

THE SANDSFIELD TIMES

Tribunus



Plebis

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Volume XVI, Number 7

October 2025

Good News for Trout

SANDSFIELD TREES CHANGE A RIVER'S COURSE

Story and photos by Bill Price

You may have noticed a logging truck hauling unusual logs the last couple months. That was Chad Pease's logging operation, which was helping Trout Unlimited carve a new course in the Konkapot River in Hartsville and, as well, creating a fine habitat for trout.

Your further curiosity can be assuaged next time you're headed toward Great Barrington. If you take 57, turn left when you reach the major intersection in Hartsville and drive about 200 yards toward the Konkapot River. You'll see the construction of an unusual dam consisting of many logs from a Sandisfield hillside. The project was expected to be completed by the end of September.

Chad hauled dozens of tall pine trees, about 39 feet in length, two at a time, with the tops and limbs removed but the roots still clinging to the bottom of the tree. We hadn't seen trees like that on a logging truck before.

Chad owns logging property on the hillside above River Road in New Boston. He contracted with an environmental firm called Trout Unlimited to bulldoze tall pines, trim them, and haul the logs, roots intact, to the Hartsville construction site.

The project manager for Trout Unlimited, Zach Adams, said the project may be the first of its kind in Massachusetts. He said, "We picked up the project after a TU member in Hartsville

Cont'd on p.5

Celebrating the Knox Trail

COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET: A JOINT PROJECT BY SANDSFIELD AND OTIS

By Ron Bernard

Next year the United States will celebrate its 250th anniversary of independence with ceremonies under the banner, "America250." Events such as reenactments, proclamations, and tours are planned across the country, particularly in the former colonies. Towns and historical sites in Massachusetts, like Bunker Hill, are already promoting events under "MA250."

There are no 250th battlefield sites in western Massachusetts.

However, we do have the Colonial road that connected Boston with Albany and became known as the Knox Trail.

The Knox Trail played a crucial role for the Patriots during the beginning of the Revolutionary War. It is named after Henry Knox, who as an officer under General Washington, transported during the winter of 1775-76 sixty tons of artillery captured at Fort Ticonderoga, NY, to support the Continental Army at their siege of Boston.

The only undeveloped section of the original 300-mile route lies within Sandisfield and Otis. This heavily wooded section is an authentic witness to the extraordinary feat of human resolve and endurance that is believed to have affected the outcome of the war.

The Berkshires 250 committee will memorialize this epic event and the role played by south Berkshire County towns in a program to be held in the Mahaiwe Theater in Great Barrington on Saturday morning, January 10, 2026.



Photo: Tom Ragusa

Cont'd on p.4

Library to be More Comfortable

A SECOND HEAT PUMP GRANT

By Bill Taylor, Green Communities Team member

The Green Communities Team has received another grant from the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER).

An earlier DOER grant was used to install heat pumps/mini-splits in the Town Hall which have made the working space for Town employees much more comfortable. Because of the many rooms in Town Hall, that project proved challenging.

This grant should be simpler to install. It will provide funds to install heat pumps/mini-splits




in the Sandisfield Public Library. This should provide a more even and better-quality heat than the current oil burner which in winter often makes the upstairs too hot and downstairs too cold.

The two mini splits will make library space much more comfortable with an even heat in winter and air conditioning in summer. The oil furnace will be retained for backup in case the outdoor temperature reaches below zero.

The contractor estimates that, barring delays, installation should take about three days and be operating by Halloween.

The grants are part of the Green Communities Team's effort to decarbonize the town by reducing emissions of CO2 and increasing energy efficiency as well as providing more even heating and cooling in Town buildings. This plan was created when we became a green community in Massachusetts. This recent grant was competitive and was written and submitted by Committee Chair Paul Adams.

As stated on their website www.mass.gov/about-doer, DOER develops and implements policies and programs aimed at ensuring the adequacy, security, diversity, and cost-effectiveness of the Commonwealth's energy supply to create a clean, affordable, equitable, and resilient energy future. Some of the ways it does this is to support cost-effective energy efficiency, maximize development of clean energy resources, create and implement energy strategies to assure reliable supplies, and support Massachusetts' clean energy companies and spur Massachusetts' clean energy employment. 

Planning Board Hosts an Information Meeting

By Times Reporters

The Planning Board held an information meeting in mid-September to report on what Sandisfield residents wanted to see in their town as learned from the survey the Board conducted over the summer and fall.



Responders to the survey totaled 126, representing about 100 two-person households and 26 or so singles. Full-time residents made up 83 of the responses. The Board hoped to hear from more at the information

meeting at Old Town Hall, but only about 25 residents turned out, despite the fact that the Board supplied three huge excellent deep-dish pizzas and cold drinks.

The Board is working with the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC), which provided the statistics and percentages from the survey. Board member Dominic Konstam presented a series of slides outlining the survey results, with occasional comments by Chairman Jeff Bye quoting verbatim from some of the surveys. The other Board members also took part in the presentation: Barbara Cormier, Lisa Leavenworth, and Calvin Rodman.

To the survey question "why are you in Sandisfield?" responses ranged from natural beauty, the quiet, the rural peace and quiet, and neighbors.

To the question "have you considered leaving Sandisfield?" a few responders said, no resources, warmer climate, better opportunities elsewhere, and too expensive. One said the Town is "overpopulated." Others sought a more rural environment.


When Jeff reported the results of the meeting to the Select Board, he said, "The Board will meet in October. We'll bring back to the Select Board what we decide we need to focus on."

He reported that people are very interested in full-time emergency services, even if it raised taxes. He said, "Sixty-five percent of the responders said yes to that."

People are also interested in bringing back the notion of village centers to facilitate potential small businesses in Town. Sixty-three percent said yes.

Responders were uniformly in support of new development, but somehow without changing the character of the Town. There was some support, though not a lot, for changing the Town's more restrictive bylaws to either permit or encourage small businesses to locate here.

The Board will publish a revised Sandisfield Master Plan in 2026. The Board acknowledged the Town's earlier Master Plan, which was developed after hard work by a different team of residents in 2015-16. (That original Master Plan can be accessed at Sandisfieldma.gov.MasterPlan.)

Member Barbara Cormier said, "We're still open for ideas. Communicate with us. Talk to us. Every idea is worth talking about. This Board wants to make changes, not simply talk about them." 

Fire Department News

Do We Need a Ladder Truck?

By Bill Price

NEGOTIATIONS WITH SFDI

A date for a second negotiation meeting between the Select Board and SFDI has not yet been scheduled. The follow-up meeting was to negotiate the lease agreement for the Town's two firehouses, owned by SFDI and leased to the Town, with the possible transfer of ownership of the firehouses to the Town.

