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THIRTY-TWO PAGES!
FEB. 16-28, 2021

Highway prop halted

Greenwich Town's DPW chief will remain elected after referendum nixed

Even though it was held via Zoom, the recent Greenwich Council meeting still was great theater, as a proposal to make the Highway leader more reportable to the Town Board met loud resistance from most of the public. An anonymous pro-appointee mailer sent to all town residents just before the meeting actually had an unintended effect, angering many.

Please read more on page 3



The DPW building—dj



VACCINE SNAFUS 10



LIBRARY HISTORY 24



CHURCH REPAIR 7



RUN 17 SOLVE 28

Take a hike! Really.

We explore area parks that have great hiking trails, even in the winter. And more people seem to be on these trails of late. Even nationally, parks have seen more visitors than ever. The saying goes, "There's no bad weather, just bad clothing." So, wrap up and enjoy a winter's walk in the park.

Please read more on page 8



Hudson Crossing—si

HISTORIC IMPRINTS

The Greenwich Journal
The Salem Press

The Schuylerville Standard.
The Fort Edward Advertiser.

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OUR REGION'S HISTORY – TODAY



Landmarks Lost, Part II: The White Swan

Sandy McReynolds
Journal & Press

It was a typical cold, clear, mid-winter night. The village was quiet. At the hotel, people were nestled upstairs in their rooms, while the bar downstairs was still busy with activity. The night before Valentine's Day, plans had been made for the following evening's romantic outings – as many folk would be sure to visit the restaurant or theatre. Fifty years ago on, February 13, 1971 the White Swan Hotel burned, tragically taking three lives with it.

Plans were in the works for the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard O'Hanlon to sell the hotel business to Wilmot Worth of Saratoga Springs in three days. However, in the early morning hours of Saturday February 13, 1971 at around 1:45 a.m., calls were received by the village fire department – the upper floors of The White Swan Hotel were engulfed in flames. People were entrapped on the second and third stories of the hotel, some hanging out of windows ready to jump to safety.

The flames were first noticed coming from the northeast corner, near the K of C building (now Comfort Foods) and facing Lindsay's Garage (Livery Square), while only smoke was apparent from the Main Street side. Those first to enter found the stairway in flames between the first and second floors.

Men playing cards in the Elks club across the street in the Wilmarth Block heard the screams and rushed to offer assistance, convincing the men on the third floor to remain there and not jump—help was on the way. A ladder from the Garret home was carried to the hotel by Miss Garret and Mr.

William Murphy, though the ladder only reached to the second story but was able to assist in the rescue of Mr. John Gleason. The men of the Greenwich fire company arrived minutes after the first call came in, their extension ladder was enough to reach the three men trapped on the third floor awaiting rescue.

Not everyone knew the hotel was on fire, there were some in the bar that had not an inkling as to the chaos going on above. It wasn't until the firemen arrived to clear the building that they learned of the situation.

The fire raged out of control, seeing this upon arrival, the fire chief called immediately for mutual aid from area volunteer departments, the Hudson Falls department was called in with their aerial ladder truck (the closest one in the area as of 1971) arriving a half hour after the call, the aerial truck was credited with saving the adjoining buildings and bringing the fire under control. One hundred firemen from Middle Falls, Argyle, Cambridge, Easton, Salem, Schuylerville as well as Greenwich and Hudson Falls assisted in the battle.

The fire departments used six hydrants along Main, Salem, and Hill streets, all connected to the village water supply system. Meanwhile, the water supply stored in the large holding tank on Prospect Street was being used rapidly. The old fire lane behind the post office was opened up, allowing the Argyle fire crew access to the frozen Battenkill. Once they secured a line through the ice, the relay began from the river with



The White Swan Restaurant

the assistance of Schuylerville and Cambridge companies continuing the lines up Main Street. The village water supply had dropped to a mere thirteen feet when the volunteer fire crews established the relay.

It was four hours after the first call came in before the fire was con-

'It was suspected faulty wiring was the cause.'

sidered under control.

Sadly, the fire claimed three men: Gail Gilchrist, 83. A steel worker, specializing in bridge construction before his retirement. Edward A. Tefft Sr., 75. A known carpenter in Greenwich for many years, and served as building inspector for the Village of Greenwich. Raymond W. Worden, 71, had a typewriter repair business prior to his retirement. All the men were residents of the hotel.

Six men were rescued. Four busi-

nesses besides the hotel and theatre were wiped out: Foster's Liquor Store, McCarthy's Barber Shop, Glenville Opticians, and the restaurant operated by Mrs. Florence Smith.

Though the cause was never officially determined, it was suspected faulty electrical wiring in the unoccupied section of the hotel was the cause.

The village has never really recovered from losing such an iconic structure and community hub. When the name The White Swan is mentioned to the generations that experienced it, people offer up a gentle smile and often start by saying "I remember..." However, for those of us less fortunate and have not a single memory of the place, we know we missed out on a great thing.

Sandy McReynolds is the Greenwich Free Library's Gill Room Historian. She's also Town of Greenwich Historian.

After outcry, Highway proposal fizzles

Darren Johnson
Journal & Press

The Greenwich Town Council's much publicized Feb. 9 meeting to determine if there should be a referendum to determine whether the Highway Superintendent position in town should be elected, as it is now, or appointed, ended with a fizzle as Supervisor Don Ward's motion to move the resolution forward wasn't seconded by another councilman. This effectively killed the idea for what would be Local Law No. 1 indefinitely.

So this November's Election Day will still see the Town Highway Superintendent position on the ballot, for residents, not the Council, to decide.

Currently, longtime highway worker Ken McPhail, who has nearly three decades of experience in the field, is acting highway chief, after the retirement of Stan Mattison this past fall. Ward had seen the retirement as an opportunity to recreate the Superintendent position to oversee a different Department of Public Works, which would be led by an appointed leader answerable to the Board more directly.

Why the Proposed Change?

The reason, and this was clarified by Town Attorney David C. Klingebiel at the meeting, was that an elected Superintendent has more discretion to decide his or her duties, whereas an appointed person could have new duties baked into his job description. For example, Ward mentioned taking care of the park near Greenwich Beach on the Battenkill and the newly acquired Hudson Riverside Park in Clarks Mills. The town is also pursuing a water line feasibility study, where water could be brought beyond the Village of Greenwich to the Town's traffic circle and possibly along north on Route 40.

The appointed highway chief, as a part of larger DPW duties, could assist with these initiatives.

However, when Ward announced the plan earlier this year, reaction was strong. Before the Feb. 9 meeting, 28 town residents sent written comments against the proposal for a referendum, while 16 wrote in favor of it. On Facebook groups, the response to the plan was overwhelmingly against it. At the Feb. 9 meeting, about 60 town residents Zoomed in. Of those who spoke, 21 were clearly against the plan while only seven were for at least holding a referendum.

Similar plans fell in Easton and Salem in recent years, though, statewide, 91 towns have converted to an appointed highway chief. According to state law, only towns — not counties, cities or villages — can have elected highway superintendents.

A Mailing Backfires

And then there was a strange flier that had been bulk mailed to residents with a Greenwich zip code the weekend before the meeting. It was a letter-sized piece of cardboard, printed on both sides in black and white using a default font, seemingly in favor of the appointed position and mysteriously signed, "The Friends of Greenwich." There is no known PAC with that name, and an email to a postal official asking who paid for the postage has gone unanswered as of press time.

While the mailer perhaps was to win favor for the appointed position, especially considering a large number of local people on Facebook seemed to be against it, it ended up further dooming the proposed referendum, as now some residents thought it was "dis-



information."

Former Democratic town supervisor Sara Idleman, who had lost a close election to Ward in 2019, said via Zoom of the flier: "It's basically a lie. It's untrue." She said that each member of the council was accountable, and did a roll call, asking each if they had anything to do with it.

Councilmen Patrick Donahue, Jeff Duxbury, Steven Patrick and Eric Whitehouse all denied having anything to do with the flier. Ward said, "I was not aware it was going to be mailed out."

'I think this is a travesty doing this at this time. ... Somebody is trying to sneak something in.'

Public Comment

All of the people who Zoomed in were given a chance to comment, and nearly 30 residents took the opportunity to do so.

Don Wilbur called the whole

process "shameful." He echoed others' sentiments that moving forward something like this during a pandemic, when meetings can only be held via Zoom, does a disservice to those who cannot chime in that way.

"I think this is a travesty doing this at this time," Wilbur said. "What is the rush? It makes me think somebody is trying to sneak something in because he wants more power and control."

Marge Wilbur, who had been a budget manager for the town for approximately two decades, added that most of the funding for the highway department comes from town residents, not Village of Greenwich residents (the Village has its own appointed position), but both town and village residents would be able to vote on this proposal.

Former councilman Bob Jeffords, who had served on the board for two decades as a Republican, said that he preferred having the highway position be elected. "It's a good separation of powers," he said.

He also felt that the assertion that the highway chief can't be reined in

continued on next page

Highway position stays the same (cont.)

by the board is incorrect. “I can tell you all the years I was on the board, the board was very involved with the management of the town highways.”

He said that the anonymous mailer was “the trait of a coward.” “Virtually 95 percent of what’s on there is untrue. ... People are not ready to give up their right to vote for the second most important position in town.”

Another former longtime board member, George Perkins, voiced similar concerns.

Planning Board member Jim Nolan was critical of the proposed job description for the appointed Highway/DPW Superintendent, which had been posted on the town web site. It lists several types of qualifications that would be preferred, such as specific college degrees, but then relents into looser requirements that could be substituted. “It’s so widely dispersed that the board could appoint anyone they wanted,” he said. “We’ve had good [elected] people in that position. Why change it?”

Resident Kevin Shepard voiced support for the referendum, noting that the board has done a good job so far and should be given this discretion. “They are very talented people. They will be able to manage this better than we have.”

Town resident Kathleen Bartholomay said that the bulk mailed flier looked like the PDF proposing the new position on the town’s web site, and appeared dismayed that someone would risk the “political blowback” and mail it out.

“I don’t see the reason to take the vote away from the people,” she said. “Why?”

Ward said that the flier that was mailed out

was different than what was on the town’s site.

Erika Ryan, a local attorney and town resident, said that the flier was “political” and “one-sided,” and didn’t see the point of it. “We have excellent service,” she said of the current highway department.

Resident Alan Stern also agreed that the current highway department does a great job. “This is a solution looking for a problem,” he said, adding that the proposal felt rushed and merely used templates that other towns had used with similar proposals. “Why is the current system a problem?”

Several local residents felt that the board was moving too fast, especially considering the pandemic is limiting meetings to Zoom. Some also felt this move reeked of politics.

“A lot of people cannot get on Zoom,” Jerry Squires said. “I believe it’s dirty politics. We see what’s happening in Washington, and now it’s happening in Greenwich?”

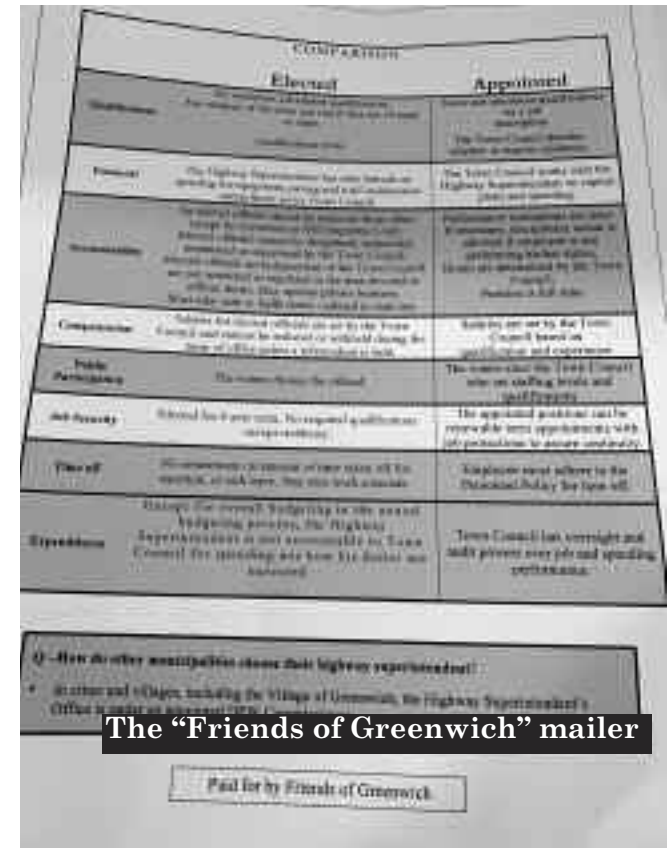
Chris Lapham, though, said that the town board has been acting in good faith, and lived up to their promise to lower taxes, so should be given the benefit of the doubt.

“If I’m going to get more services for less tax money, I’m for it,” he said.

Ralph Vecchio, who has served in a number of roles in town over the decades, noted that this resolution was not for the appointed position. Merely, it was whether a referendum should be held. So, actually, it was democratic. As for Zoom, he said it was easy to use – as evidenced by the dozens of people who attended this virtual meeting. “The fact of the matter is that we’re living in a Zoom age,” he said.

Jeremy Messina said that an elected highway position could also be problematic; for example, if a candidate runs unopposed, that selection could be subject to “nepotism and corruption.” He also felt the big picture – of getting a water pipeline along the Route 29 corridor in town – should not be downplayed, and an appointed DPW leader would more likely make that happen.

