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Thygesen out at planning board

Darren Johnson
Journal & Press

The Greenwich Town Board met for their regular monthly meeting on Dec. 10 and after some introductory formalities left for an executive session for approximately 30 minutes as an audience of about six waited.

During the Executive Session, they discussed appointments to the Planning and Zoning boards, the former being the only one with more candidates than positions. The board came out of the session and announced they were appointing John Naylor of Greenwich to the board, supplanting Liv Thygesen, who had served for seven years on the Planning Board and was hoping to keep her seat with a reappointment.

Thygesen was candid with this reporter after the decision, noting that Naylor is a relative unknown in town with no previous public service history here, adding that the town board was ousting her for political reasons.

“They’ve been wanting me off of the Planning Board for years,” she said, “ever since I ran for town board.”

Thygesen lost that townwide election in 2021.

She went on to say that the town seems to want “yes men” on their boards, “and I say ‘men’ on purpose, because where are the women?”

“They’ve really been trying to clean house. They would have picked a vegetable with barely a heartbeat over me. ... It’s all about picking friends

and buddies.”

Thygesen said that she came to Planning Board meetings well prepared, and, during the executive session, was only asked about her no vote on a previous SEQR environmental application for a solar project.

“I could not in good conscience vote for that,” she said. “But that was the only real question they had asked me in executive session.”

She said that she was told that the other candidate had the experience they were looking for, she said. “But I had no experience when I was appointed seven years ago. Now I have lots of experience.”

Leigh Foster was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Foster had been an alternate to that board. New members will be sworn in Jan. 2.

Some of the audience who attended the meeting were mostly interested in changes in Medicare Advantage Plan health insurance coverage for retirees.

The town covers the cost of the plans for seven retirees, soon to be eight, but recently changed the policy to one run by MVP with higher co-pays.

Supervisor Jim Nolan talked about the state of the health insurance industry and how the town had consulted with a broker who suggested the change because of previous provider CDPHP’s recent problems. The board did approve the set up of a \$500 per retiree fund for reimbursements not covered by the new insurer.

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Sundaes with Santa in Greenwich

On Sunday, December 8, the Citizens' Committee for Greenwich Youth and the Greenwich Free Library hosted a Sundaes with Santa event at the Greenwich Youth Center. This event was open to the public and included families of all ages and their pets. The event included the opportunity to have your photo taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Emily and Kris from the Greenwich Free Library read the following stories: Night Before Christmas and Dewey's Christ-

tendees were given the opportunity to take a scarf and/or hat home for free. They were encouraged to take the item and replace it with an ornament. The event was a free event attended by more than 30 families. This event was able to be free thanks to the generosity of the Citizens' Committee for Greenwich Youth, the Greenwich Free Library, the Ice Cream Man,



mas at the Library. Emily and Kris also had a craft station where attendees could make their own ornaments. Attendees were able to write letters to Santa and place them in a special mailbox where the letters will be mailed directly to the North Pole. This mailbox is located outside the Village of Greenwich Community Center near the Information Booth and the mailbox will be there for others to mail their letters as well. Attendees were able to make their own Sundaes and they were served by Washington County Dairy Princess Kennedy McClenithan. A festive selfie station was available with fun holiday props for the attendees to take their own photos. Members of the Greenwich CSD chorus came and sang Christmas Carols. And finally a tree was available with knitted and crocheted scarves and hats where at-

Market 32 (Price Chopper), and Kathy Vanslyke-Rausch who knitted and crocheted the hats and scarves. The Citizens' Committee for Greenwich Youth enjoyed seeing so many families kick off their holiday season at this event and they look forward to bringing future events to the community as well. You can follow them on facebook under Greenwich Youth Center and instagram at gyc_ny.

The Journal & Press fleshes out this story furtherm and talks with Santa even Find these items on Facebook.com/JournalPress and journalpress.substack.com.



Ashlar breakfast celebrates fire dept.

Start 2025 on the right note by joining Ashlar Lodge for a celebration of health, community, and gratitude at the New Year's Resolution Breakfast Buffet on Sunday, January 5, 2025. From 8:00 a.m. to noon, this family-friendly event offers a delicious start to the year while honoring the Greenwich Fire Department for their dedicated service. With a suggested donation of just \$12 for adults and \$6 for veterans and children under 12, attendees can enjoy an inspiring morning filled with good food and heartfelt appreciation.



The breakfast, hosted at Ashlar Lodge in Greenwich, promises a blend of wholesome flavors and uplifting activities. The menu features locally sourced delights, including farm-

fresh scrambled eggs from Thomas Poultry Farm, golden waffles with fruit toppings, Ruts Ridge maple sausage and smoked bacon, herb-seasoned home fries, and a vibrant fresh fruit selection. Whether you're savoring a plateful of these hearty options or packing up a take-out meal, every bite supports Ashlar Lodge's local charitable initiatives.

At the heart of the morning is a special recognition ceremony for the Greenwich Fire Department, taking place from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Lodge members and community attendees will come together to honor the firefighters for their dedication and sacrifice. Children and adults alike can share their thanks by writing messages at a thank-you card station, while younger guests can dive into a firefighter-themed coloring contest, with a free family breakfast in 2025 awarded to the best artwork.

"This is about bringing our community together to celebrate the new year with gratitude and purpose," said Harry Booth, Master of Ashlar Lodge. "We're thrilled to recognize the incredible work of our fire-

fighters while encouraging families to kick off the year with healthy habits."

With nearly two centuries of community service, Ashlar Lodge continues to be a cornerstone of Greenwich's civic life. All proceeds from the breakfast will fund local projects, ensuring the lodge's legacy of giving back thrives well into the future.

The event is handicap accessible, offers ample parking, and is ideal for families. For updates, follow Ashlar Lodge on Facebook, or contact Brian Nilsen at (518) 366-3108 for more information.

Kick off 2025 with a morning of good food, great company, and heartfelt gratitude. Don't miss this chance to celebrate wellness and honor Greenwich's everyday heroes!



Greenwich scholar athletes, teams

During the just completed Fall 2024 athletic seasons, seven of the teams fielded by the Greenwich Central School District were designated as a NYSPHSAAA Scholar Athlete Team.

To achieve this designation, a team must have had 75% of the varsity players earn a grade point average of 90% or higher.

The teams are: Girls Cross Country, Girls Tennis, Football, Girls Soccer, Boys Soccer and Field Hockey.

In addition to the team recognition, the following student athletes earned individual designation as a New York State Scholar Athlete (had a GPA of 90% or better for the first marking period).

