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THIRTY-TWO PAGES!
OCT. 16-31, 2021



BATTENKILL 8



VARSITY PICS 18

The town is her canvas



A local artist is in high demand by businesses for fall and holiday scenes.

If you've seen a business window in town filled with a drawing of a holiday or seasonal theme, it probably was done by Rachel Truax, 24, a Greenwich, N.Y., resident who brings her paints and brushes with her to decorate anything glass. Here she is recently pictured drawing up the Jay's Pizza facade.

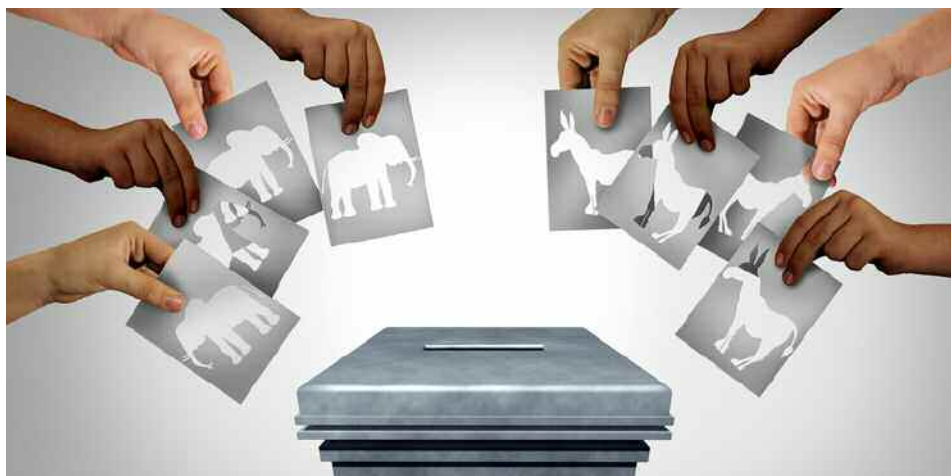
Please read more on page 17

Meet the candidates

We begin our coverage of local contested races with a look at the four candidates running for two open Greenwich Town Council seats. Jim Mumby and Tom Graves on the Democratic and Public Service lines face off against Julie Sipperly and Liv Thygesen on the Republican and Common Sense lines.

Please read more on page 3

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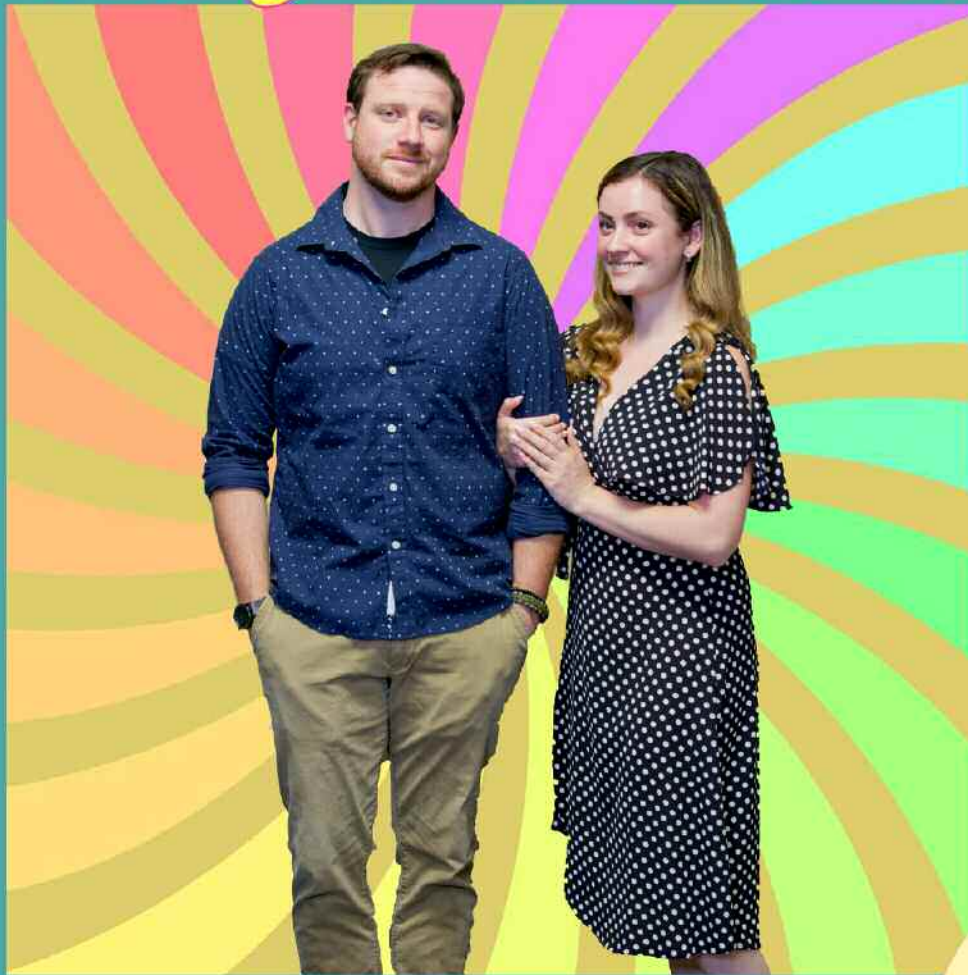
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Beware! Election Coverage Ahead!

Welcome to election season. In this issue and our next, we're going to attempt to cover every contested race in our main coverage areas, giving all candidates in such races our best attention.

It's a Herculean task. Most papers in this region, if they cover the races at all, merely print candidate bios — written by the candidates in PR language. But readers deserve better than that.

How we are accomplishing this is via Zoom, and I've made the conscious decision to use first-person "I" in how I transcribe my questions, to be as transparent as possible. We also will put the full video and audio on our site — for subscribers to this print edition. Subscribe at JPSubs.com.

Our site is JournalandPress.com.

I actually did host a Zoom debate between

the two Greenwich supervisor candidates, and it became heated at times, but that happened just before press time. I will write the story before the next issue and put it behind a paywall, and then print it in the next issue, which should hit Greenwich mailboxes by Oct. 29. Election Day is Nov. 2 this year. You could also early vote at the County Office Building in Fort Edward Oct. 23-31. Consult the Internet for hours of operation for early voting.

Overall, I found all of the Greenwich candidates to be credible — it's up to you to decide which candidate aligns with your hopes for the town, so this paper will not endorse candidates. We wish them the best of luck and thank them for providing us with a truly democratic process by giving us choice on the ballot.

—Darren Johnson



VOTE S.M.A.R.T.

 **JIM NOLAN**
For Supervisor

 **JIM MUMBY**
For Town Council

 **TOM GRAVES**
For Town Council

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Candidate Interview: Julie Sipperly

Darren Johnson

Journal & Press

On October 11, I interviewed Julie Sipperly, a candidate for Greenwich Town Council, via Zoom. You can find our talk in video and audio format on journalandpress.com.

Sipperly is the only candidate for council who has run for the position before, losing by only 15 votes in 2019. In that race, she was just on the GOP line but this time joins the Republican slate on an independent line called Common Sense.

Her day job is Director of Wilton Medical Arts, and she touts her administrative background – especially after this trying year having to deal with Covid – as beneficial for the town. She also has a record of helping non-profits professionalize and increase their fundraising ability, as well as experience in creating new ventures. For example, she and her husband were pioneers in bringing lacrosse to Washington County, where the sport now is a staple. She’s also been a key player in Christmas With Santa.

Let’s get to the issues...

Taxes

Most homeowners in Greenwich Town last year saw no property tax increase. I noted that this was a strong plank in the GOP platform, but asked if this was an anomaly because last year was a Covid year, or if this can be maintained.

Sipperly responded: “We have to be very careful with the tax burden we put on people in general. There are hidden taxes everywhere, and we are tasked as taxpayers that they have to go up, but we don’t have to accept that. ... We have to be very careful with how we spend people’s hard-earned money.”

Are there areas where we can bring in more revenue to the town (which has been losing population)?

“Absolutely,” Sipperly said, noting that now more people are working remotely. She said the town could be more attractive for both transplants and for those who left for college to come back. “Greenwich is a wonderful place for people to consider working from remotely. ...

“And we can bring talented people here. We have so many talented people living in this community,” she added. “It’s controlled, smart growth

that’s important.”

Independence

I asked all of the candidates if they would be an independent voice on the town board. It seems like most of the boards I visit have one or two people doing all of the talking and everyone else nodding along.

Sipperly said that, yes, she would be an independent thinker on the board, but would also listen to what the people say. “It’s important to hear people, and then ask questions, before responding. ... I’m not representing myself on the town board, I’m making decisions for the community.”

The Future of the Town

The current GOP majority board has initiated a study to potentially expand the water district beyond the village, west along Route 29, perhaps as far as the traffic circle. This would be an important first step to increasing business as well as residential opportunities along that corridor. How do candidates view the future of Greenwich?

“When we first moved into Green-

wich in 1986, we thought that the town would be a little further along than it is now. ... We love the small-town aspect of it, but it’s not feasible to keep where we are,” Sipperly said. “We need to get that hard infrastructure in place.”

Highway Department

The town Highway Department – which accounts for a majority of the town budget – was a hot topic this past term, as there were heavy debates – and an attempt by the town board – to replace the elected Highway Superintendent position with a civil service appointee who is more beholden to the board. The attempt failed, but the idea still has legs, as, it seems the town has trouble finding candidates to run for the position. This year, on the GOP ticket, Jeff Derby, a newcomer to the position, is running for Super unopposed.

Sipperly sees the appointed position as worth addressing again. “[By] making it an appointed position ... people will still have a choice, because they elect their town board who makes the appointment ... What results in getting the best candidate? That needs to be explored.”

Candidate Interview: Liv Thygesen

Darren Johnson

Journal & Press

On Oct. 11, I interviewed Liv Thygesen, a candidate for Greenwich Town Board on the Republican line, as well as an independent line called Common Sense.

She was in transit and unable to make a previous interview, broadcasting via Zoom from a hotel room. You can find our chat on journalandpress.com.

Thygesen is an active member of

the Town Planning Board and this year was named president of the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce, helping the organization bring back large events after Covid. She’s also a Marine veteran and owns Sip and Swirl on Main Street.

Here is her take on the issues:

Economics

Thygesen, who is a business

owner, said that her five years away as a Marine allowed her to come back to Greenwich and see it through new eyes.

“What I really seek to contribute to the town is building up enough of our community so that our young will feel they do not have to leave,” she said. “We should have jobs available. We should have infrastructure available,” she said.

Taxes

“The town is a business, so you have to work within the confines of your limits, just like you would a family budget,” Thygesen said. “You have to look at revenue vs. expenses. ... There are two forms of infrastructure — hard infrastructure and hard infrastructure.”

She said that the town has much soft infrastructure, such as parks and waterfront, that may attract some people, but the hard in-

continued onpage 16

Candidate Interviews: Tom Graves and Jim Mumby

Darren Johnson
Journal & Press

On Oct. 7, I interviewed Tom Graves and Jim Mumby, two of the four candidates running for two open Greenwich Town Council seats on Nov. 2, via Zoom.

The two candidates stressed that they were registered independents, running on the Democratic line as well as an independent line called Community Service.

Graves attended Radford University and is a retired Greenwich Postmaster and was also president of the Greenwich Central Schools Board of Education. He also has volunteered for numerous nonprofits, including the Greenwich Youth Center, Comfort Food Community and the Centenary United Methodist Church.

Mumby is an Air Force Academy graduate who, altogether, served for 20 years in the USAF and NY Air National Guard, pilot- and officer-trained, retiring as a Lt. Colonel. He is also an avid volunteer, serving as president of the Citizen's Committee for Greenwich Youth, on the board of Comfort Food Community and vestry with St. Paul's Episcopal Church. Mumby is helping spearhead the new CFC food pantry efforts in the former Toy Works building in town.

Mumby said that, if his slate – which also includes Jim Nolan for supervisor – were to sweep, with a Democrat incumbent Pat Donahue – they could “really sculpt Greenwich into a better future.”

You can find our conversation in full on journalandpress.com.

Here are some highlights from our chat.

The No. 1 Issue

I asked the two candidates what the biggest issue in town is right now.

“I don't think the Highway Department issue is finished yet,” Mumby said, noting that the department is 60% of the town budget, but the department recently lost three employees with about 100 years combined experience.

He noted that the Highway Department deals with 76 miles of roads, and equipment may be reaching its life expectancy, so the highway department “will be a big concern of ours.”

Graves felt another important issue is transparency. He sees a lack of community involvement with the board, and decisions being made in a vacuum.

“We have a lot of very talented people in this area,” Graves said. “This is a diverse population. We have people with a large variety of skill sets, and we need to tap into those resources.”

Why Change?

I asked what would be the “flavor” of the town board, should their ticket win.

‘Partisanship should have no role at this level of government.’

Graves said that party should not matter at this level. “It should just be managing a budget and an infrastructure.”

Legalized Pot

All candidates I interviewed agreed that local voters should decide via referendum as to the parameters of marijuana sales and use in town, per the state's legalization earlier this year. Mumby, though, wondered why this current board could not get it on the ballot Nov. 2 – instead a special election will need to be held in December.

“This law came out in May,” Mumby said. “They only needed to pass a resolution 60 days prior to Nov. 2.”

Culverts

Another issue that has been debated heavily in town are two culverts proposed for Christie

and Ferguson Roads. The town, under a previous administration, accepted a Bridge NY grant to get the funding for the culverts, but overruns potentially were to cost Greenwich \$350,000, according to Supervisor Don Ward. Ward said that his negotiations with the DOT got that number erased, but Democrats say the issue was overstated, and such negotiations are business as usual.

