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CAMBRIDGE | HARTFORD | FORT EDWARD | SARATOGA TOWN | SCHUYLerville

JOURNAL & PRESS

Of Southern Washington County, Est. 1842

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DOUBLE ISSUE!
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WHAT'S NEXT? 17



DAIRY PRINCESS 27



MONUMENTAL 11



QUILT 9



SOLVE 21

OUR BRANDS

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**CAMPUS
NEWS**

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JournalandPress.com

Wider, without walkway

The DOT is soon replacing the Route 29 Bridge over the Battenkill River.

A large electronic sign warns drivers on Route 29 that the bridge between Middle Falls and Greenwich will be under construction starting March 16, but was public comment solicited beforehand? Can the plans now be changed? Is there still time to convince the DOT to replace a sidewalk there? It's not in the plans. And, if built, who will maintain the sidewalk?

Please read more on page 6



'Glamping' by Lock 5

Two representatives from Camp Rockaway, a popular attraction on the shores of Queens, visited Schuylerville recently and told small business owners about their plans to manage a similar, 10-site Camp Rockaway bordering Hudson Crossing Park. They intend for it to be environmentally sustainable and help the economy.

Please read more on page 3



FIND US IN THESE STORES:

The Schuylerville
Turning Point



OUR
REGION'S
HISTORY
- TODAY

Village finishes audit, approves events

Darren Johnson
Campus News

The Village of Greenwich Board of Trustees met on March 9 and a wide array of topics were discussed.

In the Mayor's Report, Pam Fuller said that the state comptroller's audit of the village is over, and the report will soon be online. Overall, she said the village came out clean but the comptroller has some suggestions as to how the village could better handle discretionary funds and water/sewer billing. The village filed a response to the auditor's questions in late February.

"We will be putting new processes in place as a result of our audit," she said.

She also noted how the village was working with Assem-

blywoman Carrie Woerner's office to help Greenwich move forward with converting streetlights to LED and installing natural gas via National Grid, which has been unresponsive. The Main Street Anchor Grant, which is helping to fund the opening of Wallie's, is moving forward, she said, and perhaps there may be an opening this spring. "Progress is happening," she said.

The board also moved forward a revised personnel policy, which better identifies which employees are eligible for benefits and when they qualify for overtime.

A Sea Doo watercraft used by the Fire Department was declared surplus, as the Battenkill is now too shallow for it to be used for rescues. The department is looking to buy an inflat-

able boat with motor instead.

Fuller discussed with DPW perhaps opening Thunder Mountain on weekends for village residents to bring yard waste, but said in the past that idea hadn't worked out. "The problem was people were dumping construction and other waste," she said. "They ruined it for everyone." Reopening the site on weekends doesn't seem likely to happen, all agreed.

Four resolutions were passed regarding studying and improving wastewater treatment through Barton & Loguidice. The village is eligible for \$30,000 in grants to improve the Main Street line, if the village can match 20 percent.

The village also approved funds for an ailing furnace in the village hall.

The board approved permits

for the Tour of the Battenkill bike race to use part of the village May 9. As well, Comfort Food can do a coin drop on Main Street in the village on June 6. They can also hang a sign referencing "Give Hunger the Boot" May 16-22 in Veterans Park.

The Town of Greenwich filed a permit, which was approved, to host an event on August 18 in Mowry Park with various historical reenactors.

The Whipple City Parade was approved for June 19. There will also be festivities in Mowry Park June 19-20.

The village election is March 18, but seats aren't being contested. Jill Tefft will replace Maureen Edsforth as trustee, as she is retiring from the board. Polls are open 12-9 p.m. in the village hall.

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Coming to Schuylerville: ‘Glamping’

Darren Johnson
Journal & Press

At the Schuylerville Small Business Association (SSBA) monthly meeting on March 4, this time held at Bound by Fate Brewery on Ferry Street, two representatives from Camp Rockaway, a company that hosts popular camping and “glamping” (glamorous camping) experiences along the well-known beach in Queens, New York, announced they will now also be setting up shop in Schuylerville, on the other side of Lock 5 on the Hudson River, bordering Hudson Crossing Park.

Founder Kent Johnson said that Camp Rockaway is in its fourth year. People can bring their own tents or use decked-out tents on plots. Each site shares a platform and includes two tents with queen beds, front porches and a shared back deck with hammocks. In Queens, they go for \$189-\$289 per night with a two-night minimum on weekends.

Johnson said that Camp Rockaway was chosen by the New York State Canal Corpora-

tion through an RFP process. The Canal Corporation owns the property west of the lock to the highway. Currently, it is filled with some old picnic tables and buoys. The nearest place to glamp otherwise is in Lake George.

The SSBA is mostly made up of local business owners and non-profit directors, and the two dozen attendees of the meeting were receptive to the proposal.

Johnson said Schuylerville’s version of Camp Rockaway will run from Memorial Day to Labor Day, and they will be looking for some local residents to help staff it. They envision having 10 sites here; half for rustic camping and

the other half for glamping.

The region has a shortage of hotel space, so Camp Rockaway could help fill that void.

“We’d love for it to be the hub for people visiting the area,” Johnson said. “It can be a launching point for people to explore Schuylerville.”

Johnson said he will work with local businesses to create a map, so that Camp Rockaway guests will know where to shop.

“We are excited to see such a

‘It’s unique and environmentally minded.’



A scene from the Queens Camp Rockaway

unique and environmentally minded recreational opportunity join Hudson Crossing Park along the Hudson River and Champlain Canal,” Hudson Crossing Park’s director Kate

Morse said after the meeting. “Camp Rockaway will help to highlight what many have known all along: that as a wa-

continued on next page



Kent Johnson, center, at the SSBA meeting

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Camp Rockaway (cont.)

terfront community along the Empire State and Champlain Canalway Trails, Schuylerville is a destination not to be missed.”

Johnson said that Camp Rockaway has a mission of sustainability and will use a large solar canopy to help power the site and for residents to charge computers and phones, showers that use water collection and green-friendly porta-johns.

Why Schuylerville? “I thought this town was super cool and the site beautiful,”

Johnson said. “And it’s next to a world-class park. What else could we ask for?”

The pricing for the spots should be lower than what is charged in Queens. Johnson expects a combination of customers — some local people who want a “staycation” and some people from downstate.

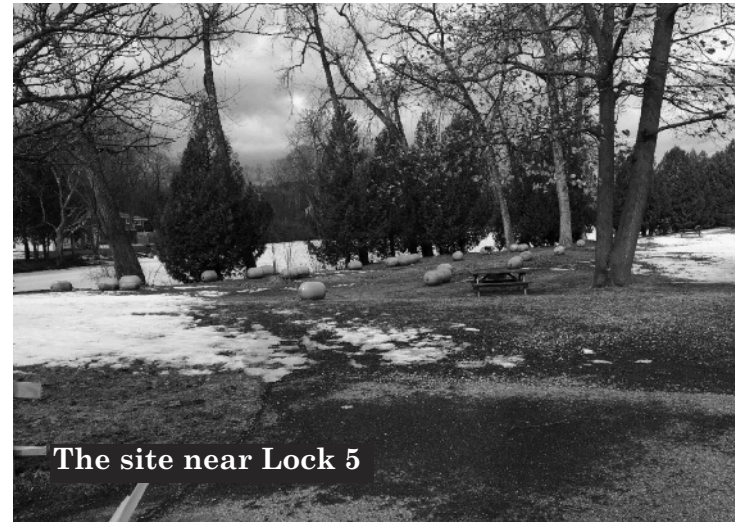
Camp Rockaway’s Toby Shepard Bloch, who also was in attendance, said that he and Johnson will return to the area a couple of more times this month to meet key people.

Learn more at camprockaway.com.

Also at the SSBA meeting:

- A vote was taken. These monthly events, according to group leader Chelsie Henderson of Rural Soul Studio, will have a new name. “Schuylerville Community Conversations (brought to you by the Schuylerville Small Business Association) will now be the name for our fantastically engaging small business, non-profit, interfaith, local government and neighbor conversations on the first Wednesday morning of every month at rotating locations around Schuylerville!” she said in an email to members.

- Hudson Crossing Park’s di-



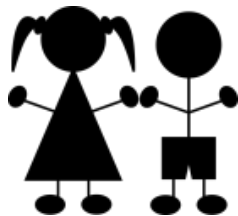
The site near Lock 5

rector Kate Morse said the Albany Symphony Orchestra will return July 5 for a full day of activities.

- Saratoga PLAN will hold its Apple Blossom 5K Run on May 16. The Schuylerville Chamber of Commerce is asking businesses for coupons to be handed out the day of the event, which also coincides with the village’s Lilac Festival.

The next Conversation will be on Wednesday, April 1, at 9 a.m. at the Schuylerville Public Library.

Greenwich Central School District



Ready, Set, Kindergarten! (RSK)

On **March 19, 2020** from 5:30 - 7:00 pm, families of all incoming kindergarten students are invited to join GCS staff in the Primary Cafeteria for an informational evening including a pizza dinner sponsored by the Greenwich Teachers’ Association. Parents will remain in the Primary Cafeteria as incoming kindergarten students join GCS staff for center-based activities.

(This evening is not intended for siblings.)

Kindergarten Enrollment

For students **NOT** attending Greenwich Pre-K, the pre-registration process can be completed online, found through the district website. When complete, you will be contacted via mail with a screening appointment to be held **Thursday, May 14, 2020**. Students currently attending Greenwich Pre-K are not required to attend screening.

Pre-K Enrollment

Please contact Tracy Dennis at 518-692-9542 Ext. 6100 to express interest in our program. The pre-registration process can be completed online, found through the district website. When complete, you will be contacted via mail with more information.

Please contact Tracy Dennis, Primary Secretary at 692-9542 ext. 6100 or tdennis@greenwichcsd.org to **RSVP by March 18th** for the RSK evening.

Invasive species talk

Join Hudson Crossing Park and New York State Department of Agriculture Invasive Species Coordinator Thom Allgaier in the Greenwich Free Library Community Room on Thursday, March 26 at 6 p.m. for a free informational presentation on invasive species.

Invasive species are one of the biggest threats to New York State’s biodiversity, but the danger does not stop there. Bugs, plants, diseases...these non-native species can wreak havoc on the environment, economy, and even your health. Allgaier will discuss the current threats to our area, how to protect yourself and your property from the spread of invasive species, and the social, economic, and environmental impact of invasives already in our communities.

This presentation is part two of Hudson Crossing Park’s three-part 2020 Winter Speaker Series held at the Greenwich Free Library. The final presentation of the speaker series will be “Local Folklore, Heritage, Mysteries...and a Little bit of Historical Gossip!” on April 23. All Winter Speaker Series presentations are free and open to the public. The Greenwich Free Library is located at 148 Main Street.

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Greenwich Town Board's busy agenda

Jim Nolan
Journal & Press

The Greenwich Town Board held its monthly meeting on March 10. In attendance were Supervisor Don Ward and Councilmen Steve Patrick, Eric Whitehouse, Pat Donahue, and Jeff Duxbury.

After the meeting was called to order, two Greenwich Troop Boy Scouts were introduced. Don McMillan and Cole Geneick led all in the Pledge of Allegiance. Don is working on a Community Service merit badge. As part of his community service, he will be taking notes at the Town Board meeting and reporting back to the Troop. Cole is working on his Eagle Scout designation. His project was to work with the Village of Greenwich and Middle Falls Fire Departments to identify water fill sites in the Greenwich area. After identifying the sites, he and others placed signs on said sites for easier location identification.

A scheduled presentation on response to the Coronavirus outbreak by Clayton Wren, EMT, was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. However, Supervisor Ward assured the people in attendance that the volunteer fire departments were training to deal with any situation involving EMT assistance. He also said the County was developing plans related to this public health issue.

The Assessor's report included information about five recent house sales. The sale prices were close to the assessment value on 3 properties and \$11,800 and \$15,400 above the assessment price on the other two sales. Supervisor Ward stated this demonstrated that the assessment values in Greenwich are accurate as far as house value.

