

# THE SANDISFIELD TIMES

*Tribunus*



*Plebis*

RELIABLE. REGULAR. RELEVANT.

*Volume XV, Number 7*

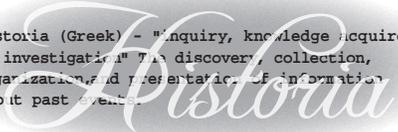
*October 2024*



*The Montville School beside the (then) Montville Baptist Church at the beginning portion of Hammertown Road.*

*DeMars photo, c.1906. Great Barrington Historical Society collection*

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



## The Montville School

*By Ron Bernard*

For many years, Montville was its own village, stretching along both sides of the Sandisfield Road, upriver from the larger New Boston Village and downhill from Sandisfield Center. Two of its most prominent buildings were the two-story schoolhouse and the Baptist Church, now the Arts Center.

### SCHOOL AND CHURCH, A SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP

The Montville schoolhouse was probably built about the same time as the Baptist Church, c.1839-40, on land formerly owned by prosperous Montville resident, Newton Phelps. Both were built in handsome Greek Revival-style.

The two stood side-by-side for 120 years, like a married couple growing old together. Both experienced ups and downs due to the same economic pressures and changes in size and nature of the population. Although one building was municipal and the other a private house of worship, both were community assets used by the same families. They complimented each other, and the lines were blurred.

*Cont'd on p.10*



## BREAKING NEWS

The Select Board announced three major new hires.

- Town Manager: Janey Beardsley Snyder
- Fire Chief: Henry Fristik
- DPW Superintendent: David Waldron.

Snyder was promoted from Acting Town Manager, a role she had filled since the end of April.

Profiles of all three will appear in our November issue. 🗳️

**CODE RED**

## CodeRED, To Protect Us All

The Town of Sandisfield has implemented CodeRED, an emergency notification system that will send alerts via phone-call/voicemail, email or text message.

Go to [sandisfieldma.gov](http://sandisfieldma.gov) and follow the prompts to register. If you having trouble signing up, please contact Janey Snyder at [jbeardsley@sandisfieldma.gov](mailto:jbeardsley@sandisfieldma.gov) or 413-258-4711 Ext. 1 for assistance. 🗳️

## Grant Opportunity

### APPLY NOW FROM THE SANDISFIELD CULTURAL COUNCIL

By Jennifer Hibbins

Grant applications for the Sandisfield Cultural Council's next cycle are now open. Online applications will be accepted until Wednesday, October 16, at 11:59 p.m. Visit [massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/sandisfield/to](http://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/sandisfield/to) apply.

Funded in part by the Town of Sandisfield, but with primary support from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, the Council's mission is to broaden and enhance the cultural life available to the residents of our town.

We encourage Sandisfield residents to apply. We prioritize local programs. But you don't have to be a Sandisfield resident. All applicants must be located or reside in Massachusetts and can include individuals, nonprofits, public schools, libraries, municipal agencies and religious

organizations. All can apply for cultural programming that is available to the general public.

You may apply for projects, operating support, ticket subsidy programs, field trips, artist residencies, fellowships or other activities in the arts, humanities and sciences.

Last year we funded programs in music, dance, theatre, writing, education, and environmental stewardship, as well as supported community events like the Sandisfield Family Fun Day.

Sandisfield Cultural Council Members include Alexcia Adams, Karema Almeida, Connie Canty, Ellen Croibier, Jennifer Hibbins, Jennifer Lenzi, and Ashley Nikituk. Please reach out to us with questions or to get involved at [culturalcouncil@sandisfieldma.gov](mailto:culturalcouncil@sandisfieldma.gov). 🗳️



## Select Board Dispatches

### Town Manager Snyder, Fire Chief Fristik, DPW Superintendent Waldron

By Janey Beardsley Snyder, Town Manager

The Select Board has been making headway on employing a crew of motivated individuals to navigate the Town through the upcoming winter and budget seasons:

Janey Snyder has been hired as the Town Manager. Janey has been working for the Town of Sandisfield for three years. She previously served as the Town's Administrative Assistant and Assistant Treasurer/Collector.

Henry Fristik has been hired as the Fire Chief. Henry has amassed over 30 years of experience in the fire service. The decision to hire Henry comes from a vote of confidence from the entire Fire Department after they were given the opportunity to sit down and ask him questions.

David Waldron has been hired as the DPW Superintendent. David has four years of experience as a DPW Superintendent in Blandford and four prior years of experience as a DPW Laborer for two other towns.

Daniel Pound has been hired as a DPW Equipment Operator/Laborer. Daniel previously worked for DCR for six years and expresses enthusiasm to begin working in Sandisfield.

Currently, 62 residents have signed up for CodeRED. CodeRED sends emergency notifications via phone call/voicemail, text message, and/or email. Visit [www.sandisfieldma.gov](http://www.sandisfieldma.gov) for registration directions.

The Select Board meets at Town Hall, 66 Sandisfield Rd on Mondays at 6:30 p.m. Zoom participation is also available. Visit the website to confirm the date of the next meeting. To request an agenda item, please contact Janey Snyder at [jbeardsley@sandisfieldma.gov](mailto:jbeardsley@sandisfieldma.gov) no later than the Wednesday before the upcoming Select Board meeting.

Be sure to subscribe to E-Alerts on the Town website, [www.sandisfieldma.gov](http://www.sandisfieldma.gov) for important updates and announcements. 🗳️

# Special Permit Request Withdrawn, For Now

## RED TAPE BLOCKS A GOOD IDEA

By Bill Price

The Platt brothers withdrew their request for a Special Permit to operate a tent-camping site on their property in Roosterville at the Select Board meeting, September 30.

They felt obliged to withdraw because, in their opinion, the local Board of Health and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has presented them with sets of regulations that, as the Platts understand them, are conflicting and unnecessarily complicated.

So conflicted and complicated in fact that the Platts believe that they need a legal representative to help them sort out the various requirements and need time to do so.

The Select Board appeared sympathetic and allowed them to withdraw the proposal “without prejudice,” which means that they can resubmit their plan at any time, although it was left unclear whether the brothers would have to start over from scratch. It is possible that they could circumvent some of the initial legal steps and pick up where they left off.