They are:

Varsity Golf: Colby McCauliffe, Cooper

Skiff, Brayden Stutzman and Erik Wade.

Girls Cross Country: Claudia Johnson.

Boys Cross Country: Samuel Dixson

Girls Soccer: Ava Aierstok, Grace Autiello, Arriyana Derby, Morgan Foster, Kate Fowler, Emily Gonzalez, Kylie Jirak, Brooke Kuzmich, McKenna Lyndaker, Eliza McQueen, Isabelle Miller, Luna Wiebe, Sarah Radovich, Oliveah Reiszal, Julia Sgambelluri and Sarah Sievers.

Field Hockey: Ella Celani, Allison Chuhta, Lyla Curtis, Olivia Davis, Kendall Hamilton, Alexa Jansen, Quinn Sheehan, Claire Smith, Ella Smith, Sarah Sorbera, Alyssa St. Mary and Avery Timmins.

Boys Soccer: Maxwell Aierstok, Mason Foster, Rogan Kelly, Hudson Logan, Bren-

den McClay, Christian Morency, Johnathan Morency, Levi Murray, Max Nichols, Samuel Palacios, Carson Reynolds, Noah Speanburg and Colin Traver.

Girls Tennis: Brooke Conlin, Madalynn Curley, Brooke Demianenko, Claire Fowler, Julie Nolan, Kaitlin Skiff and Rylan Wolff.

Cheer: Cassidy Carpenter, Morgan Colby, Peyton Colby, Kayly LaRock and Jordan Wilbur.

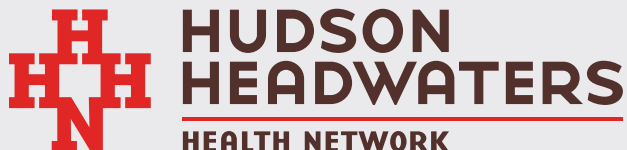
Football: Cameron Allen, Max Anatriello, Kaden Bentley, Kade Blanchette, Peter Chuhta, Keegan Clayton, Calvin Curtis, Hunter Dupuis, Ryan Ingber, Connor Kirk, Joseph Radovich, Jack Saunders, Joseph Skiff, Jackson Slater, Brayden Tyner and William Weber.

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Ornaments

Members of Willard's Mountain and Onda-wa Cambridge Chapters, Daughters of the American Revolution met recently for a combined service project. Small snowman window ornaments were made for residents of local care facilities. Thanks to member Debi Craig, all materials and tools needed were provided. A fun time of service and fellowship was had by all in attendance!

– Dorothea Casey, Regent



Artists on view

From Thursday, January 2 to Friday, January 31, Greenwich Free Library will host the second annual “New Beginnings” group art exhibit, presented by the Greenwich Library & Arts Association (GALA). The artists represented in the show run the gamut in terms of styles and media of visual arts, from paintings to photography, sculpture to pastels. The exhibit will be available to view during library hours in the Community Room.

There will be an artist reception on Sunday, January 12 from 2:00 to 4:00pm. Light refreshments will be served and patrons are invited to come meet the artists. The opening and the exhibit are open to all.



Adriano Manocchia's "Fall Memories"

Participating artists include: Cyndy Barbone, Arthur Brod, Donald Cook, Judith Ellers, Adriano Manocchia, Valorie Nichols, Clifford Oliver, Gail Peck, Ken Perry, Hannie Varosy and others.

A vibrant promotional poster with a blue and yellow color scheme. At the top, it says "Good Sunday Morning Breakfast Buffet" in a yellow, cursive font, accompanied by a small illustration of a fried egg and a fork. Below this, in red, it reads "Greenwich Fire Department Recognition Presentation: From 9:30 to 10:30 a.m." with a fire helmet icon and a fire department logo. The bottom section, in white text on a blue background, lists the event dates: "1st Sunday 7:30 - 10:30 AM" and "Pancakes, Waffles, Eggs, Bacon, Sausages, and all the fixings." It also includes a Facebook icon and the text "Find us on" and "Suggested Donations: Adults: \$12 Veterans and Children: \$6."

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Vicky Campbell, Salem Rescue Squad

Adam Harrison Levy
Journal & Press

ADAM: *What road are we driving on?*

VICKY: We're driving down County Route 153 towards Rupert.

ADAM: *How did you become involved in the rescue squad?*

VICKY: I've been involved in EMS in Washington County for twenty-seven years. I wanted to be a nurse but it never worked out. EMS was an interest where I could volunteer, be trained, and be useful to the community.

ADAM: *Why do you choose EMS?*

VICKY: It's caring for people, being people's advocate when they can't speak for themselves. There are a lot of different populations that we serve, especially in rural EMS, and often they don't get heard the way they should be by the medical profession.

ADAM: *So you are both a rescuer and an advocate?*

VICKY: We see what our patients have at home for resources and how they're living. The doctors don't usually get that point of view. We can help people get other services that they sometimes don't even know are available.

ADAM: *Were you always interested in caring for others?*

VICKY: I've been doing this since I was 16 years old when I volunteered for the fire Department.

ADAM: *Wow, that's impressive! Does it help to be a woman in this job?*

VICKY: It was a very male-dominated profession, especially twenty-plus years ago so it was a challenge. But being a woman has helped because I had a different viewpoint than some of my male partners had back then because of maternal type instincts. Now those lines have blurred. It's not anywhere like it used to be.

ADAM: *How does the Salem Rescue Squad work?*

VICKY: We have paid staff but we rely heavily on volunteers. We're alerted by our dispatchers in Fort Edward when there's an emergency. We meet at the squad room, take the ambulance, and respond at a person's home or wherever they're having their emergency. Our goal is to respond in under 10 minutes. We have a very large district, so it can still be 25 minutes before we're in the house and that's on a sunny day. Weather always makes things worse.

ADAM: *How do you feel when you're on the road driving toward a rescue?*

VICKY: So many thoughts are running through my head. What type of emergency? What are my concerns for scene safety? Concerns about gaining access to the patient? Is it chest pain? Is it respiratory distress? Is it a trauma?

ADAM: *So you are already rescuing before you actually rescue?*

VICKY: As soon as the pager goes off, you're already thinking, Okay, what might this be? Is it a home we're familiar with? Is it a patient we're familiar with?

ADAM: *Do you have one of the largest districts in Washington County?*

VICKY: I don't know about the largest, mileage-wise, but we have primary territory in Salem, (which includes Shushan), Jackson, East Greenwich, Hebron, and Rupert.