Liv Thygesen, a resident who also serves on the town Planning Board, noted that more needed to be done to attract younger people to the area. “The average age attending a meeting like this should not be 60-plus,” she stated. “We need to expand our commercial infrastructure. ... We need to modify what we are doing in this community, if we want to survive. We need to have sustainable,



controlled growth.”

Monica Dore said: “I’d hate to see our second most important position go to an appointed one with a loose job description. I believe it would fall into nepotism; an old boys’ club.”

Linda Law Saunders also lamented that this position is being politicized: “Why has Greenwich suddenly become Washington? There was no problem with the Highway Department. I’ve been in town 35 years and the Highway Department was an important part of why we chose Greenwich.”

The larger sentiment was why rush such a big decision? The Highway Superintendent position can continue as-is, there will be a November Election, and then if the board wants to revisit having a referendum to change the position, that’s legal and what other towns have done, the town attorney clarified. “The rules are the same,” Klingebiel said. “It can be done at any time.”

At first, the board contemplating tabling the decision, but Klingebiel advised, if the board doesn’t want to move forward soon, it’s better to just let it go, and not second Ward’s motion.

“If you make the motion, and no one seconds the motion, it’s essentially dead,” the attorney said.

No one seconded the motion.

Delicious pies

The Deacons of the First United Presbyterian Church in Salem are selling delicious pies for the 8th year from Smith’s Orchard Bake Shop. The price is \$13 for these delicious homemade pies that are frozen ready to bake when you need a large full pie for your guests and perfect for your Easter dinner. The Orders are due by March 5th for delivery at the church on March 20th. There are many varieties of pies offered, please call Jane Keys at 854-3418 to place your order. The Deacons appreciated your support for their fundraiser and give back to the community and church with the profit earned.

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denly, and if you are having financial issues, let us know. We have some discounted subscription options available.

T-Shirts

Our first batch of Greenwich Journal T-shirts sold out. We get them printed at Jose Rivera's Rootz Custom Tees in Cambridge on high quality material and just ordered more. If you'd like one, we have most sizes available. They are \$20.21 this new year. Just send an email to tshirts@JPsubs.com to get started.

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The silent epidemic

Kate Sausville
Journal & Press

Recently the Washington County Sheriff issued an advisory that fentanyl-laced cocaine nicknamed Blue Heroin had found its way to our community. Five people overdosed, and sadly, there was one fatality. Many of us know and love someone who struggles with addiction, so this is concerning news. This past year, with its challenges and isolation, has caused stress and depression for many people, and those who suffer from addiction may have a more difficult time dealing with those feelings. They may be without the support they normally have, and relapse.

We don't usually talk about addiction. It is often viewed as a moral failing. We point out that people make a choice, initially, to take the drug. That if they had more fortitude or self-control, they could kick the drug habit and live normal lives. Maybe this is due to the American "bootstraps" culture, where if you just work hard enough, you can achieve it. Except, sometimes, you can't.

Many people with addiction issues attribute their addiction to prescription painkillers that they were given legally. Once they were taken off those medications, they found themselves addicted. Mental health diagnosis, poor self-es-

teem, and other issues can contribute to drug use. The reality is that drugs users are not the junkie in the streets. They are the people you sit next to in church, work out with at the gym, live in your neighborhood, or maybe even in your home.

Rural areas are particularly susceptible to illegal drugs. Factors such as isolation, unemployment, poor health, and lack of education can contribute to addiction. Rural areas tend to have fewer health care options, so people may not have regular preventative care or be able to afford care when they are ill or injured. Since the early 2000's drug related deaths in rural areas have risen, especially in comparison to more densely populated urban areas. A study sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation and the National Farmers Union found that farming and ranching families have been especially hard hit by the opioid crisis, with 74 percent of farmers and farm workers surveyed saying they have been directly impacted by opioid abuse. The same farmers and farm hands report that in some cases it is easier to get their hands on large amounts of prescription opioids or painkillers without a prescription in their communities. According to the study rural adults were unaware that the opioid crisis has a greater impact on rural communities than urban ones, and a large number believe that drugs are a bigger issue in urban areas.

Those living with addiction in rural areas have a more difficult time getting treatment when they want it. There are fewer treatment centers available, with many being hours away. The stigma of getting treatment in a small town may prevent people from reaching out, and transportation to and from treatment can be prohibitive. In urban areas, mass transit is readily available and anonymous. In rural areas, it is much more difficult to get reliable public transportation, and you can forget about anonymity.



People can be in a good place for years. Loved by their family, respected in their community, working at a job they love and find joy in, only to have a relapse. And then they are gone, leaving a devastated and grief-stricken family and community in their wake.

If you know your loved one is struggling, reach out to get support for your mental health and well-being. Self-care may be the buzzword of 2021, but it is essential to figure out how to take care of your needs, especially if caring for a loved one with addiction issues.

As always, reach out to friends and loved ones who may be especially isolated during this time. Phone calls, texts, and notes can help to stay connected. If you know someone is struggling, do not be afraid to get additional support. Often, we hesitate to call in help because we fear anger or reprisals, but drug addiction is a serious issue that is beyond the scope of just one person.

There is help for drug addiction and recovery. The National Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration helpline can be reached at 1-800-622-4357 and they can refer you to services in your area. Locally, Hope & Healing Recovery is in Hudson Falls. Their office can be reached at 518-480-5499. If you are in crisis you can call or text them at 518-812-5813.

Kate Sausville is a resident of Greenwich, a preschool teacher for Head Start in Saratoga County, wife and mother of two teenage daughters.



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St. Paul's Episcopal Church's tower project

There is a beautiful rural historic church in the heart of Salem, New York's historical district with a long presence in the area which serves a small but dedicated congregation. It is St. Paul's Episcopal Church located on East Broadway across from the Salem Central School.

In the past, its members have been able to handle repairs, upkeep of its property and so forth. But now a problem has arisen that is too much for this small congregation to handle alone. The stone work of the lovely bell tower needs extensive repair due to moisture seeping in through cracked stones and crumbling mortar. This moisture has created structural damage both to the tower, its entrance and to the interior of the north transept of the church. The issue had been addressed in prior years but repairs suggested and done only unknowingly delayed the problem.

Now St. Paul's is reaching out to its friends and neighbors asking for help in raising the \$90,000 needed to fix the problems, both exterior and interior

The genesis of St. Paul's goes back to 1794, when a group of local Episcopalians built a church on land in Camden Valley conveyed by a lease given by the Moravian minister, Abraham Bininger. Sometime in the early 1800's, the church faded from view and today there is no trace of that building in what is now the Moravian cemetery. Pastor Bininger and his family have their final resting place where the church building once stood and a few members of that early Episcopal congregation are buried in the cemetery grounds. For

some 60 years, Salem Episcopalians had to worship in Episcopal churches in neighboring communities, even eventually holding services in Salem's old courthouse.

It was not until 1860 when -under the leadership of the Reverend Henry Codman Potter, visiting rector from St. John's in Troy, New York, later to be bishop of New York, and several prominent Salem residents - the cornerstone of the present church was laid. That modest brick building is now the nave of the present church.

In 1876, with the congregation expanding, the church was enlarged and the bell tower built. In 1888 the historic E. & G.G. Hook (opus 189), built in 1855, was purchased from The Unitarian Church in Dorchester, Massachusetts and first used Feb. 23, 1890. It had to be stored for a couple of years while the south transept, in which the organ was to be placed, was built.

Worship, which is the focus of St. Paul's, is enhanced by an interior that has recently been repainted, lovely old wooden pews, a recently installed local slate floor in front of the altar, polished brass fittings in the altar rail, light streaming in through stained glass windows, five of which were created by the famed Tiffany Company., and music from its historic organ.

For more information about St. Paul's Salem, visit www.stpauls-salem.org and follow St. Paul's on Facebook at [fb.com/StPSalemNY](https://www.facebook.com/StPSalemNY). Donations for its bell tower repair are most welcome. Donation information is available at www.stpauls-salem.org.



Meeting Notice

The Board of Trustees of the Greenwich Free Library meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7pm to conduct the business of the Library. The public may attend via Zoom. Please go to our website www.greenwichfreelibrary.org for this month's link.

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Some great places to take a hike

Sara Idleman
Journal & Press

We've been living with the pandemic and its affects for nearly a year. It's a challenging time and the winter months are especially so. Cold, snow and lack of sun tend to keep many cooped up inside. Our regular routines of school, work and social activities have been curtailed, often to the detriment of our wellbeing. But there are some silver linings. I have noticed more and more people walking and simply getting out of doors.

I am affiliated with a local park that has experienced an explosion of sorts in visitors. A trail counter was installed in the fall of 2019 and in place through December of 2020. During that time, well over 30,000 people used the park. This phenomenon has been true throughout the country. Parks have seen more visitors than ever. The saying goes, "There's no bad weather, just bad clothing." So, wrap up and enjoy a winter's walk in the park.



Paul and Shaina Curley and family at HCP.

Carter's Pond on Route 49 in Greenwich offers a picturesque walking trail along the water. The day I visited a number of people were ice fishing. I did not meet anyone on the the-mile-long trail, but there was evidence that dogs as well as people had enjoyed the space. At some time, beavers had been at work there as indicated by tree stumps sharpened to a pencil like point. The Pond is identified as a Bird Conservation Area by New York State.

Learn more at www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor.

Christ the King Spiritual Center in Easton has developed a system of trails open to people, dogs and horses. Hikers are asked to check in at the Welcome Center and pick up a map of the area. I didn't venture too far onto the trails, saving that experience for another day with a partner.

Learn more at ctkcenter.org.

Hudson Crossing Park just north of Schuylerville at Lock 5 is bounded by the Champlain Canal and the Hudson River. One can walk over two miles of maintained trails. They are open from dawn to dusk every day of the year. "Leashed canine companions are always welcome." Unauthorized motor vehicles are not allowed on the trails.

Learn more at hudsoncrossingpark.org.

Merck Forrest in Rupert Vermont has over 30 miles of trails ranging from a 5-minute walk to a 6-mile, 4-hour hike described as "a work out." Dogs and horseback riding are encouraged. Although a bit farther from home, it's a stunning area and the drive "over the mountain" from Salem is simply beautiful.

Learn more at merckforest.org.

Cambridge Community Forest is a 140-acre forest near the Village of Cambridge in the Town of White Creek. It has been preserved by ASA and is in the process of being developed. Although not yet open, it promises to be another easily reached area

Sara Idleman is a lifelong resident of Greenwich. Recently retired from the workforce, she's delighted to now focus on her favorite interests and hobbies.



-si photos



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Op-Ed: Getting vaccinated shouldn't be this hard

Assemblymembers Patricia Fahy (D-109), John McDonald (D-108) and Carrie Woerner (D-113)

Special to Journal & Press

Problems surrounding eligibility prioritization, excluded essential workers, limited access to available appointments, and more related to the rollout of New York State's COVID-19 vaccine distribution program continue to persist. An easily accessible, statewide pre-registration tool available for every New Yorker's use, would tackle these issues and provide much-needed peace of mind to an increasingly-anxious population.

In a year when we have all felt at the end of our proverbial rope, and have struggled to just make a knot and hang on until a coveted vaccine appointment could bring a measure of relief — the seeming randomness of the vaccine rollout has only added to the stress. Does any of this sound familiar:

"I'm 85 and I can't find an available appointment, but my 65-year-old cousin got one."

"Why are there doses available in Oneida County but not in the Capital Region?"

"When I call my family doctor, she says they aren't getting any doses and told me to check with the pharmacy. When I check the phar-

macy website, all the slots are already filled and they direct me to the COVID hotline. When I call the hotline, I sit on hold for hours."

"My neighbor's daughter got up at 4 am and got on the computer and was able to get her parents an appointment, in Plattsburgh, in March."

It shouldn't be this hard.

We have a supply and demand problem — New York is receiving only about 265,000 doses each week, and current eligibility includes over 7 million New Yorkers. Every day, another group makes a well-reasoned plea to be on that eligibility list and at this rate, it may take 6 months to vaccinate just the 7 million. There are about 14 million adults who live in New York and thankfully, the federal government has announced an increase in doses and promised even more.

In the meantime, 7 million people are competing to get one of 265,000 vaccine appointments that will be available next week. The probability of getting one of those is scarce; you may have a better chance of winning the lottery than getting a vaccine appointment.



We need to do something to manage demand and scheduling in a way that reduces uncertainty and anxiety for everyone — we need to set up a pre-registration system.

The pre-registration registration process would capture an individual's age, occupation, any underlying health conditions, and how they'd like to be contacted. The state would reprioritize the list based on eligibility phases — healthcare, frontline, essential workers first, those with comorbidities, over 75 next, over 65, and so on. As the vaccine arrives in the state, the Department of Health would allocate a number of doses to each county, pharmacy, and other providers, and provide the list of the same number of people who are next up on the eligibility list. The County Public Health department would then reach out to those specific people, and schedule them for an appointment, making sure to schedule sufficient people on any given day so that no vaccine dose goes to waste. We know it's possible, because New Jersey, Illinois, California, and Florida are all doing just that. In particular, we can look to Florida which kicked off its pre-registration program last month.

The vaccine distribution process is confusing, frustrating, and makes an already-anxious populace even more so. We need a straightforward system that matches supply with demand.

We recommend the Governor and the Department of Health move to a pre-registration system that will allow the state and counties to simplify the scheduling process, eliminate the competition for vaccine appointments, reduce the need to travel several hours to secure a vaccination, and overall reduce the stress people are experiencing."