As of the closing date for this issue of *The Times*, the Select Board reported that they had been in touch with the lawyers for the Sandisfield Fire Department, Inc., but had as yet no reply. Town Manager Janey Snyder said that she did not know if a scheduled SFDI board meeting on September 17 had taken place.

Ralph Morrison, president of SFDI, said to *The Times*, "We're still working on stuff."

The Board commented that their last proposal to SFDI about the lease was that the Town was willing to double the rental for the buildings to \$20,000 per year for five years, with the Town to assume ownership at the end of that period.

INFORMATION ON THE DEPARTMENT

At a Select Board meeting mid-September, two residents indicated that they would like to have better information about changes that were being made at the Fire Department.

Chairman Steve Seddon said that the fire chief had recommended forming an ad-hoc committee to look at what kind of emergency services the Town wants and to get ideas from residents. The committee has yet to be formed, but Steve added that no decisions on budget or the fire department's process would be made without input from residents. "If people behind the scenes want to join the ad-hoc committee they're welcome. That way they can be part of the process."

Fire Station #2 is staffed currently 24 hours a day by paid per-diem firefighters/EMTs. Fire Chief Mike Grillo said, "Anybody can stop by the firehouse whenever they see anyone there. We pull the trucks out on sunny days. I've given out my cell phone and email address. I've been at every Select Board meeting since I was hired. I don't know how much more accessible I could be."

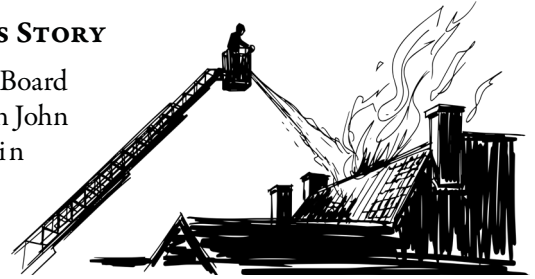
Steve Seddon added that the change from volunteer firefighters to per-diem responders was made "when people quit suddenly and we didn't have anybody. The per-diem process got us to 100 percent in a very short period of time. We had to be responsible and respond, knowing it was going to cost us more than we figured."

However, the previous leadership of the fire department was doing the ambulance billing improperly – and in some cases not at all – causing the Town to lose \$100,000 last year and over \$340,000 over

the last five years, Seddon said. "Our new Chief Grillo has identified this deficiency and has made corrective measures to ensure proper billing. Those funds will offset any increase due to the per-diem costs, essentially giving the Town a superior service without significantly increasing next year's budget. We will need to appropriate more at a Special Town Meeting for this fiscal year to pay bills that had been neglected, purchase of safety gear that was past expiration by decades, and to cover the cost of per-diem coverage because we won't be able to use the retrieved ambulance funds this year as they fall into free cash and ambulance stabilization fund for future use."

A SELECTMAN'S STORY

At the same Select Board meeting, Selectman John Field leaned back in his chair and presented his own viewpoint.



"Personally," he said, "I sleep a little better at night knowing that if my house torches up I am about 4 miles from a fire station with people there. You can save a house that way."

The emergencies that happen, medical emergencies, you have minutes to work with. Having that paid staff is necessary. Volunteerism is wonderful. But I think you need a mix of both. You have enough bad stuff happen, you can appreciate a quick response."

Fire Chief Grillo interjected, "The other day we had people drive to the firehouse with a medical emergency knowing there were people there."

Field replied, "That's a safety net that is worth so much."


ANYBODY NEED A SLIGHTLY USED LADDER TRUCK?

As *The Times* was near deadline, Fire Chief Mike Grillo presented the Select Board with a series of proposals, one of which was the leasing of a ladder firetruck currently owned by one of Grillo's companies in Connecticut.

It seems that Grillo, having at one time planned to start a private fire department, owns five fire trucks. He recommended to the Board that the Town lease a 2006 Ladder Truck owned by one of his companies for \$1 a year, with the option to buy the truck for \$20,000. He said the truck had been inspected, but the Board replied that before they considered the idea they wanted to see documentation of the inspection.

Apparently the truck's ladder and turntable would require certification, which would cost about \$5,000. The Select Board expressed concern about repairs on a nearly 20-year-old truck, which could be extensive.

Another issue is that the Town has few buildings taller than three stories and lacks garage space for a vehicle the length of a ladder truck.

The Select Board said they would consider the proposal. 

Knox Trail

Cont'd from p.1



Tom Ragusa displays his map during a briefing of the Hilltown Hikers last month.

To support the committee's activities, a booklet with the working title, *Ye Trodden Path: The History of the Knox Trail*, is under development by the historical commissions of Sandisfield and Otis and Bernard Drew, a foremost Berkshires historian and an acknowledged authority on the Knox Trail. The booklet is underwritten by Berkshires250 and the Berkshire County Historical Society.

Part I of the booklet, "The Amherst War Road of 1758," will be a fascinating, well-researched summary of the origins of the road from its beginning as a colonial "highway" in the 1660s and ending with the Knox expedition. Bernard Drew is the author of the definitive history of the road, *Henry Knox and the Revolutionary War Trail in Western Massachusetts* (2012).

Part II, "Before Knox," will review the significance of the ancient indigenous trails which evolved into networks that connected tribes the length of the American eastern seaboard. Our modern roads and highways often trace their origins to

hunting paths such as this one, which ultimately became the Knox Trail.

Part II will also review some two dozen colloquial names for this road, including "Ye Trodden Path." Another section concerns the significance of indigenous Ceremonial Stone Landscapes" (CSLs). These are sacred stone arrangements which survive in considerable numbers in the vicinity of Sandisfield's portion of the Knox Trail.


It will also include the story of Sandisfield's colonial-era taverns and the innkeepers who accommodated civilian and military travelers, including the Knox teamsters.

Part III will be the story of "Mapping the Trail, a Lifetime Quest." This Part is the untold story of the discovery and documentation of this unspoiled segment of the Knox Trail through the towns of Sandisfield and Otis which presents an incredible portrait of how the rugged trail appeared, pre-contact.

Tom Ragusa of Otis, a retired employee of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, has devoted more than thirty years to creating an accurate map of the original trail as it passed through Sandisfield and Otis. Unlike Cervantes' Don Quixote, Tom's impossible quest was rooted in self-confidence, determination, and modern surveying techniques.

The result is a 15-foot long, detailed map of this segment of the trail, a wonder of a creation. Tom has created a piece of authentic American heritage which will no doubt one day be displayed in the State Library, if not in a place like the Smithsonian or the Library of Congress.

A copy of Tom's map will be included in the booklet.