ADAM: *Where do you take your patients?*

VICKY: Generally, we allow the patient to choose where they want to go. In Salem, it's almost equidistant to Glens Falls Hospital, Saratoga, Southwestern Vermont (Bennington). In Rupert, often they want to go to Rutland. On the south side, it's Albany Med or St Peter's but we don't often go there. If it's something that requires specific interventions that certain hospitals can't do, then we highly encourage them to choose the appropriate facility.



Captain Vicky Campbell

ADAM: *Do you have an adrenaline rush when you are paged?*

VICKY: There's always adrenaline. It's the unknown. Even when you've been to the same house ten times, it's going to be different. We might be dispatched for chest pain but it might not be that when you get there, you don't know until you walk in and do an assessment to find out what is really happening.

ADAM: *You have a rare view of the people of Salem. What do you think?*

VICKY: I think it's a great place. People are more than willing to help us. We've had times when we get stuck on a snowy day, and people are willing to lend a hand. Or if they see us struggling to move patients, sometimes people will stop and say, Hey, do you need help? We have a wonderful community. But I do think they need help with more available medical care. Being rural makes it difficult.

Please read more on the next page

RIDE ALONG

(cont.)

ADAM: *What can we, as a community, do to make your job easier?*

VICKY: Number your house clearly so it's visible from the road in both directions.

ADAM: *What do you think of our health-care system?*

VICKY: There's room for improvement with the insurance, what they provide for patients, and what they cover. We see a lot of patients who won't seek medical attention because they have no coverage or little coverage. They're worried about a bill. They'll wait for something that could have been treated early, taken care of, and resolved. They'll wait until it turns into an urgent, emergency that is a lot worse than when it started a week ago. It's unfortunate, and we do see that.

ADAM: *There is a lot of anxiety about medical care right now.*

VICKY: There's a lot of folks that survive paycheck to paycheck if that's their monthly allotment, their retirement. There are a lot of folks that can't afford that extra co-pay, the prescription cost to refill their medications, and then they don't do that. And then it affects their health, and they end up in the emergency room.

ADAM: *You see a lot of people in distress. How does that make you reflect on your life?*

VICKY: It makes me realize that life is not sure. If there's something that you want to do, do it, because tomorrow is not necessarily here.

ADAM: *You've seen a lot of death.*

VICKY: One of the hardest things I tell people about EMS is that in small towns you know everyone. You're treating your friends, your relatives, or somebody who knows somebody. It makes it very difficult, especially when folks die. We try our best, but unfortunately, that's a part of life. It can be difficult for our members.

ADAM: *Do you have a therapeutic backup?*

VICKY: The Washington County Sheriff's Department has been very proactive, they

call it a stress de-briefing. It's a peer program. Any time when we have a bad call, a call that has some traumatic component to it, or if folks are upset, we can reach out. We also do a lot of that internally. I make sure our people are good.

ADAM: *Are people comforted when they see you at the door because you're not anonymous?*

VICKY: I do hear that. I'm that familiar face, and people feel more comfortable if they have to take the forty-five-minute or an hour ride to the hospital. If we leave Salem and go to Glens Falls, it's forty to forty-five minutes or even more on snowy days. And Albany is an hour and ten minutes. We spend a lot of time caring for our patients. We're not just picking patients up and driving fast to the hospital. We're providing medical care.

ADAM: *So you are providing medical care on the one hand and psychological care on the other?*

VICKY: It's comforting for the patient to know that somebody's there to help, holding their hand and saying, you're gonna be okay, we'll get you through this. You'll see them calm and relax, and their vitals will come down. Maybe they don't feel quite as bad as they did because they were at home alone, and things started to build and build and the mind will play tricks. Having a friendly face say, we're here to help, what do you need? can make a difference.

ADAM: *Do you calm other people in your life, like your family?*

VICKY: Well, that depends. If you talk to my husband....!

ADAM: *How are people in the community dealing with things now? It's a tough time.*

VICKY: I think we all have our stressors, and it's it's evident in the community, an increase in drug activity and illicit hobbies.

ADAM: **You're talking about more drug use, more opioids, more drinking?**

VICKY: You do see an increase in that stuff, when folks get stressed about their financial situations and unsure of surviving, sometimes they look towards these other hobbies to placate their situation. That's not the whole

of the population but there has been an increase in folks who can't pay their bills and worry about how they're going to get heat through winter, and how they're going to buy food.

ADAM: *After you've had a call out and someone's died, how do you feel when you get back into the ambulance?*

VICKY: You're trying to process the emotions. Maybe you've worked on somebody's husband. They've been married for sixty years and now you need to go tell the wife "I'm sorry". That's hard. That's not something anybody can teach you. But you're also thinking, what do I need to restock the ambulance? Because you have to be ready for the next emergency.

ADAM: *There must be some wonderful things as well.*

VICKY: There are many good times. It's not always the baby being born or something spectacular. It could be that I made Grandma feel better on the way to the hospital. Sometimes it's those little victories rather than the big stuff.

ADAM: *What's the greatest satisfaction of doing this work?*

VICKY: Being able to help folks make their day a little less terrible when they're potentially having the worst day of their life. And trying to be a calm voice to reassure them that somebody does care.

Adam Harrison Levy is a freelance author and journalist (The Guardian, BBC). He teaches writing at the School of Visual Arts and offers workshops and private lessons in Salem, NY. Contact him at adam-harrisonlevy@gmail.com.



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'Paint the Town Purple' meets goal

Breanna and Reid Lundy, a local Argyle couple, along with their dedicated and passionate committee, rallied the Greenwich community to "Paint the Town Purple," the cause's official color. Now in its sixth year, the goal was to raise \$30,000, a 32% increase over last year's event, to support the Alzheimer's Association's The Longest Day, a DIY fundraiser that encourages communities around the world to come together to stand up to the darkness of Alzheimer's on or near the summer solstice.

With new creative fundraising activities, like a walk through Greenwich village and selling purple light bulbs to light up homes and businesses, the event surpassed its goal, raising \$33,420. Funds raised ensure the Alzheimer's Association Northeastern New York chapter can continue to provide free programs and services to families affected by this disease in Greenwich and throughout its 17-county territory.

"Anyone walking in Greenwich this past June will have noticed a little extra purple," said Breanna Lundy. "This event has been my baby for the past few years, but now that I'm actually a new mom, I know that it takes a village – and I could not be happier to be part of the Greenwich village! I'm so proud of the Paint the Town Purple Committee and this community for helping us achieve this fundraising milestone. It is a dream come true.