### HOW WE GOT HERE

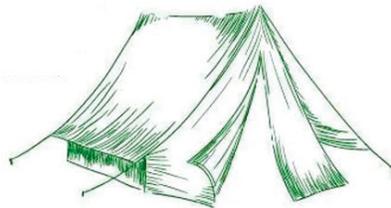
The brothers have been pursuing permits for their campsite proposal for nearly two years. (See The Times’ Special Report online at [sandisfieldtimes.org](http://sandisfieldtimes.org), September 2024, and an earlier report in the August 2023 Times).

The location, near their family home (since 1940) on the west side of the Farmington River – the only house on that side of the Clark Road bridge – is not far from the popular Hanging Mountain climbing site to the south on Rt. 8. The brothers have been told by several climbers that because of limited places to stay in Sandisfield they would appreciate a place to camp overnight. Many of the climbers cannot afford an Airbnb or the New Boston Inn and would prefer to camp out anyway.

The brothers came up with a plan to build a camping site on the same ground where their father, Willard Platt Senior, had operated an informal camping site many years ago. Once their plans formed, the Town’s Planning Board held a Community Outreach Meeting regarding a proposed camping bylaw, attended by the full Select and Planning Boards, representatives

from the Conservation Committee, and about twenty-five residents. Concerns were discussed including sanitation requirements, fire pits, parking, lighting, noise, and enforcement. The result was a Camping Bylaw presented by the Planning Board at this year’s Annual Town Meeting. When the proposal failed to pass, the brothers were encouraged to seek a Special Permit from the Select Board, using the bylaw proposal as a guide.

Thus, the September 30 Select Board meeting for a Special Permit request, which is now in abeyance.



### THE PETITION IN OPPOSITION

In the meantime, opposition began to grow in Town and a petition was circulated in August asking the Select Board to disapprove the Special Permit request. The petition was circulated through parts of Sandisfield by Dominic Konstam, a property abutter, and other concerned residents. Konstam’s property, on the mountain above the Platt brothers home in Roosterville, consists of several hundred acres of woodland. The petition read:

We, the undersigned, do not approve the development of a campground at property owned by the Platt brothers at 4 Clark Road. We ask that the Board of Selectmen deny the application for a special permit for the purpose of the following reasons:

The townspeople did not approve the proposed new camping bylaw designed to promote the development of campgrounds at a town meeting on May 18th, 2024.

1. An increase in noise pollution disrupting the peace and quiet for all abutters and residents.

2. Negative impact on property owners for adjacent landowners
3. Concerns about increased incident of trespassing on to surrounding properties.
4. The increased risk of liability to the town relative to injuries and potential use of emergency services.

### THE RESPONSE FROM THE PLATT BROTHERS

In response, the brothers sent a Letter to the Editor at The Times, which was received too late to be included in our September issue. However, The Times feels the information in the letter is important to counter what the brothers see as misinformation in the petition. Printing the letter here – along with the preceding petition – is The Times’ attempt to add clarity to these issues which are creating confusion and some anger among our community.

Following are excerpts from the letter the Platt brothers wrote.

Dear Reader:

Little Bridge Farm Tent Camping has entered the special permit stage of approvals. . . . [When the bylaw plan was rejected at Town Meeting,] it was explained in depth to the voters that a “no vote” would not stop tent camping; it’s just that there would be no town regulations on camping. So when the voters failed to pass the bylaws, the only take away is the voters did not want more regulations. . . . We have been more than open with our intentions over the last two years.

It’s come to our attention that people are spreading misinformation and untruths about the tent camping area. To clear some of this up, there will only be tenters – hence the name Little Bridge Farm Tent Camping. There will be no travel trailers or motor homes allowed. All activities at the campground will be monitored, and any unruly or out-of-control campers will be dealt with immediately. . . .

Willard and Robert Platt

The Platt’s full letter can be read at the September Special Report online at [sandisfieldtimes.org](http://sandisfieldtimes.org).

# Resident Recognized by Berkshire Chamber

## LIANA TOSCANINI NAMED 2024 “BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR”

By Ron Bernard

One-hundred forty-three area business professionals, members of the Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, met on September 11 in the spacious new lodge at Catamount Mountain Resort for the group’s 15th annual Business Person of the Year (BPOY) award ceremony.



*Rep. Pignatelli with Liana Toscanini at the 2024 Southern Berkshire County Chamber of Commerce Business Person of the Year award ceremony.*

*Photo Chelsea Proulx Photography*

The guest MC was Berkshires State Representative Smitty Pignatelli who performed one of his last ceremonies as an elected official. He has announced his retirement from state government service.

Representatives from dozens of leading companies in South County were on hand to honor Sandisfield’s Liana Toscanini of the Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires as the 2024 BPOY.

This year twelve individuals of about fifty nominated by the public made it to the final selection stage. Nominees, who are typically entrepreneurial, were judged by an independent committee according to several criteria within each of three categories of excellence, “Personal Qualities,” “Managerial Skills,” and “Contribution to the Southern Berkshires.”

Liana is only the third woman to win the award and only the second from the nonprofit sector, a critical component of the Berkshire economy. According to the Massachusetts Nonprofit Network, there are about 1,200 registered nonprofit organizations in Berkshire County, the second highest number of nonprofits per capita in the Commonwealth. While these nonprofits range widely in size from a hospital or venue like Tanglewood to a local historical society, 75 per cent are considered “small,” with annual revenue under \$500,000. Moreover, nonprofits

account for 25 per cent of total County employment. In this measure Berkshire (Mass.) ranks 27th among almost 3,250 counties or equivalents in the U. S.

The Nonprofit Center of the Berkshires is an umbrella organization that supports individual nonprofits of all types. Through trainings, publications, networking events, advocacy, research and more, NPC helps nonprofits connect to resources and each other, pursue professional development and grow and thrive. Since founding in 2016 in Great Barrington, the NPC has grown to about 200 member-clients out of an estimated 400 hundred relevant entities. The NPC model may be unique in the United States.

Accolades for Liana’s contributions to community betterment and indirectly to the local economy came from Chamber board president, Sierra Watson and 2023 BPOY award winner, Chuck Leach, CEO of Lee Bank. Rep. Pignatelli’s characteristically on-point, good natured and always hilarious observations about Liana followed. (Apparently he was uninformed that this event was supposed to only be serious and dignified, not a roast).



*Liana Toscanini addressing the assembly. Photo Richard Migot*

As a long-time friend and colleague of the recipient, this writer was asked to tell the assembly about her remarkable record of volunteering and civic leadership in Sandisfield starting with her arrival in town in 1996, and the back story about the inception of her organization, the NPC, eight years ago.

