

THE SANDISFIELD TIMES

Tribunus



Plebis

RELIABLE. REGULAR. RELEVANT.

Volume IX Number 6

September 2018

The “Where is Sandisfield?” 5K Run

AN EXCITING NEW EVENT

By Billie Pachulski and Theresa Spohnholz

Runners and walkers of all ages, shapes, sizes, and abilities are invited to join us on Sunday, September 30, for a fun-filled 5K jog along Cold Spring Road. Time to breathe in the crisp fall air, take in the surrounding beauty of the Berkshires, and get your legs moving.

Sponsored by the Sandisfield Community Center Committee, the group is inviting everyone from town, and runners from outside as well, to participate in a 5K Run in our town. It’s the first time our committee has sponsored a run, and it may be the first-ever organized run in Sandisfield.

5K is five kilometers and it’s not that long, 3.1 miles. The course will be along Cold Spring Road from the boat ramp at Lower Spectacle Pond toward Rt. 23, turning at a mid-point to return to the pond.

The race kicks off at 10 a.m. Participants can pick up their “race bib” on Sunday, from 8 to 9:30 a.m., at the registration tent next to the boat ramp at the pond.

After running (or just strolling) along Sandisfield’s autumn race course, participants can enjoy light refreshments during the awards ceremony, held at the historic Sandisfield Arts Center.

CONT'D P.2



This eastern pearlshell mussel, a little more than 5 inches long, is decades old.

Pearlshells in Our Rivers

CRUCIAL FOR THE WATER’S HEALTH

Story and photos by Tom Christopher

“We’re pretty conspicuous,” Dr. Peter Hazelton replied, when I asked how I would recognize him and his research team. “We’re probably the only folks in the [Otis] library parking lot who are putting on wet suits.”

In fact, I found them without any trouble on a Friday morning in August; my goal was to tag along on their census of mussels in a stretch of the Farmington River. And they were no less conspicuous after they climbed out of their Jeep onto the riverbank. (Dr. Hazelton asked me not to reveal the exact location). After equipping themselves with goggles and snorkels, they aligned themselves in a row across the river and began to creep upstream, scrutinizing the rocky bottom as they went.

Exactly 24 minutes later (calculated so that the five team members would cumulatively invest 220 minutes, exactly two hours, in the hunt) they

CONT'D P.5

INSIDE



NEW LIFE FOR TWO STORES?	2
MOREOVER: BRADLEY	5
BOARD SAYS “NO THANKS”	7
THE BIRDS OF AUGUST	11
SOIL & SHUL AVAILABLE LATER THIS MONTH . 14	

"Where Is Sandisfield?" 5K Run

Cont'd. from page 1.

Pre-registration at \$22 is available at the Berkshire Running Center, 34 Depot St., Pittsfield, or at www.berkshirerunningcenter.com. Day of race registration is \$30.

The first fifty runners to sign up via the Berkshire Running Center's website before September 5 will receive a free commemorative T-shirt. Visit the Sandisfield Community Center Facebook page for more information.

Race proceeds benefit the Sandisfield Library and Community Center. Another benefit is that out-of-town runners get a lovely introduction to our town.

So dig out those running shoes. Tell your friends, your relatives, and spread the news about Sandisfield's 5K fun run!

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING, OCT. 16

Save the date. A special town meeting will be held at Old Town Hall on Tuesday, October 16, at 7 p.m. The general purposes will be:

1. To vote on the method to be used to pay for part of the Rugg Bridge repair (likely about \$70,000). The official warrant will be issued in late September. The funds are already allocated, but the Select Board and Treasurer would like to change how the funds will be appropriated.
2. To move funds into the Yanner Park account.
3. To make two zoning bylaw changes to accommodate the Green Community designation. There may be other minor bylaw changes.

PRIMARY ELECTION, SEPT. 4

From the Office of the Town Clerk

The State Primary will be held Tuesday, September 4, 2018, the day after Labor Day. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall, 3 Silverbrook Road.

If you are enrolled in a party you will be given that party ballot. If you are unenrolled or in a party designation, you will need to tell the election workers what party ballot you want.

The State Election will be on Tuesday, November 6, 2018. The polls will be open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. also at Old Town Hall. The last day to register to vote for the State Election is Wednesday, October 17, 2018. This year there will be early voting in addition to absentee voting. Early voting will take place in the Town Clerk's office, dates and hours to be posted.

New Life for Two Stores?

A Special Letter to the Editor

THE OL' SILVERBROOK CAFÉ

Since I closed the Silverbrook – and then the famous actress Karen Allen filmed her "A Tree. A Rock. A Cloud." movie there – the place has been empty. It was sad to drive by every day.

Well GREAT news. My dad bought the property! He will be fixing the place to try and bring back its "glory."

We're not sure what the future holds, but stay tuned ...

In the meantime, as the "new" owners of the Silverbrook, we are conducting our own market analysis. What you would like to see in the building?

We will install a suggestion box on the porch or you can send a text to 860-480-5317 or email us at atdandrealeather@gmail.com. I will also be posting on Facebook and Instagram. I hope you send us your suggestions.

Connie D'Andrea
Silverbrook Road

THE MONTEREY GENERAL STORE

By Bill Price

Sandisfield residents **Chapin and Kevin Fish** have bought the former Monterey General Store and plan a complete renovation before reopening as a basic breakfast and lunch destination with a few local food supplies (milk, eggs, etc.), and a small bar. A lead story in the August 24 Berkshire Eagle, by reporter Heather Bellow, outlined the challenges the partners face in operating a local store in a small Berkshire town. But as owner/operators of Farm & Home in Great Barrington, Chapin and Kevin have experience in running a small mercantile. Farm & Home is also the location of Brockman Real Estate where Chapin is owner-broker.

The article quoted Kevin: "We want to create a space that people love and to come back to. We realize that it's going to be a destination, so we want it to have a lasting impression."

Chapin added: "It has to be a destination, otherwise it can't be a viable business. An affordable, welcoming place."

They have a lot of work before they can open the place and they do not project a "when." They just believe they can do it.

Also in Heather's article, Chapin mentioned his own town: "Living in Sandisfield, we know what it's like to have a town you drive through, and it's hard not having that magnet, that heart of the community where people can gather and talk and exchange ideas and hang out.

Amen to that, we say.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

A Co-Editor Joins The Times

It takes a good-sized team of volunteers to produce the newspaper you're holding in your hands (or reading online). Our team just went up by one.

Co-editor of this issue is Seth Kershner, who has been writing for The Times since May 2017. For three years, he's owned a home on Sandisfield Road that many readers will remember as Daffer's Restaurant. It's the place with the goats.

Seth already knows a lot about Sandisfield from attending Select Board meetings, getting to know his neighbors, and making friends in town. He grew up in a small town in Upstate New York and moved to the Berkshires during

high school (Monument Mountain). After a stint in the south for college, he returned to the Berkshires in his early 20s and has been here ever since.

A freelance writer who has been published in magazines and newspapers, Seth joined the faculty at Northwestern Connecticut Community College in 2012, where he teaches research skills, tends to the library, and advises the campus writers' club.

We welcome him to The Times.

*Bill Price
West New Boston*

AROUND TOWN

By Bill Price

SELECTMEN'S MEETING SCHEDULE

Facing Sysyphean tasks, the Select Board ended its biweekly summer sessions early and returned to meeting every week from August 20. About fifteen residents and non-residents have attended recent meetings. All are welcome.

YORK LAKE BATHROOMS: IN TIME FOR LABOR DAY

Last month's announcement of the York Lake bathrooms being opened this summer seemed premature. The remediation of rodent and mold issues, after the bathrooms had been closed two years, took longer than the Department of Conservation and Recreation had anticipated.

But on August 22, selectman Brian O'Rourke announced that the bathrooms are now open and will remain so through much of September, if not longer. Next summer, too.

RUGG BRIDGE

The improperly finished decking on the Rugg Bridge, which opened only in May, was attended to recently by the decking manufacturer. The Select Board announced on August 27, however, that during the repair further infrastructure issues were revealed. All parties – the board, the town DPW, the construction firms, and engineers – will soon meet to discuss next steps and responsibility. River Road again served as detour, this time without stoplights which vexed a few truck drivers.

COLD SPRING ROAD

The resurfacing of Cold Spring Road, damaged by last year's pipeline construction, was expected to begin the last week in August. The road will be rebuilt using the chip seal method of oil and stone. There will be delays and detours in the Beech Plain section.