“There was a project, there was an estimate, there was a pandemic, there were overages,” Graves said. “Those things happens. ... There was no mismanagement done; it's just that unfortunate things happen to municipalities. ... Both sides were just government at work. This is what happens in government. Because of the pandemic, there were funds available. We're not the only town that had issues.”

Management Style

As for blaming the previous administration for the potential problem, Graves added: “I'm not into pointing fingers to blame. Leaders don't get to the top by stepping on the backs of others.”

Both cited the current supervisor's management style, saying that items that come up at meetings aren't always clearly identified on the agenda. This results in fewer people attending meetings, Mumby added.

Taxes and Population

“We're going to be responsible stewards for your tax dollars,” Mumby said, noting that, while town taxes were stable last year, a lot of that was because the town had several vacancies amid a pandemic.

Graves said that short term, cuts help stabilize taxes, but for the long run, revenues need to be increased. “There are a lot of vacant buildings in town. We're not pro-tax, anti-business; we both own businesses in town.”

Both candidates agreed that the town needs to do a better job growing population and bringing in demographics that help local businesses and the tax base.

In conclusion, the candidates stressed their political independence.

“Partisanship should have no role at this level of government,” Graves said.

Frederick Ralph Curtis, 82

Frederick Ralph Curtis, 82 of Latham, beloved husband of Carol (Piteras) Curtis, entered into eternal life on Saturday, September 25, 2021 at his home in Latham with his loving family at his side.

Born in Greenwich, NY on June 10, 1939, he was the son of the late Ralph and Gladys (Beecher) Curtis. He graduated from Greenwich Central School in 1957, attended Syracuse University and graduated from SUNY Albany. He completed his graduate work at SUNY Albany and Syracuse and taught math for a year at West Irondequoit Middle School. Fred was a member of the Army Security Agency stationed in Germany from 1963 to 1966. Fred married his beloved wife, Carol, on June 20, 1970 at St. Michael's Church, Cohoes and the two have shared a beautiful marriage of over 51 years.

He retired in 1995 after 28 years in the field of IT with the New York State Education Department. Fred was a talented artist who painted the scenery for dance recitals and for

several years designed the scenery for Shaker Junior High School Theater Department. Fred was a longtime member of Pinehaven Country Club in Guelderland where he was a two-time Senior Club Champion and had 6 holes-in-one to his credit. Fred and Carol were communicants of Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Latham.

In addition to his wife Carol, he is survived by his loving children Krista (Kevin) Glynn and Pamela (Casey) O'Connor, his cherished grandchildren, Rileigh Glynn, Cadence Glynn, Jake O'Connor, and Casey Rose O'Connor, his sister Carolyn Fletcher, several nieces and nephews and loving family and friends. He was the loving brother-in-law of Joan (Stan) Kosek and Barbara (Gil) Ethier.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday October 1, 2021 at 11:00 am in Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 498 Watervliet-Shaker Road, Latham with Pastor Geoffrey Burke officiating.

Relatives and friends are invited to call Thursday from 4-7 pm at Dufresne & Cavanaugh Funeral Home, Ltd., 149 Old Loudon Road, Latham, NY.

Interment will be in St.

Michael's Cemetery, Waterford.

In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Fred can be made to the American Stroke Association. 300 5th Avenue, Suite 6, Waltham, MA 02451.

For directions, information or to light a memory candle for the family please visit www.dufresneandcavanaugh.com.



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A black-and-white rate card is available by email. Contact ads@journalandpress.com to inquire about that, or to book your ad.

We will have an Oct. 16 and Nov. 1 issue before Election Day, which is Nov. 2 this year. The Nov. 1 issue will start hitting mailboxes Oct. 29.

We hit multi-partisan, deliberate voters who want to hear from you!

Connection without community

Kate Sausville
Journal & Press

“When it’s over, I want to say: all my life

I was a bride married to amazement.

I was the bridegroom, taking the world into my arms.

When it’s over, I don’t want to wonder

If I have made of my life something particular, and real.

I don’t want to find myself sighing and frightened,

Or full of argument.

I don’t want to end up simply having visited this world.” ~ Mary Oliver

Last week the big news was that several major social media sites went down. Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp were unavailable for most of the day. I was at work and had no idea until I came home and watched the news, but the break was eye opening for many people and businesses. As a society we have come to depend on the connection that social media brings us. Businesses advertise heavily on sites like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. How often have you “googled” a product only to then have

Story hour

Storyteller Nadia Christy would like to invite preschoolers for an hour of rhyming, fingerplays, a story or two and a craft, meeting each Wednesday of the week at 10 a.m. October brings stories of apples, pumpkins, and of course, Halloween!

Story Hour will continue to meet every Wednesday, following the Greenwich Central School calendar. Come and enjoy this hour of fun and learning with your preschooler (for children ages birth to 5 years old). Remember to bring a healthy snack too! Dry snacks and spill-proof cups are welcome. No sign up is required. Call Easton Library with questions at 518-692-2253.

that product advertised heavily on your social media feeds? Or had a conversation about products with a friend or co-worker only to have your newsfeed slammed with that item? Even local organizations have come to rely on the “free” advertising social media allows. I use quotation marks because it has become increasingly clear that free has a cost. Internet algorithms and possible outages mean that your intended audience are not getting your message or product. The old saying “you get what you pay for” comes to mind.

I will admit that when I heard the news that most social media was down, I was hopeful it would be for a long time. It has become increasingly clear to me in the last few years, that our

‘When I heard social media was down, I was hopeful it would be for a long time.’

ability to communicate with everyone at one time has made us anything but social. It becomes glaringly obvious during election cycles, which seem to get longer and longer each year. Rather than highlighting the positives, it becomes a game of mudslinging and one upmanship. Posts are more likely to attack each other personally, rather than critique policy. I don’t care for it regardless of what candidate you support. Ironically, research shows that fewer than 14% of people change their opinions based on social media posts. When you find yourself going back and forth with an internet “friend,” you are more than likely wasting your time. The internet has made us forget how to disagree without being disagreeable. You wouldn’t call someone a stupid moron to their face because they have differing politics. Yet we type that (and much worse) out on social media for all to see. Maybe we think we are invisible behind the screen, but instead what you put out there stays out there for all to see.

At a work conference recently, we had a guest speaker who said that social media was “connection without community.” I have thought about that a lot lately. There have been

many times in the last several years where I have gotten friend requests from someone I met briefly at a school function or sporting event. But it becomes clear after a while that this person has no idea who I am. And there have been times I have friended someone only to realize they were not the person I thought I was friending. Oops! There is a connection, a slight one, through social media but there is no community. The computer or phone screen gives us a degree of separation that make finding a true community difficult. Meeting face to face, having conversations, reading body language are all part of true socialization. Even if you connect on one level on social media sites, it can be impossible to get past the superficial level because the other person can portray themselves any way they want to. As someone who gets anxious in social situations, I understand that internet connections can be more comfortable initially. But the lack of a true community becomes obvious after a while.

As I get older, I am finding that I crave true connection and community with face-to-face interactions. At the beginning of the month my husband and I went to the First Friday community dinner at Christ the King in Easton. The meal was delicious, but what made it better was getting to sit and talk to people I had not gotten to see in a long time. This weekend we attended a wedding, where we got to talk, sing, and dance the night away with people we have known for a long time. We got to celebrate an amazing couple, in person. It was one of the best evenings we’ve had in a long time. Life is best enjoyed in the company of your community, whoever that is for you. It may be family, or friends, or your neighbors. People you can share a meal with, celebrate with, or simply spend time with. Passive interaction through a screen cannot replace real life connections. I, for one, won’t be sad if Facebook goes down and stays down.

Kate Sausville is a resident of Greenwich.



The Battenkill runs through it

Jim Nolan
Journal & Press

The Dutch word for moving water is “kill.” Thus many streams and rivers in the Capital Region have “kill” at the end of their name.

The Batten Kill (now universally spelled Battenkill) rises in East Dorset, Vermont, and flows south, with Mad Tom Brook soon joining it from the southern slope of Mount Tabor. It flows in a southwesterly direction to Arlington and then in a westerly direction, entering New York. The river continues west, forming the boundary between the towns of Jackson and Salem, turning north at the hamlet of Shushan. Turning west again at Greenwich Junction, the river becomes the boundary between Jackson and the town of Greenwich, passing the hamlets of East Greenwich, Battenville, and Center Falls before reaching the village of Greenwich. The Battenkill continues as the boundary between Greenwich and the town of Easton, past the hamlet of Middle Falls and ends at the Hudson River, at a point one mile north of Schuylerville.

From source to mouth following the major windings, the river measures 59.4 miles. The length of the river in Vermont is approximately 28 miles and the remaining 31.4 miles in New York. The Battenkill is crossed by four covered bridges, three of which are still in use today: West Arlington Bridge, Vermont (1852), Eagleville Bridge, New York (1858), Shushan Covered Bridge, New York (1858–1962), and Rexleigh Covered

Bridge, New York (1874). The Shushan Covered Bridge is now a seasonal museum.

The river is known for its trout fishing. Brook trout in the upper reaches and Brown trout throughout the course of the river. The average Brown trout will run 10-12 inches. Places to fish along the river include Dutchmans Hole, George’s Pool, Wulff’s Pool, Eagleville Bridge Pool, Ledge Pool, Stanton’s Pool,

Dam Pool and Dufresne Pond. Pools are connected by shallow runs, flats, mild riffles, a few rapids and bends in the river.

In the 1700s, the Battenkill, Mettawee, and Indian Rivers were vital to the settlement of towns and villages along the banks of the river. Water became the moving force which powered a variety of mills in the early days and still generates electricity until the present day.

Job Whipple established the first saw mill providing lumber to build homes in Whipple City, now Greenwich. By 1800 there were as many as 100 mills of varying types along the Battenkill, all the way from Dorset to Clarks Mills, where the river flows into the Hudson River. Many of the mills sawed lumber but then went on to make textiles such as flax and cotton or paper goods.

The American Tea Tray Company established in 1849 produced decorated tin trays, the first in the country. The Rexleigh Marble Mill near Salem cut marble which was transported there by rail car from Dorset and Rutland, Vermont. Eventually the same mill produced machetes and sickles many of



which were exported to Russia up until WWI. In the early 1970’s, the buildings were used to produce ceramics before fire destroyed almost everything, leaving hollowed out marble walls and rusted machinery.

The story of how mills along rivers led to the establishment of industry and jobs helps explain the original demographics of the area. Irish, Welch, Italian and Polish immigrants once settled in Union Village (aka Greenwich) Salem, New York and Middle Granville to work in the textile mills and quarries there.

Today what’s left of earlier mills are mostly in ruin along the Battenkill. Three examples are the original flax and cotton mill in Eagleville, once an outstanding example of post and beam construction with a look-out tower, the flax and cotton production Dunbarton Mill in the Village of Greenwich, and the textile mill in Battenville, which Susan B. Anthony’s father managed until the crash of 1837.

Hollingsworth & Vose still operates a mill in Center Falls which manufactures filter paper. The original construction burned and

was rebuilt several times, but the present buildings hug state route 29 on one side and the Battenkill on the other. In Middle Falls, and Clarks Mills, there are powerful turbines which still generate electricity.

The Battenkill is now the center of many recreation opportunities besides fishing including rafting, kayaking, and swimming. There are drop-off and pickup points coordinated by companies that also rent equipment.

The Battenkill Conservancy is a multifaceted organization that serves to advocate, protect, educate, and conserve land and habitat surrounding the Battenkill. Their website, battenkillconservancy.org, gives a complete picture of all this wonderful organization does to preserve our natural treasure we call “The Battenkill.”

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



Cambridge Lions annual concert returns

After two postponements, the Cambridge Lions Club will be hosting their annual concert at the Elks Lodge in Greenwich, NY. This year's concert will be held on Saturday October 16th at 7pm. This year and moving forward the Cambridge Lions Club's Annual Concert proceeds will benefit local organizations that assist with Childhood Cancer Research and Support families locally. Come listen to the sounds and harmony of the 1960's that will take you back in time with Happy Together Band! Admission is \$20 per ticket, doors open at 6 p.m., cash bar and light food menu available as well as raffles.

In 2018, the World Health Organization launched the Global Initiative for Childhood Cancer with the goal of reaching at least 60% survival rate for children with cancer by 2030. The Initiative has brought together stakeholders from around the world and across sectors towards the common goal, this included Lions Club International. Lions Club International Foundation has begun working with the Initiative to explore new ways in which Lions can help children with cancer in their communities. More than 300,000 children are diagnosed with cancer globally each year. In fact, there are over 25,000 chronically ill children in the Cap-



ital District alone. Tickets will only be available at the door. For concert and ticket information, please contact PDG Lion Jimmy Griffith 315-269-5370.

Harvest Fest, 10/23

Greenwich Village downtown merchants invite you to enjoy a Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 23rd. Sidewalk sales, music, and food will be in abundance! Patrons are encouraged to pick up a punch card at participating busi-

nesses. Visit a minimum of 5 businesses and drop your punched card in a designated spot for a chance at winning gift certificates to local businesses. Kick off your holiday shopping by supporting local small businesses!



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'The Great Give Back'

Join community members and patrons of the Greenwich Free Library and the Easton Library by "giving back" to the community by donating NEW warm winter accessories (warm socks, mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats). Donations will support The Open Door Mission and WAIT House, both serving residents of Washington and Warren County. Socks are especially needed at shelters.

Look for collection boxes at the entrances of both libraries. All donations need to be NEW and sized for adults and teens.

The Open Door Mission provides emergency shelter and services to individuals experiencing homelessness while WAIT House provides emergency shelter for teens who are experiencing homelessness. Both organizations serve Warren and Washington Counties.

Collection bins will be available for two weeks from Saturday, October 16 thru Saturday,



October 30 at the entrances of the two libraries.