"Paint the Town Purple Greenwich is a team effort, and we will not bow down to this disease that continues to devastate so many of our families," Lundy continued. "We will continue our fight until there is a cure to end Alzheimer's.

Nearly 7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's, including 426,500 in New York State.

Breanna Lundy and her committee are already strategizing for next year's event. To volunteer or get your business involved, email Reid and Breanna at Breanna.Lundy@edwardjones.com or call 518.692.2649.



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SHUSHAN CHURCHES

And then there were two

Kim West

Special to Journal & Press

Shushan has always been a very active spiritual community, at one time having four churches. While only two remain today it is only through dedication and hard work of congregants that those two remaining congregations continue to serve the community.

As early as the late 1770's Philip Embury and his band of Palatinate's settled in Camden Valley with Embury leasing his land in the Eagleville area. It's believed the Reverend Abraham Binnerger came with Embury, Binnerger was a Moravian minister who settled in Camden Valley very near the present Moravian Cemetery, the land given by Reverend Binnerger for the burial ground. In 1773 he preached the burial ceremony for his dear friend Phillip Embury at this site. However, as late as 1794, his letters still lamented that a church had not been built. Abraham Binnerger passed away in 1811 at the age of 92 but it wasn't until 1832 that the Moravians sent ministers from Bethlehem Pennsylvania, to carry out their mission in Camden.

It appears after this time that a school, a church and a parsonage were built further up the valley from the cemetery. In 1869 they left the valley for good.



United Methodist

The Baptist Church in Shushan had organized in 1790. Not much is known of its beginnings since early church records burned in a fire but in 1849 some of the elders stated they believed the church had been built in the early 1800's. Before that time the meetings were held in the house east of the Methodist Chapel which was used as a parsonage at that time. The church stood on the hill above the main street very near the covered bridge. Pictures show this to have been a beautiful building inside and out, but in the 1920's membership declined and it sat empty for many years until the early 1970's when it was torn down.

The United Presbyterian Church of East Salem was organized in 1820 as the associate congregation of Salem. Prior to this, members had to make the trek to Coila or Salem to worship. The first elders were mostly members of the Law family. The first church was built about two miles east of Shushan in 1822 with the parsonage being built in 1827. This church went out of use and in 1879 the present church was built in the village on land donated by William Law who lived next door.

The Law Memorial, as it is called was dedicated in December of 1878 and is located on Law Avenue. As a child, I remember waiting for the school bus on the front steps and leaping over the stone hitching posts. This is where, for many years, the local Christian children attended Vacation Bible School. Many will remember the challenge of walking along the narrow ledge that rings the main building.

The United Methodist Church of Shushan, as previously mentioned, can trace its roots back to the earliest settlers in this area with Phillip Embury, a follower of John Wesley the founder of Methodism, preaching from 1770-1775. After Embury passed away, and for about 50 years afterwards, circuit-riders preached at regular intervals in homes, at the schoolhouse and even in the Baptist Church. The Newman Methodist Church in Shushan is the nearest Methodist society



Shushan Presbyterian

to Embury's home in Eagleville. The Methodist Church was formed in 1846 with 15 members, with the house of worship being built in 1847. This brick gothic church was built on a stone foundation for the sum of \$4,300 including furnishings by W.J. Cruikshank of Salem.

The Shushan Churches are now a mixed congregation of the remaining Presbyterian and Methodist Churches. Gathering every Sunday at 9:30 AM with services alternating between the two Houses of Worship, there is a Sunday School every Sunday as well and all are invited to attend. Throughout the year the congregation has many activities which you can read about on their Facebook page titled Shushan Churches. Service details can also be found online.

To celebrate Christmas this year, the churches will have a 5 pm Christmas Eve service at the United Presbyterian Church in Shushan. All are welcome to attend this special and joyous service.

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6pc Sushi Plate Includes *California Roll* (Crab, Avocado, Pickled Cucumber), *Spicy Tuna* (Seared Sesame Tuna, Wakame Salad, Siracha), *Shrimp Nigiri* (Wasabi, Ginger, Soy Sauce).....15

TOMATO MOZZARELLA BRUSCETTA

Petite Heirloom Tomatoes, Fresh Mozzarella Cheese, Fresh Basil, Olive Oil, Balsamic Reduction.....12

SHRIMP & CRAB COCKTAIL

Medley of Shrimp & Lump Crab, Bloody Mary Cocktail Sauce, Avocado Cucumber Relish, Micro Greens, Lemon.....15

Entrees

14 oz. PRIME RIB

Choice Cut Prime Rib, Au Jus, Horseradish Cream, Baked Potato, Vegetable Medley.....38

HALIBUT OSCAR

Pan Seared Halibut, Lump Crab, Asparagus, Bearnaise Sauce, Three Onion Risotto, Vegetable Medley.....41

AIRLINE CHICKEN BREAST

Lemon & Rosemary Airline Chicken, Creamy Garlic Parmesan Sauce, Three Onion Risotto, Vegetable Medley.....32

SURF N TURF

Teres Major Beef Medallions, Bordelaise Sauce, 5oz Broiled Lobster Tail, Drawn Butter & Lemon, Three Onion Risotto, Vegetable Medley.....44

Dessert

Vanilla Cheesecake • Triple Chocolate Fudge Cake • Tiramisu.....10

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Questions and answers

Bob Henke
Journal & Press

The questions are piling up. I fear in order to do justice to this pile, I shall have to dispense with any levity at the beginning of this column and simply launch right into serious answers. The first one says

Mr. Henke. Is there any kind of animal you do not like (and not birds or bugs.)

This is actually a hard question because in many cases it is based on context. For example, my son once told his friend, “All Dad’s dogs work for a living” and in most cases I tend to be more fond of sporting dogs as opposed to the large decorative horses or any of the array of little yappy types. However, the latter (known as LSDs in Henke family vernacular) would be quite the treat if I were to be house-bound and immobile. If I had to pick something I viewed with antipathy under all circumstances, it would probably be a ferret. I know some people have ferrets as pets but in general they are bitey, hyperactive, and intensely smelly. I do have some ferret history as well. It went like this:

I was in full Class A uniform, stuck in rush-hour traffic, on my way home after a 12 hour day of bureaucratic fracas in the Albany central office. My mood was in no way enhanced by having to wear that stupid tie. I was, therefore, not on my best behavior when a radio call came in directing me to go 30 miles out of my way to pick up a ferret.

I suggested the dispatcher call a wildlife technician, not a police supervisor and besides, I had no place to house the stinking vermin. Imagine my delight when she replied that the local wildlife rehabilitator was meeting me to take the critter. That local wildlife rehabilitator happened to be my wife.

