly of the organization.

Addressing why people write memoirs, Lisle reflected on nearing 80.

"I began looking back at my life, and realized that memoir was a powerful form of self expression to tell my own story. I read the obituaries of friends. I started thinking about my remaining time," she said.

Looking inward was

ical reaction and ended up in Sharon Hospital, which she attributed to reliving painful memo-

"It wasn't always easy," she said. "My present self saw the dark side of my past self. But it helped me gain clarity and develop deeper relationships with my father and my first husband, which gave me a sense of forgiveness and peace. Memoir writing is a kind of literary alchemy. You can't change the past, but you can deepen your understanding of it."

In researching herself as a subject, she read her school report cards; walked her hometown of Providence, Rhode Island; read newspapers from the early '70s to capture the flavor of the era; and transcribed 40 journals and digitized the data.

"I realized that my essential nature had changed little," Lisle said. "Continuing with the memoir felt adventurous. But I didn't want the past to ruin the present. My husband Robert encouraged me to 'write the white flame of my heart.' Remembering became less painful through organizing paragraphs. It was hard but deepening. I found my way back to the happiness of the early years of my life."

Reading passages from Word for Word, Lisle portrayed an inspirational trek along the Continental Divide Trail in New Mexico overlooking the vast valley and high desert landscape where Georgia O'Keefe painted, and spoke of how she evolved from a teller of other women's stories to telling her own, giving up the third person for the first.

Enthralled, the audience asked questions about her process and if she would have been able to write "Word for Word" without her handwritten journals.

"The pace is different, and there's been a lot of research done on the benefits of hand-brain connection. I also like that no one else can read it," she said.



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Habitat for Humility

Maintaining a semblance of calm while nature does its thing

hat an exquisite time of The stripped-back landscape draws attention to the trees that are reluctant to let go of their leaves. As with

beeches, oaks can retain their leaves throughout the cold months; this trait is called "marcescence." It is the time of year when I can best assess the number of young oak trees; an indication of a healthy woodland. These are now silvery half-tones of maroon, umber and apricot, colors that humans would be hard-pressed to reproduce.

This year was critical for the oaks. On our property, almost a dozen of the largest oak trees succumbed to the spongy moth infestation of the past two years. This year's rains were essential to the recovery of the remaining oaks compromised by past seasons' drought and pestilence. While the hickory and northern cherry trees had mast years, producing an abundance of seeds, I suspect that next year barring a catastrophe will be the oak trees' turn at producing a mast year of acorns.

In contrast to the orange-red shades of the oaks, the blue-red leaves of burning bush stand proud in this muted palette, making them easy targets — same for the yellow-green of the remaining nonnative honeysuckle. Invasives tend to not only blossom earlier than native plants in the spring but lose their leaves later in the fall. We are working quickly to pull and cut them before they lose all their leaves and again become camouflaged next to their naked neighbors.

The animals for whom, in part, we have created this patch of native habitat are trying my patience. Beavers have had their way with several small trees



PHOTO BY DEE SALOMON



in the river garden. A witch hazel and a white birch were among the casualties. Both had been flourishing after we transplanted them a couple of years ago from crowded stands in the woods. The beavers do a tidy job — now you see it, now you don't.

A small woodpecker that I was admiring from the kitchen window has just about girdled the Florida dogwood it was feeding on. I have now wrapped it — the tree, not the bird — with tree tape and have fitted plastic tree protectors around some of the small bank-side tree trunks to deter the busy beavers. Then there are the voles who have dug under and through the remaining lawn as if to mock my environmentally sensitive efforts to even have such a thing as a lawn. Yet our habitat also includes Scout, who lives for playing fetch. Our lawn is for her and for our joy playing together.

Thanksgiving is over; the ground is starting to firm up, which is the sign that certain tasks, such as weeding, will need to be resumed in the spring. Other tasks such as seed planting need to be quickly wrapped up. Over the past few years, I

have spread the collected seeds of native plants without much thought and was not able to monitor any seed growth except to note that there has not been much germination of new seed. Could it be that the invasive jumping worms have so degraded the soil that germination is more difficult? According to a white paper by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, "Many native trees and plants (including garden plants) cannot germinate or develop in this altered soil."

