# Given a taste of 'reality’ 

Late March 2024
Vol. 183; Issue 6
Greenwich CSD event pairs students with business leaders

The Greenwich PTSA held Reality Check, an immersive and educational event designed to empower students with essential life skills, on March 12 at the high school, drawing a large crowd. Reality Check bills itself as "a captivating journey into the realm of financial literacy and career exploration."

Please read more on pages 6-7

## Also:

June's Whipple City
Festival in limbo - 3


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\text { Fun } \& \text { Games - } 28
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## Battenkill Conservancy's new leaders

With the warmer skies and spring temperatures on the way, the Battenkill Conservancy ("BkC"), a not for profit land trust that works within New York and Vermont's Battenkill watershed, has announced some exciting hellos and some bittersweet goodbyes.

In January, the organization lost its long time BkC Board Chair, Stuart Bartow, who passed away after a relatively brief battle with cancer. His dedication to BkC's mission coupled with his talents as a writer, poet and avid fly fisherman helped guide the organization's work for over 18 years. A memorial tree planting together with a scholarship announcement will take place later this spring.

Simultaneously the BkC Board in conjunction with Lorraine Merghart Ballard, its first Executive Director, was working to secure her replacement. In 2016 with assistance from the NYS Conservation Partnership Program, Lorraine was appointed BkC's first Executive Director. During her tenure, she helped revitalize the organization with popular river related events, increased the public's river access through the Battenkill Corridor Connections Project and used a simple "Picky Bugs Exhibit" containing macroinvertebrates to demonstrate the importance of cold, clean water and a healthy watershed. She promoted the Battenkill as one of the area's most important recreational, cultural, historical and environmental assets. Advocating for "Clean Water \& Open Space for All" became the organization's motto during her tenure. Lorraine will continue to stay involved and act as Board Chair to help with the transition.
Last month, Cambridge resident and former research chemist and science teacher, Beth O'Grady was appointed as BkC's new Director. As a former board member (2020
2022) and an active volunteer, Beth hits the ground running. She has participated in a number of key projects including BkC's 5 year Strategic Plan and the Land Management Plans for the 3 Preserves. Her love of education and science helped bring BkC's Picky Bugs program of educating children about macroinvertebrates into the

Cambridge Central School. Beth has plans to utilize her community activities and involvement with other NFP organizations to further connect and promote BkC's mission. Her focus will be watershed and habitat conservation, community education, and organizational sustainability.
In conjunction with the changes at the staffing level, BkC has announced changes to the Board. After dedicating over 10 years as an active Board Member and volunteer, Jim Ballard stepped down in December, 2023. Jim joined the Board at a pivotal time and was the creative force behind the Battenkill Runs Through It Festival. He was also instrumental in guiding and executing the stewardship and land management efforts at BkC's Schmidt Meadow Preserve \& Rexleigh Marble Mill. During 2022, Jim worked with the JGWA Architects to help produce the Rexleigh Marble Mill Feasibility Study. The study outlined the steps and costs involved in securing the site, preserving the historic ruins and improving public access to the river.

In February, BkC welcomed three new Board Members, Deb Vincent Evans, Melissa Skellie and Kimberly Neilson. Last summer, Deb Vincent Evans of Troy, New York served as the Assistant Program Director of BkC's Discover Your Battenkill Program. In addition to her commitment to diversity and inclusion, her background in nonprofit management, grant writing and education are welcomed.
Melissa Skellie, a retired elementary

school teacher lives in Coila. has lived in the area since joining her husband and assisting with the operation of their 7th generation dairy farm. A Master Gardener coupled with her connections to the agricultural lands of the watershed will help continue the positive relationship BkC has developed with the farming community over the past few years.

BkC's third board member to join in February is Kimberly Neilson who now calls East Greenwich her home. Originally from Queens, Kimberly is a 25 -year veteran of the Life Insurance industry and works in Product Development for Prudential Life Insurance Company. In addition to her technical and marketing skills, Kim's home sits on the banks of the Battenkill.
Throughout the years BkC has offered a robust calendar of fun, river related events, topical annual speakers and advocated for public access to the Battenkill for all. Their mission of preserving and enhancing the Battenkill watershed will continue with Beth O'Grady as Director and a stronger board with new members.

# Passing on Whipple City Festival 

## Darren Johnson <br> Journal \& Press

The Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce held a meeting at Gather 103 in Greenwich on March 14 to announce that they are giving up running the annual Whipple City Festival, held in June each year. The Chamber has been running the event since 1992. About 20 people attended the meeting, mainly aimed at community business and nonprofit leaders who might volunteer to take on the responsibility.

The event is named after Job Whipple, the founder of Greenwich, and had been known as Whipple City Days since 1980. It also usually includes a parade, and, in recent years, a 5 K race.

Chamber Executive Director Kelly Eustis said that a survey of 138 people held after the last festival noted many people have problems with it, and the event has not been a moneymaker for the group.
"It doesn't really fall in line with what the Chamber's mission is," Eustis said. "The Whipple City Festival has never been about business."

In comparison, the Chamber-led Holiday Lighted Tractor Parade, held in November, has exploded in interest, with over 10,000 people attending the event in 2023. That parade was even featured on "Good Morning America."

"The Tractor Parade is what we're focused on," Eustis said, "because business participation in that is huge."
Interrupted by the pandemic in 2020, the Whipple City Festival has faced bad weather and low attendance in recent years. Chamber chair Rulyn Graves suggested moving the event to mid-July.
As it has been in recent years, the event lined Main Street and adjoining lots, with vendors and non-profit groups under tents, food trucks, bands on a stage, and games, such as a dunk tank sponsored by the PTSA.
Brick-and-mortar shop owners in attendance at the March 14 gathering said that the event did not bring them more foot traffic.

Considering how much work it takes to pull off such an event, and considering the village will soon dig up sidewalks for extensive waterline work, Graves suggested, and
some in the audience were in agreement, that the event may want to go on hiatus until 2025, to allow deeper planning.
However, Greenwich Library director Sarah Murphy suggested that perhaps a smaller event that celebrates the history of Whipple and the Village could be held in 2024 instead.

Of the complaints from local residents, many felt the event was better in the past. Typically, crowd-pleasing bands played in the gazebo in Mowry Park, for example. But Eustis chalked that up to nostalgia.
"People always look at the past as better than the present," he said, "and no matter what we do, it isn't good enough."
At the gathering, it was still unclear who might take over running the festival, as no one volunteered, but a list of attendees and their contact information will be shared so that the conversation could continue and perhaps a new plan will emerge.
"We need someone to say, 'I want to chair this," Graves said.
The Chamber leader added that the Chamber will help whatever new group takes on this project by sharing knowledge and background information.

## GREENWICH HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

## Greenwich winter sports honors

During the just completed Winter 202324 athletic seasons, five Greenwich JuniorSenior High School teams fielded by the Greenwich Central School District were designated as a Scholar Athlete Team. "The Scholar Athlete Team designation demonstrates that many of the student athletes at GCS are fulfilling our school purpose of producing well rounded, active, healthy, and motivated young adults ready to achieve at the highest level when they move on from our school," according to Principal George C. Niesz.

Below are the teams that earned the NYSPHSAAA Scholar Athlete Team designation.

Winter Sports: Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Competitive Cheer, Girls Indoor Track and Boys Indoor Track.
In addition to the team recognition, the following student athletes earned individual designation as a New York State Scholar Athlete (had a GPA of $90 \%$ or better for the first marking period).

Girls Basketball: Grace Autiello, Sydney Baptie, Ludovica Bonfiglioli, Olivia Davis, Brooke Kuzmich, Elizabeth Marci, Sarah Radovich and Luna Wiebe.

Boys Basketball: Langston Hall, Ryan In gber, Joseph Radovich and Colin Traver.

Competitive Cheer: Sophia Boice, Morgan Colby, Mia Sausville, Kelsy Smith and Sophia Tomczak.

Girls Indoor Track: Ava Aierstok, Charlotte Collins, Kendall Hamilton, Catherine Johnson, Caroline Kelly, Kylie Lundberg, Allison Michel, Sarah Radovich, Julia Sgambelluri and Isla Shaw.

Boys Indoor Track: Peter Chuhta, Noah Davis, Samuel Dixson, Eisley DuBois, Miguel Gonzalez, Cameron Meaker and Jackson Slater.

Skiing: Max Aierstok and Carson Reynolds.

## Witches finish 23-1

Greenwich girls basketball's stellar run ended in the sectionals today. The Witches finished the year 23-1 with a loss against senior-laden Duanesburg 47-34. Captions:
NaNa Rojas (No. 4) goes in for a layup. Rojas played most of the game in foul trouble, ending the day with 8 points.

Brooke Kuzmich (No. 2) led the Witches with 16 points.
Liz Marci (No. 11) battles for position under the boards.
Riley Brophy (No. 32) goes for 2 of her 5 points.
Kuzmich and Rojas were selected for the all-tournament team.
-Dan Pemrick photos


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## Next Free Issue Is 4/8 - 5x circulation!

The historic, est. 1842 Greenwich Journal will still publish and mail its paid-circulation paper the 1st and 15th of each month, but will now also publish a free newspaper titled Journal \& Press, distributed to free racks outside Greenwich on the 8th and 22nd of each month.


## Here are the rules:

This is the 1 x rate for small businesses/ non-profits; you may extend it to 2-48x/year. A small business is 5 or fewer employees. This is the $12 x / 24 x / 48 x$ rate for larger businesses and others with prepay.

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- send to editor@journalandpress.com.
- Design help available for an added fee -ask!


## SCHOOL NEWS

## Students given a 'Reality Check'

## Darren Johnson <br> Journal \& Press

The Greenwich Parent-Teacher-Student Association (PTSA) held Reality Check, an immersive and educational event designed to empower students with essential life skills, taking place on March 12 during the school day at the Greenwich High School Media Center. Reality Check billed itself as "a captivating journey into the realm of financial literacy and career exploration."

Reality Check isn't your typical classroom experience; it's a dynamic "Game of Life" that challenges students to navigate through real-world financial scenarios while honing their money management and budgeting skills. Developed by the Greenwich PTSA, this simulation game aims to equip students with practical knowledge that extends far beyond traditional academic subjects.

Participants encountered a mix of anticipated situations and unexpected twists, mirroring the complexities of real-life financial decision-making. From managing expenses to seizing lucrative opportunities, students engaged in hands-on learning that aimed to prepared them for the challenges of adulthood.

Reality Check also offered students the opportunity to explore various career paths by engaging in conversations with local business owners and professionals.
"We're excited to present Reality Check as a unique learning experience that goes beyond textbooks and classrooms," said Tara Graves, communications for Fort Miller Group and member of the Greenwich PTSA. "In today's rapidly changing world, financial literacy and career readiness are more important than ever. Reality Check provides students with the tools and confidence they need to navigate the complexities of the modern economy."

This is the second time the PTSA has hosted this event, but last year's event was held on a Saturday and was not well

attended by students. This year, the event was bustling and the two dozen or so local businesspeople who manned tables were kept very busy by inquisitive students.

Greenwich CSD superintendent Jennifer Steimle said: "I'm super proud of the kids, and I love watching how respectful they are to our community partners. I'm exceptionally thankful for our PTSA. This was a huge undertaking for them, helping us do this for our kids."
Graves said that they may now have the winning formula for this event, as students, faculty, staff and the local business leaders who helped out all gave the event praise.
"It's really about financial literacy," Graves said. "Hopefully students take a great life lesson away with them."
The event largely

consisted of two aspects for students - the game, where students were given a fictional job and salary and then had to develop a budget based on that, judged by local business people from the financial realms, like banking, grocery store management and real estate; and a career-fair aspect, where they were given stars and raffle tickets for chatting up local business people in fields the students may be interested in, ranging from veterinary science to manufacturing to graphic design, the law, publishing, radiology and much more.
"I'm very happy with how it turned out. Last year's event was great, but this was even better," Steimle said. "By doing it during the school day, we could capture entire grade levels of kids. We may even need a bigger space and more time next year."

She said that the event indeed was a "reality check" for the students, who were unaware of what typical salaries are in fields they may be interested in vs. what items like groceries and rent may cost.

The superintendent noted that while such practical training isn't required by the state, "Greenwich feels like it's a must-do for our kids."

## SCENES FROM REALITY CHECK




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# Hunger hits harder here of late 

## Darren Johnson <br> Journal \& Press

The Cambridge Food Pantry has seen its usage numbers increase by $18.5 \%$ since January 2023. The food insecurity crisis in this area continues to grow. At Cambridge Central School, they have a poverty rate among the students of $47.53 \%$. That is up 11.7\% since 2016. So I interviewed Sarah Harrington, executive director of the Cambridge Food Pantry. Here is our conversation:

Journal \& Press: As evidenced by the quickly growing number of students eligible for free lunch now in area districts, it's obvious more people are struggling. How are you seeing this play out locally?
Sarah Harrington: I am the new Executive Director at the Cambridge Food Pantry. We hear stories every day of the struggle that our neighbors have with providing food to their families.

