

# THE SANDISFIELD TIMES

*Tribunus*



*Plebis*

RELIABLE. REGULAR. RELEVANT.

*Volume XII, Number 8*

*November 2021*

## How Covid Changed Sandisfield Real Estate

### HALF-MILLION DOLLAR HOMES NOW MORE COMMON

*By Tom Christopher*

Linda and Craig Storms call it their “forever house,” the dwelling with 10.5 acres that they purchased in Sandisfield in November of 2020. They love the setting and have been impressed with the friendliness of their neighbors. They had previously lived in West Hartford, Connecticut, but decided to move to the Berkshires when they retired. They liked the rural hills but also valued the area’s closeness to children in Connecticut. They were particularly impressed by the presence of an arts center in a town without a gas station.

The process that brought them to the house in Sandisfield, however, was not easy. They had made offers on properties in Dalton and Pittsfield, meeting the sellers’ full asking prices, only to lose both to higher bids. When they found the property in Sandisfield, they too paid a premium. Even with that, Craig wonders if he and Linda would have closed the deal here if the Internet service in Sandisfield were better, making the town more appealing to pandemic fugitives from urban areas who intend to work from home.

“I’ve bought houses before,” says Linda, “and it was never like this.”

The pandemic brought an “unprecedented mass migration” to this area in 2020, according to Maureen White Kirby, owner of Berkshire Hathaway Barnbrook Realty. “Beginning with rentals,” she says, houses “flew off the market at an alarming rate for 30 to 50 percent higher pricing than the previous year. After the rentals were gone, for sale homes were next.”

In Sandisfield, a similar number of homes—34, to be exact—sold from March 1, 2020 to September 2021. While the number of sales was similar to the prior two years, they came with a marked difference in price. “Seven of those homes sold during the pandemic for over a half-a-million dollars

as opposed to only two in the same period pre-pandemic,” Kirby adds. Prices rose by 30 percent and homes also sold more quickly than before. “Pre-Covid, it was not uncommon to have homes on the market for a year,” according to Kirby. “But during the pandemic, especially during the ‘frenzy’ of 2020, multiple offers were common.” This often resulted in sales that closed within weeks of being on the market.



The market has calmed somewhat, though it remains strong due to the continuing lack of inventory. This is gradually righting itself, as more houses come up for sale. In short, the news has been good for sellers, but not so good for buyers, especially those of moderate or lower income. Many in Sandisfield have expressed concern that people who have grown up in Town and want to remain are being priced out, and that the situation is developing into one of “haves” versus “have nots.”

#### HELP ON THE WAY?

Some redress may be coming from the state. State Representative Smitty Pignatelli (D-Lenox) wants to help first-time home buyers. He sees potential aid in the Commonwealth Builder Program, a \$60 million fund the state has established to spur construction of single-family homes and condominiums that are affordable to households with moderate incomes. Aimed at the creation of

multi-family developments, ideally of 20 or more units, the program offers subsidies of \$150,000 per unit (to a total of no more than \$5 million per single project). However, the program is currently not able to meet the needs of rural communities such as Sandisfield. In fact, the program is limited to Boston, the Commonwealth’s 26 “Gateway Cities” (which include Pittsfield), or “qualified census tracts” with a focus on communities of color. Pignatelli has stated that he will be working with his colleagues in the state legislature to adjust the parameters of the Commonwealth Builder Program so that it can better help his constituents in communities such as Sandisfield.

“Expanding homeownership opportunities,” Pignatelli said in a recent press release, “is critical to the well-being of the entire Commonwealth and is an important first step in the process of economic development. If we can incentivize people to (affordably) purchase a home, establish roots in the community, send their kids to local schools and help strengthen the workforce, these towns will be given a chance to flourish. We cannot afford to leave smaller, rural towns behind in this conversation.”

## Annual Appeal!

Please see  
enclosed letter and  
donation form.

Thank You!

# Sandisfield Historical Commission



## Public Information Meeting for Proposed New Boston Historic District Set for November 30

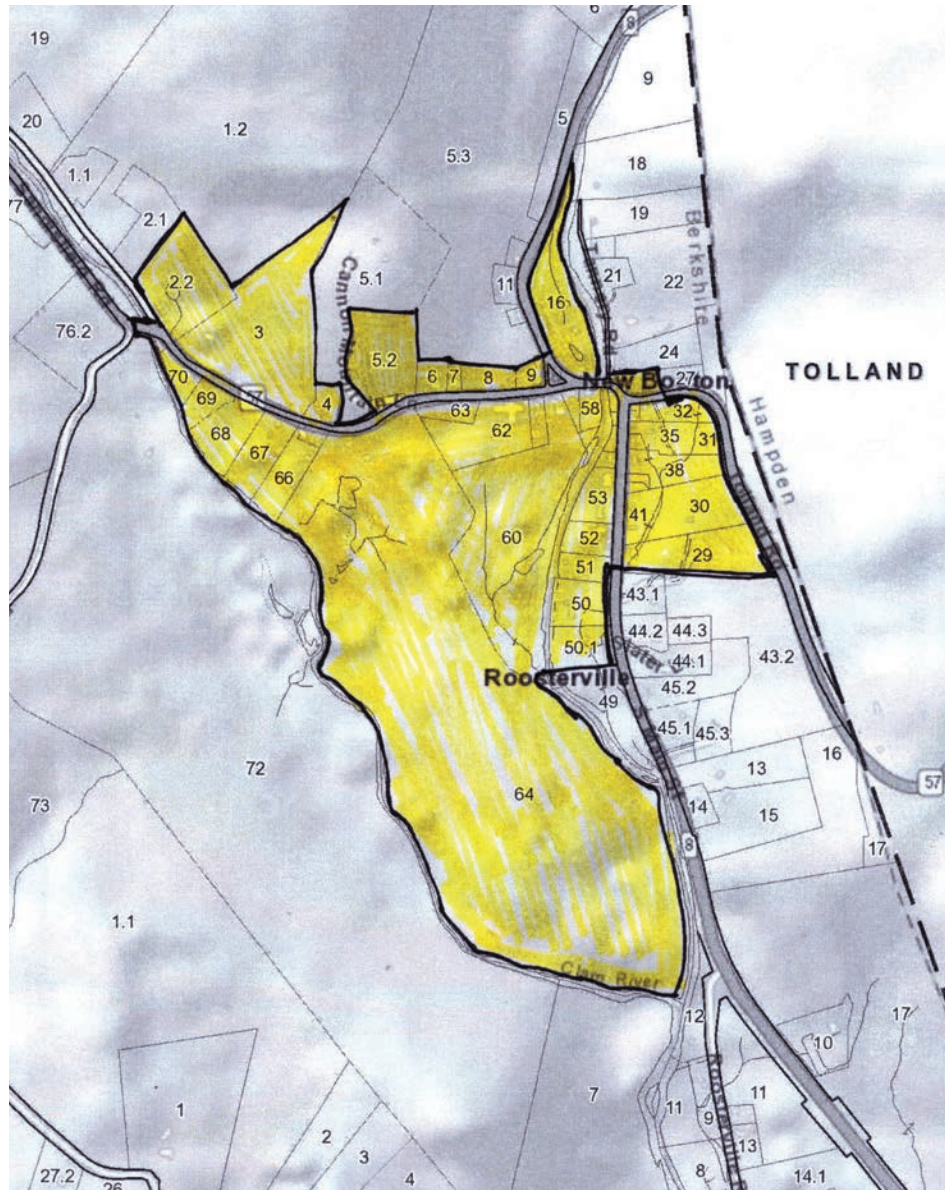
By Ron Bernard, Chairman

The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) last month informed the Town that at long last, its application to establish a National Register historic district for the village of New Boston has been completed and deemed eligible. A final review by the State is expected by the end of this year. Once approved by the U.S. National Park Service it will be listed in both the national and state registers of historic places. If all goes well, federal recognition will occur next year.