"The Great Give Back" is a statewide program whose mission is to provide library patrons the opportunity to participate in meaningful service to their communities. Throughout New York State libraries will be participating with a variety of service programs in October.

Thank you in advance for participating, and see you at the library! Please direct questions to Lynne Weygint at: lweygint@sals.edu, or by calling the Greenwich Free Library at: 518-692-7157 or the Easton Library at jdecarlo@sals.edu or 518 692-2253.

I am your gluten-shunning, step-counting worst nightmare

Greg Schwem
Special to Journal & Press

World, I'm warning you now: If you see me, walk the other direction. You will thank me later.

Then again, I probably won't see you. Chances are, I'll be squinting at a food ingredients label or worse, using my iPhone's magnifying feature to do the work for me. You will see my facial features curl in disap-

pointment when I run across the words "wheat," "barley," "rye" or an emoji of a crying man holding an empty beer mug.

Or maybe I'll be staring at a contraction on my wrist, joyful in knowing that I just walked 11 steps from the hotel's front desk to the elevator, and I am that much closer to whatever daily step goal I have set for myself. Incidentally, if you move to the back of the elevator upon entering, it's an additional two steps,

maybe three depending on your foot size and the elevator's dimensions.

Yes, I have become the most annoying person at the party. The one who can steer a dinner host's menu in a completely different direction with six words: "By the way, I'm gluten-free."

It's uncomfortable enough having to ask everyone their vaccination status before making plans. Now, when accepting a party invite, I must let the host couple know that, even though they invited 12 people over for dinner, they are really cooking for one: me.

I disguise my new eating regimen by offering to bring an appetizer, supplementing it with, "You know, until I started on this new health kick, I didn't realize there were so many gluten-free options out there."

Yeah, like a spinach bread bowl, featuring gluten-free bread, with the consistency of taffy. Grab a plate everyone; your inflammation will thank you later.

My gluten-free experiment is the result of ongoing back and hip pain that has left me unable to perform most of my favorite activities. Ironically, one of those activities, visiting microbreweries, is now off the list since beer contains gluten. Lots of gluten. Yes, there are some gluten-free brews out there; but most taste like a slice of gluten-free bread was left floating in the glass the night before.

A relative swore eliminating gluten from his diet cured his back pain. My doctor told me to give it a whirl. I'm now on day 14 and, despite my moaning, I am feeling a difference. Maybe it's wishful thinking. Wait, of course it's wishful thinking; because right now, I'm wishing for a big plate of pasta.

The step-counting fetish is en-

tirely self-produced. Tracking my daily paces is, I guess, another way of convincing myself I have a new, healthier body. I have vowed, with some success, not to constantly check for updates. Step counters can be just as annoying as new parents with a baby monitor. You could be telling them a story about ANYTHING — maybe the fact that you were just selected to be the next civilian in space — and they would suddenly hold up a finger and yell, "SSSHHH!" Silenced, you watch their ears perk up like a dog's upon hearing a can opener and then, after realizing the sound was static and not their precious infant, lower their finger and say, "Sorry about that. What were you say...SSSHHH!"

I may have been guilty of that behavior a time or two when my kids were born. Of course, our baby monitor could only detect audio, as opposed to today's models, equipped with more cameras than one would find on a movie set. Today every sleeping baby is the subject of a reality show entitled, "Relax. I Was Merely Sighing."

So, I apologize for my rudeness. And my picky eating habits. But give the gluten-free thing a try if, like me, you are out of answers for what ails your body.

I'm off to the grocery store to stock up on more foods adorned with the "GF" symbol.

It's 6,700 steps. I am so stoked!

Greg Schwem is a corporate stand-up comedian and author of "Text Me If You're Breathing: Observations, Frustrations and Life Lessons From a Low-Tech Dad" and "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.

PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST
to benefit the
GREENWICH YOUTH CENTER
When: October 23, 2021
Where: GATHER, 103 Main Street, Greenwich NY
Categories: Youth-13 years old or younger
Adults- 14 years old and up
Cost: FREE to enter the contest
Bring your carved pumpkin to Gather on:
Friday (10/22) (9AM-4PM) or before 10AM on Saturday(10/23)
Come Vote: 11AM-5PM on October 23
A donation of \$5 gets you:
1 vote, 1 beverage, and 1 bag of chips
Prizes will be awarded for the most votes in a category
**** We will have a 50/50 and a basket raffle****

COMPETITION TIME

Halloween Parade

The Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce announces its 30th Annual Halloween Parade to take place on Sunday, October 31 in the Village of Greenwich. This Chamber community event has become a beloved tradition in the Village of Greenwich, drawing crowds of children and adult participants, with many others lining Main Street to watch. It's a fun-filled afternoon for Greenwich and surrounding communities.

"We are ecstatic that our 30th anniversary of the Halloween Parade falls on Halloween Day," said Kelly Eustis, Managing Director of the Chamber. "I remember taking part in the parade when I was a child and continuing this fall tradition each year as Chamber director is a fun experience."

Participants will gather at 1:00pm at the corner of Washington Street and Main Street. The parade will march along Main Street

to Academy Street and the parking lot of the Town of Greenwich building at 2 Academy Street, to the right of the Greenwich Free Library, where judging will be done. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Everyone gets a bag of treats and a participant ribbon for marching in the parade. Judging will take place in five categories: The Best Dressed Pet, The Most Original, The Funniest, The Scariest, and The Best Group/Family. The

Best in Parade will be chosen as the winner of the \$100 prize.

"This year the Halloween Parade has seen such a wonderful outpouring of support by our members," exclaimed Liv Thygesen, President of the Board of Directors. "We continue to hold great community-wide events in Greenwich each year due to the time, energy, and contribu-

Soup-to-Go on Nov. 2

The Easton Methodist Church, 12053 Route 40, North Easton will have Soup-To-Go on Election Day, November 2, from noon to 6 p.m. Soup will be picked up at the Church. A 16 oz. container will cost \$5. Choices will be Clam Chowder, Broccoli Cheese, Chicken Noodle and Chili. Pre-ordering is encouraged but not necessary. To pre-order, email eastonchurch126@gmail.com or call 518-531-4558 (leave message). Someone will call or email you to confirm your order.

Old Saratoga Seniors

The next meeting of the Old Saratoga Seniors will be on Wednesday, October 6 at noon at the Town Hall, Spring St., Schuylerville.

It will be a casserole luncheon. Please bring a dish to share. New members and guest members are always welcome. For information, contact Pat at 518-338-2329.

tions of our membership."

The parade is made possible by generous sponsorships, including The Fort Miller Group, Capital Tractor, Washington County Co-Operative Insurance Company, Wilbur Financial Group, Willard Mountain, Greenwich Materials, Em's Art Shack at Crawford Island Art, Battenkill Motors, Bethany Liddle – State Farm, Blooms Floral

Design, Country Power Products, Corner Post Land Surveying, PLLC, Gramp's Old School, Helping Hands Physical Therapy, Just Because, The Country Peddler Shoppes and Whipple City Realty Group.

More information can be found at: greenwichchamber.org/halloween.

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New Greenwich park is a great investment

Dear Editor,

I was very pleased to spend some time at our new park in the town of Greenwich, the Hudson Riverside Park. I was thinking...how much frontage on the mighty Hudson did the town own before this purchase? And how much total frontage on the mighty Hudson is owned by any town in Washington County? I came up with zero parks before this! The Hudson Riverside Park isn't huge. It's 3+ acres but it's very special and loaded with potential. The concept for a Hudson Riverside Park was initiated back in 2007 by the Thomson-Clarks Mills Residents Committee for a Heritage Corridor Park. Yup! And, we managed to get that concept included in the town's Comprehensive Plan. Later, Sara Idleman was town supervisor and with the help of both Democrats and Republicans, was able to purchase land for a park with a small amount of state grant money.

Recently, I received a flyer in the mail from Supervisor Ward. He seems to think the buildings at the park (a big gorgeous old historic barn and silo, along with 2 other usable buildings) are some sort of mess. Really? An old barn and silo recently used by the former Adirondack School a few years back is a total mess? Even though Democrats and Republicans who voted for the purchase were all happy and excited to have a piece of Hudson River frontage? I think we could all agree the buildings need some fixing up. But to say the purchase was bad is simply short-sighted at best.

While I'm bugging everyone, let me remind you that Washington County's western border touches the Hudson River, Lake George,

and Lake Champlain. Please, someone, submit the locations where we the citizens of this county have access points to those huge and wonderful natural wonders. The only one I can think of before this purchase was Hulett's Landing. Now we have access to the Hudson. Let's work on our park, everyone! Let's as a community, think about what we'd like to do there. Thank you to everyone who voted to purchase Hudson Riverside Park and the vast community that I dare say supports it!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Bartholomay

Greenwich, NY

Work Together

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank the current Greenwich Supervisor.

I thank him for reminding me, through the recent mailer sent to all residents of Greenwich, of all of the bad governing ascribed to the town council for the past 10 years, a period of time when the overwhelming majority on the town council has been Republican. Our supervisor's own party.

What kind of a leader throws his own party members, his own supposed colleagues, under the bus?

I'll answer my own question: A very poor leader.

Greenwich deserves a real leader, one with leadership experience and a history of results. Fortunately, we have just that person in Jim Nolan. Jim is currently president of the Board of Education and also the Library Board. He is on the Town Planning Board as well as the WSWHE BOCES School Board. He

is a professor and was a dean at Siena College. Unlike our current supervisor, who alludes to a wish-list comprehensive plan, Jim Nolan chaired the committee that led Siena College in two successful strategic plans, the real action items that turn a broad comprehensive plan into reality. The results of his work were increased enrollment, the addition of academic programs, and a surplus each year that is being invested back into expanded student learning facilities. All this, while other private colleges are suffering financial woes. Clearly, Jim Nolan is goal-oriented, and an achiever. He doesn't just talk about the future, he knows how to get things done and is eager to lead the town of Greenwich.

Again, thank you to our current supervisor for the reminder of what real leadership should be and what Greenwich deserves.

Remember this on Election Day, November 2. We need a coalition that will work together, for everyone, in Greenwich. Please vote for Jim Nolan, Jim Mumby, and Tom Graves.

Mary Lou Stern

Greenwich

Pay the Same

To the Editor:

(In response to Ms. Miller's reply to my previous letter in the Oct. 1 issue), Dear Ms. Miller: It is no coincidence that I reviewed the town budget this year since I do my best to review how our taxes are being spent every year. This year, as every other odd year, happens to have town elections. Please read the Nov. 2020 Town minutes for your admission as to inaccuracies in

your 990 filings. Charity Navigator have you a failing grade in 2019 and for several years earlier. Not me. As far as the town cutting their disproportionate library contribution from \$43,500 to \$25,000, the reduction was more in line to what the rate that the village contributed. Using 2020 census data, 1780 for the village and 3002 for the town, the town's past contribution of \$43,500 equaled to \$14,149 per resident. The village contribution of \$14,000 equaled to \$7.87 per resident. Why should the town resident pay \$6.62 or 84% more than the village resident for library services? The town reduced its contribution to be more in line with the village rate (\$25,000 equals \$8.33 per resident). As a town resident, I have the right and duty to review how our town taxes are spent. According to your own Library Board minutes of Nov. 2020, you know how to submit a petition to the School Board to be placed on the school tax ballot. Tax Cap information for libraries permits the Greenwich Free Library to submit a budget petition of an amount approved by 60% of the Library Board and passed by 50% of the voters of the Greenwich Central School District. I have done my homework. You are making the library funding a political issue. Transparency is in order. I am not making the issue personal, I firmly suggest you and the Library Board President use the procedure as suggested to use the School Tax Ballot and, if necessary, use a fair and equitable contribution rate for both town and village residents.

Louis J. Leone

Greenwich, NY

A plaque for Susan B. Anthony

The Willard's Mountain Chapter, NSDAR would like to invite the public to attend a dedication ceremony for a plaque they are placing in the Battenville Cemetery (Co. Rte. 61 in Jackson diagonally across from Skellie Rd about ¼ mi. from State Rte. 29 in the hamlet of Battenville.) The ceremony will be held Sunday, October 24, 2021 at 2 p.m.

Susan penned the words now engraved on the plaque in 1905 in a letter she sent to a Battenville family she had known when she was a child saying that if she lived until the following spring, she intended to have the words engraved on the back of a monument her brother D.R. Anthony had purchased to honor the memory of their grandfather Daniel Read (Susan's mother, Lucy Anthony's father), a veteran of the Revolutionary War. Unfortunately, D.R. Anthony ordered the monument, but passed away in November 1904 before it was delivered to the little cemetery. In 1905, the monument was put in place in the "footprint" of the Reformed Church which used to stand on the left side of the cemetery (the church was still standing when the Anthony grandparents passed away). Sadly, Susan did not live until the next spring to come back to have the stone engraved. The

letter was filed away with the family to whom she had sent it and for 116 years, no one knew what she had planned to do until last spring when Willard's Mountain Chapter chaplain, Debi Craig was researching Susan's life in Battenville and came across the Raab Historic Documents website where she found a transcription of the letter which had been sold at auction by the family who had it in their possession since Susan sent it. Craig realized the inscription had never been engraved on the back of the monument because only the names of the four grandparents of Susan and her siblings are on it. She thought, "We can do this!" In the letter was the exact wording Susan desired to have on the monument to honor her brother. She went to the Willard's Mountain Chapter with the idea. The group decided to raise the needed funds to make Susan's dream a reality. Susan herself had become a member of the Irondequoit Chapter NSDAR (Rochester) in 1898. There was not room enough on the back of the monument to add the wording, but the Willard's Mountain Chapter was not deterred. They contacted International Bronze Company who designed the sign. Willard's Mountain reached out to their members and the community and raised the needed money to create the plaque.