TOWN BUDGET SEASON APPROACHING

Budget packets will be sent to all town departments, boards, and committees the second week in September. Spreadsheets will be sent electronically. Deadline for submission will be November 30. After the proposed budgets have been reviewed, the selectmen will meet with the department and committee chairs as needed until January 15.

Town Administrator Fred Ventresco will contact chairpersons beginning November 1 to ensure they are progressing on the budgets. Support will be available as needed. Accepted budgets will be passed to the Finance Committee which will have until the end of February to review and meet with chairpersons as needed. March 15, 2019 will be

the final date for changes to the warrant or for any submission such as initiative petitions.

The Select Board and Town Clerk advise chairpersons: "We will adhere to the deadlines."

SOLAR FIELDS

Selectmen recently discussed at a Board meeting that it is increasingly unlikely that a major solar panel installation firm will come to Sandisfield. The last two applicants were interested town-owned land in the Center Cemetery and a section of Yanner Park, but once the companies learned they would have to install 3-phase electrical connection from the sites (which requires about \$1 million per mile to build) their applications were withdrawn.

TRANSFER STATION

Dump permit fees for 2019 will stay at this year's level of \$65 for at least another year. Although the town is facing a second Department of Environmental Protection inspection, it has not yet addressed the problem areas identified by the DEP during the spring inspection. ♡

AMERICAN LEGION PAVILION AVAILABLE FOR GROUPS

Contact: Post 456 Commander Maria Domato

May-October (413) 258-4578; November-April (941) 624-2459

Email: yankeefruitloop@gmail.com



★ Special rate, Sept-Nov: Daily rental \$200 (reduced from \$300)

★ Renovated 800 sq. ft hall with band / DJ stage

★ Fully equipped commercial kitchen includes cook & dishware

★ Beautiful riverside field with pond and covered fire pit

★ Season May-October (Off season, field and covered fire pit available)



Town Residents Push for Gun Control

A DRIVE TO NEWTOWN RALLY

By Rita Kasky

On Saturday, August 11, I picked up my nephew, Jeff Kasky, at Bradley International Airport. That evening we found time to trot off to the Sandisfield Firemen Steak Roast where he had a great time meeting some of our local friends and neighbors. But the reason he'd flown in was to attend the next day's March for Our Lives/Road to Change rally in Newtown, Connecticut.



Sandisfield's Lorraine German and Rita Kasky with Rita's grandnephew, Cameron.


Photo: Steve German

Newtown is where the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting occurred in December 2012. Jeff's home in Florida is where the Parkland High School shooting took place last February. The Newtown rally was the final stop on a 65-city nationwide tour organized by Jeff's son, my grandnephew, Cameron, after the Parkland assault. The tour was part of a campaign to promote voter registration and a change in our country's gun laws.

The morning after the steak roast, Jeff and I picked up Flora Parisky in New Boston and headed to Newtown for the rally. As we were getting out of the car in the parking lot near the event we ran into two other friends from Sandisfield, Lorraine and Steve German. The five of us joined what turned out to be another 2,000 people, all there to support the students' efforts. There was music, food and voter registration tables with long lines of young people signing up. And then there were the student speakers.

These young speakers, who came from near and far, addressed the enormous audience eloquently, firing up the crowd and speaking at times hauntingly about their shared experiences with gun violence—not just in school but in some of their communities as well.

Cameron's comments were thoughtful and provocative: "As long as people continue to demand what we need from our government, someday, as long as we continue to move forward, even if it takes until the kids who are in high school now are running for office, we'll be able to have new gun laws passed. It's a marathon, not a sprint."

I'm very proud of this young man, and of Jeff, his dad, whose three days in Sandisfield gave us time to catch up with family news that inevitably included Cameron and his younger brother Holden, who was with him in school on that horrendous day last February. I am grateful that I can still put my arms around them and tell them that I love them. 

Out on a Limb: an op-ed

Subjects should be interesting to most of us and have a strong link to Sandisfield, written by and for Town residents. Address either PO Box 584, Sandisfield, or email editor@sandisfieldtimes.org

WHO STOLE MY BROWN PLASTIC GARBAGE CAN?

It's gospel!

I came home, full of vinegar
Having just swimmied in the community pool
And my garbage can was gone!
The grand ol' brown plastic drum
That sat solemnly at the edge of my porch
Every day, without fail,
Beckoning flies ... was gone!

It suits me, this garbage can,
Suits me just fine right there on the horizon
Filled with old wet boxes and bad poetry
And a two-foot stink.
It's the leftover best of me.
But it's gone!

Now ... who wants my garbage can?
It can't be the FBI ... they closed my file
A long time ago ... and it can't be a neighbor,
I'm too old and boring to have interesting trash.

And I won't blame the bear!
He's too smart to have sinned.
Hold it! I know who's the villain!
It was Mariah!
You know ... the wind!

Val Coleman
West New Boston



BEER ★ WINE ★ LIQUOR
Domaney's



Fine Wine ★ Unique Beer ★ Discount Liquors
Temperature Controlled Wine Room ★ Cigar Humidor

66 Main St. Great Barrington, MA 01230

p. (413) 528-0024 ★ f. (413) 528-6093

www.domaney.com

Pearlshells in Our Rivers

Cont'd. from page 1.

stopped to compare notes. They had found just one mussel, an eastern pearlshell – *Margaritifera margaritifera* as it is known scientifically. The boulder-clad bottom with its turbulent series of pools and plunges was not ideal mussel habitat, Hazelton noted. He hadn't chosen the site; it was dictated by a randomizing algorithm on his smart phone to ensure that the survey as a whole, a series of 30 such snapshots, would produce an accurate picture of the population of mussels in the watershed.

Still, what the team had found was significant. Eastern pearlshell mussels live only in clean, cold, oxygenated waters—a type of habitat that they share with wild trout. The association is not coincidental: the mussels' juvenile larval stage attach themselves to the trout's gills to hitch a ride to different parts of the waterway where as adults they will make their homes.

Once settled, these mussels can live a long time. Indeed, they are some of the longest lived creatures on the planet. In Scandinavia, eastern pearlshells have been found which, by counting the layers of their enclosing shells, have reached 200 years old. In Massachusetts, where waters are less cold, the mussels' lifespan is shorter, but it can still stretch to five or six decades.

An aquatic ecologist with Massachusetts Wildlife's Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Hazelton has been working in partnership with the University of Massachusetts Amherst as part of a six-state study funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The goal has been to identify the type of habitat most hospitable to a variety of freshwater mussels.


Such humble creatures may seem like an esoteric interest, but according to Hazelton they play a fundamental role in the rivers' ecologies. Each mussel may filter as much as 20 gallons of water a day. Where they are plentiful, such as in Sandisfield's Clam River, they have the potential to filter virtually the whole flow of the stream. By extracting algae, bacteria and sediment from the water, they not only cleanse the river, they also transfer nutrients from water to bed, serving as the basis of a food chain that supports populations of other invertebrates such as stoneflies and mayflies that in turn feed trout and other fish.

The presence of any of these species is also a marker of a fairly pristine habitat; populations of freshwater mussels have been declining throughout the Northeast because of pollution from industrial sediments and other factors.

The good news is that they remain abundant in Sandisfield. The survey there retrieved one elliptio and ten pearlshells. The largest of the

pearlshells, which measured 129 millimeters (a fraction more than 5 inches) long, was a venerable, decades-old elder. Equally significant from Hazelton's perspective was a much smaller individual, a juvenile only a few years old that indicated the population is still reproducing.

Although Hazelton found brook floater mussels in the main stem of the Farmington, none had turned up in any of his surveys of the Clam and Buck rivers which, he believes, were too rocky and fast flowing for that particular species. He was pleased, though, to find abundant pearlshells in the Clam.

Still, the data he gathered was important. It will not only help in the identification and preservation of habitat for these increasingly rare molluscs, it can also influence habit management. Hazelton, a self-described "Berkshires boy" who still has family in Dalton and South County, is doing his part to keep the local aquatic ecosystem thriving. 

BUT NOT TO EAT

"None of our freshwater mussels should be used for food," says Dr. Peter Hazelton, director of the project. "They should be left alone for the sake of river conservation. If you see them, think about how long they can live – some up to 70 years – and how important they are to fish and the streams. Like most wildlife, they're best appreciated in their habitat and left alone."



Top: The team prepares to enter the river. Left to right: UMass student Kate Keery, Massachusetts Department of Fisheries and Wildlife aquatic biologist Leanda Fontaine-Gagnon and technician Ray Bressette, Dr. Peter Hazelton, and UMass student Sam Romania.