The Code Enforcement report included information that the Big Lots Corporation was approved to replace the Kmart sign with a Big Lots sign. Big Lots is hoping to open in late spring.

The Highway Department had a bid of \$10,400 approved for the purchase of a zero turn mower to replace the current piece of equipment. In addition, the Highway Superintendent reported that the Spring Clean-Up (non-electronic items) will be held on May 16 and 17. He also stated the Fall Clean-Up (electronic items included) will be October 17 and 18.

In honor of the 100th anniversary of Women's Suffrage and the Greenwich con-

nection to Susan B. Anthony, Town Historian Sandy McReynolds gave a talk about Susan B. Anthony and her time in Greenwich. McReynolds will be giving a talk to the Town seniors on April 1. The next town-wide celebration of Women's Suffrage will be on August 1 at Mowry Park. It will be a music-themed event with re-enactors.

Supervisor Ward gave his monthly report. He stated the auditors were very impressed with the Town's Summer Camp permission forms. They are models for other municipalities. He also said the Town has arranged for the training of 5 life guards for the Youth Summer program at Lake Lauderdale. The swimming portion of the Summer Youth program had to be canceled last year because of the shortage of life guards. This year, the participants will be able to attend swimming two days a week for the six week program.

The installation of lighting along the Main Street business district is proceeding according to Supervisor Ward. He also reported enforcement of the Town's Building and Sign Codes regarding deficiencies at the Mobil gas station on the Route 29 circle is proceeding.

Supervisor Ward said that the Borex Corporation, applying to build a solar farm off Bald Mountain Road, will be holding a public information session on March 26 at Gather on Main Street.

Tax revenues will remain flat for the coming year according to Supervisor Ward.

Twenty minutes into the meeting, the Public Hearing was opened. A Local Law #1 of 2020 entitled "A Local Law to amend the Code of the Town of Greenwich by adding a new Article V to Section 171 – Taxation" was the subject of the Public Hearing. This proposed law institutes a PILOT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) Agreement for commercial solar facilities intended to be sited within the Town. Currently, State law exempts solar farms from taxes unless a municipality institutes a PILOT agreement.



Big Lots was approved to replace the Kmart sign. The new store is expected to open in late spring. –dj photo

Kathy Haake, a representative from Clean Energy which is proposing a solar farm off Route 29, spoke in favor of the proposed local law. John Wiley questioned the 50 KW limit on house-based solar installations. His stated reason is that many people want to not only generate solar power to equal their energy usage but also to place excess power back into the grid. It was decided that this portion of the new law could be amended in the future if needed. The Town Board voted unanimously to approve the new law.

Moving on to other business, there are two vacancies on the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA). One is due to a resignation and the other is due to an Alternate member moving onto the ZBA.

Two policies were approved to address Cash Management. These were in response to recommendations by the auditor examining Town practices.

The Town conducted an online auction of surplus property and netted \$106.

A presentation was made about the Town's Summer Youth Program. It will be six weeks in duration and will include swimming and field trips. A discussion ensued about the cost of the program (\$70 for 6 weeks) and the cost of the field trips. It was decided that no child should be denied access because of cost so a scholarship fund will be set up.

Supervisor Ward asked that the contract for C. T. Male to continue monitoring the old dump (required by DEC) be renewed. It was approved unanimously at a cost of \$4,795.

The meeting ended with budget transfers and review of budget transactions.

Ireland's O'Shea to perform, teach

Join Tim O'Shea at Burton Hall in Easton on Saturday, March 21, from 1 to 2 p.m. for a Bodhr'an (Irish Frame Drum) Workshop. This free group workshop is welcome to all ages. There will be drums to share, but please bring your own if you have one. This event is sponsored by the Easton Library.

In this one-hour program Tim will cover the basics of Irish frame drumming, Bodhr'an history and development in Ireland, the Bodhr'an as a ceremonial instrument, the playing drum style in Irish Folk Music today, drum care and maintenance, a demonstration and drum playing basic exercises, and tips for purchasing a Bodhr'an. Bodhr'ans are available at Celtic Treasures in Saratoga if you need to purchase one.

From 3 to 6 p.m., O'Shea will teach Private Lessons. They will be held at Burton Hall after the workshop. To reserve a lesson spot, you must contact Rural Soul Music Studio: music@ruralsoul.com

O'Shea is from Killarney in the south

west of Ireland. He has been working solo, and in several bands since the late 1980's. Tim's repertoire draws from the dance music of his native Sliabh Luachra and West Kerry folk traditions and the singing of Irish and Scottish performers like Jimmy McCarthy, Paul Brady, Dick Gaughan and Andy M. Stewart.

Tim has toured the USA, Australia, New Zealand, & Europe. Since 1992, (20 years in 2011, see gigs & tours page for more), Tim has annually toured Germany with CIAR, GREEN LANE, and BRICÈN. They played many Irish music festivals, and supported super folk band ALTAN twice and Dolores Keane (ex De Dannan), Sharon Shannon, De Dannan, Marie Breathnach (ex-Riverdance), Karan Casey (ex-Solas) Dervish and Lunasa. In 1995 Tim guested on the second CD of Monks of the Screw (Sliabh Luachra traditional music group). To mark "15 years on the road", Tim launched a collection of 15 tracks, some new & re-



mastered recordings in October 2006. "15 Times Around" has received very favorable reviews from Ireland, USA, UK, Germany and Sweden.

Burton Hall is located at 1071 NY-40, Greenwich (Town of Easton). Please call Easton Library at (518) 692-2253 or Rural Soul Music Studio at (518) 805-8263 with questions.



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The value of sitting on your hands

Liv Thygesen
Journal & Press

Growing up we were taught several lessons. Lessons revolved around concepts like “eat your dinner – there are starving kids around the world,” “clean your room – it’s your mess, you take care of it,” “take out the trash – it builds character,” etc. Of the lessons we were blessed with, one of the best originated in what I like to refer to as my dad’s “chess phase.” Chess is a game of strategy, planning ahead and learning as many moves as possible. There are openings, closings and mid game moves designed to thwart your opponent. My father was such that he dove deep into chess; reading every book ever written on the subject, keeping notebooks with every move he had ever played. He even made several of his own chess boards by carving the pieces, casting them in metal or sculpting them from marble. His dedication to the game was as intricate and devoted as the game itself.

Like any child who emulates their parents, I wanted to learn chess too. I made myself a notebook to document my plays. I wrote and rewrote the various openings in order to better memorize them. I carried around my own pocket chess set and practiced during “down” time. After months of studying and practicing I finally felt ready to play my father. Not just to play him, but I was determined to win. My confidence was so strong that I wagered twenty dollars that I would defeat him. At ten years old, twenty dollars is significant. We only earned a dollar week for taking out the trash, cleaning the house, and doing other “character-enhancing” chores. This was twenty weeks of saved allowance. I was twenty weeks of allowance confident that I would defeat my father.

With my money on the table, my notebook in hand and months of studying tucked away in my memory, I made my first move. Pawn to C4. “This is it!” I told myself. “I am going to beat my dad.”

After five minutes, he continued with his opening move. Hastily, I grabbed my next piece: Pawn to F4. Slowly, my father moved his second piece: Knight to D5. The rate at which he was moving each piece was beginning to wear on me. Quicker than before, I played

‘I bet 20 weeks allowance I’d win.’

my next move: Bishop to C8. “This is it! I am going to win! All of my studying has been so worth it!” Again, he took his hands from underneath his legs and slowly, painfully slowly, he made his next move. Without hesitation my confidence urged me to make my subsequent move. Again, and again this continued. My quick confident playing, his pensive and deliberate moves. At long last I took a moment to look down at the board. “Checkmate.” He declared. “What?! Impossible! I knew everything! I knew my openings, my plays...Every-

thing!” He sat there moving so slowly and made the game take forever. There is no way I had just lost the game and my twenty dollars! My father looked at me; “There are times when you need to stop and think in order to plan ahead. In chess we are tempted to impulsively move our pieces. Sitting on your hands prevents you from making thoughtless moves,” he said.

In all of the books I read and notes I took; no lesson was greater taught than the value of sitting on one’s hands. Forcing yourself to weigh all of the options first and to not act impulsively is critical if you want to win.

Liv Thygesen has been a marine, educator and community advocate. She owns Sip & Swirl in Greenwich.



March is agriculture month

Farmers across the state, and the county are dusting off equipment, and making preparations for a busy upcoming planting season. March brings a promise of blue skies, greening grass, and birds singing. What better month to celebrate agriculture, the industry that is responsible for feeding, clothing, and providing shelter to the community than March.

The Washington County Legislature agreed, and on February 11, 2020, at the Legislative Workgroup meeting they presented an official proclamation declaring March as Agriculture Month. New York is a leading agricultural state with a \$5.75 billion revenue in 2017. According to the 2017 Ag Census,

there were 33,438 farms in New York and 6,866,171 acres in production. New York Farm Bureau boasts that the agriculture sector is responsible for employing around 55,000 people throughout the state, and nearly 200,000 people are involved in other sectors of agriculture employment.

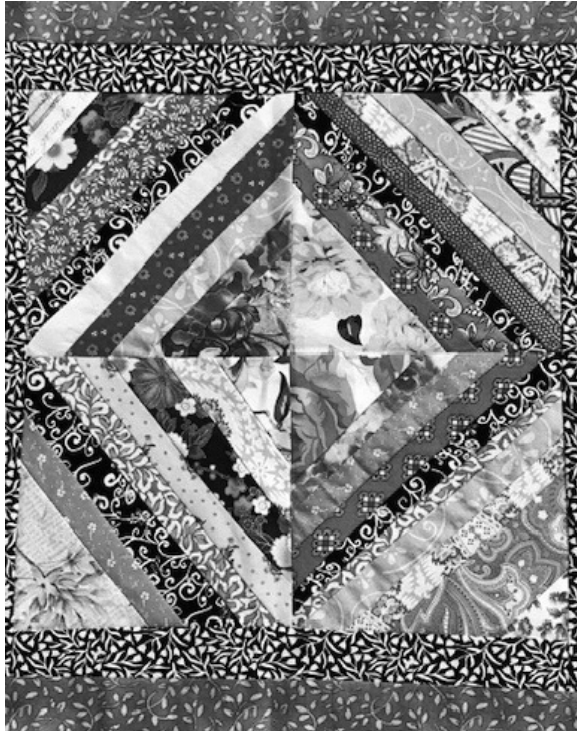
Felicia Dougherty of the New York Farm Bureau’s Salem office said: “During the month of March, I challenge you to celebrate Agriculture in our community. Join us in recognizing the importance of our food, the agriculture industry, and those who support the agriculture industry. You can do this by thanking a farmer for providing the food we eat, support them by visiting them at their

storefronts or at a local farmers market. Give a friendly wave to the log truck driver you pass. Be patient when you get stuck behind a tractor hauling manure to spread valuable nutrients on their crop fields. Thank your local agriculture teacher for giving our youth the tools and knowledge to be successful in such a diverse and important industry. Give compliment to the agencies throughout the county that promote the preservation of our natural resources and assist our local producers be environmentally conscious, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Farm Service Agency, National Resource Conservation Service, and the Soil and Water Conservation District. To all of you, Thank You!”

Quilts on exhibit

The Gallery at Equinox Village will present a unique March exhibit featuring “Quilts by Maud.”

Greenwich, New York, resident, Maud Maynard explains, “My quilts offer color and curves, just like a naturalized garden. These are free-form quilts, sometimes called improvisational or intuitive piecing quilts. Their design is driven by the colors and patterns of the fabrics that I just had to bring home. They tend to come together in unconventional ways. That’s what makes it fun! These pieces are practical not precious, each one an original. They can be used to cuddle under, play on top of or give the eye something interesting to rest upon.”