Seething, I drove to the location and found a seedy-looking He said it bit like a crocodile unless you put it inside your shirt. There was no way one of those foul-smelling, mam-

malian snakes was going in my shirt and I said unless he put it in a box, I was leaving. He went inside, returning shortly with the ferret in a shoebox. It kept lifting the cover to poke its head out. I again rejected it, telling him to secure the top or it did not go in my car.

He returned with the cover locked in place with duct tape and handed it in to me. Unfortunately, in the intervening time, the cursed ferret had opened a hole in the bottom allowing it to leap out and disappear under the car seat.

Disgusted by the smell, I headed up the interstate at a decent rate in the outside lane, intending to be rid of the beast as soon as possible. Then it began to dart out and viciously bite at my heel cords. I grabbed the night stick from under the headrest and began to prod at it until it quit biting and ran up under the dashboard. I picked up the speed a bit to get this over with ASAP because it sounded like he was dismantling things under there. The next thing I knew, the siren began to shriek—the cursed ferret had shorted something out. I commenced poking under the dashboard to minimize the damage, delighted when I scored a direct hit and dislodged the little bugger.

I was less delighted when it dropped to the floor and immediately scrambled up my left pant leg.

Things were getting out of hand. I was making good time but so was the ferret as he tried to climb higher up the inside of my leg. Uniform pants become tighter toward the top and the ferret was now making headway only by digging in his claws and dragging his body upward. Finally, he won. Unable to

Sighting



Mink are semi-aquatic animals and, even when there is an ice cover, will frequent waterways. Rick Vladyka watched this rather large buck mink working a stream in Granville. They really appear dark colored against a snowy background.

face where he was going next, I locked the brakes, slid out into the median raising a huge cloud of dust, and leaped out. All the cars I had passed were now treated to the sight of a uniformed officer, doing a strange hopping dance around his vehicle. Finally, when it proved impossible to get it to go out the way it came in, I yarned down my zipper, reached in, extracted the wriggling mustelid, tossed it in the trunk, and took off back up the interstate. The ferret was sound asleep when my wife opened the trunk and gave no further trouble, but I often wonder what the motoring public thought I had yanked out of my fly and tossed into the trunk...so yes, I do dislike ferrets.

Why are the turkey vultures always hanging around the Chevy dealership in Greenwich? What kind of food are

Please read more on the next page

OUTDOORS TOMORROW

(cont.)

they looking for?

To be sure, any concentration of Chevrolets may generate an odor but in the vulture's world, not everything is about food. For any predatory (or carrion eating) animal, the most important thing is always energy and wasting it rarely happens. Your vultures have found an area with thermals—currents of warm air that rise into the atmosphere. Many popular roosting areas from Greenwich/Big Lots area to the Fort Edward train station roof are chosen for this purpose. The vultures sit preening and arguing. When one finds a loose feather, it will be delicately held out and released. If the sun and temperature are at the right point, the air will be rising—indicated by the floating feather. The birds then spread their wings and launch, letting the rising currents carry them upward. They circle, gaining altitude, until the current peters out whereupon they glide off to find the next thermal. The more of this

that can be done without the energy-wasting effort of flapping their wings, the better. We were once lucky enough to watch the flock in Greenwich when they started their winter migration. They circled until they were dots in the sky and then, one by one, they glided off due south. We did not see them again until the following spring. Some telemetry and camera studies have shown that vultures can sometimes conduct their entire thousand-mile migration without a single wingbeat.

I had expected a question from Tom Baker in Granville but this one came from a sixth-grader, also from Granville.

What kind of mammal has the most babies? I think it is pigs.

That would be a good guess. A good sow can raise a dozen or so piglets. However, that is not the answer. I just finished reading an account about the wonderfully weird animals that have developed on the island of Madagascar. One such is an odd little omni-

vore, somewhat resembling an opossum but without the tail. The size of a small cat, this little beast is called a tailless tenrec. This is not totally accurate for it does have a tail, albeit a very short and nubby one. Female tenrecs have an unusually large number of mammalian glands; most have at least two dozen teats and many have as many as 29. This is fortunate for female tenrecs give birth to between 25 and 33 young. They are also distinguished as the only tropical mammal to hibernate. They periodically, for no apparent reason, find a den and sleep soundly for the next 9 months or so. Perhaps they are just recovering from the stress of having two dozen adolescents at the same time.

Contact Bob Henke with your sightings or questions by mail c/o *The Greenwich Journal & Salem Press*, by email at outdoors.tomorrow@gmail.com, on Twitter at [@Bob-Henke](https://twitter.com/Bob-Henke), or on Facebook.



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An airliner, a mountain, a broken system

Lance Allen Wang
Journal & Press

On a snowy morning some 50 years ago, a critical failure in our air traffic control system sent Trans-World Airlines Boeing 727 into a mountainside, resulting in one of the most consequential aircraft accidents in American history.

A Snowy Morning

Sunday December 1, 1974 presented challenging weather for most of the mid-Atlantic region. Low pressure was centered right over the Baltimore-Washington corridor bringing cold, stormy, and wet weather. TWA Flight 514 was going to have a challenging weather picture on its flight from Indianapolis to Washington National Airport, with a stop-over in Columbus, Ohio.

Beneath Mount Weather, a mountain about 50 miles west of Washington is the Mount Weather Emergency Operations Center “Site B,” a 600,000 square foot underground facility where key civilian leadership would relocate in the event of nuclear attack. The site, completed in the urgent days after the Soviets launched the satellite Sputnik, had been carefully shielded from publicity for security reasons since it was opened in 1959.

Flight 514 stopped in Columbus, Ohio for a brief layover. They took on more passengers, and likely received an update on the severe weather which lay ahead. A few minutes behind schedule, the flight left for Washington. Ten minutes later the crew received reports of dangerous crosswinds at National Airport, and that they would be diverted 26 miles west to Dulles International Airport, towards the Blue Ridge Mountains.

On board the plane this morning there were at least a dozen service members, including a recently retired one. Brigadier General Roscoe “Rock” Cartwright was a 33-year army veteran who was a veteran of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He was only the third black officer promoted to Brigadier General and had just retired in September. He and

his wife Gloria were flying home to Washington after Thanksgiving with their daughter.

Confusion in the Cockpit

About 45 miles out of Dulles, unbeknownst to all involved, things slowly fell apart between air traffic control and Flight 514. Approach control at Dulles cleared Flight 514 for Runway 12, an early clearance for initial approach. However, Flight 514 was still in the mountains – they weren’t on course for initial approach yet.