J\&P: What do you think some of the reasons are for the poverty?
SH: Many of the people we serve are elderly or disabled. We see a lot of families with young children. People do not have enough money to keep up with expenses and inflation. We had cases where we directed people to the Emergency Fuel Fund in Cambridge. In one situation, their electric was going to be shut off and they needed that to start their furnace. It was when the temperatures were in the negative.

J\&P: Is it affecting certain age groups more than others?
SH: It is somewhat even between adults and seniors. Currently we have 538 families enrolled in our system.

J\&P: How does this translate at the K-12 level?
SH: We serve the most to children because of our backpack program that gives an additional two meals to children for the weekend.

J\&P: Is your pantry able to meet the demand?

SH: So far, yes. The pantry provides food to families three service times per week. There are currently 55 active volunteers that make this all happen. They do a wonderful job. I couldn't ask for more from them. In February, we brought in 28,891 pounds of food. It comes from Regional Food Bank, Hannaford in Greenwich, Comfort Food Community, food drives, local stores, and individuals. People are very generous.

J\&P: What are some ways you help residents?
SH: We are able to provide meat, produce, canned goods, and baked goods that they might not otherwise be able to afford.

J\&P: How do you get the word out about your services?
SH: We just put up new signage with hours, we have a Facebook page, and we are working on a new website. Most locals know about us from word of mouth. We have been a pantry for over 30 years at different locations in Cambridge.
$\mathbf{J \& P}$ : What are your group's plans for the coming years?
SH: Since I began January 1st of this year, I have been working to streamline our ability to serve people and facilitate ways to connect with our community. We have a truck that is essential to our ability to get the food that has been towed twice and needs replacing, so we are actively raising money for that project. There were many facility-related issues that needed addressing. We are in an old restaurant with all the issues that come with that. I have organized a youth work party for community service and we have some contractors that have generously offered their services to help us. My hope is to have a very welcoming and comfortable experience for our neighbors when they come for a service. I'd like pantry area to appear more store-like and have
a wide variety of nutritious options. I plan to partner with local farms and gardeners for fresh produce donations during the growing season. We just had a van donated by Regional Food Bank that
 will make it possible to do pick ups of donated produce. I'm excited about where we are headed.

## J\&P: Anything else you'd like to add?

SH: We do not turn anyone away that is in need. I've let first responders and the school know if there is an emergency situation regarding food, they can contact me, and I will do my best to help out. We had one situation with a student at school, where we were able to step up and provide food to a family in need at a moment's notice. We have that flexibility.

## Also: Raffle for the Pantry

The pantry is trying to address these needs in the local community. They are holding a George Van Hook Painting Raffle. The drawing will be held at the Cambridge Food Pantry on April 27, 2024 at 6 p.m.

The winner will not need to be present. You can see the original painting on display at the Glens Falls National Bank in Cambridge.

The beautiful painting, "Morning Cast on the Battenkill," is an oil-on-linen donated by Van Hook. It is the view of the Battenkill River near the Rt. 313 bridge in Cambridge.
The tickets are $\$ 50$ each and are available at the Cambridge Florist or by call/text at 518-683-6691. Money raised will go straight to helping local people in need.

# Going book-clubbing 

Sarah Murphy<br>Greenwich Free Library<br>Special to Journal \& Press

At around four in the morning, on the party bus from the villa back to the city, I got invited to join a book club. It was May of 2015, and I was spending three days in Seville, Spain to celebrate the wedding of an old friend. It was a long way to travel, especially for a weekend, but I managed to get a cheap flight, and I am loathe to pass up a chance to explore a new city. I was traveling solo, and despite knowing the groom since high school, I knew very few others in attendance. But friends of friends make great friends, and-as it turned out-great readers.
A little more than a year earlier, Nick and Melanie, academics and artists living in upper Manhattan, had started a book club. From the beginning, this book club was a little unusual. For one thing, it had a name: the Novelly Unproductive Book Club, aka NUB Club. "Novelly" because the decision was to read only full-length fiction, and "Unproductive" because of the radical nature of reading for pleasure instead of giving in to the constant pressure to be hyper productive. Melanie told me that she was in the middle of a "publish or perish tenure grind" and that "taking the time to read for fun was actually a bit rebellious."

Of course this wasn't my first book club. There was the one with college pals centered around meals. One person would choose the book and a restaurant or a menu that was thematically connected. A great spot on Curry Row in the East Village to discuss White Teeth; sushi for The WindUp Bird Chronicle, and a tea party for Persuasion. This was tons of fun, but it was hard to keep the focus on the book with all the food and gossip flying. A few years later, I tried a book club hosted at my favorite local indie book shop. It was a way to connect with likeminded neighbors and read books I might not choose on my own, but the con-
versation-planned and led by one in-dividual-felt stilted and forced.
I was lucky to spend several years hosting a book club for 4th grade boys and adult male caregivers and role models. My wonderful library colleague, Susan, started a "Guys Read" club with our third grade students, and I followed her lead once the first group moved on to grade 4. These conversations were magical; the kids blew the adults away with their insights, and the boys were able to see a side of their dads, uncles, and family friends that had previously been hidden.

By the time I attended my first NUB Club meeting, I had strong feelings about book clubs in general and what I wanted from them: basically a grad school lit seminar that I had to neither teach nor be graded on. I'm not sure what I said on that four AM bus ride that got me the invite, but I knew this selfselective group was serious about literature. The book we discussed at my first meeting was Rachel Cusk's Outline, a short, meditative character study with beautiful writing and essentially no plot. It was generally liked by the group, but "did you like it?" was almost beside the point. The analysis was about what the author was trying to do, and whether and how she succeeded. Over the years, I have enjoyed book club discussions about books I've detested as much or more than those about books I've loved. The conversations are often debates and always riveting. I will frequently find that I like a book a little bit more after a spirited exchange.
In addition to its quirky title (and, for the record, this group is so un-unproductive that they've created an entire website cataloging and reviewing every single book read over ten years), there are a number of other factors that make NUB Club different from any other I've known or known about. Every month, anyone present can nominate as

many prose, fiction books as they wish, and then we vote using a system that has developed over time. The book with the most votes wins, end of story. The group meets in the same location-Nick and Melanie's apartment-every month. The group varies in size, but averages about seven or eight.
I'm frequently asked by patrons about book clubs at the library. My usual response is, would you like to start one? I hope someone takes me up on it, but I know how hard it is to make such an endeavor really work. But it's absolutely worth a try, because chatting, laughing, gushing, arguing, even yelling about books is among life's most enjoyable pursuits.
And if you're looking for a good book to start with, check out the short list at www. nubookclub.com

Sarah Murphy is Director of the Greenwich Free Library.



May the promise of Spring, fill you with hope and joy! Looking forward to warm sunny days, cruising on the lake, bonfires with family and friends, dining al fresco, and evening strolls!


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## Why is this fish a problem?

Hudson Crossing Park is a partner with the Historic Hudson Hoosic Rivers Partnership to raise awareness about the invasive fish the Round Goby. Together, they're working to educate the public on the dangers of this uninvited, invasive species and on strategies to contain it.
The Round Goby has made its way from the Great Lakes, through the Erie Canal, and into the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers. They pose an immediate threat to the native wildlife in the area, with voracious appetites that are leading them to outcompete and displace native species. This has a negative impact on the environment, fish and wildlife populations, and the economy.

Erin Vennie Vollrath from DECRegion 5, and Ed Skorupski, from the Hudson River Estuary Management Council, Adirondack Conser-
vation Council, and NYS Outdoor Writers Association, will lead the discussion at the Gateway Visitor Center on Tuesday, March 19th, from $6-7 \mathrm{pm}$.
The Gateway Visitor Center is located at 30 Ferry Street, Schuylerville, NY 12871.


## Donate blood

As spring approaches, the American Red Cross urges donors to give blood or platelets now to continue to strengthen the national blood supply. People of all blood types - especially those with type O blood - are critical to ensuring hospitals can meet the daily demand for lifesaving transfusions.

During Red Cross Month in March, the Red Cross celebrates the volunteers and blood
and platelet donors who are critical to ensuring those in need receive relief and care. Help can't wait - to book a time to give, visit RedCrossBlood.org, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or call 1-800-RED CROSS.
Upcoming blood drives:
Cambridge - 3/19/2024: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Cambridge High School, 24 South Park Street.
Saratoga Springs - 3/20/2024: 10 a.m. 3 p.m., Saratoga Hospital at Wilton Mall.

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## It takes a village to get voter turnout

Darren Johnson<br>Journal \& Press

Typically, most villages in our region hold their elections in March. The Village of Greenwich elections, for example, are Tuesday, March 19, from 12 to 9 p.m., at the village hall.
(If you live in a different village, check your local government web site for election information.)

However, most villages now have trouble finding any candidates to run; Greenwich does have a full slate for an open mayor's seat and two trustee seats (see story, last issue, via JournalandPress.com), but the race isn't contested.

The Village of Greenwich has about 1600 eligible voters, but only 30 bothered to show up the last time there was a full election, albeit uncontested, in 2022.
A special election for a one-year term to cover a vacated seat was contested last spring between then-newcomer Willy Grimmke (who won and is running again this spring as an incumbent) and Liv Thygesen, but for that race only 134 people voted in total, or about $8 \%$ of the potential electorate.

I decided to ask various local leaders about this issue.
This is the question I posed: Village elections are coming up, but it seems local villages are having trouble finding people to run, and voter turnout for these elections has been declining. Do you think this model of governance is sustainable?

Here are their thoughts:


Dan Carpenter, Mayor of Schuylerville

The question of sustainability is indeed a pressing one given the recent election results in Schuylerville, where we saw a concerning level of voter apathy and
a lack of competition among candidates. With only three individuals running unopposed and a turnout of just less than $5 \%$ of registered voters, it's clear we are at a critical juncture.

The model of governance we have relies fundamentally on active participation from our community-both in terms of leadership and engagement. The trends we're observing, notably the difficulty in finding candidates to run and the declining voter turnout, challenge this model's viability in its current form.
Is this model sustainable? Without change, without finding ways to reinvigorate community interest and participation in our democratic processes, its sustainability is indeed in question. This situation serves as a wake-up call, emphasizing the need for us, as a village, to critically evaluate how we can better engage our residents in the governance process.
The core of our village's governance mod-el-community-based decision-making-remains a powerful and essential approach However, the current challenges highlight a disconnect that must be addressed to ensure this model's future effectiveness and sustainability. It is a challenge I am acutely aware of and committed to understanding and addressing in my role as mayor.

## Pam Fuller, Outgoing Mayor of Greenwich

It is undeniably difficult to recruit people who are willing to run for office and serve on Village boards of trustees, and especially for mayor.
 One of the reasons is that we don't have a succession plan for the job of Mayor-people who are willing to serve as Trustees are often people who are retired and thus believe they have time to do it. But these same people don't feel they have the desire to put in the time and commitment to be Mayor. Trustees who are working
generally feel that they can't squeeze enough time out of their schedules to take on the responsibilities. I believe, too, that the general public is unaware of how much effect on quality of life the Village boards have-how to increase awareness is a puzzle, since Dan Carpenter is correct-it's tough to get people to meetings unless they have a pet peeve to air. The other problem is that frankly the meetings can be tedious since we need to cover all the regular business and because of the open meetings law we only have the regular meetings in which to discuss issues. Maybe if more people understood the effect they could have, they would want to step up.
It seems like the same small group of people are the ones who are willing to volunteer, and they are tagged for multiple committees as projects and issues arise. For Village elected officials, a requirement is that they be Village residents, which narrows the pool of candidates.
With all these problems, when I decided not to run for another term, a group of residents formed a committee to recruit good candidates, and we compiled our ideas and talked to people who we thought would be assets. While most people said no, we ended up with an excellent slate that we are very happy and enthusiastic about. I can't explain why they have no opponents-I thought some of the people who criticized our actions would have stepped forward. I ran unopposed in both of my mayoral elections.

Amanda Hurley, Running Unopposed for Mayor of Greenwich
I had raised my hand for the Village Board of Trustees and then was approached about running for Mayor. We live in a community that relies heavily on volunteers in almost all aspects of our function, youth sports, library, fire department, etc. It's generally either the same people who opt

## (cont.)

in and their time is spread incredibly thin or people shy away due to the contentious political climate/have the belief that local politics can't influence change. I was really inspired when Reed Anderson ran for Town Board. I'm hoping that we can start pulling a younger generation into the municipality to help communicate the importance of being involved locally and build upon the awesome community we have all called home and the comprehensive plan the current Village Mayor and Town Supervisor have put together.

The needs and expectations of village residents differ from our Town counterparts. While both entities share common ground, the intricacies of village life demand a tailored approach. The significance of having dedicated local leadership specifically representing the village lies in its ability to singularly address and prioritize the concerns unique to the village residents.

## Lance Wang, White Creek Supervisor and Clerk, Village of Cambridge

Is this model of governance sustainable? It has to be. That said, interest in politics waxes and wanes. As temperatures rise, and the electorate feels that their government no longer represents them, this pushes some toward local. The 2018 election brought a lot of interest in local government and running for local office, largely driven by national politics. The interest has waned, although I suspect national politics can change that again at any time.