To her chagrin, comments also included certain never-before-revealed aspects of her personality which came as a surprise to the amused audience. Traditionally, BPOY awardees do not depart this event unscathed and this mirthful evening with a disco theme was no exception.

Betsy Andrus, Chamber executive director told the Times, “This was a fun, feel good evening honoring Liana Toscanini as our 2024 Business Person of the Year. With such an amazing career and her tireless energy to create and grow the NPC this recognition was well deserved and long overdue.”

# Two Towns a Step Closer to Agreement

## UNANIMOUS APPROVAL AT THE COMBINED SCHOOL COMMITTEE

By Bill Price

Could it be possible that formerly opposing parties could overcome a seemingly insurmountable dilemma with reason and compromise?

The apportionment of costs between Sandisfield and Otis for funding the Farmington River School District has been under discussion by the combined school committee since late 2022. After a long two years of discussion and exhaustive number-crunching, a resolution may be at hand.

At a School Committee Special Meeting on September 23 the committee completed the amended Regional District Agreement and approved it by a unanimous vote of 7-0.

The amended agreement includes a new cost apportionment method that more fairly distributes district costs between Otis and Sandisfield. According to a report in The Berkshire Eagle, "As the less wealthy town in the two-town district, Sandisfield taxpayers have been shouldering more than what the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education said they can afford. Otis taxpayers, on the other hand, have been shouldering less than they can afford." The amended RDA addresses that discrepancy.

The next step is for the State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to issue a preliminary approval of the plan.

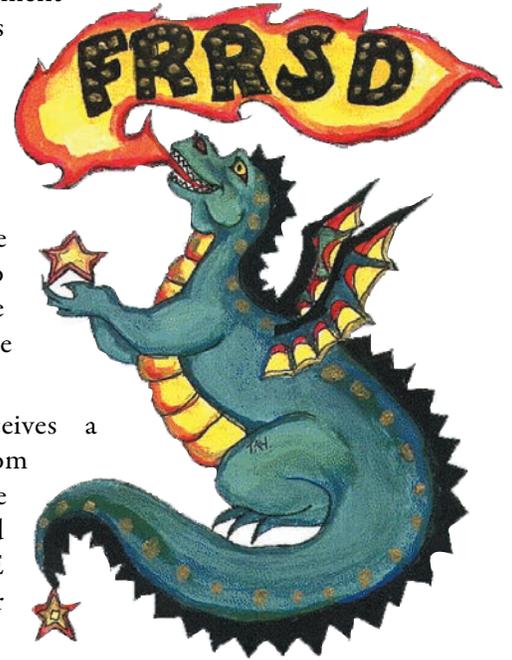
Once that happens, both Otis and Sandisfield residents would have to vote in favor of the revised Regional District Agreement at Special Town Meetings that could be held within the next few months.

The fly in the ointment is that Otis residents will have to vote to increase their share of the district bill. However, if Sandisfield were to withdraw from the district, the cost to Otis to continue the district would be many times higher.

If the RDA receives a positive vote from both towns, the amended RDA would return to the DESE Commissioners for final approval.

Should that happen, with the financial sustainability of the district assured as a result of the amended Regional District Agreement, the School Committee can focus on its efforts to establish the Farmington River Elementary School as the premier elementary school in all of Berkshire County.

Members of the Committee we have spoken to are cautiously optimistic that both Otis and Sandisfield will pass the town votes.



### Pick Your Own Apples

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[www.riiskabrookorchard.com](http://www.riiskabrookorchard.com)

# WHO DOESN'T LIKE A PIG ROAST?

## IF YOU MISSED IT, COME NEXT YEAR

By Laurie Seddon, Sandisfield Recreation Committee

The weather was perfect on Saturday, September 14. That's probably why the RSVPs poured in right up until the event started.



Having supper all together now.

### THE PIG ROAST, 2024.

Last year, the Sandisfield Recreation Committee brought back this tradition which had been lost for so long. This year it really seemed to hit home that we mean to do this every year. About 200 Sandisfield residents, and some neighbors too, came out for a great time.

John Ormsbee and his team roasted an entire 110 lb. pig and two beef roasts to absolute perfection. They started early in the week and turned the spit on just as the sun rose on Saturday morning so we all could enjoy dinner by 5:00 p.m. As "icing on the cake," John surprised us with stuffing and fresh pork rinds too!

McGrane's on the Green out of Winsted catered mouth-watering mac & cheese and delicious coleslaw. This year we sourced local corn on the cob from Taft Farms in Great Barrington, so good it was the first food item we ran out of.

All this good weather and good food was accompanied by the mix of live rock, country and folk music performed by the In Harm's Way band out of Watertown.

All three Select Board members attended and made themselves useful by serving free beer which had been anonymously donated for the event.

There was plenty to do other than eat, drink, and dance. There was volleyball, badminton, cornhole and bocci. Not to mention the bounce house where the kids bounced until the sun went down. A special thank you to our bounce house attendants: Theresa Spohnholz, Brigette Ruthman and Emily Gallagher for making sure the kids were safe and attended to.

Thanks also to Barbara Cormier for volunteering to help greet/check people in. Thank you to Lizz Nett for stepping up and giving us a break from food service.

We couldn't have done this without all your help.

The Recreation Committee was able to provide this event for free due to planning far ahead and sticking to a strict, Town-approved budget. We aim to keep it this way in the future. When you see them, please thank our other Recreation Committee members for all their hard work to pull this off: Anina Carr, Laura Messina, Katie Murray, and Melissa Antoniazzi.



John Ormsbee and his crew of cooks.



The In Harm's Way band.

Please join us for OKTOBERFEST at Looking Glass Gardens on Sunday, October 13 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Again there will be live music, hayrides, \$2 pony rides from Sunny Rose Farm, autumnal crafting, beer for purchase, and the delicious Bubs Beans & the Dogs with their traditional menu, along with bratwurst and German potato salad.

Don't forget to sign up for this year's HALLOWEEN TRAIL if you want to pass out candy at your Sandisfield home.

For questions or to RSVP to our events, please contact us at sandisfieldevents@recreationcommittee.info.

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# Out On A Limb



## Bang! Bang! Bang! ... and Bang Again!

### HOW TO P.O. A LOCAL

By Bogart Muller

It's another hot afternoon here in 01255 as I pull into my driveway at 72 South Main Street. Mid-September. As I unload the truck, I notice my neighbor, who rarely ever visits his property, is now parked stealth-mode in our shared right of way.