Captain Richard Brock, the pilot, assumed that with this clearance, approach control monitored their altitude and direction, and would correct any deviation from the crew’s printed approach charts. If the controller didn’t give them altitude instructions, they should follow the charts. His chart showed the minimum altitude for the approach to be 1,800 feet once on course. He began descending from 7000 feet.

The controller believed that he was not providing radar guidance, and that the pilot and crew could handle their own navigation – he felt he was providing runway clearance only. Radar guidance was entirely at the discretion of air traffic control. Most pilots assumed that if there was radar coverage, air traffic control was providing radar assistance. This was a dangerous assumption.

This was not an inexperienced flight crew. Captain Brock had flown for TWA since 1955, First Officer Krescheck since 1968, and Flight Engineer Safranek since 1966. As they descended to 1,800 feet, Captain Brock checked his approach charts to Dulles airport and looked at his present location. He noticed that the chart indicated a 3,400-foot minimum altitude. He even called attention to it:

“You know,” he said, “This dumb sheet says its thirty-four hundred [feet] to Round Hill – is our minimum altitude.”

“Where do you see that?” said the flight en-



gineer.

“When he clears you,” said the first officer, “That means you can go to your...”

“Initial approach!” said someone else.

What we now see is a discussion taking place within the cockpit reflecting confusion with air traffic control’s instructions. At the same time the charts with the correct information were literally in hand. However, by this point the die was cast.

What the crew was dangerously unaware of was 2,000-foot-tall Mount Weather between them and 1,800 foot final approach to Dulles Airport.

Flight 514 continued its descent through the clouds and snow. “Dark in here,” said Brock. “Bumpy too,” added the First Officer.

“I had ground contact a minute ago,” said another.

“Yeah, I did too.”

Mountain winds were starting to jar the plane. “Hang in there boy! We’re getting seasick!”

A chime sounded. The altimeter registering 500 feet.

“Boy!” said the First Officer. The Captain said, “Get some power on.”

Another chime. 100 feet.

Two seconds later, impact. The plane sliced a path cleanly through trees and then hit a

Please read more on the next page

(cont.)

rock outcropping. The 727 disintegrated instantly, with parts of the debris field spread over a 3 square mile area. There would be no survivors.

Inside Mount Weather's Emergency Operations Center, not a sound was heard, nor a light flickered. The nuclear sentinels maintained their vigil, prepared for a Soviet bolt from the blue attack. What they didn't immediately notice was that all the commercial phone lines immediately went dead.

No One of Importance

As news of the crash went out, the first thing that news networks wanted to know was who was on the passenger list. Finding no prominent politicians or major celebrities on board, the crass reporting from some news sources was "no one of importance was on board." This painful story repeatedly shows up in memories of Flight 514.

The story of Flight 514 had competition for headlines, including another air crash. Another Boeing 727, this time a last-minute charter flight out of Kennedy International Airport, crashed later in the day on its way to Buffalo, where it was to pick up the Baltimore Colts football team. The team's original flight was snowed in at Detroit. The flight, Northwest Orient Airlines Flight 6231 was

brought down when icing, instrument failure, and pilot error caused it to crash near Stony Point, New York, killing its crew of three.

The presence of so much news media in the remote Virginia location was not welcome by the United States government. Mount Weather's Emergency Operations Center had quietly operated for 15 years. The Washington Star-News reported that the 727, "almost struck one of the government's most highly classified and closely kept secrets – the installation buried at Mount Weather, Virginia."

Investigation

The cockpit voice recorder was found within the debris, allowing investigators to help determine the cause of the crash. Attention turned to the dialogue between Air Traffic Control and flight deck. It was clear that there was a major disconnect with too much controller discretion and not enough clarity in communication.

But even more telling was the discovery of another aircraft, a United Airlines jet, that had a very similar experience on the same route and at the same location only weeks before, including confusion with air traffic instructions. However, as there was no system for reporting safety incidents, this report did not get wide dissemination.

Solutions

This crash was not a technical or mechani-



Roscoe Cartwright

cal failure – it can all be attributed to miscommunication. That is why the communications between air traffic control and aircraft cockpits are so formal and heavily scripted today. Terminology is standardized and nothing is assumed. The most amazing thing is that there hadn't been more crashes resulting from this disconnect.

Additionally, there is more than a polite chime now when an aircraft's altimeter registers the plane being too close to the ground. Ground proximity warnings now urgently warn pilots in plain English to "Pull Up!" as well as advising of dangerous sink rates, bank angles, or deviation from approach angles.

Finally, a new aviation safety reporting system was put into place for the Federal Aviation Administration and NASA which allowed the reporting of incidents, such as the United Airlines near-crash into Mount Weather six weeks before Flight 514, in such a way that the information got into circulation among those who need to see it.

By pure chance, helped along by systemic failures and a convergence of events, many disparate lives were linked in a tragedy which has resulted in safer skies today.

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



The Flight 514 Memorial

Grinch steals the show

The Grinch returned to Salem Bancroft Library in Salem the morning of Saturday, December 14 to read *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* to a captivated group of listeners, both young and old alike. The Grinch's heart had enlarged three sizes by the end of the book's reading, so he stuck around to help with the crafts and activities for the children who had joined in the fun morning!

Other activities for the remainder of the month include program with Washington County Public Health called Commit to Quit. If you're interested in learning more about this program, please visit on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 6-8pm to meet with Renee Allen, a certified tobacco-cessation therapist.

December collection of cat food donations to Support local area cat non-profits who trap, neuter/spay, and release, and/or adopt out cats by doing a donation drive for cat food. Witches Kittens and Salem Community Cats will be the recipients of the food items collected. If patrons can, they are asked to donate a cat food item to the red box in the library before the end of December.



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A Season for Remembering

**At a time when loved ones lost are especially missed,
we wish all of our friends
and neighbors here comfort and peace.**

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for your trust in us.*



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Pretending to have been robbed

Here's our regular look at articles that appeared in the various editions of our Journal & Press family of newspapers from decades past...



100 Years Ago

Dec. 3, 1924

Investigation of the holdup story told by Harold Havens of Fort Edward last week to account for the disappearance of something over \$400 and a motor truck belonging to his employer, the J. Kronman company of Schenectady, cast doubt on the tale, and when closely questioned by the deputy sheriff and other officers, the young man finally made a confession before justice of the peace McCall at Hudson Falls Friday afternoon. He admitted to having framed up the supposed hold up with a friend for the purpose of accounting for a shortage in the company's funds, which were supposed to be in his possession. He said to have lost money belonging to the company in gambling games.