This development is an important milestone on the typically long journey of research, documentation and filing as required by state and federal guidelines.

The first step in the process was completed in 2013-15 by the Sandisfield Historical Commission which prepared an inventory of the Town's historically significant architectural assets. The State later agreed to hire a consultant to prepare the application. From there several years of planning and intensive research, including rounds of challenges and verification, led to a determination by MHC that New Boston village meets criteria for listing. By this summer the last round in that process concluded and the town's application was approved for final consideration.

The next required step is a public information meeting especially so that property owners within the proposed district boundaries (see shaded area on map, right) are fully informed and can put questions to the MHC and the Sandisfield Historical Commission which sponsors the meeting. Normally such meetings are held in person by the Commission in the respective municipality. However, because Covid precautions remain in effect, these meetings are being conducted remotely. The meeting is open to the general public. Questions will be taken after the presentations.




**The proposed New Boston Historic District public meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 30 at 5:00 p.m. on Zoom.** The meeting is expected to last less than one hour. To join go to the link below.:

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81010890227?pwd=UFV2VDRITTFoMzNKMUZ5MnRqcW14QT09>
- Meeting ID: 810 1089 0227
- Passcode: 567692

If you do not have a computer and wish to join by phone, dial in to:

- 1 929 205 6099
- Meeting ID: 810 1089 0227
- Passcode: 567692

The MHC will post a meeting announcement in the legal section of the Berkshire Eagle. Also early this month property owners in the proposed district will receive a letter by USPS from MHC with background information.

National Historic Districts serve to promote the benefits of preservation and are prestigious. They should not be confused with local historic districts which have commissions formed under municipal bylaws and which have certain functions and powers as listed in bylaws. Sandisfield does not have a local historic district. 

# Town Solar Arrays Approved

## TOWN HALL ANNEX AND DPW TO RECEIVE ROOF PANELS

By *Larry Dwyer, Green Committee*

The Sandisfield Green Committee has at last received the go-ahead for its state-financed Solar Array Project that will install two roof-mounted single-phase solar arrays, one on Town Hall Annex and a second on the Department of Public Works (DPW) Town Garage.

For four years, the Green Committee has been applying for this grant, planning, designing, getting approval, and sending out bids. It was a lengthy and complicated approval process because the state doesn't give away grant money easily. If a town is going to get something free, some of our neighbors have to work for it.

Funding will be paid from the balance of the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) Green Communities Designation Grant. Once the solar arrays are installed and the Designation Grant has been exhausted, further funding will be requested through a DOER Green Communities Competitive Grant to install a heat pump system for the Town Hall Annex.

Grenergy, the solar contractor who will install the arrays, has priced the project at \$90,000 for both arrays. They will pay prevailing wages to their employees. The savings in electricity to the town is estimated at \$231,000 over 25 years.

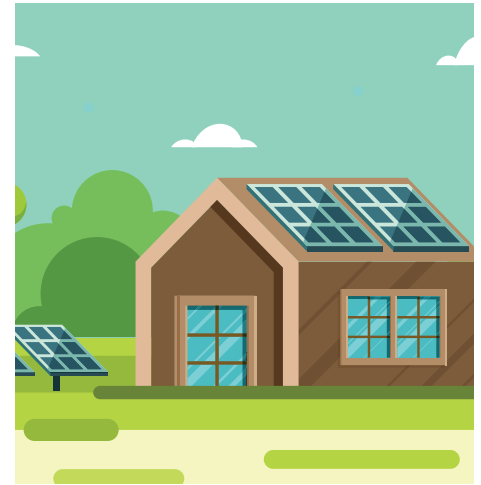
The heat pump system, when installed, will increase the use of electricity, but this cost will be offset by the production of electricity from the solar arrays and the expected elimination of heating oil used for the Town Hall Annex oil burner.

### THE PATH OF THE PROJECT

Initially in December 2020, a three-phase system was planned for the Town Hall Annex. The committee focused on that design because of the unfortunate experience of the town of Windsor, which had installed a single-phase solar array and single-phase heat pump system for their town hall. However, Windsor did not meet specific requirements that would have lowered their utility costs which negated the benefits for installing the system. In order not to repeat Windsor's mistake, the Sandisfield Green Committee focused on installing a three-phase system.

Sandisfield solicited bids from five solar contractors, including Grenergy, and the bids came in lower than expected. At this time, Jeff Bye, a retired NASA engineer living on New Hartford Road, joined the Green Committee. Evaluating the bids, Jeff suggested we change our design to install two single-phase solar arrays instead of one three-phase array on the Town Hall Annex, and then apply for a competitive grant for the heat pump system. With two single arrays, the town will generate more solar energy compared with a single three-phase array. In addition, converting the building to accept three-phase would have absorbed additional grant funding and not contributed to energy reduction. The Green Committee accepted Jeff's recommendations.

By installing solar arrays on both buildings instead of a single system on Town Hall Annex, the town will be able to take advantage of Virtual Net Metering (VNM) since both buildings will be serviced by the same Eversource electrical power grid. (VNM allows multi-tenant building owners to install a single solar system to cover the electricity load of common areas.) We expect the excess energy produced by the system installed on the town DPW garage to be applied to the Town Hall Annex as the Town Hall Annex uses more energy in a calendar year.



All the companies that submitted bids would have provided quality work and materials. The parameters we used to select a contractor were based on the type of panel and the length of the warranty. The type of panel selected was REC Solar which is made in Singapore as opposed to Quantum from China. Singapore has higher labor standards than China. 

*The Sandisfield Green Committee members are George Riley, Nina Carr, Jeff Bye, and Larry Dwyer.*

**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



# HOMEIMPROVEMENTS

**STEVEN SEDDON, SR.**

Building and Modifying Homes  
in the Berkshires

Since 2001

413 563 1483

sshhomeimprovements@live.com

www.sshhomeimprovementsma.com



## Letters to the Editor

### CONSIDER THE SCHOOL OPTIONS REPORT, READER ADVISES

To the Editor:

On September 25, I attended a presentation to discuss school options for Sandisfield students attending the Farmington River Regional School District. It was a very eye-opening meeting.