Now, I haven't seen that guy in at least 12 years to be honest. He's probably scoping out his 53-acre lot for whatever. He has every right to park there as long as he doesn't block traffic; technically it's not his land but not mine neither.

Twenty minutes later as I let my flock of Brahmas out to roam, the cat outside to prowl, and my boy gets started on his homework, the loudest of various gunshots start. I'm not talking off in the distance but rather 100 feet away from my nearby property line.

I run indoors where my son asks me what's going on? There's like guns going off!!

I say I know and just stay put, I will handle this.

Living in this spot for almost 30 years and this has never happened, ever.

As a gun owner and proud member of Range USA, I take full responsibility of the proper understanding of guns. My property is less than 700 feet from the highway or any property line so I know I cannot discharge my weapons here recreationally. I keep them separate from their ammo and safely locked away. I have full respect for any gun owners who abide by these simple laws.

As I approach my southern property line, I see two young men with a vast amount of weapons and ammunition. Gunshots are loud and frequent.

I call out to them, not really having to raise my chill voice due to their close proximity, asking to please cease fire.

These guys are just kids. They stated that their father owns the land, and they can shoot here legally. I said you are within 500 feet of an occupied home and you should at least move away to the other end of your land. No one lives over there, and you won't be breaching the peace in this area.

I was told again by both of them that they had every right to shoot here and I was the only one with an issue.

As the conversation went south, these guys were narcissistic, and their tone condescending. Both were holding weapons in their hands. The voices became louder as our disagreement became evident. I said have a nice day and walked off.

I then called the sheriff.

Mike Morrison was there in minutes to tell them how they are doing the neighborhood wrong. Neither one lives near here. There has been a formal complaint from a person next door of excessive noise.

These kids refused to move and claimed to have every right to do what they were doing. The law cannot stop them. Absolutely no respect for other people and local authority.

As Mike walked back to the cruiser shrugging his shoulders, telling me there is nothing anyone can do, they continued to shoot without relocating.

My chickens were stressed hiding in the coop when they normally were out, my cat nowhere to be seen, and my son trying to focus on integers between seriously close semi-auto rifle fire.

No one is complaining about loud music, lawn mowers, or a sawmill. Instead, I am expressing deep

concern over a safety issue more controversial than ever. Trying to be patient and have a constructive conversation with young strangers about respect among land owners, we are told go away and take your dumb problems with you.

Is this the new norm? Blatantly ignoring a request to cease gunfire from a quiet neighbor AND a police officer? Apparently, it is.

Now, I could be much more accommodating if they did a few things differently. If they lived on the property full time and we had an understanding, things would be different. Maybe give me a heads up instead of just parking and blasting. Maybe take into consideration that the other side of the property would be less noise invasive. Being a little more respectful of the people living right next door? We don't have to disagree.

As a landscaper, I would be more than happy to design, construct, and even maintain a small shooting range in the southern end of the land they own. They could shoot whatever, whenever, and not bother a soul instead of pushing the limits of somebody's patience who never did them any wrong. Disrespectful to say the least, but worse to give the guns a bad rap. 🤔

### Out on a Limb: Op-Ed:

*Subjects should be of interest 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. Opinions in Out on a Limb articles are those of the authors and do not represent The Sandisfield Times.*

**THANK YOU TO  
OUR ADVERTISERS!**



# Sandisfield Arts Center

## October at the Arts Center

### SUPERB SPEAKERS, MARVELOUS MUSICIANS, AND AESTHETIC ARTISTS

We have an exciting burst of programs for October before we close down for the winter.

#### PRESENTATIONS



*"Geology Meets Science,"  
Bish-Bash Falls,  
by John Frederick Kensett, 1855*

We have a geology talk on Saturday, October 5, at 10:00 a.m. (\$10) "Landscape Geology: Image Meets Science in the Berkshires" will be presented by Professor Paul Karabinos, Chair and Edna McConnell Clark Professor of Geology at Williams College.

Professor Karabinos has done extensive mapping and age dating of the rocks of the Berkshires. We live in a fascinating area where around 450 million years (My) ago an island arc (such as

Japan) crashed into a pre-north American continent as an older Atlantic Ocean (Iapetus) was consumed (subducted). Most rocks in Sandisfield are metamorphic (schist, gneiss and quartzite) more than 400 million years old.

World-famous photographer Amy Arbus will present a slide show on October 13 at 5:30 p.m. (free) in conjunction with the opening of the Women in Photography exhibit (see Art in the Gallery section in this article).

Arbus teaches portraiture at many places including the International Center of Photography, and the Fine Arts Work Center. Her photographs have appeared in over 100 publications and several books. Between 1980 to 1990, the Village Voice ran a column with Arbus' photographs entitled "On the Street" which was later turned into a book with the same name. Her work is in the permanent collection of the New York Public Library and the Museum of Modern Art.

Dr. Diane Meier, McArthur Genius Award winner, will close the lecture series on Saturday, October 19, at 10:00 a.m., with a talk entitled, "Transforming Care During Serious Illness." (\$10)

Dr. Meier, is the founder, Director Emerita and Strategic Medical Advisor of the Center to Advance Palliative Care in New York. Her efforts to improve and increase access to quality health care in the United States for people living with serious illness are widely acknowledged. In 2010, HealthLeadersMedia named her as one of "20 People Who Make Healthcare Better in the United States," and in 2013



*Diane Meier, "Transforming Care During Serious Illness"*



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ARTS CENTER

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Sun., Oct. 6, 4 pm • **BILL TAYLOR AND FRIENDS**

Creative ensemble playing original and classical contemporary music with Bill on piano accompanied by woodwinds and voice. \$20



Oct. 13 – Nov. 10 • **WOMEN IN PHOTOGRAPHY**

Opening reception 4-5:30. Slideshow and talk by **Amy Arbus**, world renowned award-winning photographer. Free.

Sat., Oct. 19, 10 am • **TRANSFORMING CARE DURING SERIOUS ILLNESS**

Talk by **Diane Meier, MD**, Director Emerita & Strategic Advisor of the Center to Advance Palliative Care. \$10

Sat., Oct. 19, 7 pm • **BOBBY SWEET IN THE CABARET**

Singer/songwriter **Bobby Sweet** returns with his unique mixture of folk and jazz. \$20

Sat., Oct. 5, 10 am

**BERKSHIRE LANDSCAPE GEOLOGY:  
ART MEETS SCIENCE**

Over a billion years of earth's history are visible in the iconic Berkshire landscape, a rocky terrain that is captured in classic paintings. Talk by **Professor Paul Karabinos**, Williams College. \$10

FOR DETAILS, RESERVATIONS, AND UPCOMING EVENTS, PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE.