## A couple of other thoughts:

First, the process of running for office has become more and more unpalatable as the social contract fails and campaigns have become more personal and less based on issues. This reduces the number of candidates who want to enter the arena, and causes mainstream people to turn away from government.
Second, there is always an element among
us who want "set it and forget it government." They want to elect people that they can trust so they do not have to get involved in politics or take time out from busy lives to attend meetings. It's just a fact of life. Not everyone has the time. Either way, it reduces the number of candidates and mainstream participation in local government.

## Carman Bogle, Mayor of Cambridge

Village election turnout has alot to do with what is going on in the village at the time. Some years there are multiple candidates on the ballot for seats. For instance last year in the Village of Cambridge there were three candidates for the trustee seats and two
 running for Mayor. The 2023 election had one of the highest voter turnouts as well.
Local government is critical for providing the services residents count on everyday such as police, fire protection, local roads and infrastructure. Sustainability relies on residents being actively engaged in those everyday decisions, and their voices truly do matter at this level.

## Jake Ashby, New York State Senator

Challenges and difficult circumstances often push great people to rise to the occasion and embrace leadership positions they might not have considered before. I'm confident that if citizens are dissatisfied with their government, they'll pick up a clip board, get the signatures they need to run for office and do something about it. That's what America is all about. I have too strong of a belief in the importance of local government to ever give up on it. It's not just sustainable, it's essential. I also
believe that good leaders will find ways to engage voters. If they're unopposed because residents are satisfied with their job performance and the race is low profile, that's also its own kind of referendum. Am I open to the idea of consolidating local governments where residents of both communities are amenable to it and it makes financial sense? Sure, but that's a logistical question. This is almost a spiritual question that digs to the bedrock of the American experiment self governance. We can never move on from that.

Liv Thygesen, 2023 Village of Greenwich Candidate
It takes a lot to put oneself out there to run for something. And then you have to feel the other side of it all when it
 goes your way or not your way. But I found that it has been tough to get people to run, across the board. And then, talking with people in other townships, finding people interested, but willing to stick their neck out for it.
And you have to get the voters motivated to get out, and most people think it's not worth it. I also think it hurts that the village election is only open from 12 to 9 . What if people are working during that time?

Most of our area is blue collar workers. These people work from five in the morning. They can work till nine o'clock at night ... or lots of people work outside the county, and they can't get here to vote when the polls are open.

You're disenfranchising the majority of the voters with the times that these polls are open. And that includes school elections as well.
The other aspect are cliques and how the national parties are now trying to infiltrate the local level. Village elections are supposed to be non-partisan and independent. But if a major party has a political advantage, they can steer their candidates to victory. So this creates apathy and people who aren't in the in-crowd saying why bother?

## THROUGH THE DECADES

## These are really good cough drops

Here's our regular look at articles the appeared in The Journal from decades past...

## 180 Years Ago

## March 28, 1844

TO THE INHABITANTS OF UNION VILLAGE: You are hereby summoned to be and appear at the store of the agents for the same of Pease's Horehound Candy in the town of Greenwich, and if you have a cough or cold, or are in any way consumptive, and you have purchased and made the fair trial of a small quantity of this Horehound Candy, to show cause, if any you have, why your cough is not cured, if in fact it's not cured, depend upon it you have not followed the directions which accompany each package. You have only read the following testimonials from clergymen, to be convinced of its virtues.


The Greatest Tribute to Buick

> Wherever yougo, people take Buick quality for granted. They accept it, like any established fact. There is an excellent reason for this. For twenty years Buick cars have given thoroughly dependable, satisfying and economical performance to Buick owners everywhere. Let us give you first hand knowledge us Buick quality by a demonstration in the model of your choice.

## MARK A. PETTEYS

GREENWICH, N.Y.
WHEN BETTER AUTOMOBILES ARE BLILT, BUICK WILL EXU: TMEMA

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We, the undersigned, have used Pease's Horehound Candy, and truly recommend it to those suffering from coughs, colds or consumption as an excellent remedy.
Rev. Mr. Lindsay, pastor, M.E. church, Second St.; Elder Knapp; Rev. Mr. Crawford, pastor, M.E. church, Forsyth St.; Rev. Mr. Luckey, recent P.E., New York Conference; Rev. Mr. Hark, 521 Pearl St. of Baptist church, Gow St.
The following are a list of our only authorized agents in Washington county:
Charles H. Moores, Union Village; John Gale, Galesville; M\&W Freeman, Salem; M. Robertson, East Greenwich; WW White, Battenville; A. Worth, Easton.

## 170 Years Ago

## March 16, 1854

We don't like to joke at the expense of bachelors, but this story told by the Mansfield Herald is too good to be lost:
"A morning or two since, cries for assistance, were heard proceeding from the room of a highly respectable bachelor. On bursting open the door he was found froze fast in a tub of water! Having been troubled with a bad cold, he thought to take a bath in a tub of warm water, the night before, and felt so comfortable while sitting in it that he fell asleep and did not wake until morning. He was of course unable to stir and was compelled to call for help. To his great horror, the first person rushing to him was an old maid who had felt a partiality toward him. She, supposing he intended a joke upon her, broke into the street again, her countenance filled with indignation and wounded vanity, and threw her hands violently about, exclaiming, 'O, the heartless villain!' His continued cries, however, brought our friend speedy assistance when, by chopping him out with a hatchet and turning him round like a spit


On the Greatest Super-Six Chassis Ever Built

before the fire, he soon was thawed out, He wishes us to say he is now a candidate for matrimony."

## 160 Years Ago

## March 31, 1864

At a town meeting held at Sandy Hill on the 22 nd instant, the following resolution was passed without a dissenting voice:
Resolved, that a bounty of $\$ 300$ be paid by the town of Kingsbury to each volunteer credited upon the quota of said town under the last call for 200,000 additional men, dated March 14th, 1864, and $\$ 50$ additional to each volunteer so credited who shall select and be mustered into the 123rd NY S.

Please read more on the next page

## THROUGH THE DECADES

## Tale of a bad tipper

Vols - our county regiment - the money to be raised by the Board of Supervisors of the County, at a special meeting held at Argyle on the 14th of March instant.
After the passage of the resolution, a number of wealthy men of the place stepped forward and united in signing a note for the whole sum required, and the First National Bank immediately advanced the money. The other towns are taking similar action. In fact, there is no county in the state which has poured out its blood and treasure in support of the country more freely than Old Washington.
... "If any man attempts to haul down the American Flag, shoot him on the spot!"
-John A. Dix.

## 100 Years Ago

## March 19, 1924

Liberal Tip, If Found - A mean man ate a good meal at a restaurant and then, when he had finished, dropped a half crown on the floor.

## RubberBoots AND Rubbers REPAIRED

We guarantee them to stick SAM'S

Quick Repair Shop<br>Hamilton House Basement

"Waiter," he said, as he paid his bill, "I just dropped two half crowns. Find them for me, will you?"
The waiter disappeared under the table and in a short time emerged very red in the face.
"I've found one of them, sir," he said.
"Thanks," said the man as he pocketed the coin and rose. "When you find the other keep it for yourself - tip, you know."

## 80 Years Ago

## March 29, 1944

The draft board for southern Washington County has changed the classification of several young men, formerly deferred because of agricultural occupation, to class 1-A, which means they will be called for pre-induction physical examination within the next few months. However, a much longer list of farmers is reported this week continued in that deferred group. Since the recent selective service order increasing the units necessary for farm deferment, the board has been receiving the cases of all those in that class... Four people have registered with the board this past week. They are Wallace R. Bishop of Argyle and Albert J. Arcuri of Fort Edward, who are 18, and Ciceron A. Granger and Sherman A. Hammond of Fort Edward, who also registered. Christie E. Lyttle of Greenwich has been commissioned an ensign in the navy, the board reports.

## 20 Years Ago

## March 25, 2004

Auditions had to be extended to a second night when over 60 aspiring stars showed up to try out for a role in "Greenwich: The Musical!" ... "There is a hidden talent in this community," said Marilyn Boyd, coproducer, "a lot of it."

## Spring and Summer 1924

Made-to-Measure CLOTHES
By J. L. Taylor and
The Royal Tailors
From $\$ \mathbf{2 6 . 5 0}$ Up
Order Soon
so you will get proper attention before the rush season.

## W. J. SEEDS

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GREENWICH, N. Y.


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Save monev regularly. Bank by Mail. No matter where
you live you can enjoy the banking facilitien of the Albary you live you can enjoy the banking facilities of the Albany
Savinga Bank, one of the largest and oldest savingo banks in the State. A postal will bring full information.

Albany Savings Bank Comer Maiden Lane \& N, Pearl St. ,

Deposits anal Suxplas Over Ferty Mimem Derlara

Roles include those of farmers, shopkeepers, students, teachers, historical figures and local legends. Many roles require the actors to sing, and musical director Bob Warren was pleased with the turnout.
-Compiled by Darren Johnson

## IN GOOD FAITH

## The Celtic Spirit

## MaryAnne Brown Journal \& Press

March is the month for noticing all things green. Nature shows signs of new life with a crop of wee green grass popping up and sprays of green leaves hugging early flowers. Many of us celebrate St. Patrick's Day with green beer, green shamrocks, and the wearing of the green. Did you know that 31.5 million Americans report having Irish ancestry? (2021 U.S. Census) No wonder so many of us are drawn to keeping the Irish spirit lively and merry on and around St. Patrick's Day! My study of all things Irish drew me deeply into Celtic Spirituality.

What is often ignored in daily life is the fact that we are Spiritual Beings, searching for wholeness, indeed searching for a connection to God, to a Great Spirit, to the Holy. Since the beginning of humankind, we have had physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. In early history, it was natural for communities to care wholistically for those who were ill or in pain. Gradually, formalized medicine shifted its treatment philosophy and separated the body, mind, and soul. As a result, physicians were schooled to leave matters of the mind to the psychology professionals and secrets of the soul to the clergy. However, more recently, there is a growing recognition that wholeness of body, mind and spirit has a profound influence on health and healing.

A key component in this attitude of wholeness is spirituality. Over the years, the response to the spiritual has often been formalized into specific denominations. While this fixed approach has served many believers, it can be somewhat restrictive and perhaps even unhealthy for others. Whether we seek the Divine through Buddha, Allah, Christ, or a Greater Power, many individuals yearn for a method that allows one to step beyond a specific religious framework and engage with others who are seeking a spirituality that brings real meaning to their everyday lives.

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Those who have this holy longing, who seek the welcome of community, who honor the earth and its creatures with great sincerity may feel quite at home within the Celtic spiritual tradition which presents a natural pathway to wisdom and balance. Though the Celts were an ancient people, their tradition of belief seems to incorporate many of the principles that we strive for today on our journey toward wholeness. The Celtic people respected the harmony of body, mind, and spirit. They linked the cycles of time, season and growth to the life-progress and journey of our very soul. We form our soul by moving through the seasons of cold and darkness, warmth, and rain. We may seek guidance from an Anam Cara (Soul Friend) about how best to weed and prune so that we grow strong and attentive, and when maturity comes, we may harvest and extend the fruits of our Spirit to others.

In this 21st century, our search for meaning can put faith and courage to the test. The noise of the world distracts us from our need to listen to the quiet voice of God. Immersed in an environment of disorder, we may lose courage to look in on our spirit. We may wonder about our beliefs, and we may lose sight of the inner call of the heart. Yet the ancient Celts relied on a tried and true formula that kept them grounded in wholeness. The Celts:

1. Relied on poetry, music and story provided by wisdom figures in their world.
2. Used imagination to sense the blending of time and space, past and present. This mystical outlook comforted them as they sensed their late ancestors lived on as companions on the journey.
3. Respected their heroes and leaders and were committed to equality in their society.
4. Had a profound love and a healthy respect for nature and creation.


Ancient Celtic wisdom is for the world of today. Though matters of the Spirit may seem particularly remote, the Celts teach us to satisfy our own spiritual hunger by making each day sacred. As "everyday mystics", the Celtic people were keenly aware of the splendor of creation and using their five senses they could experience the spiritual in the everyday.
As in other traditions, the Celtic practice fosters healthy wholeness. If we tend our bodies with nourishing food, adequate rest, and conscientious exercise, we will respect the gift of the physical. If we care for our minds by honoring our feelings, we will respect the gift of passion. If we magnify our spirits through prayer, holy books of wisdom and self-care, we will treasure the greatest gift of creation, which is the essence of our temple.
So, when you celebrate all things Irish this year, lean into these secrets of the Celtic Spirit. Relish the joy and security of newfound wellness. Meanwhile, I wish you all Good Health/Cheers in Irish... Slaente!

MaryAnne Brown, RN, BSN, MA is a music minister at St. Joseph's Church and has a special interest in spirituality and health. She serves on the Retreat Team at Dominican Retreat and Conference Center in Niskayuna and provides grantwriting services.


