

THE SANDISFIELD TIMES

Tribunus



Plebis

RELIABLE. REGULAR. RELEVANT.

Volume VIII Number 7

October 2017

A Water Ceremony for Lower Spectacle Pond

By Bill Price

For a time, only the sound of drumming and a solitary flute echoed over the still water of Lower Spectacle Pond where a Navajo Sundance Chief led a water ceremony on Labor Day, September 4.

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company's work, for the most part, had paused for the holiday. Even the guards and state police who patrol Cold Spring Road seemed to lay back. And the nearly seventy activists who attended neither gave speeches nor blocked what little traffic passed by.

Jake Singer, the Navajo healer who conducted the ceremony, explained that he had come at the invitation of other Native Americans to make "an offering to the water." He asked that the water remain safe from potential contamination from its use by Tennessee Gas for hydrostatic testing of the completed stretches of nearly 4 miles of natural gas storage pipeline.

Before the ceremony, which included American eagle feathers, sacred stones, and smudging wheatgrass, Singer explained that the ceremony was really for "all water. Water has its own spiritual power."

He added, "We're calling the spirits and saying 'Hey, look down this way – help us out.'"

The tone at the water ceremony was solemn, peaceful, and respectful.

Of those attending the ceremony, nearly a dozen were veterans of a pipeline protest earlier this year at the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota. As a group, they now travel to pipeline construction sites "to protect water everywhere from potential contamination by fossil fuel infrastructure." ♡



Photo: Heather Bellow, The Berkshire Eagle. Used with permission.



By the end of September Tennessee Gas had completed all or most of the water withdrawal from Lower Spectacle Pond and, they claim, conducted the necessary water sampling from the pond during withdrawal. According to resident Susan Baxter who has monitored the pipeline construction since its beginning in early spring, the Department of Environmental Protection is stepping up to ensure Tennessee Gas follows the rules regarding the remainder of the pipeline construction, including the rebuilding of the "pigging station" where the new storage line will join the two existing pipelines. After hydrostatic testing of the new pipeline for leaks, the water withdrawn from Spectacle Pond was

to be discharged onto an upland area, rather than directly into the Clam River as originally planned. As reported in The Berkshire Eagle, "The federal Department of Environmental Protection does not allow a release back into a water body."

While protester/activists are no longer seeking to stop the construction of this relatively short but intrusive pipeline across a northern corner of Sandisfield, they are still keeping watch over the process. As Susan said, "There's no gas in the line yet."

Most local residents affected by the construction, which will continue at least until November, would like to see it finished so the corridor sliced through the woodlands can begin repairing itself. ♡

Your New Truck

Story and photo by Bill Price



At Town Meeting in May, voters agreed by more than the required 2/3 majority to buy a new dump truck for the Highway Department and to transfer "\$176,000 or any other sum" from the Stabilization Account in order to do so.

Patriot Freightliner-Western Star of Westfield was the only bidder at \$169,633.

Your truck, delivered in August, is a brand-new, 6-wheel heavy-duty 2017 Western Star 26,000 GVW dump truck with an all-season stainless-steel body. Its color is green. The truck is rigged for a snow plow, which the town already owns.

Highway Superintendent Bob O'Brien said it was like Christmas in August.

The sideboards, which did not come with the truck, are local in every way. The highway crew spotted an ash tree on the side of Town Hill Road that had been downed by the electric company protecting its power lines. They hauled the log to Billy Carr's sawmill in Tolland where Billy sawed and trimmed the sideboards as a gift to the Town.

Residents might remember the May 2015 Town Meeting when the voters tabled a motion for \$191,000 to buy a new 10-wheel dump truck that would have served double-duty as a snow plow and that a follow-up "truck committee" determined the town could get along without it for a while. Apparently "for a while" is now.

In mid-October the Highway Department will take possession of a new excavator, cost some \$68,322. Christmas in October? 🍷

SANDISFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 At Society headquarters,
 Rt. 183 at South Sandisfield Road

APPLE FEST
 Saturday, October 7
 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Vendors, tag sale, baked goods,
 apple cider demonstration,
 and more. Join us.

WINE AND CHEESE OPEN HOUSE
 Veteran's Day,
 Saturday, November 11
 11 a.m.

Speaker: **Ron Bernard**
 on Sandisfield's part
 in our country's early wars

Recent Appointments to Town Committees

RESIDENTS WHO HAVE STEPPED UP TO HELP OUT.

Board of Health	Roger Kohler
Community Center Committee	Anina Carr Constance Canty Donaldson Roger Kohler Dawn Odell Lemon Christina O'Brien Billie Pachulski
Conservation Commission	Mary Turek, re-appointed
Council on Aging	Nina Carr, co-chair Barbara Cormier, re-appointed Linda Riiska, co-chair, re-appointed Shirley Spring, re-appointed
Cultural Council	Rosanne Corinci-Hockstra Ellen Crobier Fischman
Finance Committee	Joe Gelinis, Chairman Kathy Jacobs steps aside as chair, remains a member. Roger Brown Bogart Muller
Planning Board	Roger Kohler (alternate representative between Planning Board and Berkshire Regional Planning Commission)
Recreation Committee	Robbin Campetti, re-appointed Lynn Rubenstein

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Random Thoughts at Summer's End

This was the summer the Rugg Bridge didn't get rebuilt. A selectman and a town administrator resigned. The pipeline continued to dig away. Broadband is maybe coming our way. Meanwhile:

Fire Chief Ralph Morrison reports that if volunteers do not step up to join the Emergency Medical Service team, Sandisfield could lose its EMT organization altogether.

If you've made a pledge to support the rehabbing of Fire Station #1 into an EMT/Fireman Training Center and Community Hall, now is the time to come through with the promise.

A random thought: Why couldn't Berkshire County have come up with a single solution to the county's broadband problem instead of letting every town peck away like chickens eating their own seed corn?

And another: Why can't the Commonwealth come up with a single method for each town to repair roads and bridges rather than letting

every town submit acres of paperwork and peck away like chickens eating their own seed corn?

And an even more random thought:

At the Arts Center September 23, Val Coleman presented a clear summary of fascism as it slowly eats away your seed corn while you watch your corn disappear a little at a time, saying "I still have some left" until suddenly you don't. He summarized::

"Holding onto a humane democracy requires a lot of holding. It slipped through the hands of Pericles and the Greeks and has had spasms in most parts of the world. By and large it has held fast in America these 241 years despite slavery, eleven wars, and the almost unquenchable greed of regular human beings. But always on the horizon is the madness of fascism, riddled with righteousness and prepared to eat us alive with its promise of superiority and wealth."

– Bill Price
West New Boston

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 7 P.M. OLD TOWN HALL

The first five articles are to amend items agreed to at the Town Meeting in May. The amendments will be explained at the Special Town Meeting.