FFA alumni

Enthusiastic Greenwich FFA Alumni are planning a Gathering of Greenwich FFA Alumni and Supporters to help kick-start an official Greenwich FFA Alumni Chapter. The event will be held on Wednesday, October 20 at 7 pm at Highlander Brewing Company, 453 County Route 47, Argyle, NY. Come browse through old FFA scrapbooks, visit with old friends and make new ones while supporting the Greenwich FFA. There is no cost to attend the event. A food truck will be available for delicious food choices. Since 1939 Greenwich has had a strong FFA Chapter and many successful agricultural students. Our community is full of Greenwich FFA Alumni and Supporters! RSVP to Erin.Perikins@farmcrediteast.com

Seniors to meet

The next meeting of the Olde Saratoga Senior Citizens will be on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at noon at the Town Hall, Spring St., Schuylerville. It will be a sandwich luncheon and dessert will be provided. It will also be the Tea Cup Auction. New members and guests are welcome to attend. Any questions or if you need information, contact Pat Temple at 518-338-2329

Walk for Freedom at Mowry

Join fellow activists for a Walk for Freedom starting at Greenwich's Mowry Park on Saturday, October 16, at 1 p.m.

Organizer Angela Lynds

said, "Walk for Freedom is a global action day to bring awareness and help stop human trafficking around the world. Abolish slavery with

each step."

Contact Lynds at WFF-GreenwichNY@gmail.com . To register, go to a21.org/Greenwich.

Your news here

Getting a blurb in The Greenwich Journal & Salem Press is quite easy. Just send it as plain text to editor@journalandpress.com by deadline.

Fund to 'keep the heat on' in Cambridge

"Help To Keep The Heat On" is the theme for a 2021 campaign being promoted during the month of October. The Cambridge Fuel Fund in the 2020-2021 heating season provided \$7,260 to 19 households. This money is sent directly to the recipient's own provider whether for fuel oil, wood, kerosene, propane, electricity or wood pellets.

Requirements: Living in the Cambridge

School District, not eligible for HEAP funds or those funds are unavailable, and must be responsible for own heating needs. Assistance is for current needs only, not past expenses and is for one-time only each heating season.

The fund can exist only with contributions from individuals and organizations. Consider holding a fundraiser for the fund.

If you have questions or would like to apply for

help in order to "Keep The Heat On," call 518-677-3327.

Donations may be sent to Cambridge Fuel Fund, P.O. Box 473, Cambridge, NY 12816, checks made out to "Cambridge Fuel Fund." Donations are tax deductible as funds are administered by a 501(c)3 organization.

Greenwich Supervisor rebuts his opponent

To the Editor:

I am compelled to reply to Mr. Nolan's letter to the editor of October 1st and again correct his statements with facts.

I already stated these facts concerning the circumstances surrounding former Highway Superintendent Mattison's decision to retire in my letter to the editor on May 2021. However, the facts I stated then have been again ignored by Mr. Nolan in his latest letter to the editor so I am forced to repeat them.

First, I did not force Highway Superintendent Mattison to retire. Since Mr. Mattison was an elected official, I did not have the legal power to do so. Mr. Mattison chose to retire.

Second, I never micro-managed his budget or operations as Highway Superintendent. Again, I do not have the legal power to do so. He managed his budget and he managed his operations.

What I did do and continue to do is carefully manage the entire budget for the Town of Greenwich since the citizens of this town work hard for their money and it is my responsibility to make sure that their taxes are spent wisely. I did monitor those expenses of the Highway Department which affected the overall budget for the Town as I am required to do, and the budget for the Town needed to be more carefully managed since for the 22 years previous to my election in 2020, the taxable portion of the budget for the Town had increased 110%.

I did ask questions about the Highway Department's budget and operations, again as those expenses would affect the Town's overall budget and thus will be paid for by

the Town's taxpayers. For example, Mr. Mattison's culvert project would have cost the Town of Greenwich's taxpayers an additional \$350,000. By asking questions about culvert cost overrides, I brought this situation to the attention of New York State's Department of Transportation, and the Department of Transportation placed the culvert project in a different capital construction program which would cover all cost overruns and save the Town \$350,00 in those cost overruns.

My questions made Supervisor Mattison's culvert project affordable. In other words, my questions supported Supervisor Mattison's culvert project.

In another instance, Superintendent Mattison told residents on unpaved roads that since roads had to be 20 feet wide in order to use New York State funding for road paving and maintenance (CHIPS funding), paving those roads would be an additional cost the Town or those roads would have to remain unpaved. I asked the New York State Department of Transportation if this was a requirement and was told there is no such requirement. As a result of asking this question, we were able use CHIPS funding to pave a portion of one unpaved road without impacting the Town's overall budget.

Again, my questions enabled Supervisor Mattison's chosen successor to start paving unpaved roads using CHIPS funding and without adding additional costs to the Highway Department's or the Town's Budget.

The fact is the questions I have asked were in support of Supervisor Mattison's planned operations and resulted in saving money and providing for the additional road

paving.

By carefully managing the budget and questioning potential expenses, I have kept the tax-based portion of the budget the same for the first time in 23 years and now for a second year as well since the proposed tax-portion of the 2022 budget remains the same as does the tax rate. There will be no tax increase in 2022. And through careful management of the budget, I have been able to maintain and even enhance the services the Town provides for our community.

As to when Mr. Mattison retired, he did so in the middle of a New York State Audit of his operations and that audit began before I was elected Supervisor as I stated in my previous letter to the editor. The only questions I asked were about budget issues that affected the Town's overall spending, which it is my responsibility as Supervisor to do. I had nothing to do with New York State's audit of Mr. Mattison's budget and operations. If Mr. Mattison has questions about the audit of his management of the Town's Highway Department, he should address them to New York State, yet again as I stated in my previous letter to the editor addressing this issue.

As to Mattison's replacement, Mr. Nolan claims that I appointed a "good old boy" to replace Mr. Mattison. I find this charge rather strange as the so-called "good old boy" I appointed was Mr. Mattison's choice and that individual worked for Mr. Mattison and was his foreman.

Mr. Nolan also accuses me of having the residential boundaries for the Highway Supervisor's position extended to qualify this so-called "good old boy" as a candidate for

election, this "good old boy" being former Supervisor Mattison's recommendation for his replacement.

The proposal to extend the boundaries to adjoining towns was actually made by the Highway Committee Councilmen Steve Patrick and Eric Whitehouse. Mr. Mattison's recommendation had moved just outside the Greenwich Town line. The Highway Committee, believing that former Supervisor Mattison's recommendation, with his many years of experience working for the Town Highway Department, would be an excellent Highway Superintendent and so they proposed extending the residential boundaries.

I abstained from the vote to extend the boundaries.

The proposed extension of the boundaries was withdrawn since the individual Mr. Mattison recommended indicated he did not want the position. There was no public outcry as Mr. Nolan claims.

Second, I find it beyond odd that Mr. Nolan would accuse me of supporting my "good old boy" when my so-called "good old boy" had been recommended by retired Supervisor Mattison whom Mr. Nolan supports.

I also find it rather odd that Mr. Nolan expresses so much concern about the Town's Highway Department and the previous Supervisor, but as Chairman of the Democrat Party, he has neglected to nominate anyone to run for Town Highway Supervisor's office on this year's Democrat ballot. Business as usual for Mr. Nolan?

Donald Ward

Supervisor

Town of Greenwich

West finds success reviving Salem Theater

Cheyenne Sassine
Journal & Press

“We all turn to entertainment when we need some element of connection and the experience of being together with people in a room, and being able to have a shared emotional experience is so valuable,” said Kyle West, the 37 year old executive and artistic director, and owner, of the Fort Salem Theater in Salem, New York.

Nobody in West’s family had much interest in the arts. “Yet I don’t know a point in my life where I wasn’t involved in the arts in some capacity,” West said. “Theater is part of my core.”

West got involved in theater at a young age. He started acting at his high school and in local theaters. But he also got to try his hand at many other jobs surrounding theater. He started performing in local shows, then gradually moved on to directing, costuming, and choreographing. “I felt very lucky that I learned very early on that it was more than just the performing aspects that I enjoyed.”

West enrolled at Cape Cod Community College and majored in Liberal Arts. He then moved to secondary education at Grand Canyon University, though he did not receive his degree.

“No, I do not have an arts management degree. Some days I really wish I did, and some days it’s great that I had to learn everything as I went along.”

He had to learn everything, including how to run

a theater in a time when being in a room full of strangers was unsafe. West bought the Fort Salem Theater in the midst of the pandemic, back in August of 2020. He just reopened this past June.

“Having this new venture, reintroducing the community to a theater that hasn’t been active in years, on top of the Covid concerns has just been new for me.”

However, West has taken precautions. When the theater first reopened, they were only filling the theater to about 33% capacity. Now, they have gradually increased, but they are still not up to 100%.

The first musical he put on was called “The Marvelous Wonderettes”, a show filled with popular songs from the 1950s and 60s. The second show was entitled “Next to Normal”, a drama about a family coping with loss.

“I was *terrified* of this community of people, who I had not met, because I didn’t know how well that would go over. A show that isn’t big, bright, and shiny is a risk.”

West’s fears were eased when he realized the power of theater. “Because their [the audience’s] expectations were not set before they got there, they had a *really strong* emotional reaction to it. It was really rewarding in a really unique way,” he said. “They came because they wanted to be back in the theater, and a lot of healing comes from art.”

West said that when it comes time to choose what show to put on next that he’s a “sucker for anything with a good story.” But if he could choose any show to put on, personal reasons

‘They came because they wanted to be back in the theater, and a lot of healing comes from art.’



Kyle West

come into play.

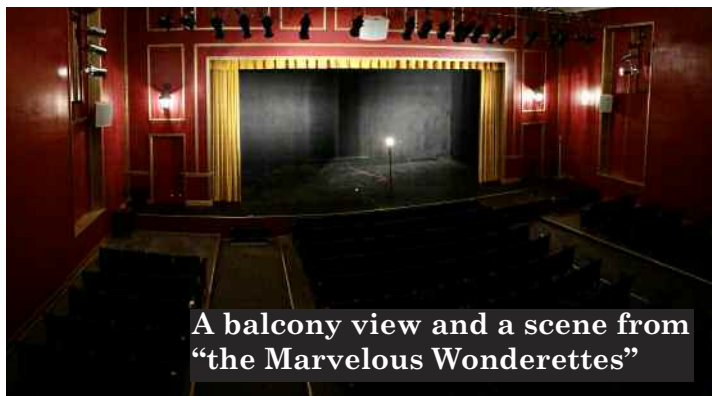
“I love some of the shows that were unsuccessful in their Broadway inception. There’s a musical based on Stephen King’s “Carrie” that flopped *horribly* in the 80s, and was recently rewritten. I love things like that. It’s shows like that where I can really dive into and see why it didn’t work. What can we do to make this a bit stronger and drive the narrative forward more.”

For the young creators in his field, West believes that passion and collaboration are the keys to success.

“I think that if you’re passionate about what you are working on and willing to go above and beyond there’s nothing you can’t learn in this industry,” West said. “It takes a team of people who can collaborate and bring their ideas together and understand that the best idea in the room always wins.”

West also believes that one of the great challenges for young creatives is the ego. “You really have to learn to separate your artistic ego from the big picture.”

As for what’s next at the Fort Salem Theater, West is producing four shows to close out the year. He hopes to announce the shows for the 2022 season later this month.



A balcony view and a scene from “the Marvelous Wonderettes”



Thygesen (cont.)

rastructure — public water and broadband, for example — is lacking. Bringing in more businesses, that pay higher taxes, will offer relief to existing homeowners, she said, and help stabilize their tax rate.

She said that her work for the Chamber has helped her determine the types of businesses that may work in this town.

“You want to find the type of commercial business that can employ lots of people and use our town’s diversified skill set all within that commercial entity.”

Independence

Thygesen also serves on the Planning Board and often offers a

divergent opinion on planning matters. She said that she would keep that independent spirit in serving the town board.

“You have to make an educated opinion, not a passionate one,” she said, noting that it’s important to have more people attend public meetings.

Access

During the pandemic, the town board held several meetings via Zoom, and scores of people would show up online. But recently the board has been in-person only, and only a handful of people now attend. Thygesen said that the board should go back to having a Zoom element.

“As a mom of three kids who cooks dinner five of the seven nights a week, it was so much easier to attend meetings when it was Zoom,” she said.

Highway Department

Thygesen said plans to perhaps change the way the Highway Department is comprised made sense, but it failed because of the way it was executed. “You have to educate folks on things before you present it to them,” she said.

Currently, Highway Supervisor is an elected position, but Supervi-

sor Don Ward had tried to make the position appointed and civil service.

“We need more public input — more cliched PowerPoints — those things that help people understand.”

She noted that the current Highway Superintendent position is running uncontested, because it’s hard finding qualified people to run for office. “The topic should be broached again, but differently.”

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Food Trucks & Entertainment at the Orchard
Partial proceeds to benefit Schuyler Hose Company

Many Greenwich students ace AP exams

Greenwich Junior-Senior High School Principal recently reviewed the outstanding AP scores earned by high school students during the 20-21 school year at a GCS School Board meeting. Principal Niesz announced that Greenwich administered 115 Advanced Placement (AP) exams in June 2021, which was the second most AP exams ever administered in a single year. Niesz emphasized that the number of exams administered was impressive considering that the total enrollment in the high school has been slowly declining over the last few years. He also mentioned that he thought it noteworthy that Greenwich students took so many AP exams during a school year significantly impacted by COVID.

According to Niesz, 25% of the AP exams taken by GCS students were scored a 5, 37% were scored a 4, and 20% were scored a 3. The average AP exam score earned by a GCS student was 3.7, which Niesz identified as the second best average in GCS history.