The community is invited to our “Quilts by Maud” show at The Gallery at Equinox Village opening reception held on Thursday, March 19, 5:30 to 7 p.m. This exhibit will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through April 16th. For more information call 802-362-4061.

As a way of honoring our picturesque surroundings, Sip and Swirl is offering a three part series on the essence of landscaping. The three part series will include the elements that make up a landscape painting and will delve into guided painting instruction where students will create their own water color and acrylic paintings. The beauty of mother nature and our breath taking views can now become a part of your own home in a design that you create. Each class is \$15 dollars and runs from 3-4pm March 14, 21 and 28.

Always imagined painting our beautiful countryside, but not sure where to start?

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Salem Women’s Club meets, journals

The Salem Woman’s Club recently met at the Mackenzie Chapel of the First United Presbyterian Church in Salem. The meeting began with a tea hosted by Chairman Marianne OBrien, with help from Carol Brownell, Evelyn Estey, Sylvia Graham, Alberta Murn, and Lois Sheaff. The Nominating Committee has reported the following slate of officers which will be voted upon at the April meeting: President-AndI Mungas, Vice President-Kathy Idleman, Treasurer-Pat Gilchrist and Secretary-Judy Kempf. Checks for the Garden Buffet gathering to be held at the Saratoga Casino on May 13 will be collected at the April meeting. Members were updated on the preparations being made for Women’s Health Day which will

take place on Saturday, April 25th at Salem Washington Academy. Informational registration packets are being mailed out to past participants this week.

Pictured: Chairman Lois Sheaff who introduced member Irene Baldwin promoting the idea of “Journaling.”

She described her 30 year history in education and how she introduced journaling to her students. Irene gave members a number of tips and encouragement in the process. She then led the group in an experience in journaling with a focus on “gratitude” using small journals she handed out.



Village of Greenwich Happenings

The Greenwich Youth Center is thriving

Pam Fuller
Journal & Press

A lot is happening downstairs in Village Hall. This is the home base of the Greenwich Youth Center, where the work of a lot of people results in an excellent program for elementary and high-school students. In order to catch up on what's new with the Youth Center, I sat down with some of the key contributors to the Center's success.

First, a little history to explain how the Village is able to support the Youth Center. In 2008 the Village of Greenwich received an incredible gift in the form of an inheritance from Norma Gannon, the widow of the renowned songwriter Kim Gannon. (Who wrote the World War II song "I'll Be Home for Christmas.") Mrs. Gannon left the Village a large sum of cash and a piece of land, behind Prospect Street. She stipulated in her will that the money must be used to benefit the youth of the Village of Greenwich community.

A committee was formed. After doing research with local residents, they decided that a youth center was a high priority for the public. The committee filed for non-profit status, since the Village by law cannot raise

money, but a non-profit group can. So today the Village contracts with the Citizens' Committee for Greenwich Youth to run the Greenwich Youth Center, and the Village supports the youth center through quarterly payments and use of the space both downstairs in Village Hall and the second floor, a big space with a stage. The Youth Center raises funds to cover their remaining expenses, including programming. The Youth Center is supported by the Village, but it is open to any student who is in the Greenwich Central School district.

The Board of Directors, made up of about 10 citizen volunteers, actively oversees the Youth Center operations and serves as planners and fundraisers. Jim Mumby, the chair of the Board, told me about the Board's goals. First, a stable staff. Second, a vibrant and growing center. Third, a larger group of volunteers. And they'll need a bigger space sometime.

The first goal is met. The current permanent staff includes the Director, Jackie Waite, who has been in her position since December of 2018, the GYC Program Manager Scott Cutting and the GYC Program Associate Denise Miller. These three team



members have had years of experience working with children and families in various capacities. They told me that their goal is to provide a place for kids that is safe and welcoming, and their strength is their ability to teach the kids how to navigate life, embrace new experiences and make choices that help them. With the generous help of many of our community organizations the Youth Center offers programs for all tastes. Examples are pottery with Emily Crawford; cooking with Eat Well, Eat Right, courtesy of Comfort Food Community; weaving with Cooperative Cornell Extension; fitness with Get Movin' Get Fit, through the YMCA; academic partners with high school volunteers. And many others.

The second goal is evolving. The success of the youth center can be measured in statistics: an average of 25 – 30 kids visit the center a day. In 2019, the Youth Center had 4,210 attendees,

with 98 members, continuing to grow.

But success can also be gauged by talking to the kids. Madison told me that she comes most every day that the center is open; she loves getting to hang out with her friends, and she likes to play computer games with them. Alyssia and Kady said that they love the art program, love being together and love the food! And Allston said "Here you can make friends."

Jim Mumby has some messages for the community: "Thank you for your support!" And put April 18th on your calendars. The Spring Jam with Eastbound Jesus will return to the Elks Club. "Good Music for a Good Cause."

Pam Fuller is Mayor of the Village of Greenwich.



History Happened Here

Visit the Saratoga Monument

Jim Nolan
Journal & Press

Battles fought at Freeman's farm and Bemis Heights in present day Stillwater led to the surrender of the British on October 17, 1777. Known as the "Turning point of the American Revolution," the surrender of an entire army convinced the French that the Americans could win the war. This led to needed aid in the form of arms and men for the rest of the Revolutionary War.

Inspired by this victory, a group of local residents formed the Saratoga Monument Asso-

ciation in 1856. The Civil War interrupted their efforts to plan and raise funds for a monument. The group reconvened in 1872 with the intent of having the monument built in time to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the surrender on October 17, 1877.



They chose Jared C. Markham as architect and the Booth Brothers of New York City as builders, and laid the cornerstone on the 100th anniversary

of the American victory. Attempts to raise money proved difficult; \$2300 in public money was raised. This allowed for preparation of the site and the laying of the cornerstone on October 17, 1877. The Federal government allocated \$95,000 and New York State added \$10,000. The capstone of the monument was placed on November 3, 1882.

The Monument, which features Gothic and Egyptian styled elements, is a rock-faced granite obelisk that stands 154 ½ feet tall. Located in the Village of Victory, the Monument is situated on a high bluff upon the grounds of Burgoyne's last camp.

Within the Monument are 188 steps that connect five levels and a viewing platform at the top. Upon the walls of the first two levels are 16 bronze bas relief plaques depicting dramatized scenes of the American Revolution. Other interior decorative items include ornamental ceramic tile, brass moldings, stained glass and terracotta cornices.

The cornerstone contains a U.S. flag, a 1777 silver coin



bearing the image of King George III, an 1877 U.S. silver half dollar, a memorial to the opening of the New York and Canada Railway, Bennington Battle Monument Association documents and 21 newspapers.

'It features Gothic and Egyptian styled elements.'

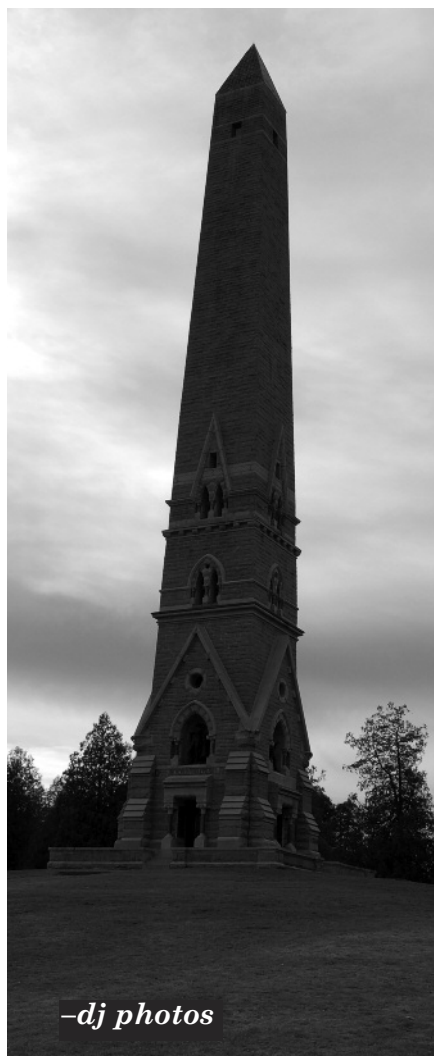
Life-size sculptures of key American leaders of 1777 were installed on the obelisk. General Philip Schuyler faces east toward his Saratoga estate, burned by the British but rebuilt the following month. To the west, Colonel Daniel Morgan faces the positions his corps took to help surround the British. In the northern niche, General Horatio Gates faces toward the route of British invasion from Canada. The southern niche remains empty,

signifying General Benedict Arnold's heroism in 1777 overshadowed by his later treason.

In 1895, the monument was transferred to New York State and in 1980, the monument was transferred to the National Park Service. In 1999, a \$3 million dollar comprehensive renovation was begun on the monument. It re-opened in 2002.

From late May to early October, the inside of the Saratoga Monument, is open Friday through Sunday.

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



-dj photos

And the ‘flight from hell’ winner is...

Greg Schwem
Special to Journal & Press

Attention all you whiny, disgruntled air passengers who fire up your Twitter feeds to let the airline, and the entire Internet, know you didn't get your first-class upgrade, your aisle seat, or your specialty meal:

Please shut up.

Nobody wants to hear about the two-hour delay to Austin, the de-icing truck malfunction in Milwaukee or the passenger with nonexistent hygiene aboard your flight to San Francisco that left you so traumatized, you DEMAND a refund. Or at least 50,000 frequent airline points that can be redeemed during blackout periods.

For none of you have met Kevin Rohlwing.

Rohlwing, a senior vice president of training for the Tire Industry Association, could stop your “flight from hell” story mid-moan simply by holding up his hand at any point and asking, “Did TWO people die on your flight?”

For that is exactly what occurred aboard Rohlwing's recent Southwest Airlines flight from Baltimore to Las Vegas.

Now, death is never funny, and this humor columnist does-

n't mean to make light of it. Many of us, me included, have been aboard flights where a medical situation necessitated an emergency landing or a frantic “Is there a doctor aboard?” plea over the plane's intercom. A passenger succumbing midair is indeed tragic.

But two? The more I listened to Rohlwing's story, the more it sounded like a darkly comedic Netflix pitch:

“OK, here's the plot: Each week, carefree passengers board a flight to Vegas. But two of them never make it. The audience votes online with their picks. Think ‘The Love Boat’ on a plane. But without the happy ending!”

“We LOVE it. Order 40 episodes!”

Rohlwing recounted his story once he finally landed in Vegas, eight hours behind schedule, and we met at an awards ceremony rehearsal for the Tire Industry Association. He politely waited for me to finish droning on about my 90-minute delay out of Chicago before beginning his tale of woe. The normal flight turned anything but, he said, when an elderly woman went into cardiac arrest. The flight also contained a group of Korean War veterans traveling with their own paramedic. The



medic, and the flight crew, sprang into action as the plane rapidly descended toward the nearest airport, in Fort Collins, Colo.

Once on the ground, the woman was removed by Fort Collins paramedics. Sadly, Rohlwing said, she passed before being taken to a hospital. As the plane refueled and pilots filed a second flight plan, crew members began expressing concern about the whereabouts of another passenger, who was last

‘His trip included two visits from the coroner.’

seen entering the plane's lavatory. A flight attendant eventually opened the door, only to find the passenger deceased on the floor.

The next time you roll your eyes when you hear, “Maintenance is aboard,” remember, Rohlwing's flight included two visits from the coroner.

Rohlwing credited the pilot for doing his best to calm exasperated passengers.

“He commented that, in his 20-plus years of flying, he had never had a passenger pass away on a flight, let alone two,” Rohlwing said.

Real comforting.

Following the awards program, Rohlwing and a colleague returned to Baltimore. At baggage claim, they agreed the flight home was the BEST flight ever.

“No one died,” Rohlwing said.

This week I will be flying from Chicago to San Antonio. The Chicago forecast calls for subzero temperatures, which typically precede flight cancellations. My Southwest boarding pass has a high number, meaning a middle seat might be my only option. Hopefully our government remains open, so the TSA employees who screen me will earn paychecks for their diligence.

