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Litchfield County business briefs, July 7, 2019

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**IMAGE 1 OF 3**

While the House of Books is being renovated, it will have a temporary home one door down on Main Street in Kent.

KENT — Robin Dill, owner of the House of Books at 10 North Main Street in Kent has sold her business to Kent Center LLC.

"In order to meet Robin's objectives, we quickly agreed to Robin's terms," said Hiram Williams, managing partner of Kent Center LLC and Kent Barns, in a written statement. "We will work with her to transition the business and put long-term management in place.

A primary reason for purchasing the 10 North Main Street building in 2014 was to keep the House of Books in place anticipating that the owner would remain there for many years to come, Williams said.

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When Dill announced sh

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supporting a thriving serious
ective," Williams said.

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ergoes a much-needed
0-year-old metal roof, window
e re-wiring, according to
a year. The Little House of
hout the renovation period.

g shape adjacent to 10 North
s located at 7 Old Barn Road.
The renovated House of Books
ior passageway. A gallery will
se of Books. They hope to

For information, contact Hiram Williams, Kent Center LLC, 6 North Main St., at 917-855-9872.

Bank breaks ground on new branch

FARMINGTON – Thomaston Savings Bank held a groundbreaking for its future branch at 155 Scott Swamp Road in Farmington, June 26. Bank executives and employees were joined by Farmington town officials to commemorate the occasion.

In January, the bank announced the opening of the new location. This will be Thomaston Savings Bank's 14th location and the first in Farmington. Renovations are moving forward as planned and the branch is slated to open this fall.

Real estate forum set in Lakeville

SALISBURY – ShowTown will moderate a real estate forum with a panel of top rea

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This fits with ShowTown's mission to bring to the community diverse cultural, educational, and entertainment programs and follows its successful first three events during each of March, April and May, which included a dramatic play, jazz concert, and discussion on the future kitchen.

Panelists for the real estate forum include Elyse Harney Morris, principal broker and co-owner of Elyse Harney Real Estate; Kristine Newell, regional manager at William Pitt Sotheby's for Litchfield and Hartford Counties; and Pat Best, partner at Best & Cavallaro. The moderator is ShowTown co-founder Lloyd Baroody.

The forum will cover market trends, comparisons between local towns, how to save money on taxes, comparative costs of building vs purchasing an existing house, adding value to your home, comparative value in our area versus other country havens, factors to consider in choosing a realtor, what is up and coming in our area, investment opportunities, and more. Attendees should bring their questions. This is the chance to ask everything one has always wanted to know about local real estate in our specific area.

Foundation awards grant to legal fund

The Women & Girls Fund, a fund of the Northwest Connecticut Community Foundation has awarded a grant of \$1,000 to CT Women's Education and Legal Fund to support the work of the Connecticut Collective for Women & Girls.

"The Women & Girls Fund is celebrating our 20th anniversary, so we decided to mark the occasion with this special grant to a very worthy organization," said Frances Stoffer, Vice Chair of the Women and Girls Executive Committee, in a statement. "We share the same mission: to advocate for and empower women and girls. When like-minded organizations support each other, we all thrive."

The Women & Girls Fund awards grants in support of local organizations that are working to develop economic self-sufficiency for women by means of education,

financial literacy and social services.

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develop skills, attain economic security, and improve their quality of life.

In recent years, the fund has awarded grants to support childcare scholarships for working mothers, assist unemployed women to enter the workforce, provide automobiles to working women who need transportation, enhance economic opportunities and promote self-sufficiency for women leaving abusive relationships, and fund leadership and assertiveness workshops for high school girls.

For more information about The Women & Girls Fund or how to support its mission, visit www.northwestcf.org/womenandgirls

Grant provides third graders with symphony experience

BURLINGTON — The Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra received a \$2,000 grant from the James R. Parker Trust, the Margaret Haberman Memorial Fund for Music and the Pat & Bob Wollenberg Family Fund for the Community at Main Street Community Foundation to perform a pair of Educational Children's Concerts in May of 2020 for third graders from Regional School District 10 and surrounding towns, according to a release.

"The orchestra's purposes in presenting these concerts are to stimulate an intellectual curiosity in music and to encourage participation in school music programs," members said in a statement. "Typically in fourth grade, students will need to select instruments in order to participate in their school music programs. By experiencing an orchestra first-hand, students are able to make more informed decisions about the type of instrument they would like to play."

As the Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra pointed out in their grant proposal, "for most of the attending students these concerts will be their first exposure to symphonic music performed by a professional orchestra. They believe that understanding music and participation in school music programs can help children discover their identities and develop social abilities. Research has shown that children participating in music

programs are less likely to become at risk students as they get older. Success in m

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programs and projects to benefit the communities and residents of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott received \$126,459 in grant awards. The grants were awarded from 33 endowed funds established by donors to support the local community and the causes they care about.

For more information about the Community Foundation's grant program or the Foundation's 2019 grant recipients, please contact Kate Kerchaert, Director of Grants & Programs, at 860.583.6363.

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