Watch for more information about this booklet and the Berkshires250 celebrations in The Time's November and December issues. 



A well-preserved section of the original Knox Trail.

Photos: Tom Ragusa

KNOX TRAIL INN

From our menu:

COCONUT SHRIMP
BUILD-YOUR-OWN TACO
KNOX STUFFIES
HOT LOBSTER ROLL
SAUTÉED SALMON
NY STRIP STEAK
SHRIMP BOWL
FISH & CHIPS
LOTS OF SALADS
GREAT BURGERS
PIZZAS & CALZONES
WINGS, WINGS, WINGS!

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& Vegetarian
choices

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Served every Thurs-Sat

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or Dine In!



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OCT 6TH & 20TH 6:30PM
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every weekend*

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OCT 4TH PICK UP LINE 8PM
OCT 10TH BRETT POTTER 7PM
OCT 11TH RUMOURS BAND 8PM
OCT 17TH KELLIOKE KARAOKE 7PM
OCT 18TH CHALK DUST 8PM
OCT 19TH HILLTOWN BLUES JAM 2PM
OCT 24TH ADELAIDE PLUNKIN 6:30PM
OCT 25TH HOTSHOT HILLBILLIES 7PM

HALLO-WEEKEND at the KNOX!
PARTIES & COSTUME CONTESTS!
OCT 31ST MIDNIGHT 30 8PM
NOV 1ST ROCK 201 8PM

Good News for Trout

Cont'd from p.1

reached out for help solving a problem with the failing bank on the Konkapot. This was about five years ago. The stream had changed course after Hurricane Irene, and a solution had not yet been found to prevent the stream from reaching the road and washing it out."

The rooted pines were used to build structures on the stream bank that will force high water velocities away from the bank. The root wads jut out into the stream which slows and redirects water flow while also providing excellent habitat for a lot of aquatic species, including trout.



Konkapot River Restoration

Restoration Plan

Restoration Steps

1. Excavate and construct log jams to stabilize and prevent further bank failure.
2. Log jams will be filled with large boulders, then fine material by hand.
3. Logs with root wads will be driven into the stream bank.
4. The northern bank will be regraded to ease the impacts of flooding.
5. Disturbed areas will be replanted with native vegetation.

Timeline

- 4-7 Days: Equipment and Material Staging
- 3-5 Days: Bank Regrading
- 10-15 Days: Engineered Log Jam Construction
- 3-5 Days: Site cleanup and equipment removal

For more information contact Zach Adams by email at zach.adams@trout.org or by phone at 717-930-3939.

Adams explained, "The main structures in the bank are called 'Engineered Log Jams.' These are made from entirely natural materials like gravel, boulders, and trees. They're designed to kick water flow away from the stream bank. Pines are used because when exposed to water they take ages to rot."

Chad also hauled a few regular looking pine logs. Adams said that the logs without roots "are used as spacers in the log jams so that each layer can sit tightly and provide the correct height. We also use them to build the new grade of the stream bank. This now looks like terraced layers to diffuse the force of highwater flows.

So instead of slicing Sandisfield timber into 2x4s and 2x10s for stick housing, Chad spent part of the summer helping change the course of a river and create an aquatic playground. He said, "It feels good to be doing this."

It's not the first time Chad has done something for the environment. In 2015, he dedicated a good-sized piece of woodlands behind his home on Sandisfield Road to create a habitat for endangered New England Cottontail rabbits. (See Laura Roger-Castro's story about that in our October 2015 issue, which you can find in the library/archives on our website at www.sandisfieldtgames.org.)



With the contract for Trout Unlimited completed, Chad and his crew are going back to their usual occupation of clearing housing sites for new homes in the Berkshire woods. 🏡

Left, Sandisfield pine trees, with roots still attached, contribute to the renewed riverbank on the Konkapot at Hartsville. Above, Chad Pease, a third-generation Sandisfield logger, operates a firm started by his father, the late Gary Pease.

GEDNEY

KITCHEN

Berkshires' Best-kept Secret

Serving Dinner

May: Thurs-Sat 5-9 pm
(excl'd 5/24 + 5/31)

June: Wed-Fri 5-9 pm

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 413.229.3131

GEDNEYFARM.COM





An Inside Look How the Arts Center Balances Costs to Support Its Mission

By Hilde Weisert, Co-President

Thirty years ago, the founders of the Sandisfield Arts Center defined a simple mission for this new non-profit organization: *To preserve our historic building and provide cultural and educational programs for our community.*

Over those three decades, we've managed to do that without either going broke or piling up excess cash. The "fiduciary responsibility" of every Arts Center Board member is a balancing act between operating costs – averaging around \$40,000 a year – and income. We thought that you, our community, might be interested in understanding how that breaks out.

WHAT ARE OUR OPERATING EXPENSES?

Operating expenses are the day-to-day costs that keep us running. Some you'd probably think of – utilities, grounds maintenance, performer fees, part-time

bookkeeper and house manager. Others may be less obvious: lift and fire inspections, insurance, subscriptions (website, QuickBooks), minor building repairs, office supplies, cleaning fees, memberships like the Southern Berkshire Chamber of Commerce, publicity, some basic refreshments. (Capital expenses – one-time investments like major repairs or the renovations of the last year -- are different.)

Volunteer working contributions keep costs low: Although expenses add up to about \$40,000 a year, there's at least as much "in kind" work done by our Board members and volunteers: event greeters, parkers, a/v operators, reception hosts, and cleanup crew; our treasurer managing our finances and reports; overseeing the building and grounds; sending eblasts, creating program handouts; webmastering; donating refreshments for events; and writing and administering the grants that help balance the books.

If this were a regular business without volunteers, annual operating expenses would be closer to \$80,000.

WHAT IS OUR INCOME?

As in similar organizations, annual income is a combination of donations (from our supporters and our

audience), small grants such as from the Sandisfield Cultural Council, and ticket revenue. Our five-year average for event income shows around \$10,000 a year, so ticket prices cover only about 25 percent of costs.

Tickets: A mix of free and paid events, with a mix of prices

We have three main goals in planning events: Offer varied programs of interest to our diverse community, especially families, with as many free or low-cost events as possible, without neglecting our "fiduciary responsibility" to keep the Arts Center on sound footing.

This season is a snapshot of how we do that.

Eleven free events, plus three open-house art receptions

These included Singing Sandisfield's Unsung Heroes, Horses in Words (book authors and Sunny Rose Farm), 4 Friday Open Mics, International Art Film Festival Part One and Part Two, Pumpkin Painting and Open House (October 26), and Simon Reads (Simon Winchester Nov 29). Thanks to our hardworking Gallery committee, the three gallery opening receptions are always free and open to everyone.