I will say nothing. My social media feeds will stay silent.

Instead, I will remind myself how lucky I am to wake up every morning.

Greg Schwem is a corporate stand-up comedian and author of “The Road To Success Goes Through the Salad Bar: A Pile of BS From a Corporate Comedian,” available at Amazon.com. Visit Greg on the web at www.gregschwem.com.



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New bridge project, with controversy

Jim Nolan
Journal & Press

The Public Comments portion of the March 10 Greenwich Town Council meeting started with Lorraine Ballard, a town resident and executive director of the Battenkill Conservancy, who had spoken to the Town Board at the February meeting, bringing up the issue of the bridge replacement on Route 29 on the border of Greenwich and Easton. Last month she questioned whether there would be a sidewalk on the new bridge similar to the sidewalk on the current bridge. No one knew the status of the new construction or whether the sidewalk would be included.

Ballard stated that she had contacted the DOT and they admitted they had not performed a proper outreach to the community regarding the sidewalk and any other issues regarding the bridge replacement. She presented 10 letters in support of including an elevated sidewalk similar to the one on the current bridge. Both the Middle Falls Fire Department and the Borelex Corporation, which operates the power station under the bridge, stated there are a number of people who stand on the bridge sidewalk and take pictures or just view the falls.

Supervisor Ward said he

spoke to the DOT and they said they would redesign the bridge and add an elevated sidewalk, if the town requested one. Adding a bridge would add to the cost of the project but since the work is being paid for by State and Federal funds, the Town would not incur any cost.

Several people attending the meeting questioned the need for a sidewalk, many stating the maintenance would be costly and a problem since half the sidewalk would be in Easton and half in Greenwich. Some also questioned additional tax dollars being used no matter where the money was coming from.

Ballard reiterated her concern about the safety assets of the elevated sidewalk and also talked about the access in that area to two points on the Battenkill, one for kayaking and the other for fishing.

Stan Mattison, Town Highway Superintendent, stated he was called by DOT about a year ago. They asked him if an elevated sidewalk was necessary. Mattison discussed the maintenance issues and brought the issue to then-Supervisor Sara Idleman's attention. He said she told him to use his best judgment in response to the DOT inquiry. Mattison told DOT that he thought the elevated sidewalk would not be needed as



The current bridge

long as there was a shoulder that walkers could use.

After a few members of the public spoke in favor of just having a shoulder alongside the road, Supervisor Ward asked for

a motion to request a sidewalk on the bridge. No one on the Town Board made a motion. At this stage, there will not be an elevated sidewalk on the new bridge.



One lane is expected to remain open. -dj photos



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Hartford's eager readers

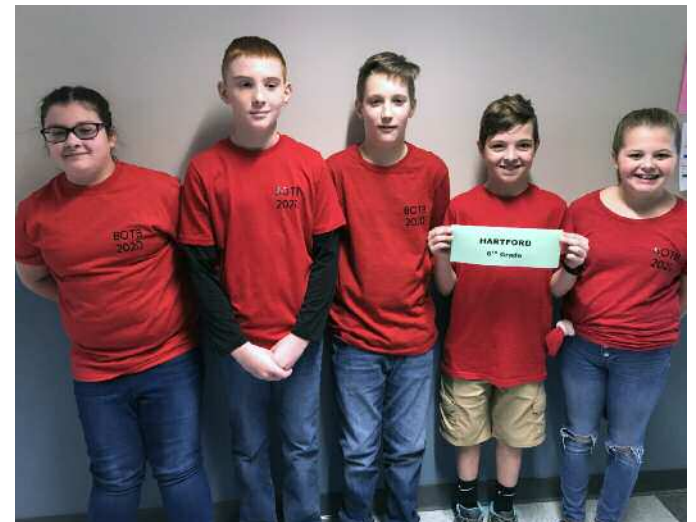
Over 56 teams comprised of 400 students representing 19 school districts competed in the annual WSWHE BOCES Battle of the Books on Monday, March 9 at SUNY Adirondack.

Hartford sent four teams and was represented in each grade level in the competition as follows:

3rd grade (L-R): Dylan Happy, Nicholas Abbott, Penelope Talmadge, Eliana Krug, Rowan LeBlanc and

Alexander Amato; 4th grade (back row): Maddalynn Natale and Landon Duffy, (front) Cadence Ellis, Silver Stewart and Aubry Austin; 5th grade (L-R): Gabe Stokowski, Alexis McNall, Daman Duhamel, Mollie DeLaCruz and Audrey Fiske; and 6th grade (L-R): Abigail Barker, Kile Whitney, Grant LaRose, Joey Happy and Gabby Gordon.

Hartford's 3rd and 5th grade teams advanced to the semi-final round and finished in fourth place.



Free Monthly Community CPR

Cossayuna Fire Dept
21 Bunker Hill Rd, Cossayuna, NY 12823

Easton Fire Dept
11800 NY Route 40, Greenwich, NY 12834

Greenwich Fire Dept
60 Hill St, Greenwich, NY 12834

Middle Falls Fire Dept
1034 State Rt 29, Greenwich, NY 12823

- Learn Hands-Only CPR -
- Child/Infant CPR -
- AED Use -
- Adult / Infant Choking -

NEW - Does your employer require an AHA BLS Provider CPR Card? Complete the AHA online HeartCode CPR Course (\$28.50), bring your completion certificate to any of our Free Community CPR classes and we will issue you an AHA BLS CPR card at no charge!

CPR TRAINING

Get trained. Save a life. You'll be glad you did.

Thurs, April 9th @ 6:30pm
Middle Falls Fire Dept
1034 State Rt 29, Greenwich, NY

Weds, June 10th @ 6:30pm
Easton Fire Dept
11800 Rt 40, Greenwich, NY

Thurs, July 9th @ 6:30pm
Cossayuna Fire Dept
21 Bunker Hill Rd, Cossayuna, NY

Thurs, Sept 10th @ 6:30pm
Greenwich Fire Dept
60 Hill St, Greenwich, NY

Thurs, Oct 15th @ 6:30pm
Middle Falls Fire Dept
1034 State Rt 29, Greenwich, NY

Weds, Nov 11th @ 6:30pm
Easton Fire Dept
11800 Rt 40, Greenwich, NY

Thurs, Dec 10th @ 6:30pm
Greenwich Fire Dept
60 Hill St, Greenwich, NY

Registration Required !

Email:
GreenwichFireCPR@gmail.com

Phone: 518-309-8702

Please leave name and number of participants.

Pancake Supper!

The Argyle American Legion will hold an ALL YOU CAN EAT Pancake Supper on Saturday, March 21, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the American Legion Post 1518 on Route 41 (Sheridan Street). Pancakes, bacon, sausage, home fries, dessert, coffee, tea, milk and juice will be served. The cost is \$7. If you have any questions, call Walt Caprood at 518-531-4174.



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Church News

Lenten Sundays and 58 years for Sr. Gussie

Here's what happening at local churches. Don't see yours listed? Have your church's communications volunteer contact editor@journalandpress.com.

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, 36 Bleecker St., Greenwich, has Sunday Mass at 10 a.m.

All are welcome! The group will be praying the Stations of the Cross each Sunday at 9:15 am prior to Sunday Mass through the Lenten season. On Sunday, the 29, the group will pray the Living Stations of the Cross, presented by the Faith Formation Students at 7 p.m. in the Church.

Thursday, March 19th at 7

p.m., the group will celebrate its Patron Saint's Feast Day. Mass will be said in honor of St. Joseph and also, in honor of Sister Augusta Ann Burgess, CSJ. She will renew her vows celebrating 58 years as a Sister of St. Joseph. All are welcome to join the congregation on this feast day honoring St. Joseph and Sister Gussie for her 58 years of service.

If you have any questions, call 518-692-2159.

Salem Catholic Masses

Salem Holy Cross Catholic Church has Sunday Mass at 8:30 a.m. All children are welcome to attend the children's liturgy during Mass. The Pastoral Council meeting is March 19 at 7 p.m. Any parishioner is

welcomed to attend. Reconciliation will be held Sunday, March 29 at 4 p.m. at Holy Cross and at St. Patrick's on Wednesday, April 1 at 6 p.m. During this season of Lent, parishioners are reminded that there is a book for prayer intentions and a thankfulness journal at the entrance to the Church.

The Bible Study, "Genesis Part II," continues on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at Holy Cross and at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at St. Patrick's. St. Patrick's Friday fish fry dinners are held at 4:30 p.m.

The upcoming Lenten Ecumenical Services and luncheon will be held Thursday, March 19 at Holy Cross with Carol Finke, March 26 at Salem UMC with Laura Mitchell, and April 2 at Shushan UPC with Gary Kriss.

Looking ahead, a second An-

nual Women's Retreat at Wiawaka: "Come to the Water" will be held to refresh the mind, body, and spirit of women of all ages. It will be held June 6 and 7.

On April 9, Holy Thursday, Holy Cross will have Mass at 5 p.m., followed by a dinner. On Good Friday, April 10, Mass at 5PM will be held at St. Patrick's, while the Easter Vigil will be held on Saturday at 8 p.m. at St. Joseph's of Greenwich. Easter Sunday, Holy Cross will hold Mass at 8:30 a.m. and at St. Patrick's, Mass time is 11 a.m.

The Salem Food Pantry is in need of personal care items such as shampoo, toothpaste, etc., as well as soups. Monetary donations help and checks can be made out to the Salem Food Pantry or given to Lonnie or sent to PO Box 476, Salem, NY 12865.

Saving for retirement is a numbers game

Jill Schlesinger
Special to Journal & Press

Retirement accounts hit record highs in Q4 2019, according to Fidelity. The average 401(k) and IRA balance was up 17% annually to \$112,300 and \$115,400, respectively. And there are a record 441,000 401(k) and IRA millionaires. Workers funneled almost 9% of their pay into 401(k)s in Q4, and employer matching pushed the average savings rate to 13.5%. More employers are also automatically upping worker contributions.

Fidelity cites the average balance, which can be skewed higher because it's influenced by the top 1% of accounts. The median 401(k) is \$27,000, but that's skewed lower because of accounts with \$0. The takeaway? Using one number to represent the 27.2 million accounts managed by Fidelity only tells you so much.

The less good news: With an average balance of \$210,400,

Boomers are in trouble. And while 32% of employers offer managed accounts, many lower-income workers aren't given access to retirement options.

Retirement savers are reaping the benefits of the stock market's record run. The number of investors with at least \$1 million in their 401(k) accounts rose to an all-time high of 233,000 in the final three months of last year, topping the previous record of 200,000 in the prior three months, according to Fidelity Investments' quarterly analysis of retirement saving trends for its more than 30 million holders of 401(k) or IRA accounts. The number of IRA millionaires also rose to a record 208,000 in the period. An IRA, or individual retirement account, is a tax-deferred personal retirement plan sponsored by the government. The increases reflect some of the stock market's strong gains at the end of 2019. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 6.7%, including divi-

dends, during the fourth quarter, while the Standard & Poor's 500 index climbed 9.1%.

The average 401(k) account balance reached \$112,300 at the end of the fourth quarter, or the last three months of the year. That represented a 7% gain from the previous quarter's balance of \$105,200 and surpassed a record of \$106,500 in the third quarter of 2018. The percentage of investors contributing to their IRAs rose, led by millennials.

Younger adults in that demographic contributed \$373 million to IRAs in the fourth quarter, a 46% jump from a year earlier with 73% of their contributions going into Roth IRAs. Experts say Roth IRAs are a favorable option for young investors because the money grows tax free and withdrawals aren't taxed in retirement. The number of IRA accounts with a contribution increased 7% from a year earlier, with the percentage of millenni-

als contributing to an IRA rising 21% in that span.

For savers who have been participating in the same workplace 401(k) plan for a decade, the average balance reached a record \$328,200 in the fourth quarter, topping a previous high of \$306,500 in the prior quarter.