[SANDISFIELDARTSCENTER.ORG](http://SANDISFIELDARTSCENTER.ORG)

she was elected to both the National Academy of Medicine and the National Academy of Sciences. Under her leadership the number of palliative care programs in U.S. hospitals has tripled since 2002. She has published over 200 peer-reviewed papers and served as a Health and Aging Policy Fellow in Washington, D.C.

**MUSIC**

Two local musicians will perform at the Arts Center in October.

On Sunday, October 6 at 4:00 p.m. (\$20), Bill Taylor and Friends will perform several of Bill’s pieces which are classically inspired with hints of jazz and show tunes; these are trios, duos, solos, and quartets; and a few songs, including two 20th century classical pieces, Shostakovich’s Four Waltzes and Saint-Saens’ Tarantella. The group consists of two woodwind players, Gerold and Cathy Mohn, French horn player Stewart Edelstein and singer Jaye Alison Moscarriello. Bill Taylor is a composer and pianist who in 2023 and 2024 was a composer at the Mostly Modern Festival where his chamber pieces Regenerate, Heal, Cool, Normalizing Evil and others were performed. Tickets are available at \$20 each.

Two weeks later, on Saturday, October 19 beginning at 7:00 p.m., the Arts Center welcomes back Berkshire native Bobby Sweet and his trio featuring pedal steel guitarist Pete Adams and vocalist Lara Tupper (\$20). Between 2008 and 2016, Sweet, a multi-talented performer and storyteller, toured the U.S. and Canada as lead guitarist with Arlo Guthrie, which brought him to such acclaimed venues as Carnegie Hall, the New Orleans Jazz Fest, and Garrison Keillor’s A Prairie Home Companion. He has released seven solo albums and his songs have aired on hit television series such as Nashville, Touched by An Angel, Walker Texas Ranger, CSI, and Judging Amy.

**ART IN THE GALLERY**

The galley is open to the public for free on Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and during performances.

Until October 5, the Third Annual Daniel Manacher Prize for Young Artists will continue to feature the work of several young local artist (ages 17-26) s including prize winners Mico Aldmar Mendoza, Aidan White ([www.aidan-white.com/](http://www.aidan-white.com/)) and Warwick Willow ([www.warwickwillow.com/about](http://www.warwickwillow.com/about)). The show also includes the work of last year’s winner Laina Falcon ([www.falconlaina.com/](http://www.falconlaina.com/)).

The Illuminated: Women in Photography exhibit will open October 13 at 4:00 p.m. and continue through November 10 at 6:00 p.m. This is an exploration of the female brain function. The gender component of emotional memory is linked to the amygdala (an almond-shaped emotion locus in both hemispheres of the brain). For women, the left side of the amygdala appears to drive emotional recall much more vividly than men. Women also have nine brain regions actively involved in the imprinting and commitment to memory of emotionally rich stimuli, whereas men have only two. This show is both a celebration and an inquiry into the feminine nature of memory. How does what we remember — and forget — influence artistic process and output? Each artist, through her own personal experience, reveals how memories can function as the ultimate fabric of self-expression and storytelling. As part of the opening celebration, the celebrated photographer Amy Arbus will present a slideshow on October 13 at 5:30 p.m. 🍷



## THE MONTVILLE SCHOOL

*Cont'd from p.1*

By the mid-1920s the school was flourishing with record enrollment, but because of Sandisfield's economic decline and loss of population the school steadily lost students until it was closed in 1938.

At the Baptist Church, membership began aging during the 1890s. When the last minister departed in 1918, the building was closed. In 1921, the remaining members of the congregation sold the church to the Sons of Abraham who turned the building into a synagogue. Seventy years later the remaining Jewish caretakers transferred ownership to a preservation-minded community group which rehabilitated the old building into the Sandisfield Arts Center, where it thrives today.



*Teacher Hattie Merrill, standing 3rd from left with eleven students and an assistant. Class of 1895 photo taken in front of the Baptist church.*

*From author's collection.*

### SANDISFIELD'S GOLDEN ERA AND THE RISE OF MONTVILLE

In 1833, nine families petitioned the Town fathers to establish a new school district, which was approved. It was No. 13, the Mechanicsville District, a name which remained in common use for some time after the village was renamed Montville in about 1850. Before there was a dedicated building, children attended classes in private homes which was customary.

The late-1830s was the beginning of a golden era for the Sandisfield. People were moving in, and prospects were good. Sandisfield's population rose from 1,464 in 1840 to 1,649 in 1850, the historical peak. Families were large and school-age children comprised a significant proportion of Town population. Sandisfield in 1840 had 16 school districts, also an historic high. Also, by the 1840s the Town had built perhaps a dozen new one-room schoolhouses. Four of these buildings survive.

Montville village, rapidly growing with its mills, mechanical and "wood-turning" shops, and small factories, was the economic engine for the town. Many new houses in Greek Revival-style appeared along the main road in the 1840s. The Montville school was the only two-story schoolhouse in Sandisfield, an indication that the Town anticipated continued growth.

### SOCIAL DECLINE AND SCHOOL CLOSURES

The hoped-for brighter future never materialized because of three major events: the Civil War of the 1860s, the proposed but failed railroad line of the 1870s, and the Great Depression of the 1930s.



*Never before published image of the Montville school as it appeared in the 1930s.*

*Photo courtesy Rochelle Wynne and Irene Conley, daughters of Sarah Cohen.*

At least twenty-one young men from Sandisfield died as a consequence of the Civil War and some veterans resettled elsewhere. The collapse of the proposed Lee & New Haven Railroad in 1873 forced many families who had invested in the scheme to abandon their farms and move away. The Great Depression also displaced families. By 1940 Sandisfield's population was only 421, close to the all-time low.

School enrollment from 1880 to the 1920s fluctuated according to the number of families but the long-term trend was downward. There were four terms, Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer. Schools were closed or reopened every year or for portions of years. By 1904, there were only five active schools (districts) remaining.

The Town annual report for 1907-08 indicates that the Montville school was dormant in 1907 but had eleven students for the Spring 1908 term. In 1909, seven schools operated, including Montville for the winter term. In farming communities, winter term attendance tended to be the highest because "large boys" were not needed to work as much on farms.