The major focus of the meeting will be Article 6: a discussion of the excess costs of rebuilding Rugg Bridge on Rt. 57 over the Clam River. The state grant allows some \$1 million while the cost of the bridge will be in excess of \$1,300,000. The Select Board, the Finance Committee, and the Town Administrator will explain at the meeting where they plan to find the extra \$300+K. The bridge needs to be finished and paid for next June or the \$1 million grant is at risk..

Our New Town Administrator

By Tom Christopher



Fred Ventresco is no stranger to small-town governance. Indeed, this graduate of the University of Maine has served as administrator of five different towns in Vermont, Maine, and

New Hampshire. On October 1 he will raise the total to six, when he takes over the reins at Sandisfield's Town Hall.

Ventresco brings a full résumé: he worked in the private sector in banking, travel, tourism, and

economic development before undertaking public service, and has also worked for the State of New Hampshire's Department of Human Services and for Maine's Department of Labor. For more about Fred's professional background, see Select Board Chairman John Skrip's message on page 5. He is currently town manager in Limestone, Maine, and will move "closer" to Sandisfield.

With its \$3 million budget Sandisfield, as Select Board Chairman John Skrip points out, requires a lot of management, with reams of paperwork to be filed with the state. That's a full-time job, and Ventresco, in contrast to Sandisfield's two former town administrators, will enjoy a full-time position.

Among the challenges awaiting him, Ventresco cites the installation of broadband and the repair of the Route 57 highway bridge. "I always look toward making a positive difference," he says, "and adding value."



Learning to Help

A couple dozen Sandisfield kids got to climb into, over, and under Sandisfield fire trucks, emergency vehicles, and police cars on "Touch a Truck" day, held toward the end of September at the Library parking lot and gazebo, organized by the Community Center Committee. The kids watched a firehose shoot a stream of water far out into the Clam River, and those who dared touched the power of water at such a pressure. They tried on uniforms (none fit) and some of them (boys and girls both) may be harboring fantasies of joining their local volunteer fire department or EMT crew when they are old enough (EMT needs to be 18; can join Junior Fireman at 14).

Attention: High School Students

Can You Help?

By the Scholarship Fund Committee

We're looking for volunteers to help out with the Annual Town Holiday Fair, December 2.

The Historical Society is organizing the Fair this year, with the support of the Scholarship Committee. As always, the Fair will have the highly anticipated penny auction table, raffles, and the kids' crafts table. This year we will add a Holiday Yum table to boost our fundraising efforts.


And we need young people to help with all aspects of the Fair.

Think you can help out? Want to bring a friend? Even better.

As you set an example for your peers, you will also be earning community service hours toward any application for employment or future education. This goes for all high school students, not just seniors.

Not only is community service rewarding, you will meet new people, make new friends, and probably end up having yourself some fun.

If this sounds like something you would like to try, give us a call. We can always use a hand, a shoulder, a foot. Call either Nina Carr, 258-3314, or Laura Rogers-Castro, 258-4688, to sign up.

The Scholarship Committee is not funded by the town, and our committee relies on donations and fundraising events. One event each year is our ice cream sale at the Firemen's Steak Roast, which would not be possible without Chief Ralph Morrison's agreeable nature. Thanks again, Ralph, not only for allowing us to sell our ice cream but for your donation as well. Thanks as well to Nick and Barbara Elton for their generous contribution to the Scholarship Fund. 

Council on Aging

October 4, COA business meeting at 10:00 a.m.

October 7, Saturday, please attend and support the historical society's Applefest

October 18, pizza, cards, games starting at noon.

QiGong every Monday at 11:00 a.m.-12:00

October 25

Blood Pressure Clinic, 11:00 a.m.-noon.

SHINE Counselor, 11:30 a.m. (medical insurance information, open enrollment for Medicare Part B and drug benefit)

Reminder, we have volunteer transportation available on Tuesdays for medical appointments, shopping, rides on Wednesday to attend the COA luncheon, and social activities. Call Linda at 258-4816 for information.

Watch for Posters re: November Harvest Flower Arrangement class. 

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From Your Select Board

From John Skrip, Chairman

I can't believe Summer 2017 is over. I hope we can have a long Autumn and enjoy the beautiful Berkshires. When we consider the weather our fellow human beings are experiencing, we should all be very grateful for our environment.

The Town of Sandisfield is happy to announce that Fred Ventresco has accepted the position of Town Administrator. Fred has ten years' experience as a Town Manager/Administrator and has a BA/ BS in Public Management and Business from the University of Maine, Orono. He has completed all the coursework for a Masters of Public Administration (MPA) at the University of New Hampshire. He comes to us from the Town of Limestone, Maine, where he served as Town Manager since January 2015.

Fred will start work on October 1 and we look forward to his arrival. He will get a brief orientation period with our interim administrator Rick White so that important projects can continue without interruption.

A Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, October 23. The repair of Rugg Bridge will dominate the agenda. We will discuss various ideas of paying the shortfall between the State grant allocation and the bridge cost. This is a very important issue. I encourage your attendance at the Special Town Meeting.

Bids from construction companies are in for chip sealing of South Sandisfield Road and the remainder of West Street. If the weather holds we anticipate the work to be completed by the end of October.

Broadband. Sandisfield, Tolland and New Marlborough have sent over a term agreement (a basis for a final contract). We look forward to hearing from Frontier representatives regarding next steps.

Medical Waste Disposal. We thank the Sandisfield Fire Department for the use of Fire House #2 on September 16 where we conducted our medical waste pickup. Our neighbors and friends came by with old medications, needles and sharps. We collected about 45 pounds of waste.

Master Plan update. The economic development group has come forward with several ideas regarding revenue enhancement for the town. Suggestions range from solar farms, seasonal mobile home parks, and cell tower placements. As currently written, the Town bylaws are somewhat restrictive and won't allow us to even research possibilities. I have asked the Planning

Board to look into some bylaw changes and these will be presented at the town meeting for discussion.

The land use group is looking at what to do with Spectacle Pond. Along with the State Department of Conservation and Recreation, the group is exploring different ways to make the area more amenable to use by town residents.

We are encouraging other Master Plan sub-groups to come forward with ideas and to keep us up to date with their progress.

From Mark Newman, Transfer Station Updates

Some improvements are being made at the transfer station. The fence is being extended on both sides and a cover placed over the compactor. This remedy should help keep Refuge Violators – both two-legged and four-legged – out of the station.

I am exploring with the State for a cardboard compactor to be placed at the station.

Reminder: Bulk Waste collection – during normal hours – will be held at the transfer station from September 30 until October 8. From September 30, that is, if the container is delivered by then. 🗑️



OUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

The Berkshire Community College Spring 2017 Dean's List included, for High Honors, **Christian deManbey** and **Lyndsay deManbey** of Sandisfield. 🎓

Cultural Council

Cultural Council Grant Applications Due Now

DEADLINE OCTOBER 16

The Sandisfield and Otis Cultural Councils invite local artists, artisans, educators, lecturers, and performers to apply for state and town funding for cultural programs to benefit local residents in 2018.