Bottom: Taking a dive into the Farmington.

Mussels found in the Farmington during a search in June. Photo: Dr. Peter Hazelton, Mass Wildlife





Moreover...

Bradley

By Simon Winchester

My first encounter with Bradley Airport, about twenty years ago, was memorable, but not in a good way.

I had been coming back from London to Kennedy airport, since at the time I was living in New York. I was on United, and as usual was listening with half an ear to Channel 9, to the exchanges between our pilot and the various controllers below – to Heathrow departure, to Shannon Oceanic, Gander Oceanic, Moncton, Boston, and finally to the New York Tracon. We were coming down for our approach, the flight attendant had given me my jacket, when I heard a sudden laconic announcement from New York: *ground stop immediate, weather below minimums, all approaches aborted...*

Darn! So close. But we were low on fuel, and the captain requested a diversion – and we were given Bradley. “Sorry folks,” he came on the Tannoy. “But it won’t take long.”

Well, it did. We had been due to land at JFK at 10 p.m. Instead we landed at 10:10 p.m. at the former Windsor Locks wartime air base – named for Gene Bradley, a young father-to-be who died there in 1941 in a training accident. And what ought to have been a routine suck-and-go to refill our tanks turned into a small nightmare.

Because we were coming in from London, a foreign city, and because our captain had requested fuel, and moreover had briefly left the plane to check on the fuel’s safe delivery into our tanks, the control tower at Bradley refused to release us until until we had cleared US customs. And because it was now 11 p.m. the resident customs officers had left for the night. One duty officer was on call, but he couldn’t be found. Until he was, and was persuaded to sign the right piece of paper, we had to stay put.



Eleven became midnight, Friday became Saturday, usually placid passengers, most of us just a few score miles shy of home, became restive. It was finally 1 a.m. when a weary captain – like us, forbidden to deplane since we were now in customs-bonded no-man’s land – came on the speaker again. The customs guy had been located. He had taken his girlfriend to dinner in, of all places, Providence, Rhode Island. He was on his way back, in double quick time.

The more charitably-minded among us, wondering if he had been proposing to his girlfriend – for why else go that far? – prayed only that he drove

safely and didn’t excite the local constabularies en route. He did, and he didn’t. He screeched to halt under our wheels at around 2:15 a.m., scratched his J. Hancock onto a proffered sheet of flimsy, and left, to the applause of those watching through the port-side windows. We were airborne at 2:35 and landed at JFK at 3:15.

To add insult to my own small journeying injury, my New York taxi driver insisted, thinking I was a tourist, that after 2 a.m., all journeys from the airport were charged double – sixty dollars. If I didn’t pay, no baggage. So I paid, then reported him – the only time I ever did – and a year later had the modest satisfaction of seeing him fined fifteen hundred bucks.

So then, all in all, Bradley in 1998 was, for me, not a place associated with aviation delights. Where now, it clearly is. It is closer to Sandisfield – 50 minutes – than La Guardia is to my Manhattan flat. The journey there or back is almost an idyll – farms, fields, animals, tobacco barns. And the airport is still small, intimate, its officials – even the TSA folks – generally charming, housewifely, comforting. There is a fine little bookstore, there’s a nook where you can sit quietly and get a nearly-free breakfast, the local shops do not sell Chanel and Mont Blanc and Lora Piana, but Brooks Brothers, Filson, and Woolrich. There is a 6:10 p.m. to Dublin each evening, moreover, and if there’s a promotional fare you can nip over to Ireland in five hours flat, and you’re wide awake on getting there.

So, another fine reason for living in Sandisfield: the closeness of an airport I have now come to love – well, perhaps not to love: this is flying and this is America, after all – but to like, somewhat – and these days, that’s saying something. ♡

For lovers of world-class music
and lively literary chat.
— Rural Intelligence

Music
and More

Saturdays at 4:30 pm

Through October 6

At the historic Meeting House
In scenic New Marlborough, Mass.

September 8 TENET: Vocal Artists Uno+One

TENET’s featured sopranos Jolle Greenleaf and Molly Quinn collaborate with harpsichordist Jeffrey Grossman and theorbist Adam Cockerham. This music ensemble has won acclaim for its innovative programming, virtuosic singing and command of repertoire that spans the Middle Ages to the present day.

September 15 Gilles Vonsattel, Pianist

An artist of extraordinary versatility and originality, Gilles Vonsattel performs Brahms, Beethoven, Benjamin, Webern, and Schumann.

September 22 Neave Trio

The Neave Trio has performed to acclaim around the world, and returns to New Marlborough with a program of Haydn, Schumann and Shostakovich.

September 29 Paul Green and his Band

Groundbreaking Clarinetist Paul Green and his band present a program of Jazz, Klesmer, and Sephardic music.

October 6 Award-Winning Authors with Host Simon Winchester

Simon Winchester interviews guest Ian Buruma, editor of the *New York Review of Books*.

ART SHOW in the Meeting House Gallery

NEW MARLBOROUGH ARTISTS

September 1 - October 7

Saturdays & Sundays 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FOR TICKETS & INFORMATION: www.newmarlborough.org

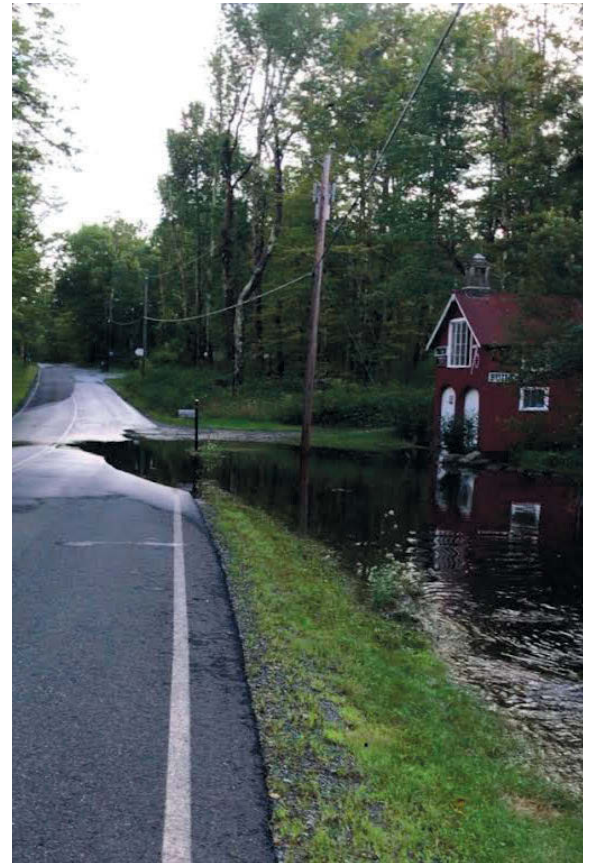
(413) 229-2785

Just a Saturday Storm

A torrential downpour hit Sandisfield on Saturday, August 18, at one point sending five inches of water flooding across the Transfer Station. The Sandisfield Fire Department was called out to protect a bridge in danger of washing away (it didn't) and to provide traffic safety. At least two driveways on Rt. 57 near the Transfer Station washed out. The ditches of several dirt roads disappeared and in some places sections of the roads, too. The worst damage was to Hammertown, Silverbrook, and Beech Plain roads and Lower West Street. Working overtime, the DPW had the roads mostly passable by Sunday and Monday, but the crews will be still finishing some of those sections over the rest of the summer and maybe into the fall. 🇺🇸



Ralph Leavenworth of the DPW carves out a deeper runoff ditch on Silverbrook Road. Photo: Bill Price



A pond overflowed and ran across New Hartford Road. Photo: Alex Bowman

Board Says "No Thanks" TGP OFFER TOO ONE-SIDED

By Bill Price

At the Select Board meeting August 7, the board rejected an offer from Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company of a \$50,000 "donation" to the Town. The donation was originally to have been a gift, but now has many unacceptable conditions.

In TGP's proposed agreement, the gas company was to be held harmless for any past, current or future claims to damages due to last year's pipeline construction in the Beech Plain section. Board member George Riley said, "One serious gas leak and we'd be liable for much more than that amount."

Town counsel strongly advised against signing the agreement, and the board voted unanimously to reject it. The board said they would let TGP know that they are open to negotiations, but not an agreement so much in the gas company's favor.