Greenwich High School offered nine AP courses during the 20-21 school year. Niesz presented the chart below to Board of Education to illustrate the excellent results earned by GCS students.

For local artist, the town is her gallery

Darren Johnson
Campus News

If you've seen a business window in town filled with a drawing of a holiday or seasonal theme, it probably was done by Rachel Truax, 24, a Greenwich, N.Y., resident who brings her paints and brushes with her to decorate anything glass.

Here she is recently pictured drawing up the Jay's Pizza facade in early October.

These windows are purely a nights-and-weekends gig for the artist. She is a pediatric occupational therapist by day, and has a bachelor's in Art Therapy and a master's in Occupational Therapy from Russell Sage College.

"I have always loved art and enjoyed it since I was in elementary school. I find it really relaxing," she said. "I credit a lot of my confidence with my art to one my favorite teachers in [Greenwich] school, Naomi Meyer. Even though I didn't end up going to art school, I always kept it as a hobby and side source of income."

Truax has been getting referrals through Facebook and word-

of-mouth. She charges \$15 an hour, and you can book her services by contacting her through her Facebook page, [fb.com/518truART](https://www.facebook.com/518truART).

The Jay's Pizza window came out great, featuring a Halloween theme: A witch eating a slice of pizza, a haunted slice of pizza, a ghost delivering a box of pizza and a mummy telling us Jay's has "scary good pizza."

Truax also paints antique saws with various landscape scenes. See separate photo.

"I got into window painting as a part time employee at Stewart's while I was in college," she said. "I still paint the windows for holidays and promos there, and figured other businesses may be interested since I had so many people saying how much they loved seeing them every time I put one up!"

As for her influences, "I don't particularly have any favorite artist. I enjoy and appreciate all different kinds of art and learn from any art that I encounter along the way," she said. "There



Rachel Truax

are so many amazing artists out there, and I love learning how they create in their own ways."

At home, she listens to her "all-time favorite musician," Mat Kearney while creating art. But when she's working on her windows, she doesn't don earphones. That's because so many people approach her.

When this reporter spotted her, a senior citizen wanted to tell her to invest in knee pads, or else her joints will pay for kneeling on pavement, later in life.

"When I'm painting windows I typically don't listen to music because I love having people stop by to talk to me," she said. "Having people let you know they enjoy what you're doing is half the fun of it."



Saw art



Jay's Pizza



The Roving Photographer

Scenes from local varsity games



Mary Kate Estramonte

Since our last issue, Greenwich football defeated previously unbeaten Warrensburg to go to 5-0. Greenwich also won in soccer and tennis. Seniors were celebrated. Get these photos shortly after key games with recaps on our Facebook page: [fb.com/JournalPress](https://www.facebook.com/JournalPress). Here are some scenes from recent contests. *Photos by Dan Pemrick.*



Deontae Bennett



Madigan Carner



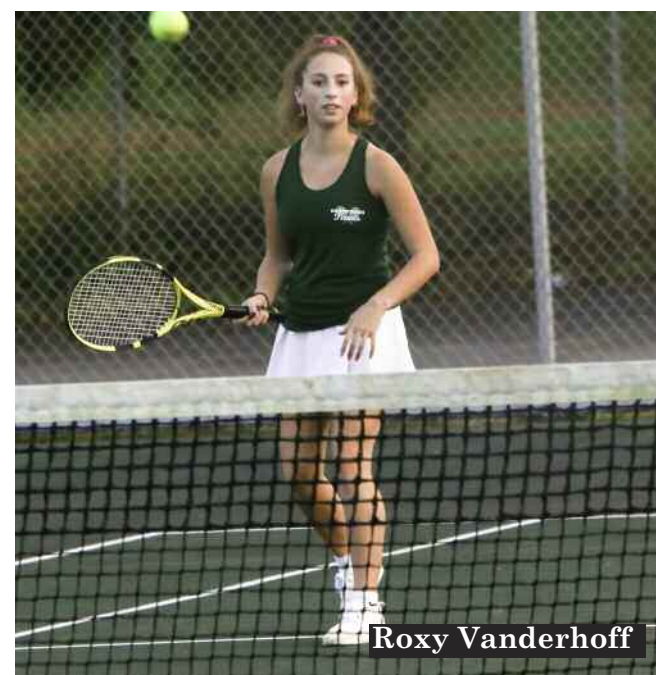
Jesse Kuzmich



Dom Stevens



Allison McQueen



Roxy Vanderhoff

A chat with Coach Bowen

Evan Felicetti
Journal & Press

This year has certainly been an exciting one thus far for the Schuylerville Black Horses varsity football team. The team, led by head coach John Bowen, is currently undefeated with a record of 5-0. This past Friday night, the Horses were able to stay undefeated by toppling Mechanicville 46-14 at home, on senior night. Thus far this year, Schuylerville has also been able to notch wins over Hudson, Hoosick Falls-Tamarac, Chatham, and Fonda-Fultonville. I had the wonderful opportunity to speak with head coach Bowen about his team so far this year, how they have been playing, and what he has learned about coaching high school football in this new health and safety environment brought about by the pandemic. A huge thanks to Coach Bowen for his time, and we wish him and the Black Horses the best of luck in their remaining games this season.

Schuylerville is off to a very hot start. What would you say have been your major keys to success so far this year?

I think up to this point in the season, our team has played very well defensively. The guys have done a great job adapting and executing our game plan each week. Some weeks, our defensive game plan has been a little more creative and involved, whereas other weeks the game plan has been a bit more simplistic. On weeks with a slightly more simplistic game plan, we've tried to take away some of the thinking behind the defense, and have just allowed our players to play as fast as they can. Overall, we've found a good defensive balance between this simplicity and creativity, and our guys are comfortable with this. Certainly not perfect games, but some great coachable moments. Attribute a lot of our success

and team identity is defense.

On the other side of the ball, I would like to see us improve from an offensive standpoint and become more aggressive in our approach. In our recent game against Fonda on September 24th, they did a good job exposing some weaknesses in our players and coaching. We have worked hard to fix some of those issues going forward.

What has surprised you most about this season?

I think for our team, we knew that for us to be successful we would need to rely on younger guys to play well. We rely on our 7 seniors right now, but we always knew that our seniors would show up and play hard when it counts the most. We are pleasantly surprised at how well our young guys are doing, and their contributions to the team.

However, to be perfectly honest, there have been fewer surprises this year than any other season I've coached in the past. This is because of the very short timeframe between seasons due to scheduling adjustments made in response to the pandemic. With the most recent high school football season only ending about 5 months ago, we were able to address and flatten out some of the issues that we ran into last season.

In terms of your team, has there been a core group of players you have relied on to be on-field leaders?

Yes, certainly our four team captains have done phenomenal job of leading this group. However, our three other seniors who are not captains lead the team just as much as the captains do. Those seven guys have been playing football together since 3rd grade, and most of our underclassman look to them as examples of how to play well. All of our

seniors are comfortable giving feedback to younger guys, especially if they are not pulling their weight. It has been fun to watch that growth in this group of young men over time. My son is one of our seniors, so I've known these guys since they were in Pre-K.

This is now the second high school football season played in this "new normal." What have you learned about playing in this new health environment from last season to this one?

In addition to being head football coach, I also serve as Athletic Director for Schuylerville. One of my responsibilities as AD is coming up with athletic protocols to keep our players and staff members as healthy and safe as possible. Last spring, one of the protocols we put into place was shortening practice times. For any team, each practice could only take place for 90 minutes max on the field. We certainly aimed to avoid burnout with our student athletes, being that there was virtually no break in between winter sports and spring sports. An example of this can be seen with some of our boys' varsity basketball players. Last winter into spring, there was only a four-day gap between the last varsity basketball game, and the first varsity football game of the season.

Being able to now come back and have a season with a normal timeline, this has allowed us to prepare for the season as we normally would have prior to the pandemic. This has made a world of difference. We have been able to pay much more attention to



A recent Schuylerville game –denise richard photo

detail with our offensive and defensive playbooks. And perhaps the biggest takeaway from this whole experience is that now our kids are far more physically prepared from this season as compared to last. This season, we were once again able to have the luxury of comprehensive summer camp pre-season workouts, which we couldn't have in last year's spring football season. We have already seen a decrease in athlete injuries from this season compared to last.

We were able to do weight room training prior to last year's spring season, for about 6 to 7 weeks prior to the start of the season. However, we still lacked the agility, flexibility, and speed work that we would normally spend a lot of time on in the summer. So from an injury prevention standpoint, we were lacking.

Ultimately, Covid tells us just how impactful our summer workouts are, now seeing the effect of not having them last spring. This confirms that the things we do in the summer to get ready for the season are the right things.

Finally, any messages to the seniors on your team as they graduate this year?

Ultimately, it has been my privilege to watch them grow. Not only as players, but as men. I am very proud to be their coach, and hopefully we can keep this ride going for quite a while past the end of the regular season.

Construction underway

As of Monday, October 4th, construction began to bring Bancroft Library and Proudfit Hall into compliance with the American With Disabilities Act (ADA). This project started in the fall of 2018 with the Bancroft Public Library Board of Trustees approval of a long-range plan to pursue the necessary funding to comply with ADA. In early 2019 the library was awarded a grant from Southern Adirondack Library System (SALS) to engage an architect to prepare plans for the project. In late 2019 the Library Board of Trustees applied for a grant from the New York State Library

Construction Fund to engage the services of an architect to prepare final plans and specifications and engage the services of a contractor. Finally, in late 2020 the library received word the grant was awarded allowing them to proceed with hiring an architect and putting the project out for bids earlier this year.

Over the next three months the access ramps, entrances, restrooms, etc. will undergo major renovation. It is anticipated the library will remain open throughout the construction project, with no change in hours of operation. Stay tuned for up-

dates as the project proceeds.



Getting your coworkers on the same page

Daneen Skube

Special to Journal & Press

Q: *I've been in my field for 20 years and am sick of experiencing misunderstanding in the workplace. I'm a good communicator and work hard at clarity and yet co-workers still don't hear what I'm saying. Is there a trick to make people stop misunderstanding me?*

A: No but there is a trick to work more effectively with the common experience of being misunderstood. The reality is few people you work with even understand themselves in any deep sense. If you feel entitled to understanding you're setting yourself up for misery as you're expecting people to give you something they don't give themselves.

Take a poll at work and research how many coworkers have spent at least a decade in weekly sessions with a challenging therapist that offers practical educational tools. If you find these unicorns count on these people being the ones that will naturally offer you understanding.

Human beings don't automatically know how to plumb the depths of their own psyches and then extend that wisdom into understanding others. Learning these skills take time, commitment, courage, and a good dose of self-love. When clients debate whether to start therapy and I ask them why they tell me, "I am not sure I'm worth getting to know."

The bottom line is most people around you at work may not feel they're worth getting to know. Logically you can see they will not be any more curious about your inner workings than they are with themselves.

In our country there seems to be a vast cultural agreement than each of us deserve and must receive understanding all the time. There's a parallel agreement than when we fail to receive the understanding we deserve then we have the right to be outraged.

The problem with these common cultural beliefs is yelling at people that fail to provide understanding just increases the amount of misunderstanding and abuse present in our world. If we respond to a lack of understanding by taking responsibility for how to change our communication we become the change we ourselves want to receive.

If instead of expecting understanding we expect misunderstanding we would be a lot more peaceful at work. When, co-workers predictably fail to understand us instead of outrage we will calmly notice that what we expected is occurring. We then make a plan to ask questions to discover where our communication went astray instead of demanding that others listen better.

When we encounter those unicorns with great self-love and self-knowledge that intuitively grasp where we're coming from we can notice the miracle of empathy. Simultaneously we can realize empathy is the natural outgrowth of the self-love of the

person understanding us.

Remember most people treat us no better or worse than they treat themselves. It would be a mistake to think people that behave kindly are doing so because we deserve it. It would be an equal mistake to think people that treat us badly are doing so because we deserve it. People are mostly just extending their own way of talking and being with themselves to everyone else in their vicinity.

Q: *Is there one quality you teach your clients that you think is the most important attitude for success at work?*

A: Yes cultivate a constant attitude of curiosity and perpetual personal growth and you'll never be bored or have a lack of interesting profitable opportunities!

Daneen Skube, Ph.D., is an executive coach and appears on FOX's "Workplace Guru" each Monday morning. You can contact Dr. Skube at www.interpersonaledge.com or 1420 NW Gilman Blvd., #2845, Issaquah, WA 98027.



Sorry, no personal replies.

Legal Notice

EVERGREEN CEMETERY FALL CLEAN-UP

The Evergreen Cemetery Association of Salem, NY will be conducting a fall clean up the months of October/early November 2021.

ALL decorations other than veterans markers should be removed from gravesites so that this clean up may be accomplished.

Any viable decorations left behind will be bagged and marked with the memorial

name and left near the front gates. Items will be discarded by 11/19/21.

Please note for our patrons and groundskeepers safety that glass and sharp metal decorations are prohibited. Decorations should be firmly affixed to withstand wind and should not impede mowing and trimming efforts.

Thank you for your help with our effort to maintain Evergreen Cemetery.

RC churches update

Sunday Mass at Holy Cross Catholic Church is at 8:15 AM, St. Patrick's celebrates on Sunday at 11:30 AM, and Immaculate Conception in Hoosick Falls is Saturday at 4 PM and Sunday at 10 AM. Week-day Mass is at 9 AM on Tuesdays at Holy Cross, Wednesdays at St. Patrick's, and Monday at Immaculate Conception. Masks are required inside the Churches. The Altar Rosary Society of Holy Cross hosts a coffee hour on the first Monday of the month. All are welcome. Please return the birthright baby

bottles on Sunday. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available before Mass at 7:45 AM or by appointment by calling St. Patrick's at 677-2757. St. Joseph's continues to offer Mass on YouTube at www.tinyurl.com/SJG-liturgies.