A rather large amount of your tax dollars go towards the Town's portion of funding for the school district. The School Options Exploration committee's objective was to improve both scholastic performance and financial efficiency. Where do we go from here? Perhaps we join another school district and hopefully get a better education than the children are getting now.

It was a very informative meeting. I suggest you go to Town Hall and get a copy of the presentation.

*Ann Wald  
West New Boston*

## Covid Challenges Our School

### FARMINGTON RIVER TAKES PUBLIC HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

By *Sandy Balayan*

On September 23, a Zoom meeting was held informing the Farmington River Regional School community of challenges faced with the resurgence of the Covid-19 virus and the timeline of this year's rocky start. On August 31 a member of the first grade classroom tested positive, test kits at the school were the wrong type, and all first graders were sent home. All first grader students were then tested with the correct kits on September 1 which resulted in no infections. On September 2 a second grader tested positive and two employees had been exposed and needed testing, causing school closure on September 3. The school remained closed until September 13 as additional cases were traced to the Sandisfield bus #1. All bus riders were tested and allowed to return with a negative PCR test. There has been no problem since.

Children follow protocol by washing their hands during the day and wearing masks except when eating in the lunchroom where they sit at

individual tables. They are outdoors whenever possible. The classrooms are fogged with disinfectant each night. If a student goes to the nurse feeling sick with a high temperature, they are sent home with the advice if there are other symptoms their physician needs to be contacted. If tested positive, they stay home for ten days from the onset and can only return when they are free of symptoms. Everyday an online form must be completed by parents and staff. If not, the nurse completes the form at the door, and follows up with any unusual answers. No one with symptoms enters the school. If a child tests positive and remains home, all students in that grade or on that bus are tested five days in a row. If anyone tests positive, all staff and parents are sent an email with details on contact tracing. (This information is also posted online to keep the community informed. Visit: <http://frrsd.org/coronavirus-district-updates-2021-2022>.)

Principal Nadolny has stressed that he can be contacted by phone or email with concerns. He asks that parents exercise caution when bringing children to large public events. "I am asking the community to do their part and we promise to be on top of this and the national data and keep your children as safe as we can," promised Nadolny. Parents thanked Principal Nadolny, Nurse Denise Zuidema and staff of FRRS for the great job they did staying open last year, one of only six schools in the state that remained open from September 2020 on. 🇺🇸

## School Makes Progress on MCAS Tests

By *Jennifer Hibbins*



The 2021 MCAS results are out and the Farmington River Regional Elementary School has made progress. Taken in the spring of 2021, 51 percent of students met or exceeded expectations in English, an increase of 10 percentage points over the 2019 results. (Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, students did not take the MCAS tests in 2020.) In math, 27 percent of students met or exceeded expectations, an increase of five percent over 2019 scores. These results are especially impressive compared to the change in the scores statewide, which resulted in decreased proficiency in English by six percent and in math by 16 percent.

In fact, Farmington River Regional School District (FRRSD) was one of only four districts in the entire state to improve in both English and math. Farmington River was fourth in English, compared to 15 other districts in Berkshire County; only Richmond, Mount Greylock and Lenox school districts did better. Our school district's math scores were comparable to student scores in Lee, Berkshire Hills, Central Berkshire and Savoy school districts. Due in part to Farmington River Elementary School's small size, it was also one of only six schools in Massachusetts to remain open for in-person learning throughout the 2020-21 school year.

The school is utilizing multiple techniques to improve scholastic performance. There is a new curriculum, with Go Math used for math, Literacy Footprints for English and Know Atom for science. Additionally, a block schedule has been implemented to include 90 minutes for math and 90 minutes for English. This is an increase in the direct time spent on learning. Finally, an afterschool program is planned to include two extra hours per day with homework help, tutoring and enrichment activities such as photography, music, art, yoga and intramurals.

It should be noted that there were disappointing results for one grade level and a corrective action plan has been developed to address the issue. Also of note is the need to review the Farmington River scores as compared to a group of its peer schools across the state, which are of similar size and have similar populations of students with special needs.

A detailed analysis of the MCAS scores will be discussed at the next School Committee meeting, November 1 at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom link will be published on the meeting agenda, which will be posted by Thursday, October 28 on [frrsd.org](http://frrsd.org) as well as [sandisfieldma.gov](http://sandisfieldma.gov). 🇺🇸

*The author is a Sandisfield parent and School Committee member.*



## Nothing but Praise for Local School

By Aimee Magovern, Otis parent

I am writing this letter in response to some negative information that has come out recently about the Farmington River Elementary School (FRES). This letter is an attempt to share with the community a personal look at the many positive qualities of FRES.

I have two children in the third and fifth grade, who have been in school since preschool. I have worked as a substitute teacher at the school, and I am President of the Farmington River Parent-Teacher Association. For the past eight years, FRES has been a second home and a supportive family. I can't imagine sending my children to any other school.

My boys are both on the autistic spectrum and their experiences in the school have been extremely

positive. From the time they entered preschool, Mr. Saporito and Mrs. Decker did a phenomenal job supporting their needs. Many of the friends they made that first year are still in class with them today.

Each year that my boys have been in school, their teachers have gone above and beyond. During remote learning, their teachers did a superior job meeting the various needs of their students. Not only did they master remote instruction, but they also managed to teach all the students who were in the classroom in an exciting and creative way.

Our school is also incredibly fortunate to have a group of fabulous paraprofessionals, all of whom have loved my boys and made a positive impact in both their lives and mine.

Mrs. Daley, Ms. Catullo, Mr. Flower and Mrs. Flower do an incredible job teaching the students in gym, art, music and computer. Some of them only teach part-time, but you would never know it from all their creative efforts in making their classes enriching and exciting.

Mrs. DiGrigoli, the school counselor, is at the heart of the school. All the students adore her, and love to spend time with her. She has been an amazing support to me and my boys. She completely understands the challenges of parenting.

Even the Administration Staff goes above and beyond to serve the students and their families. I have had the opportunity to work with Mr. Nadolny, the school Principal/Superintendent. He is a member of the PTA, and supports its mission to help students and staff. Mrs. Dolan, the Secretary to the Principal is highly efficient at her job, and really knows the students. Mrs. Subklew, Mr. Jesner and Mrs. Della-Giustina are also extremely helpful whenever I need assistance with the PTA or with my boys.

I also have to give a shout out to the school's custodians and cafeteria workers. Mr. Gray cares about the school and he and his staff keep it safe and clean. Mrs. Rybacki and Mrs. Chaffee always offer tasty and nutritious meals for students and staff.