The rehabilitation of Cold Spring Road was excluded from this latest version of the agreement. In addition, the agreement did not affect Kinder

Morgan's responsibility to the Town Conservation Commission for work still to be completed along the pipeline right-of-way. At its July meeting, the Commission met with Kinder Morgan representatives who acknowledged that some reseeded was still necessary, and that rain would be needed. As we well know, some rain did indeed fall in August. KM also needed to conduct a "walk through" with the State DEP representative and provide erosion protection along the pipeline corridor. 🇺🇸




Love is Beautiful

Love is beautiful
Something to cherish
With all your heart
Because some day
You may look back
And wonder how all those years slip by.

Mary Ann Gacek
Cold Spring Road
Written years ago.

RALPH E. MORRISON **413-258-3381**



A & M AUTO SERVICE

COMPLETE AUTO & TRUCK CARE
IMPORT AND DOMESTIC
24 HOUR HEAVY DUTY & LIGHT TOWING & RECOVERY
FLAT BED SERVICE

ROUTE 57/EAST **SANDISFIELD, MA 413-258-3381**



GARDENS
*A Full Service
 Nursery and
 Design Center*

Trees · Shrubs
Perennials · Mulch
Water Plants · Stone
Waterscaping
Site Development
Stone Work
Landscaping
Large Ponds

*Over 50 Years
 Experience*

www.lookingglassgardens.com

www.cwnelson.com

Mon-Sat 8am - 4pm

19 Dodd Road
Sandisfield, MA 01255
chuckwnelson@earthlink.net

(413) 258-3375

Thank You One and All

RECENT APPOINTMENTS/VOLUNTEERS

By Times Reporters

PLANNING BOARD

After nine years as a member and eight as chairman, Gary Bottum decided it was time to step away from the Planning Board. He had enjoyed serving, he told The Times, adding that the hardest issue he faced as chairman was writing bylaws. "You show a draft to anyone and they have a new and better idea. Roger Kohler helped very much with the solar panel bylaw that was passed at the last Town Meeting."

In fact, Roger Kohler was elected chairman to replace Gary. Roger has been on the board for a year and has served as alternate delegate to the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. He said, "I'm thankful to work with such knowledgeable and committed board members."

Other board members are Paul Gaudette, Tom Jacobs, Bob O'Brien, and Willard Platt, with Dawn Lemon as secretary.

BROADBAND COMMITTEE

John Skrip and Bill Haines were appointed to the Broadband Committee. Haines will serve as an advisory member, replacing George Wheeler who submitted his resignation in July. As a non-resident, Haines can serve as an advisory member without voting power. He joins the committee after a career in IT development in New York City. The committee now consists of Jeff as chairman, Doug Rocco, John Skrip, and Bill Haines.

YANNER PARK COMMITTEE

Seven residents have volunteered to serve on the Yanner Park Committee. With chairman Adam Brown, the members of the committee will be Jessica Cofrin, Kathy Jacobs, Roger Kohler, Bob Tarasuk, Susan Tarasuk, and Alexandra Tinari. ♡

A Tough Film to Watch

AFTERWARDS, ALL VEGAN

By Seth Kershner

On a rainy mid-August afternoon, a group of around 15 brave souls came to Great Barrington's Mason Library for a screening of "Dominion," a new feature-length film exposing the realities of animal agriculture using footage from drones, as well as hidden and handheld cameras deployed by activists working undercover at slaughterhouses.

Sandisfield resident Lucy Spieler, 19, who organized the event on behalf of the Berkshire Vegan Network, showed poise and passion in her brief set of remarks to the audience.

Spieler had her work cut out for her. It is difficult to introduce a film like "Dominion." Produced in Australia, narrated by leading Hollywood actors like Joaquin Phoenix, the film gives viewers a visceral sense of just how much carnage is involved in getting cheap meat to market.

Afterward, we were all ready for vegan comfort food. Lucky for us, Spieler had put together a delicious spread of meat-free treats. As participants mingled and munched, several said that the brownies and Tollhouse cookies were just as yummy with vegan butter.

"Dominion" is available for download at dominionmovement.com. ♡





Another Car Crash on Route 8

By Bogart Muller

Wednesday, July 25, 2018, about 3 p.m.

A very loud crash followed by a horrendous rumbling that made the pictures on my living room wall shake. Startled, I jog to the end of my driveway to see yet another terrible collision, this time involving an 18-wheeler. Speed, of course, seems to have been the culprit. Cars, motorcycles and large trucks scream past my house every day treating the posted speed limit like it wasn't even there. The short passing zone offers a dangerous chance to bust loose from the crowd.

But people do take that chance. Cars are smaller today, and built lighter, faster and easier to drive. People have shorter fuses and will risk overtaking three cars at once going 75 miles per hour just because they have been stuck in line behind them since Otis or Winsted. They will fly past the no-passing zone if the timing is right without any consideration for the safety of others or themselves on any given day. Complaints to the state police seem to fall on deaf ears. Only after a collision like today, I might see a random state police vehicle for about five minutes in the area.


In 2009, Smitty Pignatelli (a man of action, not words) and I sat at the end of my driveway watching cars sail by. His office immediately went to work putting up signs advertising a no passing zone, just to calm down the speeders we witnessed that day.

Why our town does not patrol down here on South Main Street is beyond me. It is what I would call, "Money Lane."

Let me ask this: What *don't* you do when traveling through Monterey on Route 57 past the Lake Buel boat launch? Everybody knows there is a patrol car waiting there. And without question they will pull you over and fine you for exceeding the speed limit, even by just a little.

We could apply the same thinking here. A police officer could sit at Roosterville Road (which has its own speeder problems) and within minutes nab a person doing something illegal, take a five minute ride elsewhere so they don't get flashed (drivers warning drivers), and repeat the process. This could be done a few hours during the week and a few hours on weekends, increasing safety and bringing in revenue for the town. Over time, people will get the idea: watch your speed.

This is the second major crash this year less than a mile from my house, on the same road my family, friends, and neighbors drive on every day. Speed is the problem, and irresponsible drivers only make matters worse. With more and more cars and trucks on the road, once you throw in distractions like phones and GPS, what you get is a roulette wheel.

Please drive safely. 

Out on a Limb: an op-ed

Subjects should be interesting to most of us and have a strong link to Sandisfield, written by and for Town residents. Address either PO Box 584, Sandisfield, or email editor@sandisfieldtimes.org

**The Berkshires'
Premier Boutique
Real Estate Firm**

**with a unique gift of
matching just the
right property with
just the right buyer.**

**(in part it's because we work
really hard and we listen)**

**#1 Selling Realtor in the Berkshires 2017 - Chapin Fish
(just as he was in 2013, 2014, and 2015)**

BROCKMAN
real estate
berkshiresforsale.com

**Considering Selling?
Contact us for an honest and
professional market analysis.**

**Visit us at our store & office
276 Main Street
Great Barrington**

farm & home
American-made & Quality Goods, Gifts
& Furniture for the Home and Garden

**farmandhome.us
berkshiresforsale.com
413-528-9100**



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, 10:00 a.m.-1 p.m.

The morning had dawned clear and cold, with a crispness that hinted at the end of summer.

George R.R. Martin

Here is that moment when I know summer is drawing to a close: the first golden leaves hesitantly float down toward the river and then spin lazily along the current, brushing against the still vibrant greenery. Then I know in my heart autumn is waiting in the wings to make its grand entrance. That lovely list of adventures I had intended – go to the ocean, explore a lighthouse, hike the Appalachian Trail, and other great ideas are now, again, a list for next year.

But that is okay. Summer will come again and

in the meantime I can go adventuring to beaches and lighthouses through the medium of books and never get a sun burn!

Happenings at the Library

Saturday, September 2, the library will celebrate its Summer Reading Program participants with an end-of-summer party. This year's program was Reading is a Superpower! So wear your super hero costume or not, and join in an afternoon of games, piñata, water fun, and ice cream. The fun will begin at 1:30 and end at 3:00 p.m.

Look for the return of **Lynn Rubenstein and her awesome Kids Crafts** after the Labor Day weekend. Dates and times to be announced.

AND OTHER THINGS

The library has several family passes for five museums in Springfield (including both the Dr. Seuss Museum and the Children's Museum), the Clark Museum in Williamstown, discounts for the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford. Have an adventure. Explore your world.

NEW BOOKS

Us Against You by Fredrik Backman – The sequel to "Bear Town."

A Gathering of Secrets by Linda Castillo – Chief of Police Kate Burkholder is called in to investigate a deadly fire that exposes the dark side of Amish life.