This year I made sure to tamp down the crumbly worm-chewed soil before sowing the seed, but that may not be enough to do the trick. I have made a list of the places where the seeds were sown so that I can monitor any spring success. I have also repurposed empty plastic milk jugs and salad containers, filling them with potting soil and adding seeds. And I have sown the seed of my favorite native perennial — Silene regia, or royal catchfly — in the stone-surrounded beds at the side of the house.

There is joy. There is frustration. Creation and destruction. It is a privilege to witness Nature and to participate where and when it is needed.

Dee Salomon "ungardens" in Litchfield **FOOD: PAMELA OSBORN**

Carolina cheese bits

Then I was in high school, one thing we read was "Oedipus Rex."

The main message seemed to be that whatever was coming thundering down the road might be going to roll right over helpless you, regardless of any illusory thoughts about personal choices that you may have had pretty much an idea that chimes in pretty well with teenage angst, I now think. Anyway, I liked it and so, a few years later, I signed up for a class in Greek drama.

The teacher, a true scholar, was also head of the ancient Greek language department, and had translated a lot of the works we read himself. Sometimes he would point out errors made in other translations and sometimes, he said, these wrong choices had perverted the original author's work go ahead, roll your eyes to the back of your head. It was interesting, but I wasn't planning to go on "Jeopardy!" one day and it has all slipped away. I do remember one thing, though, which was his answer to his own question: What is a tragedy?

"Well," he said, "Joe tells his wife he's going out to buy a pack of cigarettes and off he goes. Unbeknownst to him, thieves on the third story of a building down the block have been unable to open a safe. 'I know,' one said, 'let's push it out the window, we can take it home and take our time with it. So they did, and when they got down to the sidewalk, they found the safe and Joe under it. They loaded up the safe and tossed Joe into the nearby river,



PHOTO BY PAMELA OSBORN

and when he surfaced a few weeks later, the newspapers headlined his tragic end. But what happened to Joe was not a tragedy, our teacher said, because Joe Never Knew What Hit Him.

And so I offer you these simple words: Plan ahead; be prepared. But the holiday juggernaut is about to roll over all of us and, despite what I've just said, controlling every event and outcome is unlikely. It doesn't hurt to have a few things in your back pocket to make some days a bit less frantic, however, and here is one, handy for drop-ins.

CAROLINA CHEESE BITS

1 cup flour

8 ounces shredded cheddar — I buy a block of Cabot sharp cheddar 1 stick unsalted butter

1/4 teaspoon kosher salt

1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper. I use a heaped 1/2 teaspoon. For a double recipe, which is what I always make, I use a heaping teaspoon.

1 cup fairly finely chopped pecans. (See the photo to get an idea of the size.)

Put everything except the pecans into a bowl. Mix together with your washed hand.

Add the pecans and mix them in. Form the dough into logs; I make them about the size of a 50-cent piece. If the dough is too warm this will be more difficult, so chill it a bit if you need to.

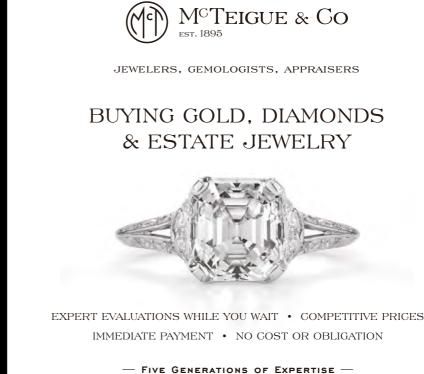
I find it's easier to form the rolls using the flat of my hand on wax paper. Wrap each roll in wax paper and refrigerate until ready to bake; a day or two is okay.

Slice the rolls into 1/4inch, or slightly thicker, coins. Bake on ungreased baking sheets (mine are not nonstick) at 325 to 335 degrees. Use 10 to 15 minutes as a guide it will depend on your oven, the heaviness of your baking sheets, etc. In my big oven, on a heavy sheet, it takes about 19 minutes.