Cont'd on next page.



5 HAMMERTOWN ROAD, SANDISFIELD, MA

SAT., OCTOBER 4TH 7 PM \$25

Dave Maswick and Joel Brown in Concert

Two seasoned musicians bring an exquisite evening of music. The performance features beautifully arranged harmony singing over lush acoustic accompaniment highlighted by intricate guitar work.

SAT., OCTOBER 18TH FREE

IN THE GALLERY: "UNVEILING: A SHOW OF PORTRAITS"

Opening reception 4-6PM. A mixed media group that delves into the complexities of human experience through portraiture.

Closes December 7.

SAT., OCTOBER 25TH 7 PM \$25 (TEENS \$10/12 & UNDER FREE)

The Headless Horseman: Old Time Radio Mystery Hour

The Sandisfield Players are back! Join us for a spook-tacular mystery radio play just in time for Halloween! And, honestly, aren't you just dying to have fun?

SUN., OCTOBER 26TH 12-3 PM FREE

Pumpkin Painting and Open House

Fun for families! Everyone invited! Pumpkins and refreshments provided.

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

Five Saturday morning talks and workshops at \$10, the same price for over a decade

Three popular performances at \$25

This price level has been the same for over ten years, in spite of rising performer fees, for a piano recital and Dave Maswick and Joel Brown (October 4). The Sandisfield Cultural Council funding has helped us keep the price low for the popular Maswick and Brown folk music performance and provide complementary tickets for Council on Aging members and others. But with rising costs, we may have to raise this “price point” in the future.


The Headless Horseman, an Old-Time Radio Mystery Hour from the Sandisfield Players on October 25, is a family-friendly event, so adults are \$25, but teens are \$10 and children 12 and under are free.

Three special events at \$40

Forty dollars – still significantly lower than the average price at many Berkshire venues -- allowed us to present a nationally-known comedian, Seth Herzog; cover the fee and time for a mushroom expert, and (coming up November 8) the entertainment, food and drink provided at the Hard Cider Tasting.

Two annual fundraisers

For the Evening of Song (Sept 13), a big-city quality event, performers either donate their time or greatly reduce their fee. And like most non-profits, we have an annual “gala” fundraiser with a Board member chef and volunteers donating food and time.

The bottom line: With your help volunteering, attending, donating when you can, and providing advice on what you’d like to see, we believe the Arts Center can maintain our sound financial footing for our mission to continue for the next 30 years, and more. 

**The Sandisfield Arts Center
presents:**

**The Headless Horseman
of Sleepy Hollow:**

Old Time Radio Mystery Hour
performed by
The Sandisfield Players

SAT., OCT. 25
7 - 9 p.m.

Tickets:
Adults \$25
Teens: \$10
12 & Under: Free

www.sandisfieldartscenter.org





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We Can Help: Town Offices

A reminder of what services can be taken care of at different Town Offices

Administrative Assistant

Monday-Wednesday,
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

- Transfer Station Stickers
- Permit questions
- Set up appointments/meetings for Select Board

Town Clerk's Office:

Tuesday-Thursday,
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

- Dog Licenses
- Census
- Voting
- Marriage/Birth/Death Certificates
- Oath of Office for all boards/committees/town officials

Assessor's Office:

Tuesday-Thursday,
9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

- Motor Vehicle/Real Estate/Personal Property Abatements
- Tax Exemptions
- Over 70 tax discounts

Tax Collector:

Tuesday and Thursday,
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

- Motor Vehicle/Real Estate/Personal Property Tax payments
- Demand Bills (Warranted Bills must pay through the Deputy Collector)
- Address Changes

Town to Hire New DPW Superintendent

By Times Reporter

The Town decided not to continue the employment of David Waldron as DPW Superintendent as he approached the end of his probationary period.

After reposting the position online and in the Shopper's Guide, the Town received interest from a qualified candidate with extensive equipment operation and managerial experience. Upon review, the Town Manager determined that this individual was well-suited to the role and moved quickly in the hiring process to avoid missing the opportunity.

A formal introduction will be posted on the Sandisfieldma.gov website following the candidate's official start date.

State Experiencing a Level 2 Drought

By Bill Price

The recent rains have helped, but a few towns in the Berkshires had already urged residents to minimize water use after the state declared in mid-September that a majority of Massachusetts was or is in a Level 2 drought.

Level 2 drought is considered "significant" and means that the area had two months of below-average rain and that groundwater levels are low. Local water supplies are reporting signs of strain.

Sandisfield residents may begin experiencing reduced water in wells, though we are far from the extreme drought experienced here in October and November 2016. See The Times' "Neighbor Helping Neighbor" in that year's December issue for what happens in Sandisfield when water really gets low.

The state's number system for drought level: Normal is 0. Mild is #1. Significant #2. Critical #3. And extreme #4. Our level 2 should retreat to mild or even normal with the rains we hope come this fall and the snow we hope for this winter.



Too many cooks in the kitchen

Adding lawyers to the mix might get salty

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- ★ Daily rental \$350 (adjusted for local non-profits)
- ★ Renovated 800 sq. ft hall with band / DJ stage
- ★ Fully equipped commercial kitchen includes cook & dishware
- ★ Beautiful riverside field with pond and covered fire pit
- ★ Season May-October (Off season, field and covered fire pit available)

Yard Sale a Big Success

NEW BOSTON CHURCH SALE MAY BECOME AN ANNUAL EVENT

By Ron Bernard

A multi-family yard sale last month bullishly dubbed, "Not Your Ordinary Yard Sale!" was a success, according to organizers. The purpose of the event was to raise funds to replace the building's deteriorated roof which is at least forty years old and in critical condition.

A committee worked all summer on many aspects of the sale especially solicitation of items. Originally planned to run Friday and Saturday, September 19-20, the sale was extended an additional day due to the unexpectedly large inventory, strong public response, and great weather.

Over the years, many tag sales to benefit the New Boston Congregational Church were sponsored by the Ladies Aid Society and the Sandisfield Grange 425 at the former parish hall. Last month's event, a resumption of the tradition, was the largest of its kind in living memory if not in the building's 146-year history. An estimated 150 visitors went away with hundreds of interesting and practical items including some of the contents of the old parish hall that had been mothballed since 2000.

A superabundance of items of all kinds, shapes, sizes, and ages, ranging from saltshakers to large furniture were arranged in six rows on both sides of the church and in the front and rear areas. Eager early birds on the first day had barely enough space to meander. Curiosities dangled from tree branches, the plant holders and the front stairs. One happy buyer who had for years been looking for a very particular small sink, exclaimed, "I found it!" as he lifted his trophy for all to see.