Circe by Madeline Miller – This bold and intimate retelling of the goddess's story is both epic and bold in its scope. Miller recasts the infamous goddess in the Odyssey as a hero in her own right.

Calypso by David Sedaris – Humorist Sedaris presents a series of great essays from a really not so geeky Samuel Pepys, though he does place a revelatory light on the more extreme facets of our societal spectrum through his bizarre and pithy prism. He holds a mirror up to nature and shows us how others see us.

The Cutting Edge by Jeffrey Deaver – The twists and surprises keep coming in this roller-coaster ride of a thriller. High-level suspense, the jewel trade up close and personal, and an insider's tour of New York City with intelligent characters. A gem of a thriller. 📖

By all these lovely tokens September days are here, with summer's best of weather and autumn's best of cheer.

Helen Hunt Jackson



The Hillside Garden Inn

An Intimate B&B

The perfect place for your out-of-town guests!

Offering gracious, warm hospitality and charming, immaculate accommodations in the historic c. 1784 Elijah Twining house.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

- Five-Star **Trip Advisor**® Rating
- Sumptuous, Multiple-Course Homemade Breakfast
- Screened-In Patio Overlooking Tranquil, Park-like Grounds and Beautiful Lush Gardens
- Welcoming Wraparound Porch Overlooking the Farmington River
- Easy Access Flexible Check-In/Out Times

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

3 Tolland Road
 Sandisfield, Mass.
 413.258.4968
www.hillsidegardeninn.com

Sandisfield Historical Society



By Ann Wald, President

Election of officers was conducted at our regular monthly meeting August 11. Our slate of officers remains the same: Ann Wald, President; Vicky Bakunis, Secretary; Barry Freedman, Treasurer. We discussed future meetings and fund raisers. Lunch was enjoyed by all. We are open to everyone.

We'll hold a regular meeting Saturday, September 8, at 11 a.m., at our meeting place on Sandy Brook Turnpike (Rt.183). All are welcome.

Watch for the dates of our events this fall and winter.

We'll hold our Annual Apple Festival in October, with all things apple.

In November we will honor our local veterans with guest speaker Ron Bernard. On that same day we will hold our Annual Wine and Cheese Social.

December will bring our Christmas Fair.

You can reach me at 258-4415 or annaw2@verizon.net. 📖

CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR INFANT OR TODDLER'S DEVELOPMENT?

Call PDC SOUTH today & we'll set up an appointment to come to your home to talk with you about any concerns you might have. Trained therapists offer evaluation & home visits to eligible children.

Dept. of Public Health Certified Early Intervention Program.

We're located at: 924 S. Main Street in Great Barrington.

You can reach us at: 413-717-4083.
www.pediatricdevelopmentcenter.org



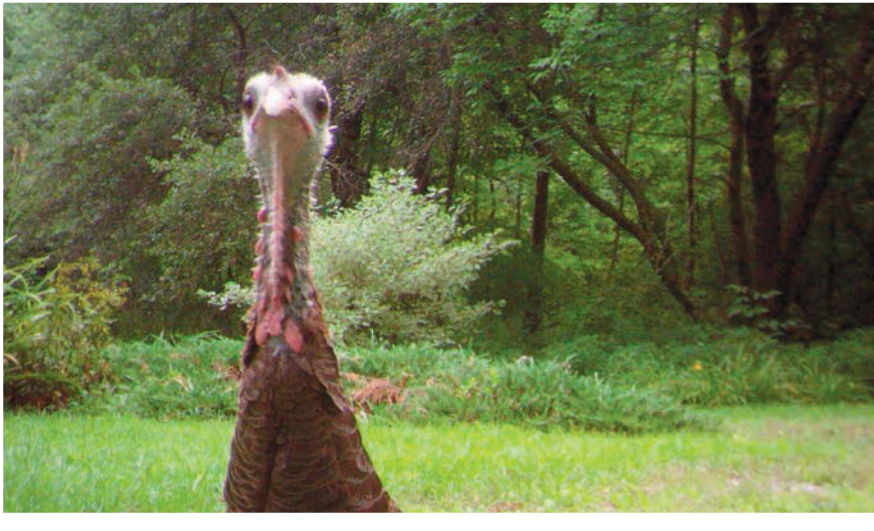
THE BIRDS OF AUGUST



*At the Center Cemetery
Just downhill from the
cemetery, Ron Pachulski
photographed these two
sandhill cranes.*



*In West New Boston
This calm but alert Cooper's hawk stopped by George
Wheeler's yard on Rt. 57 near Silverbrook Road.*



*On Rood Hill Road
David Fleer, at the home of
Herb Burtis, wrote:
"Herb's front yard has been
visited almost every day for at
least two weeks by a gaggle of
local residents. They're nice
guests and don't stay all day."*

Housing Grant Awarded

By Times Reporters

Governor Charlie Baker recently announced state-wide Community Development Block Grants across Massachusetts, including a combined \$1 million award to the towns of Monterey, Sandisfield, and Egremont.

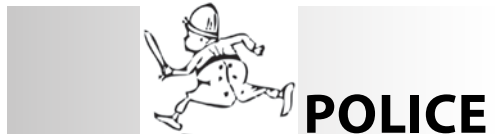
First announced in the Jan/Feb issue of The Times, the grant proposal was submitted by former selectman and resident Alice Boyd at no cost to the towns.

The program will provide up to \$40,000 per household to make repairs to homes owned by income-eligible residents. Typical repairs include windows, roofs, septic systems, furnaces, handicap accessibility, and other critical repairs. The program offers a 0% interest deferred-payment forgivable loan, which is forgiven at a rate of 1/15th per year. No payments are made unless the home is sold before the 15-year term ends.

Several pre-applications were submitted earlier this year. The pre-application forms are available at Town Hall or on the town website at www.sandisfieldma.gov. See the form for income eligibility.

Funds will be available on a first-come/first-served basis with full applications accepted beginning December 1. 🏠

Police/Fire/EMS Logs



June/July 2018 Incidents

June 2	911 abandoned call, Sandisfield Road
June 2	Tree down, blocking South Main Street
June 2	Burglar alarm, Sandisfield Road
June 2	Wires down, Stansen Lane
June 3	Animal call, Sandisfield Road
June 3	Suspicious vehicle, Otis Woodlands
June 3	Tree on wires, South Main Street
June 4	Medical call, Sandisfield Road
June 4	Motor vehicle fire, South Main Street
June 5	Medical call, Carpenter Lane
June 6	Cattle in road, Colebrook Reservoir
June 9	Motor vehicle accident, South Main Street
June 10	911 miss-dial, Rood Road
June 12	Burglar alarm, Sandisfield Road
June 13	Sandy Brook Turnpike
June 13	Erratic motor vehicle operation, North Main Street
June 14	Domestic issue, Sandisfield Road
June 14	Citizen assistance, West Street
June 14	Investigation, West Street
June 15	Medical call, West Street
June 16	Bear sighting, West Street
June 16	Well-being check, Sandisfield Road
June 17	Medical call, assist, Tolland
June 18	Medical call, North Beech Plain Road
June 18	Erratic motor vehicle operation, South Main Street
June 18	Animal call, Sandy Brook Turnpike

June 18	Burglar alarm, South Beech Plain Road
June 19	Medical call, Sandisfield Road
June 19	Medical call, Sandisfield Road
June 21	Medical call, Stump Road
June 23	Motor vehicle accident, North Main Street
June 23	Fire alarm, Otis Woodlands
June 26	CO alarm, South Sandisfield Road
June 30	Abandoned 911 call, Otis Woodlands
July 3	Medical call, Sandisfield Road
July 3	Trees on wires, Sandisfield Road
July 4	Search and Rescue, Clubhouse Road, Tolland
July 5	Medical call, Sandy Brook Turnpike
July 6	Burglar alarm, Hammertown Road
July 7	Medical call, Sandisfield Road
July 10	Medical call, Sandisfield Road
July 10	Motor vehicle accident, North Main Street
July 12	Animal call, Cold Spring Road
July 12	Suspicious activity, Sandisfield Road
July 13	Medical call, South Beech Plain Road
July 14	Medical call, West Hubbard Road
July 14	Medical call, Otis Woodlands
July 15	Bear complaint, South Beech Plain Road
July 16	Medical call, Otis Woodlands
July 17	Animal complaint, Sears Road
July 19	Medical call, Sandisfield Road
July 19	Fire alarm, Otis Woodlands
July 21	Medical call, Silverbrook Road
July 22	Medical call, West Hubbard Road
July 22	Domestic disturbance, South Main Street
July 23	Wires down, Clark Road
July 23	Burglar alarm, Sandisfield Road
July 25	Three-car motor vehicle accident, South Main Street
July 26	Fire alarm, East Hubbard Road
July 26	Well-being check, Cold Spring Road
July 28	Animal call, Sandisfield Road

Fleur de lis Housekeeping
Licensed, Bonded and Insured
Deep cleaning
from top to bottom
 Suzanne Hoynoski, Owner
 (413) 258-4070
 (860) 309-6598
Est. 2002

Sunny Rose
Farm

Now accepting new students!