### JEWISH COMMUNITY REVIVES THE MONTVILLE SCHOOL

In 1906, an influx of Jewish families, refugees from the pogroms in eastern Europe who landed in New York, came to Sandisfield. They purchased dormant farms mostly in the northwest section of town. Not well suited for traditional agriculture, they soon turned to chicken farming and boarding houses in and around Montville.

By the mid-1910s, their children and those of other Jewish families who came later were numerous in Montville. Sandisfield school enrollment in this

period perked up which interrupted the long-term trend of closures. The Montville school in 1925-26 had thirty-four students, by far the largest class of any Sandisfield school district to that time.

But robust enrollment at Montville was not sustained. By the 1929-30 school year there were only seventeen students. Sarah Cohen, daughter of Rabbi Max Cohen, taught all grades.

In her book *Soil and Shul*, Sandisfield resident Lorraine German wrote: “Sarah, the eldest Cohen daughter, trained to be a teacher at the Westfield Normal School. She returned to Sandisfield after graduation and found a teaching job at the Montville school. Sarah made the trip between [her home in] West New Boston and Montville on foot every day.”

By 1938, there were only seven children from five families remaining in Montville. The School Committee, in an annual reapportionment custom that dated to the 18th century, closed Montville and redirected the children to West New Boston, about three miles away. Ms. Cohen, who stood to lose her job of eight years, and three families objected and ‘went on strike.’ When the new school year started in September the parents of five children (three families) were steadfast and home-schooled their kids. Ms. Cohen conducted a petition and led a party to Boston to plead their case to officials, ultimately to no avail.



*The building as it appeared in 1961 shortly before demolition.*

*Photo Sandisfield Historical Society.*

All neighborhood schoolhouses were closed in 1950 when the consolidated “New School” opened (now the Sandisfield Town Hall). In March 1959, it was decided to put the Montville building and lot up for public auction. But by then the structure was so derelict it was demolished by the Sandisfield Fire Department in 1961.

The original footprint of the schoolhouse has been outlined with a small wall mostly composed of stones found on the property. It is now a memorial garden for the Arts Center. 

*Editor’s note: The above was excerpted from a chapter in an upcoming history of Montville Baptist Church building, now home of the Sandisfield Arts Center. The book will be released next year in conjunction with the 30th anniversary the Arts Center.*



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# Move Over, We Have New Neighbors

## THEY SEEM TO HAVE MOVED IN FOR GOOD

By *Brigitte Ruthman*

They live in our midst again now, these elephants of the northern forest, homely, theatrical, and not quite elegant but at least majestic.

And like no other creature in the forest, they own it.

But oh, the antlers, and the drama of their presence, seemingly unafraid with dull eyes in a place where no predator would challenge a healthy 1,600 pound adult.

Moose once ranged throughout Massachusetts but not where summers burn hotter farther south.

They thrive on tree buds, aquatic vegetation, grass, and leaves. Their voracious appetite of 50 pounds of that stuff a day leave diminutive deer suffering in competition.

Their long stoic faces began reappearing in the 1980s as browse returned to overgrown fields and logging sites. They remain elusive, enduring summer heat



by living in and around the area's many swampy areas where they rarely cross paths with humans.

They've made a comeback and established a breeding population, even as climate change threatens further inhospitable warming, winter ticks overwhelm some calves, and dense, unmanaged forests offer little food.

The young bull that crossed the south side of the farm last week had velvet peeling from his antlers that was not his bel – that flap of skin beneath his throat. Mating season when they roam begins in September and ends in October, much earlier than the November season for bucks.

What's most amazing is how a nine-foot long cow that passed through the pasture 400 yards away on the north



At least two moose, a cow and a bull, from the webcam at Joshua's Farm, Dodd Road.

Photos courtesy of *Brigitte Ruthman*.

side and within two hours of the bull somehow managed to jump my four and a half-foot wire fence. Or maybe she just stepped over it. After all, the fence was planned to contain dairy cows and allow for deer and other wildlife to enter. Who could have imagined that maybe a moose could fly? 🦄

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- Oct 4th Country Line Dancing 8pm
- Oct 5th Mr. Doubtfire Band 8 pm
- Oct 11th Brett Potter 6pm
- Oct 12th Pick-Up Line 8pm ★
- Oct 13th Acoustic Bandwidth 2pm
- Oct 19th Chalkdust 8pm
- Oct 20th Hilltown Blues Jam 2pm
- Oct 25th Nate Martel 6pm
- OCT 26TH KNOX HALLOWEEN BASH with THE 413s!! 8pm
- OCT 28TH SPOOKY HALLOWEEN MOVIE NIGHT 4:30PM

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# Sandisfield Ladies Book Club

The Sandisfield Ladies Book Club met for a potluck dinner in August at Ellen Croibier's home before discussing *The Little Mo Effect* by Pier Boutin. Pier lives and works in Great Barrington and attended the dinner with her daughter, Ace, and partner, Jack. From left to right, the attendees were: Rosanne Skrip, Rosanne Hoekstra, Diane Christian, Joanne Olson, Pier, Ellen, Jack, Anita Carr, and Ace.



The following month, the Club met at the Sandisfield Library where they reviewed *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocum. Again from left to right, Anita Carr, Gloria Spector, Diane Christian, Jo Freedman, Connie Canty, Mary Gonzalez, Joanne Olson, and Terry Spohnholz. Ellen Croibier didn't get in this photo, since she took it.



If you'd like to be part of the Sandisfield Ladies Book Club, call Terry Spohnholz at the Town Library (258-4966) and she'll set you up. Their next meeting is October 24 at the Library. Under discussion will be the terrific *A Gentleman from Moscow* by Amor Towles. 📖



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# Council on Aging



## Stop By, Say Hello COA OFFERS COFFEE, AND MUCH MORE

By *Nina Carr*

The Council on Aging would like to invite any and all Seniors in town to our various events. Our members are a welcoming bunch so please don't hesitate to come by and join us.

Every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., we have a "Coffee Hour" in the COA room at the Town Hall. Coffee and other refreshments are available, as well as great conversation and plenty of laughs. Polite gossip allowed.

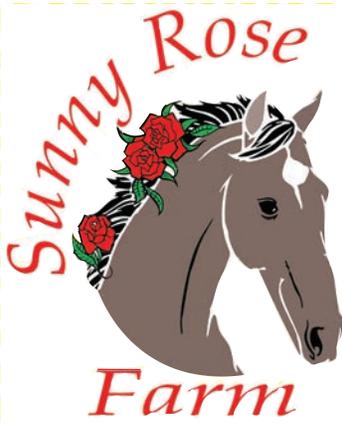


Also on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m., our weekly Chair Yoga class takes place at the Old Town Hall at the foot of Silverbrook Road. Our terrific instructor Wendy will be away for the first two weeks of October, so the class will resume Oct. 16.