## News from local churches

## Roman Catholic Churches

Mass at Holy Cross Catholic Church on Sunday is at 8:15 AM; at St. Patrick's at 11:30 AM and offers the 'Children's Liturgy of the Word'; and at Immaculate Conception in Hoosick Falls on Saturday at 4 PM and Sunday at 10 AM. Holy Cross offers a coffee and fellowship after Mass on the 1st Sunday of the month to which all are invited. Please remember the rice bowls during Lent. St. Patrick's invites all to pray the Stations at 5 PM on Fridays and will hold a St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Sunday, March 17 after the 11:30 Mass.
Upcoming Lenten luncheons will be held March 14 at Holy Cross and March 21 at Salem Methodist.
Reconciliation Services will be held March 10 at 2 PM at Holy Cross, and the 12th at 6:30 PM at St. Patrick's.
The Holy Week schedule is as follows: Holy Thursday, March 28 at 6 PM, Mass with Pot Luck dinner to follow at Holy Cross; March 29, 12 PM Station of the Cross at Holy Cross and at 12 PM Way of the Cross in Hoosick Falls at Immaculate Conception and at 6 PM, Good Friday Service at St. Patrick's.
The Easter Vigil will be at Immaculate Conception on Saturday, March 30 at 8 PM. Easter Sunday will be the regular schedule at each church.

All are welcome to join the "Set Free" Conference at the Coila Church during Sundays in March at 6:30-7:30 PM. Three speakers will share their personal journeys of Anxiety, Depression, and Addiction. The last week will be a panel discussion of "Our Wives". Refreshments will be provided. For more information call 518-677-8101 and ask for Deneen.
Lenten Reflection Series presented by the Catholic Community of the Holy Family will be held on Tuesdays in March beginning the 5th at 6 PM. "Woman at the Well" will be presented by Jeff Peck at Notre Dame-Visitation.

The Salem food pantry is especially in need of tuna fish, coffee, cereal, pancake mix and oil. The Cambridge Food Panty is in need of dry, boxed cereal, oatmeal, tuna fish, chicken noodle soup and jam or jelly. Thank you for your continued support.

## Coila Church

Join Coila Church for a four-Sunday event in March where you will hear from three speakers as they share their personal journeys: "The Heart of Anxiety," Dan Davala, (March 3rd); "My Journey with Depression," Luke Olson (March 10th); and "Freedom from Addiction," Peter Bailey (March 17th). There will be a panel discussion for the final Sunday (March 24th). Time: 6:307:30PM. Location is at Coila Church (93 State Route 372, Cambridge, NY 12816). A time of refreshments will be provided after each session. For more information, call 518-677-8101.

## Bottskill and Lakeville Baptist Churches

All are welcome to the Bottskill Baptist Church Sunday Service starting at 9:15 and the Lakeville Baptist Church starting at 11:00. You are invited to join us as we celebrate our Christian faith led by Pastor Lydia Widbin. Sunday School Classes will be held at the Bottskill Church during the morning service. The Lakeville Church is located at 625 Co Rte 49, Cossayuna, NY and Bottskill"s location is at 26 Church Street in Greenwich.
During March, retired international music teacher and church family member, Susan Barbur, will be leading the Sunday School with a special Drumming and Worship Series. Kids will learn how drums are used in worship services around the world.

Bottskill will be celebrating the Easter Season with three special Services.
The Palm Sunday Service, will include a Palm Sunday Brunch after the service hosted by the Sunday School Teachers and Student in the Fellowship Hall. On Maundy Thursday March 28th, starting at 6:30 PM Bottskill will be presenting "A Place at the Table". The special evening service will be a presentation of a meal and customs similar to the last supper with Jesus. Dr R. Bryan Widbin and Lydia Widbin will be leading the presentation. Reservation can be made by calling-518-692-0284. A Good Friday Service will take place at the Lakeville Church starting at 6:30. On March 31st the Bottskill and Lakeville churches will be holding their traditional and wonderful Easter Services.

## Hebron United Presbyterian Church

Holy Week Worship Services at Hebron United Presbyterian Church:
March 24 10:30 am Palm Sunday Service
March 28 6:00 pm Potluck Supper; Maundy Thursday Service March 29 6:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae, service of shadows
March 31 6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service on front porch of church, followed by a potluck breakfast held in Fellowship Hall March 31 10:30 am Easter Celebration Worship
Join them for Sunday worship services at 10:30 a.m. at 3153 County Route 30, West Hebron. For more information, please call Rev. Dr. Bill Crawford at 518-854-3729.

Have a local church announcement? Send it to editor@ journalandpress.com.

## Yoyumedicare journey, SIMPLIFIED!

## Mect Teresa

Your Trusted Medicare Guide. New Enrollments or Carrier Changes? She's Here for You Every Step of the Way!


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I just wanted to take a minute to introduce myself! I was born and raised in Easton, graduated from Greenwich CSD in 2002 and built a home on a piece of my family's property here in Easton! I have two sons who are in 2nd and 4th grade at Greenwich. My husband and I have owned a successful plumbing $\mathscr{O}$ contracting company for the last 11 years. I am also Secretary of the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family, skiing, reading and playing with our two Boston terriers! When it comes to Real Estate, it's vital to have an agent you trust, who cares about you and knows your community. Whenever you're ready, give me a call! I would love to get to know you!

## Why Work With Me?

I specialize in helping sellers get their home ready to sell with the help of my contracting company through our "Spruce Up © Sell" program. You will also have access to expert knowledge of home improvement
from a contractor, licensed home $\mathbb{E}$ building inspector.

- I hold 3 specialized credentials where I took additional education beyond becoming a REALTOR ${ }^{\circledR}$. I am a certified Military Relocation Professional (MRP), a Seniors Real Estate Specialist (SRES) © I I hold The Graduate REALTOR ${ }^{\circledR}$ Institute designation.


## SCAN ME

 - I believe my background in education (former middle/high school science teacher) equips me with the proper skills to walk my clients through the selling process.I hope you have learned a bit about me and what fuels me to continue to represent my clients in the best possible manner. I am dedicated to educating my clients throughout the entire real estate process. I would love the opportunity to get to know you and your real estate needs. If you have any questions about the real estate market or your neighborhood, I would love the opportunity to be a great resource for you!

## Warm Regards,

Stephanie Woodard
$\square$

## Branding

Kate Austin knows the importance of building a brand. As founder, owner and CEO of Advokate, she has crafted a career in helping clients capitalize on what makes them unique.
In "Tell Your Story," hosted by SUNY Adirondack's Business Club at 12:30 p.m. Monday, March 18, Austin will share what she has learned promoting companies, nonprofit organizations and artists.
"Being able to highlight your achievements and emphasize your strengths are essential skills in building a resume and, eventually, a career," said Robert Bullock, Business professor and co-advisor of SUNY Adirondack's Business Club. "Ms. Austin will provide accessible ways to discover and present one's brand."
Austin, an award-winning marketing professional, is co-founder of Glens Falls Arts District.

## The Chamber of Commerce for Washington County

 CreenwichDedicated to the economic vitality of our region through resources, advocacy, and support for member businesses and organizations.

Join Us! greenwichchamber.org/join

6 Academy Street, Greenwich, NY 12834 518.692.7979 | info@greenwichchamber.org

## Irish music in Easton

Easton Library will host Tim O'Shea and friend P’adraig Timoney, who will be preforming an Irish Folk music concert at Burton Hall on Saturday, March 23 rd from 4-6 PM. Tim is now on his US Spring Tour in the Saratoga region and he will bring his songs and tunes from the stunning southwest of Ireland steeped in the Irish Folk Tradition.
Tim is a native of Killarney, Co. Kerry. He has traveled the world wide, playing and performing for over 30 years from India, Europe, Australia, New Zealand to the United States. Tim plays the medieval Baroque Harp, the native Irish drum (the Bodhrán), the guitar, and you will hear contemporary folk songs. Tim has recorded six CDs to date, and has recorded for others also. His latest CD was released in 2017, "Another Skin Too Few", is a tribute to local Kerry musicians no longer with us. He will perform many of the tracks from the CD.
Joining Tim is Dublin city native


P'adraig Timoney. P'adraig, a multi-instrumentalist himself, plays the fiddle, guitar and sings a song or two. He was raised in the urban Irish Folk Tradition. Expect songs from the Dubliners and Clancy Brothers, as well as lively fiddle dance tunes from all over Ireland.

## Pop-up art show

As construction on Jacob Houston's future art gallery continues, Jake will be holding his first Pop Up Art Show of 2024 in the usual place, at 2432 State Route 29, Greenwich. Jacob is a regional artist known for his colorful, highly detailed paintings. The show will be held from 11am until 4 pm on Saturday, April 6th and Sunday, April 7th.
Stop in to look over his beautiful selection of original paintings, limited edition prints, framed prints, beautiful greeting cards, note cards, and postcards.
While you are here, take the opportunity for Jake to show you the progress that has been made so far on his future gallery.


## LOCAL THEATER

## 'Into the Woods’ at Fort Salem Theater

Prepare to be transported into a world where fairy tales collide and wishes come with unforeseen consequences as Fort Salem Theater proudly presents "Into The Woods." From April 5th to the 14th, audiences are invited to join Cinderella, Jack, Little Red Riding Hood, and a host of beloved characters as they journey through the enchanted forest in search of their desires.

Penned by the legendary duo Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine, "Into The Woods" delves into the aftermath of "happily ever after," exploring the complexities of love, family, and the pursuit of dreams. As Cinderella pines for the ball, Jack tends to his cow, and a baker and his wife grapple with a curse from a witch, audiences are drawn into a magical tale where familiar stories intertwine in unexpected ways.

Leading the cast is Elizabeth SherwoodMack as The Witch, alongside Henry James as The Baker and Courtnie Harrington as The Baker's Wife. Iris Rogers takes on the
role of Cinderella, with Annaleigh Lester as Little Red, Luke Miner as Jack, and Kevin N Miner portraying both Cinderella's Prince and The Wolf. Sam Luke shines as Rapunzel's Prince, with Haley Beauregard as Rapunzel and Pe ter Bailey commanding the stage as Narrator/Mysterious Man. Rounding out the company is Rebecca Bourgault as Cinderella's Stepmother, Megan Morse as Lucinda, Kelly Sienkiewicz as Florinda, Patricia Brady as Granny \& The Giant, JJ Buechner as Cinderella's Father, Katherine Dan-forth-Hayes as Cinderella's Mother, Christine Geraci as Jack's Mother, Kason Mulderry as The Steward, Lauren, Schirnhofer as Snow White \& understudy to Baker's Wife,

## $34^{\text {th }}$ Annual Greenwich FFA Farm Toy Show and Auction

## Saturday, March 23, 2024 Toy Show 9am - 2pm HUGE Toy Auction 2pm

Hosted by Greenwich FFA


Check out the auction list on our facebook page! "Greenwich Ag Ed and FFA" Witch, Cinderella, Jack's Mother, Stepmother, Cinderella's Mother, and Tara Fox as Sleeping Beauty \& understudy
 to Little Red, Florinda, Lucinda, Rapunzel, Granny, The Giant.

Under the expert direction of Brian Clemente and musical direction of John Norine Jr., this production promises to enchant audiences of all ages. The creative team, including Stage Manager Margo Hatzel, Assistant Stage Manager Melanie Magri, Costume Designer Gina Kowalski, Hair Designer Courtnie Harrington, Lighting

Designer Brian Clemente, Sound Designer Dante Gijanto, Technical Director John Norine Jr, Properties Designer JJ Paul, and Producer Kyle West, ensures a stunning experience that brings the whimsical world of fairy tales to life on the Fort Salem Theater mainstage.
Tickets for "Into The Woods" are available now at FortSalem.com, ranging from only $\$ 20-\$ 36$. Don't miss your chance to journey into the depths of the forest and discover what happens after the fairy tale ending.