Planners had penciled in a goal of \$5,000 which was optimistic because it counted on robust donations (value items and cash) and outdoor conditions, the latter notoriously unpredictable and out of their control. Together with demanding work by the entire membership, generosity of the public, and pleasant weather, the goal was surpassed. Importantly, the proceeds may qualify for matching grants.

Eric Kreibel, NBCC Pastor since 2017, told The Times, "This event surpassed every expectation. The efforts of our dedicated members were impressive. The public response was wonderful too. Everyone had fun, and it seemed to me that almost every visitor went away with something. We appreciate the generosity of the many who responded to our request for items for sale and the kind people who left money in the jar. I am particularly grateful that many had a chance to see for the first time the inside of our lovely and historic 'Little Brown Church.' We hope they will revisit for a Sunday service."



Photo: Bill Price

About fifty were on hand at one point on Saturday afternoon for a special treat – an unscheduled and thrilling performance by fire performer Ali O'Donnell of Boston, as "Dame of Flames." Mothers cringed. All were amazed. Ali's day job is a pharmacist.

Based on this experience the Church Council is considering an annual yard sale on the third weekend of September. Circle the dates on your 2026 calendars now.

Donations for a new roof are greatly appreciated. To donate online go to NewBostonCongregationalChurch.org and click "Donations." To donate by mail please send checks made to New Boston Congregational Church, P.O. Box 81, Sandisfield, MA 01255. 🇺🇸

thank you

The Church is grateful to those who generously donated items for the silent auction.

Jean Atwater-Williams

Connie D'Andrea

**Domaney's
of Great Barrington**

**Jane Iredale Cosmetics
of Great Barrington**

Gary Leveille

**C.W. Nelson
Landscape Design
& Nursery**

**Sandisfield Orchard
Roseanne Skrip**

**A special thank you to the New Boston Inn
for the use of its parking lot.**

recreation COMMITTEE

Pig Roast Tradition Continues

By Laurie Seddon

Another year, another Pig Roast for Sandisfield. This year the weather was perfect, not too hot, not too cold, and no rain.



Photo: Bill Price

We enjoyed our usual feast of whole roasted pig, a whopping 110 lbs., along with 40 lbs. of roast beef and stuffing all prepared by John Ormsbee Sr., and his crew. McGrane's on the Green in Winsted catered mac & cheese, coleslaw, and baked beans. The sweet corn on the cob was grown and sourced locally from Taft Farms in Great Barrington.


We enjoyed an al fresco dinner this year as we moved nearly all seating outside to take advantage of not only the ideal weather, but this year's entertainment, Full Burn.

A special thank you to our volunteers: Zoe Nelson, Barbara Cormier, Mackenzie Boulais, Janey Snyder, Tom Fleming, Melissa Bye, and Mary Bredenfoerder.

OKTOBERFEST, OCT. 4

Please join us for Oktoberfest at Looking Glass Gardens on Dodd Road on October 4, from 11:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. Live music, food, pony rides, hayrides, beer, food, and more!

A friendly reminder that the Recreation Committee is no longer hosting the Sandisfield Halloween Trail as reported in last month's edition.

For questions or concerns, please contact us at sandisfield-events@recreationcommittee.info. 



A Really Good September

By Suzanne OConnell, Co-President


After rave reviews at Don't Tell Mama in New York, Linda Mironti preformed her "Evening of Song," cabaret-style on September 13 at the Sandisfield Arts Center. About sixty people were delighted with her heart-felt musical journey featuring songs from jazz to Broadway and the Great American Songbook. Her performance was skillfully enhanced by piano accompanist Tracy Stark, with guest appearances from Lennie Watts and Deborah Zecher.

September 19 saw the fourth of Four Fabulous Friday's, Open Mics. Each event brought a different mixture of poets, storytellers, and musicians to perform in the building's excellent acoustics. Participants ranging in age from fourteen to seniors and from all over South County. Keith Larsen from Becket, participated in all four evenings with an eclectic assortment of music (ukulele, poetry, Haiku, and Scottish and Irish song) and had rave reviews for the venue and the organizer, Jean Atwater-Williams. One amateur performer wrote: "I've really enjoyed performing music and reading some poetry this summer at the Open Mic's in Sandisfield. I feel I have grown as a musician and performer while participating in these events. I hope to participate next summer as well."

Anni Crofut delighted a morning audience on September 20 with a discussion about the ways to treat chronic pain following an approach from Dr. Dan Ratner, a leading expert in mind-body psychology. He suffered from chronic back pain for years before discovering that much of his pain was driven not by structural damage but by the brain's response to stress and unresolved emotions. Crofut shared how these principles can empower others to reframe their experience of pain, reduce fear, and open new pathways to healing.

October will begin with Dave Maswick and Joel Brown, of Triple Play, on Saturday, October 4 at 7:00 p.m. These musicians bring an exquisite evening of music featuring beautifully arranged harmony over lush acoustic accompaniment highlighted by intricate guitar work.

The Sandisfield Players return on October 25 with an Old-Time Radio Mystery Hour, The Headless Horseman, just in time for Halloween! And the very next day, from 12-2, everyone is invited to a free pumpkin painting event. Pumpkins and refreshments will be available.

The gallery continues to attract a wide variety of visitors. The July exhibition, "Beyond Our Boundaries," was held over through September. The walls will not be bare for long. "Unveiling: A Show of Portraits" by local artists will open October 18 with a reception at 4:00 p.m. 

Two Crashes on Rt. 8, at Nearly the Same Place

ONE A SINGLE TRUCK, THE SECOND A TWO-VEHICLE HEAD-ON

By Times Reporters

In the first, at noon, Friday, September 11, a Ryder rental truck traveling south ran head on into a utility pole in front of the Verizon building in New Boston. The crash knocked out power for residents for a couple hours and sent Rt. 8 motorists on a roundabout tour of Sandisfield, mainly up or down Town Hill Road.

Two people, self-extricated from the vehicle, were transported to the hospital with minor injuries, according to the Sandisfield Fire Department. A Times reporter who had been working nearby at the New Boston Church heard the crash and was one of the first on the scene. He said that the Sandisfield Fire and Police response were extraordinarily fast and efficient.

The second crash on Rt. 8, about two weeks later on September 24, was a two-vehicle head-on

collision that occurred only about 1/8th of a mile north of the earlier truck crash.

This one, in front of 123 N. Main Street, involved an automobile and a commercial vehicle. Sandisfield Fire responded and requested additional assistance, including Rescue from Otis. Engine companies arrived from Tolland and Granville as well as Northwest Medics from Winsted.