Applications must be postmarked no later than Monday, October 16, 2017.

The mission of both councils is to provide access, education, and diversity in the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences for adults, teens, and children in our communities.

Sandisfield applicants must submit applications online. For information, contact tspohnholz@gmail.com.

Otis applicants can apply on paper as in the past, or online. Paper applications are available at the Otis Town Hall or download from the OCC page on the Town of Otis website, www.townofotisma.com. Online applicants go to www.mass-culture.org, click on Applicants, and follow the instructions given there.

Email inquiries for Sandisfield to tspohnholz@gmail.com. For Otis to culturalco.otis@yahoo.com or call Jeanne Randorf (Chair) at 413-269-4251. 🗑️

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The Librarian's Corner

By Terry Spohnholz

Library Hours: Monday and Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Wednesday, 2:00-5:00 p.m.; Thursday, 5:00-7:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m.-noon.

"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons."

– Jim Bishop

My favorite time of year has arrived. The trees are in full-color array, the air is as crisp as the fresh apples, and a growing pile of crackling brown leaves scatter across my back porch.

After the busy summer months, when I tend to cram as much activity into those sun-drenched days as possible (not that there were a whole lot of them this year), I like to relax and just enjoy autumn's gentle slide into winter. And, of course, I do that best with lots of books at my side. I take my detective shows – not on a scree in one-hour increments – but in strong measured doses of Sue Grafton, Patricia Cornwell, Elizabeth George, *et al.*, playing in my head.

October Events at the Library:

Kid Crafts with Lynn Rubenstein. Lynn will brew up some Halloween Crafts on Saturday, October 14, downstairs in the Community Center/ Lower Level Library from 10 a.m.-12 noon.

Storytelling on Saturdays at 9:30. A wee bit of story reading with juice and light snacks.

Monster Bash, Saturday, October 28. Get your monster on! Or your favorite Halloween costume. The Community Center Committee will host a family-style Halloween party. Games, costumes, apples, cider and more. Time is yet to be determined, but it will be later in the afternoon.

Pumpkin Carving. Saturday, October 28. The Sandisfield Arts Center will host pumpkin carving from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. They will supply the pumpkins and the tools and art supplies. Your kids provide the creativity!

Museum Passes

Our passes are good for the entire year, not just those summer days, so if you are looking for something to do (and educational as well), check out (literally) our passes to a half dozen Berkshire museums and art centers, including the Clark Art Institute and the Berkshire Museum.

Special Thanks

The Library would like to thank the Cultural Council for the grant this year that allowed the library to obtain family passes to the Berkshire Museum and the Hancock Shaker Village, as well as provide culturally enriching children's books.

New Books

7th Function of Language by Laurent Binet. Paris, 1980. The literary critic Roland Barthes dies – struck by a laundry van – after lunch with presidential candidate François Mitterand. The world of letters mourns a tragic accident. But what if it wasn't an accident, but murder?

Don't Let Go. In Harlan Corben's new thriller, he explores with suspense and emotional insight the big secrets and little lies that can destroy relationships, family, and even a town.

A Column of Fire. Kenneth Follet's latest historical novel continues the Kingsbridge saga that began with *Pillars of the Earth* and *World Without End*. *A Column of Fire* is set in the shadow of a great provincial cathedral during the age of Queen Elizabeth.

Sleeping Beauties. Another blockbuster from the king of horror, Stephen King, aided and abetted this time by his son, Owen. Just try to sleep if you read this one in the dark.

Unquiet Grave. From bestselling author Sharyn McCrumb comes a finely wrought novel set in 19th century West Virginia, based on the true story of one of the strangest murder trials in American history — the case of the Greenbrier Ghost.

So grab a bag McIntoshes or whatever your favorite eating apple (check out Riiska Brook Orchards on New Hartford Road for delightful varieties) and a bag of books from the Sandisfield Free Public Library and relax. 🍏



HARVEST DINNER

OCTOBER 21, FIREHOUSE #2

All the fixin's – turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, rolls, desserts. The works.

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Pipeline: September

Photos: Bill Price



During
 Where the pipeline crossed South Beech Plain Road, Tennessee Gas had to blast through Sandisfield's solid granite. The ditch was about ten feet deep here.



After
 The same place, after the ditch had been filled in and the pipeline buried. A piece of granite on the right side of the photo can be seen in the other photo with the top of the ladder leaning against it.



During
 Burying the pipeline on the east side of South Beech Plain Road.



After
 The same place, with the pipeline underground.

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In an effort to improve air quality, the American Lung Association is issuing grants to individuals with high-polluting, inefficient wood stoves. Vouchers will be awarded to change over a non-EPA stove to a new EPA-certified wood, pellet, or gas stove.

For more information, call or email Roger Kohler at the Board of Health. 413-258-0080 or rkohler.sandisfield@gmail.com.

historia (Greek) - "inquiry, knowledge acquired by investigation." The discovery, collection, organization and presentation of information about past events.

Why It Was Called the Rugg Bridge

By Ron Bernard

Editor's Note: It was news to everyone when the name "Rugg Bridge" appeared in references to the rebuilding of the Rt. 57 bridge.

In Sandisfield the names of bridges – and most roads for that matter – from the earliest days until recent decades were informal and had variations, often used simultaneously. The naming of this bridge is an example of that tradition.

The name as Rugg re-emerged in state documents about the current bridge repair, but no one in town in living memory called it that. People today know it as "the iron bridge," or "the bridge by the library," or "the Clam River bridge," among others. The name Clark bridge also appears in written accounts. So confusion abounds. Local historian and Times columnist Ron Bernard here offers background, plausible explanations, and a tribute to Mr. Frank Rugg, the bridge's namesake.

The truss bridge that crosses the Clam River on Sandisfield Road/State Route 57 between New Boston and West New Boston was reconstructed in its current form in 1938, probably as a consequence of damage from the great flood of that year. It was rebuilt in 1993 and was supposed to last for decades. This bridge, like all the others, was frequently repaired and was known by colloquial names through time.



The Rugg Bridge survived the flood of 1955. Photo: Joanne Olson

Detailed records about the history of bridges at this location are unavailable. However, the 1876 map shows one in place by then. Because there is no bridge on the 1858 map it is fair to assume the first bridge at this spot was installed after 1858, probably when the previous rudimentary road on the Clam's south bank was improved to become today's Sandisfield Road. Prior to this, westbound travelers used the narrow north side (today River Road) and crossed at the junction of the Silver Brook and the Clam near South Beech Plain Road.