It is the students and the staff that make FRES so special. I encourage all parents and community members who support the school, to share their stories. Together, we can make a positive difference in our community. 🍀

### **OUT ON A LIMB: OP-ED:**

*Subjects should be enthralling 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 talent of matching just the right property with just the right buyer.

in good part it's because we work really hard we care and we listen

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

**Chapin Fish, Broker The #1 Selling Realtor in the Berkshires cumulatively over the last 12 years with over \$166 million in sales**

**BROCKMAN real estate**  
brockmanrealestate.com  
413-528-4859

Our store farm & home and office will open as soon as renovations and restoration are complete at

**MONTEREY GENERAL**  
448 Main Road in Monterey  
montereygeneral.com  
brockmanrealestate.com  
413-528-9100



## Broadband Update

As of October 8, Charter Communications has completed the construction of 27.1 percent of its fiber-optic network in town. Crews have strung 98,310 feet (18.6 miles) of fiber-optic and metallic support cable on public roads. Charter still estimates the network being constructed in Sandisfield will require 362,517 feet (68.7 miles) of fiber-optic cable and the supporting metallic cable. At this time, Charter anticipates starting the process of connecting properties to the network by April of next year. Activation of the network will be launched in town in three phases. Information associated with the network activation plan will be provided by Charter once the network construction phase has been completed.

Check the Town website every month for all the latest information regarding the network construction status, getting connected to the network, service options, and the network activation plan. 📧

*Broadband Committee, Town Website.*

## Recreation Committee Holiday Time Is Near

*By Lynn Rubenstein*

We hope everyone who participated in the Halloween Trail had a spooktacular time.

This month's activity will be decorating an Autumnal wreath for the coming holidays at Old Town Hall on Silverbrook Road, Saturday, November 13. The program, held from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., is free and open to all ages. Class size is limited to 20 participants, so please register by November 7 by calling me at 413-269-7357 or sending an email to Kowgirlruby@yahoo.com.

Since the grocery store's "seasonal aisle" already has pumpkin candy along with chocolate turkeys and

Christmas decorations, the news of the upcoming Holiday Fair shouldn't surprise you. Holiday Fair is Saturday, December 4, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at Fire Station #2 on Rt. 57.

At the fair, "Our Town's Santa" will be making his last appearance. He will be hanging up his suit, polishing his boots, and writing references for his elves. (Please contact us if you are interested in filling the suit in 2022.) Santa will glide in from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will be available along with his helpers to hand out goodies and prizes to all children.

In the event of cancellation for some reason, Santa will still be on hand, though only by means of a drive-thru event like last year.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy, and warm holiday season. 📧

## Council on Aging See You at Mario's



*By Nina Carr*

The Council on Aging has been trying to keep in touch with all our members during the past few months and to sponsor a few helpful events during these difficult Covid times.

Our Flu Clinic was very successful last month. We're working on resuming the monthly blood

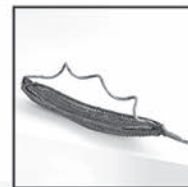
pressure clinic as soon as possible. We can also schedule an appointment for you with podiatrist Dr. Schwartz if you let us know.

During December we will be manning a homemade baked goods table at the Historical Society's Annual Christmas Fair on Dec 4. Anyone wishing to donate baked goods, please call Linda Riiska at 258-4816 or Nina Carr at 258-3314.

Also, if Covid remains under control we will celebrate the season at Mario's Restaurant on Main Street, Winsted, at our annual Holiday Season Luncheon, December 15.

Best wishes to all and stay safe. 📧

## TINA'S BASKETS & WOVEN ARTS



HOURS BY APPOINTMENT • 860.309.6934

Tina Puckett Whiting Mills 100 Whiting St., Winsted CT www.tinasbaskets.com tinasbaskets@yahoo.com

# A Tribute to Val Coleman

By Lauren Paul

Without going into the details of Val Coleman's long and active life, it is enough to say that his time in Sandisfield was full, connected, generous, and creative. He died in December 2020; his obituary appeared in The Sandisfield Times, Jan/Feb 2021 issue.

Val's family, friends, and members of his Sandisfield community got together on a bright Saturday morning in October for a loving memorial for this very special fellow.

Poetry was a strong thread in Val's creative life. Members of the Sandisfield Players read a selection of his poems and heard again his familiar wit and tenderness and love for life. We heard a recording of Val reading one of his poems "In Between the Trees" and an excerpt from his beloved son's orchestral composition, "Streetscape." A video of a scene from his play, "The Stamp Collection," performed by the Sandisfield Players in 2017, was a perfect example of his sensitivity to and love for people.

Ben Luxon, who acted as host, gave all who attended an eloquent reminder of the many ways Val Coleman touched our lives. Several others of us shared personal anecdotes about our friend.

The celebration of his life was sweet and ample proof of his eager support and participation in our community. We will miss him. 🍷



*Two of Val's poems shown here— "Sandisfield" and "Northern Lights, 1938"—were read by members of the Sandisfield Players at Val's memorial at the Arts Center on October 17, 2021.*

## SANDISFIELD

This old town  
Was hammered out of the 18th Century  
And set down among the timber  
And fresh rivers  
Of a strange continent.

And here it sits  
For two hundred and fifty years,  
By turns growing and dying,  
Beginning over and over again  
Like the tune of a fiddle  
Or a memorized prayer.

Born before America was born,  
It set its cap alongside three rivers  
Fed by a weave of streams  
And made a place where one could fill  
Some pioneering dreams.

They all came here:  
Tanners and chicken farmers,  
Dancers and scoundrels,  
The English, German, Irish, Italians ...  
The Baptists and the Jews,  
All looking to start again.

But this, after all, is an American town  
A New England town  
With the veterans of nine wars  
In its cemeteries  
And maple sugar on its breath.

*From The Sandisfield Times, June 2012*

## NORTHERN LIGHTS, 1938

It must have been August,  
Mom had closed Swann's Way that afternoon  
With the soft sound of a book's breath.  
The first Concord grape was about to bloom  
To flag the summer.

As it turned out, the sunset was an overture.  
The White Mountains a sleeping cameo,  
Orange colors geysered up to paint the clouds again.  
It was nothing more than each evening's  
Glimpse of God.

So it was that I went to sleep  
Thinking of porcupines  
And my mother by the grey wood well.  
Sleep at six or seven can be plain and deep.

All of the sudden, my father waked me up.  
He smelled like a pine tree  
And he took me in his arms  
And he ran out the screen door  
And he stood me on the grey wood well  
And said, "Look!"

And there, above: pouring, boiling out of the zenith  
Was every color I had ever seen,  
Racing to the edge of the world.  
All around me, all of the flags and fires and  
Radiance!

There were reds, noble and velvet,  
Yellows and whole waterfalls of blue,  
And above all, white! Darting, moving curtains  
of white  
Stretching down from heaven out to dry.

Oh my God it was beautiful!  
And I was six or seven and struck dumb.

That was the last summer in Maine before the war.  
Nothing then or since has moved me more.