Join the Journal & Press's Zoom Talk: 'The Top 10 Bands Never to Have a Top 40 Hit'

Join Journal & Press Publisher Darren Johnson on Zoom on Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 12:30 p.m. for a fun lunchtime talk about his past article: "The Top 10 Bands Never to Have a Top 40 Hit." The talk will include his analysis of Billboard rankings, photos of the acts and samples of their music. **FREE!**

As a teaser, here's a photo of one of the acts.

Go to this URL:

zoom.cccn.us
at 12:30 on 2/17.



The eligibility priority pool will jump again next week when the most seriously ill, or those with comorbidities and immunocompromised systems, are also added to the eligibility pool. We called for the need to add this at-risk group as they are the single most vulnerable population with an astounding 94% of the COVID-related deaths having been among this population.

Spring sports still not approved for county

Evan Felicetti
Journal & Press

Within the last three weeks, there has been a flurry of activity in the world of New York high school sports. On January 22nd, an announcement made via Twitter revealed that the NYS Department of Health officially would give authorization to the NYSPHSAA for "higher-risk" interscholastic sports (i.e. wrestling, basketball) to resume on February 1st. The policy update was met with feedback both supportive and critical, for a variety of reasons on each side. However, the prevailing sentiment for many was uncertainty, as the NYSPHSAA has ultimately left the decision to resume higher risk sports up to individual county health authorities.

Several counties in the area have begun to engage in higher risk sports, such as Warren and Saratoga counties. Out of New York State's 62 counties, 40 have begun higher-risk interscholastic sports, starting on February 1st or in the days following. And while approximately two-thirds of counties have decided to resume, as of this writing Washington County has not made any official announcement of resumption. To the contrary, the county released a January 27th statement entitled: Wash-

ington County Delays Approval of "High Risk" Sports at This Time. Within the statement, which is available on Washington County's official website, county officials write: "Based on the current status of COVID-19 in our communities and the dedicated work that our school administrators, staff and community members are doing to make every effort to continue keeping our schools operating with as much in-person instruction as possible, Washington County cannot soundly permit these "higher risk" sports to proceed at this time." The statement did not go into much more detail beyond that, but goes on to add that sports are very important to regaining some sense of normalcy, and that efforts are currently being made to determine a timeline for the resumption of higher-risk sports.

The exact reasoning behind each county's decision depends on what health officials in a particular county consider safe. This is once more a result of relatively little guidance provided for resuming these sports from the NYSPHSAA; instead opting to leave this decision up to county and local health authorities. However, positivity rate plays perhaps the largest role into why some counties have chosen to resume higher-risk sports. After all, positivity rate is

often used to determine potential widespread infection within a certain area of testing.

For the week of February 1st through February 8th, the Covid-19 positivity rate in Washington County was just over 4.75% (NYSDOH Covid-19 Tracker). For context, this would mean that out of every 100 people tested in Washington County, slightly under 5 would receive a test result showing virus positivity. When compared to other counties in the region that have already begun to permit higher risk sports, such as Saratoga and Warren, there is a noticeable difference in positivity rate. For the same week (February 1st-8th), the respective weekly positivity rates in these counties were 2.98% and 3.92% (NYSDOH Covid-19 Tracker). There has been no official positivity rate threshold that has been communicated by the NYSDOH or NYSPHSAA that counties must meet in order to resume higher risk sports. However, having a rolling 7-day average positivity rate under 4% has been adopted as a threshold for authoring higher risk sports in both Saratoga and Warren. Saratoga County released these guidelines on January 28th, and Warren released these guidelines on January 29th. Some other counties throughout the state have adopted this 4% threshold as well.

An interesting newcomer into the resumption of higher risk sports will soon be Albany County. On February 8th, Albany County Executive Dan McCoy officially gave the green light for higher-risk sports to resume. McCoy communicated via twitter: "...Hospitalizations are down & our 7-day [average] of percent positive



rates has now dropped to 3.9%. This now paves the way for high-risk, contact school sports, scrimmages & games to move forward..." (@McCoyCountyExec) While it is possible that Washington County will adopt a similar 4% threshold as many of its neighbors have, Albany County will serve as an interesting test case, as it has only just recently leveled its infection rate to under that 4% mark.

The wait for higher risk sports to resume may be challenging, but the proper precautions still must be taken to provide the safest and most fulfilling experience for all student athletes. Individual school districts will continue to do as much as they can to keep their students and faculty safe, but the decision regarding higher risk sports remains in the hands of county health authorities. "County medical and health authorities are the experts when it comes to the pandemic situation, so it is important that the community respects their decisions regarding safety, and does not apply any unnecessary pressure," noted Vince Medici, Athletic Director at Hudson Falls Central School District.

Podfest at HCP

Celebrate winter and get outside during the month of February with PODFEST! A pandemic-friendly version of Hudson Crossing Park's annual Winterfest event, gather your pod, choose your adventures, and keep the fun going all month long. Go sledding, create snow sculptures, grab a picnic from one of the amazing local eateries, try your hand at animal tracking, and more.

Hudson Crossing Park's website lists all of the activities that visitors can do with their pods this month and encourages all to challenge friends and neighbors to see who can cross off the most. While out having fun, be sure to tag #HudsonCrossingPark when you post photos and videos on Facebook and Instagram.

For more information visit www.HudsonCrossingPark.org or www.facebook.com/HudsonCrossingPark.

HBO Max movie review: 'The Little Things'

Owen Gleiberman
Variety
Special to Campus News

The bug-eyed psycho, especially when he's portrayed by a skilled actor, is always good for a laugh, or a shudder, or something in between. It's all about underplaying the overstatement. You've got to cue the audience to see that he's cuh-cuh-crazy, but you've got to do it with just enough finesse to leave them thinking, "Is it all an act?" Jared Leto, who admittedly has had a lot of practice, knows how to give a state-of-the-art performance as the kind of diabolical screw-loose sleaze you love to loathe. He anchors the best sequence in "The Little Things" (a police interrogation), though another way to put that is that the scene raises the bar to a place that the rest of the movie can't match.

Leto plays Albert Sparma, a piece of L.A. trash who looks like he's halfway between a homeless person and Jesus. In the key scene, he's brought into the station for questioning by two cops who have become unlikely partners: Joe "Deke" Deacon (Denzel Washington), a visiting deputy from upstate (though he once worked in L.A., where he was a master profiler of serial killers), and Jimmy Baxter (Rami Malek), a sharp-dressed LAPD detective who gets himself on the local news so often that he's become a bit of a celebrity. They've teamed up to solve a string of brutal murders (it's the usual drill: a series of young women stalked and snuffed), and they think they've got their man in Sparma, who certainly looks the part.

He's creepy and weirdly shaped (skinny, but with a paunch), with glassy black eyes, greasy long hair, a hippie beard, a geek grin, a work shirt buttoned up to his Adam's apple, and a jaunty, nattering tone of self-amused viciousness. Sparma is a working stiff with a shuffling

walk who will take a city bus to a strip club. But in the interrogation, he comes on as the designer-prole version of a Lectery evil genius, three steps ahead of every question he's asked. He's given gruesome photos of the murder victims, which he looks over with just enough deadpan relish to tease the cops without incriminating himself. "Do you get the feeling he's enjoying this?" asks Deke, watching the action through the two-way mirror. Uh, you were expecting him not to enjoy it?

Leto, drawing on his quick-minded perversity (and wearing a touch of prosthetics that disfigure his handsomeness into a jaded rottenness), communicates a great deal of sick pleasure. Sparma, a loner, adores being the center of attention, and so does Jared Leto. (That's what gives his performance an inner conviction.) Naturally, he outwits the cops, but everything still points to Sparma as the killer: his gloomy hoarder's apartment, the fact that he confessed to a murder 8 years ago, the quality he conveys of being a skeezy low-life mastermind.

Leto, in his way, burns a small hole in the screen. That said, you've seen this kind of performance before. And you've really seen the rest of the movie before -- almost literally, since "The Little Things," written and directed by John Lee Hancock ("The Blind Side," "Saving Mr. Banks"), is

That's a major disappointment, since this is the first lavishly scaled, multi-star-driven thriller we've had the chance to see in quite a while. Set in 1990, "The Little Things" is in the grisly forensics genre, with episodes unfolding at blood-splattered murder sites viewed through ultraviolet light, as well as a pleas-



ing narrative tangle or two. Yet this sort of clinical detective movie hinges on creating a feeling of revelation, a kind of horror-saturated awe. "The Little Things" is just a warmed-over set of serial-killer-thriller clichés, like crime-scene photos we've seen before. And some of it doesn't track all that well.

Take the Denzel Washington character. At first, the film seems to throw us a curveball, introducing Deke as a modest, head-down sort of desk jockey, a Kern County deputy in uniform who gets dispatched to L.A. to retrieve a key piece of evidence: a pair of bloody boots. But when he gets to the forensics lab, and then the police station, it turns out that most of the officers there know him. Deke, it seems, was once a legend -- the kind of cop who could snake his way into the mind of a killer. But he got so immersed in one case that he suffered a triple bypass, a divorce, and a suspension, all within six months.

He is, in other words, a gloss on

William Petersen's damaged FBI Agent Will Graham in "Manhunter." But when Graham had his breakdown (after getting onto the trail, and into the head, of Hannibal Lecter), he wasn't ostracized. Deke's backstory, his fall from grace, doesn't fully parse, and Washington's performance is so unruffled on the sur-

'It is just a warmed-over set of serial-killer-thriller clichés.'

face that it never acquires the quality of obsession the script keeps hinting at. Deke, still trying to solve that old case, gets absorbed into the new one, and he moves into a fleabag hotel and tapes pictures of the victims on the wall, so that he can ponder them with his thousand-yard stare. But sorry, I never bought it. "Manhunter" was a singular movie about obsession -- to me, the greatest of all modern thrillers. This one, coming 35 years later, feels like a copy of a copy.

Business profile

Meet Curtis Lumber's Maria Saavedra

Maria Saavedra is a graphic artist and Curtis Lumber's certified associate kitchen and bath designer as well as a certified aging-in-place specialist. She has been with Curtis Lumber for more than five years and has been a graphic designer for 39 years. She moved from the store's Ballston Spa location to Schuylerville in December 2020.

A native New Yorker, Maria lived in Georgia for 24 years and taught school, but when she moved back to New York 12 years ago, there were no local teaching openings, so she began using her design skills for interior design. She is most passionate about kitchen design.

Maria also designs basements, bedrooms, laundry rooms, bathrooms and more.

She has designed her own kitchen twice and enjoys designing kitchens for others.

As she works, she tries to maximize the space. "My favorite job is ensuring that my customers get the most functionality in their kitchens."

To develop a design plan, Maria has her clients complete an initial consult form. Then she schedules a time for them to go to Curtis Lumber and choose cabinet doors, colors, wood finish and so forth. From their choices, she starts a design and asks her customers to stop back in to discuss her renderings. She likes to create a 360° panoramic view and send it a few days prior to her clients' visit so they can review it in advance and come up with questions or other ideas for discussion.

"If they want to make some changes we schedule another follow up. Once they decide they like the design, we move forward," Maria said.

While Curtis Lumber does not provide installation services, it provides a list of contractors it has worked with before. Maria's number-one recommendation is "Make sure your contractor has experience installing a kitchen."

Clients are responsible for choosing their own appliances and sending Maria the information so she can add them to the design.

Once an order is made, material arrival time ranges from 3 to 12 weeks. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, some products have been taking a little longer to arrive. Once all products are in hand,



Maria Saavedra in Curtis Lumber's showroom in Schuylerville

installation may take up to 3-4 months to complete.

Once the design is finalized and approved, Maria visits the job site to confirm her measurements. With COVID-19, Maria and her clients wear masks and maintain social distance. When it's not possible to visit the site, Maria can meet with her clients virtually.

While she does not always have the opportunity to see the end result in person, she appreciates receiving pictures of completed kitchens or getting an email from the contractor.

She said, "I like when I design a kitchen for a customer who has one vision in mind, and I create something a little bit different for them, and then they tell me it's perfect."

Maria's customers say that Maria listens to them and includes the features they want, explains why some features they want may not work and doesn't include features based on her own vision.

As a certified aging-in-place specialist, Maria helps older customers with special design needs that can increase or provide functionality and motion economy, that is, providing fewer drawers to open or doors to shut. Special considerations may include color contrast so her clients can easily identify handles, or pulling rather than grasping a knob.

Other brands she works with are Crystal (which she considers the Cadillac of brands), Bertch and Wellborn. Maria helps her clients make their selection based on price point and overall budget. Countertop materials include Cambria quartz, slate, granite, soapstone and marble. She also uses Formica laminates and butcher block.

Curtis Lumber in Schuylerville has a full showroom with four kitchen displays and two islands as well as faucets, hardware, flooring, tile and more.

Maria said, "You know what you're getting because you can see samples and displays being used."

The feedback she gets from her customers is positive: "They may not know everything that they should as far as safety is concerned. It's my job to tell them when I think something won't be safe."

Maria will help her clients determine their desired budget and space during the initial consultation, "from a \$10,000 design to a \$100,000-plus design," she said.

Curtis Lumber offers both residential and commercial design services. Maria's goal is to make her customers happy, and providing function is her priority.

For more information, call Maria at 518-539-6002.