Do not brown; your first batch will be instructive. They're still good if lightly browned, but better if not. Cool on racks. A single recipe makes about 100. A great thing about these is that they can be frozen for months, separated in layers with wax paper in tins. Make them now for the coming winter holidays; you'll be glad you did.

Pam Osborn keeps her kitchen in Sharon.





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TRI-CORNER CALENDAR

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

DECEMBER 2

Sherman Artists Open Studio

Sherman, Conn.

The third annual Sherman Artists Open Studio will be Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2 and 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Twenty-five local artists are participating in this year's Open Studio event. Artists will be in their studios, at the Sherman Town Hall, the Sherman Senior Center, and White Silo Winery. This is a chance to meet the artists, learn about their processes and do some holiday shopping. For more information, visit www.ShermanArtists.org

The History of Lahaina on Maui

Cornwall Library, 30 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn. cornwalllibrary.org

On Saturday, Dec. 2 at 4 p.m. The Cornwall Library will present authors Susanna Moore and Robert Becker in a talk entitled "The History of Lahaina on Maui," a conversation about the historic town of Lahaina that was destroyed by wildfires in August. Attend in-person at the Cornwall Library or on Zoom. Registration required: cornwalllibrary. org/events

Parent and Child Book Group

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

On Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., join us for a Parent and Child Book Group at the Scoville Memorial Library. For kids in the 3rd, 4th, & 5th grades and their caregivers, hosted by Miss Rita! We meet the first Friday of every month for reading and discussion. Register in advance to receive your own free copy of the book we're reading. Our first book is The Tale of Despereaux, by Kate DiCamillo.

A Christmas Carol: Marionette Performance by the **Puppet People**

Roeliff Jansen Library, 9091 Route 22. Copake, N.Y. roejanlibrary.org

On Saturday, Dec. 2 from 3 to 4 p.m., The Roeliff Jansen Library in Copake, N.Y., will host a marionette performance of Charles Dickens's classic tale, "A Christmas Carol," presented by the Puppet People. For more information see www. roejanlibrary.org/librarycalendar/ or www. thepuppetpeople.org/

This event is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

Books and Bling Sale

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

On Saturday, Dec. 2 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the Friends of Scoville Library (FSL) are hosting its 3rd annual 'Books and Bling' during the Merry & Bright Salisbury Hometown Holidays weekend. Donated jewelry and presentworthy books and puzzles will be for sale upstairs in the Library. Downstairs, the FSL stacks will be open for additional book buying. All proceeds benefit children and adult programs at the Library.

Old Time Dance

Cornwall Town Hall, 24 Pine St., Cornwall, Conn.

Come jingle your bells to contras, circles and squares on Saturday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Cornwall Town Hall. Live music by Kitch n Sync with a caller teaching all of the dances. Beginners and left feet welcome, no partner necessary. Non-electronic donation requested to pay the caller. For more information call Debra at 860-672-0229.

Annual Christmas Fair

UCC Parish House, 8 Bolton Hill Road, Cornwall, Conn

Shop local crafts and vendors, baked goods, and attic treasures at the UCC Parish House Annual Christmas Sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2. Upstairs in the church will be the children's shopping room. Pre-ordered wreaths will be available for pick-up. To order, call the church office at 860-672-6840.

■ DECEMBER 3

Hunting The Forest Spirit: Mythology and Anime

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

On Sunday, Dec. 3, from 2 to 4 p.m., join us for a new event for teens!

Anime is full of mythological themes. Come see how a new art form spins ancient stories. Led by Springfield City Library's Teen Librarian, Sarah Hodge-Wetherbe.

Holiday Market

4 Brook St, Lakeville, Conn.

The Lakeville Hose Company Ladies **Auxiliary Holiday Vendor** Market is Sunday, Dec. 3, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the firehouse, 4 Brook St. in Lakeville. Unusual gifts, food and fun.

DECEMBER 5

Small Business Seminar: Pitch Deck Dojo

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

On Tuesday, Dec. 5, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., learn how to pitch your business at this seminar presented by the Entrepreneurial Center at CT State Northwestern. Rick Plaut, investor, educator, and mentor to startups and founders across New England, will teach participants how to tell a compelling story about their business. For more information, or to register, contact **Entrepreneurial Center** director John Fiorello at 860-738-6444 or register online at www.nwcc.edu/

DECEMBER 6

Merry & Bright Crafts

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

On Wednesday, Dec. 6, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., stop by the library during Salisbury's Merry & Bright festival to create something fun and festive for the holiday season! Event will take place in the Wardell Room at the Library.