## A mile of runway

Michael Levy<br>Journal \& Press

The " $\$ 100$ hamburger" is aviation slang for when a general aviation pilot flies somewhere for a quick bite to eat. A $\$ 100$ hamburger trip typically involves flying a short distance, perhaps less than an hour one way, eating at an airport restaurant, and then flying home. The concept is somewhat facetious, because most airport hamburgers are not worth the cost of flying to the restaurant and back, after factoring in fuel, maintenance, and other expenses. Despite the humorous connotation, the phrase reflects the enjoyment that pilots derive from the journey itself as well as the camaraderie of sharing aviation experiences with fellow enthusiasts. Of course, this phrase was created a long time ago and with the inflation that we have experienced since, it probably now should be called the $\$ 200$ hamburger.
In addition to serving as a launching point for many $\$ 100$ hamburger trips, general aviation airports in Washington County, New York offer opportunities for recreational flying, flight training, and aviationrelated events such as airshows and fly-ins. They serve local aviation enthusiasts and provide educational opportunities for aspiring pilots. But our airports could serve this county to an even greater extent and be the catalyst for economic growth throughout the county. Sadly, they are not.
Last October, New York Governor Kathy Hochul announced that thirty-six public-use air-
ports across New York State will receive approximately $\$ 49$ million for strategic infrastructure enhancements that will enhance safety, facilitate innovation, leverage existing resources, advance business development, and promote sustainability and resiliency.
"A strong investment in our airports is a meaningful investment in our communities and the future of the Empire State," Governor Hochul said. "Airports are gateways to communities large and small across New York State and these grants will serve as a launchpad to springboard many of these facilities into the 21st century and beyond."
Administered by the New York State Department of Transportation, projects funded through the Aviation Capital Grant Program include the construction and rehabilitation of new and existing hangars, electrification, and carbon reduction programs, new and upgraded snow removal equipment, and updated security systems. These investments will serve to make the surrounding communities more economically competitive with neighboring states.
This area received $\$ 11.1$ million of these grant monies. And here is how it was allocated -

- Albany International Airport, Albany County - $\$ 1.6$ million toward the rehabilitation, safety overhaul, and energy efficiency modernization of existing elevators located in the existing terminal area and north parking garage elevators.
- Columbia County Airport, Columbia County - $\$ 2.4$ Page 24 | Late March 2024 | Journal \& Press

million toward terminal building upgrades addressing the existing facilities' age and energy inefficiencies by rehabilitation and replacement improvements to many of the existing components within the terminal area space, hangar, and pilots' lounge.
- Saratoga County Airport, Saratoga County - $\$ 1.5$ million toward an emergency back-up generator to be run off the existing natural gas line.
- Schenectady County Airport, Schenectady County $\$ 0.9$ million toward the procurement of snow removal equipment (SRE), specifically a dual engine high speed snowblower vehicle.

Floyd Bennett Memorial Airport, Warren County - \$2.3 million toward the removal of an existing dilapidated T-hangar and the construction of a new six-unit T-hangar in the same location.

- South Albany Airport, Albany County - $\$ 2.5$ million toward addressing the demand for covered hanger space including the construction of a pre-engineered metal T-hanger as well as the installation of a pre-engineered, covered shade hangar.
The Governor's October 2023 press release says, "These investments will serve to make the surrounding communities more economically competitive with neighboring states." New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez said, "These targeted investments will support projects that will have a positive, long-lasting impact on the local communities while improving the resiliency of our transportation infrastructure."

The Albany International Airport is served by several major airlines and the Schenectady

Please read more on the next page

## A true-to-life Last Supper event

The Bottskill Baptist Church Fellowship Hall will host "A Place at the Table - a Last Supper Meal and Presentation" on Thursday, March 28, 6:30 PM. Presenters are R. Brian Widbin and daughter Lydia Widbin.

In a press release issued by the church, it states, "Have you ever wondered what it would have been like to dine with Jesus and his disciples at the last supper? What the meal was all about? What the foods and the table customs would've been? Or maybe you're wondering why any of this should be at all important for us today?
"If so, you will want to be part of a very special evening with us as we journey back to the early first century for a first-hand experience in the last supper, just

## (cont.)

County Airport is the home of the 109th Airlift Wing of the New York Air National Guard. Any money spent at these two airports helps Washington County directly and indirectly, for a multitude of reasons which I will not elaborate upon here.

The South Albany Airport is privately owned while both the Columbia County, Saratoga County, and Warren County Airports are publicly owned. The money being allocated for strategic infrastructure enhancements at these airports will benefit their neighboring residents "bigly." General aviation airports, such as these, attract businesses to the area, as they provide convenient access for corporate travel. They can also serve as hubs for flight training schools, aircraft main-
as it would've been celebrated in Jesus' day. Unlike the contemporary Passover Seder, which mixes in early and late medieval elements, we present the meal from within the ancient Greco-Roman and Jewish world in which it emerged. For the gospel writers, it was that ancient Last Supper, not the modern Seder that holds important clues for understanding of the nature of Christian faith today. This will be an evening of fun and fellowship, filled with history and learning, and of deep understanding of the death, and resurrection of Jesus."
R. Bryan Widbin has a PhD in Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near East Studies from Brandeis University. He is professor of Hebrew Bible and Semitic Lan-
tenance facilities, and other aviation-related businesses, creating jobs and boosting the local economy. General aviation airports become bases for medical evacuation flights, search and rescue operations, and other emergency services. They provide a vital lifeline during natural disasters, medical emergencies, and other crises by enabling rapid transportation of personnel, equipment and supplies. And local airports can attract visitors to the area by facilitating access to local attractions, scenic destinations, and recreational activities such as golf courses, resorts, and outdoor adventures. They serve as gateways to explore the region and can contribute to the local tourism industry. If you do not believe me on the latter point, head out to the Saratoga Airport during the Belmont Stakes or on Travers Day to see for yourself. And while you
guages Emeritus at Alliance University's Theological Seminary, having served previously as vice president and academic dean from 1995 to 2003. He has been has pastored at churches in Arkansas, has held ranked faculty positions at Brandeis University and at King College, and served as visiting seminary professor and international worker in the Philippines under the Christian and Missionary Alliance with whom he has held ordination credential since 1993,
Since 1988, Widbin has guided many groups in Israel, and is a noted speaker and presenter on topics related to the Bible and the world and cultures of the biblical peoples. Since 1996 he been has been affiliated with

REALIS in Ukraine, an evangelical organization devoted to civic engagement and social responsibility, first as educational consultant and now is faculty member and guest lecture in Bible and Political Theology. The father of two adult children and grandchildren of two he currently resides in Rockland County, New York, with his spouse, Karen Hansen Widbin.
He looks forward to teaming up with his daughter Lydia to offer this special presentation and meal at Bottskill Baptist Church this Maundy Thursday. Contact the church at 518-6922378 or at bottskillbaptist.org for more information.
are there, look at the construction of the new, state-of-the-art, energy-efficient terminal building being built with $\$ 27$ million awarded by the state in 2022. It will be genuinely nice once it is completed.
And how much of the Aviation Capital Grant Program went to Washington County? Any answer above $\$ 0$ would be wrong. We received nothing and that means that Washington County residents are being deprived of the benefits that their friends in surrounding counties are getting, unless of course those friends live in Rensselaer County, who also seemed to have been left out.
I am not sure of the who, the why, and the how, but it is clear to me that we missed the boat on this opportunity that could lead to a better Washington County. I will be looking into this to get some answers soon.

There is another old pilot saying that "a mile of road only takes you so far, but a mile of runway takes you anywhere." This phrase highlights the freedom and versatility that aviation offers compared to ground transportation. I am rewriting this saying to state that "a mile of runway in Washington County, NY will bring in better jobs, more tourism, improved emergency services, along with immeasurable benefits for our local population." My random thoughts for this issue!

## Michael Levy is a retired

 government manager residing in Greenwich $N Y$ and is employed now as a technical consultant. He is also a Commercial Pilot and a Ham Radio operator.

# FOR KIDS (AND PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS...) <br> It's time to decorate those eggs 

## Shirley Renauld <br> Journal \& Press

It's time to think about coloring Easter eggs. We see so many colors around us, but they all start from only three: red, blue and yellow, the primary colors. To prepare to dye your eggs, first prepare your work area because food coloring stains: assemble glass containers or the bottoms of milk cartons so you don't color your good containers, cover your work surface with absorbent paper, use disposable stirrers and wear plastic gloves to not color your skin. In separate containers of water, make yellow, red and blue by making a drop at a time of food coloring into each and stirring. In other containers: Use some of the yellow and add enough red drops to make orange. In more of the yellow, make drops of blue to get green. In more of the red, drop enough blue to make purple. You have just made three new colors, the secondary ones. You are ready to color eggs!

For an egg tree, you remember how to blow out a raw egg. For an egg hunt using real eggs or for a basket, you will first hard-boil the eggs. Lower one egg or hollow shell at a time on a spoon into the water, turn it gently to not crack the shell. When it's the color you like, remove it to the paper. Roll it to dry.

We remember to always use white-shelled eggs for good color, so we thank the Thomas Poultry Farm for our being able to get them fresh, right from their farm--and see the assembly line of washing and packaging them.

But for Easter and Spring you want pastel colors and you might wish to paint the eggs. So instead of food coloring use paint, washable tempera or watercolor for indoors but for your outdoor egg tree or egg hunt, use non-washable acrylic or latex paint so it doesn't wash off. Again start by making primary colors into secondary ones, each in a separate space in a palette or other small containers, such as disposable cups. Each with its own brush and space, mix a little of each of the six colors into white* until you Page 26 | Late March 2024 | Journal \& Press

get the pastel color you like. After painting the eggs, save the rest of the paint for creative use later--covering it so it won't dry out.

As we look at a rainbow, we see how nature makes the secondary colors as the sun shines through raindrops, separating the colors. Thank you Kate for the photo you took facing West over the Hudson during an unusual Nov morning rainstorm

Along with your work, look how color mixing is done in "Mouse Paint" by Ellen Walsh, "Mix It Up" by Herve Tullet and "little blue and little yellow" by Leo Lionni.
*It is said that white is the absence of color. Also that black is a mixture of all colors. When you are experimenting, try mixing the three primary colors to see if you get black. Mixing white with a little black gives you pastel (?) gray. Mix some black into orange to see if you get brown. These neutrals are included in boxes of even beginner crayons because you need them for coloring objects realistically. In her book, Patricia Hubbard says "My Crayons Talk to Me". Can you hear yours? Read and listen.

You, and everyone, will enjoy your work,
whether it's the colored shells on your egg tree or to eat the hard-boiled insides of others. As you make egg salad, do you see colors other than just the yellow of the yolk? Some of your food coloring seeped through the porous shell! Remember to crush those shells and give them back to your hens for calcium or compost them for your garden soil.

Perhaps you have hens that lay "Easter" eggs, shells that are laid green or blue. A common breed of hen lays eggs with shells that are shades of brown. We are told that shells of all eggs start as white as they are being formed in the hen's body and get the color just as they are being laid, making the color be just on the outside. As you shell those hard-boiled eggs, notice if that is true. We are also told that older chickens give eggs with lighter shades and JoAnne agrees from experience.

Would you be able to try coloring larger eggs, those of ducks, geese, turkeys? Ben, do your peacocks give you eggs? Elsworths, what do you do with your emu eggs? What wild animals, other than birds, lay eggs? Look for some as the Spring season comes

Please read more on the next page

## (cont.)

along, even in pond water.
And which came first, the chicken or the egg? Will you have a chocolate one for Easter? Happy Easter!
Sorry, it's back to schooling on Mon. You do have Fri to prepare for Easter, but with it being early this year, we need to wait until next month for Spring Break. By then it should be Spring to stay though. If you have college students in your family, their Break will depend on the college, so good luck for a family vacation. We're also in the middle of Ramadan and our Muslim friends get no time off for religious observance.

Before Easter there is a demand for lambs and goat kids, both for meat for cultural meals and to raise on farms. Often the newborn males are sold and the females are kept if the owner wants to increase a herd. Many are sold at local auctions. Perhaps you raise some as a $4-\mathrm{H}$ project and sell them directly from your farm. You might use your project as the topic of a 4-H Public Presentation, the last held at the $4-\mathrm{H}$ building on the 23 rd .
Amy is a fourth generation strawberry farmer in her family, so she chose the raising of strawberries as her topic. It's a coincidence that it's also the topic of this year's

Ag Literacy book, "I LOVE Strawberries!" by Shannon Anderson. During Ag Literacy Week, $18-22$, you second graders could have someone read the book to your class and lead you to do a strawberry related activity, leave the book for use in your classroom and then donate it to your local library.
In the book, Jolie learns how to grow a patch of strawberries. With frost still in the ground or at the surface on cold nights--or mud, it's too early to work the soil and plant outside, but Amy prepared her public presentation: On poster-size white cardstock, she made drawings and glued pictures from garden catalogs in numbered steps and made light guidelines for brief letterings which she detailed as she spoke. After her presentation, she answered questions from people in the audience, listened to her evaluator, received the evaluation sheet along with a ribbon and a 4 -H T-shirt. She brought the poster home as a decoration and to follow it at planting time. Both Jolie and Amy look forward to eating and sharing their strawberries.
Also on the 23 rd is that special local event, the annual GCS FFA Toy Show. It's fun to just look around there, more fun to sell or buy at the auction, most fun to participate in the pedal tractor pull and drag races. Who is going home with trophies? We thank Mr Chris for his years of teaching FFAers.

As we think ahead to April, the big event we hear about is the Solar Eclipse on the eighth. It will be an historic event for us because we will be right in the path of it, a total solar eclipse. If we understand it, we can prepare for and enjoy it: Practice with your friends how the eclipse will happen: Use a flashlight to be the sun shining on a baseball to be the moon and a playground ball to be the Earth, positioning them as on a circular clock face: the flashlight where the hands fasten at its center, to shine on the "Earth" at the 12 this time of the year. Since the Earth and its moon move counterclockwise (opposite to the hands of a clock), as the "moon" enters between them, watch for it starting to make a crescent shadow on the "Earth", which will happen for us in the early afternoon of the eighth and last only a little more than four minutes (that's why we need to practice ahead). When all three items are in line, we would see some sun's light around the black circle because the moon is so small, and it would be very bright. The Earth and moon keep rotating and we see full sun again. We hope for a sunny day. We plan with our families: Where will you be during the Solar Eclipse? We all need to wear special "eclipse" glasses to protect our eyes from the strong sunlight. Get a pair. Our libraries have some available. Prepare to experience history.