Group or private riding lessons available at your home or on our Sandisfield farm.

Lessons available for all ages.

Specializing in Eventing, Dressage, and Hunter-Jumper lessons

•
Rose Nelson, Instructor and Owner
 •

Massachusetts certified,
 Pony club eventing participant and USEA eventer
 Email: sunnyrosefarm@yahoo.com • Phone: (413) 446-4944



FIRE

June/July 2018 Incidents

- June 2 Tree and power lines down, South Main Street
- June 4 Motor vehicle fire, South Main Street
- June 8 Mutual aid to Monterey, missing person search
- June 9 Reported bicycle accident, unfounded, North Main Street
- June 23 Faulty smoke detector, Otis FD responded
- June 26 Faulty CO detector activation, bad batteries
- July 3 Tree on wires
- July 4 Assist in search for missing swimmer, Tolland
- July 19 Fire alarm activation, malfunction
- July 25 Assist EMS at three-car motor vehicle accident
- July 26 Fire alarm activation, malfunction



EMS

June/July 2018 Incidents

- June 4 Medical call, Otis Ambulance transported patients
- June 4 Standby at motor vehicle fire, South Main Street
- June 5 Medical call, transported patient to Winsted Health Center
- June 9 Reported bicycle accident, unfounded, North Main Street
- June 12 Medical call, Southern Berkshire Volunteer Ambulance Squad transported patient to Fairview Hospital, Great Barrington

- June 15 Medical call, SBVA ALS transported patient to Fairview
- June 17 Medical call, Tolland, cancelled enroute
- June 18 Medical call, transported patient to Fairview
- June 19 Medical call, transported patient to Fairview
- June 23 Motor vehicle accident, North Main Street, no transport
- July 2 Medical call, Tolland, transported to Noble
- July 3 Medical call, Otis Ambulance transported patient to Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield
- July 4 Assist in search for missing swimmer, Tolland
- July 5 Medical call, no transport
- July 5 Medical call, Tolland, Otis Ambulance responded (Sandisfield ambulance at dealer for repair)
- July 7 Medical call, transport to Berkshire Medical Center, Pittsfield
- July 10 Medical call, transport to Fairview Hospital Great Barrington
- July 13 Medical call, transport to Fairview
- July 14 Medical call, transport to Fairview
- July 16 Medical call, no transport
- July 19 Medical call, transport to BMC, Pittsfield
- July 21 Medical call, transport to Fairview
- July 21 Bicycle accident, Otis, transport to Fairview
- July 22 Medical call, transport to Fairview
- July 25 Medical call, transport to Fairview
- July 25 Three-car motor vehicle accident, transport to BMC, Pittsfield

*Please Support
Our Sponsors*

The Historic 1737 New Boston Inn Restaurant, Tavern and B&B

Reservations Strongly Recommended

Restaurant open Thurs & Sunday 12-8pm and Fri & Sat 12-9pm
Piano Music Live Friday nights 6-8:45
Seven Guest Rooms, All Private Baths (Breakfast for Guests Only)

101 North Main St., Sandisfield, MA (Corner of Rtes. 8 & 57)
413-258-4477 • List of events at www.NewBostonInn.com



*Live Band
Starts in July!*

*Outdoor
Seating*

KWIK^{Color} PRINT INCORPORATED

EXPERIENCE • SPEED • QUALITY

- Full Color Digital Printing
- Full Color Envelope Printing
- Large Format Printing
- High Speed Copying
- Laminating
- Inline Bookletmaking
- Perfect Binding
- Folding
- Perforating
- Mailing Services
- Graphic Design Services

35 Bridge Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230
Ph: 413.528.2885 Fx: 413.528.9220
typesetting@kwikprintinc.com
www.kwikprintinc.com

HELP WANTED

Certified Nursing Assistants
F/T, P/T and Per Diem -
1st and 2nd shifts

Licensed Nursing
P/T and Per Diem -
2nd and 3rd shifts

Housekeeping / Laundry
Per Diem Position Available

Kitchen
Per Diem - Various shifts

Activity Assistant
Per Diem - Various shifts

Therapy Department
P/T and Per Diem -
PT, OT and SLP



(413) 258-4731
7 Sandisfield Road
Sandisfield, MA



ORDER FORM

SOIL and SHUL IN the BERKSHIRES

- Please reserve _____ copy(ies) at \$22 each (plus \$3 per book for shipping)
- Mail my book to the name & address below (I've added \$3 per book for shipping)
- I'll save the shipping charge and pick up my book(s) in Sandisfield.
- I've enclosed a donation of \$ _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO
THE SANDISFIELD ARTS CENTER
"JEWISH HISTORY BOOK"

AND MAIL TO:

THE SANDISFIELD ARTS CENTER
PO BOX 31
SANDISFIELD, MA 01255


Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

 This is a limited edition.
Reserve your copy today!


A Recent Arts Center Exhibit

By Val Coleman

Linda Mironti and Marcella Smith found wonderful ways of celebrating Italy in a roomful of photographs both subtle and unsubtle.

Venice, for example, is both ... with Linda's traditional "Evening Canal Walk" showing the usual street crowded with boats and her quite telling "Fish Eye View of Venice," taken from and through the water with sweet waves of color.

Marcella, wisely, has peppered the room with found objects, including an "Escaping Crab" (literally), a marvelous old "Bicycle in the Barn," and a stunning photograph called "Alms for the Poor" of a poor woman kneeling and begging on the street. The wholly abstract pictures, Mironti's "Who What Where" and Smith's enigmatic "Zattere Splash," are less impressive – although Mironti's unique "View of Giudecca," consisting of three photos with wrap-around frames, is quite marvelous if the viewer follows instructions and looks at them from the side.

Their photos were a welcome visit to Italy as the Arts Center continues to bring excellent art to our community. 



Frederick Moyer at the Piano

At the end of July, concert pianist Frederick Moyer performed a concert on the Arts Center's "new" 1930's Steinway which had been a family piano donated by Antonia Lake and refurbished by contributions from members and friends. Moyer's program included Rachmaninoff, Gershwin, Beethoven, among others, including American jazz greats. His unique "MoyerCam" projected his hands on the keyboard onto the raised piano lid. Moyer explained that his visit to the Arts Center was in part due to his long friendship with Ben Luxon. This special concert was sponsored by Hilde Weisert.

Photo: Peter Levine

Soil & Shul Available Late This Month


Soil and Shul in the Berkshires: The Untold Story of Sandisfield's Jewish Farm Colony – nearly three years in the writing – will be published by the end of this month.

Local author/historian Lorraine German will introduce her book at a special event at the Arts Center on Saturday, September 29, at 7:30 p.m. For information and reservations, see the ad on this page.

Soil and Shul is the fascinating story of the intrepid "colony" of Jews resettled by the Baron deHirsch philanthropic organization on often abandoned farms in rural towns in the tristate area, including

Sandisfield. Many were refugees who escaped genocidal "pogroms" in Eastern Europe at the turn of the 20th century, arrived in New York via Ellis Island, and settled in the Lower East Side of Manhattan before joining the resettlement movement.

Lorraine German, who has family connections to the period, has written a definitive account that will serve as a valuable tool for scholars and enthrall anyone with an interest in local family history and culture.

The books are available for purchase at \$22 each through the Sandisfield Arts Center online at www.sandisfieldartscenter.org/giftshop or by check to Sandisfield Arts Center, PO Box 31, Sandisfield, MA 01255. Please add \$3 per book for postage 

September at the Arts Center

LINCOLN AND SHAKESPEARE, SOIL AND SHUL

By Barbara Penn

After a slightly lazy, family-focused August, the Arts Center kicks off our fall season with back-to-school energy and verve.