The "Outreach Committee" of the New Boston Congregational Church has generously volunteered to provide a free lunch on the 16th as well. We hear that homemade soup will be on the menu!

Our Flu and Covid Vaccine Clinic will take place on Oct 15 at Old Town Hall starting at 1:30 p.m. It is necessary to pre-register at [www.home.color.com/vaccine/register/tritown](http://www.home.color.com/vaccine/register/tritown). If you need help, please call 413-243-5540, ext. 109. See also the advertisement on page 13.

Questions about Medical Insurance? On Oct 24 starting at 9:00 a.m., a "Shine" representative from Elder Services in Pittsfield will be available to help seniors understand and answer questions about Medical Insurance. Please call Linda Riiska to make an appointment at 258-4816.



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## The Librarian's Corner

### ANNOUNCING NEW LIBRARY HOURS:

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Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Closed Thursday, Friday and Sunday

Phone: 258-4966

Email: sandisfieldlibrary@gmail.com

Our new website: sandisfieldlibrary.org

### Events at the Library this month

**October 24, Thursday, at 6:30 p.m., the Sandisfield Ladies Book Club** will meet to discuss "A Gentleman in Moscow" by Amos Towles. The story of an unrepentant aristocrat who in 1922 is sentenced to live in an attic room while the tumultuous events of Russia unfold outside the hotel doors. The meeting will be at the Sandisfield Library.

**October 23, Wednesday, starting at 6:30 p.m., we have Games Night at the Library.** Join in for the flavor of the month, which is Scrabble! All ages are encouraged. Bring your wits and your smiles. We'd love see them both. Bring your two-letter words, too. Light refreshments provided.

All month long – It is never too late to participate in the **Massachusetts Center for the Book 2024 Reading Challenge.** October's book is a time in history that you'd like to know more about.

**October 12, Saturday, at 1:00 p.m.**

Arr me matey, partake in me Pirate adventures at the Sandisfield public Library with Ed the Wizard.

#### Treasure Hunt:

- Search for: Rings, Doubloons, Tattoos, Gem Stones, and more!
- Each Pirate receives an Eye Patch, Pirate hat, a Treasure Chest to fill, and Balloon Sword
- After the treasure hunt – a cookie and ice cream feast!

**October 31, Thursday, Trick or Treat at the Library.** The Library will once again be part of the Sandisfield Recreational Committee's Trick or Treat Trail. The doors will be open for treats, (no tricks) and book lending. Join us from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

#### LATEST ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY SHELVES (adult fiction and non-fiction)

- *Death at the Sign of the Rook* by Kate Atkinson
- *Safe Enough and Other Stories* by Lee Child
- *The Night We Lost Him* by Laura Dave
- *Robert B. Parker's Buzz Kill* by Alison Gaylin
- *Atlas Obscura Wild Life* by Cara Giamo
- *Legacy of Blood* by Heather Graham

- *The Life Impossible* by Matt Haig
- *Nexus* by Yuval Noah Harari
- *Bad Liar* by Tami Hoag
- *When We Flew Away* by Alice Hoffman
- *Den of Iniquity* by J.A. Jance
- *Death at the Sanatorium* by Ragnar Jonasson
- *Somewhere Beyond the Sea* by T.J. Klune
- *The Forest of Lost Souls* by Dean Koontz
- *The Booklover's Library* by Madeline Martin
- *Queen Macbeth* by Val Dermid
- *Here One Moment* by Liane Moriarty
- *Lies He Told Me* by James Patterson
- *Passions in Death* by J. D. Robb
- *Tell Me Everything* by Elizabeth Strout

#### OLDER CHILDREN

*The Baby-Sitters Club 16* by Ann M. Martin

#### YOUNG CHILDREN

*The Crayons Give Thanks* by Drew Daywalt

#### MUSEUM PASSES

Don't forget the Library has passes to following:

- The Clark
- The Springfield Museums (all Five!)
- Hancock Shaker Village
- Mass Moca
- Herman Melville Museum and Home
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- Ventfort Hall



# COOK BUILDERS

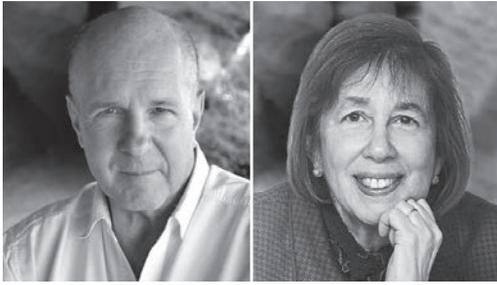
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**SIMON WINCHESTER  
with Linda Greenhouse**

**“ELECTION 2024”**

**October 5 - 4:30 pm**

In a timely event, Simon Winchester, widely acclaimed author of more than 30 books, most recently *Knowing What We Know*, and Linda Greenhouse, longtime reporter on the Supreme Court for *The New York Times* and winner of the Pulitzer Prize in 1998, will discuss what is at stake in the upcoming elections. There will be plenty of time for questions.

**Tickets at the door or ONLINE:  
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# A Farewell to Ben

Some 175 family, neighbors, colleagues, and friends gathered at Gedney Farm on a bright Saturday afternoon, September 15, in New Marlborough, to honor the memory of Sandisfield's Ben Luxon, a word-famous baritone whose career spanned most of three decades. After a welcome by Ben's wife, Susie Crofut, selected speakers delivered memories about what this man had meant to them, including members of the Sandisfield Players, a local theatrical company created and directed by Luxon, who spoke of their "gift" of having been part of Ben's productions at the Arts Center. Family members spoke and sang, including a poem written by Ben's grandson and namesake and another grandson, Josh Luxon-Robinson who recently performed at the Sandisfield Arts Center, played Liszt's "Consolation No. 3." Ben's son, Jonathan closed the program with a guitar solo. 🎸



# Oktober Fest

**Sunday,  
October 13th  
11AM-3PM**

\*Available for purchase

Music
\* Drink
\* Food
\* Beer

Presented By:

Looking Glass Gardens  
and the Sandisfield  
Recreation Committee  
19 Dodd Road, Sandisfield

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Hayrides

# NOW HEAR THIS!

*Edited by Laura Rogers-Castro. Please send notices for Now Hear This! to [editor@sandisfieldtimes.org](mailto:editor@sandisfieldtimes.org)*

## OCTOBER EVENTS

**Sandisfield Select Board Meetings** are currently through Zoom and in-person at 6:30 p.m. on Mondays unless otherwise posted. 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. No pre-registration is necessary. Led by Nina Carr. This fun program includes free play, crafts, stories, and songs! A great time to meet up with friends and meet new friends! For confirmation of dates, please call Nina Carr (258-3314). Free!