## For female vets

In celebration of International Women's Day, Willard's Mountain Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution hosted Michelle Viola Straight, Executive Director of the Veterans and Community Housing Coalition, located in Ballston Spa, NY. Straight discussed the many programs offered to veterans, focusing particularly on the supportive housing programs available to unhoused female veterans. Guardian House is a transitional housing program for single female veterans that has been in existence for fifteen years. Currently, there is no housing for female veterans with children. Often, Veteran moms returning from service to our country must choose between giving up custody of their children to receive the support services she needs, or forgoing the support services many need while transitioning back to civilian life. The VCHC is filling that void with the establishment of "Foreverly House," to be completed later this spring. Foreverly House is the ONLY one of its kind in the


United States. No funds come from the VA for this program, so the VCHC depends on donations to build and maintain the house and related programs. The chapter and its members made both monetary donations and donations of needed items to help someone begin life in a safe, stable home. Straight is pictured with many of the chapter members after receiving their donations.

Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner


Broom Hilda by Russell Myers


Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli


The Middletons by Dana Summers


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## 9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



Word Play Answers Page 30

mity mosill


Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
 STARTIGGANENONGWIESA
CONSONANT in the gid of leters.
$\qquad$


More Word Play Answers Page 30
SCRABBLE G $\boldsymbol{R}$ A $\mathbf{M}$





| $\square$ |  | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ | $\square$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\mathrm{I}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{O}_{1}$ | $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{H}_{4}$ | $\mathrm{M}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{~B}_{3}$ | $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ |  |


PAR SCORE 260-270
BEST SCORE 336
FIVE RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: $\mathbf{2 5} \mathbf{~ M I N}$
DIRECTIONS: Nake a 2. to 7 -letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7 -letter words get 50 -poing
bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. SOLUTION TOMORROW

Word Find By Frank J. D'Agostino

| Find these | Cheesecake | Juice | Salmon |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| words as- | Chips | Meatloaf | Sandwich |
| sociated with a | Coffee | Muffin | Sausage |
| cafeteria (and | Cookies | Omelet | Shrimp |
| find Frank's acrostic books | Croissant | Pasta | Tuna |
| on Amazon): | Eggs | Pizza | Vegan Wrap |
|  | Hamburger | Ribs | Waffle |
| Bage | Hot Soup | Rice | Yogurt |
| Banana | Hotdog | Roast Beef |  |
|  | Ice Cream | Salad |  |
| $P$ U | S T O | E E | O |
| H A M | $B \cup R$ | $E R$ | E |
| $L F C$ | 1 C E | $R \mathrm{E}$ | M A O |
| $C P \mathrm{~A}$ | $R \mathrm{~W}$ N | G E | P |
| H H | $\bigcirc \bigcirc \mathrm{A}$ | N A | R I K |
| $E \subset Y$ | $A L 1$ | F A | H Z |
| E I O | S S T | $F \mathrm{~F}$ | Z E |
| S W G | T G A | S | A A S |
| $E D U$ | $B G B$ | E A | $B P$ |
| C NR | E E C | M | H |
| A A | E A | G O | OH |
| K S | J | C E | D |
| $E$ G A | $S \cup A$ | T E | E M O |

Filbert by LA Bonté


Political Cartoon of the Month by Joel Pett


## Cambridge Crossword

| Across <br> 1 Shoot the breeze <br> 5 Ladder rung <br> 9 How-to presen- <br> tations | 1 | 2 | ${ }^{3}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | 14 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  | 17 |  |  |
| 14 Lacking color |  | 20 |  |
| 15 Blue-green hue |  |  |  |
| 16 Poetry muse |  |  |  |
| 17 Dance, music, |  | 26 |  |
| sculpture, etc. 18 Tabula | 25 |  | 27 |
| blank slate | 33 |  |  |
| 19 Rolls of fabric |  |  |  |
| 20 Where Clay | 37 |  |  |
| went to make a |  |  |  |
| ceramic vase? | 42 |  |  |
| 23 Caliigrapher |  |  |  |
| tool | 46 |  |  |
| 24 Selfish shout |  |  |  |
| 25 Where Penny | 53 |  |  |
| went to deposit |  |  |  |
| money? |  |  | 54 |
| 30 Verbalize |  |  |  |
| 33 Olympic | 59 |  |  |
| skater's leap |  |  |  |
| 34 Herbal bever- | 63 |  |  |
| age |  |  |  |
| 35 Stock unit | 66 | $1$ |  |
| 37 Boy , in Spanish |  |  |  |
| 38 Speed |  |  |  |
| 41 "Sign me up!" |  |  |  |
| 42 Talks up |  |  |  |
| 44 Golden yrs. fund |  |  |  |
| 45 Verse writer |  |  |  |
| 46 Mornings, briefly |  |  |  |
| 47 Where Viola went | to |  |  |
| with an orchestra? |  |  |  |
| 51 Lose color |  |  |  |

[^0]
## Sudoku

Each column/row must contain the numbers from 1 to 9 , without repetitions. The digits can only occur once per block. The sum of every single row, column and block must equal 45.

|  |  | 3 |  |  | 7 | 6 |  | 8 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 6 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |
|  |  |  | 5 |  |  |  |  | 1 |
|  | 7 |  |  | 8 |  |  | 6 |  |
|  | 6 |  | 2 |  | 4 |  | 8 |  |
|  | 5 |  |  | 1 |  |  | 7 |  |
| 9 |  |  |  |  | 2 |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 5 |
| 7 |  | 8 | 4 |  | 3 | 9 |  |  |

66 Stately home 67 Laryngitis
docs 68 film spool
Down
1 Tax prep pro 1 Tax prep pr 2 Triangular ment
3 Voice above tenor 4 Aerospace employee who assesses new aircraft
5 Force
6 Run like the dickens 7 "Nothing to
it!" 8 Blood component
9 untrue
10 Wear away 11 Landlocked African nation west of Niser
12 Springfield Elementary bus driver
13 "Help!" letters
21 Number of millimeters in a centimeter

22 Altoids container
25 Father Christmas 26 Widely accepted truth 27 Five-time Wimbledon singles
champion Williams 28 Dead Scrolls 29 No-frills 30 American : U.S. territory in the South Pacific
31 Disney mermaid
32 Streisand title role
36 Rap devotee
39 Tuscany three 40 Designates for a specific purpose, as funds 43 Like triangles with unequal sides
48 " to Joy": segment of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony 49 Cancel out 50 Pitcher Seaver who won three Cy Young Awards 53 Pepsi or Cokets 54 Thor's father
55 "Dear_Hansen": 2017 Best Musical Tōny winner 56 Small change
57 Strong desire
58 Poultry herb
59 English muffin topper
62 Monogram of a French fash-
ion house ion house
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# Easton Library meeting 

Join the Easton Library Association on Monday, March 25th at 6:30 pm for our Easton Library Annual Meeting and Dessert.
The Friends of Easton Library will provide dessert to all who attend the event. Sara Dallas, the Director of the Southern Adirondack Library System, will give a
short speech. Director Jennifer DeCarlo and Treasurer Peter Read will share their annual reports. One Trustee will be elected for a seven-year term. Mary Jane Connor, retiring board of trustee member, will be recognized for her many years of service to the Easton Library.

Everyone who utilizes the services of the

Easton Library and has an interest in this vital resource for the Easton community is encouraged to attend the Annual Meeting.

At 7:30 pm an organizational meeting will take place for election of officers for the board of trustees.
The financial report and infographics for 2023 are available in printed form at the circulation desk. Please call 518-692-2253 or email the director at jdecarlo@sals.edu with questions.

## On exhibit at Tang

The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College invites the public to its March programs, featuring tours, screenings, family programs, and special guests Karen Stevens '88 and Yvette Molina.
In conjunction with the exhibition "Yvette Molina: A Promise to the Leaves," Karen Stevens will present a "visible mending" workshop on Tuesday, March 19, at 6 pm , in which participants are invited to give a treasured item of clothing a second life. Registration is required.
The artist Yvette Molina, whose twoyear installation "A Promise to the Leaves" opened in October on the mezzanine, will be back on campus for a conversation with Adam Tinkle, Skidmore College Associate Professor of Media and Film, and Director of the John B. Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative (MDOCS), as part of the Dunkerley Dialogue series on Thursday, March 21, at 7 pm . The conversation will
have ASL interpretation.

On March 28, the Tang screens director David Cronenberg's "Crimes of the Future," the first feature film in a series that explores our fascination with and revulsion to the fantasies of unconventional bodily alterations. Organized by Piper Ingels '24 as the capstone project for her 2023-24 Meg Reitman Jacobs '63 Endowed Internship, the series is called Framing the Flesh and is inspired by the exhibition Abject Anatomy, which is the capstone project of Helen Branch '24, as part of her 2022-2023 Carole Marchand Endowed Internship.


All events are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the Tang Visitors Services Desk at 518-580-8080 or visit the Tang website at tang.skidmore. edu.

## FUN \& GAMES SOLUTIONS

Boggle: LAOS GABON
NEPAL KUWAIT BELGIUM DENMARK

Jumble: MAIZE
PANDA NARROW
GOPHER
Final Jumble:
ARRANGED


| 5 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 8 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 6 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 2 |
| 4 | 8 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 1 |
| 2 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 4 |
| 3 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 9 |
| 8 | 5 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 3 |
| 9 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 7 |
| 1 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| 7 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 1 | 6 |



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## FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

## Imagine a future without local news

As objective and independent news writers and editors, we have an imperative to cover the issues most important to the people of Washington County. Every day, our team is on the ground questioning elected officials, uplifting the stories of community changemakers, and uncovering truths that some would rather keep hidden. But, amidst industry challenges, it is no longer unfathomable to picture a future when New York State is completely without local newspapers and other local news outlets.

According to the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University, two-and-a-half newspapers now close each week in the U.S. More than 3,000 newspapers have shuttered across the country since 2004, and New York has been particularly hard hit. In 2004, New York boasted 501 newspapers; today, it's only 260 . In 2022 alone, 30 newspapers closed across the state. A quarter of New York's counties are news deserts--down to their last newspaper. Orleans County recently became the first in the state to have none. These closures have also resulted in thousands of lost journalism and newsroom-supporting jobs.

Local news matters. Studies show that when a community loses its source of local news, it experiences decreased voter turnout and civic engagement; increased municipal borrowing costs that lead to higher taxes; and decreased transparency among government and business officials, leading
to increased waste, fraud, and abuse. As newspapers shutter, communities become more polarized, leaving us stuck in a neverending doom loop where we lose sight of our shared values. During this era of intense national partisanship, local news offers a path forward.

The time to act is now. That is why The Journal \& Press has joined with over 150 other New York local newspapers to launch the Empire State Local News Coalition.


The Empire State Local News Coalition, comprising both print and online local newspapers, is advocating for sound public policy that ensures the important work of local news organizations can continue in our state. Through our independent journalism, we aim to serve, inform, uplift, and protect New Yorkers. Our coalition cares

## Meet the candidates

Village of Greenwich residents are in vited to a Meet the Village Candidates Open House hosted by Tom and Rulyn Graves on March 17, from 2 to 4 pm , at Gather, 103 Main Street in Greenwich.

Attendees can enjoy Irish-themed beverages and snacks while getting to know the candidates running for Village offices. Amanda Beekmann Hurley is a candidate
for Greenwich Mayor. Willy Grimmke and Donna Frank Moore are running for seats as Trustees on the Greenwich Village Board.
The Village of Greenwich election is Tuesday, March 19. The polls are open from 12 to 9 p.m .at the Village Hall, 6 Academy Street.
deeply about our local communities as well as the future of New York's free press. However, market forces are making it nearly impossible for us to survive. So, together, we are sounding the alarm bell for our leaders in Albany to hear.