Maria's attention to detail for older clients includes suggestions on the types of appliances for the design as well. For example, she will recommend stoves with the knobs on the front instead of on the back so clients don't have to reach over the stovetop.

Cabinets are custom-made. Maria's preferred brands include Merillat's Basic, Classic, and Masterpiece lines.



Maria works with her clients to design kitchens that are functional as well as beautiful.

Golden Globes nominations were predictable

Michael Schneider

Variety

Special to Campus News

Sometimes the biggest surprise is that there aren't any. When it comes to this year's Golden Globe Awards nominees in the television categories, the Hollywood Foreign Press Association managed to get it mostly right -- living up to most predictions, with just a few unexpected choices thrown in for good measure.

Trying to guess this year's Globes nominations, and what the 90 or so HFPA members were thinking, was a bit trickier this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With no in-person events and much of the membership back at home overseas instead of hobnobbing in Hollywood, pundits went into Wednesday's nomination announcement a bit more blind in guessing who or what might have sway over the group.

But perhaps it's because everyone's at home, watching plenty of the same TV, that this year's Globes selections ended up being on point with the shows pretty much on everyone's binge lists: "Ted Lasso," "The Queen's Gambit," "The Crown," "Schitt's Creek," among many others.

The most unexpected showing was probably how much sway Ryan Murphy's Netflix series

"Ratched" would have over the group, which gave it three noms. But with a proven hitmaker like Murphy and a perennial favorite in star Sarah Paulson, it wasn't a shock. Murphy had a good morning, as his Netflix series "Hollywood" and film "The Prom" also received nods.

Also in the kinda-surprising-but-I-guess-not-really field was the HFPA's embrace of Netflix's "Emily in Paris" in best musical or comedy series and star Lily Collins in the musical or comedy actress race. It's a buzzy show set in France, and features the breakout Collins, so why not. In the end, the one truly pleasant and unexpected treat was seeing NBC's "Zoey's Extraordinary Playlist" star Jane Levy land a nomination for best musical or comedy actress. (In a comedy with strong musical elements! It even lives up to the category name!)

If there was ever a category that screamed "HFPA," it's this year's musical or comedy series race, which seems tailor-made to the Globes' global appeal: The France-set "Emily in Paris," the period satire "The Great," the U.K.-set "Ted Lasso," the Canadian "Schitt's Creek" and the jet-setting "The Flight Attendant" will all face off.

No surprise, Netflix dominated the TV nominations with 20 nods,

but HFPA voters managed to spread the wealth among other streamers, as Hulu (six noms), Amazon Prime Video (three), Apple TV Plus (two), HBO Max (two) and Disney Plus (one) also made their way in. HBO was second behind Netflix with seven nominations, while Showtime and its ViacomCBS sibling Pop TV (thanks to "Schitt's Creek") were close behind with five. Broadcast TV, meanwhile, almost completely blanked it -- with the exception of Levy's nod for NBC.

HBO was hampered by the fact that two of last year's best shows, "I May Destroy You" and "We Are Who We Are" -- both of which seemingly should have appealed to HFPA voters -- somehow didn't resonate.

The big question now: Will HFPA voters gravitate toward rewarding something new in the drama and comedy/musical categories, or will they be tempted to go with "The Crown" and "Schitt's Creek"? Both are fine picks, but "The Crown" is already a Globes and Emmy winner for best drama, while "Schitt's Creek" already dominated the Emmys last September for its final season.

HFPA members famously love to see the Golden Globes as a tastemaker and trailblazer, honoring new series first thanks to the ceremony's timing at the start of



"Queen's Gambit"

the calendar year. That could lead to "Ted Lasso" making a strong run at "Schitt's Creek" at the very least. But in drama, it's clear "The Crown" is the one to beat. With nominations for Olivia Colman (Queen Elizabeth) and Emma Corrin (Princess Diana) in drama actress; Josh O'Connor (Prince Charles) in drama actor, and Gillian Anderson (Margaret Thatcher) and Helena Bonham Carter (Princess Margaret) in supporting actress, you can say that the HFPA finds "The Crown" too regal to ignore.

Theatre lecture

HVCC's next free, online talk is "A New Era of Theatre" on Thursday, Feb. 25, 10 to 10:50 a.m., when Emily Curro, theatre artist and producing executive director of Troy Foundry Theatre, will discuss the challenges of building a non-profit theatre company from the ground-up in the Capital Region. Using personal images and film footage, she will demonstrate the trajectory of Troy Foundry Theatre's evolution from launch in 2017 to today, and its current pandemic operations and programming process. Get the link at www.hvcc.edu/voices.

Carrot cake rolls

Support the Hartford Vol. Fire Co. Auxiliary by getting a Carrot Cake Roll with Cream Cheese filling. Homemade, but sold frozen. Easy to thaw and serve! Only \$15. Orders must be phoned in by March 19th. Pick up on March 27 at the Firehouse on Route 40. Contact Diane at 518-632-5351 to reserve.



Join the drumming fun

In the spirit of empowerment, joy and community-building, Rural Soul with master drummer and instructor M'Bemba Bangoura calls upon "100 Resilient Drummers" to learn (remotely) traditional West African music with the goal of coming together in an outdoor space in May 2021 to share in the grooves. "100 Resilient Drummers" takes place now through May 2021 with 3-4 video releases per month led by M'Bemba Bangoura and Chelsie Henderson.

Registration is open through February. There will be an outdoor gathering at Hudson Crossing Park, Schuylerville, at a date to be announced in May. Participants will be offered the djembe (hand drum), doundoun (bass drum) and vocal parts, as well as a few dance steps. All levels of drummers are welcomed, from bare bones beginners to more experienced players.

Videos are shared with participants on a private YouTube station. Most of the videos will feature M'Bemba Bangoura, where he will introduce the music with all of its parts, and will explain its cultural significance. This will be followed by videos from Chelsie that break down the rhythms, songs and steps to aid in learning.

The inspiration behind this project is vast. This is an opportunity to support a master musician during these challenging times; to hone our creative minds; to stay physically and mentally active;

and to connect on a positive level.

Henderson said: "This project idea started as '100 Women Drummers.' One hundred was easily passed when 60 women from the Capital Region, along with daughters, granddaughters, etc., very enthusiastically registered in January. However, it became clear after the project began that the goal should be to unify all of us. To honor the initial inspiration, the music shared for this project will be for and about women. Now the doors are open to all to join in the drumming fun!"

Please reach out to Rural Soul at ruralsoulmusic@gmail.com for registration and fee information, and to inquire about a drum to practice on. The first videos came out in January and will be shared as soon as new drummers register. February, March, April and May's videos will be shared as they are released.

For more information on M'Bemba Bangoura,



visit www.mbembabangoura.com. Photo is from May 2017 drumming workshop with M'Bemba Bangoura at Burton Hall in Easton.

Give a book new life in Salem

Give an old book new life with Bancroft Public Library's Adult & Teen Carry-Out Craft for February! Kits will remain available throughout the entire month of February and are free of charge! Stop by the library to pick yours up! Questions? Contact the library at 518-854-7368 or slm-director@sals.edu.

The Great Heart Hunt

Throughout the month of February, the Greenwich Free Library, Schuylerville Library and Hudson Crossing Park are collaborating on an outdoor community event called The Great Heart Hunt.

Here's how it works: Within the Greenwich and Schuylerville area, up to 50 local businesses will have a special heart displayed in their window for the month of February with [#thegreathearthunt](https://www.facebook.com/thegreathearthunt) on them.

When you find a heart, take a picture and post it to the event Facebook group



page along with the hashtag.

The challenge is to get outdoors at a traditionally dreary time of year and find all the hearts! Every picture posted will earn an entry into a prize drawing for a \$50 Battenkill Books gift certificate.

For more information, email Emily Sargent: esargent@sals.edu.

Facebook group: The Great Heart Hunt.

Need a winter coat?

L.E.A.P. is now shifting the focus of its Coat Drive to distributing coats to those in need, although they are still accepting monetary donations to cover the increased costs of cleaning, storing, and distributing coats this season. If you need a coat for yourself and/or a family member, the only requirement is that you must be a Washington County Resident. Proof of address will be requested (for example a piece of mail, utility bill, driver's license/other ID, etc.) Please call L.E.A.P. at (518) 409-5199 between 8:30am-3:30pm for any Coat Requests.

The State of the Town of Greenwich

Also at the Feb. 9 meeting of the Greenwich Town Council, Supervisor Don Ward delivered his "State of the Town."

He said: "With falling revenues in 2020 and in 2021, we had to put the Town on a business-like footing. To accomplish this, we were forced to ask a number of questions that had gone unanswered in the past ... not to micromanage the organization but to find a solution to this difficult and unprecedented problem. We can report mission accomplished: We have an acceptable budget given the trying circumstances.

"We also took a strong stand against the defacing of political signs and the painting of racist comments on a local residence. There is no place in Greenwich for such criminal behavior.

"Then COVID-19 hit. We were one of the first Towns to declare a State of Emergency and to implement the administrative changes required to deal with the pandemic.

"In spite of the many problems brought on by the pandemic, we never closed the Town's office. The Highway Department continued to provide services to our citizens. We handed out over 3000 masks. Worked with community groups to assist senior citizens. ... Offered safety checks.

"In spite of the pandemic, we safely conducted the only summer youth program in the area: 56 children participated in this program and got to swim and play outdoors.

"We improved the Battenkill Park, built a new playground for our kids. Started planning the renovation of the building at Hudson Riverside Park

to convert it into a community center, and continued planning for other park improvements, such as a pavilion, a parking area, a dog park, and other amenities."

Ward said that the town's 2004 Comprehensive Plan needs to be updated. The town needs a way to raise more revenue without raising taxes. That can be done with bringing sustainable businesses and affordable housing to the region. An important aspect of that will be a water study that may lead to the town working with the Village of Greenwich in expanding the water district west along Route 29, to the traffic circle and perhaps beyond.

"The number one challenge for the Town of Greenwich is to maintain the rural character while coping with growth.... where to allow it and what kind of development should be allowed and/or encouraged while maintaining the Town's character.

A Zoom screenshot from Feb. 9's meeting. Residents are pictured top right and bottom left; the town board is bottom right.



"Another challenge is to provide for affordable housing while not disturbing the rural landscape and associated qualities that make Greenwich special. A component of affordable housing is smaller lots, which are more densely situated and have community sewer and water services.

"Finally, taxes are perceived as a problem.... Adding to the taxpayer's irritation is the fact that the tax base is generated mostly through residential property taxes.... industrial businesses can provide a healthy contribution to a Town's tax budget...., the presence of successful industries can provide opportunities for employment to local residents."

The full "State of the Town" address can be found on our site, JournalandPress.com.

Courageous kids

Hartford Central School elementary students were recognized at the monthly Citizens' Assembly. January's character trait was Courage.

Top row (l.- r.) Andrew Baker, Rogue Casson, Callen Cook, Emberlee Healy.

Middle row (l.- r.) Colten Iuliucci, Arionna Lathrop, Alexandria Munchbach, Victoria Nims.

Bottom row (l.- r.) Aubree Purdy, Raymond Veach, Oliver Willette, LeRoy Wilson.



Great pies

The Deacons of the First United Presbyterian Church in Salem are selling delicious pies for the 8th year from Smith's Orchard Bake Shop. The price is \$13 for these delicious homemade pies that are frozen ready to bake when you need a large full pie for your guests and perfect for your Easter dinner. The Orders are due by March 5th for delivery at the church on March 20th. There are many varieties of pies offered, please call Jane Keys at 854-3418 to place your order. The Deacons appreciated your support for their fundraiser and give back to the community and church with the profit earned.

DA to run again

Earlier this month, Tony Jordan announced his intention to seek re-election as the Washington County District Attorney.

“The last 7 years have been a tremendous honor serving Washington County as your District Attorney.” Jordan said. “I am excited to announce my candidacy for re-election as your Washington County District Attorney.”

He added: “The past 7 years have seen many challenges including changes to discovery and bail by Albany and the continuing challenges posed by the heroin/opioid epidemic. The New York State 2019-20 Budget transformed much of the Criminal Justice System. These transformative changes to discovery



and bail posed major Public Safety challenges for our office. These changes are impacting the delivery of public protection in Washington County significantly. In typical Albany fashion, this new legislation provided no funding for implementation, infrastructure, resources or additional staff for the agencies it affects, such as 911 call centers, alternative sentencing, local courts, crime labs, police departments, and District Attorney's offices, among many others.

“Working with Law Enforcement agencies across Washington County, our County Information Technology office and the Board of Supervisors, we were able to transform the operations of our office from how Law Enforcement submits new arrests to reviewing and delivering all discovery to defense within 15 days of arraignment. The extent of this undertaking is best exemplified by the amount of evidence reviewed and turned over in just the first year. Based on historical crime figures for Washington County, it was estimated that we would use 1 terabyte (tb) of data. For 2020 alone we used 4.5 tb's of data. The effective use of technology has allowed us to both comply with the new statutory requirements and do so with the least amount of impact on our county budget.

“The heroin/opioid surge continues to be a real challenge. Working with Sheriff Jeff Murphy, State Police, local law enforcement and many other colleagues at the County and other concerned members of the community, we have made significant strides in advancing prevention and treatment opportunities and strengthening our enforcement efforts. This issue will no doubt continue to be a major challenge in the years ahead, but I look forward to being able to continue to lead this effort,” Jordan added.