By visiting the website, www.battenkillcatholic.org, you can sign up for flocknote notifications, prepare for Sunday liturgy, access Adult Faith Formation materials and more.

FFA Days of Service

Members of Salem Washington Academy's FFA Chapter recently participated in New York's FFA Days of Service by putting the Courthouse Community Garden to bed for the winter.

New York FFA's Days of Service are an opportunity for FFA members to give back to their communities by volunteering and providing services to local organizations. Salem's FFA Chapter advisor is Mrs. Amy Maxwell.



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The feds and the debt ceiling

Jill Schlesinger

Special to Journal & Press

Like a recurring bad dream, the debt ceiling is back in the news. The periodic political spasm over increasing the amount of money that the government is authorized to borrow to meet its existing legal obligations is not new, but because it comes on the tail end of a global pandemic, it seems horribly ill-timed.

The Treasury Department underscores that “the debt limit does not authorize new spending commitments. It simply allows the government to finance existing legal obligations that Congresses and presidents of both parties have made in the past.” In other words, lawmakers have already agreed to fund everything from tax cuts in 2017 to COVID emergency measures in 2020 and 2021, on top of the ongoing commitments to Social Security and Medicare, military salaries, and interest on the national debt. The Congressional action being contemplated simply makes good on Uncle Sam’s existing obligations.

The seemingly arcane process goes back a century, to the Second Liberty Bond Act. According to historian Heather Cox Richardson, this law allowed Congress to authorize “a general amount of debt during World War I to give the government more flexibility in borrowing by simply agreeing to an upper limit rather than by specifying different issues of debt, as it had always

done before...while a measure to fund the government is forward looking, enabling the government to spend money, a measure to raise the debt ceiling is backward looking.”

Not raising the debt limit forces Treasury to make a series of bad choices, including shutting down non-essential government services (national parks and museums would close and the collection and publication of vital economic data, would cease), furloughing 500,000 or more non-essential government workers (with another 500,000 to one million being forced to work temporarily without pay), and delaying Social Security checks.

‘Not raising the debt ceiling forces the Treasury to make a series of bad choices.’

Once those options are exhausted, the government would face fiscal DEFCON 1: a delay, reduction or (gasp) a missed payment on government-issued bonds, something that has never occurred. The situation would call into question the full faith and credit of the United States as an entity that always meets its financial obligations. A decade ago, in August 2011, just the potential of fiscal DEFCON 1 prompted ratings agency Standard & Poor’s to issue its first-ever downgrade of US debt from AAA to AA+, which then caused US stocks to fall by 14% in the subsequent four weeks.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen has warned that a default “would likely precipitate a historic financial crisis that would compound the damage of the continuing public health emergency. Default could trigger a spike in interest rates, a steep drop in stock prices and other financial turmoil. Our current economic recovery would reverse into recession, with billions of dollars of growth and millions of jobs lost.”

Moody’s Analytics put it bluntly: A default would be “cataclysmic” and would cause the economy to “descend back into recession.” How bad could things get? Moody’s projects “nearly 6 million jobs would be lost, and the unemployment rate would surge back to close to 9%. Stock prices would be cut almost in one-third at the worst of the selloff, wiping out \$15 trillion in household wealth. Treasury yields, mortgage rates, and other consumer and corporate borrowing rates spike, at least until the debt limit is resolved and Treasury payments resume.”

Given the fragility of the post-COVID economic recovery, a debt ceiling debacle would be disastrous, which is why most believe that Congress will jump in and raise the limit, as it has done 78 separate times since 1960 (49 times under Republican presidents and 29 times under Democratic presidents). Let’s hope so

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



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Stefanik opposes raising the debt ceiling

Congresswoman Elise Stefanik released the following statement after Oct. 12’s vote against Democrats’ plan to raise the nation’s debt ceiling by \$480 billion.

“I refuse to help Democrats raise the debt ceiling to fuel their reckless spending and advance their radical agenda,” Stefanik said. “Already, Democrats’ out-of-control spending has created historic inflation, and the American people know exactly who is to blame for why they are paying more for almost everything. Now, Democrats are asking Congress to raise the debt ceiling even as they try to pass trillions more of reckless spending that will only bankrupt our future generations. This crisis is of their own making.”

In August, Stefanik joined over 100 of her Republican colleagues in writing a letter opposing increasing the debt ceiling.

Carol Jean (Staigar) Puglisi, age 71

Carol Jean (Staigar) Puglisi, age 71, passed on September 29, 2021 peacefully, at home, with her two daughters by her side.

Carol had a balanced life of quiet moments on the porch and in the garden blended with adventurous moments with her close family and numerous friends. She enjoyed listening to a live band with her class of '68 from Saratoga Springs High School, sharing conversations and meals with her co-workers from the Burnt Hills - Ballston Lake School District, exploring cities with her walking group, and traveling with friends and family; her

laughter and passion for life flourished when shared with others. The moments that defined her character were those spent with her family; laughing, talking and sharing a meal.

She is survived by her sister, two daughters, four grandchildren and numerous, loving cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family, and friends, who will miss her dearly.

A funeral service will be held at 12 noon on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at Compassionate Funeral Care, 402 Maple Ave., Saratoga Springs, NY. Family and friends may call from 10:30 to

11:45 am prior to the service.

A graveside service will be held at St. Peter's Cemetery, 150 West Ave, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 following the service at the funeral home.

As a lover of animals, donations can be made in Carol's name to H.O.P.E. Animal Rescue www.hopeanimalrescue.org. If sending flowers, please consider Goode Farm www.goodefarm.com.

For online condolences, visit www.compassionatefuneralcare.com.

Cody's Column

A taste of Utopia

Cody Fitzgerald
Journal & Press

MENLO PARK, CA - Nearly two weeks on, the world is reeling from the 12 hour blackout of Facebook. Starting early Monday morning, people around the world were shocked as

their phones couldn't refresh and they were forced to look at posts nearly two days old. We should warn you, the following article may be traumatic for some readers.

Once our office was notified of the blackout, we immediately ran to a TJ

Maxx, naturally where we expected all of these people to flock in retreat. We caught up with Karen White, who choked up as she tried to relive what happened. "There I am," she says, "I had just dropped Jayden, Kayden and Brayden off at school. My day was already going awful. It was Kayden's birthday and I needed to get his red, white and blue popsicles into the school before they melted, but the crossing guard had the nerve to let a child cross the street when she knew I had already been waiting for almost a minute. Not to mention this kid was in a wheelchair so it took twice as long." At this time we had to pause to let Mrs. White collect herself. She later continued, "Once I got home, I knew I needed to rant about this to my friends, but when I went to post it, I couldn't. I panicked. I scrolled down and saw that my brother had shared a post captioned 'Describe your sex life with a movie title.' I knew how much my friends would love it when I commented 'Madea Goes to Prison,' but I couldn't post AGAIN." She declined to comment further.

While the Greenwich Journal is awaiting further research to come

out, experts have told us that if the blackout had lasted any longer, Walgreens would be "overwhelmed" with requests for vaccines and it could've detrimental for the horse dewormer industry.

We also reached out for comment from any dude named Derek, and we were told that the blackout had jeopardized plans for the next coup-planning meeting. "How am I going to tattle if someone in my life has a gay marriage and threatens my Christian values?" The Dereks were nothing short of flabbergasted.

For Greenwich news, this has been Cody Fitzgerald. We will keep you posted.

Cody Fitzgerald is a 2021 Schuylerville High School grad satirizing anything and everything he can get his hands on. Aspiring to become "one of the cool" High School English teachers, he now attends Siena College and hopes to share this outlook/coping mechanism with future generations.



An Artist's Take

Political Cartoon of the Week by Scott Stantis



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Answers

Boggle: ZITI PENNE RAVIOLI FUSILLI LINGUINE

Jumble: GAMUT CABIN SHRANK CELERY
Final Jumble:
"MINER" CHANGES

Salem Sudoku

(solution below)

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

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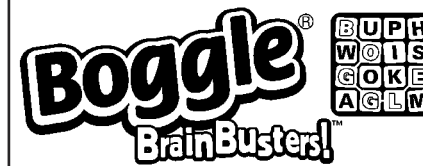
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E ₁	A ₁	R ₁	L ₁	O ₁	B ₃	E ₁	RACK 2 =	59
L ₁	U ₁	M ₃	P ₃	I ₁	S ₁	H ₄	RACK 3 =	92
B ₃	E ₁	D ₂	R ₁	O ₁	C ₃	K ₅	RACK 4 =	69
L ₁	E ₁	T ₁	T ₁	U ₁	C ₃	E ₁	RACK 5 =	59

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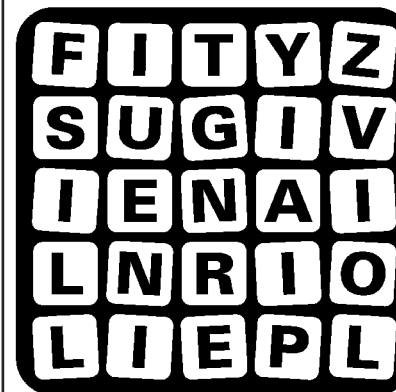
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- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
- 6 letters = 4 points
- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
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By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Boggle BrainBusters Bonus

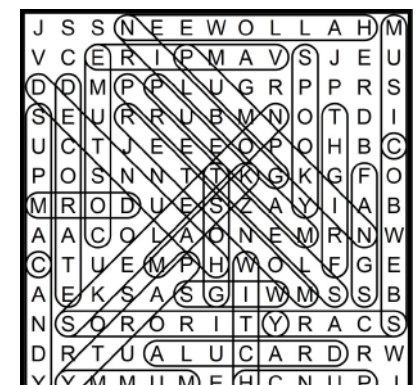
We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST FIVE TYPES OF PASTA in the grid of letters.

Answers to Last Sunday's Boggle BrainBusters:
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5	1	6	9	8	2	7	4
4	9	8	2	7	1	8	9
2	7	8	9	5	4	8	1
7	8	9	8	1	6	4	9
1	2	5	7	4	9	6	8
8	9	4	8	2	5	7	9
8	9	1	4	6	8	9	2
6	8	7	5	9	2	1	4
9	4	2	1	8	7	5	8



'Talkie' film at Greenwich school

Kaylee Johnson
Journal & Press

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

100 Years Ago October 26, 1921

A real estate deal of importance was completed at Hudson Falls Friday afternoon when Rev. John Carey, pastor of St. Mary's church, purchased for the church, the property on Park Place owned by Rogers and Carleton. The lot was formerly the site of Rogers and Carleton furniture store and the building site burned down at the time of the disastrous fire which destroyed a large part of the business district of the village a few years ago. The property adjoins St.

Mary's church, and the purchase of it will make it possible for a new church to be erected at a later date with a large frontage on the park.

90 Years Ago October 21, 1931

Principal B. M. Herrington announces that he has been so fortunate as to secure "Bob" Lewis of Schenectady, the nationally known globetrotter, for Friday of this week, when he will present still film, "Talkie" pictures at the Greenwich school auditorium.

Mr. Lewis spent two years securing these beautifully colored pictures of fascinating, inspiring and thrilling scenes in Africa, Europe, and the Near East. Many of them have never been seen before in this country. They include bullfights in Spain, caravanning in the

Sahara Desert, climbing the Great Pyramid, crawling down the crater of Vesuvius, an audience with the pope, and many other unique experiences.

80 Years Ago October 29, 1941

There will be no Halloween parade in Greenwich this year. For the past two or three years, the village has sponsored a parade with a hope that the long walk around town would discourage the younger generation from acts of vandalism which abound on Halloween. The youngsters have enjoyed the parades in the past, but they have not been sufficient to curb the devilry which the season of the year calls out. Monday night decided to dispense with the parade this year so the youngsters

will be able to start raising hob as soon as they leave the supper table. But this action may not be advisable, as the village will have three or four police officers on duty to check any unseemly observance of the night.

60 Years Ago October 26, 1961

This Halloween, in addition to the little ghosts and goblins seeking sweets at everyone's door, there will be youngsters out asking for money for the UNICEF Halloween trick or treat.

The youth fellowships of the Protestant churches of the community, under the Greenwich Ministerial Association, are sponsoring this campaign and their members will be around at everyone's door come Tuesday Halloween.