At the heart of our advocacy is the Local Journalism Sustainability Act. Sponsored by NYS Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal and Assemblymember Carrie Woerner, with the bipartisan support of 55 co-sponsors, this bill provides tax credits to local news outlets for the employment of local news journalists. News organizations are incentivized to actually add jobs, returning reporters to many of the state's newsrooms, which are becoming increasingly desolate. Importantly, the bill is also content neutral, meaning that any legitimate local news outlet--left, right, or in between--can benefit from this bill. The objectivity of the bill's eligibility requirements means the legislation cannot be weaponized to penalize news organizations critical of government officials.
As New York loses talented journalists, lawmakers must act to ensure the industry is allowed not only to survive but also to thrive. Only local news outlets--with boots-on-the-ground journalists--can deliver the hyperlocal updates and investigations necessary to sustain a community's civic and financial well-being. Imagine no stories about the village board meeting or the school budget debate. No pictures of your granddaughter's first soccer goal. No obituary of your friendly (and eccentric) neighbor. No investigative reporting to hold public officials to account. And no trusted institution to convene the community around a family in need.
We need your help to save local news in New York. To get the Local Journalism Sustainability Act across the finish line, lawmakers need to hear from you about why our newspaper matters and why this bill is important to you. If you would like to help, reach out to Governor Hochul and your local representatives to let them know you stand with local news

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## NTERPERSONAL EDGE

## Office gossip that's peddling secrets?

Dr. Daneen Skube<br>\section*{Tribune Content Agency}<br>Special to Journal \& Press

Q: One of my co-workers is the collector of secrets. He's always coming up to me and saying someone said something about me. I want to know and then end up mad. How can I shut down this cycle?
A: You can shut down this cycle if you realize his "secrets" are veiled attempts to undermine others. Shut down your curiosity for gossip, and you'll stop being mad about his secrets.
People have their own agendas for how and when they share gossip. Realize that if people want to tell you something about you, they'll tell you directly. Your co-worker is most likely not telling you accurately what anyone else said.
Office secret keepers enjoy making up content that serves their purposes. If they get you to start a fight, they probably think this helps their career in some way. In transactional analysis (psychological theory), there's a pattern called, "Let's you and him fight." People who play this game stir up conflict around them, so their own behavior is less visible.

Feeding into this human game is truly a case of "curiosity killed the cat." The satisfaction of knowing the secret will only make you upset, not satisfied.

When anyone sidles up to you and whispers seductively, "Hey, Joe said something
about you...do you want to know?" Your best response is a hard no, followed by this: "If Joe wants to tell me something I'm sure he'll do it directly." Then walk away.
Whatever your office secret peddler is selling, it's not worth buying. We're most vulnerable to these people when our selfesteem is shaky. Ironically, the content these people share will always make us feel worse.
If your office secret sharer won't take no for an answer tell him, "You know I can see you're concerned about my relationship with Joe. Would it help you if I go to Joe and let him know you're concerned"? After that sentence, he'll never bother you again. Secret sellers only gain power if the people they are quoting inaccurately are unaware of what they're doing.

People who need the shadows to operate hate having a spotlight on their own behavior. They'll scurry for the nearest rock and continue their game with someone more gullible. Develop an office brand that includes this motto: "What people think of me is none of my business." I coach my clients that self-esteem must be a dictatorship (what you think) and not a democracy (what others think).
Most adults have not done deep therapy to see themselves clearly, so how can they see you? If you care greatly about what others think, you're gazing into broken mirrors to try and get a glimpse of your reflection.

## Pantry fundraising dinner

The Cambridge Food Pantry March fundraising dinner will be held Saturday, March 23, 4:30-6:30 p.m. The menu is old-fashioned shepherd's pie with lots of meat, vegetables and gravy. And to top it off, a choice of delicious homemade des-
serts and beverages. The Food Pantry is located at 59 South Park St., Cambridge, NY (Route 22 South.) The monthly dinners are sponsored by Cornerstone East Church. Diners can eat in or take home to enjoy. Price: $\$ 17$.

Others can have valuable feedback that supports us in learning, growing, and challenging ourselves. None of these gems will emerge from the bag of the office secret peddler.
If you want effective feedback, look for people who rarely dole out advice. They are humble, they listen, and have looked deeply into their own souls. These are rare people who can reflect what you're doing in an accurate way. Avoid those that are arrogant, opinionated, and always talking.
If you yearn to know yourself, find an introspective path like meditation, therapy, or spirituality that challenges you. An effective personal growth path should push you out of your comfort zone, not tell you what you already know. Buying wisdom from within yourself will beat any product peddled by office gossip!

## The last word(s)

Q: I really struggle to control my verbal outburst when I'm frustrated. Is there advice or a tool you provide to your clients?
A: Yes, as Gil Schwartz, an American novelist (1951-2020), summarized: "Anger is a condition where the tongue works faster than the mind." Take a time out when you're mad, so your brain catches up with your anger before you speak.

Daneen Skube, Ph.D., executive coach, trainer, therapist and speaker, also appears as the FOX Channel's "Workplace Guru" each Monday morning. She's the author of "Interpersonal Edge: Breakthrough Tools for Talking to Anyone, Anywhere, About Anything." You can contact Dr. Skube at www.interpersonaledge.com.or 1420 NW Gilman Blvd., \#2845, Issaquah, WA 98027. Sorry, no personal replies.


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## FINANCIAL FOCUS

## Spring cleaning

## Breanna Lundy <br> Journal \& Press

The other day I noticed our tulips popping out of the ground. Spring is here in Greenwich; which means it's time for some spring cleaning! This year, in addition to tidying your home and surroundings, you might want to consider sprucing up your financial environment, as well.
Here are some suggestions for doing just that:

- Improve your vision. Once the days are warmer and longer, you may want to get outside and clean all the winter grime and smudges from your windows, allowing you to see the world more clearly. And you may want to bring more focus to your financial vision by asking some key questions: Is my investment strategy still appropriate for my needs, goals and family situation? If not, what changes should I make? And am I prepared for changes in my life, such as health challenges or a need to retire earlier than planned? The answers to these and other questions can help you clarify where you are, in terms of your financial picture, and where you want to go.
- De-clutter. As you look around your home, you may find things such as expired
health care products, old prescriptions, ancient cleaning solutions, and so on, in addition to duplicate household items (how many blenders do you really need?) and non-working equipment - printers, laptops, etc. Most people find that eliminating this clutter gives them a good feeling and more livable space. As an investor, you can also find clutter in the form of redundant investments - for example, you might own several nearly identical mutual funds. You might be better off selling some of these funds and using the proceeds to find new investments that can help you further diversify your portfolio. As you may know, diversification is a key to investment success, but keep in mind that it can't prevent all losses.
- Plant seeds of opportunity. Whether they're planting camellias and crocuses or carrots and cilantro, gardeners are busy in the spring, hoping their efforts result in lovely flowers and tasty foods. And when you invest, you, too, need to plant seeds of opportunity in the form of investments that you hope will grow enough to enable you to make progress toward your goals. So, you may want to review your portfolio to ensure it's providing this growth potential, given your individual risk tolerance.
- Reduce dangers. You may not think


## Beginner birding

Greenwich Free Library invites the public to join Mark Silo and John Loz from Southern Adirondack Audubon Society as they present a Beginner Birding Workshop in the Community Room on Saturday, March 30, at 11:00am. They will discuss some readily available resources that can enhance your enjoyment of birding. A 20-minute presentation will showcase field guides, use of binoculars, birding locations and seasons, local clubs, some awesome new phone apps, and more, with
time to ask questions indoors. Attendees will then head outdoors with Mark and John to practice what they learned. The group will look for birds, practice using binoculars, and look for field marks on birds that help identify them. A limited supply of extra binoculars will be on hand to borrow, so participants should bring their own if possible.
This presentation is open to all, but registration is required. Visit www.greenwichfreelibrary.org or call 518-692-7157
about it that much, but your home and surroundings can contain potential hazards. You might have ill-fitting caps on cleaning products with toxic chemicals, or sharp cutting instruments protruding from shelves in your garage, or heavy, cracked tree branches hovering close to your roof. Spending some time on a spring-cleaning sweep can get rid of these dangers - and devoting time to consider the possible threats to your financial security, and those of your family, can pay off, too. For starters, review your life insurance to determine if you've got enough. Your employer may offer some coverage as an employee benefit, but it might not be sufficient, so you may need private coverage. And the same is true for disability insurance, because if something were to happen to you, and you couldn't work for a while, you'd still want to protect your family's lifestyle.

Spring is a great time for brightening your physical space - and your financial one, too.

A Greenwich business owner, Breanna Lundy is a Certified Financial Planner and Exit Planning Advisor with Edward Jones at 2 Church St. Inspired by her unique upbringing on her family's 5th generation farm, she works with successful entrepreneurs and individuals on their journey to live a life they love through financial independence. She believes her impact can reach far beyond her work, with a vision to improve lives and financial security in Greenwich, by supporting causes like the "Paint the Town Purple" event she started to raise awareness and revenue for Alzheimer's on The Longest Day in Greenwich each year. Contact her at breanna.lundy@edwardjones.com or (518) 692-2649.


## ON THE SQUARE

## A most successful treaty

## Lance Allen Wang Journal \& Press

In 1949, the United States joined with 11 other nations and created its first peacetime military alliance outside the Western Hemisphere, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). In the turbulent post-World War II environment, where an expansionist Soviet Union was absorbing Eastern Europe's war-weakened nations behind what Winston Churchill called "The Iron Curtain," it was clear that only collective security could effectively deter the encroachment of totalitarian leader Joseph Stalin into Western Europe. This was the intention of President Harry Truman's "Truman Doctrine," which promoted international action against Russian aggression.

Alongside troops from original members Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, and the United Kingdom, the United States and its NATO allies stood watch over the East/West German border and numerous other flashpoints with the Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact countries (the Soviets' alliance in response to NATO), waiting for, in military jargon, "the balloon to go up," that is to say, for war to break out.

NATO did its job of deterrence very well, evidenced by the fact that it never had to deploy forces for anything other than training during what was known as the "Cold War" from 1949 through 1990. However, as the Soviet Union fell and traditional power structures were upended, NATO was called upon to execute security and stability operations in Bosnia/Herzegovina and Kosovo. Following the $9 / 11$ attacks on the United States by elements of the radical Islamist terrorist group Al Qaeda, staged with the support of another radical group, Afghanistan's governing Taliban, NATO invoked Article V which maintains that an attack upon one is an attack upon all, and supported operations in both Afghanistan and Iraq. In addition, during the post-9/11 peri-

od, NATO enforced freedom of navigation in the Gulf of Aden, a no-fly zone in Libya, and conducted air patrols to prevent the spillover of the Syrian civil war into Turkey.

Today, the world faces a do-over of the Cold War, if it ever really ended at all. The former Soviet Union is now ruled by a totalitarian leader, who has parlayed Russia's post-Soviet dreams of democracy into a police state, with its attempts at capitalism, as writer Thomas Friedman puts it, at best "a kleptocracy." Today's Russia is a land where dissent is punished in Siberian gulags, political opponents are assassinated, and reference to the two-year-old invasion of Ukraine as "a war," rather than "a special military operation" is a thoughtcrime punishable by prison.

Since the Russian Federation was formed in 1991, Russia has gotten involved in several border wars, primarily on its southern borders such as Chechnya (1991-2000) and Georgia (2008). Then in 2014, in violation of its own agreements and treaties with Ukraine, Putin invaded Ukraine, taking the Crimea, followed by a full-scale invasion in 2022.
Since 1949, the original dozen NATO nations have increased to 31, with membership becoming more sought after as Russian actions clarify their intention to remain a malignant presence on the world stage. I had the opportunity to serve as an evaluator during the training exercises which resulted in the admission of Estonia into NATO in 2002, working alongside a team of evaluators from Denmark. The Danes were tactically sound and knowledgeable troops,

Please read more on the next page


## (cont.)

and working with them to help a former Warsaw Pact army gain proficiency and interoperability alongside new allies was one of the more rewarding efforts during my service.
Since the invasion of Ukraine, two friends in Scandinavia who had maintained a careful neutrality since NATO was founded have seen the advantages to be gained through membership. With Finland now a member of NATO, despite Russian threats, and Sweden now on the cusp of membership, NATO's northern flank is secure. Strategically, tactically, and politically, this solidarity is a very good thing.
These alliances are very helpful for standardizing military jargon for planning and operations, weapon calibers and other standards for logistics, and most of all, bringing us closer to our allies while developing habitual training relationships.
The question remains, however, what happens should American political leadership turn its back on NATO. The reinvigorated strains of "America First" play right
into Russian hands, with statements by former President Donald Trump calling into question Article V, basically making NATO "pay for play." If a member is behind on their payments to NATO, the former President states, "No, I would not protect you. In fact, I would encourage [the Russians] to do whatever the hell they want." In his world, NATO has nothing to do with shared values, and instead is strictly a transactional relationship. Never mind he is at best, oversimplifying, and at worst, wrong about members being behind on their "direct" and "indirect" financial obligations, he also is eroding one of the most fundamental underpinnings of collective security. He should consider that we, too, obtain significant advantage from our forward defense posture with NATO.
Should Mr. Trump find himself elected again, and should he turn his back on NATO in favor of Mr. Putin again, I suspect our allies will adapt, improvise, and attempt to overcome as they always have. During the first Trump administration, German President Angela Merkel showed a steady hand when she found herself thrust into the position of leader of the free world. The United Kingdom found itself in a similar position in 1939-1940, when the original "America

First" movement in the United States kept forcing our inaction on supporting England. Luckily, the British had a leader in Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and we had a leader in President Franklin Roosevelt. In the end, Pearl Harbor ended up sending "America First" into a richly-deserved descent into ignominy.

Nothing that I'm writing about here presents anything new or groundbreaking. Back in ancient China, a military general, strategist, and philosopher by the name of Sun Tzu spoke of the importance of strategy and alliances, as they led to what he considered the strongest victories, the ones achieved without fighting. How does one accomplish these victories? By attacking the enemy's strategy and his alliances, of course. Sun Tzu would be very proud of Vladmir Putin. He has Mr. Trump conducting the attacks against his own alliances.