“Having the opportunity to continue the reforms we instituted over the past 7 years, working to address the many challenges we will face in the years to come, and continue to serve the great citizens of Washington County is why I am seeking re-election as your District Attorney.”

Morgan Stanley

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493 Chestnut St
Oneonta, NY 13820
607.432.5000

The Table Rock Group at Morgan Stanley



Here for You

We know these are stressful times and we know that coming together and helping one another is how we get through them. As a Morgan Stanley Financial Advisor, we will help you create a plan that makes sense for you and your goals. With over 26 years of experience and Morgan Stanley resources we will help you manage risk and keep your plan on track, so you can focus on all that's happening in life.

Advice matters. Call our Glens Falls Branch to schedule a meeting with local advisor Ed Costello.

Ed Costello, CFP®
Portfolio Mgmt Director
Financial Advisor
NMLS# 1326766

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Is irrational exuberance back?

Jill Schlesinger

Special to Journal & Press

Nearly 25 years ago, then Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan asked, "How do we know when irrational exuberance has unduly escalated asset values, which then become subject to unexpected and prolonged contractions?" Given the recent volatile action of GameStop stock, I wonder: Is irrational exuberance back?

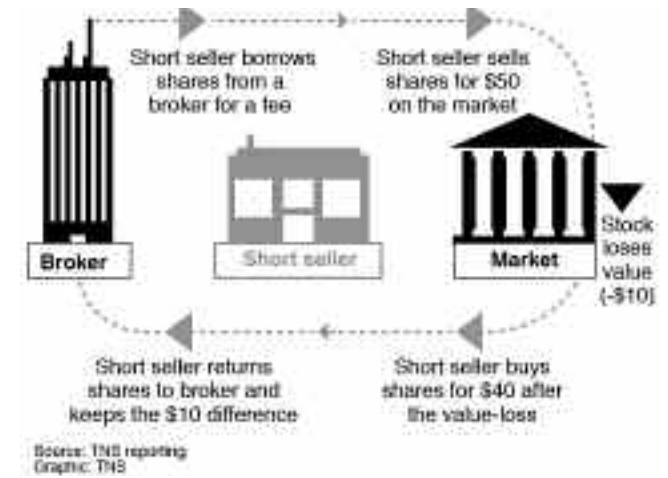
GameStop, the brick-and-mortar video game seller that many presumed was destined to the dustbin of retailers, started to attract enormous interest from individual investors on Reddit – a message board where community members create content, submit links, and comment on specific topics (subreddits).

The active traders on the subreddit Wall Street Bets recall the day traders of the dot-com boom and bust. There are some similarities, as the pandemic recession has allowed many of the lucky employed to have the time and money to dip their toes into various assets. But today, better technology, zero-cost trading, and the social media megaphone has made it even easier to jump on an investment bandwagon.

The GameStop believers touted the upside as early as mid-2019, after Michael Burry (the guy in "The Big Short," who bet against the housing market in the mid-2000s) had amassed a big position in the company, when it was trading in the single digits. Last fall, the bandwagon got even bigger after Chewy.com co-founder Ryan Cohen amassed a 12% stake and joined the board.

As the stock marched toward \$20, it was bad news for short sellers, who believed the stock was overvalued, amid a climate of shrinking retail footprints. For the uninitiated, short selling means that an investor borrows stock from an investment company and then sells it in the market. If price drops, the short seller can repurchase it and send the shares back to the lending company, pocketing the difference. If the price of the stock rises, the short seller faces losses.

Short sellers often get a bad rap and are seen as the villains of the financial markets. "There is a natural tendency to feel that short selling is somehow inherently malevolent or un-American. To the contrary, it is quite positive for our economy to correct overpricing and detect fraud," said Yale Professor Owen A. Lamont, when he testified as before



the Senate Judiciary Committee in 2006.

It was short sellers like James Chanos, who uncovered the massive accounting fraud at energy giant Enron. Chanos has pointed out that the bets "against" companies are not whimsical, rather "short sellers ask the tough questions and dig out the discrepancies in the financial statements and other regulatory filings made by publicly traded companies." Similarly, Michael Burry did the hard work when he made his unpopular big bet against the housing bubble.

In the past, short sellers' biggest threat was the targeted company itself. Corporate boards would issue disparaging statements about short sellers; attempt to strong arm them with legal or regulatory action; and even resorted to technical measures to prevent them from being able to borrow shares to sell.

The hedge funds that bet against GameStop ran into a very different threat: that of a loosely organized social investor movement, which urged small investors to band together and to "squeeze the shorts." A short squeeze occurs when there is enough buying in a stock that shorts start losing on their bets, throw in the towel and then start covering their own losses by purchasing shares themselves. GameStop may prove to be the mother of all short squeezes and a surefire case of irrational exuberance, as the stock price soared by 10 times in a week. Those who are investing in volatile stocks like GameStop should be prepared for a wild ride and only risk what they can afford to lose.



Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. She welcomes comments at askjill@jillonmoney.com.

Donate blood

The American Red Cross urge individuals – especially those who have recovered from COVID-19 – to give blood and to help tackle the national convalescent plasma shortage.

As a thank-you for helping ensure a stable blood supply, those who come to give this February will receive a \$5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email, courtesy of Amazon. (Restrictions apply. Additional information and details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Together.)

Make your appointment to give blood, platelets or plasma with the Red Cross by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-

RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities:

Schuylerville

2/27/2021: 8 a.m. - 12 p.m., American Legion Post 278, 6 Clancy St.

Cambridge

2/18/2021: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., American Legion Post 634, 2106 Rt. 22

Schaghticoke

2/23/2021: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Hoosic Valley Community Church, 2024 Route 40

Lenten fish fries

Christ the King Center in Greenwich, NY will be hosting Lenten Fish Fries every Friday during lent from 5-7 PM. There will be 6 in total, starting February 19th and ending March 26th. More information and a link for reservations can be found at ctkcenter.org or by calling the group at (518)-692-9550.

The Star motion picture theatre, Girl Scouts

Kaylee Johnson
Journal & Press

Here are some snippets from past editions of The Journal & Press from late Februaries many decades ago:

100 Years Ago

February 21, 1921

To the Editor of the Journal and Press,

Sir: We always experience a sort of optimistic glow after our weekly perusal of the Journal, which is quite the opposite of our mental reaction of the dailies, and recently attempted an analytical survey of the Journal in an attempt to find a reason for the different response to the two classes of newspapers.

We found a very reasonable reason and for fear of everlasting recurrence of a Wednesday in each week may have made this sort of "Polyanna" influence of the Journal obscure to you, we want to give you a few statistics our investigation, which was at first confined to the "Locals and Personals," and to

the "County News" of the issue at hand, February 9. In that paper, over 600 names were mentioned in those columns. A large number of them were actually acquaintances and friends, but a larger number were what we call Journal friends, as the names had grown to be familiar by frequent mention from year to year.

90 Years Ago

February 15, 1931

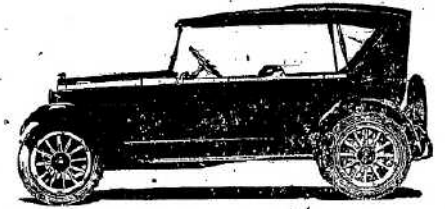
The Star motion picture theatre, which has been operated since last August by G. A. Woodward of Hadley, closed its doors last night, following the presentation of a benefit picture under the auspices of the Odd Fellows lodge of this village. It is currently reported that the theatre, which is owned by Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Reagan of this village, has been sold to H. L. Mausert, proprietor of the Swan Theatre here. While the sale could not positively be confirmed today, it appears to be generally understood that negotiations for the transfer have been practically completed.

80 Years Ago

February 19, 1941

Several of the newspaper's daily contemporaries have recently had interesting news that five Greenwich churches and two churches in Easton benefited financially from the will of Isaac A. Burton, late of Easton. The Easton Free Library and a Greenwich fire company were also mentioned as beneficiaries. This news we believe is accurate, but it is a bit old. While we are not much given to boasting of "scoops," we can truthfully say that The Greenwich Journal had this news had this news thirty-eight years and one month before its recent appearance in neighboring dailies. And we had it more fully, too. Isaac A. Burton, a prominent and wealthy citizen of Easton died December 8, 1902, leaving a considerable estate. His will was admitted to probate, not by Surrogate Van Kirk as the recent reports stated, but by Surrogate Greenville M. Inglis, and on January 14, 1903, The Journal published the full provisions of the will, which carried some \$64,000 in legacies, including those to the churches mentioned and to about forty individuals.

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An ad from February 1921

60 Years Ago

February 15, 1961

The Greenwich panther, which caused considerable consternation hereabouts some eight years ago, and ended up being laughed out of town, may have been a panther after all.

George Lindsay has sent in a clipping from the February 7 New York Herald Tribune, with a headline, "Rare Panther Coming Back in Northeast"

The story says that as many as many as 100 eastern panthers, once thought to be extinct, may be roaming the forests of Canada and northeastern United States and the authority is Bruce S. Wright, a Canadian expert on wildlife.

40 Years Ago

February 26, 1981

Girl Scout troop 297 has been busy this winter. The girls have gone on a hike at Carter's Pond, learned first aid, including two trips to the rescue squad building, and practicing artificial respiration. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Woods and Mrs. Barbara Bailey assisted the troop during their visits to the rescue squad.

The girls have also gone Christmas caroling, made straw Christmas wreaths, and visited residents of the skilled nursing facility. The troop also earned a lot of money for their spectacular camping trip this year and enjoyed many outdoor activities such as flag ceremonies, a fire drill, skating, sliding, tobogganing, and snowshoeing!

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Trying to put out a million fires

Daneen Skube

Special to Journal & Press

Q: *I've been trying to put out a million fires since the pandemic began and have no gas in my tank. I feel so guilty when people ask me to help and I don't pitch in. But, I'm not sleeping or eating well, and working ridiculous hours. How can I say no without feeling guilty?*

A: Many people live their work and personal lives in the victim neighborhood which we could shorten to, "victimhood." I strongly recommend my readers and clients leave that neighborhood at the earliest possible moment but you'll have to be willing to feel guilty.

When we're victims of our own habit of self-sacrifice in the short run we avoid guilt. In the long run, our health and functioning collapse when we have nothing left to give. I've had clients truly committed to self-sacrifice that wouldn't stop until they ended up in the hospital.

Adults with a self-sacrifice habit underestimate the capacity and ability of those around them. I've had clients explain to me how all their co-workers, customers, family members and their organization would collapse without their constant self-sacrifice.

If you think about this theory most people that self-sacrifice have a grandiose belief in their importance. Most teams, organizations, and families do not collapse because one person stops doing everything. If you

keep doing all the work, you're training everyone around you to do less. The less others do the more you do and thus you create a vicious circle.

When you first venture to leave victimhood you'll feel awful about letting everyone around you be responsible for themselves. You'll believe you'll get fired, or be abandoned. However, slowly you'll discover you're valued for your contribution not your self-sacrifice.

Another downside to staying in victimhood is you'll get so angry about your decision to self-sacrifice that you'll end up blowing up. Be aware it's not the fault of others if you keep signing up for things you don't want to do. Getting verbally aggressive at people you chose to help and blaming them for your lack of boundaries just means they will stop being generous with you.

Yes, some people that have been enjoying the free ride will be disappointed or angry at you. Then these people will get over it and take care of their own responsibilities. The more you say, "no" to self-sacrifice the calmer, and more effective you'll be.

Many people that have a habit of victimhood had chaotic homes where, as children, they had to take care of their parents. As adults these people don't have boundaries about where their responsibilities stop and other people's responsibilities begin. Children raised with competent parents don't self-sacrifice because they didn't

have to parent their parents as kids.

Your goal in 2021 is to practice listening to your gut on what you can and can't offer others. If someone asks for help and your gut twists just say, "no" Then breathe and remind yourself that you're dealing with other adults that are capable of taking care of themselves.

I promise you that you'll get over guilt but you will not get over self-sacrifice until you beat yourself into the dirt. Choose guilt and you'll find freedom and peace of mind.

Q: *I got my vaccine this week and cannot believe how much safer and happier I am. Is this yearlong war coming to an end?*

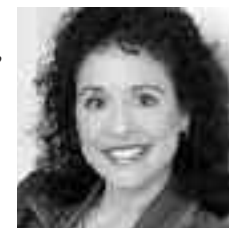
A: Yes, this is the way a virus war ends quietly without fanfare with an effective vaccine. We can look forward to a solid uplift in our mental health as the wave of vaccinations

expands.

Q: *I'm going crazy balancing work and my kids' remote learning. I'm not doing either job well. Is there a strategy for not losing my sanity while doing these two jobs?*

A: Yes, give up your perfectionism and realize you don't have to do it all right now. Both work and your kids' schooling will suffer and the future will give you time to catch up.

Daneen Skube, Ph.D., is an executive coach and appears on FOX's "Workplace Guru" each Monday morning. You can contact Dr. Skube at www.in-terpersonaledge.com or 1420 NW Gilman Blvd., #2845, Issaquah, WA 98027. Sorry, no personal replies.



Catholic Church updates

Salem's Holy Cross Catholic Church holds Mass on Sundays at 8:30 AM. Mass at St. Patrick's, Cambridge, is held on Sundays at 11:00 AM but parishioners should check to see if St. Patrick's is canceled. St. Patrick's Saturday Mass has been canceled for the foreseeable future. St. Joseph's in Greenwich will continue to post Sunday Mass on You Tube with Fr. Kacerguis as celebrant and Maureen Cossey as music minister. The link is www.tinyurl.com/SJG-liturgies.