This bridge in the early-20th century was also known as Clark Bridge, probably because Lyman Clark (1862-1920), originally of New Boston village, resided in the house close by. Clark and his wife, Lettie Gaylord, lived at that location between 1908 and 1920 (today the Brooks residence). The name Rugg Bridge is probably an earlier carryover.

Who was Frank Rugg?

Long-time Selectman Franklin "Frank" Rugg (1863-1955) and his wife, Isa "Izzie" Clark (1865-1941) resided across the street in the former historic Caleb Burt House (c.1820, burned 1993, Vogellus-Clark). The Ruggs owned several houses nearby which they rented. Frank was very active in business and civic affairs including as undertaker for the (West) New Boston Cemetery (see Times, July 2016).

He was popular, experienced and very competent. Residents looked to him to handle tough problems like bad roads and bridges. Certainly Frank had a significant role in the construction or maintenance of the bridge near his own home during his time on the Select Board, hence the honor.

I discovered the following mention in the July 23, 1952 Berkshire Evening Eagle, 32 years after he and Isa left town. It led me to seek more information about the couple and this remarkable man.



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SANDISFIELD -- Frank Rugg Retires. Frank M. Rugg, 88, a native of Sandisfield, has retired. He was a member of the Board of Selectmen for 22 years and chairman for 12 years. He left here in 1920 to join the Arrow-Hart & Hegeman Electric Company, Hartford, Conn., where he retired and will make his home with his cousin, Mrs. Eilin Clark in Winsted, Conn. Mr. Rugg is also a cousin of Jason Sears.

Read that first line again.

He retired at age 88!

Frank was 57 years old when he and Izzie moved to West Hartford and an important job with the fast-growing Arrow-Hart Electric Company at its sprawling factory complex in Hartford. A leading maker of electrical switches and components, Arrow-Hart was one of the largest employers in central Connecticut. Hartford city directories from the period list Rugg as Supervisor of Maintenance.

Why would such a socially and politically prominent and respected couple with deep roots and Clark family ties in Sandisfield leave it all for a new life and a demanding job in another place? And at his age. Amazing.


Here is my guess.

Rugg had boundless energy and high intelligence and aptitude. He was a really effective public official. But by 1920 with no children, grandchildren or siblings, after at least 25 years of community service, *he was bored.*

Frank was connected to Sandisfield blue blood through his mother Catherine Bosworth Sears. His grand uncle was the acclaimed theologian, educator and writer, Edmund Hamilton Sears who penned the carol, *It Came Upon The Midnight Clear*. Isa was a Clark, a member of the prominent and largest extended family in Sandisfield at the turn of the 20th century.

I am glad for at least one aspect of the unfortunate problem of our decrepit bridge: the opportunity to appreciate the legacy of a native son and his wife whose example of hard work and community service was honored by their peers with a bridge naming. Remarkably, Rugg was remembered publicly 32 years after moving away, a testimony to the enduring respect he'd earned here.

Isa Clark Rugg died in 1941 at West Hartford. Frank followed her in 1955, age 91, at Winsted. The Ruggs were returned to their home town and buried in the New Boston cemetery in view of the bridge, their former neighborhood, and the community they loved and tried to improve.

I say, long live the name Rugg Bridge. 



The Lewis Clark home on Sandisfield Road, New Boston, c. 1897. In front, right, is daughter Ida Clark Rugg with her friend and cousin, Celestia "Lettie" Gaylord Clark. Isa married Frank Rugg in 1885; Lettie married Lyman Clark in 1887.

Photo: Angela Campetti in Sandisfield Then and Now



During the 1955 flood, all of the road leading to the bridge was washed away, but the bridge stood like an island.



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Yellow Bowl Project Explores Fear of Immigrants

Editor's Note: Fifteen enlarged photographs taken by Setsuko Winchester of her Freedom from Fear/Yellow Bowl Project were shown together for the first time at the Sandisfield Arts Center in September. Seen as a group – or individually – the photographs of her 120 hand-crafted yellow tea bowls in different configurations at the site of each of the ten World War II Japanese internment camps make a powerful statement of purpose. Her unique journey of discovery took her to some of the most remote parts of the western United States where 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry were wrongly imprisoned during the war. The Sandisfield Times reported on the beginning of Setsuko's journey in its January/February 2016 issue.

Last month, Setsuko presented the story of her project at the Arts Center in a dialogue with her husband, Simon Winchester. The photographs, on view at the Arts Center until September 30, will move to Gallery 51 in North Adams during the month of October. This fall Setsuko will move them to the FDR Library at Hyde Park, New York, where they will be part of the photography exhibition for the 75th anniversary of FDR's signing of Executive Order 9066.

The Yellow Bowls themselves are currently on display at The Mount in Lenox, along a path through brush and woods. The exhibit will be open until October 31.

The following article was written about Setsuko's Yellow Bowl Project by Sandisfield resident Hannah Van Sickle and published in the local web newspaper, The Berkshire Edge, September 9. Reprinted by permission of the publisher and the author.

Yellow Bowl Project Explores Fear of Immigrants

By Hannah Van Sickle

"If ethnicity and race matter, then we should identify everyone's," is the stance being taken by Setsuko Winchester, the Japanese-American journalist whose Freedom From Fear/Yellow Bowl Project aims to diffuse fear, not spread it.

"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself," were the famous words spoken by FDR in his first inaugural address in 1933. The inherent irony – historically and to Winchester's project – is that this very fear our nation's president warned against resulted in the forced relocation and incarceration

of 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry shortly after Imperial Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 – the plight of whom Winchester considers, "the missing link in the story of race in America."

The intent of Winchester's project is to inform and to educate. In 2015, she began a journey to visit what remained of each of the ten camps where Japanese-Americans were unjustly imprisoned during the post-WWII era – camps created by the same person who delivered the iconic Four Freedoms Speech (his 1941 State of the Union Address): President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Winchester's original idea – an iteration, of sorts, on the trend of taking a stuffed animal or garden gnome on a tour of fabulous, worldly locales and photographing the journey for the sake of posterity – became somewhat implausible when she considered the reality of her idea: carrying 120 ceramic tea saucers to ten of the most hostile landscapes in America. But she was a success.



*Setsuko with her dog, Tusker.
(Photo: Hannah Van Sickle)*

"In my studio in Massachusetts I had hand-painted and glazed 120 bright yellow tea bowls: yellow, to represent the "Yellow Peril," as Asians were euphemistically referred to at the time, and tea bowls, to represent man's humanity. My plan was to photograph arrangements of these bowls in each camp," a task which, more than 16,000 miles later, was a success.