Among female investors, the average 10-year 401(k) balance grew to \$261,000, a 21% jump from a year ago, which marked the first time the average balance for the group surpassed the quarter-million-dollar mark.

Employees should aim to stash away 15% during their working years, including company matches, to save enough for retirement, Fidelity recommends.

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

To survive at work, be a jack of all trades

Daneen Skube
Special to Journal & Press

Q: *My industry is going through changes and I'm worried about how this will affect my job. I don't know what I'd do if the need for my skill set went away. How do you suggest your clients cope with the changes they cannot control that could put them in the unemployment line?*

A: I recommend all clients (and readers) develop a Plan B, and preferably C, D and E while they are at it. Being a one-trick pony in our business environment is a recipe for anxiety and unexpected unemployment.

Even if you lobby hard to prevent your industry from deleting your job skills, you have limited power to prevent changes that

make your job obsolete. You have total power over learning new skills so you have more options.

Some of my clients have returned to get skills in a trade like being an electrician or plumber, which is always in demand. Some of my clients sign up for graduate school so they expand their current and future options. Some of my clients start side businesses along with their current employment to provide extra income and a Plan B if their job goes away. The idea here is never to put all your eggs in one basket. Most of my clients and readers have multiple interests they could turn into paid work. Don't wait until you are unemployed to build up these skills. You can hold on to your current job and simultaneously dabble in using

other interests and skills to make money.

Our global economy has so many moving parts that today's hot well-paid job can become tomorrow's job graveyard surprisingly fast. Putting all your eggs in one job basket is poor career planning.

Always go into a job looking at all the variations of jobs within that theme. Can you teach classes in what you do, can you consult on what you do, or do you need additional training to expand the number of jobs you could land within your industry?

The process of developing a Plan B can be quite fun. You'll learn lots, meet a whole new network of interesting colleagues, and start to feel in control of your ability to make a living. You'll do

more research if you approach this process curious about what you'll discover rather than fearful you will become homeless soon.

In our current business environment, we are each ultimately responsible for identifying ways to make a living and enjoy our work. Business organizations exist to make a profit, not to guarantee that you will make a living. If you fail to take responsibility for having a Plan B, you'll have to live with the anxiety of only having a Plan A.

Daneen Skube, Ph.D., executive coach, trainer, therapist and speaker, also appears as the FOX Channel's "Workplace Guru" each Monday morning. Contact her on www.interpersonaledge.com.

How I'd like to see my town someday

Kaylee Johnson
Journal & Press

I spent the greater part of my childhood growing up in Greenwich; spending most days on the Hudson River, exploring, writing and reading with my SPCA dog, Molly. During those years I found solace in the silence of vacant fields, river trails, closed off bridges and roads without streetlights. Even now, I tell my New York City college friends about the intense writer's high I get while sitting on the aging dock next to my house, finding metaphors in the current. There's a loveliness factor that cannot be compared to the erratic kick that big cities provide.

My college city, Albany, interestingly has both funk and intimacy. There are large museums to get lost and found and lost again in, and artsy college coffee shops where music majors sing pieces written in leatherback journals to groups of liberal arts majors that wear glasses even though they have 20/20 vision. Campus involvement is at the core of small college campuses, and The College of Saint Rose has heaping amounts of it, which is why it's the perfect school for me. It blends the comfort of my hometown and its spirit with the urban, busy vibe of a historic city.

In the coming years, there are some developments and alterations I would love to see come to Greenwich to make it more multi-dimensional and accessible to all age groups, and possibly tourists. Firstly, the town would benefit from a couple of mom-and-pop coffee shops and bars. At the moment, there are only a couple of places for groups of people from all demographics to peacefully congregate. We need coffee shops and bars that tell our strong, proud history in a way that attracts old and young residents and people from out of town who want to immerse themselves in our culture.

It would not be too difficult for Greenwich to get some of the tourists from Saratoga Springs with some tweaking. It has an equally compelling history and beautiful views, but it does not have enough entertainment and arts culture. Adding a film forum, art gallery and dance center would diversify and professionalize and add a new genre of culture and grandeur to the town. Art is not a luxury



-dj photo

and it should not be exclusive to residents of big cities. I would like to see painting, dance and acting lessons offered to children during all seasons by teachers who are passionate about what they are teaching and building spaces that allow for it; art buildings with water views and dance studios with quality wood floors and mirror walls. The children of our town deserve to have their creativity fostered.

'I would like downtown to be roaring with small businesses.'

As an educator and advocate for advancements in public education, I would also like to see area schools place a heavier emphasis on diversity and acceptance and exposing children to it from an early age. Working in many different public schools in Upstate New York, I have noticed that many students struggle with worldliness, because small towns can sometimes act as a nest and it's hard to see beyond the false safety that the nest provides so generously. This advancement could be achieved simply through pen pal systems, virtual field trips, and raw discussions that lack bias or prejudice.

In the next decade, I would like to see downtown roaring with small businesses; thrift shops, restaurants, bakeries, markets, fitness centers and artistic outlets. I don't want Greenwich to fit any single mold or stereotype, instead I want it to be unpredictable, exotic and dynamic. It should be a curious stop for travelers and an oasis for locals of all racial, political and economic backgrounds.

There is great vitality in promoting growth in small towns, for stagnation is often the cruel killer of the quaint. The evolution of Greenwich is inevitable, but it's unknown of what the evolutionary changes will look like. I am confident the town will keep its charm, sense of community spirit and historical pride, though it might be expressed in more innovative ways in the coming years. At its core, Greenwich is a gathering place, and it should stay that way, so that my children and grandchildren can visit and feel the same warm comfort that I do here.

Kaylee Johnson is a senior education major at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, NY.



A leisurely town past Italy's Pisa

Rick Steves
Tribune Content Agency

On a sunny summer evening in Lucca, Italy, I was inspired by the simple joy of watching an old man bicycling with his granddaughter atop the wide, fortified wall that once protected this proud city from its enemies - and now seems to corral its Old World charm. Then, on rented bikes, a group of chatty tourists frolicked by. Their enthusiasm was contagious. Squinting at the energy in their smiles, surrounded by dazzling sunshine, it struck me that the sun in Italy seems to have a special glint. It's as if it's telling visitors, "Embrace life!"

The home of opera composer Giacomo Puccini, Lucca has no single monumental sight. It's simply a uniquely human and well-preserved city. Even its touristic center - the mostly traffic-free old town - feels more local than touristy (aside from a few cruise excursions from nearby Livorno that pass through each day). Neighboring Pisa has the famous tippy tower you can climb, but lesser-known Lucca is a favorite stop for many Italy connoisseurs. Just a 30-minute bus ride from Pisa and an hour's drive from Florence, it's easy to do Pisa and Lucca in a one-day trip from Florence.

Lucca began as a Roman settlement. In fact, the grid layout of the streets (and the shadow of an amphitheater) survives from Roman times. As was typical for Roman towns, Lucca's two main roads quartered the fortified town, crossing at what was the forum (main market and religious/political center) - today's Piazza San Michele. The amphitheater sat just outside the original Roman walls.

The city is a bit of a paradox; while it has Europe's mightiest

Renaissance wall, it hasn't seen a battle since 1430. My friend explained to me the difference between a Renaissance wall and a medieval wall. Medieval walls are thin, because with weapons like arrows and stones, there was no need for thick fortification. But in Renaissance times, the advent of powerful cannons introduced the need for thicker, more substantial walls.

These days, locals treat their ramparts like a circular park. And, with plenty of rental bikes available, visitors can enjoy a lazy pedal around its two-and-a-half-mile circuit. It's a wonderfully smooth 20-to-30-minute pedal, depending on how fast you go and how crowded the wall-top park is. The best people-watching - and slowest pedaling - is during "passeggiata" time, just before dinner, when it seems that all of Lucca is doing slow laps around the wall. Within the wall, Romanesque churches seem to lurk around every corner, as do fun-loving piazzas filled with soccer-playing children.

In its heyday, Lucca packed 70

**'In its heyday,
Lucca packed
70 churches.'**

churches and over 100 towers within its walls. Each tower was the home and private fortress of a wealthy merchant family. Towers were single rooms stacked atop each other: shop, living room, and then the kitchen, all connected by exterior wooden staircases. The rooftop was generally a vegetable garden, with trees providing shade. Later, the wealthy city folk moved into the countryside, trading away life in their city palazzos to establish farm estates complete with fancy villas.



The main pedestrian drag of Lucca is Via Fillungo. Strolling here, you'll connect the town's two busiest squares: Piazza dell'Anfiteatro and Piazza San Michele. Between the two, you can get a taste of Lucca's rich past, including several elegant, century-old storefronts.

At delightful Piazza dell'Anfiteatro, you'll feel the architectural ghost of the town's Roman amphitheater. With the fall of Rome, the theater (which seated 10,000) was gradually cannibalized for its stones and inhabited by people living in a mishmash of huts. The huts were cleared away at the end of the 19th century to better show off the town's illustrious past and make one purely secular square for the town market (every other square is dominated by a church). While the arena's long gone, its oval shape is a reminder of the city's classical heritage.

Piazza San Michele also has ancient roots. It's hosted a market since Roman times, when it was the forum. Today it's dominated by the Church of San Michele. Towering above its

fancy Romanesque facade, the archangel Michael stands ready to flap his wings - which, thanks to a crude mechanical contraption, he actually did on special occasions.

Nearby, the Church of San Giovanni hosts nightly concerts celebrating the music of Puccini - one of Italy's greatest opera composers (you may know *La Bohème*, *Madame Butterfly*, or *Tosca*). Puccini's delightful arias seem to capture the spirit of this wonderful corner of Italy.

If you have time for more than a touristy quickie at nearby Pisa, consider slowing down, grabbing a gelato, and basking in Lucca's genuine charm.

Rick Steves writes travel guidebooks to the cruise ports of the Mediterranean and Northern Europe and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com.



ACC/ESC info

SUNY Adirondack and SUNY Empire State College will hold information sessions about recently announced joint-admissions degrees in business and management to be offered at SUNY Empire's Saratoga Springs campus.

Information sessions about the degree programs will be held on the following dates:

- March 24, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs, Room 104
- April 9, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs, Room 104
- April 23, 5:30-6:30 p.m., 111 West Ave., Saratoga Springs, Room 104

The joint-admission agreements allow students

to seamlessly transfer all lower-division credits at SUNY Adirondack to SUNY Empire, more than half the 124 total credits required to complete a bachelor's degree, meaning students can earn bachelor's degrees in as little as one year after their associate degrees.

Programs are in Accounting, Management, Business and Human Resources.

Under the partnership, SUNY Empire will waive the registration fee for applicants and provide a \$100 Presidential Scholarship to all transfer students.

To sign up for a session, contact Ryan Thomas, adult learner coordinator, at thomasr@sunyacc.edu or call 518.743.2264.

Standout students



Greenwich Central School announced the awardees of this month's "Standout Student Award" for the junior high school. The students are (L-R): **Mia Sausville, Jackson Fortier, Riley Fedler, Sydney Baptie, Izabella Velez, Serena Drost and Lillian Knapp.**

Each was awarded a certificate of accomplishment and a free Stewart's Ice Cream coupon.

Teachers of these students were able to witness first hand the exemplary effort, achievement, integrity, and kindness offered by each of these young people each and every day. They are extraordinary role models for their peers, and provide many beneficial qualities to bolster the district's strong school community. They should be proud of what they represent and deserve heartfelt congratulations.



YOU ARE INVITED

Borex invites you to attend our open house on the proposed 19.99-megawatt Bald Mountain Solar project.

Located in the **Town of Greenwich, Washington County**, near the corner of Thomson Road and Bald Mountain Road, the Bald Mountain Solar project would generate new sources of revenue for the Town, the County as well as the Greenwich Central School District, and would create approximately 50 jobs during construction.