DECEMBER 8

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon Community Reading

Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, 10 Upper Main St., Sharon, Conn. hotchkisslibrary.org

The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon and the Sharon Historical Society & Museum invite you to participate in the live reading of Louisa May Alcott's Little Women. The first reading session will begin on Friday, Dec. 8 at 4 p.m. and sessions will continue until Saturday, Dec. 9 at 10 p.m. Sign up to read for 15 minutes and learn more up at hotchkisslibrary.libcal.

■ DECEMBER 9

A Rose in Winter Concert

St Andrew's Church 1 N Main St., Kent, Conn.

The Kent Singers will present A Rose in Winter on Saturday, Dec. 9 and Sunday, Dec. 10, at 3 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church in Kent, CT. The concerts will be conducted by our **Music Director James** Knox Sutterfield.

Tickets are \$20 in advance at kentsingers. com/category/tickets/ or at the door, with children

under 12 admitted free: further information available at 860-619-8110 or at kentsingers.com/.

12X12 Art Exhibition

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

On Saturday, Dec. 9 from 5 to 7 p.m., the David M. Hunt Library in Falls Village, Conn. will host the twelfth edition of 12X12, its annual art exhibition and sale which features over 60 artists this year. All works in the exhibition measure 12X12 inches and are priced at \$150 each. A portion of each sale benefits the library. For more information call the library at 860-824-7424 or visit huntlibrary. org/art-wall.

Current Fiction Book Group

National Book Award winner "The Rabbit Hutch" by Tess Gunty.

A limited number of books are available to borrow at the Scoville Library.

DECEMBER 12 Scoville Library Writing

Circles Scoville Memorial Library.

38 Main St., Salisbury, Conn. scovillelibrary.org

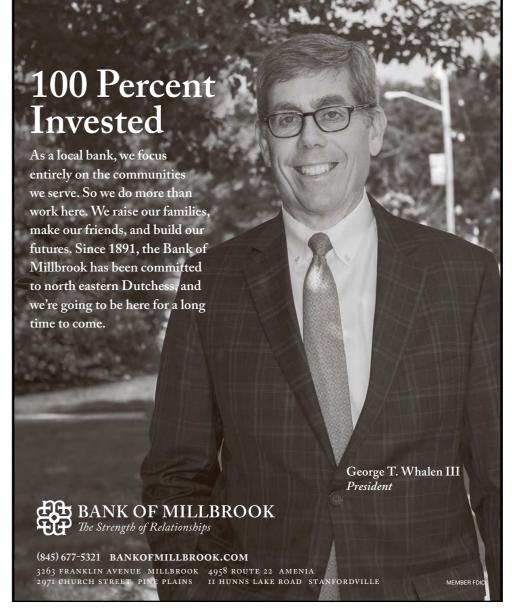
Starting Dec. 12 and 14. Using prompts as a springboard, this writing workshop invites you to write freely, read your work aloud, hear responses, and respond to others' writing. Workshop leader Karen Vrotsos has been teaching writing for over 25 years and is certified in the Amherst Writers and Artists method. Choose a Circle to join: Tuesday afternoons, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., or Thursday evenings, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The next 4-session cycle begins the week of Dec. 11. This inperson, Adult Programs workshop is limited to 10 participants. To register, visit scovillelibrary.libcal. com/event/11505458.



PHOTOS BY LANS CHRISTENSEN

Holiday Arts and Crafts Show returns to Merwinsville Hotel in Gaylordsville

The Holiday Arts and Crafts Show at the Merwinsville Hotel in Gaylordsville began Friday, Nov. 24, and will continue Friday, Dec. 1, to Sunday, Dec. 3. Pottery, glass, jewelry, wood and every kind of craft makes this a Christmas shopper's delight. The centerpiece is the astonishing model railroad village that occupies the hotel's main room and is simultaneously miniature and monumental. An entire visit could be spent appreciating and absorbing every minute detail of the village and its operating model train.