Winchester describes her travels, and the inherent obstacles: "Like the story itself, the camps seemed to have vanished into the dust of history ... However, a good map, and specialist guides found on the internet, suggested a route. We would visit the remains of the southern camps in the late winter of 2015, and the northern camps in the spring of 2016. Accordingly, along with my husband and



*The bowls packed for the road.
(Photo: Setsuko Winchester)*

two boxes containing the 120 fragile but very well packed bowls, we set out..." The rest, well, is history.

"The whole point is to be underwhelming," says Winchester of her project, one she identifies not as a ceramics project, a photography project, or an online project, rather a conceptual art project that – through a contemporary meme – she could look at and examine the society in which we live.

[At the time this article was published] Winchester's yellow bowls were displayed [along a winding path through brush and woods] at The Mount in Lenox. Since the project's installation, she trusted that her work was largely unmolested by visitors and passersby. She imagined, however, that in all reality the bowls disappeared a bit into the proverbial fabric of the woods – whether covered by leaves, filled with debris, or toppled by animals – in the largely parallel fashion that the story of Asian Americans has been all but eradicated from American history. "If [the yellow bowls] disappeared into the earth it would be symbolic of what happened to these people who were forgotten and erased in America's history," Winchester says with great passion while gesticulating wildly. But she is not force feeding others her message.

"Asian discrimination continues because it was legal – passed by an Act of Congress – it was the law to discriminate," she explains. Which segues to another of Winchester's goals: to correct the terminology. Japanese-Americans, even those who were as little as 1/16 Japanese, were detained in concentration camps – not internment camps – and the difference is more than semantics. By definition, interment is the legal incarceration of foreign nationals during times of war. Conversely, Japanese-Americans were – to use the proper terminology – held in concentration camps, defined as a place where large numbers of people, especially



Manzanar in California (Photo: Setsuko Winchester)

members of persecuted minorities, are deliberately imprisoned in a relatively small area with inadequate facilities. Of course the term, most closely associated with the camps set up by Nazis in Germany during the Holocaust, would have been far more controversial – albeit honest – had it been used.

Herein lies the motivation for Winchester’s decision to educate others. Unlike the mass extermination of more than 6 million Jews during the Holocaust, the imprisonment of Asian Americans was, quite conversely, “kept a secret,” says Winchester. These ten camps, described at the time as an “internal security” measure, are now considered to have been “unjust and motivated by racism rather than real military necessity,” as reported by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians.

“I wanted the viewer to get to know my tea bowls and by extension to become curious to know where they went and why. Perhaps by exposing these places of ‘fear’ we can finally exorcise the shame and guilt, and move forward rather than blame the victim or shame the oppressors. In other words, I hope we will always remember and try to forgive. My project may throw light on a discomfiting part of American history – but I hope not to condemn or blame, but help gauge where we are in this ever-evolving experiment we call ‘America.’”



Born in New York City of Japanese immigrant parents, Setsuko Winchester worked as a journalist, editor, and producer for National Public Radio before moving to Sandisfield in 2006.



Amache in Colorado (Photo: Setsuko Winchester)

Family Secrets

Poet Stanley Spencer, pictured here with Setsuko Winchester, narrated his poem “Family Secrets,” written in honor of Setsuko’s Yellow Bowl Project at The Mount in Lenox and at the Sandisfield Arts Center.



Photo: Michelle Arnot

A retired school administrator, Stan performs his poetry in bookstores, pubs, galleries, art centers, and museums. An excerpt from “Family Secrets:”

...

Some art makes you laugh.
You don’t know what it means but it makes you laugh.
Some art makes you cry.
You don’t know what it means but it makes you cry.
Some art is like that.

...

Sandisfield Historical Society



Apple Fest, October 7

By Ann Ward, President

Recently a few of us got together and spent some quality time cleaning and tidying up our building on Route 183 to receive our speaker, Berkshire Eagle columnist/historian Bernard Drew.

His presentation on September 10 was very interesting. It amazed me that some of those fellows during the Seven-Years War actually fought wearing kilts and carrying long swords. It was a very eye-opening description of what happens during war.

Our Apple fest will be held on Saturday, October 7, from 10 to 2 at our building on Rt. #183. The Council on Aging will be selling homemade apple pies again. There will be other items for sale made by our members, a tag sale, 50/50 drawing, and a demonstration on making apple cider. We hope to see you there.

On November 11, Veterans Day, we will host our wine and cheese open house featuring Sandisfield historian Ron Bernard who will tell us about the town's role in our country's early wars.

Our annual Christmas Fair will be held at Firehouse #2 on December 2, the first Saturday in December, with support from the Scholarship Committee. A wide variety of vendors will be there with an array of baked goods and many other things and hopefully a visit from Santa. ❄️



True and Fascinating

The popular Berkshire historian Bernard Drew presented the story of General Jeffrey Amherst's war road at the Historical Society's September 10 meeting. He is shown here with Ann Wald, the Society's president.

Drew told in some detail how, during the French and Indian War, Amherst carved a rough road for his 2,000-man army through the hilly, rugged terrain of the Beech Plain section of Sandisfield. The road coursed between Upper and Lower Spectacle Ponds where, later, Henry Spring built a popular tavern and way-station. During the American Revolution, the road was used by General Knox to haul the captured cannons from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston for General Washington. Traces of the Amherst Road/Knox Trail can still be found in the woods in northern Sandisfield. ❄️

Arts Center Pumpkin Event

By Lynn Rubenstein

Did someone say Pumpkins?

Yes ... you read that right ... Pumpkins. Free to the first 20 children at the Sandisfield Arts Center. We give them, you decorate them.

The Arts Center is hosting its first pumpkin decorating event. Local witches and warlocks have donated creepy paints, goulsh carving tools, and scary stickers to decorate the pumpkins.

Come dressed up if you have a costume ... if not ... don't unwrap your mummy gauze.

We have a barrel that Vlad our friendly neighborhood vampire left us ... he said it was only for delicious children.

Mark your calendars in orange ... Saturday, October 28, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Join us for some scary fun.

Question: What do little monsters eat?

Answer: Alpha-bat soup. ❄️

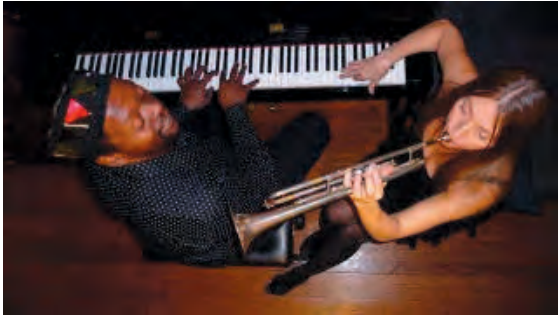


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Jazz at SArC

Just back from a tour of South Korea, duo Saskia Laroo and Warren Byrd will be joining drummer and percussionist Jocelyn Pleasant at the Sandisfield Arts Center on Saturday, Oct 7 at 8 p.m. for an evening of “pure organic Jazz.”