Fr. Lucian Beltzner is recovering from a stroke. Cards may be sent to him at: St. Joseph's Priory, 416 Third St., Troy, NY 12180. Parishioners are encouraged to receive the newsletters on line and can go to Flocknote to sign up.

Ash Wednesday services will be Wednesday, February 17 at 9 AM at St. Patrick's Cambridge, and at 12 Noon at Holy Cross, Salem. Distributing the ashes will be different and won't be placed on the forehead. They will be sprinkled on the head of each person in silence after the Scripture is proclaimed.

Lifelong Faith Website: The Path to Peace is about Lent not just being a time to atone for sins, but a time to fill our hearts and broken places with his love. These resources can be found at <https://stpatrickslifelongfaith.weebly.com/season.html>.

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local residents!



Have something for sale? A job to offer? A service? Send 25 words or less to editor@30wire.com.

Brewery's first year



The pre-Covid 2020 opening -dj

Bound By Fate Brewing opened its doors for the first time in February 2020 after what had been years of conversations and planning, but unaware of what the year would have in store. Founded by Brett Demler, Evan Demler, Ryan Demler, and Pam Pradachith-Demler, Bound By Fate is a New York State Farm Brewery located in the historic village of Schuylerville.

Pradachith-Demler, co-founder of Bound By Fate, issued the following statement: "We are proud to be celebrating our one year anniversary. We would not have made it through this year without

the support of our Schuylerville community, which is a testament to why we decided to move back three years ago with our family to chase our dreams. Opening a brewery during a pandemic was not how we laid out the plans for our first year of business, but we persevered and adapted to all the changes, and we are better off for it."

As for plans for the future, Evan Demler added:

"We're taking it one day at a time, knowing that regulations could continue to change. But we are excited to continue to build upon the success of this year, brew-

ing great beer and connecting people from around the region. Hopefully you'll be seeing more Bound By Fate beer around town at farmers markets and events like the Food Truck Corral at the Washington County Fairgrounds. And we're looking forward to being able to pack the house for live music, host special events like weddings, and do more packaging of our beers, all while welcoming craft beer lovers into our family."

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Letters to the Editor

Standing Up for Voters

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in response to a column and an article in the January 16-31, 2021 issue of the Journal & Press regarding Congresswoman Elise Stefanik's support of Donald Trump and her concerns of election fraud and irregularities in the past election.

There are many people who agree with Rep. Stefanik that possibly and maybe even probably that fraud, and at least voting irregularities existed in that election; these include governors and judges usurping their constitutional authority, voting machine and software fallibility, ballots magically appearing in the middle of the night, vote monitors not being able to observe counting of votes, sworn affidavits under federal penalty of perjury of poll watchers and vote monitors noting incidents of wrong doing. Time Magazine just published an article that states that there was a coordinated effort between the media, big tech, and the Democratic Party to influence the election, in which they were successful. We also know China exerted influence (with those entities listed before). All of this, naturally, is ignored or dismissed out of hand by those who despise the former president and his supporters (including Rep. Stefanik). If everything was so on the up and up, why wouldn't states allow audits to insure there were no election issues of significance?

In the elections of 2000, 2004, and 2016 (won by Republicans), Democrats in the House of Representatives challenged the results of some states during the certification process. They had the right to do so under the U.S. Constitution – just as Republicans did (including Rep. Stefanik) in this election. Had Donald Trump been re-elected (many would say rightly), is there any doubt that Democrats would not have challenged the results? And on a side note, considering that many large cities boarded up

buildings to prepare for the inevitable violence that would have occurred had Donald Trump been re-elected, and as bad as the events of January 6th were, how much worse would it have been had Trump had been declared the winner?

Honest elections should be something all our citizens want. If the shoe was on the other foot, Democrats would be howling, and rightfully so. Rep. Stefanik is doing what she thinks is right, and what most of her constituents and what many in the rest of the country think is right, too. I support her and thank her for her courage.

Sincerely,

Roger H. De Korp

Greenwich

Elise Lacks Character

To the Editor:

I think Mr. Wang's analogy about the attack on our Capitol as compared to the movie "The Caine Mutiny" was very effective. I would like to delve a little deeper into his comparison of Rep. Stefanik to one of the lesser officers involved in the movie. Unlike the senior officers on board, this character was not motivated by concern for his ship or fellow seamen – his motivation was for himself and how he could make his life easier. Rep. Stefanik truly helped "author" this mutiny but, to what purpose? Certainly, her motives had nothing to do with her fellow citizens nor her oath to defend this "Ship of State" we are all on, called the Constitution. It was pure opportunism – what do I get out of it, for me.

When we think about all the icons of our national government, whether in the Judicial, Legislative or Executive branch, those that stand out are heroic men and women who took a stand to protect, defend and further our democracy. These are the McCains', Thurgood Marshalls', Lin-

colns', Sandra Day O'Connors', John Lewis', Kennedys' that helped advance and defend our Constitution. They did this through hard work, integrity and in many instances, non-partisanship. You would be hard-pressed to find such characteristics in the current political climate. That would just take too much time, effort and sweat for these coddled, participation ribbon wearing, what's-in-it-for-me, jump to the front of the line, hypocrites. The fast track to power is opportunism – the antithesis of the principles this nation was founded on. Sail on, Oh Ship of State, hopefully without all those rats who have abandoned you.

Ursula DeLong

Greenwich

Kudos, Elise

To the Editor:

We would like to commend congresswoman Elise Stefanik for her efforts to ensure a complete and accurate counting of electoral votes. Despite the chaos and violence taking place on January 6, which Ms Stefanik rightfully denounced, she insisted that a Constitutionally fair and accurate counting of electoral votes take place. It would've been easier for her to shirk her responsibilities as a member of Congress, but she insisted that the mandated democratic process be properly executed. We should all be thankful for Ms Stefanik's due diligence on this very important matter. Because of her, we can all be confident of the election results.

David Buchyn

Upstate Conservative Coalition

Wilton

Support LLS

Dear Greenwich Journal & Salem Press,

Over 70 years ago, The Leukemia

& Lymphoma Society (LLS) was founded by a family that lost its son to leukemia—a disease that was considered fatal at the time. Since its founding, LLS has evolved into the world's largest nonprofit dedicated to fighting blood cancers, pioneering many of today's most innovative cancer treatments and therapies. Despite our tremendous progress, one simple fact remains: nearly 50,000 individuals lose their battle against cancer every year in the U.S. alone, and, unfortunately, some of those individuals are children.

I am participating in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Students of the Year program. Students of the Year is a seven-week philanthropic competition for high school leaders seeking to make an impact in the fight against cancer.

My campaign team's goal is to raise \$25,000, by March 9. There are a few ways you can support my fundraising efforts:

- Make a tax-deductible donation to my online fundraising page: Noah's LLS Link: events.lls.org/uny/un-ysoy21/ndavis/
- Share my message & fundraising link with your contacts via email or social media
- Donate a silent auction item for the Grand Finale Celebration auction
- Help me secure a corporate sponsorship

Participating in this campaign has taught me so much already, including the power of perseverance. Yes, fundraising is hard, but it is not as hard as fighting cancer. You should be proud to know that your support of my campaign is helping LLS continue to make groundbreaking strides in cancer therapies and advocacy efforts aimed at improving the accessibility and affordability of care.

Thank you again for your support,

Noah Davis

Student of the Year Candidate

Movies/TV series now available on video

Jay Bobbin

Special to Journal & Press

You can order these new DVDs or simply download these via your home streaming service. Here are some new video releases:

"TESLA": The title name can apply to a number of things, but in the case of writer-director Michael Almereyda's biographical drama, the subject is the electrical genius (played by Ethan Hawke) who started out as an employee of Thomas Edison (Kyle MacLachlan) and eventually became his professional rival. Nikola Tesla then went to work for George Westinghouse (Jim Gaffigan), and though he made great strides with his work, funding concerns threatened to derail it at any number of points. Eve Hewson plays the narrator of the film, which had its debut at the Sundance Festival last winter, with its major exhibition coming last summer via On Demand, once the coronavirus pandemic had promoted the closings of numerous theaters. Ebon-Moss Bachrach, Hannah Gross, Josh Hamilton and Peter Greene also appear.

"LET HIM GO": One of the rare movies to have relative success in theaters during the coronavirus pandemic, this 1960s-set Western reteams Kevin Costner and Diane Lane -- who were Pa and Ma Kent in "Man of Steel" -- as an ex-lawman and his wife, who grieve for their late son while attempting to retrieve their young grandson from a family that has taken custody of him, under the leadership of a tough matriarch (Lesley Manville, "Phantom Thread"). Jeffrey Donovan ("Burn Notice"), Will Brittain, Kayli Carter and Booboo Stewart also are in the cast guided by writer-director Thomas Bezucha ("The Family Stone"), who based his script on a novel by Larry Watson. DVD extras: three "making-of"



documentaries.

"WILD MOUNTAIN THYME": Coming to home video shortly after the theatrical run it was able to have, this drama from the acclaimed Pulitzer Prize, Oscar and Tony winner John Patrick Shanley -- the writer of "Moonstruck" -- involves an Irish family at odds over the patriarch's (Christopher Walken) plans for their business, which he plans to give to an American nephew (Jon Hamm) rather than letting his own son (Jamie Dornan, "Fifty Shades of Grey") succeed him. Adapted and directed by Shanley from his play "Outside Mullingar," the film was made on location and also features Emily Blunt and (reprising her role from the stage version) Dearbhla Molloy.

"DO THE RIGHT THING": Though Spike Lee's 1989 comedy-drama has been relevant ever since its release, it has enhanced meaning now as it makes its debut in the 4K Ultra HD format. A Bedford-Stuyvesant pizzeria becomes the setting for racial unrest prompted largely by the "Wall of Fame" maintained at the site by the owner (a superb Danny Aiello). Writer-producer-director Lee also has one

of the central acting roles in the film, whose stunning cast also includes spouses Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, Giancarlo Esposito, Bill Nunn, Rosie Perez, Martin Lawrence, Samuel L. Jackson, John Turturro and John Savage. The movie was named the best of its year by a number of critics' organizations. Extra features include a retrospective documentary, plus deleted and extended scenes.

"LOVE, WEDDINGS & OTHER DISASTERS": Already familiar with making comedies centered around weddings, Oscar winner Diane Keaton is back on that territory with this entry, though she plays someone who's just long for the ride this time. The woman is linked to a caterer (fellow Academy Award owner Jeremy Irons) who's involved in a couple's forthcoming nuptials, as is a wedding planner (Maggie Grace, "Taken") who hasn't had much practice at her job. Andrew Bachelor, Jesse McCartney and Chandra West also appear in the story -- and so does its screenwriter and director, frequent Adam Sandler collaborator Dennis Dugan ("Happy Gilmore"). DVD extras: "making-

of" documentary; audio commentary by Dugan; descriptive audio commentary. *** (PG-13: AS, P) (Also on Blu-ray and On Demand)

"BREACH": Through his largely action-driven movie career, Bruce Willis has ventured into sci-fi on occasion ("The Fifth Element," "Armageddon"), and he does so again in this tale with a theme that may hit a bit too close to home for some now ... a plague that devastates Earth. That sends survivors into the cosmos aboard an enormous spacecraft, but the passengers may be able to stay safe for only so long, since an alien being that can change shape invades the vessel. Thomas Jane, Rachel Nichols ("P2"), Cody Kearsley and Johnny Messner (who has worked with Willis several times) also appear.

COMING SOON:

"LOVECRAFT COUNTRY: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON" (Feb. 16)

"BETTY WHITE'S PET SET" (Feb. 23)

"THE UNDOING: AN HBO LIMITED SERIES" (March 23)

History Happened Here

The history of the Greenwich Free Library

Jim Nolan
Journal & Press

The earliest records of a public library in Greenwich indicate there was a small library in 1833. It was not free. There was a fee to borrow a book. The Greenwich Academy, a private school founded in the late 1830's, also accumulated a library which was available to the public for a fee.

Early in 1902, a small group of local women saw the need for a public library that would allow users to borrow books for free. Subsequently, a plan was developed and the Turner House on Main Street was purchased for \$3,800. Nearly \$2,000 of the purchase price was raised from citizen donations.

Trustees were elected, a charter was applied for, and an auxiliary was organized. An endowment fund had been established in 1916 starting with a donation by I. C. Blandy. By 1939, the library had outgrown the Turner House location. After spending a few years looking for a suitable location, the Thompson House on Main Street was purchased for \$5,000. Monies from the endowment assisted in the purchase. The library moved on September 1 of that year.

In 1965, the library became part of the Southern Adirondack Library System. Also in 1965, the I. V. H. Gill Room was established. It houses archives including 150 years of the Greenwich Journal as well as many family histories and



photographs. In 1969, the Friends of the Greenwich Free Library was organized. Throughout its history, the library has also relied on the work of many dedicated volunteers.

It became increasingly apparent that the library was outgrowing its space and in March of 1972 a lot at the corner of Main and Academy streets was purchased. Construction on the present facility began in late September 1973 and the building was completed and opened to the public on March 18, 1974. It comprised 3,340 square feet of space.

Less than 30 years later, it became apparent the library needed to expand again. An addition was started in February of 2002. When finished, the library had expanded to 5,540 square feet.