Lance Allen Wang is an Iraq Veteran and retired Army Infantry officer who lives in Eagle Bridge, NY with his wife Hatti.


## OBHUARIES

## Edward C. Waite, 74

Edward C. Waite, 74, passed away after a hard-fought battle with Pulmonary Fibrosis on Thursday, March 7, 2024, at his home in Greenwich, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born March 12, 1949, in Cambridge, NY, to the late Alfred and Ruth (McGrouty) Waite.

Ed graduated from Greenwich Central High School and went on to serve his country in the United States Air Force. He was a combat veteran during the Vietnam War. Following his return from service, he worked as a communications tech for Verizon. Edward was hardworking, fun loving and made friends anywhere he went. He loved to talk and was devoted to his family and friends.

Edward was a true outdoorsman; he enjoyed hunting, loved animals, and the beauty of the Adirondacks. When warm weather came, you could always find him at the pool sunbathing and swimming. Some of his happiest memories were watching the kids enjoying the same comforts in life he did. Edward honored his family and served this community, with everything he had. He was a member of the American Legion and lifetime member of the Greenwich VFW Post 7291 and served as its Quartermaster.

In addition to his parents he was predeceased by his son, Edward Brady Waite; brothers-in-law, William (Paula), Robert and Brian Myers; sisters-in-law, Elaine Myers Lindahl and her husband Robert, and Margaret Pett and her husband Bernhard; nephews, Jacob Pett, Robert and William Myers Jr. and niece, Trisha Myers, as well as many other beloved family and friends.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Cynthia (Myers) Waite; daughter, Noelle (Brian) Nilsen; daughter-in-law, Keegan Waite; brothers, Al (Dale) Waite, and Randy (Kathleen) Waite; sister, Debbie (Billy) Ives; sisters in law, Donna (Bob) Haney, Helen Myers and Ronnie Myers; brothers in law, Martin (Carol) Myers, Larry (Kathy) Myers and John (Carol) Myers; several beloved nieces, nephews, cousins and in laws.
A visitation for family and friends will be held from 4 to 7 pm on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at Flynn Bros, Inc. Funeral Home, 80 Main St, Greenwich, NY, 12834.
A Mass of a Christian Burial will be held at 10 am on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at St. Joseph's Church in Greenwich, Rev. Martin Fisher officiating. Burial will follow in St. Joseph's Cemetery.

## Thomas J. Flynn, 77

Thomas J. Flynn, 77, a lifelong resident of Greenwich, passed away unexpectedly, Saturday, March 2, 2024, at Albany Medical Center.

He was born September 15, 1946, in Albany, NY, to the late Harold and Mary (Hoey) Flynn.

Thomas worked for many years as an C.P.A. at Flynn, Walker, and Diggin PC in Saratoga Springs. He was a loving husband and father

His passions were smallmouth bass fish
ing, the New York Giants, The New York Yankees, astronomy, and his grandchildren. He also loved his dog, Minnie.

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his sister Mary Ann Flynn.

He is survived by his loving wife Bette Ann (Buckley) Flynn of Greenwich, sons, Kevin (Jackie) Flynn of Greenwich and Brian (Jola) Flynn of Schenectady, grandchildren, Riley Flynn, Faith Flynn and Remy Flynn.

As per Thomas's wishes there will be no


Following his interment, family and friends are invited to the Greenwich VFW for a reception.
Donations in his memory may be made to the Greenwich VFW Post \#7291, 63 Abeel Avenue, Greenwich, NY, 12834 or the ASPCA.

Edward's family wishes to thank the Saratoga Community Hospice as well as many close relatives and friends for their endless visits and embraces of love and comfort.

## services.

D o n a tions in his memory may be made to the Easton Greenwich or Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad.


Online condolences and messages to the family may be made at www.flynnbrosinc. com.

## OBHUARIES

## Elsie Jackson, 98

Elsie Bell Jackson, 98, of Salem, passed away peacefully Monday, March 4, 2024 in the comfort of her home.

She was born September 1, 1925 in West Rupert the daughter of the late Clarence and Helen (Ayers) Norton.

Elsie had worked at Gotham Paper Mill in Salem in her early years and then worked for the Lewis Brothers in Rupert. She then worked at the Salem Courthouse and Jail cooking for the inmates. She worked there from 1965 1988.

Elsie was a longtime member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion. She had served as President, County Chair and Chaplain. She enjoyed marching in the annual 4th of July parade in Salem and was a member of the Grange and was a 4-H Leader. Elsie loved baking, cooking, decorating cakes, painting and showing her work at the Georgi Museum, the Salem Courthouse and the Washington County Fair.
In addition to her parents, Elsie was predeceased by her two husbands, John Rafter and Ronald Jackson; a daughter, Jolene Jackson; great grandchildren, Nikia "Ayden" Burdo \& Carlybelle Goddard; siblings, Irene Mahoney, Theresa Cary, Willard Norton and Herbert Norton.
Elsie is survived by her two daughters, Diana Trulli (Randy Flewelling) of Salem and Nancy Fleming (David) of Hebron; grandchildren, Sandi Braymer

(Tim), Sonia Trulli (Ralph Yarter), Tonia Goddard (A.J.) and Timothy Burdo (Michele); great grandchildren, Bailey Fifield, Chailyn Fifield, Wyatt Fifield, Maddox Goddard, Jacob Burdo, Kienan Burdo, McKenzie Braymer, Cammeron Braymer, Alphonse Abdelaziz and many nieces \& nephews.

Calling hours will be Saturday, March 9, 2024 from 2-5 pm at the McClellan-Gariepy Funeral Home, 19 East Broadway, Salem. A service will begin at the conclusion of the calling hours at 5 pm .

Memorial donations may be made to the Salem Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 360, Salem, NY 12865, the Salem Vol. Fire Dept., P.O. Box 449, Salem, NY 12865 or the Salem Fuel Fund, P.O. Box 412, Salem, NY 12865.

To offer condolences to the family, please visit www.gariepyfuneralhomes.com.


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## A month of using a flip phone? Forget it!

Greg Schwem<br>Tribune Content Agency<br>Special to Journal \& Press

It was somewhere around 2005. I was at the Miami airport, about to jump into a cab that would take me to Miami Beach for a corporate speaking engagement. A striking looking brunette, late 20s, asked if she could share my transportation.
"Of course," I said. "Hop in."
We weren't in the vehicle three minutes before her purse rang. Removing her phone and unfolding it, she told the caller that, yes, she had landed safely in Miami, yes, she was in a cab with "some guy" and, yes, she could really use a margarita. Maybe two.
The call ended and, with one hand, she refolded her phone. The maneuver culminated with an annoying THWACK, the sound flip phones, the predecessors to iPhones, made when owners closed them too violently. Fifteen seconds later, the phone rang again. The same scene transpired: I'm almost there, see you soon, THWACK!
This continued at least a dozen times. From her conversations, I deduced she was some sort of fashion model. Had this encounter occurred today, I would have labeled her an "influencer," so often was her phone present. By the time we were crossing the Venetian Causeway, I didn't care if I was sharing a taxi with the current Vogue cover girl. I wanted to rip that device out of her hand, toss it out the window, and watch her beautiful face as she listened to it THWACK the pavement or the water.
The memory is why I neglected to participate in Flip February.
On the heels of Dry January, where one attempts to abstain from alcohol for 31 days (Confession: I failed that challenge too) comes a month where iPhone and Android users are encouraged to trade in their omnipresent devices for feature-less and less addictive flip phones.
Motorola created the first flip, the

StarTAC, in 1996. Baby boomers and Gen Xers recall these devices with a mix of nostalgia and frustration. Yes, it fit in our pockets and, yes, it could send these strange short messages known as "texts," but that involved multiple key taps. Gen Zers and Gen Alphas, imagine having to press the " 5 " key three times just to type "L." I mean, it made texting while driving damn near impossible!
Flip February proponents have been documenting their experiences online via blogs, podcasts and op-ed articles in major newspapers. Their frustrations range from the antiquated technology - downgrading to 2 G isn't as easy as it sounds - to the loss of apps Smartphone users have become so dependent on. It's hard to immediately answer that Slack message from a co-worker when your phone doesn't support Slack.
Yet these same users also admit they feel less stressed and more in the moment with their surroundings since their eyes and fingers are not constantly scrolling through Instagram stories, potential dating matches and presidential candidate blunder videos. They sleep better, spend more time with their children, and spend less money on their monthly plans.

## But do they THWACK?

I can't promise I wouldn't THWACK if I retreated to a flip phone. I do remember owning one and, on occasion, closing it loudly if a call ended in frustration. As Jerry Seinfeld and other comedians have observed, one can't forcefully hang up on somebody using an iPhone. Slamming down the receiver in anger was one of the great features of landline phones; callers on

the other end knew their conversations had been terminated. A flip could do the same thing, sort of.
For now, I intend to keep my shiny new iPhone 15. February is nearly complete anyway, so it makes little sense to enter my neighborhood cellphone store and explain to a 19 -year-old kid why I want to downgrade to a flip phone. It would be like asking a Tesla sales rep if he had any Cadillac Coupe de Villes on the used car lot.
I wonder what challenge awaits me next month?
Taylor- and Travis-less March?
Greg Schwem is a corporate stand-up comedian and author of two books: "Text Me If You're Breathing: Observations, Frustrations and Life Lessons From a Low-Tech Dad" and the recently released "The Road To Success Goes Through the Salad Bar: A Pile of BS From a Corporate Comedian," available on Amazon.com. Visit
 Greg on the web at www. gregschwem.com.

## LEIIERS TO THE EDITOR

## Backing Hurley for mayor

## To the Editor:

I retired from teaching after 25 years in the classroom and that was over 20 years ago. I'm not sure how teachers organize their classrooms today, but I always started with a seating chart.
I remember exactly where Amanda Beekman Hurley sat. More importantly, I remember what she brought to the group. She was dependable, conscientious and empathetic. Those very qualities have led to a successful career and will serve her well as Village Mayor.

Amanda brings a wealth of experience in Marketing, Brand Development, Communications, and Media Management with Sonesta and Fairmont Hotels as well as with MIT. Her positions of leadership required the analysis of information followed by asking the right questions which led to making sound, fact-based decisions. She was a team leader and project manager, making sure that projects came in on time and under budget. Most importantly, she successfully worked with diverse teams, honing her ability to listen and respectfully incorporate what mattered most to her team

## members.

With her self-awareness, experience, and interpersonal skills, Amanda is the perfect candidate to step into the office of Village Mayor. She is committed to continuing the partnership with the Town of Greenwich and the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan. Exploring diverse solutions, she envisions an inclusive community, a community where divergent voices and points of view are considered. In her own words, she is committed to "expand options that allow seniors to age in a supportive environment, maintaining their connection to the community they have come to rely on and cherish." In addition, she realizes "the importance of providing housing options that cater to young families, ensuring they can build their lives and contribute to our community's vibrancy."
Let's not forget the importance of a hub or community center that enriches our lives. Her vision includes a downtown that is walkable and safe with an emphasis on the "historical character that defines Greenwich." She's committed to investing in infrastructure and initiatives that enhance

## How is this newspaper made? Hear the podcast.

Ever wonder how this newspaper is made, and all of the journalistic decisions that come with managing a small-town newspaper?
Then listen to publisher Darren Johnson's Weekly Newspaper Podcast. You can find it on your favorite podcast app or go to WeeklyNewspaperPodcast.com.

Johnson mixes talk about the business of small-town newspapers with national journalism trends, often using The Journal \& Press as an example.

Johnson is also a Visiting Professor of Multimedia Journalism at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.

the downtown experience and create a hub where residents can "gather, connect, and enjoy the unique atmosphere that makes Greenwich special."
Knowing Amanda personally, I am delighted she has chosen to step up and run for Mayor of this wonderful community. It is not a decision to be made lightly. She's given it lots of thought. The Village of Greenwich would be well served by this amazing young woman.
Vote March 19th from 12 - 9 at the Village Hall.

## Sara Idleman

Greenwich

## And Grimmke

## To the Editor:

In his first year as a Village Trustee, Willy Grimmke has had an immediate impact on the Village Board. Willy's vast background in public infrastructure, state and federal funding are invaluable with water improvement contracts awarded and set to begin this year. Willy is participating in the joint Town-Village subcommittees exploring infrastructure expansion as part of the BOA grant. He shares my vision of renewing our infrastructure with long design lives and redundant systems, minimizing operating costs, and designing facilities that will accommodate potential growth and expansion in the future.
Willy has raised a family and lived in the Village for over 25 years. He appreciates and supports the people and organizations that make Greenwich the desirable community we call home.
This March 19th re-elect Willy to a full four-year term as Village Trustee. The polls are open from noon to 9:00 PM at Village Hall, 6 Academy Street. Village residents, please come out and vote!

## Kyle Vandewater

Village of Greenwich Trustee
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