One motorist was trapped in a crash vehicle and responders worked approximately 25 minutes to extricate the patient. Two victims were transported to a Connecticut hospital, one listed as a trauma alert.

Route 8 was closed for approximately an hour and a half, sending motorists back on the Sandisfield detour. Massachusetts State Police are investigating the accident.



Photo: Sandisfield Times

Sandisfield Recreation Committee
& Looking Glass Gardens Present:

oktoberfest

October 4th 11am-3pm

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Screened topsoil, compost and bark mulch

My Journey Home, to Latvia

SYMPOSIUM LEADS TO LOCAL EXHIBIT

By *Jaye Alison Moscariello*
aka *Jaye Alison*

When I was accepted to the 2024 Mark Rothko Painting Symposium in Daugavpils, Latvia, I felt I was going home. Daugavpils was Rothko's birthplace and home until his family left late in 1913, moving to the United States for a better life. I'd never been to Latvia, but I have family ties from there. On my mother's side, my maternal grandmother descends from either 14 or 17 generations of rabbis. Before World War II, there were 40 synagogues in Daugavpils. I learned at the symposium that Mark Rothko was destined, as the youngest son in the family, to be a rabbi. His early years were spent in scholarly studies. From other reading I understood that he always longed to return home, but was unable to; the political climate wouldn't allow it.

Now you can think what you like, but I honestly think that Rothko's spirit hitchhiked with me! Being in Latvia felt wonderfully comfortable to me. It is a beautiful country with warm people. Riga, the capital is lined with wide boulevards, rivers and parks galore and fascinating museums.

At the Mark Rothko Museum for two weeks in September 2024, my symposium mates included two fellow abstract artists from Poland, three from India, and one each from Germany, Macedonia, and Lithuania. And me from the U.S. We were treated like royalty, and placed in nicely appointed rooms in what once was the former Artillery Arsenal building in the Daugavpils Fortress, a grand and majestic Russian Empire structure. The Rothko Museum contains changing exhibitions of many Eastern European artists as well as works by Mark Rothko. Daily during my symposium residency, along with my fellow painters, I painted



Artists at the Mark Rothko Painting Symposium in Latvia. Sandisfield's Jaye Alison second row, fourth from left.

in private art studios housed in a nearby building of the same Russian Empire era. At the end of our painting time, our work was presented at the museum in an exhibition complete with local dignitaries. We really were treated like royalty and with respect, an experience as an American painter I had not previously known.

The symposium meals were all the more delicious and rich because of the time spent with Tatiana Černova, curator at the Mark Rothko Museum, and Māris Čačka, the museum director and artist as well, whose beautiful work was in the exhibit. Tatjan wrote a beautiful curatorial exhibition statement for *Beyond Our Boundaries*.



Jaye Alison presenting the Journey to Beyond International Show which was at the Arts Center, July-September.

Friendships and deep bonds were forged and because of that, I wanted to bring that world, and the artistic communities that I've been privileged to be a part of, to our Sandisfield Arts Center. The idea of an international show, one that demonstrated



Flyer created for the "Beyond Our Boundaries" and "Not So Short Film Festival."


that no matter where we live, and whatever challenging times we're in, we are all part of this one great community of creators and that we Americans have friends everywhere. Several of the artists included had never before shown their work in the USA.

When I brought up the idea of Beyond Our Boundaries to our Sandisfield Exhibition Committee and then to the Board of

Directors, the response was immediate and enthusiastic. Their support to host this show was invaluable. We presented this work in the newly renovated art gallery at the Center during July and September this year.

We also presented the Not So Short Film Festival, a five-and-a-half-hour collection of short art films created during the Covid-19 pandemic by artists from all around the world who were part of myTransart Community. Jean Marie Casbarian undertook the immense task of organizing and compiling the works. JeanMarie was one of my advisors at the Transart Institute and is a faculty member of the school from which I graduated in 2015. NotSoShort Film Festival was screened upstairs in the newly air-conditioned Susie Crofut and Ben Luxon Theatre.

Other artists participating in Beyond Our Boundaries-were several members of my Los Angeles arts communities. They are Danuta Rothschild, originally from Poland and now living in Stuart, Florida, Evelyne Barbier, from France and now back in France, Alexandra Cabri from France and remains in Los Angeles, Bonnie Cordova from Los Angeles, and now in New York City, and Natalie Kahn Aguilar now in the state of Washington. From my Berkshire arts community were Gail Gelburd, Andy Bullard, Nancy K. Harrod and Nicholas Holliday. Stephanie Reid, from my class at Transart Institute, came from Texas to attend the opening. Artist Joanna Mankiewicz travelled from Poland to see the show!

I'm pleased to hear that viewers appreciated the work, and when at the gallery, I noticed a high level of engagement with the work. Many heartfelt thanks to our entire community, the board of the Sandisfield Arts Center, our presidents Hilde Weisert and Suzanne O'Connell, and my fellow exhibition committee members Josie Miner and former chairperson, Jessica Cofrin. 

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Phone: 258-4966

sandisfieldlibrary@gmail.com

www.sandisfieldlibrary.org

EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY THIS MONTH.

Thursday, October 23 at 6:00 p.m., the **Sandisfield Women's Book Group** will meet to discuss "The Postcard" by Anne Berest. "The Postcard" is an affecting portrait of a mother and daughter searching for their family history.

All month long – it is never too late to participate in the **Massachusetts Center for the Book 2025 Reading Challenge**. October's book is published by a Massachusetts press. Stop by the Library for a postcard of each month's reading challenge and, of course, to search for the right book.

THE SANDISFIELD LIBRARY FOOD PANTRY

Out of time? Low on budget? Need a little helping hand? Please stop by any time that the library is open and browse our nonperishable shelf.

Donations of NON-perishable food items can be dropped at the Sandisfield Library during regular library hours as well.

We want to thank EVERYONE who has graciously donated to our little food pantry. You know who you are and we greatly appreciate all your help and kindness.

HALLOWEEN

The Library will have treats available on Thursday, October 30 and Saturday, November 1. Special treats for the young readers. Costumes not required but we'd love to have you show them off.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY SHELVES

The Hallmarked Man (suspense) by Robert Galbraith. In this the 8th in the Cormoran Strike series, Robin and Cormoran wits are tested as their bond becomes increasingly fragile. A dismembered corpse starts this gripping, wonderfully complex novel.

The List (suspense) by Steve Berry. This novel is written in the vein of David Baldacci, John Grisham, and Harlan Coben. A brilliant novel of suspense. Berry uses this standalone thriller to show his abilities once more and keep readers hooked.

Till Death Do Us Part (suspense) by Laurie Elizabeth Flynn. Jesse Sutanto (author of Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers) says "No one spins a story that is equal parts heart-wrenching and velvet-dark as Flynn does. This is a raw and unflinching look at all of the sacrifices being a woman requires."