September begins with a gallery reception on September 1, 2-4 p.m., highlighting the work of J.D. Logan—a painter whose mysterious nature and tree-centered work create a “sense of stillness and peace.” Gallery receptions are always free, and, if you need a bit of stillness and peace later in the month the gallery is open before all performances.

In his September 15 talk on Abraham Lincoln, Val Coleman makes the case that our Constitution, indeed the United States itself, “was finally secured and ratified by a rail-splitting prairie intellectual named Abraham Lincoln.” If you’ve heard previous Coleman talks, you know you are likely to come away having learned much of what they never told you in school.

The following weekend, the Sandisfield Players return to the stage—make that two stages!

“Shakespeare Unchained: Comedy with the Bard by Steve Offinoski,” comes to the Arts Center Saturday evening September 22 with a second, matinee performance at St. James Place in Great Barrington on Sunday the 23rd.

Continuing the theme of unveiling the hidden history all around us, on September 29 Lorraine German reads from her new book, *Soil and Shul in the Berkshires: Untold Story of Sandisfield’s Jewish Colony*. Paul Green’s group, Klezmer East, will provide musical accompaniment to the reading and book-signing. Don’t miss this!

On Sunday, September 30, the Sandisfield Community Center is hosting a 5K “Where Is Sandisfield?” Fun Run with the awards reception held at the Arts Center. Since you already know where Sandisfield is, you may want to use local knowledge to your advantage in the run, or just show up around 11 a.m. at the Arts Center to congratulate the weary athletes.

Our open call for volunteers continues. If you would like to participate in any of the committees and activities that go into planning and executing the 2019 season, please contact our Volunteer Program chair, Hilde Weisert at community@sandisfieldartscenter.org. Whatever your interests or time constraints, we likely have a place for you to contribute.



Sandisfield Arts Center

5 Hammertown Rd • Sandisfield, MA
413 258 4100

SANDISFIELDARTSCENTER.ORG

SEPTEMBER



In the Gallery Sept 1 - Sept 30

JD LOGAN: Paintings

Reception: Sat, Sept 1, 2 PM - 4 PM



Sat, Sept 15, 4 PM \$10
Abraham Lincoln

Presented by **VAL COLEMAN**



Sat, Sept 22, 8 PM \$20

AND Repeat Performance

Sun, Sept 23, 3 PM \$20

at Saint James Place, Gt. Barrington

SHAKESPEARE UNCHAINED

An Evening of Comedy with the Bard

by **Steve Offinoski**

Directed by **Ben Luxon**

and **Jesse Howard**

Four comic Skits; Five Actors

Performed by *The Sandisfield Players*



Sat, Sept 29, 7:30 PM \$20

Soil and Shul in the Berkshires:

The Untold Story of

Sandisfield’s Jewish Colony

by **LORRAINE GERMAN**

with music by **Klezmer East**



Risky Business?

{don't lose your pants over lack of...coverage.}

FRANK CONSOLATI INSURANCE

Disability, Life and Workers Compensation Insurance Since 1942

71 MAIN STREET, LEE MA 413-243-0105



MJ TUCKERS PIZZA & PUB

ROUTE 8 / 61 S. MAIN ST., NEW BOSTON, MASS

“THE WAY THINGS USED TO BE”

a FAMILY FRIENDLY RESTAURANT WITH A RUSTIC ATMOSPHERE

ASK ABOUT
OUR FAMOUS
HORSESHOE
TOURNAMENTS

HOSTING PARTIES AND EVENTS | SEE US ON FACEBOOK
FOR INFORMATION AND TAKE-OUT CALL 413 258-4040

OPEN WED & THURS 3-9; FRI - SUN, NOON TO CLOSE

Learning about Open Meeting Laws

All public bodies in the state are subject to the requirements of the Massachusetts Open Meeting Law. Sandisfield Town Hall organized a seminar on the regulations in the law in early August. Attended by the chairmen of nearly every department, board, and committee and interested residents, the seminar drew about 35 people to Fire House #2. Neighboring towns were invited as well, and four committee members attended from Otis and five from New Marlborough.

The presentation by Brian W. Riley, an attorney with the Town's legal firm of Kopelman & Paige, outlined, among other topics, the risks of exchanging opinions, ideas, or beliefs between members of a public body outside of a posted meeting, including email communications and social media such as Facebook and Twitter. Copies of the slides presented at the seminar are available from the Town Clerk's office.

Photo: Bill Price



VILLA MIA RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA

413-258-4236

90 S. Main Street, New Boston
Specializing in Italian food.



Our Locally Famous Spaghetti Sauce, House-Made Noodles and Delicious Bureks. Come See Us!

OPEN DAILY (EXCEPT MON/TUES)
11 a.m. to 9 pm.



Like us on Facebook.



KNOX TRAIL INN
1898 EAST OTIS RD (RT 23) EAST OTIS, MA
413-269-4400
KNOXTRAILINN.COM

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR HOURS OF OPERATION AND ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

THE STEAK ROAST, 2018




Despite rain that fell and then didn't, then did again, then didn't again, the 29th Annual Sandisfield Fireman's Steak Roast on Saturday, August 11, went off without too many people getting wet.

Fire Chief Ralph Morrison said that while a few people probably stayed home because of the threat of thunderstorms, he still reported sales of about 350 tickets, which was pretty close to the same amount as last year.

Ralph says "thank you" to the nearly three-dozen businesses and individuals who donated raffle prizes and to everyone who bought chances. In doing so, they continue to help make this event a great fundraiser for the town's Fire and EMS departments.

He gave another big "thank you" to his crew of about 20 volunteer firemen and EMS people who prepared Firehouse #2 for the event, served the steaks and dinners, and cleaned up after the Harm's Way band had packed their instruments and the last steak roast guest had gone home.

Next year will be the 30th Annual Sandisfield Fireman's Steak Roast. Regardless of what the weather brings, be there to help celebrate the anniversary. 



HOMEIMPROVEMENTS

STEVEN SEDDON, SR.

Building and Modifying Homes
in the Berkshires
Since 2001

413 563 1483

sshomeimprovements@live.com

www.sshomeimprovementsma.com

Good News from the State House

EASING THE BURDEN ON RURAL EMS

By Seth Kershner

The Massachusetts Senate recently gave preliminary support to a bill filed by State Senator Adam Hinds that would loosen regulations, making it easier for volunteer rescue squads to respond to calls.


Current regulations state that when transporting a patient receiving care at either paramedic or non-paramedic levels an ambulance must be staffed with two emergency medical technicians (EMTs). The Hinds bill (S. 2648) authorizes volunteer ambulance services in rural communities to transport patients receiving non-paramedic levels of care to staff the ambulance with one EMT and one first responder.

"This is a critical policy update for rural communities," said Hinds in a recent press release. He wrote that small, rural towns often have difficulty mobilizing two EMTs and that this bill "allows them to move more

efficiently, respond to calls more effectively, and hopefully, when implemented, save lives."

Like most small towns, Sandisfield has been struggling to adequately staff its volunteer rescue squad. "I could use another half-dozen people," Fire and EMS Chief Ralph Morrison told The Times. "But it's a challenge to get EMTs and firemen because of rules and regulations." Chief Morrison said that additional challenges stem from problems unique to the Berkshires. These include rising home prices that make it hard for younger people—traditionally a solid source of recruits—to settle in the area.

The recruiting burden is common to rescue services across the region. "South County's ambulance coverage problem has been developing for years," the Eagle reported in January, as "an aging, rural population creates more work for ambulance services to far-flung places, all at a time when the historically volunteer-staffed service is finding it hard to attract new members." The Hinds bill now goes before the House of Representatives where it should get strong support from Rep. Smitty Pignatelli and Rep. Paul Mark. The lead House sponsor of the bill, Mark has been working on this issue for a number of years and is collaborating with Hinds to move the bill forward.

In the meantime, Chief Morrison reminds town residents to consider volunteering. "There's always a job for somebody," he says. "You don't have to be the guy that puts on the air pack and heads into a burning house." 



Letters to the Editor

TRIBUNUS OMNIUM

We read Joan Stern Kiok's letter to the editor in last month's edition of The Sandisfield Times, "Taxation Without Representation."

We both felt that her letter reflected not only our sentiments but the feelings of many other non-resident taxpayers.

Ms. Kiok wrote: "It has long irked me that I pay both real estate and personal property taxes, attend functions and donate to the Sandisfield Arts Center, subscribe to the Sandisfield Times and in other ways try to participate as a resident during the summer months, but I have no say in the governance of the town, although many of the decisions affect me." She added, "...how about giving us the right to participate in electing the people who make the decisions?"