Dutch-born Laroo, one of the few women trumpet stylists, has been hailed as the “Lady Miles of Europe” and as a “Jazz Goddess”; vocalist and pianist Warren Byrd, a Hartford, Conn. native, has his own long list of international credits. Percussionist Pleasant who also hails from Connecticut, began her formal training at age 10 at the Hartt School Community Division and continued as a Presidential Arts Scholar at George Washington University.

In addition to original songs, Laroo, Byrd, and Pleasant will perform jazz renditions drawn from works by Charlie Parker, Chet Baker, Thelonius Monk, Dexter Gordon, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Duke Ellington. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at sandisfieldartscenter.org.



The Arts Center held a benefit in September that featured an Evening of Song with Music by Cole Porter. Brian De Lorenzo, Linda Mironti, and Kathy Lawrence (from left), with Michael Rheault at the piano, presented Porter’s widely popular and often witty musical theatre and favorite American songs. The event included a special intermission of prosecco and a resplendent table of special desserts, many made by members of the Arts Center and their supporters.

Photo: Peter Levine

Ciders, Cheeses & Moonshine Holler

Back in the day – the 19th century, that is – Sandisfield had many apple orchards and was known for its hard cider.

Thirty years ago, though, when Sandisfield’s Tom Christopher began making hard cider in Connecticut, this once ubiquitous beverage had almost disappeared from the local scene. Since then, a multitude of fine cider makers have sprung up all over New England.

To make up for lost time, Tom will host a hard-cider tasting at the Sandisfield Arts Center on Saturday, October 14, at 5:00 p.m.

The tasting will feature the products of several outstanding makers, matched with local artisanal cheeses and the music of Moonshine Holler. Tom will talk about the history of cider making in our region and then invite the audience to taste a flight of ciders from a variety of makers, both amateur and professional.

“We’ll explore a range of flavors and styles,” he said, “from traditional New England farmhouse ciders made locally to European-inspired versions from some of the best cider houses in the region.”



The music that will accompany all this tasting can only be described as “a two-person music festival that captures the essence of American southern roots music.” Sometimes rowdy, sometimes reverent, always a ruckus, Moonshine Holler features spine-tingling vocal harmonies, spirited banjo/fiddle breakdowns, hillbilly blues, jug band stompers and ballads. The crowd-pleasing duet has performed at festivals, concerts, and music camps across the country.

To join the fun, make your online reservations at sandisfieldartscenter.org. Tickets are \$20.

SANDISFIELD ARTS CENTER



5 Hammettown Rd, Sandisfield, MA
413-258-4100
SANDISFIELDARTSCENTER.ORG

In the Gallery OCT 7-28
Harvey Kimmelman

RECEPTION: SAT, OCT 7 2-4 PM

Sat, OCT 7 8:00 PM \$20
Saskia Laroo & Warren Byrd
International Jazz Ensemble

SAT, OCT 14 5:00 PM \$20
Hard Cider Tasting
MUSIC by MOONSHINE HOLLER

SAT, OCT 21 4:00 PM \$10
Story Slam
emceed by Sheela Clary

SAT, OCT 28 11AM-1 PM
Free
Pumpkin Decorating

SAT, NOV 4 8:00 PM \$20
Joel Brown



These programs are supported in part by a grant from the Sandisfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Back on a Smooth Track

By Seth Kershner

Reclamation of long portions of Town Hill Road and West Street were completed by mid-September and clean-up of the work sites had begun. Residents are learning that they no longer have to dodge potholes in the repaired portions of the roads.

Reclamation is a process which involves digging up the existing asphalt and grinding the material before re-grading, resurfacing, and rolling eventually finish the job. The term is “chip sealing” rather than paving. Sunderland-based All States Asphalt won the contracts for all reclamation work this season.

According to Highway Superintendent O’Brien, work on South Sandisfield Road and the remaining portion of West Street (from Route 57 to West Lake) could start in October, but may have to wait until the spring. “A lot of this depends on the weather,” O’Brien said.

Reclamation of the town’s roads has long been overdue. Local residents have complained loud and long about the pothole problems on both roads, but particularly on West Street. Prior to this summer, only six out of roughly 40 miles of blacktop roads in town had been resurfaced in the past 25 years.

In other news, O’Brien added that he has been in contact with Kinder Morgan about having the company pay for any damage its trucks have done to Cold Spring Road and a portion of South Beech Plain Road. Before work on the pipeline had even started, the company had made a verbal commitment to give the town one million dollars to cover the anticipated costs of infrastructure repairs. Despite appeals from State Rep. Smitty Pignatelli and other officials, as this article goes to press Kinder Morgan – which in 2015 grossed nearly eight billion dollars in profits, according to a business research service – still has not made good on its promise to Sandisfield. ♡



1



2



3

Photos this page.

Photo 1: Don't go there.

Photo 2: Town Hill Road, underways, near Yanner Park.

Photo 3: The aggregate for the reclamation, temporarily piled high at the Highway Garage.

Photos next page.

Photo 4 Highway employee Ralph Leavenworth re-piling the aggregate stored at the Garage..

Photo 5 Like making movies, road work requires a lot of standing around.

Photo 6 All State's grinder making the West Street potholes disappear.

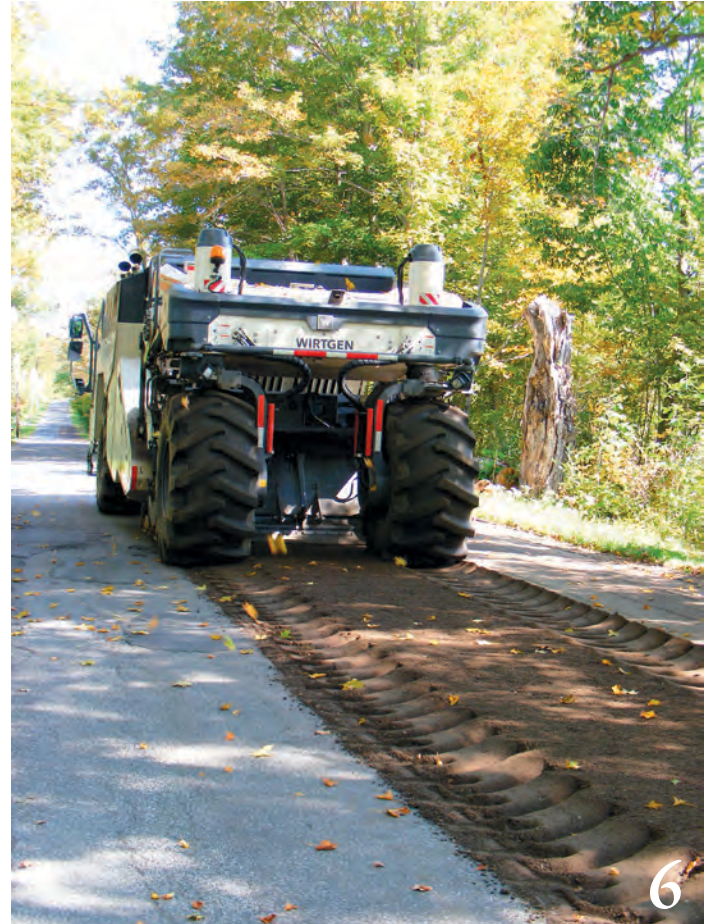
Photo 7 The New West Street Highway.