*From The Sandisfield Times, August 2011*



sandisfield  
ARTS CENTER

★ 5 HAMMERTOWN ROAD, SANDISFIELD, MA ★

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 4 PM \$25  
JEEWON PARK: PIANO RECITAL

SOLO PIANO RECITAL OF WORKS BY ROBERT AND CLARA SCHUMANN, JOHANNES BRAHMS, AND FRANCIS POULENC'S "THE STORY OF BABAR THE LITTLE ELEPHANT" NARRATED BY BEN LUXON. THIS CONCERT IS SUPPORTED IN PART BY A DONATION IN MEMORY OF JOHN A. GRAMMER.

★ ★ ★  
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 8 PM \$15  
"COLEWELL" A FILM STARRING AND INTRODUCED BY  
KAREN ALLEN

"KAREN ALLEN GIVES THE PERFORMANCE OF A LIFETIME" - LA TIMES

★ ★ ★  
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2 PM \$5  
SIMON WINCHESTER: "LAND: HOW THE HUNGER FOR  
OWNERSHIP SHAPED THE MODERN WORLD"

A HUMAN HISTORY OF LAND AROUND THE WORLD: WHO MAPPED IT, OWNED IT, STOLE IT, CARED FOR IT, FOUGHT FOR IT AND GAVE IT BACK.

**MASKS AND PROOF OF VACCINATION REQUIRED**

**VISIT SANDISFIELDARTSCENTER.ORG FOR DETAILS**

# KWIK<sup>Color</sup> 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

## Sandisfield Historical Society



### Benefit Bake Sale

#### WHO WON BEST PIE?

By Ann Wald, President

If you missed the apple fest at the Sandisfield Historical Society's meeting house you missed a wonderful day.

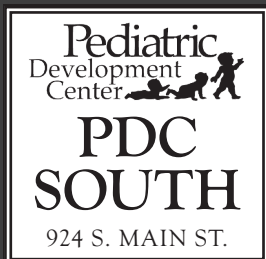
It may have been cloudy but the atmosphere was full of sunshine. We had eleven pies to be tasted and judged by George Riley, Barbara Cormier, and Laurie Seeton. The winner was Karlene Blass. Second place went to Rosanne Skrip while Amanda Leavenworth came in third and Shirley Spring earned honorable mention. The judges stated that the pies were separated by just one point and were all delicious.

Our thanks to everyone who donated pies for the contest and pies to be sold. Vicky and Pauline Bakunis were busy tending the tag sale. John Kuzmech gave demonstrations on how to make apple juice. The Freemans kept busy selling pies as well as books. Steve Rubenstein took over manning the grill and arranged for renting a porta-pottie. Marsha Patterson, our neighbor at TerMar Fruit Stand across Rt. 183, lent a hand wherever it was needed. Tom O'Gara took care of gathering and disposing of the refuse.

Seeing our neighbors visiting with each other was wonderful. A big thank you to everyone taking part in the festivities. Monies made will be added to the funds going toward our much-needed bathroom.

Our next meeting will be November 13 at 2:00 p.m. at the Historical Society on Rt. 183. We will honor our veterans and host our annual wine and cheese social. Then on to the Christmas Fair. Due to Covid-19 hanging around, there will be fewer vendors and masks will be mandatory. Santa will make a visit, and we hope all of our neighbors will too. 🍷

Concerned about your infant or toddler's development?



Give us a call and we can set up an appointment to talk with you about any concerns you may have.

Certified Therapists offering evaluations & visits at your home, in our center, or through telehealth.

Dept. of Public Health Certified Early Intervention Program.

924 S. Main Street  
Great Barrington  
413-717-4083

pediatricdevelopmentcenter.org

## JOHN FIELD

TREE SERVICE, INC.

QUALITY TREE CARE...SAFELY DELIVERED

fieldtreeservice.com 413-329-6519



# BEER ★ WINE ★ LIQUOR

## Domaneys



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.domaneys.com



# Hunting Season in Sandisfield

## NEW RESIDENT RELATES CLOSE ENCOUNTER ON CLAM RIVER LOOP

By Linda Storms, Sandisfield Center

I moved to Sandisfield last October and may already be responsible for saving lives.

Mid-pandemic was the perfect time to buy our forever home in the Berkshires. My husband, Craig, and I scouted out locations to replace the hiking trails that we frequented in our former hometown, Tolland, Connecticut. Our requirements were that it be local and allow me to safely go out alone with our well-trained dog, Daisy. That's when we discovered The Clam River Trail.

We found ample parking at a trailhead located in the Town Hall Annex parking lot, and an easy climb transported us to flora whose beauty was magnified by the sound of the river. We meandered past copious mountain laurel hidden by the fall foliage. After a short distance, a widely cleared loop that takes about a half hour to stroll was the answer to our prayers. The loop became my favorite place in town because you can lose

yourself without getting lost, while experiencing the river through its constant babble.

After frequent hikes and falling leaves, Daisy and I suited up and hit the trail one day in early December. The river was louder now that the leaves had fallen, but the barren trees allowed me to see another hiker ahead, wearing an impressive orange vest. He looked to be about sixty, and seemed to disappear as quickly as he appeared. I next saw him to the right of where the trail meets the loop. I was amazed at how a guy my age could be so stealth. I gave him a little wave and when he waved back I saw that he carried a rifle. It was then that I decided to go in the opposite direction.

It was after going one step in the opposite direction that I realized there was a man with a rifle behind me and I should probably make a plan. Ahead, I saw another vest-clad guy with his eyes closed leaning against a tree that supported *his* rifle. I asked him about the hunting rules and he said that I should be aware that it was deer hunting season. From my experience in Connecticut, the hunters and hikers were separate. I would hear distant shots in the woods around the Fish and Game Clubs, but never on the trails that I frequented. I asked the relaxed hunter if he thought I should continue my hike and he said that it was my choice but there were six other guys coming up the hill soon.

Confused, Daisy and I headed back to the parking lot. I realized that my creamsicle



orange headband from Old Navy was not the “hunter orange” that my new acquaintances wore, and made a mental note to place an Amazon order. I imagined the group of hunters laughing at my naïveté and felt grateful the river was all I could hear.

When we went back to the trail in May, a sign was posted warning hunters to be mindful of hikers. I'm certain that the gentlemen composed themselves long enough to convince town officials that there were starry-eyed newbies like me in town, losing themselves in the woods, without knowing the difference between Old Navy orange and “Hunter Orange.” 🐾

See how much you could save by going solar.  
Call or text today for a free consultation.

Copyright © 2020 Vivint Solar Developer, LLC. All rights reserved.  
Vivint Solar Developer, LLC (FIN: 80-0756438) is a licensed contractor in each state in which we operate.  
Massachusetts License: 170848; 15688 A; SS-002342

Call to see if your home qualifies for a  
zero cost installation and equipment.  
Go green to save green!