1 (844) 990-9146 | www.borex.com/projects/bald-mountain/info.usa@borex.com

Meeting Details:

**Thursday, March 26, 2020
3pm-8pm**

Gather
103 Main St,
Greenwich, NY 12834
Light refreshments will be served.

PROJECT SPONSOR
BORALEX



Cambridge Crossword

(solution page 24)

Across

- 1 Diagnostic aid
 13 ESPN game show where four expert panelists compete debate-style
 15 "42" subject
 17 Water ___
 18 Gets ready to eat, in a way
 19 Key of Beethoven's Sym. No. 7
 21 Clipped affirmative
 23 Other: Pref.
 25 Scary story sound
 28 One of a prohibitive septet
 31 Industry big-wigs
 32 Hide out, with "down"
 34 School offering belts
 36 Get
 37 Rihanna album whose title is a common prefix
 38 Cosmic balance
 40 Analogy part
 41 An ace is under it

- 42 Desert bordering the Altai Mountains
 43 Mitt with ten fingers
 45 "Luck Be ___": "Guys and Dolls" song
 47 Smoking evidence
 49 Shuffles, say
 50 Firming (up)
 52 Italian recipe word
 54 User of recording devices called quipus
 55 WWII conference city
 58 Home of MLB's Redbirds
 61 Learn
 65 Early U.S. Navy flag motto
 66 Likely to be returned

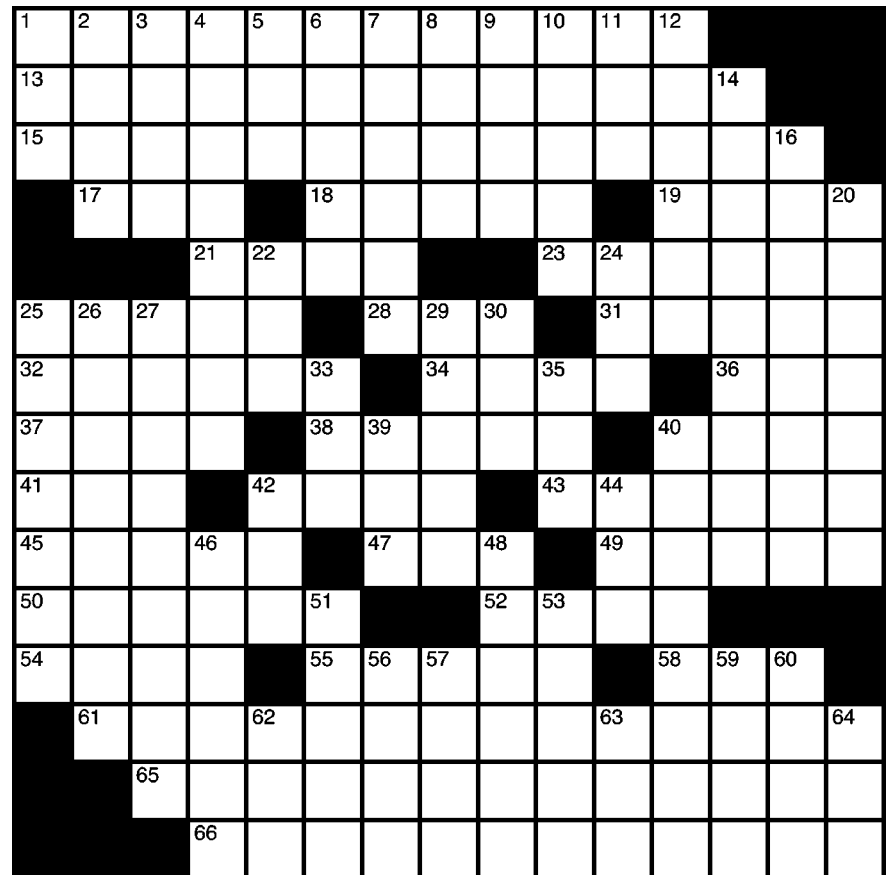
Down

- 1 Persian for "crown"
 2 Subjects of IRS Pub. 590
 3 Belt
 4 Japanese hot pot dish
 5 Athlete's wear,

- for short
 6 Idyllic settings
 7 Toys with strings?
 8 "I see now"
 9 "Leave ___!"
 10 Trey Anastasio's band
 11 Chaney of the screen
 12 Imitation
 14 Unequivocal rejection
 16 Told
 20 Alcott's "Little Men" sequel
 22 ___ out a victory
 24 Prefix with tourist
 25 Indian flatbread
 26 Words with a dismissive wave
 27 Unable to look away
 29 Actor ___ Elba of "The Wire"

- 30 French handle?
 33 "Citizen Kane" studio
 35 Shake up
 39 Old hoops org.

- 40 Thick paint applications
 42 OB/___
 44 Sautéing substance
 46 Unicellular alga
 48 Abomination
 51 "Peer ___ Homecoming": Grieg work
 53 Rapper Kendrick ___
 56 Mennen skin product
 57 Voldemort's title
 59 Cookie containers
 60 ___Tokoin Airport: Togo hub
 62 Pasta ending
 63 Soft drink ending
 64 Young adult fiction author Vizzini



9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



Olde Saratoga Word Find

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

Find these words that are associated with your local library!

Author Biography Books

Card Catalog College Computer Copier Due Date Fiction Film

History Internet Lamp Library Magazine Maps New Release Quiet

Reading Reference Shelf Study Subject Term Paper Thesis Titles

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

Salem Sudoku

(solution page 30)

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

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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Salem library talks

Salem's Bancroft Public Library will host two programs this March:

"We the People: The Constitution in Today's World," Tuesday, March 24 at 7 p.m. A program and time for questions/discussion. Presented by Wendy Johnston, Associate Professor of Political Science at Adirondack Community College. Free.

"Financial Education Seminar, Part II: How Do I Invest My Money? How Do I Ensure I Will Be Able to Retire?" is on Thursday, March 26 at 6 p.m.

This is a great opportunity to

learn how to make your money work for you! Do you have concerns about retirement? Are you wanting to grow your money, but not sure how or where? Are you young, and think you don't need to worry about retirement yet? (You'd be wrong!)

Come ask the questions that are important to you. Food will be provided. Free event, sponsored by Jaeger Consulting & Marketing and Bancroft Library.

Contact the library to reserve your seat. Bancroft Public Library can be reached at 518-854-7463 or slm-director@sals.edu.

Recital at ACC

Celebrated violinist Elizabeth Pitcairn will perform during The SUNY Adirondack Performing Artist Series recital "Making a Difference: Changing Lives through Mentorship" at 7:30 p.m. March 30 in the campus theater.

Pitcairn, chief executive officer and artistic director of Luzerne Music Center, has earned a reputation as one of America's most beloved violin soloists. She performs with one of the world's most legendary instruments, the Red Mendelssohn Stradivarius of

1720. A gift from her grandfather in 1990, it was named the "Red Stradivarius violin" while in possession of Joseph Joachim and is said to have inspired the Academy Award-winning film "The Red Violin."

The performance will also include cellist Evan Drachman, playing his grandfather's Stradivarius, and pianist Barbara Podgurski. The recital is free and open to the public through the generosity of Theresa Treadway Lloyd.

Boggle
BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

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

Find AT LEAST SEVEN MUSICAL GENRES in the grid of letters.

Answers to Boggle BrainBusters: POP ROCK FOLK BLUES POLKA GOSPEL REGGAE

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Battenkill events

Battenkill Community Services will be hosting a free luncheon every Monday at noon at the Battenkill Community Center, 2530 State Rt. 40, Greenwich. All ages welcome and for menu updates follow the group on Facebook.

Every Tuesday, hear the Groovy Tues Jam Band, hosted by Battenkill Community Services and facilitated by John

Dartt on guitar. Bring your voice, an instrument, or just yourself! Percussion instruments provided. Free luncheon at noon. All ages welcome.

They will be hosting an Irish Party Sat. March 21, from 2-5 p.m. Music by The Wayside Session and DJ Thunder, also dancing lead by the Hubbard Hall Irish Step Dancers. Free and all ages welcome.

Mirren talks about the royal family

Leo Barraclough
Variety
Special to Journal & Press

Helen Mirren, who won an Oscar for her performance as Britain's Queen Elizabeth II in "The Queen," says Meghan Markle was "a fantastic addition to the royal family," and she "applauds" Markle and Prince Harry's decision to step back from royal duties, she tells *Variety*.

Mirren, who is the subject of an homage at the Berlin Film Festival this week and will receive the festival's Honorary Golden Bear for Lifetime Achievement on Thursday, says of the couple's decision to withdraw from the royal family: "I think their instincts are absolutely right, and I applaud them for it. Hugely actually. Of course, it is complicated."

She adds: "Meghan Markle was a fantastic addition to the royal family – charming, did everything right, was gracious, was sweet natured, and seemed to be ... Wow! What a lovely addition. Didn't seem to be neurotic..."

"So, I think it is a loss in a way, but at the same time I think their instincts are absolutely correct. And I think it will all, hopefully, sort itself out, and the tabloid pearl-clutchers will get over their trauma at not having someone to attack all the time. They'll find another victim – probably me," she says with a laugh.

Mirren says she has witnessed a huge improvement in the position of female actors over the course of her career. (She says she prefers the term "actress." "It has a slightly fin de siècle feel about it that I like," she says. "But thank you for being politically correct; I approve of political correctness as well, so that's alright.") "Oh god, there's more work to be done, further to go, but it is great, it's absolutely great," she says, with gusto. "It just

pisses me off that I'm not now 23, and that world is not open to me, because it is a much better world than it was when I was 23.

"I have often been asked if I was angry, and I was profoundly angry about it as I ticked off 20 male characters to one or two female characters if you were lucky. Incidentally it hasn't changed that much. At least now you have female-led movies, and occasionally it is mostly female (casts) - still very rare, but at least they exist.

"But I always said when I was asked that question, and I still believe it, don't worry about women's profiles in drama, although you should, but worry about women's profiles in life - in politics, in particular, and in the professions - and fight for that,

'They'll find another victim – probably me.'

and to a certain extent I was right because that world changed, and as night follows day drama and culture - us looking at ourselves through drama, through art - has changed, because they are looking at a different world. So change the world and culture will change alongside that."

Mirren describes Margaret Thatcher as her "greatest female role model," adding "not because I believed in her politics - I absolutely did not. I don't think she was a great person as a person." But she says a little girl who saw Margaret Thatcher on television would say "Mummy who's that?" and the mother would reply, "That is the Prime Minister of England." "Then that 4-year-old's head goes: 'Women can be Prime Minister of England.' That wasn't the case when I was 4 years old," Mirren says.



She concedes that sometimes life does imitate art. "Culture can lead the world. It can say: Look there are women scientists in the world. Drama can change the look of the world around us; it is a symbiotic relationship."

Mirren has been to the Berlin Film Festival a few times, most recently in 2015 with "Woman in Gold," and she regards it with a certain reverence, so her Honorary Golden Bear for Lifetime Achievement, and to be the subject of an homage for her work, means a great deal to her. "The Berlin film audiences are highly educated and very critical. They are not impressed by Hollywood. They are very discerning," she says. "So you take a film to Berlin with a certain amount of trepidation. For that reason it becomes a very important festival for all filmmakers. I guess all I'm saying is to receive an award like this, particularly from the Berlin Film Festival, is to my mind quite impressive."

Mirren has been an avid watcher of European films since her student days, but hasn't appeared in as many European films as she would have liked to.

"I very proudly count myself as a European actress, and in my career I would have ideally liked

to have been more of a European actress," she says.

"I'm a member of the European Film Awards group and get incredible pleasure from seeing extraordinary European films every year, many of which never get to be seen outside their own country, that are incredible pieces of filmmaking.

"One or two of them will get nominated for best foreign film in the Oscars, but behind that film are many, many brilliant movies, about such an extraordinary array of subjects, and approached in such original, inspiring ways.