Photos: Bill Price





4



6



5



7

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Fire/EMS/Police Logs

Police:

911 Calls by Sandisfield Residents

Submitted by Michael Morrison, Chief

South Main is Rt. 8 south of Tolland Road;
North Main is Rt. 8 north of Tolland Road.

July, 2017

- July 1 Motor vehicle accident, Prock Hill Road
- July 6 Investigation, Breaking & Entering, Cronk Road
- July 9 Disabled motor vehicle, South Main Street
- July 11 Burglar alarm, Gremler Road
- July 12 Animal call, Sandisfield Road
- July 13 Suspicious activity, Town Hill Road
- July 15 Tree down, Cold Spring Road
- July 18 911 hang up, Sandisfield Road
- July 22 Noise Complaint, Sandisfield Road
- July 23 ATV/Off-road vehicle complaint, Roosterville Road
- July 23 Missing person investigation, West Hubbard Road
- July 25 Unattended Death (medical personnel not present), Lower West Street



- July 28 911 Medical call, Sandisfield Road
- July 29 911 Medical call, Sandisfield Road
- July 31 911 Medical call, Otis

August, 2017

- Aug 1 911 hang up, West Hubbard Road
- Aug 3 Burglar alarm, Hammertown Road
- Aug 4 Burglar alarm, Sandisfield Road
- Aug 6 Medical call, Sandisfield Road
- Aug 9 Disturbance, Cold Spring Road
- Aug 11 Motor vehicle accident, South Main Street
- Aug 16 911 hang up, South Main
- Aug 21 Shots fired, Town Hill Road
- Aug 21 Motor vehicle accident, North Main Street
- Aug 22 Burglar alarm, Sandisfield Road
- Aug 24 Burglar alarm, Beech Plain Road
- Aug 26 Illegal burn, Sandisfield Road
- Aug 31 Motor vehicle accident, Sandisfield Road

Fire:

July, 2017



- July 1 Lifting assistance for EMS
- July 1 Investigate smoke condition
- July 7 Fire alarm activation, no fire
- July 21 Fire alarm activation, no fire
- July 23 Carbon monoxide detector

August, 2017

- Aug 11 Motor Vehicle accident, no injuries
- Aug 21 Motor Vehicle Rollover, no injuries
- Aug 26 Unattended outdoor fire

EMS:

July, 2017



- July 1 Medical call
- July 6 Medical call
- July 8 Medical call
- July 11 Medical call
- July 12 Medical call
- July 25 Medical call
- July 28 Medical call
- July 29 Medical call

August, 2017

- Aug 4 Medical Call
- Aug 5 Medical Call
- Aug 6 Medical Call
- Aug 13 Medical Call
- Aug 21 Medical Call
- Aug 21 Motor Vehicle Rollover, no injuries
- Aug 26 Medical Call
- Aug 31 Medical Call

Nearby College Reduces Tuition for Mass. Residents

NCCC OFFERS CONN. STATE TUITION RATES

By Seth Kershner and Bill Price

Northwestern Connecticut Community College (NCCC) in Winsted now offers in-state tuition rates to residents of Massachusetts. This reflects a new policy announced by Connecticut State Colleges and Universities.

Tuition at the nearby community campus is suddenly more affordable. With Berkshire Community College tuition at \$6,200 for Massachusetts students taking a full semester of 15 credits, Sandisfield and all other Massachusetts residents now qualify at NCCC for in-state tuition of only \$159 per credit hour or \$2,138 per full-time semester (12 or more credits).

This is good news for college commuters from Sandisfield, most of whom live only about half an hour from the Winsted campus.

NCCC offers programs that lead to the Associate in Science degree, the Associate in Arts degree, plus credit and non-credit Certificates. A press release from the college sent to The Times reported that the school offers a strong liberal arts education, with 39 quality degree and certificate programs; small and affordable day, evening and online classes; an accelerated nursing program; Connecticut's first veterinary technology program; American sign language and interpreter preparation programs; programs in the fields of criminal justice, allied health, early childhood education, business, computer science, and more.

The student body includes many first-time, first-generation college students and a substantial number of non-traditional students. With a full- and part-time student population of 1,319 in the spring of 2017, the campus definitely has a small college feel. Most students are preparing for careers or for transfer to four-year colleges. Many work part-time to pay for their college expenses.

NCCC is located in several buildings near the town green in Winsted at the intersection of Routes 8 and 44. For more information, visit: www.nwcc.edu.

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Comings and Goings



DORA M. OLIVERIO 1935-2017

Long-time seasonal resident of the Sandisfield Center section, Dora Hake Oliverio, 82, died on September 15 at Rockville Center, Long Island, N.Y.

She was born May 24, 1935 in Westersode, Germany, where she was educated and trained as a medical laboratory technician before becoming a registered nurse in New York. She immigrated to the United States in the early 1950s and resided full-time on Long Island.

Mrs. Oliverio was the grand-niece of the Bavarian-born artist Joseph Bay who, in 1942, built a distinctive Bavarian-style house in "German Village" on Sandisfield Road. (Bay's life and the house and its new owners were subjects of an article in the March 2017 issue of *The Times*).

Dora inherited the property in 1975 upon the death of Mrs. Bay after having spent summers with the Bays starting in 1953. According to the account in the *Times*, she "reluctantly put the house and its guest cottage up for sale in 2006. Besides original whole-house stenciling and painted surfaces, both units included all of the Bay's 1940s-style everyday furniture and neat accessories and artwork even Joe's stencils and his case of professional artist brushes. Dora hoped that new owners would appreciate and retain everything as it had been for almost 75 years. A visitor remarked that the place was stopped in time, the interior reminiscent of a museum display."



*Dora Oliverio with Joseph Bay in Sandisfield, 1954.
(Sandisfield Then and Now)*

Her wishes were met in 2013 when Steve and Christine Pincus, also of Long Island, became new owners. The Pincuses were honored as "Heritage Heroes" by the Sandisfield Historical Commission last February for their commitment to preservation of this unique house. The Pincuses said about Dora, "She was a wonderful person who especially delighted in telling about her time as a young woman while in Sandisfield. Dora and her daughter Melissa said we were the right couple for this house to keep the legacy of Joe Bay. We were fortunate to have known her."