Saratoga counties. In 2020, the local VITA volunteers filed 1,800 tax returns and generated \$3.5 million in tax refunds /credits providing a significant economic impact to the region and establishing financial stability for thousands of individuals.

To learn more about the VITA Free Tax Preparation, call 1-800-211-5128 to make your tax appointment. Tax appointment operators will be available Monday – Fridays, 9am – 4pm until early April, 2021.

Both the adult and the children's sections grew in size. In addition, a Community room was added, providing space for meetings and programs.

Since 2016, the Greenwich Free Library has completed a series of state and donor funded renovations and improvements. These improvements include new higher efficiency heating and air conditioning systems, insulating and waterproofing the basement, the creation of a reading and gathering space on the back of the library building, creation of new public meeting spaces, and a new Friends of the Library book sale room.

Currently, the main floor of the library is being completely renovated. This will result in, among other things, a separate entrance to the children's section of the library, a new front desk, and additional space for computer usage.

The Town of Greenwich is fortunate to have a high quality library for all the community to use. For more information on the Greenwich Free Library, go to greenwichfreelibrary.org.

A resident of Greenwich, Jim Nolan is a Professor of Business Analytics at Siena College and serves on several Greenwich area nonprofit boards.



Free tax help

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a national program sponsored by the IRS to provide free tax preparation for qualified residents. Locally, Tri-County United Way, in partnership with Cornell Cooperation Extension — Washington County and the Moreau Community Center have created a network of VITA volunteers who serve residents of Warren, Washington, and Northern

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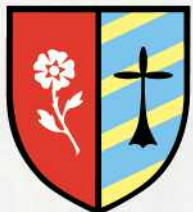
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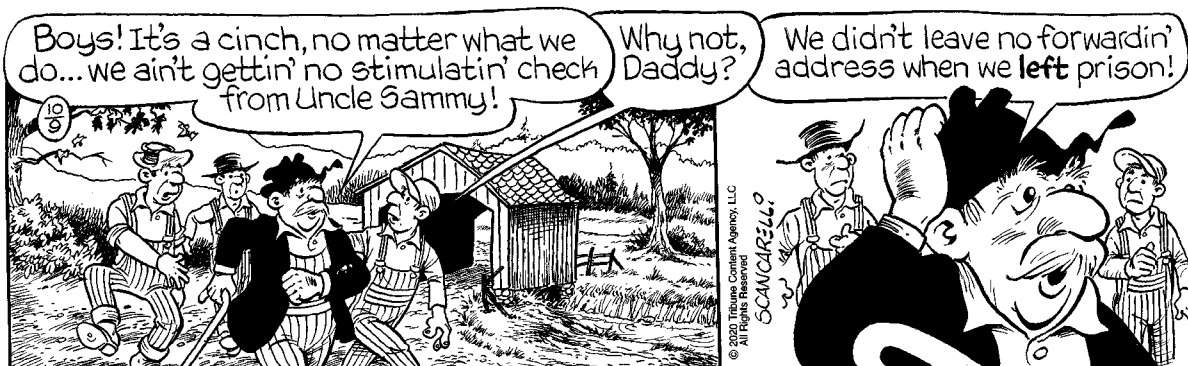
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The Funny Page

Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



Bound & Gagged by Dana Summers

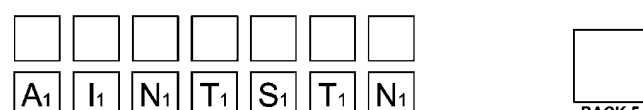
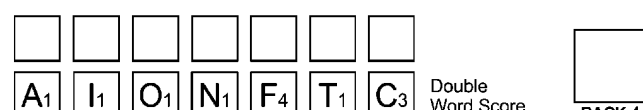
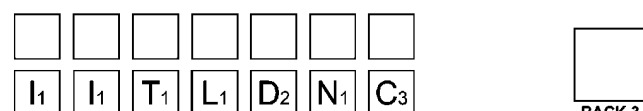
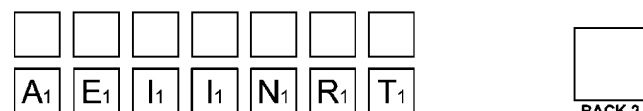
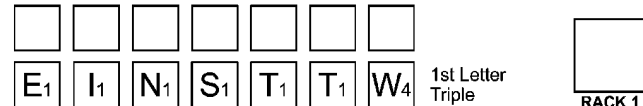


Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



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PAR SCORE 195-205
BEST SCORE 259

FIVE RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TOUSC

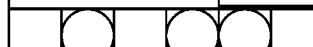


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DOPAT



GNERED



LUYELP



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

“O O O O O O O” SHE O O O O O O O O O



Puzzle
Answers
Page 30

ACC cuts more programs

SUNY Adirondack will begin the process of eliminating seven academic programs with persistently low enrollment by no longer admitting new students in these programs beginning with Fall semester of 2021.

The changes were approved Thursday, Jan. 28, 2021, by the college's Board of Trustees, and will be recommended to SUNY and the New York State Education department for final approval. The college communicated these actions to its students, faculty and staff.

Forty students are enrolled in these seven programs. They will be given the opportunity to complete the program in which they started or move to a different program if they choose.

The Board of Trustees approved the following changes:

The associate degree programs in Music and in Information Technology, the certificate program in Information Technology, and the concentrations in the Liberal Arts: Individual Studies degree in Art Studio, Music Industry and Sport Management will be discontinued because of low student interest and enrollment.

SUNY Adirondack will continue to offer music courses for electives, and degrees in Fine Arts, Physical Education Studies, Computer Science, Information Technology: Information Security, Information Technology: Networking, and Information Technology: Cybersecurity to accommodate many transfer and career pathways.

The Electrical Technology AAS Program will be merged into the Mechanics AAS degree program designed in consultation with local manufacturers to support industry needs.

"Our faculty and staff work hard to offer our students as broad a range of academic opportunities as possible to prepare them for careers, further education and success in their lives. We also have an ongoing obligation to assess our offerings, modify them in response to students' needs and interests, and carefully use our financial resources to support those programs that are

of the greatest interest and relevance to our students," said Kristine D. Duffy, Ed.D., president of SUNY Adirondack.

One full-time faculty position in Information Technology will be eliminated, effective Fall 2021. A reduction in classes in the other programs will result in reduced need for instructors, equipment and other related expenses. The projected savings is approximately \$350,000.

SUNY Adirondack continues to offer more than 40 degree and certificate programs and more than 700 courses to its more than 3,000 students.



An Artist's Take

Political Cartoon of the Week by Dana Summers



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Cambridge Crossword

(solution page 24)

Across

- 1 Unresponsive state
 5 Loosen up, to a pitcher
 10 Light bulb unit
 14 Welcoming
 15 African howler
 16 "Sin City" actress Jessica
 17 *New Jersey city on Raritan Bay
 19 Thick slice
 20 Semicircle, say
 21 Green Gables girl
 22 Kick back
 23 Comic Smirnoff
 25 *Leader of the pack
 28 Wiener schnitzel meat
 30 Red Sea country
 31 Trembling trees
 34 Terrier's sound
 35 Disney frame
 38 *It prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures
 42 Boy king
 43 Mr. Rogers
 44 Cleared from the

board

- 45 Family car
 48 Elvis' middle name
 49 *Light-bulb-over-the-head instance
 52 Sherpa's land
 56 Large pears
 57 Actress Skye
 59 The "E" in BCE
 60 Boo-boo
 61 Spam relatives ... and a hint to the answers to starred clues
 64 Tease mercilessly
 65 Curved moldings
 66 Frozen drink brand
 67 Souvenir shop apparel
 68 Lyrics
 69 Rx items

Down

- 1 Insured's contribution
 2 Wagner work
 3 Pharmaceutical giant
 4 Industrious

crawler

- 5 Word in a comparison
 6 Pew book
 7 Buck the system
 8 Beatle bride
 9 "No ___!": "Uh-uh!"
 10 Message on a dusty car
 11 NATO and others
 12 Pre-Little League game
 13 Card-playing surface
 18 Lack, briefly
 22 Cell pic taker
 24 Walkie-talkie word
 26 Combustible pile
 27 Playboy founder Hugh
 29 Hindu retreat
 31 Away from the bow

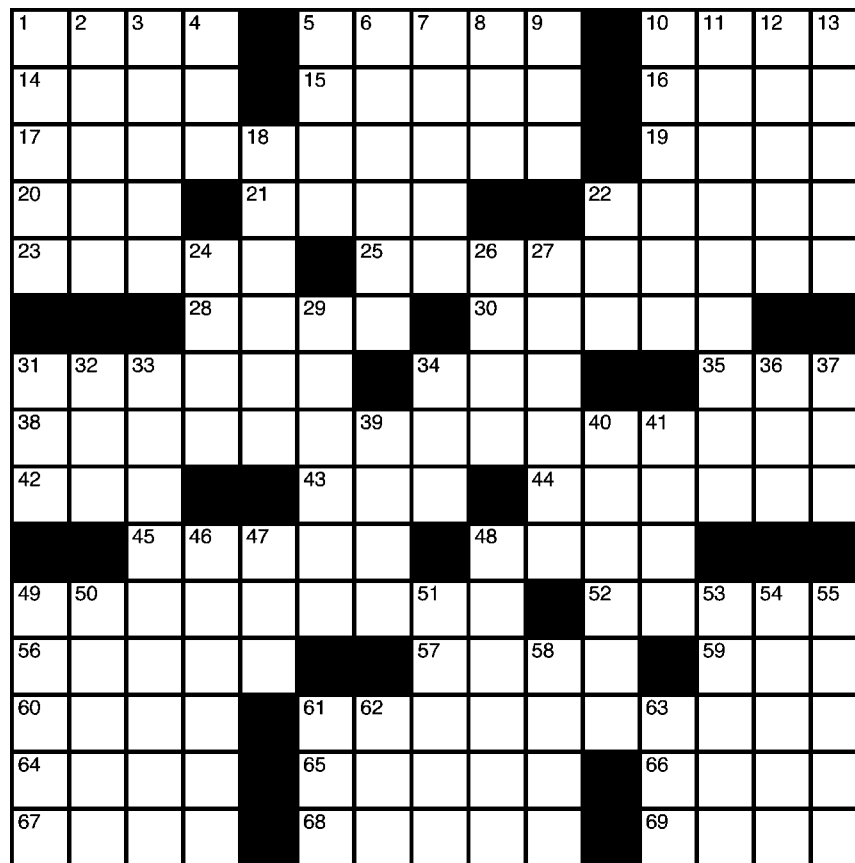
32 Trifling amount

- 33 Saves for later
 34 ___ Ray, one of folk rock's Indigo Girls
 36 Chicago-to-Lansing dir.

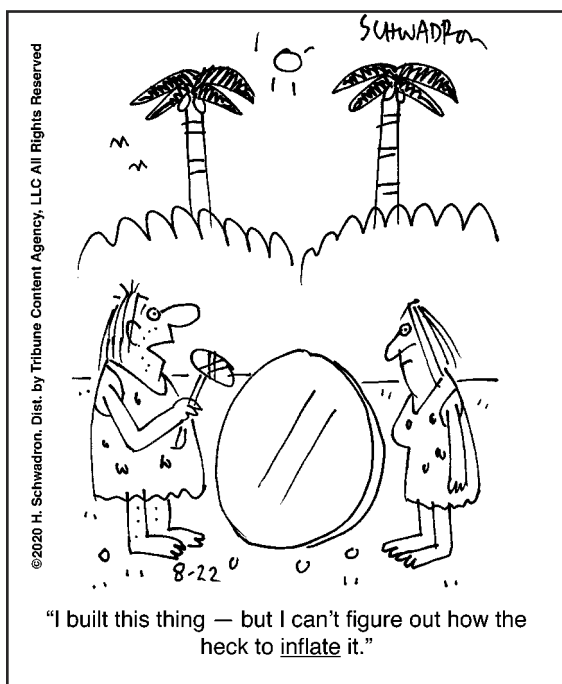
37 Inc., in England

- 39 Top of the line
 40 Went on and on
 41 Pride of lions?
 46 Show hosts
 47 One side of a two-column list of rules
 48 Made up (for)
 49 Scrub the launch
 50 Mandel of "America's Got Talent"
 51 San Fran gridded
 53 Tranquility
 54 Packing heat
 55 Does high-tech eye surgery on
 58 Legendary loch
 61 Milk source
 62 Previously
 63 Pronoun that's a homonym of a religious song

ANSWERS ON PAGE 26.



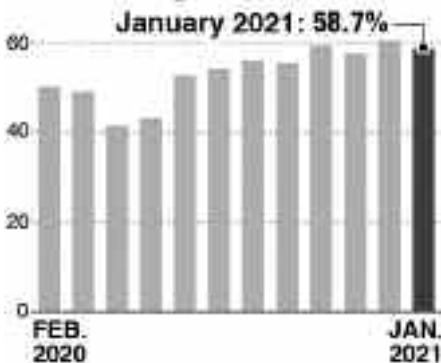
9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



Fast Facts

Manufacturing index

Manufacturing grew in January, according to the Institute for Supply Management's Purchasing Managers' Index, based on a survey of purchasing managers about the manufacturing sector.



Graphic: TNS
 Source: Institute for Supply Management

Word Find

By Frank J. D'Agostino (solution page 30)

Find these words that are associated with volunteerism.