**CHARLEY GIAIMO**  
(212) 495-9945  
charley.giaino@sunrun.com

**SUNRUN**





## JAYE'S PLACE GALLERY

Contemporary Art  
Portraits:  
People, Pets, Home

Hours:  
Wed - Sun 11am - 7 pm  
and by appointment

7 New Hartford Road  
Sandisfield, MA 01255  
(310) 970-4517  
jayesplacegallery.com  
artisall@earthlink.net



## The Librarian's Corner

By Terry Spohnholz

### Library hours

**(Please note Thursday evening change):**

Monday and Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 2:00–5:00 p.m.

Thursday, 7:00–9:00 p.m.

Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Closed on Friday and Sunday

Phone: 258-4966

Email: sandisfieldlibrary@gmail.com

All of us at the library wish everyone a grateful and joy filled Thanksgiving holiday! Please note we will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend as well as November 11th in honor of Veteran's Day.

*"Gratitude is the ability to experience life as a gift. It liberates us from the prison of selfpreoccupation."*

—John Ortberg

*"There is something so special in the early leaves drifting from the trees. As if we are all allowed a chance to peel, to refresh, to start again."*

—Ruth Ahmed



### LIBRARY EVENTS

**Story Telling** hours with crafting fun every Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to noon. Come join us for fun and light entertainment.

- November 6 – We feature the **Winter P's, Penguins and Polar Bears.**
- November 13 – **Owls**
- November 20 – **Turkey crafting!!!**

We continue to add new and, enlightening books to both the adult section (upstairs) and children's section (downstairs). The Children's section is replete with books, games, toys, and a train set.

We also offer notary service, public computer and printer availability, free wi-fi and access to e-books from the Massachusetts libraries with your Sandisfield Library card.

If you have a particular author or book in mind, and the Sandisfield Library does not have it, we can borrow it from other libraries. It may take a week or two while the book winds its way from one end of Massachusetts to our end. ♡

### NEW BOOK ARRIVALS

- *Over My Dead Body* by Jeffrey Archer
- *Down the Hatch* by M. C. Beaton
- *Silent Winds, Dry Seas* by Vinod Busjeet
- *The Judge's List* by John Grisham
- *The Longer Fall* and *The Russian Cage* both by Charlaine Harris
- *The Book of Magic* by Alice Hoffman
- *Silverview* by John Le Carre
- *Dear Santa* by Debbie Macomber
- *2 Sisters Detective Agency* by James Patterson
- *State of Terror* by Louise Penny
- *The Butler* by Danielle Steel
- *Foul Play* by Stuart Woods
- *The Stranger in the Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom
- *Another Kind of Eden* by James Lee Burke
- *Game On* by Janet Evanovich
- *A Slow Fire Burning* by Paula Hawkins
- *A Line to Kill* by Anthony Horwitz
- *Daughter of the Morning Star* by Craig Johnson
- *Under the Whispering Door* by T.J. Klune
- *The War for Gloria* by Atticus Lish
- *Bewilderment* by Richard Powers
- *Harlem Shuffle* by Colson Whitehead

### IN THE CHILDREN'S SECTION:

- *The Color Monster* by Anna Llenas
- *One is a Feast for a Mouse* by Judy Cox
- *The First Thanksgiving (A Pete the Cat story)* by James Dean

EAT  
DRINK  
AND BE  
THANKFUL



## Shire Forestry

**Adam Brown**  
Consulting Forester  
MA License # 461

P.O. Box 171  
Sandisfield, MA 01255

[shireforestry@gmail.com](mailto:shireforestry@gmail.com)

Cell: 413.854.7525

- Forest Management/Stewardship Plans
- Chapter 61/A/B Program
- Timber Sales
- Boundary Marking
- GIS Mapping
- Foresters for the Birds
- Wildlife Habitat Improvement
- Recreational Trail Layout

# Hanging Mountain Open for Climbers

## ALSO, HIKERS AND BIRDERS

By Bill Price

Hanging Mountain, Sandisfield's new rock-climbing site just south of New Boston, opened to the public October 2 after two years of preparation and many more of anticipation.

Jeff Squire, former president of the Western Massachusetts Climbers Coalition and one of the leaders in purchasing and developing the site, told The Times in August that the site would open this fall without a ribbon-cutting but more of a simple "acknowledgement that we're ready for climbers, and we hope to see some of you on the cliffs."

Now, after delays due to Covid and heavy rains this fall, the volunteers who worked to create one of the most unique climbing sites in New England gathered at the American Legion Pavilion in New Boston on October 16 to make just that acknowledgement. They're ready to climb.

The 14-acre site is west of Rt. 8, south of New Boston and just beyond the Farmington River Bridge, about three miles north of the Connecticut border. A parking area is at the end of a short but narrow driveway off Rt. 8 so there is no reason to park along the highway.

The site is designed for climbers, but a half-mile walking trail system over vegetation-protecting boardwalks can be accessed by hikers or birdwatchers.

Towering above the site is the long 1,000-foot series of cliffs where climbing routes have been created and mapped for rock climbers. Stone steps have been built into the mountain side to reach staging areas where climbers prepare to scale whichever cliff route they've chosen.

Two kiosks stand at the trail entrance with maps, climbing and site rules and regulations, along with a statement that climbing is dangerous and that visitors assume their own risk. Regulations can also be found at the Coalition's website, [www.climbgneiss.org](http://www.climbgneiss.org).

According to a report by Felix Carroll in The Berkshire Eagle, October 18, the routes have intriguing names, such as Copious Stone, Fever Dreams, Cloud Nine, Ghost Buddy Heights, and She Persists. The Eagle reported that sections of the cliff that are unstable are roped off.

The site was purchased by the Western Massachusetts Climbers' Coalition and the Ragged Mountain Foundation of Southington, Connecticut, with



*Hanging Mountain Cliffside, from the Farmington River Bridge.*

*Photo: Bill Price*

support from the Access Fund of Boulder, Colorado. The 14-acre property was sold to the group by Sandisfield's Dana Ehninger who still owns and lives on nine acres next door. An artist and retired teacher, Dana told the Eagle that in selling the mountain side to the coalition that she hoped to ensure that a beautiful place remained open to the public. And she "still has the best view ever." 🏡



*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. 1785 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](http://www.hillsidegardeninn.com)

# SUMP PUMP

## DO YOU HAVE A BACKUP?



**FRANK CONSOLATI INSURANCE**

RENTER, CONDO AND HOME INSURANCE SINCE 1942

71 MAIN STREET, LEE MA 413-243-0105

# Maybe the Silverbrook? Maybe a General Store?

By Times Reporters

## A REVIVAL OF THE SILVERBROOK?

Two former employees at MJ Tuckers Restaurant are discussing with the owners of the Silverbrook Café the option of leasing the Silverbrook's first floor where, with hope and hard work, they may open their own bar/restaurant late next spring or early summer.