She leaves her son Michael and her daughter Michelle (Jim Gilbert) and her grandchildren, Isabella, James, and Kate. She also leaves her sisters, Joachim Hake, Alwine Eggers, and Ella Ney. Her husband Mario predeceased her. Internment took place at St. Charles Cemetery, Farmingdale, New York.



Letters to the Editor

Broadband

Great work done by all involved to secure this deal with Frontier! Bringing in other towns as well is a huge help, and us living on Jamie Lane sure hope the town of Otis will follow suit.

Frontier will give this town much more than just an Internet option making it more desirable.

I'm also glad the town isn't going to own and have to maintain the system. It is all fine until there is a problem, broken pole, a fallen tree, or the fiber needs repair.

Can't wait for the spring!!

*Kris Raifstanger
Sandisfield*

Anonymous Letter

The Times received a letter from "Anonymous." We can't print anonymous letters, unless there is a specific reason and the writer acknowledges their identity to us. This letter listed a few pet peeves. (1) People walking their pets without leashes. (2) People driving dirt roads at unacceptable speeds. (3) People driving through STOP signs. (4) Lack of police presence which might be why people feel comfortable doing items 1, 2, and 3. If you're the author, let us know who you are and we'll print the whole letter next month.

Thanks from American Legion Post 456

Our thanks to local businesses and individuals who donated winning prizes and raffle awards for our Turkey Roll event in September.

The American Legion donated our first prize of five live lobsters. Other generous donors included:

- A&M Auto
- Bob Ball
- Bruce's Hardware
- Kathy and Steve Carroll
- Maria Domato
- Farmington River Diner
- Katie's
- New Boston Sleds
- Park Place Hardware
- Riiska Brook Orchards
- Tuckers
- Villa Mia
- When Pigs Fly Farm

Former Resident Writes Memoir

By Bill Price



A long-time summer resident of Sandisfield, Cecily Kohlsaas Hitchcock has published *Same Time ...Same Station*, a memoir of her life with her husband, Peter, who died in 2013 of Parkinson's disease.

In the 1920s, Peter's grandfather built a seasonal, partially winterized home on a hilltop off South Beech Plain Road behind Snow Farm. Cecily, known to her friends as Ceci, first came to the property with Peter in 1959. They spent nearly every summer there until she sold it in 2015.

The memoir details Ceci and Peter's courtship and 54-year marriage, their careers and many moves as they followed Peter's work as Special Counsel, International Division of Allied Chemical Corporation. Included are love letters intended to keep them close during separations. She outlines her and Peter's annual visits to Sandisfield and mentions local individuals and families, particularly those who helped her and Peter during their

final years at "Thurtilperk Hill."

Ceci writes that her husband "wanted me to write about our strong love and the compassion we shared." And, she added, her husband wanted "to reach out to those coping with Parkinson's. It is amazing how he accepted the disease – to live in the present, enjoying life. I hope my words are inspiring, uplifting, and even challenging."

Same Time ... Same Station is available from First Edition Design Publishing (941-921-2607) or from book stores or Amazon.com. Paperback, \$14.95. Ceci also donated a copy to the Sandisfield Library.

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Edited by Laura Rogers-Castro. Please send notices for Now Hear This! to editor@sandisfieldtimes.org.

OCTOBER EVENTS

Sandisfield Historical Society Apple Fest on Saturday, October 7, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Old Meeting House on Route 183 at South Sandisfield Road. Vendors, tag sale, bake sale. For more information, call Ann, 258-4415.

In the Gallery: Harvey Kimmelman Opening Reception on Saturday, October 7, at 2:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. Harvey's artwork reflects traditional methods of drawing and painting as practiced by the great Renaissance artists. On display October 7-28. For more information, visit www.sandisfieldartscenter.org.

Saskia Laroo & Warren Byrd on Saturday, October 7, at 8:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. World-renowned jazz trumpeter Saskia Laroo from the Netherlands and international pianist/vocalist Warren Byrd from Hartford, Conn., create a smorgasbord of music. Online tickets are recommended to ensure a seat (www.sandisfieldartscenter.org). \$20.

Church Service on Sunday, October 8, at 10:00 a.m. at the New Boston Congregational Church, Route 57. All are welcome.

Crafts for Kids with Lynn on Saturday, October 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Library, lower level. This craft day, led by Lynn Rubenstein, will feature Halloween!! Story time at 9:30 upstairs, prior to crafting.

Glass Decorating and Card Making on Saturday, October 14, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Sandisfield Fire House #2, Route 57. Pre-registration required (call Kathie, 258-4943). Cost for supplies, \$10.

Hard Cider Tasting conducted by Tom Christopher with music by Moonshine Holler on Saturday, October 14, at 5:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. Tom Christopher will speak about the history of cider making in our region followed by a taste of ciders from various makers. \$20.

Card Making on Friday, October 20, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Sandisfield Fire House #2, Route 57. Pre-registration required (call Kathie, 258-4943). Cost for supplies, \$10.

First Annual Fall Harvest Bazaar on Saturday, October 21 at the Community Center, basement level of the Sandisfield Library. Fundraiser for the Community Center. Time to be announced.

Story Slam on Saturday, October 21, at 4:00 p.m. emceed by Sheela Clary at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. Live storytelling with the theme "Rescue." If you have a story you'd like to tell, contact Sheela at sheelaclary@gmail.com. \$10.

Special Town Meeting on Monday, October 23, 7 p.m. at Old Town Hall at 3 Silverbrook Road. To determine how to pay for excess estimate for repair of Rugg Bridge on Rt. 57.

Pumpkin Decorating on Saturday, October 28, at 11:00 a.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. All decorating supplies provided, including non-toxic paints. Halloween Costumes suggested. A free pumpkin for the first 20 children.

Halloween Monster Bash on Saturday, October 28 at the Community Center, basement level of the Sandisfield Library. Fundraiser for the Community Center. Time to be announced.

Harvest Dinner on Saturday, October 28, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Firehouse #2 on Route 57. Turkey and all the fixin's! Take out available and tickets available at the door. \$12, adults, \$6, under 12.

OCTOBER EVENTS IN SURROUNDING TOWNS

Berkshire Botanical Garden's Harvest Festival on Saturday and Sunday, October 7-8, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Garden on 5 West Stockbridge Road (intersection of Routes 102 and 183) in Stockbridge. Vendors, hay rides, kids' activities, silent auction, pumpkins, and ornamental gourds. \$7, adults. Free under 12.



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*The Times is grateful to readers
who have donated this month.*

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Editorial Staff

Editor: Bill Price

email: w.billprice@gmail.com or cell 413.429.7179

Advertising/Subscriptions: Ron Bernard

Graphic Design: Tina Sotis

Website: Jean Atwater-Williams

Now Hear This!: Laura Rogers-Castro

Founding Editor: Simon Winchester

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