Havens was found last week, Tuesday, a couple of miles from Fort Edward, near the road leading west towards Schenect-

ady. His arms and legs were bound, and he had a slight wound on his head. He was taken to Fort Edward where he told of having been held up by a stranger who had asked for a ride. He claimed to have lost about \$400 in cash, and the stranger, after leaving him bound, drove off in the truck, according to his story.

When it was learned that Havens had cashed several checks given him in payment for goods before he left Fort Edward, the officials became suspect of his story. A member of the firm employing Havens came to Fort Edward, and the story was investigated with the result that the young man finally confessed. He refused, however, to name his accomplice. The truck was found abandoned in Saratoga Springs. He said that his friend got what money he had, which was about \$156 for his part in the deal. The rest of the \$400 represented a shortage that already existed in Havens' account. Havens' accomplice had not been taken into custody as of last report. As the crime occurred in Saratoga county, whatever prosecution results will be taken in that county.

90 Years Ago

December 19, 1934

The Greenwich High School Athletic Association play "Merton of the Movies" delighted a capacity audience in the school auditorium Friday evening, and a substantial sum was added to the treasury. Under the capable direction of Miss Katherine P. Cornish of the high school faculty, every member of the cast gave a creditable performance, and the scenic and lighting effects were done in a professional manner.

Theodore Herrington in the title role was a convincing movie-struck boy who made his hearers sympathize with him in his suffering, even while they were laughing at his unconscious comedy. Dorothy Galusha, as the Montague girl who helped him over the rough spots, was her usual

cute self on the stage, and Mary Washburn was up to expectations as the screen star, Beulah Baxter.

Kenyon Buell added years to his age as the serious old-fashioned storekeeper, and hilarious comedy in the store was furnished by the young man about town played by Melvin Howland. Miriam Wells was excellent as the timid fluttery girl who encouraged Merton to follow his star.

Jacob Berkowitz, as a movie director, acted as though his life work should be in Hollywood, and Richard Tefft as the producer of comedies endeared himself to the audience with his easy and natural portrayal. Edward Stiles was a sophisticated young dandy in his role as a movie hero, and Elwood Titus was exceptionally good as the efficient helper on the movie lot.... The time between the scenes and acts was pleasantly filled with selections by the high school orchestra and the girls' glee club, and piano solos by Louise Sheldon. Dancing was enjoyed after the play.

70 Years Ago

December 22, 1954

With Christmas just a couple of days away, business is booming in every home and business place in Greenwich, as the last minute rush is on full force. Greenwich stores report that business has been exceptionally good this year, and this last week before the holiday, the stores are staying open each night until 9 o'clock to accommodate the shoppers who still have Christmas buying to do.

Most of the stores that carry Christmas goods, and many of the food stores, will be open Friday, Christmas Eve, until 9 o'clock. Then they will shut up shop until Monday morning.

With the Christmas street lights on Main Street, the lighted tree in the park, and Christmas music, which has been played from a loudspeaker system from

Please read more on next page

Convicted of rape, murder (cont.)

the White Swan Hotel, there's every indication of the approaching holiday, and sprinkling of snow yesterday added the needed touch. Whether it will remain, and whether more arrives to make it a white Christmas, is up to Mother Nature.

One of the busiest places in town this past couple of weeks has been the Greenwich Post Office, where thousands upon thousands of Christmas greeting cards are distributed and dispatched, as well as hundreds upon hundreds of Christmas packages.

With six extra men on the job for the holiday rush, postmaster William J Whitney reports that the clerks and carriers have been able to keep up with the brisk business, and by working extra hours and Sundays the past two weeks, they have kept abreast of the floodtide of mail.

The peak of the Christmas rush at the post office is believed to have been Monday and Tuesday of this week. Business there on the whole has been about the same as last year, though many people mailed earlier than usual this year. Folks who sorted and tied their Christmas cards before leaving them at the Post Office assisted greatly in speeding the dispatch of their mail, Mr. Whitney said.

The post office will close Friday evening at 6:30 and will remain closed until Monday morning. There will be no mail in or out of Greenwich Christmas Day or Sunday.

Over the holiday weekend family parties will be the featured festivities. For the past two weeks and on until after the new year, almost every organization has been having Christmas parties and entertainment.

Special services have already held at several churches in the communities, and Christmas Eve both at Saint Paul's Episcopal Church and Saint Joseph's Catholic Church will hold midnight services.

All in all, Christmas is being observed

here, as in every other community across the country, in the way long established by tradition.

40 Years Ago

December 20, 1984

Friday, December 14, at the Washington county courthouse in Hudson Falls, Martin Timothy Wall, 22, was sentenced in connection with his pleas to certain counts of the indictment, charging him with the August 5 murder of Dorothy Beverly of Fort Edward. Honorable Philip Berke, Washington County Court judge, sentenced Wall to 25 years to life on his plea to murder in the second degree, and to 8 to 25 years on his plea to rape in the first-degree. Both of these sentences were the maximum possible under current state sentencing statutes.

The Washington County district attorney represented the people in the case, and Wall was represented by public defender Elan Cherney.

District attorney Hemmett stated that Wall had entered his plea of guilty December 5 in county court before judge Berke. The sentences will be served concurrently in the New York State prison system. Wall will not be eligible for parole until he has served the longest stated minimum in the sentences. DA Hemmett stated he was satisfied with this resolution of the case because it was as good a resolution as he could have hoped for if the matter had gone to trial.

Mrs. Beverly's body was discovered on the living room floor of her home August 5 by a Fort Edward policeman. After an autopsy at Glens Falls Hospital, performed by hospital staff physicians and Dr. Jack Davies of Albany, it was determined that Mrs. Beverly had died as a result of shock and hemorrhage, after severe blows to her face fractured facial bones and caused soft tissue damage. It was also determined that she had been raped. The

case was investigated by the Fort Edward Police Department and the New York State Police. DA Hemmett commended both police agencies for their thorough investigation. He noted that Wall was arrested August 10, less than a week after the crime was committed.

A meeting of the Washington County grand jury in September returned a five count indictment, charging Wall with assault in the first degree, murder in the second degree, rape in the first degree, burglary in the first degree and grand larceny in the third degree. Wall will be turned over from the Washington County Sheriffs Department, who have had him in their custody since his arrest, to state authorities to begin serving his sentence.