A Mother's Love (suspense) by Danielle Steel. A devoted mother outrunning a troubled childhood and adapting to an empty nest is tested in ways she never expected in this suspenseful novel by the New York Times bestselling author.

Iron Storm (A Clive Cussler/Isaac Bell adventure fiction) by Jack Du Brul. Fifteenth in the series, Detective Bell faces the horrors of the Great War while battling a anarchist group intent on bringing brutality to the shores of America.


And Just for fun check out these Halloween delights

The Story of Witches by Willow Winsham (nonfiction). Folklore, history and superstition.

The Witches, Salem 1692 by Stacy Schiff (nonfiction)

We Ride Upon Sticks by Quan Barry (fiction) a clever, tour-de-female-force in a delightful novel.

Need a Notary? The Library can do that, too. Give us a call for an appointment.

Museum Passes. Don't forget the Library has passes to several local museums. 

PENNY AUCTION IS HERE AGAIN

The Penny Auction Table will be at the Holiday Fair December 6, at Fire Station #2 on Rt. 57.

Sponsored by the Sandisfield Scholarship Committee, the Penny Auction is an important part of each year's Annual Holiday Fair which, in turn, is sponsored by the Sandisfield Historical Society.

Please consider donating gift items or gift certificates to be auctioned. The Committee is also accepting monetary gifts. Proceeds go directly to help Sandisfield highschoolers headed towards further education.

Please contact Alicia Newsome at 413-233-7022 or Elaine O'Brien at 413-269-4465 with your donations of any kind.

Make sure to mark your calendars for the Annual Christmas Fair. It's a fun event.



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SANDISFIELD Historical Society

Town-Wide Tag Sale Coming Up

By Ann Wald, President


This year's Town-Wide Tag Sale will be held Saturday, October 11. Maps will be available at the Library, Post Office and various businesses around Town.

Cut-off date to participate is October 1. If this notice reaches you in time, please call Ann Wald at 258-4415. This is a fund raiser for the Society. The fee per household is \$20.00.

On another note, the Annual Christmas Fair will be held at Firehouse #2 on Rt. 57 on December 6. Don't miss it. 



COA: Medical Insurance/Drug Plans

Seniors: a Shine advisor will be at the Council on Aging rooms downstairs at Town Hall on Wednesday, October 22, from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. to answer questions about your medical insurance and/or drug plan for 2026. Call Linda Riiska at 258-4816 for an appointment. 



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Harsh

Karen Garfield

September 2025

The world will be harsh,
The world will be cold.
The world will be generous,
The world will unfold.

So much of what happens
to us is unfair.
It's easy to blame
and cry out
in despair.

The world will be callous,
The world will be shrill.
The world will be lovely,
The world will be still.

So much of our days are spent
in blind yearning.
It's hard to be present and see
the gifts churning.

Just stop for a moment
Just be
Just be....
Regret and revenge
will be your undoing.

The world is your oyster,
The world is your pie.
The world is your rooster,
The world knows not why.

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Going, Going, But Holding On

We've tracked gravity's pull on this former Sandisfield garage on Rt. 8 at the southern entrance of New Boston for four years. Shrubs and trees have grown around it as if protecting it from view in its dotage and are possibly even propping it up.

One of the first buildings a visitor sees traveling north through Town, this old timer whispers, "Welcome to Sandisfield."

And as one of the last seen as a visitor heads south, the old timer rasps, "Don't worry, I'll still be here when you get back."

— Bill Price



Above: September, 2021

Below: September, 2025



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NOW HEAR THIS!

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

OCTOBER EVENTS

Sandisfield Select Board Meetings are currently in person and through Zoom at 6:30 p.m. on Mondays at Town Hall unless otherwise posted. Please visit 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 Annex. 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 on 3 Silverbrook Road, sponsored by the Council on Aging. For more information, contact Nina Carr (258-3314). Free

Food Pantry on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Library, lower level.

Sandisfield Orchard 5k Fun Run on Saturday, October 4 beginning at 9:30 a.m. Run or walk a 5k or 1 mile or hang out and eat apples and donuts! A benefit for Du Bois Middle School's 8th Grade. Online registration fee (\$20) deadline is Friday, October 3.

Oktoberfest on Saturday, October 4 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Looking Glass Gardens on 19 Dodd Road. Food, live music, beer, hayrides, pony rides, and more. RSVP (sandisfieldevents@recreationcommittee.info).

Dave Maswick and Joel Brown in Concert on Saturday, October 4 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center located on 5 Hammertown Road. The performance features beautifully arranged harmony syncing over lush acoustic accompaniment highlighted by intricate guitar work. \$25.

New Boston Church Worship Service on Sunday, October 5 at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome. The New Boston Congregational

Church is located on Route 57. For more information and to view the calendar, visit newbostoncongregationalchurch.org.

Town-Wide Tag Sale on Saturday, October 11, beginning at 9:00 a.m. \$20 registration fee to benefit the Sandisfield Historical Society. Contact Ann Wald (258-4415) for more information.

Portrait Show-Opening Reception on Saturday, October 18 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. Show continues weekends until December 7. A mixed-media group show that delves into the complexities of human experience through portraiture.

Flu and COVID Vaccine Clinic on Tuesday, October 21 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Sandisfield Old Town Hall on 3 Silverbrook Road. Pre-registration is required at www.home.color.com/vaccine/register/tritown.

Medical Insurance/Drug Plan advisor at COA, Wednesday, October 22, from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. to answer questions. Call Linda Riiska at 258-4816 for appointment.

The Headless Horseman-Radio Mystery Hour with the Sandisfield Players on Saturday, October 25 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center located on 5 Hammertown Road. A spook-tacular radio play just in time for Halloween. An event for the whole family. Adults, \$25; Teens, \$10; under 12, free.

Pumpkin Painting and Open House on Sunday, October 26 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at the Sandisfield Arts Center on 5 Hammertown Road. Pumpkin and refreshments provided. Free.

ONLINE EVENTS

A Farm and Garden Show with Sandisfield Residents Bill Taylor and Jaye Alison Moscarillo streamed every Monday from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at berkshireradio.org.

EVENTS IN SURROUNDING TOWNS

Chair Yoga on Tuesdays from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. at the Tolland Public Safety Complex.

To reserve a spot, please email MaryAnn (mademing67@gmail.com) or Bonnie (bonniescrivener@msn.com). Free.

Sheffield Farmers Market on Fridays from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. through October 10 at the Old Parish Church. Vibrant marketplace featuring local farmers, food producers, artisans, and musicians.