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The Funny Page

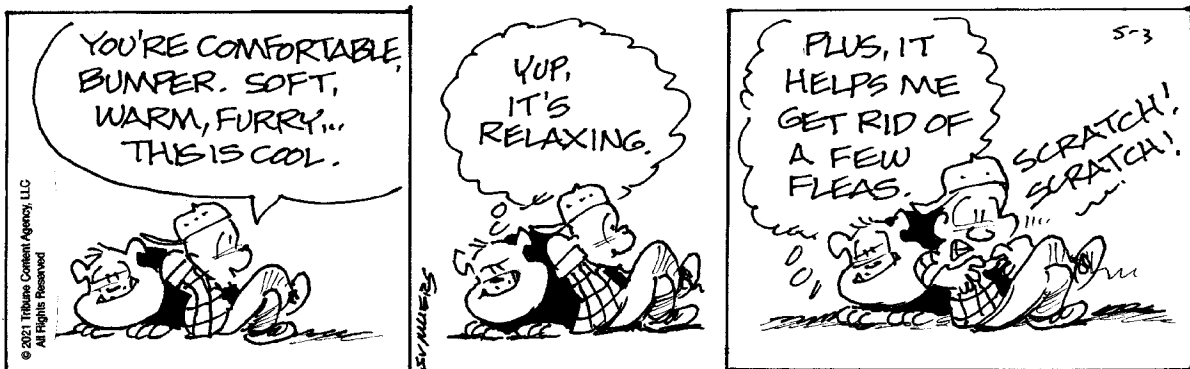
Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



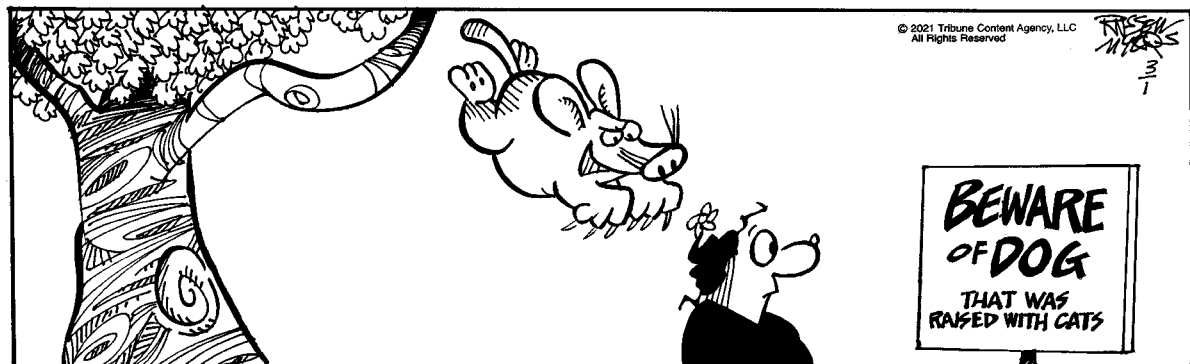
Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



Bound & Gagged by Dana Summers

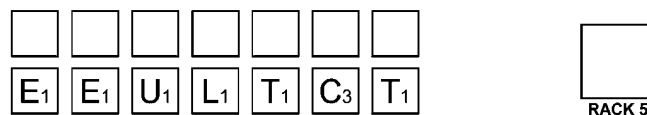
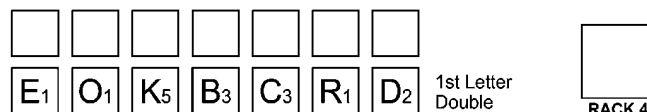
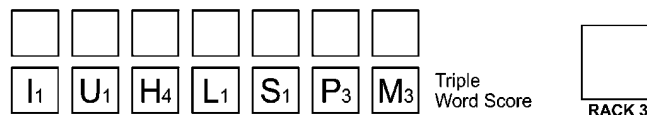
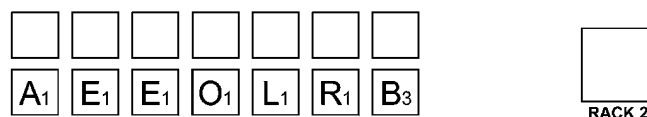
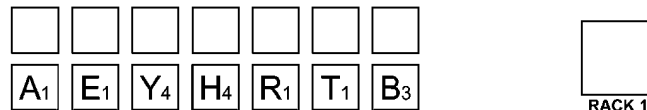


Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



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PAR SCORE 265-275
BEST SCORE 344

FIVE RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

JUMBLE

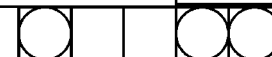
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MATUG



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ANBIC



SHARKN



CYREEL



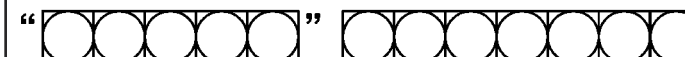
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

What are you going to do about our list of demands? We can only take care of a few of your demands.



FOR SAFETY'S SAKE, THE COAL-COMPANY OWNERS AGREED TO MAKE SOME ---

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



Puzzle
Answers
Page 24

Que Sera, Sera. What Will Be, Will Be

Roger De Korp
Journal & Press

This country, The United States of America, is changing. It is changing right in front of our eyes at the speed of light. This country, of course, has been changing since its inception, but throughout the 245 years of its existence, the people of this country were held together through these changes by the belief that this is and was the greatest country in the world; whatever faults it had, we could fix those faults through conversation, debate, and compromise. We all believed in our Constitution that worked in large part because no matter what we believed in politically, we believed in the sanctity of our Constitution. And we believed in each other.

Now in the last fifty or so years, we've seen a picking away from the inside at these foundational beliefs. And in the last five years, the picking has become jack-hammering. We have a large portion of the country's population believing that the USA is not exceptional and we should be ashamed for thinking that it is. The first, second, fourth, and fourteenth

Amendments to the Constitution are under constant attack; and at least half our population are categorized as racist, sexist, homophobic, islamophobic, anti-inclusive, anti-science, anti-vax, and most ironically or ironically, anti-American.

Why has this happened? There are many reasons, and I'll get to many of those in future columns (if I last that long), but I'll focus on two here.

First, the vast majority of thought-communication outlets are now controlled by the Left. These outlets include most of television (news, "entertainment" programming, and commercials), most newspapers, all social media platforms, movies, and the theater. These used to be controlled by liberals, but now if you're only liberal, you cannot be a member of this controlling group; there appears to be a contest to see who can out-Left the Left. In this thought-communications culture, up is down and down is up.

This brings us to the second reason. There was a time when Republicans and Democrats, Conservatives and Liberals had a basic understanding that "you believe what you believe, I believe what I believe, and that's okay". But that was then; this is now. Liberals in general have always believed that they know better what is good for you than you do yourself, hence their desire for big government; conservatives actually feel they know better themselves, but in the end, believe it's your right to choose what you think is best for you

**'Start by getting involved.
Attend a village or town
board meeting.'**

and your family. And now liberals who have gone to the dark side of the Left, don't believe it's okay to believe what you believe, and will do all they can to prevent you from expressing your beliefs (Hello Cancel Culture).

And this finally brings us to the main point of this column. It is time for those of us who believe that this country is inherently good – not inherently evil – to stand up and move. Take action and BE ACTIVE. A very small group of liberals have pulled this country to where it is, in part, because they were active; they become more active every day. You can no longer live by "you believe what you believe and that's okay" because believing that our country must be changed fundamentally is not okay. The country our grandparents, parents, brothers & sisters, and maybe you fought for is disappearing. Preserving it starts with you and me. Locally, right now it's about a state and a school board mandating that your children wear masks that do way

more harm than good. It's about forcing citizens of this country, state, county, and community to take an experimental emergency use drug or they will lose their livelihood, or not be allowed to attend college (even at taxpayer funded state colleges), and soon, in all probability, it will be about not allowing your children to attend the schools that you pay through the teeth for if you don't acquiesce and have your children get injected with that same emergency use drug (even though there's no longer an emergency and children are least likely to have an extreme COVID response). There are so many other things we will need to be active against nationally and statewide, but let's start here in our communities.

Start by getting involved. Attend a village or town board meeting or meetings; attend a school board meeting or meetings (the next Greenwich School Board meeting is Monday, October 18th at 6:00 p.m.). Write letters to your representatives at all levels and make your opinions known. Attend rallies (there's a "March Against the Mandate Freedom Rally" on Sunday October 17th at 1:00 at the Big Lots plaza). Vote in every single election; get your friends to do the same. Those people whose political views you oppose are doing all of these things. Get active – the time of "Que Sera, Sera; What Will Be, Will Be" has passed.

Roger De Korp is a retired retail multi-unit supervisor. He resides in Greenwich with his wife Colleen.



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Cambridge Crossword

(solution page 24)

Across

- 1 Epithet
6 Econ. indicators
10 Sp. title
14 Loud item in a closet
16 Easily manipulated type
17 Study buddies, often
18 Natl. law group whose "M" is largely obsolete
19 Picnic serving
20 Prandial pokers
21 Cool veggies?
22 CafŽ de __: Mexican drink brewed in a pot
23 Arduous tasks
25 Like some premium services
28 Scrapped
31 On the offensive, legally
32 It's not a side road
33 Skin lotion brand
34 Stopping at a KOA, say
35 Fall place

- 36 Doubts
38 Some shared rides
39 Excites
40 Fictitious 18th-century autobiographer
41 Mighty Dump Truck maker
42 Hold-up group?
43 Like some milk, alas
45 Watch with a webcam, perhaps
47 Impromptu speech fillers
50 Italy's Lake __
51 "How many licks does it take ... ?" treat
53 Jackie's designer
54 Overwhelms
55 Lean and muscular
56 Capital on a fjord
57 Up one day, down the next

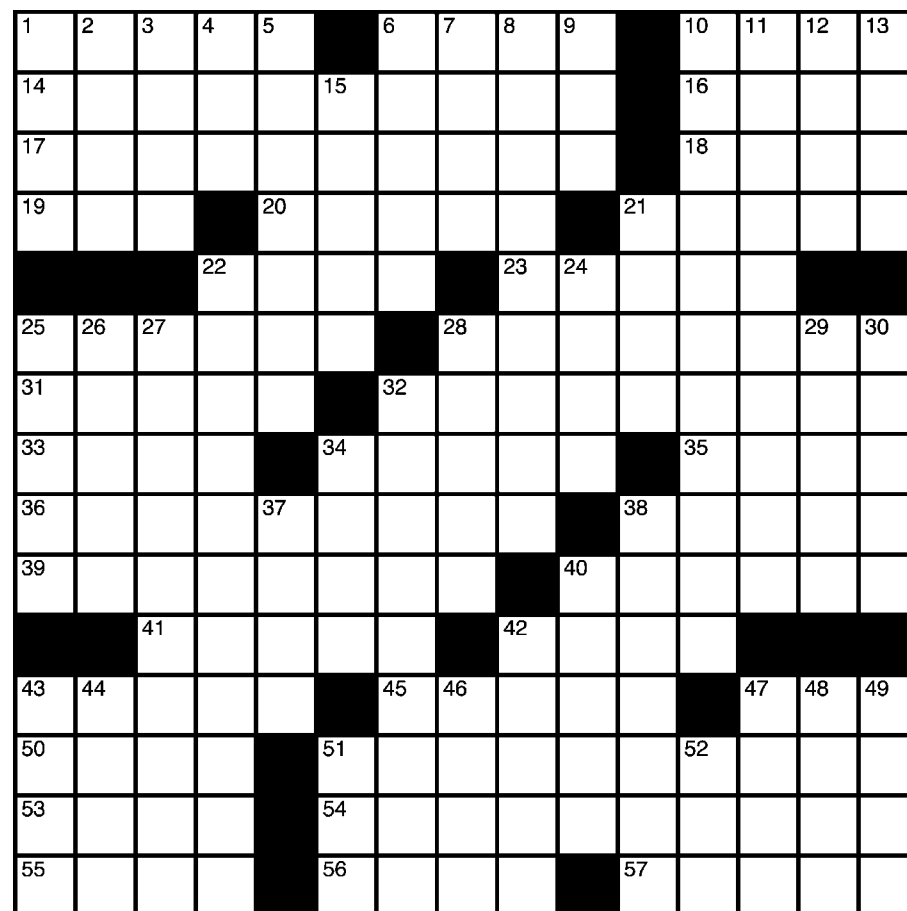
Down

- 1 Spike
2 Rag __ Bolog-

- nese
3 Leaner alternative to pork
4 "What?" utterances
5 Anchor's responsibility
6 Akufo-Addo's land
7 Marquee evening
8 Continuous newsroom operations
9 Familiar gp. of 50
10 Facetious metaphor for a difficult situation
11 Mountain dangers
12 Big volume
13 They didn't stop Hannibal
15 Alfred E. Neuman feature
21 Bop on the banjo
22 Aptly named jazz work co-written by Charlie "Bird" Parker
24 When repeated, acclaimed Chinese pianist
25 "I'm here to help"

- 26 Expected
27 Inexperienced one
28 Legal orders
29 Two before marzo
30 Fog word
32 Pilots start them
34 Twice-baked bread
37 Squirt
38 Metal named for a planet
40 Not pleased
42 In half
43 Shallows craft
44 Social science course, briefly
46 Gene __
47 Prom style, often
48 Turned some ground
49 Active
51 Ontario-based music gp.
52 Self-described "non-musician" Brian

ANSWERS ON PAGE 26.



Word Find

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

Find these words that are associated with Halloween.

Campus
Candy
Cobwebs

Costume
Decorate
Dorm
Dracula
Fangs
Fright
Ghost
Goblin

Halloween
Haunted
Make-Up
Mask
Monster
Mummy
Music
Party

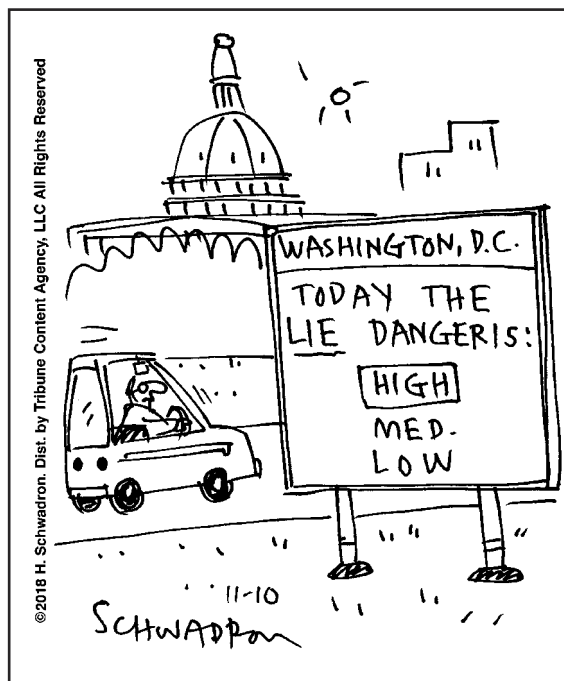
Pretzels
Pumpkin
Punch
Scary
Skeleton
Sorority
Spooky
Vampire

Wigs
Witch

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

9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron

Fast Facts



Healthy Living

A good bottle

Research suggests that sherry is likely to have the same health benefit as red wine - protection from coronary heart disease.