We have attended a number of town meetings over the years with a great interest in the operation of the town in which we reside 95 percent of the time. We have been asked to participate in various committees as there were not enough full-time residents willing to do the work, but then were denied due to our "residence status." We currently participate as volunteers in a number of town programs such as The Historical Society, Scholarship Fund, the Arts Center, and Kids Crafts with Lynn. Our assistance is both financial and physical.

A few years ago there was a well-attended meeting initiated by the selectmen at the request of non-resident taxpayers for the non-residents at Old Town Hall. The sentiments of the attendees fell by the wayside shortly thereafter as the town leadership planned no follow-up. It appeared as though we were permitted a meeting which was held just to placate us and now let's return to our usual agenda.

We are requesting those interested in change to contact us at 413-269-7357 or kowgirlruby@yahoo.com. Thanks.

- Dr. Steve & Mrs. Lynn Rubenstein

**WANT TO RENT:
1 BEDROOM HOUSE
OR APARTMENT**

**Year-round tenant with
well-behaved dog and cat.**

**Excellent local
references.**

**Contact: 413-229-8677
or 404 731-9676**

*Carl
Codling
Construction*

Tiling Baths Doors Kitchens Flooring
Trimwork Windows Custom Cabinetry

Insured
MA CSL #103868
MA HIC #165386

www.carlcodingconstruction.com

(c) 413.854.8136 (h) 413.258.4018 carlecod1@verizon.net

30+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
REMODELING DONE RIGHT

Now Hear This!

Edited by Laura Rogers-Castro.

Please send notices for Now Hear This! to editor@sandisfieldtimes.org.

SEPTEMBER

Opening Reception: J.D. Logan on Saturday, September 1, at 2:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center located on 5 Hammertown Road, off Route 57 in Sandisfield. Photos and paintings. The Gallery will also be open during performances through September 30.

Massachusetts Primary Voting on Tuesday, September 4, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Old Town Hall at 3 Silverbrook Road.

Sandisfield Historical Society Meeting on Saturday, September 8, at 11:00 a.m., at the Meeting House, Sandybrook Turnpike (Route 183) at South Sandisfield Road. Potluck lunch following the meeting.

New Boston Church Service on Sunday, September 9 at 10:00 a.m., at the New Boston Congregational Church, Route 57. All are welcome.

Playgroup on Mondays, beginning September 10 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., at the Sandisfield Library Community Room (below the library). No pre-registration necessary. The playgroup features a story time in the library. Led by Nina Carr. Free!

Crafts with Lynn at the Library on Saturday, September 15, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. There will be a story time in the library at 9:30 a.m. Please call the library (258-4966) for more information.

Abraham Lincoln, presented by Val Coleman on Saturday, September 15, at 4:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center. Val will argue that the American Constitution and the United States was finally secured and ratified by a rail-splitting prairie intellectual named Abraham Lincoln. For more information, visit www.sandisfieldartscenter.org. \$10.

Shakespeare Unchained: An Evening of Comedy with the Bard by Steve Otfinoski on Saturday, September 22, at 8:00 p.m., at the Sandisfield Arts Center. Four comic skits, five actors, costumes, and a very funny evening of what might have happened to Will Shakespeare and his plays. Tickets available at www.sandisfieldartscenter.org. \$20.

Turkey Roll American Legion Annual Fundraiser on Friday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m., at the American Legion Pavilion on Route 8 next to Firehouse #1. Roll the dice for great prizes. Raffles, beverages, and snacks available.

Soil and Shul in the Berkshires: Untold Story of Sandisfield's Jewish Colony by Lorraine German with music by **Klezmer East** on Saturday, September 29, at 7:30 p.m., at the Sandisfield Arts Center. Celebrate the publication of *Soil and Shul* as the

author speaks about the development of the book and shares a few of the stories of the lives of the Jewish farming community in Sandisfield. \$20.

Where is Sandisfield? 5K Run on Sunday, September 30 at 10:00 a.m., at Lower Spectacle Pond boat ramp on Cold Spring Road. Free T-shirt for first 50 registered participants (visit www.berkshirerunningcenter.com). After the race, join participants for awards and light refreshments at the Sandisfield Arts Center on Hammertown Road. For more information, visit the Sandisfield Community Center Facebook page.

OTHER EVENTS IN SURROUNDING TOWNS

Otis Arts Festival on Saturday, September 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., indoors at the Farmington River Elementary School located at 555 North Main Road (Route 8) in Otis. Admission is free.

Literary Festival (Save the Date) on Friday, October 12 through Sunday, October 14 in Norfolk,

Connecticut. The weekend will consist of five literary conversations among ten attending writers, critics, and environmentalists. There will be a panel on global warming, a discussion on the work of Pablo Neruda, and a conversation about race and class divisions. For more information, visit www.norfolkfoundation.net.

TURKEY ROLL

AMERICAN LEGION POST 456

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

ROLL THE DICE, WIN GREAT PRIZES.
BEVERAGES AND SNACKS AVAILABLE.

SEPTEMBER 28, FRIDAY, 7:00 P.M.

AMERICAN LEGION PAVILION, RT. 8 NEAR
FIREHOUSE #1

NEW BOSTON CRANE SERVICE & SLEDS

Snowmobiles, ATV's, Generators, Trailers,
Lawn & Garden Equipment, Log Splitters

Parts & Service available for most
bikes, ATV's & snowmobiles



Husqvarna

Timberwolf



STIHL



OPEN: Tues - Fri 9am - 6pm / Sat & Mon 9am - 3pm
Sun 9am - 1pm / closed Mon (Nov 1-April 1)

Route 8 / P.O. Box 691

Sandisfield, MA 01255

www.newbostoncrane.com

413-258-4653

fax 413-258-2884

nbcss@verizon.net

Berkshire Pottery Tour

September 29 & 30, 10am - 5pm



A self-guided driving tour of 6 Berkshire County pottery studios

www.berkshirepotterytour.com

THE SANDISFIELD TIMES



RELIABLE. REGULAR. RELEVANT.

P.O. Box 584

Sandisfield, MA 01255

www.sandisfieldtimes.org

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

Janet and Fred Van Horn



The Sandisfield Times is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization staffed by volunteers from the Sandisfield community and funded by individual and business sponsors. Its mission is to connect the community through reliable, regular, and relevant information. The paper is published 11 times each year, with a joint January-February issue and monthly issues thereafter.

Donations of any amount are needed to ensure the continuation of this newspaper. Please send checks to: The Sandisfield Times, P.O. Box 584, Sandisfield, MA 01255 or donate online at our website: www.sandisfieldtimes.org.

Copies of The Sandisfield Times are available in Sandisfield at A&M Auto, the Arts Center (in season), the Transfer Station, Post Office, the New Boston Inn, New Boston Sleds, Villa Mia, MJ Tuckers, the Library, and Town Hall. Copies are also available in Otis at Berkshire Bank, Katie's Market, Papa's Fuel, Otis Library, Farmington River

Diner, Otis Poultry Farm, Otis Woodlands (May-September), Knox Trail Inn, and the Laundromat. Locations in Monterey include the Library, the distribution box near the Library, and the Roadside Café. Available also at the Southfield Store in New Marlborough and at the general store and post office in Colebrook. Back issues are available for purchase.

The Times can be mailed to your home by paid subscription (see form below left) or you can read it (free) online as a PDF document at www.sandisfieldtimes.org.

We welcome submissions, comments and suggestions, including letters to the editor by the 15th of the month prior. We may edit for space, style or clarity. We will try to publish Public Service Announcements when we have room, with priority given to Sandisfield organizations. No portion of the The Sandisfield Times may be reproduced without permission.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

To have the *The Times* mailed to your home, please complete the information below and send a check for \$25 (annual subscription fee for 11 issues) made out to *The Sandisfield Times* to:

THE SANDISFIELD TIMES

PO BOX 584, SANDISFIELD, MA 01255

Name _____

Address to where *The Times* should be delivered:

City, State, Zip _____

Email address: _____

Phone (only used if paper is returned by USPS) _____

Editorial Staff

*Editor: Bill Price; co-editor: Seth Kershner
email: editor@sandisfieldtimes.org 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

How to Contact Us

Mail can be directed to

The Sandisfield Times, PO Box 584, Sandisfield, MA 01255.

If internet accessible, all letters, news events and tips, ideas, obituary and family announcements, photos (600 dpi if possible) and advertisement queries to editor@SandisfieldTimes.org.