Berkshire Mobile Farmers Market on Fridays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. through October 17 at the Monterey Community Center. The market features fresh, local food with a focus on accessibility and choice for all.

Otis Farmers Market on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. through October 11 at 200 East Otis Road. Produce, eggs, baked goods, meat, crafts, and more.

Great Barrington Farmers Market on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. through November 8 at 18 Church Street. Featuring locally grown and produced foods, including greens, fruit, cheese, meats, honey, maple syrup, baked goods, and more. Local musicians perform.

Live Music in the Hills with PaxSax Quartet on Saturday, October 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Church in Tolland. Free coffeehouse style with light refreshments.

Riverton Fair on Friday, October 10 through Sunday, October 12 at the Riverton Fairgrounds in Barkhamsted.

Harvest Festival at the Berkshire Botanical Garden on October 11 and 12 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Stockbridge. Live music, vendors, food, games, beer garden, and more!

All Hallows Lee on Saturday, October 18 from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Park Square in downtown Lee. A day of spooky fun, wicked treats, and ghostly beats. Vendor village with food trucks and live music.

Art Day with the Tolland COA on Monday, October 20 at 9:30 at the Tolland Safety Complex. Come for coffee, stay for crafting.

SANDISFIELD TOWN DIRECTORY

OCTOBER, 2025

TOWN HALL: Laurie McArthur, Administrative Assistant,
258-4711, x 3, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield

TOWN WEBSITE: www.sandisfieldma.gov.

AMBULANCE: 911. Non-Emergency: 258-4742

AMERICAN LEGION POST 456: Maria Domato, Commander
258-4578 (April-October) or yankeefruitloop@gmail.com

ANIMAL INSPECTOR: To be determined

ASSESSORS OFFICE: Mira Shea, 258-4711 x 6
Office Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

BOARD OF HEALTH: By appointment only.
Health Agent, Jason Dragonetti: jason@tritownhealth.org

BUILDING INSPECTORS:
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- Plumbing & Gas: Bob Krupski, 413-229-8019
- Asst. Plumbing Inspector: Brian Middleton, 413-269-7269
- Wiring: Jay Reynolds, 860-798-2578
- Building: Vinny Tirone. Office hours, Old Town Hall, Mon: 10 a.m. - Noon
Call 413-446-0964 for appointment. Email: building@sandisfieldma.gov
- Alternate Building Inspector: Don Torrico
- 911 Coordinator: Amanda Leavenworth, 413-258-4711, x 2

CEMETERY COMMITTEE:
Chair, Lynn Rubenstein: ceemetery@sandisfieldma.gov.

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION: conservation@sandisfieldma.gov
Meets 3rd Tues: 7 p.m. Chair, Mary Turek

CONSTABLE:
Dana Beardsley, 258-4958

COUNCIL ON AGING: Melissa Bye, Secretary, 258-4711 x 8
Wed: 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Senior Center/Town Hall

CULTURAL COUNCIL: Chair, Jennifer Hibbins
culturalcouncil@sandisfieldma.gov

DPW SUPERINTENDENT: To be determined, 258-4711 x 7
highways@sandisfieldma.gov

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School Committee: Meets every first Monday at 7 p.m.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Chair, Dominic Konstam,
Finance@sandisfieldma.gov. Meets as needed; check for schedule.

FIRE: CALL 911
Fire Chief Mike Grillo, 413-717-8393
FireChief@sandisfieldma.gov

GREEN COMMITTEE TEAM: Chair, Paul Adams

HISTORICAL COMMISSION: Ron Bernard, 413-269-0012;
ronbernard@aol.com. Meets as needed.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: Ann Wald, President
258-4415 or sandisfieldhistory@gmail.com
Meets 2nd Saturday, Apr-Nov. Sandy Brook Turnpike/Rt. 183.

LIBRARY: Librarian, Theresa Spohnholz: 258-4966;
sandisfieldlibrary@gmail.com
HOURS: Mon, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,
Wed: 1:00-7:00 p.m., Thurs: 2:00 p.m. -6:00 p.m.,
Sat: 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Closed Tues, Fri, and Sun

NOTARY: Joanne D. Olson, 258-4465 or 917-686-1985
Theresa Spohnholz: 258-4966 at the Town Library

PLANNING BOARD: Chair, Jeff Bye, planning@sandisfieldma.gov
Meets at Old Town Hall

POLICE-LOCAL: 258-4742
Email: PD@sandisfieldma.gov

POLICE-STATE: Lee Barracks: 413 243-0600

POST OFFICE: Amy Rintoul, Clerk, 258-4940
Window Hours: Mon-Fri: 9 a.m.-noon & 1-4 p.m. Sat: 8-11:30 a.m.
Delivery boxes in both lobbies accessible 24 hours.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER: Mary Bredenfoerder,
PSO@sandisfieldma.gov: Emergency, 911; non-emergency, 258-4742

RECREATION COMMITTEE: Laurie Seddon,
sandisfeldevents@recreationcommittee.info

SANDISFIELD ARTS CENTER: (May-December)
5 Hammertown Road, PO Box 31
258-4100; www.sandisfieldartscenter.org

SANDISFIELD TIMES: Bill Price, editor
w.billprice@gmail.com
U.S. Mail: PO Box 584, Sandisfield, MA 01255

SELECT BOARD: 258-4711 x 3
Meets Monday, 6:00 p.m. Town Hall.
See posted agendas for changes in meeting times.
Laurie McArthur, administrative Assistant, 258-4711, x 3

TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER: Gina Campbell
258-4711 x 4; Tues & Thurs, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Email: treasurer@sandisfieldma.gov

TOWN ACCOUNTANT: Margaret McClellan
by appointment; 258-4711 x 5

TOWN CLERK: Douglas Miner, 258-4711 x 2
66 Sandisfield Rd, Ste. 2, Sandisfield, MA 01255
townclerk@sandisfieldma.gov
Tues, Wed, Thurs: 9 a.m.-12 p.m, or by appointment

TOWN HALL:
66 Sandisfield Road, Ste. 1, Sandisfield, MA 01255
Hours differ based on the office in question.
Website: www.sandisfieldma.gov

TOWN MANAGER: Janey Snyder, 258-4711, x 1
manager@sandisfieldma.gov

TRANSFER STATION: Attendant: Tim Garcia
Hours: Wed: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sat: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun: 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

VETERANS SERVICES: Thomas Beasley
413-528-1580, Great Barrington Town Hall

YANNER PARK COMMITTEE: Adam Brown, Chairman
Meets as needed.

THE SANDISFIELD TIMES



P.O. Box 584
Sandisfield, MA 01255

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Linda Wacholder



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