"When I go to the movies it is mostly to see European films. Where the American film industry succeeds it is where they have been influenced by European films, and along those lines there have been some great American movies, but I also have to say African, Antipodean, Asian, Latin American movies. I think the variety of culture, of history, the love of film coming out of Europe is so powerful."

Mirren regards drama – theater, television and cinema – as more than just a form of entertainment, but as a serious art-form, through which we can explore how we as humans think

Baseball, apple pie and ... veterans

Lance Allen Wang
Journal & Press

I'm a huge baseball fan and have been my whole life. I'm a one-sport guy – even during the offseason, my quest for sports news tends towards the three and four sentence baseball articles you find during the winter. The Mets have always been my team – while I've seen them at their rare heights, mostly they've been my lifelong lesson in humility by futility. There are many veteran connections with the Mets, whether it is the great Tom Seaver, who claimed that the lower body strength which drove his pitching came from his time on Parris Island training with the Marines in 1966, or their legendary manager Gil Hodges who fought with the Marines at Tinian and Okinawa. Baseball, above all for me, is a very personal sport. My ideals of teamwork, cohesion, and blending personalities, characters, and traits to make a great team was inculcated early by watching and reading about teams like the 1969 and 1973 Mets. Since we are approaching the start of the 2020 season, I'm going to take this opportunity to visit but a few of the stories regarding veterans in our national pastime.

In February, 1953, aircraft of VMF-311, Marine Aircraft Group

33, were conducting a low-level air strike on the North Korean base at Kyomipo. As one of the F9F Panther jets pulled out after hitting the target, it trailed smoke and flames. The Marine Captain at the controls looked at his instruments, the emergency lights on the panel lit up “like a Christmas tree.” His radio was out, so he couldn't hear his section leader yelling for him to eject. As he nursed his plane to base, he couldn't hear the tower yelling that “Your landing gear is not down!” The pilot, baseball superstar Ted Williams, skidded up the runway for more than a mile, leaving sparks, dust, and aircraft parts, all the while praying and angrily yelling. Williams, a future Baseball Hall of Famer, only suffered a sprained ankle from jamming down hard on the brakes while trying to land. He didn't eject because he felt that due to his height, “I thought I'd surely leave my kneecaps in there. I'd have rather died than never to have been able to play baseball again.”

Another veteran who had returning to the diamond on his mind was Lou Brissie. Nine years earlier, Corporal Brissie was fighting for the United States Army in Northern Italy. He was severely wounded when a German 170mm artillery shell exploded near him. When Army

surgeons wanted to amputate his shattered left leg, he protested, “I'm a ballplayer! You've got to find another way!” He was finally shipped to a hospital in Naples, where a doctor was able to save the limb. After two years, 23 operations, and 40 blood transfusions, Brissie did return to baseball. He started 93 games as a pitcher for both the Philadelphia Athletics and Cleveland Indians, of which more than half were complete games. He was 4th in Rookie of the Year voting in 1948, and was an all-star who won 16 games in 1949.

Another soldier wounded in the fighting in Italy was a baseball player born in Cambridge, New York, and who grew up just up the road in Salem. Frank “Socko” Wurm was a standout in several sports at Salem High School (“Washington Academy”) with baseball being his strongest. He tried out for three Major League teams, and signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1942. He spent the season in the minors, but enlisted in the United States Army in 1943. He served with the Field Artillery through Northern Africa and into Italy. In Italy, during the fierce fighting at Monte Cassino, Wurm was “routed out of a foxhole at Cassino” by an artillery shell in 1944 and sent home to recuperate from his wounds. He was recovering from wounds in Utica and ignored the advice to “take it easy for at least a year,” returning to the mound instead. In retrospect, it was a mistake. He started for the Dodgers in a game in September, looking “unsteady” and walked five of seven batters, gave up a double, and struck out a batter. He is one of three pitchers in baseball history with a triple-digit ERA. Not all of Wurm's war injuries were visible, as retrospect showed he suffered what would now be called PTSD.

I could not finish writing about

veterans and baseball without touching upon my Vietnam veterans, the ones to whom I owe much of my military career. Vietnam vets still in uniform trained and led me, as well as providing role models that guided me through my own military career.

Roy Gleason was the only Major Leaguer wounded in Vietnam after he had played in the majors (Chuck Goggin, who played for the Pirates, Braves, and Red Sox, was wounded as a Marine in Vietnam prior to playing Major League ball). Arriving at the tail end of the 1963 baseball season as an outfielder for the Los Angeles Dodgers, Gleason doubled in his only at-bat. He was ineligible for postseason play, but still was awarded a World Series ring alongside players like Sandy Koufax and Don Drysdale. He returned to the minors, and was drafted in early 1967, not by the Dodgers but by the US Army. In mid-1968, Sergeant Gleason was leading a patrol and was ambushed, suffering severe wounds requiring his evacuation back to the States. When his belongings followed, his 1963 World Series ring was missing. In 2003, the Dodgers honored Gleason by having him throw out the first pitch at a September game, and then surprised him by presenting him with a 1963 World Championship Ring to make up for the one he lost in Vietnam.

Baseball remembered. As should we.

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, NY with his wife Hatti.



Evergreen Cemetery officials to meet

Notice of Meeting of the Evergreen Cemetery Association: According to the bylaws of the organization the board of directors hereby gives notice of the annual meeting of the Evergreen Cemetery Association Board of Directors which will take place on Monday March 30, 2020 at 6:00

PM in the Salem Town Offices, 214 Main Street, Salem, NY 12865. The agenda will include the annual budget and election of officers for the organization.

All board members are requested to participate. The public is invited to attend.

No local COVID-19 cases, yet

Darren Johnson
Journal & Press

As of press time, the infamous Coronavirus has yet to appear in Washington County, but area officials are taking precautions.

Local stores are reporting they are out of hand sanitizer and masks. Shelves for certain other items, like toilet paper and bottled water, seem to be sparser than usual. Employees have been seen doing extra cleaning, as well.

At the March 9 meeting of the Village of Greenwich Board of Trustees, Greenwich Free Library director Annie Miller, as an aside to her annual report, said that the library is doing double-time to make sure areas are disinfected. "We've all had to become public health officials," she quipped. "We're all making it up as we go along. There's no one out there saying, 'This is what you're supposed to do.'"

Mayor Pam Fuller said: "There hasn't been an active case in Washington County at this point. There are no tentative plans to close anything, but we're closely monitoring COVID-19."

Washington County has a very good web effort going to keep people up-to-date. Below



A sign in the Greenwich CVS earlier this month.

is what was posted as we were going to print mid-month:

"Your partners at Washington County, NY Public Health Department, Washington County, NY – Department of Public Safety and County Administration continue to remind those in our communities there is no need to panic; we want everyone to remain prepared, know what to look for and stay informed from official sources."

Current Status

Currently, Washington County Public Health is monitoring four local residents who reported close contact with a subject testing positive for COVID-19. The residents are under precautionary quaran-

tine, two of the residents have tested negative for COVID-19. Currently there are no confirmed COVID-19 cases in Washington County as of press time.

Official Updates

All official updates and information from Washington County will originate from the county Public Health and Public Safety Departments and will be posted on their public information page at washingtontcountyny.gov/coronavirus. Any additional information they post and/or share will be vetted and originate from within county offices, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) or the New York State Department of Health, the site stated.

Greenwich Seniors

The next meeting of the Greenwich Seniors is Wednesday, March 18 at the VFW on Abeel Ave., at 12 noon. The group will be having a catered cornbeef and cabbage dinner. Ken and Shirley Walsh will be entertaining everyone with Irish songs.

On Sunday, March 18, the Seniors are going to the Parting Glass in Saratoga for some Irish food and songs.

They still have seats available for the 3-day, 2-night tri to Foxwoods Casino Magic and Mystic, Connecticut on May 11-13. You don't need to be a member to participate in this fun-filled trip. The package includes two nights at the Great Cedar Hotel, Foxwoods Casino Bonus of \$20 slot plays and \$35 in food vouchers. Side trips to Olde Mystic Village, admission to Mystic Seaport and Aquarium and transportation are included. For more information contact Eileen DiNisio at 518-937-1838 or Phyllis Rainville at 518-638-8937.

Coronavirus prevention

There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.

Symptoms:

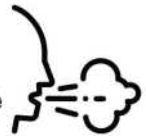
For confirmed coronavirus cases, reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Headache



Prevention:

• Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

• Stay home when you are sick.

• Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



• Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.



• Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



• Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent

the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).

Source: CDC
Graphic: Staff, TNS

Letter: Consider a donation to the Greenwich Scholarship Committee

EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Greenwich Scholarship Committee needs more funds for upcoming scholarships, to be distributed in June at graduation, and asked us to use this space to help get the word out. Consider a donation. Their mailing address is below. Thank you.*

Dear Friend:

The Greenwich Community Scholarship Committee has again undertaken its annual drive to raise money for local scholarships. Since 1954, 1,028 scholarships totaling \$575,390 have been awarded. In 2019, the committee awarded 12 scholarships totaling \$11,350. We should all be proud to be a part of a community that continually provides deserving students the opportunity to achieve.

High school graduates at Greenwich Central are eligible to receive a scholarship after completing an application form and furnishing proof that they plan to attend an accredited institution of higher learning during the coming year. The scholarships are awarded based on evaluation of an applicant's financial need and academic standing.

The success of this drive depends on the participation of as many individuals and organizations as possible. The cost of education continues to increase each year. The Committee is hoping to provide more scholarship aid. Your donation can be placed in either of the two existing funds that provide monies for scholarship awards:

- The Endowment Fund was established to receive money to invest; only the earned interest is used for scholarships each year.
- The General Fund was established to receive all other money collected annually; this money is fully awarded through scholarships each year.

A \$500 or more donation to either fund will entitle the donor to have his/her name placed on the Fund Plaque in the Greenwich High School. Gifts of \$100 and above are acknowledged in the graduation program if received by May 25. Any contribution, large or small, is greatly appreciated.

Please send your contribution to: The Greenwich Community Scholarship Fund, PO Box 64, Greenwich, NY 12834.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

Signed,

The Greenwich Scholarship Committee: CJ Lyttle, Chair;

Sherry Galbraith, Co-Chair and Treasurer; Wendy Steindl, Corresponding Secretary; Dana Clark, Honorary Member; Nicole Carner, GCS Liaison; Lisa Perkins, and Mary Ann Fowler



Political Cartoon of the Week by Joel Pett



Letters policy

Letters to the Editor should be 300 or fewer words and emailed to editor@journalandpress.com. They must be signed and written by local residents about local issues. Letters by or about political candidates are discouraged. Please buy an ad instead. Otherwise, we welcome your opinions!

Write stories. Get published.
Reach people.



Contact editor@journalandpress.com with your story!



School News and Notes

Greenwich honors

Reigns Supreme

Greenwich FFA President and Washington County Dairy Princess, Erin Armitage, will continue to serve the dairy farmers of Washington County as a member of the NYS Dairy Princess team.



Scott Smith and Maddy Brophy

Natalie Vernon from Wayne County, Rachel Rouland from Monroe County and Erin Armitage of Washington County were crowned as the 2020-2021 New York State Dairy Princess and Alternates, respectively, on February 18 at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool, New York.

Three to Boys State

Greenwich's Jake Owens, William Hamilton, Jackson and Vanderhoff will attend Boys State this June thanks to American Legion Liberty Post 515.



Jake Owens, William Hamilton, Jackson and Vanderhoff

Brophy's Top Honor

Madelyn Brophy was recognized for her athletic and academic excellence along with other Wasaren League and Section 2 student athletes on Sunday March 1st at the Albany Marriott. She was presented the award by Scott Smith, Section 2 Scholar Athlete chairperson.



Erin Armitage

Obituary

James C. Tomasi, 90, veteran, attorney

James C. Tomasi, 90, passed away at his home in Salem, NY on March 3, after a long illness. Born in Cambridge, NY, he was the son of James (Jacko) Tomasi and Martha Conklin Tomasi.