Anticipating that Tuckers will be tied up for significant time with insurance and repair issues following the disastrous fire in October, Shannon Davis, the former manager, and Aaron Scapin, the former chef, have walked through the Silverbrook several times with owners Seth Fritch and Melissa Gabso, and are negotiating how to make things work.

"We're still putting the puzzle pieces together," said Shannon, "but we're 75 percent sure we can make it happen. It would be good for us, and good for the community as well."

Since buying the property in 2019, Seth and Melissa have focused on transforming the second floor into Airbnb rental units, doing most of the construction by themselves with delays due to Covid and the constraints of their jobs. Their work on the first floor has been intermittent and has left quite a bit still to do.

The Silverbrook's former kitchen and bar remain intact but will need extra equipment and tender loving care. "Maybe we can utilize the space better," Shannon said. "Seth and Melissa do excellent carpentry work and Seth has offered to do a lot of the interior construction."


Shannon had been at Tuckers for about two years, and Aaron about two-and-a-half. Shannon is filling her time with part-time bartending work, while Aaron, a percussionist when not being a chef, has been taking weekend drumming gigs. Like many others in Sandisfield, they've been doing whatever it takes to get by.

Shannon added that she is thrilled by the number of people who have cheered them on and who want to help rebuild something for the community.

## THE FARMINGTON RIVER GENERAL STORE

Nick Smigel, proprietor of a proposed new general store on Rt. 8 in New Boston, near the American Legion Pavilion, reported that after a flurry of activity at the site earlier this year, he and his wife, Megan, postponed their planned summer opening.

The delay was and continues to be due, he said, to the unavailability of qualified contractors. Much of the infrastructure work such as electrical and concrete are finished inside the building. "Right now, we are stuck because one of the contractors had a medical emergency with a recovery time that has thrown the schedule off. Plus, we've had to deal with the complications of Covid and that added more delay. But we will keep at it," he said. "We still plan to open the store as soon as we can."

The Times recently conducted a survey of public interest in the concept and solicited ideas for products and services at the store to help the Smigels' plan. Nearly 400 responses were received by mail or online, an indication of very high interest, which the Smigels said they appreciate very much. 



PAUL VAN SICKLE

Paul Van Sickle, 82, of Rood Hill Road died October 25 after a year-long illness. An obituary for Paul appeared in the October 26 online edition of The Berkshire Edge; The Times will publish a print obituary in December. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, November 20 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Lenox.

*Dine in or Takeout!*

*Our restaurant & outdoor patio  
is safely & socially spaced*

WEDNESDAY-FRIDAY 5-9PM  
SATURDAY 12-9PM SUNDAY 12-7PM

*Weekly Specials & Great Appetizers!*

CHECK OUT OUR NEW MENU AT:  
knoxtrailinn.com & Like us on Facebook  
Follow us on Instagram



#knoxstrong

413-269-4400

★ 1898 EAST OTIS RD. (RT. 23) EAST OTIS, MA ★

★ HOUSE FAVORITE PRIME RIB  
(available thursday-saturday)

CEDAR PLANK OR BLACKENED SALMON  
KNOX FISH & CHIPS  
PULLED PORK MAC & CHEESE  
GRILLED RIBEYE  
CHICKEN PARMESAN

LOTS OF APPETIZERS & SOUPS  
GRINDERS & SPECIALTY PIZZAS  
BUILD A BURGER & SALADS  
WINGS, WINGS & MORE WINGS

*Many Gluten Free options too!*

# CRITTER CORNER

If you would like to send a picture for consideration for Critter Corner, you can email it to [editor@sandisfieldtimes.org](mailto:editor@sandisfieldtimes.org).



*For These Two Does, Easy Does it.*

On the trail-cams **Carl Nett** has set up around his nearly 60 acres off Town Hill Road, he often catches photos of bears, coyote, or bobcats, often at night, which he posts on ConnectSandisfield. Here he caught two does lazily grazing on a warm, sunny October afternoon.



*Bee hive*

Nature photog **Cindy Ragusa** was driving through Tyringham recently and came upon this remarkable bee hive. She said, "While at a stop sign I happened to look up and there it was. I waited until there was a bee in the frame."



*Groundhog*

**Jean Atwater-Williams** spied this cheeky Beech Plain Road groundhog guarding his dominion one day last month.

# Virtual Event Aims to Recruit Volunteers

By Liana Toscanini, Executive Director  
Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires

Berkshire United Way and Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires (NPC) are teaming up to offer a virtual volunteer fair on November 12, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Up to 50 Berkshire nonprofits will be represented in virtual booths where attendees can meet with representatives to learn more about volunteer opportunities. Booth space is available to nonprofits through October 15 on a first-come, first-served basis. The fee is \$25 for NPC members and \$35 for non-members.

Nonprofits and individuals can register online at [npcberkshires.org](http://npcberkshires.org).



Berkshire United Way  
#HereForGood

Nationally, volunteerism is down during Covid. “Locally, food pantries are struggling to find enough volunteers to keep up with increased demand,” says Brenda Petell, Director of Volunteer Engagement at Berkshire United Way.

For more information about volunteering, visit Berkshire United Way’s Volunteer Center online at [www.volunteerberkshireuw.org](http://www.volunteerberkshireuw.org) or NPC’s web site [GiveBackBerkshires.org](http://GiveBackBerkshires.org).

# Free Workshops for Veterans

Berkshire AHEC Health Scholars’ Program, in collaboration with Berkshire Community College, is hosting two free workshops in November for military veterans. Veterans, community members and medical personnel are invited to join one or both virtual sessions to explore the cultural challenges around the return of veterans from combat to home, as well as moral injuries in combat vets.



“**BattleMind Plus: Transitioning from Combat to Home**” takes place on November 3. Battle-Mind Resilience Training, the US Army’s mental health resilience training system, is a structured approach describing the impact of the deployment cycle on service members, the changes caused by military training and immersion in a combat setting, and the cultural challenges in the transition home. This training is tailored for medical personnel.

“**Healing Soul Wounds: Moral Injury in Combat Vets**” takes place on November 17. The primary focus of the workshop will be on understanding moral injury (related to, but distinct from PTSD) and on building and bolstering resilience for veterans and responders. Veterans comprise just seven percent of the U.S. adult population but represent 20 percent of the country’s suicides. The aim and intent of the workshops is to work toward stemming the tide of growing division, isolation, and defeat in Massachusetts communities. U.S. Army veteran Kevin Lambert will integrate his knowledge with his own experience of moral injury and his healing path.

Both sessions are free, and will be held from 3:30-5:30 p.m. via Zoom, presented by the Ware-based Brookfield Institute. Pre-registration is required to receive access to the virtual sessions. For more information, call 413-842-5160 or visit [berkshireahec.org](http://berkshireahec.org) and click on the training tab.