**Coffee Hour** on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. at the Council on Aging, Town Hall basement. Snacks and conversation! For more information, contact Nina Carr (258-3314). Free.

**Chair Yoga with Wendy Larsen** on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall at 3 Silverbrook Road, sponsored by the Council on Aging. For more information, contact Nina Carr (258-3314). Free.

**Landscape Geology: Image Meets Science in the Berkshires** on Saturday, October 5 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center located at 5 Hammertown Road. A talk with Professor Paul Karabinos from Williams College. For more information, visit [sandisfieldartscenter.org](http://sandisfieldartscenter.org). \$10.

**Bill Taylor and Friends** on Sunday, October 6 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center located on 5 Hammertown Road. A concert featuring Bill Taylor and two woodwind players, Gerold and Cathy Mohn, French horn player Stewart Edelstein, and singer Jaye Alison Moscariello. For more information, visit [sandisfieldartscenter.org](http://sandisfieldartscenter.org). \$20.

**Ed the Wizard** on Saturday, October 12 at 1:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Library. Treasure Hunt, cookies, and ice cream.

**New Boston Church Sunday Worship Service** on Sunday, October 13 at 10:00 a.m. For more information and to view the calendar, visit [newbostoncongregationalchurch.org](http://newbostoncongregationalchurch.org). All are welcome. The New Boston Church is located on Route 57 near the New Boston Inn.

**OktoberFest** on Sunday, October 13 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Looking Glass Gardens on 19 Dodd Road. Fall crafts, live music, food, drink, hay rides, \$2 pony rides. Presented by the Sandisfield Recreation Committee and Looking Glass

Gardens. Please RSVP by October 4 at [sandisfeldevents@recreationcommittee.info](mailto:sandisfeldevents@recreationcommittee.info).

**Opening Reception & Talk: Women in Photography** with Amy Arbus on Sunday, October 13 from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center at 5 Hammertown Road. The show runs until November 10 whenever the Arts Center is open for events or by special arrangement. Free.

**Flu & Covid Vaccine Clinic** on Tuesday, October 15 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Old Town Hall on 3 Silverbrook Road. Pre-registration (413-243-5540 X109 for assistance) is required.

**5K and 1-Mile Benefit Run** on Saturday, October 19 at Riiska Brook Orchard to benefit Du Bois Middle School's 8th grade class. Both runs are fun runs with no official timer. The 5K is \$20 and runners will receive a shirt. For more information, please visit [www.runreg.com/riiska-brook-5k-fu-n-run](http://www.runreg.com/riiska-brook-5k-fu-n-run).

**Transforming Care During Serious Illness on Saturday**, October 19 from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center at 5 Hammertown Road. A talk with Diane Meier, M.D., from the Center for Advance Palliative Care. For more information, visit [sandisfieldartscenter.org](http://sandisfieldartscenter.org). \$10.

**Bobby Sweet Trio in the Cabaret** on Saturday, October 19 from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center at 5 Hammertown Road. Bobby will be performing with pedal steel guitarist Pete Adams and vocalist Lara Tupper. For more information, visit [sandisfieldartscenter.org](http://sandisfieldartscenter.org). \$20.

**Sandisfield Halloween Trail** on Thursday, October 31 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Please sign up by October 24 if you would like to pass out candy at your home on Halloween. Email [sandisfeldevents@recreationcommittee.info](mailto:sandisfeldevents@recreationcommittee.info) for additional information and to sign-up to be on the Trail.

### ONLINE EVENTS

**A Farm and Garden Show with Sandisfield Residents Bill Taylor and Jaye Alison Moscariello** streamed every Monday from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at [berkshireradio.org](http://berkshireradio.org).

### EVENTS IN SURROUNDING TOWNS

**Berkshire Mobile Farmer's Market** on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. at the Monterey Community Center. Pay what you can afford. Accepts state and federal food benefits. Meats, maple syrup, cheese, eggs, and vegetables.

**Sheffield Farmers Market** on Fridays from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at 124 Main Street in Sheffield. Local food and crafts.

**Great Barrington Farmers Market** on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 18 Church Street and continuing on Saturdays into November. Featuring locally grown and produced foods, including cheese, meats, breads, and more. Local musicians perform.

**Balance and Mobility Program** on Thursdays, October 3, 10, and 17 at 12:00 p.m. at Berkshire South Regional Community Center in Great Barrington. Offered by the Fairview Hospital Rehabilitation Department. Each program will focus on one aspect of mobility and provide strategies and exercises to educate on fall prevention. To register, call 413-854-9744 or email ([vguy@bhs1.org](mailto:vguy@bhs1.org)). Free.

**Annual Harvest Festival** on Saturday, October 12 and Sunday, October 13 at the Berkshire Botanical Garden in Stockbridge. Vendors, food, beer, and more.

**Ceremonial Walk to Honor Indigenous Cultures** on Sunday, October 13 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Great Barrington. For more information, visit [allianceforaviablefuture.org](http://allianceforaviablefuture.org).

**Berkshire Natural History Conference** on Saturday, October 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield. For information, visit [www.berkshirecc.edu/bnhc](http://www.berkshirecc.edu/bnhc).

**Fire-Making Workshop for Ages 12-16** on Friday, October 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Berkshire South Regional Community Center in Great Barrington. Learn to make a one-match fire using primitive friction fire methods and materials solely from the earth. Throughout the day, learn how to recognize animal signs, interpret bird language, and learn about local vegetation. Free, registration required (413-528-2810).

### SAVE THE DATE

Harvest Dinner on Saturday, November 2 at 5:00-7:00 p.m., at Fire Station #2. Turkey and all the trimmings. \$15 adults/\$6 for children 12 and under. Dine-in or take-out. Benefit for the New Boston Congregational Church.

# THE SANDISFIELD TIMES



RELIABLE. REGULAR. RELEVANT.

P.O. Box 584  
Sandisfield, MA 01255

**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,

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## Editorial Staff

Editor: Bill Price

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

Advertising/Subscriptions: Ron Bernard

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