What's in a glass

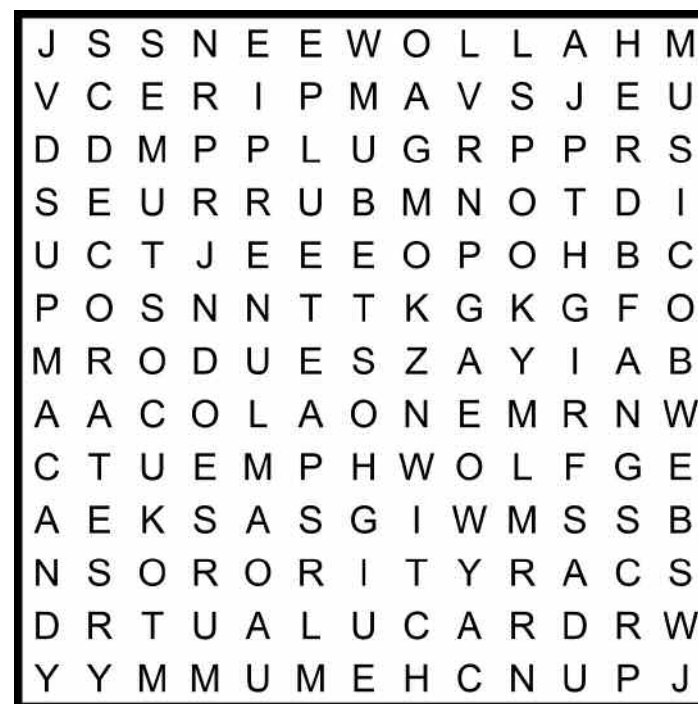
- Sherry contains antioxidants called polyphenols, which increase HDL cholesterol associated with reduced risk of coronary artery disease

- Polyphenols also keep LDL, or bad cholesterol from building up on blood vessel walls

- Types of sherry with the highest polyphenol content include Oloroso, Manzilla, Fino and Amontillado

- Sherries can be sweet to very dry and range in color from pale gold to deep mahogany

Source: Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture, TNS Photo Service



U.S. veterans of the Titanic

Lance Allen Wang
Journal & Press

On April 15, 1912, the RMS Titanic, pride of the White Star Line, hit an iceberg and sank in the North Atlantic, taking over 1,500 souls to the bottom with her. The disaster became a cultural touchstone throughout the 20th Century, whether for the hubris of declaring the ship “unsinkable,” the who’s who of rich and famous who were on board, or the disparate treatment of the 3rd class “steerage” passengers in evacuating the ship.

I was always fascinated by disasters. I had an aunt and uncle, Sally and Sam, who lived in Ohio during a furious tornado outbreak in 1974 that leveled the city of Xenia. My family’s fears on their behalf turned into a knowledge quest for a very young me, and I learned all I could about tornadoes (luckily my relatives were fine). A year later, a player on the New York Nets was killed in an airliner crash at Kennedy Airport, and after that, I was fascinated by all things... well, that could go wrong. I studied the Hindenburg disaster, the Titanic, and took in all the mega-blockbuster disaster movies of the 70s.

As the years went on, I also found that learning what I had about these events was useful. The study of disasters is the study of systems, crisis management, and human nature. The Titanic is a study of all these things, plus arrogance and hubris – while it was indeed a marvel of the most modern engineering at the time, the Titanic’s “unsinkable” tagline was just a bunch of marketing baloney. I keep a print up of the Titanic, and one of Custer’s Last Stand – I’ve had them for years. I kept them up as a military officer because they always reminded me of the danger of unjustified overconfidence.



John Jacob Astor IV

But what got

me hooked on the study of these events were the real people involved. I was not a big fan of 1997’s “Titanic.” It’s not James Cameron’s fault – sadly, the shallow, fictional lead characters are not nearly as interesting as the actual people that were on the ocean liner. I was recently reading through some information about the ship’s passengers, and if you will indulge me with some Titanic esoterica, I’m going to introduce you to some of the American military veterans on the ship. I’m very interested in the veteran experience – be it Vietnam veteran Rick Rescorla’s heroism in the World Trade Center on 9/11 or the veterans who found themselves on the ill-fated Titanic.

‘The Titanic is a study of arrogance and hubris.’

Major Archibald Butt was an American officer who had served four years in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War and then the Philippine War. He then served as military aide to Presidents Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft. He had taken a six-week vacation to Europe because he was under debilitating stress, largely because of an angry rift between

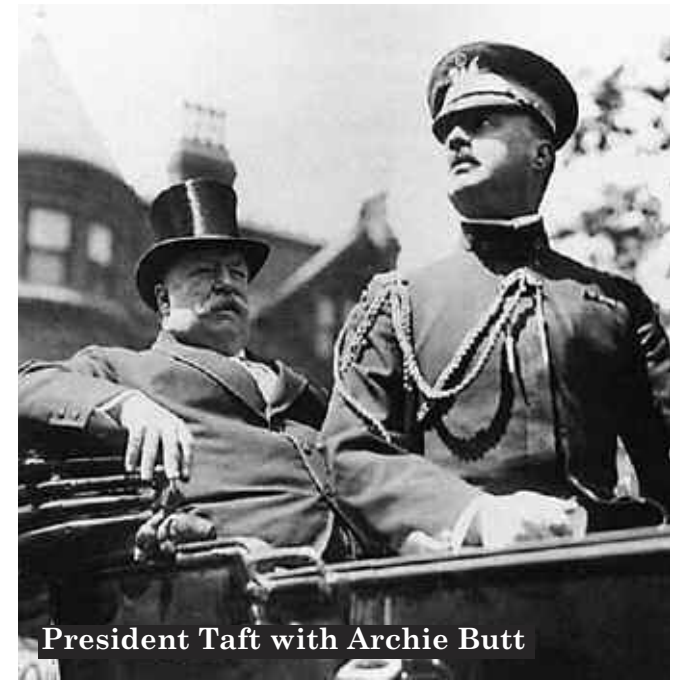
Taft and his predecessor. Major Butt went down with the ship.

Colonel John Jacob Astor IV was a wealthy industrial-

ist who accepted a commission as a Lieutenant Colonel during the Spanish-American War, and served on the staff of General Rufus Shafter, the senior officer leading the invasion of Cuba. He even lent the US Navy his yacht to support operations off Cuba. Colonel Astor went down with the ship after helping his pregnant wife, their maid, and his wife’s nurse into a lifeboat.

A real estate developer and amateur military historian, Colonel Archibald Gracie IV attended, but did not complete, the United States Military Academy at West Point, but later accepted a commission as a Colonel in the 7th New York Infantry. His Titanic story is particularly interesting because he survived, finding his way to an overturned lifeboat once he plunged into the water. After rescue, he focused on compiling his memoirs, but would die by the end of 1912, both from the effects of the freezing North Atlantic water and complications of diabetes. The memoir was published in 1913 as “The Truth about the Titanic.” He was the first Titanic survivor to die.

Frank Millet was a painter and sculptor, plus



President Taft with Archie Butt

a Civil War veteran – he was both a drummer boy in the 60th Massachusetts Infantry and then served as an assistant to his father, a surgeon in the Union Army’s II Corps, and worked in the operating room with him. He was a good friend of Major Butt and was accompanying him on his vacation in Europe. Millet went down with the ship.

Lastly, let me turn to one of the more unusual veterans on the ship. Swedish Army Corporal Einar Gervasius Karlsson was discharged from the service in 1911 and was able to procure a steerage ticket to the United States on board the Titanic. As the ship was going down, he jumped and grabbed a rope, sliding down to a departing lifeboat. He would survive, eventually making his way to Minnesota. When the United States entered World War I, he enlisted into the Army, serving in Europe. He was a gas casualty, and forever suffered from tremors due to its effects.

As America has just crossed the 700,000-death threshold in this pandemic, let us remember that in all tragedies, the fallen are not merely numbers. Each one represents all that a life contained before the victim reached their final chapter. May all their memories be for a blessing.

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



Keep digging

Annie Miller
Journal & Press

When I was a kid – and I know I’m dating myself here- the major feature in our living room was a book shelf that held two sets of encyclopedias. There were also a range of dictionaries and at least one thesaurus. Unlike many things in a home with two working parents, these books never got dusty. My mom set the tone, often jumping up from dinner table discussions to drag over a huge volume to search for the topic at hand. When we kids would make some unsupported assertion, the inevitable response was, “Look it up and show me.” So, it shouldn’t come as a surprise that I ended up becoming a librarian who fact-checks everything I have time for and, when presented with a new database thinks, “Ooh, goodie!” and dives right in.

One of the first class discussions we had in library school was about what the professor called the information continuum. It starts with data from which we construct information, then knowledge and, finally, wisdom. At each step there is input to refine the product of the previous step. This process is one of the foundations of research and a critical thing about it is that you can’t skip a step. That is why, in librarian Facebook groups, “Don’t spend an hour Googling and call it research” memes are very popular.

Both of these life experiences come into play when I read a column like Roger De Korp’s in the last issue of the Journal. It was about the hot topics of vaccination and masking and there are lots of inflammatory words thrown about but it really could have been about anything, so please stay with me no matter your thoughts on the topic.

The first thing that attracted my attention, of course, was the mention of a database, so I went to the VAERS site www.vaers.hhs.gov and dug right in. I was happy to see that there is a Guide to Interpreting VAERS data. Because every database is the unique product of human efforts, it is always a good idea to start with the instructions. I urge you to take a look for yourself, but here’s a

quick summary: This is self-reported data. Everyone from doctors to family members has contributed. It is, therefore, inconsistent, can contain errors and can’t be used to establish cause and effect.

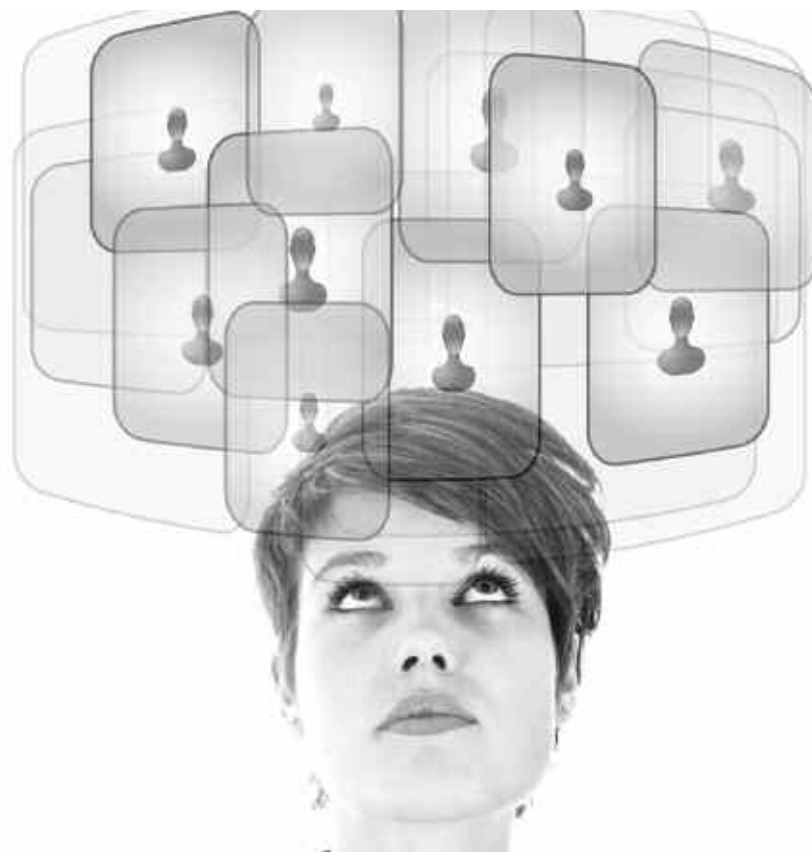
“A report to VAERS generally does not prove that the identified vaccine(s) caused the adverse event described. It only confirms that the reported event occurred sometime after vaccine was given. No proof that the event was caused by the vaccine is required in order for VAERS to accept the report. VAERS accepts all reports without judging whether the event was caused by the vaccine.”

The VAERS database represents the very first step in the continuum: data. They have cast a wide net and brought up a lot of data points that will then have to be sorted and confirmed and analyzed before they can become useful information. We make a basic error when trying to use this type of raw data to come to any conclusions.

Mr. DeKorp is also very concerned that there is underreporting mentioned on the website. He worries that information may be intentionally withheld for some nefarious reason. Fortunately, his concerns are unfounded. In this case, VAERS is using the term “underreporting” to describe one of the known limitations of the input to a self-reported system.

“The term, underreporting refers to the fact that VAERS receives reports for only a small fraction of actual adverse events. The degree of underreporting varies widely.”

It turns out that subsequent minor soreness at the injection site or a slight fever are less likely to be reported than a subsequent catastrophic illness. And neither can be definitely attributed to the vaccine.



Please note that I am not saying that Mr. DeKorp is necessarily wrong about vaccines, just that he is, in this case, mistaken in his use of a database that features heavily in his argument. He started the process of digging but stopped when he reached what he thought was information that confirmed his existing beliefs. This confirmation bias is something we all need to struggle against; especially as we try to make sense of things that have a lot of emotion attached to them.

I encourage everyone to do a little digging and fact checking. I suggest you start by going to the sources mentioned and reading beyond the headlines. I also find Googling the topic and adding the word “critique” can bring up some balancing information. Be skeptical of sweeping assertions like “as any doctor without a political agenda will tell you” and don’t take questions like “Why are we not exploring these [drugs] for widespread use?” at face value.

A little bit of extra effort can get you a bit farther on the information continuum, even if you can’t really call it research.

Annie Miller is a recently retired librarian who takes a really long time to get through the



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