James (Jim) graduated from Salem Central School in 1946, Colgate University in 1951, and Albany Law School in 1954. He then served in the 10th Mountain Division of the United States Army. After discharge from the Army, Jim returned to Salem, N.Y., in 1957 where he practiced law until retirement. His constant interest in local government was demonstrated by his work as Washington County Attorney and

with other local government entities. He was a member of the Washington County Bar Association.

Love for his community and its people was a common thread throughout his life. Jim served on the Salem Central School Board, Washington County School Board Association, Mary McClellan Hospital Board, Evergreen Cemetery Board, Salem Youth Commission, and Fort Salem Theatre Board. He was an elder of the First United Presbyterian Church of Salem. Jim was a member of the Salem Rotary Club, the Cambridge Valley Masonic Lodge, Salem American Le-

gion, and the Salem Tennis Club. In addition, he coached Salem Little and Middle League baseball teams for many years.

Jim was predeceased by his father Jacko Tomasi and mother Martha Conklin Tomasi.

He is survived by his wife Katharine (Kay) Tomasi, son John Tomasi, and daughter-in-law Heather Tomasi of Maple Valley, Washington. He has three grandchildren, Mia, Nathan, and Siena Tomasi.

The family thanks the community and all those who provided support and care for Jim during his illness. They wish to give special recognition to the caregivers during the past year: Silvia Hernandez, Estrella Espanosa, Adam Aguerro, Wendy Cary, Eileen Reid, Judy Shaw, Bri Aguerro, Tonia Goddard, and Tom Patrick.

A Memorial Service will be held at the First United Presbyterian Church of Salem on Satur-



day, March 21 at 11am. An open house will immediately follow at Jacko's, Main Street, Salem from noon to 2 p.m.

Memorial donation in lieu of flowers may be made to the Salem Courthouse Lunch, Learn and Play Summer Program, PO Box 140, Salem, NY 12865 and the Salem Rescue Squad, PO Box 360, Salem, NY 12865. To offer condolences to the family, please visit garipeyfuneralhomes.com

The McClellan-Garipey Funeral Home in Salem is assisting the Tomasi family.

Obituaries policy

The Journal & Press does not charge for obituaries from the families of longtime subscribers. Please send to editor@journalandpress.com. They should be under 400 words. If deadlines permit, we may be able to write an original piece. Contact us for that possibility. If you are going through a loss, we offer our sincerest condolences.

Life With Dogs

Irene Baldwin
Journal & Press

I have always had one or more dogs in my life starting with Pal when I was two years old. Pal was a grumpy old German shepherd that my father and his family had as their family dog. He ended up living with my parents, sister and me in our Park Place home in Salem growling every time I passed his favorite place to sleep. It didn't bother me much; I just learned to be more cautious when in his vicinity.

And then when I was around six years old, Rags came into my life. She was a small terrier mix with long white hair. Rags was a girl with soulful brown eyes who became my faithful best friend. We went on many an adventure together over hill and stream in East Greenwich. Our family dogs usually lived long and happy lives. When one passed away, another dog was soon added to our increasingly larger family. Rags remains firmly attached to the happy memories of my childhood.

Here I am in the seventh decade of my life and dogs are still ever-present in my home. Fourteen years ago Churchill, a fawn-colored pug, became my longtime friend. Today Churchill is pretty much blind and deaf, but he is still able to enjoy himself and remain an important part of my life. His favorite time of day is bedtime

when the two of us can cuddle and prepare for sleep. It hurts me to see his decline, but his cheerful soul remains intact.

Churchill had a pug buddy named Diego, my Salem friend Marji's dog. When Marji found out she had cancer, she asked me if I would take Diego in until she was done with her treatments. Churchill and Diego became fast friends and brothers who did everything together including mutual face licks, walking adventures and greeting guests. Diego never went back home to his mistress who sadly passed away when Diego was three years old. Two years ago, Diego, a boy with solemn dignity and loyalty, developed cancer and had to be put to sleep. He is buried in his soft bed with all of his toys in my yard next to the brook. Oh, how he enjoyed walking into the water up to his chest to cool off on hot summer days! Churchill will be joining his friend soon I'm afraid.

Similar to all dog lovers, I fear the eventual ends of the short lives my beloved dogs have lived. The joy and companionship dogs bring to me outweigh the sadness of their too soon departures. Well, almost. What other creature will love me unconditionally and take such happiness upon my return to home?

Recently, I decided to visit the Second Chance facility in Arlington to simply "look." Churchill no longer had his compan-

ion Diego and I thought having a new friend would lengthen his life and give him contentment. I met two female dogs who were sisters. I decided right away that Cricket, as she was called then, would be a good addition to my home. Frida (named after my favorite artist, Frida Kahlo) came dancing out into the introduction room and immediately stole my heart when she approached me right away and began giving me kisses. Frida is one half Dachshund and one half (maybe) terrier. She is sleek, fast and a sweetheart. The bonding process between Frida and Churchill has been slow, but each day they are becoming closer. She can never take the place of Diego, but things are livelier around here with Frida's arrival. Frida is a big dog in a little body.

For anyone contemplating adding a dog to your life, my advice is to go for it! Yes, there will be the mess, the barking, the expense, the inconvenience at times. But the enrichment your dog companion will add to your life is so very worth it.

Irene Baldwin is a long-time resident of Cambridge. She is a writer and a retired teacher of English. She grew up and attended school in Salem.



Mirren talks film (cont.)

and behave. She says most Hollywood movies she saw as a young person didn't impress her, but when she discovered European films that changed her perspective on what could be achieved through cinema.

"It wasn't until I saw European films that I realized that film could be a whole different thing. That it could be as expressive and as culturally important as theater was to my mind, and that revelation happened to me through seeing Antonioni's 'L'Avventura' in a very seedy cinema in Brighton – a XXX type of cinema – and it was an incredible revelation for me. And thereon any European film that

was showing anywhere I would go off to see," she says.

"I was an usherette at an art film cinema called the Everyman in Hampstead (in London) when I was a student at college. So that gave me an incredible opportunity to see movies. Not just European movies. I remember seeing 'Citizen Kane' – like 10 times because it was so extraordinarily good. That was always my go-to film experience...to this day really. I love a nice popcorn movie and I'm much more generous in my tastes than I used to be. But still my go-to film experience is something, as you said, that retells the

human story in all its variety and its complexity, and misery and its joy.

"We are constantly doing and then looking at ourselves doing, and then asking ourselves why we do, and how we do, and what we do. And that is what the history of art in human culture has always been."

While some other actors have moved into producing or directing movies Mirren has no wish to do the same. "I think I am intrinsically too lazy. I did direct. I did a half-hour film for Showtime TV. I absolutely loved the experience. I was quite good at it. In fact Showtime asked me to do a full-length feature afterwards. But, again, I'm much too lazy. You know, honestly, I want to sit at home and watch TV."

A dog park for Clarks Mills' Riverside?

Darren Johnson
Journal & Press

At the March 9 meeting of the Village of Greenwich Board of Trustees, Lorraine Ballard, executive director of the Battenkill Conservancy, used the public portion of the evening to discuss some projects that involve the village and larger town.

First, she asked the village for better signage for boat launches, and talked about the Route 29 bridge over the Battenkill being replaced (see separate story). And then the topic of a dog park came up. In the past, the idea for a dog park had been broached for Mill Hollow in the village.

Mayor Pam Fuller said residents there are not in favor of the idea. "The village doesn't

have a lot of land around. I'm backing away from that idea," she said.

Ballard mentioned that she'd spoken with a town official about potentially placing a dog area at Riverside Park in the western part of town. The property was once part of Schuyler Preparatory School in Clarks Mills. It has two abandoned utility buildings on it and overlooks the Hudson River. Past talks had included nearby Hudson Crossing Park administering the site and moving their offices to the buildings.

The 3.3-acre park was purchased a few years ago through then-Supervisor and Democrat Sara Idleman and the board for \$150,000, however town Republicans decried that the park wasn't necessary, and buying it took it off of the tax rolls, as it



Riverside Park -dj photo

had been privately owned.

But Ballard sees that a dog park would work there. "Put a fence around the circle, add a couple of benches, and you have a dog park," she said. "This will get people to know it's a public property."

Presently, the site appears to be in a state of limbo. Makeshift signage that had identified the park is gone, and Hudson Crossing officials are still working out of Saratoga County. It's rare to see a member of the public at the park.

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Making a newspaper is easy... and hard

Darren Johnson
Journal & Press

Twenty years ago, a newspaper like this one would have a whole office buzzing with staff. Phones would be ringing. Fax machines whirring. People coming in to yell at the editor about an op-ed they don't agree with.

None of that exists anymore. In many ways, making a paper is much easier now. Thanks to technological advances — and overall lowered expectations from the readership who see other papers withering away — a paper can

pretty much be done on one computer by one person, with volunteer writers; interns and freelancers chipping in, at their convenience, from their own living rooms, using their own laptops and cell phones. They can even take publishable photos with their phones.

At the same time, it's harder than ever to put out a paper. The ad revenue just isn't what it was, and printing and postage rates keep going up. *And that one person doing it all can burn out.*

But I'm moving forward, and there are lots of positive signs that The Journal & Press will carry on:

- New subscriptions are up and past subscribers are renewing. At the very least, subscriptions help pay for the printing and postage.
- In-store sales have been consistently good.
- People are saying they're grateful we're operating as a *real* newspaper. We're not just trying to pass off press releases as original content. We're going to meetings and events and interviewing people. We're finding the *real* story.
- Advertisers are coming back. Many haven't advertised in a print paper ever; or at least not in the past decade. Some had ad-



The news desk

What's new on Facebook?

The Journal & Press has the most popular Facebook media presence in our region, by far. Posts get thousands of views and sometimes hundreds of likes and dozens of shares.

Our presence is lively, upbeat and optimistic — no wonder why so many people follow us there. You can also find breaking news. The site is more curated than what you'd find in a Facebook group. See our photos in full color there, too.

And small-business advertisers get an extra bonus — if you buy a print ad, we'll also post it there for free for lots of added exposure.

Find our paper's Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/JournalPress.

We also find our Schuylerville Turning Point Newspaper Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/Schuylerville.

Visit us weekday mornings at 44 Ferry St. in Schuylerville.

advertised in "free" newspapers but were disappointed with the results. Our audience pays for the paper, so they are actually going to read it — and see the ads!

We're becoming a part of the fabric of the community; we will sponsor a little league team in Greenwich, where we live, and we belong to the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce, and we've opened a small basement office at 44 Ferry St. in Schuylerville, to have a foot in both counties. It will be open weekday mornings. We're also active with the business groups there.

Through ice storms, a dental emergency and, now, Coronavirus (this is especially affecting my other paper, which distributes at



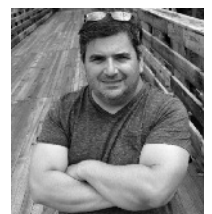
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colleges), we keep getting these newspapers out, and, slowly but surely, improving the product. We won't let you down.

Thank you for believing in The Journal & Press, and all of your kind notes. If you would like to help with the newspaper in some way, send me an email.

And that's the last word ... for now.

Darren Johnson is publisher of this paper.



Rural Soul uke meetup

A "March Ukulele Meet Up" for ukulele enthusiasts of all ages and levels, will take place on Thursday March 26, from 7 to 8 p.m. at Rural Soul Music Studio, 90 Broad Street, Schuylerville. There is a \$5 suggested donation. The event is led by Joan Butler. Bring your uke and feel free to share song ideas! All meet up donations go into a "Ukes for Kids" ukulele fund. Info: music@ruralsoul.com.

Summer Editor-in-Chief

The Journal & Press is looking for a college journalism student to serve as Editor-in-Chief this summer. Stipend available. The right candidate will learn all aspects of newspaper work and must have a can-do attitude, writerly flair and desire to learn page layout. Contact editor@journalandpress.com if interested in this opportunity.

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