Our Towns



PHOTO BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Thanksgiving for all

The Rev. Dr. Eileen Epperson led the congregants in a prayer at the interfaith Thanksgiving service at Salisbury Congregational Church Tuesday, Nov. 21.

Christmas concert Dec. 3

SALISBURY — The Congregational Church of Salisbury will present its annual Christmas Concert on Sunday, Dec 3, at 3 p.m. at 30 Main St.

The concert will feature the church's Bell Choir, Adult Choir, instrumentalists, guests, and a special appearance by children of the Sunday School program.

The choir will sing music of Mendelssohn, Gjello, Lauridsen, Handel and Vivaldi, along with traditional carols for all to sing along. There will be a jazz piano trio playing some audience favorites as well.

Free to the public, director David Baranowski's musical gift provides a time of reflection surrounded by inspiring, soul-nourishing classical repertory. The Meeting House will open at 2:30 p.m., and masks are optional.

Real Estate

Salisbury's Holiday Weekend

On Friday, Dec. 1, holiday season festivities will kick off with a "Making Spirits Bright Stroll" in downtown Salisbury.

Local businesses will be open from 5 to 7 p.m. with special events and free food and beverages. Visitors can take part in a raffle for a grand prize made of gift cards and items donated from the participating businesses.

Saturday, Dec. 2, will feature activities throughout the day and evening, including a holiday market, food vendors, Scoville Library Books

& Bling, Noble Horizons Festival of Trees, choral concerts, and a holiday cocktail party at the White Hart.

Sunday, Dec. 3, will wrap up the weekend with a Parade of Lights, Santa Claus and the tree lighting at the White Hart and Town Green.

Donations will be collected for the local food pantry. Guests are asked to bring a nonperishable food item or two to deposit in one of the many collection boxes around town. Visit www. merrybrightsalisburyct.com for more information.

SWSA Ski and Skate Sale Dec. 2

SALISBURY — Salisbury Winter Sports Association will host its annual SWSA Ski and Skate Sale on Saturday, Dec. 2, at the Lakeville Hose Company in Lakeville.

The sale Saturday will run from 8 a.m. to noon. From noon to 1 p.m., sellers can pick up their money or unsold equipment. Any remaining equipment after noon Saturday will become the property of SWSA.

Proceeds from the sale will benefit several SWSA youth ski programs. www. jumpfest.org for more details.

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

Classifieds

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DIGITAL PUBLICA-TIONS PROCESSOR (CL-4)\$18.53/HOUR TO \$19.46/HOUR: Marist College invites applications for the position of Digital Publications Processor (CL-4) within the Information Technology department. The Digital Publications Processor (CL-4) serves as a member of the Information Technology team, providing specialized support to self-serve, file- to-print customers. Perform technical operations and support functions related to the publication, creation, and reproduction of various projects and documents for the Marist community. For more information on the position please go to: https://careers.marist.edu/ cw/enus/job/493507?IApplicationSubSourceID= or contact Human.Resources@

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is accepting applications for the immediate opening of a position for Heavy Motor Equipment Operator.ls a full-time, permanent position. Applicants must have a CDL Class A or B license valid for the State of New York. The ability to perform manual labor, including heavy lifting in all weather conditions is essential. The job will include operation of equipment and machinery as well as a variety of tasks in connection with the construction, repair, snow removal, drainage and maintenance of Town owned roads. Contact Highway Superintendent Carl Baden at 518-398-6662 to obtain an application. The Town of Pine Plains is an

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Company offers free online subscriptions to our website, tricornernews.com, for active duty military personnel from the Tri-state region. For more information or to set up a subscription. contact Sandra Lang at circulation@ lakevillejournal.com or 860-435-9873, ext. 301

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HOLIDAY

CHRISTMAS FAIR/TAG SALE: Sharon United Methodist Church. Dec. 2, 2023, 10 to 4 p.m. 112 Upper Main St. Sharon.

REAL ESTATE

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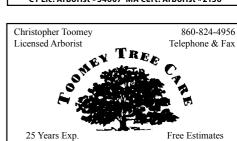
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