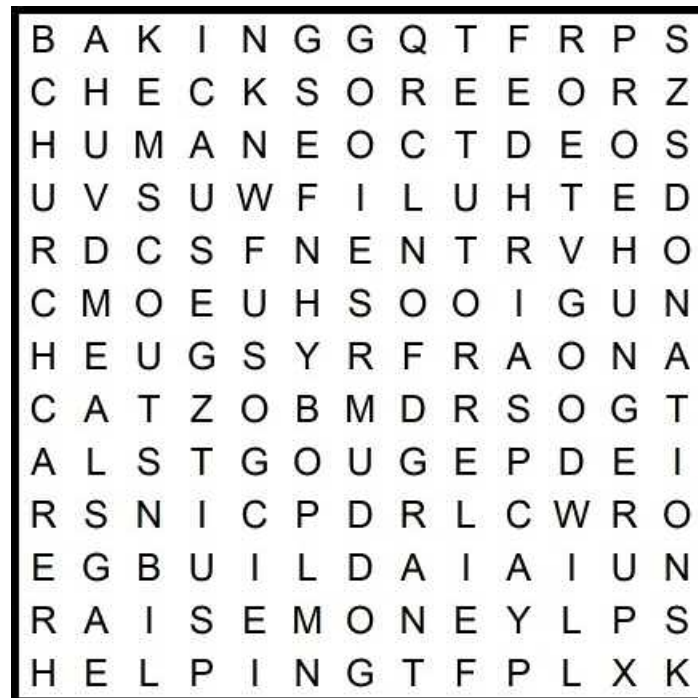
ASPCA
 Baking
 Big Brothers

Build
 Care
 Cause
 Checks
 Church
 Comfort
 Do Good
 Donations

Drives
 Effort
 Food
 Goodwill
 Grant
 Helping
 Humane
 Hunger

Meals
 Raise Money
 Relief
 Scouts
 Shelter
 Toys
 Tutor
 UNICEF

Find Mr. D'Agostino's puzzle books on Amazon.com.



Talent vs. success

Cody Fitzgerald
Journal & Press

Living in a time where the United States education system's biggest takeaways are useless math formulas, a lack of understanding in the importance of the arts and "yeah, America had slaves but that was like a couple generations ago so we're fine now," it may come as a shock that the whole "hard work gets you places" mantra is the biggest lie of them all. Obviously, it's with good intention, but TikTok, Amy Schumer and Pringles have proven that you don't need any ounce of skill to be successful. For all of you reading this with aspirations and dreams of changing the world with your hidden talent, don't. I've prepared a list of all the ways that your talent can easily be translated into success. Use the list below (alphabetized for your convenience) and see what my advice for your next career move is-

Are you an **artist**? The key here is to remember that unoriginality is key. Nobody likes it when you ex-

press yourself, it's better to rip off and critique someone else's work because we love negativity! There's no point in "taking your time," or "sending a message," or "conveying your feelings" because we all know no one has the attention span or critical thinking skills to understand that anymore.

Do you have a knack for **comedy**? You may aspire to be like some of the greats, George Carlin, Joan Rivers, Richard Pryor, but you're looking in the wrong place. No one wants to sit through an hour long Netflix special, they want TikToks! Your counter culture, your social commentary and your original thoughts can all wait. It's in your best interest to swap these out for short, 10 second clips that rely on immature humor, stereotypes and being a nuisance in public.

Maybe you find that you're great at **cooking**? While you may feel inclined to cook something unique, actual *food* is never the route to go. Make a YouTube channel and contemplate whether or not you're going to insert bleach into your body

as you fill your bathtub with slime, orbeez or anything of the sort. People eat this stuff up (see what I did there)?

Have you dabbled in the lost art of **dancing**? You might want to let loose and dance freely, or maybe even create your own routine, but this isn't what you want to do. Swallow your pride and throw on the catchiest part of a Cardi B song and dance the exact same way everyone else is, blend right in!

Do you have the urge to inform the public, maybe a career in **journalism**? Remember, the truth is only what you believe. If you get really desperate, drop a few QAnon references and you've already got half the population wrapped right around your finger!

Maybe you don't have something specific, but you want to relate to people and focus on **personality**? TLC has the market for you! Have a kid at sixteen, have more than five kids, have misbehaved kids, adopt kids or just pluck an eyebrow and they'll give you 10 seasons.

Oh God, do you wanna be a **politician**? {See journalist.}

Have you found your talent in **singing**? In a market so oversaturated, why not take your shot at blowing up off TikTok? Remember, it's not about singing talent. You just need to be the loudest person in the room and repeat something



generic over and over so everyone gets your Kindergarten lyricism stuck in their head.

Have you discovered that you're good at **songwriting**? Much like being an artist, originality is always a bad idea. It's always best to pan-

'TikTok, Amy Schumer and Pringles prove you don't need any ounce of skill.'

der to whatever your demographic is, never be pure or honest in your songwriting. Try "my partner is moving away so we have to stay close through the phone," or "you left (clothing item) at my house before we broke up and that's all I have to remember you by," or "normalize being a manipulative and terrible partner and excuse it," I guarantee you there's plenty of room left for you to be original.

Don't quit your day job.

Cody Fitzgerald is a Schuylerville (NY) High School senior aspiring to become a screenwriter and comedian.



ASA's project manager

The Agricultural Stewardship Association (ASA) announced the hiring of Ethan Rubenstein as Project Manager. He will be responsible for helping manage both the land protection and stewardship programs; including identifying and advancing conservation projects, conducting annual visits to conserved lands and assisting with the overall mission at ASA.

He is a native of Cambridge, NY, and received his bachelor's degree in Environmental Science

from Ithaca College. Since college he has worked as a biological technician both in the US and Canada; done conservation stewardship work with the New England Forestry Foundation and the Buzzards Bay Coalition and as the conservation project manager with Otsego Land Trust in Cooperstown, NY. Most recently he worked with the Watershed Agricultural Council on farmland conservation efforts in the New York City watershed.



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Answers

Boggle: PERU CHILE BOLIVIA RWANDA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

Jumble: SCOUT ADOPT GENDER PULLEY
Final Jumble:
"LEASE" SHE COULD DO

Salem Sudoku

(solution below)

	8				4			
	7						9	1
5		6			9	2		
			6	5				9
		9		3		1		
4			2		7			
		2	5			6		7
6	4						3	
		8					2	

Filbert by LA Bonté



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Classifieds

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T ₁	W ₄	I ₁	N ₁	S ₁	E ₁	T ₁	RACK 1 =	62
I ₁	N ₁	E ₁	R ₁	T ₁	I ₁	A ₁	RACK 2 =	57
I ₁	N ₁	D ₂	I ₁	C ₃	T ₁		RACK 3 =	9
F ₄	A ₁	C ₃	T ₁	I ₁	O ₁	N ₁	RACK 4 =	74
I ₁	N ₁	S ₁	T ₁	A ₁	N ₁	T ₁	RACK 5 =	57

PAR SCORE 195-205

TOTAL 259

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Boggle BrainBusters!

BUPH
WOIS
GOKE
AGLM

INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

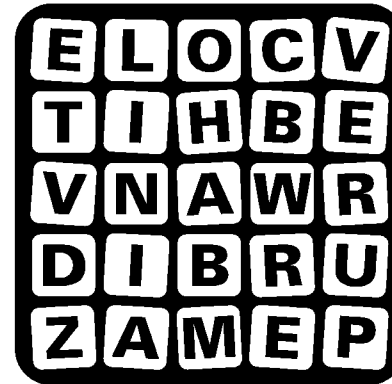
BOGGLE POINT SCALE

- 3 letters = 1 point
- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
- 61-100 = Pro
- 31-60 = Gamer
- 21-30 = Rookie
- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST SIX COUNTRIES LOCATED IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE in the grid of letters.

4	2	6	9	7	3	8	5	1
5	3	8	1	2	6	7	4	9
7	1	9	4	8	5	2	6	3
9	8	3	7	6	2	5	1	4
2	5	1	8	3	4	6	9	7
6	4	7	5	1	9	3	2	8
8	7	2	6	4	1	9	3	5
1	6	5	3	9	8	4	7	2
3	9	4	2	5	7	1	8	6

B	A	K	I	N	G	G	O	T	F	R	P	S
C	H	E	C	K	S	O	R	E	E	O	R	Z
H	U	M	A	N	E	O	C	T	D	E	O	S
U	V	S	U	W	F	L	U	H	T	E	O	
R	D	C	S	F	N	E	N	T	R	V	H	O
C	M	O	E	U	H	S	O	O	I	G	U	N
H	E	U	G	S	Y	R	F	R	A	O	N	A
C	A	T	Z	O	B	M	D	R	S	O	G	T
A	L	S	T	G	O	U	G	E	P	D	E	I
R	S	N	I	C	P	D	R	L	C	W	R	O
E	G	B	U	I	L	D	A	I	A	I	U	S
R	A	I	S	E	M	O	N	E	Y	L	P	S
H	E	L	P	I	N	G	T	F	P	L	X	K

Leviticus, lox, lies and lasers

Lance Allen Wang
Journal & Press

It would be so easy to use this column just to pummel Marjorie Taylor Greene. Just another one of the bizarre cast of characters that the Trump Administration brought out of the woodwork, she would have faded into the background were it not for that fact that her patron lost the 2020 election. Without the former President's conspiracy laden Twitter rants, her wackiness sticks out like a sore thumb. She almost makes the "My Pillow Guy," who took his "F" rating from the Better Business Bureau and quack cures for COVID-19 and somehow gained enough influence to talk to a beleaguered President about martial law, look normal. Greene has promulgated hokum such as the 9/11 attacks were an inside job, the Sandy Hook school massacre was staged, and California forest fires were started by a Jewish space laser, and is also one of the two "Q-Anon" Representatives in the House. She marks both the war within my Republican party and how far out we have gotten. But, I want to talk about something else today, which Marjorie Taylor Greene represents in her ignorant comments, and that is anti-Semitism.

Yes, I'm Jewish – proudly – by ethnicity, culture, and faith. I am sensitive to anti-Semitism, but I'm not hypersensitive to it – I don't go out looking for slights. I also know the difference between mere ignorance and aggression. That said, I've seen far more of it in the civilian world than I did in 21 years in uniform. Actually, a Protestant pastor I met in the Army contributed more to my individual growth as a Jew than any Rabbi I've ever met, and I still consider him a dear friend. That isn't a slight on any Rabbis – it's more a statement of how accepted I felt in the Army.

Let's make abundantly clear that there is anti-Semitism on the left and the right. Marjorie Taylor Greene is representative of the predominantly conspiracy-based right-wing fringe mentality. They operate in the realm of the anti-Semitic tract "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion," a Russian work of fiction written at the turn of the 20th century which posited

that Jews and Freemasons were engaged in a plot to control the world. Although debunked as hokum, this book inspired Henry Ford, one of the more virulent anti-Semites in American history, to distribute the four-volume tract "The International Jew" in a newspaper he owned, The Dearborn Independent in the early-mid-1920s. A libel lawsuit resulted in Ford closing the paper in 1927. However, his anti-Semitism and success in the United States inspired Adolph Hitler to write in his first edition of "Mein Kampf" how Jews control America, and noted that "only a single great man, Ford, to their fury still maintains full independence." This would be edited out of later editions.

Many right-wing populist movements depend on the idea of a loss of control, of secret movements led by shadowy figures and "others." In the case of the Know-Nothing Party (one of our first third parties, which existed from 1844-1860) it was an anti-Catholic bias, one that felt that a "Romanist" (Catholic) conspiracy existed to sub-

'There is no place for anti-Semitism in America.'

vert civil and religious liberty in the country. Was there? Of course not. But that does not stop the idea of conspiracy from selected "others" even today. Holocaust survivor George Soros is a popular boogeyman, a successor to the conspiracies blamed on the Rothchild banking family of Europe.

When President Trump declared that Jews who vote Democrat were "disloyal and uneducated," this reinforced the whole idea of Jews as the "other." To hear this from the President of the United States – in reference to approximately 70 percent of American Jews, was positively shocking. Anti-Semitism through the years has depended on the idea of Jews as disloyal – Jews as trans-nationals who didn't have roots in their current nation. When he decided to correct his statement and said that he meant disloyal to Israel, this also reinforced the idea of disloyalty – we can never fully trust them, they are loyal to two nations. Of course, this is not true either. I have a



Drew Sheneman illustration, TCA

great interest in Israel's future. I know I have kin over there. I want success and safety for Israel. And I would like it to live up to its own rhetoric as a democracy – much as I would like us to. Like us, they have ways to go in order to form their own "more perfect union."

Left-wing anti-Semitism is primarily politically-based, and it can be troubling because we often can't see through the rhetoric in order to get to the grains of truth. If we are to take the approach "any criticism of Israel is anti-Semitic," then we have diluted the term anti-Semitism to a level whereby it is virtually meaningless. I am unable to take that approach, because I too, have criticisms of Israeli policies at times, much as I have criticisms of American policies. But there is anti-Semitism on the left when it conflates Judaism and Israel, when it conflates people and government policy, and when it finds abhorrent in Israel what it gladly tolerates in others. The left needs to keep its house in order, and it is not there yet.

Is there a place for Anti-Semitism in America? No there's not. Nonetheless, it is here, it has been here, and it will continue to be here, sadly. There is a reason it is called "the world's oldest form of hate."

Lance Allen Wang is a Councilman in the Town of White Creek who is also an Iraq Veteran and retired Army Infantry officer. He lives in Eagle Bridge, N.Y., with his wife Hatti.



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