## HELP WANTED

### A&M Auto Repair, LLC

7 Tolland Rd.  
Sandisfield, MA 01255  
413-258-3381



Small auto and towing company looking for **front office staff** to provide customer service, create and maintain invoices, and man the phones among other duties and responsibilities. **Must have excellent computer skills, knowledge of Quick Books and Microsoft Office.** We are willing to train. For more information call **Ralph Morrison**

## JOB OPENING: EDITOR

Award-winning, family-owned Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking an energetic person to join them as editor of the Country Journal, a weekly community newspaper that covers 16 hilltowns.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and have telling a community’s stories in their DNA. They must also successfully execute an array of tasks including managing a part-time staff writer, copy editing and guiding coverage. The editor is also expected to gather news and write stories for the paper as well as for other company-wide publications.

If you’re a self-starter who enjoys community journalism, who considers it a calling, and who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, we encourage you to apply for this position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Own camera and photography experience preferred
- Editing experience and the ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for our editor’s position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to Managing Editor Eileen Kennedy at [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com).



# NOW HEAR THIS!

Edited by Laura Rogers-Castro.

Please send notices for Now Hear This! to [editor@sandisfieldtimes.org](mailto:editor@sandisfieldtimes.org).

## NOVEMBER EVENTS

**Sandisfield Select Board Meetings** are currently through Zoom and in-person. Please visit [sandisfieldma.gov](http://sandisfieldma.gov) or call 258-4711 for information.

**Playgroup** on Tuesdays from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Otis Town Hall. Sponsored by South Berkshire Kids. Weather permitting. No pre-registration is necessary. Led by Nina Carr. Meet outside behind the Otis Town Hall in the gazebo for stories and songs followed by creative crafts. Free!

**Chair Yoga** on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall on Silverbrook Road, sponsored by the Council on Aging. For more information, contact Nina Carr (258-3314). Free.

**Harvest Dinner sponsored by the New Boston Congregational Church** on Saturday, November 6 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Firehouse Station #2 on Route 57. Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, cranberry sauce, roll, and pumpkin pie. \$14.00/adults, \$6.00/kids 12 and under. Drive-thru only.

**Jeewon Park Piano Recital** on Sunday, November 7 at 4:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. Jeewon returns to play a solo piano recital of works by Robert and Clara Shumann, Johannes Brahms, and Francis Poulen's "The Story of Babar the Little Elephant" narrated by Ben Luxon. Tickets are available at [sandisfieldartscenter.org](http://sandisfieldartscenter.org). Attendees must be fully vaccinated and wear a mask. \$25.

**Autumn Wreath Decorating sponsored by the Sandisfield Recreation Committee** on Saturday, November 13 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall. This program is free and open to all ages but class size is limited to 20 participants. Please register by November 7 (413-269-7357 or [kowgirlrubby@yahoo.com](mailto:kowgirlrubby@yahoo.com)).

**Colewell, a film starring Karen Allen** on Saturday, November 13 at 8:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. Tickets are available at [sandisfieldartscenter.org](http://sandisfieldartscenter.org). \$15.

**New Boston Church Service** on Sunday, November 14 at 10:00 a.m. at the New Boston Congregational Church, Route 57. All are welcome!

**Book Talk & Signing with Simon Winchester featuring LAND: How the Hunger for Ownership Shaped the Modern World** on Sunday, November 21 at 2:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. Tickets are available at [sandisfieldartscenter.org](http://sandisfieldartscenter.org). \$5.



### EVENTS IN SURROUNDING TOWNS

**Bob's Way Hike** on Sunday, November 14 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. sponsored by the Berkshire Natural Resources Council. Observe the beautiful wetland and seasonal changes at Bob's Way on Route 23 in Monterey. This is a 2-mile, moderately-paced hike with moderate elevation changes. View second-growth hardwood forest, stone walls, stone foundations, and wetlands. Please bring lunch/snack, water, and wear appropriate footwear. Registration ([mariah@bnrc.org](mailto:mariah@bnrc.org)) is required. Free.

## Harvest Dinner

Drive Thru Only  
Sat., November 6  
5:00 - 7:00 p.m.



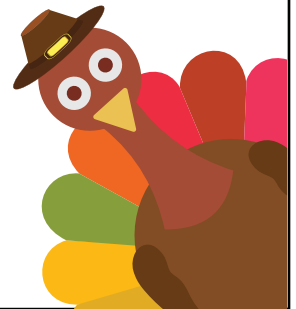
Firehouse Station #2

Route 57, Sandisfield  
Sponsored by the New Boston  
Congregational Church



Turkey • Mashed Potatoes • Gravy  
• Green Beans • Cranberry Sauce •  
Roll • Pumpkin Pie

- \$14.00/  
Adults
- \$6.00/  
kids 12 &  
under



## The Historic 1737 New Boston Inn

### Restaurant, Tavern and B&B

Seven Guest Rooms. All Private Baths (Breakfast for Guests Only)

Reservations Strongly Recommended

Restaurant open

FRI & SAT 12-9

SUN 12-7

Pets  
Welcome!

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

Friendly  
Spirits  
(as seen on  
syfy  
Channel)



OPEN  
THANKSGIVING  
DAY!

Thanksgiving  
five-course meal  
Two seatings:  
12 pm and 3 pm  
Call for reservations

# THE SANDISFIELD TIMES



RELIABLE. REGULAR. RELEVANT.

P.O. Box 584  
Sandisfield, MA 01255  
www.sandisfieldtimes.org

*Annual Appeal!*  
*Please see enclosed letter*  
*and donation form. Thank You!*

**T**HE 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](http://www.sandisfieldtimes.org). Donations to The Sandisfield Times are deductible under section 170 of the Federal Income Tax Code. Donations do not include subscriptions. Subscriptions do not qualify as donations.

The Times is distributed free of charge to all Sandisfield postal address and boxes. Free copies are available at the following town locations: The transfer station (Wed/Sat/Sun), the Library, When Pigs Fly Farm, and

in New Boston at A & M Auto, and the New Boston Inn. The Times is also available in West Otis at the laundromat, the Farmington River Diner and Fratelli's; in East Otis at Katies, Pappas, and the Knox Trail Inn. Also at the Monterey library (outside box) and in Colebrook at the post office and the general store. Back copies are available for purchase.

The Times can be mailed to your home (non-Sandisfield addresses only) by paid subscription (see form at left) or you can read it (free) online as a PDF document at [www.sandisfieldtimes.org](http://www.sandisfieldtimes.org).

We welcome submissions, comments and suggestions, including letters to the editor by the 15th of the month prior. Maximum 300 words. 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.

## **Editorial Staff**

*Editor: Seth Kershner*

*email: [editor@sandisfieldtimes.org](mailto:editor@sandisfieldtimes.org)*

*Advertising/Subscriptions: Ron Bernard*

*Graphic Design: Tina Sotis*

*Website: Jean Atwater-Williams*

*Now Hear This!: Laura Rogers-Castro*

*Founding Editor: Simon Winchester*

## **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) \_\_\_\_\_

## **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](mailto:editor@SandisfieldTimes.org).*