20 Years Ago

December 9, 2004

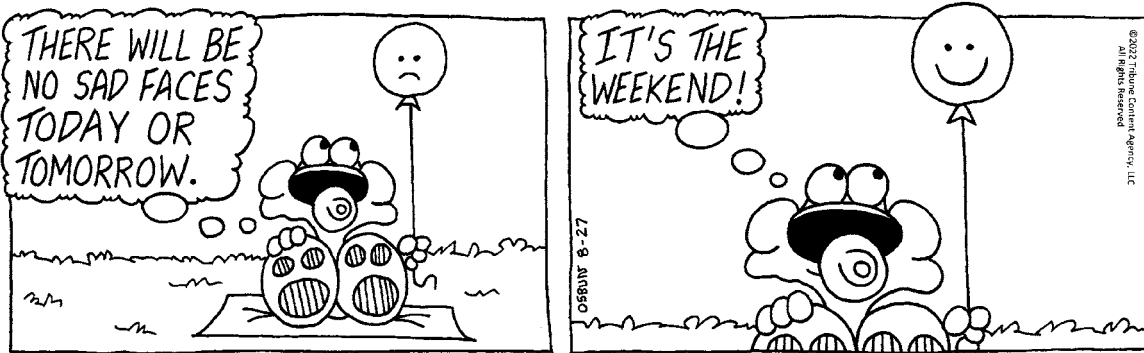
Thirty-three Christmas trees decorated in memory of friends and loved ones were lighted simultaneously Sunday evening during the Everlasting Lights Festival at the Commons. Organized by Elaine Kelly, whose very gifted family members sing without musical accompaniment at this annual event, the Everlasting Lights Festival provides the community with an opportunity to memorialize past friends and family members whose presence is so missed at this time of year.

Following the welcome by Greenwich town supervisor Don Wilbur, a dedication of each of the 33 trees was read aloud by Larry Wilbur, accompanied by harpist Debi Craig. Following an invocation by Pastor Clyde McCaskill, the trees were lighted, and the crowd passed through them to the strains of "Silent Night," sung by Kendra Kelly.

-Compiled by Darren Johnson

FUN & GAMES

Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



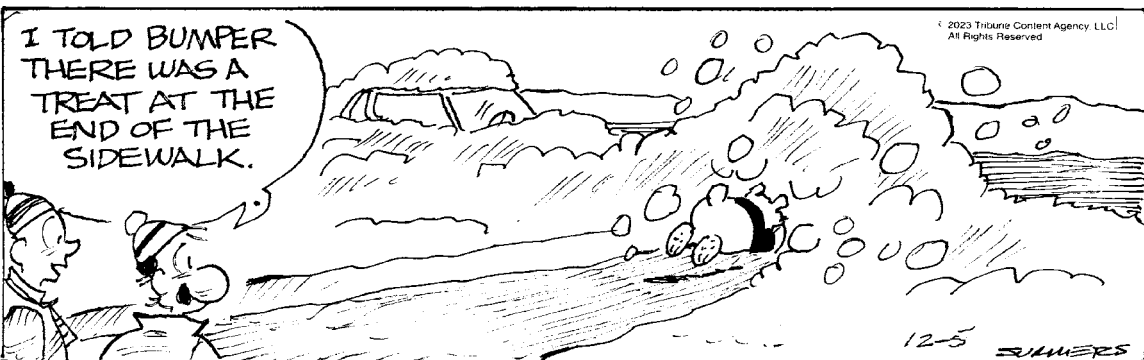
Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



The Middletons by Dana Summers



9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



"Sims looks like he's doing nothing, but actually he's coming up with conspiracy theories about why his salary never goes up."

Word Play Answers Page 24

JUMBLE

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

MWONA
 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

LITUG
 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

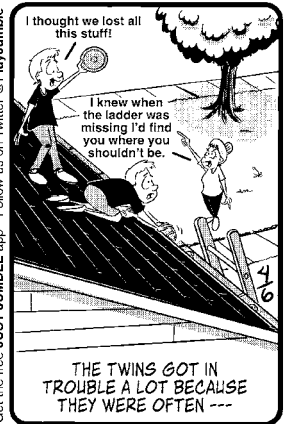
RDEVOO
 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

SOPOEP
 ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

○ ○ " ○ ○ ○ " ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



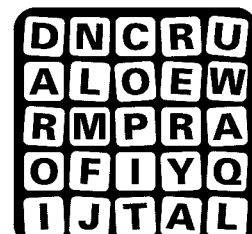
THE TWINS GOT IN TROUBLE A LOT BECAUSE THEY WERE OFTEN ---

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

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Boggle BrainBusters!

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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

BOGGLE POINT SCALE	YOUR BOGGLE RATING
3 letters = 1 point	151+ = Champ
4 letters = 2 points	101-150 = Expert
5 letters = 3 points	61-100 = Pro
6 letters = 4 points	31-60 = Garner
7 letters = 5 points	21-30 = Rookie
8 letters = 10 points	11-20 = Amateur
8+ letters = 15 points	0-10 = Try again

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
 We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?
 Find AT LEAST EIGHT COUNTRIES in the grid of letters.

FUN & GAMES

More Word Play Answers Page 24

SCRABBLE G₂ R₁ A₁ M₃ S₁

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A₁ E₁ O₁ G₂ G₂ D₂ P₃

RACK 1

E₁ I₁ O₁ L₁ M₃ P₃ R₁

RACK 2

O₁ U₁ T₁ B₃ M₃ S₁ C₃

Triple Word Score

RACK 3

E₁ E₁ I₁ L₁ N₁ T₁ N₁

RACK 4

E₁ O₁ U₁ D₂ B₃ S₁ C₃

1st Letter Double

RACK 5

PAR SCORE 255-265
BEST SCORE 332

FIVE RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. SOLUTION TOMORROW

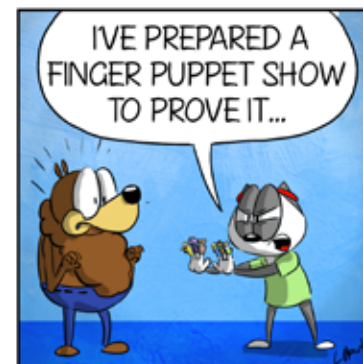
Word Find by Frank J. D'Agostino

Find these words associated with holiday decorations (and find Frank's acrostic books on Amazon):

Bells	Lights	Snowman
Bows	Mistletoe	Star
Candle	Nativity	Stocking
Candy Cane	Nutcracker	Tinsel
Cards	Ornaments	Tree Skirt
Figurines	Pinecone	Village
Garland	Ribbon	Wreath
Gift Tags	Santa	
Iceicle	Snow Globe	

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

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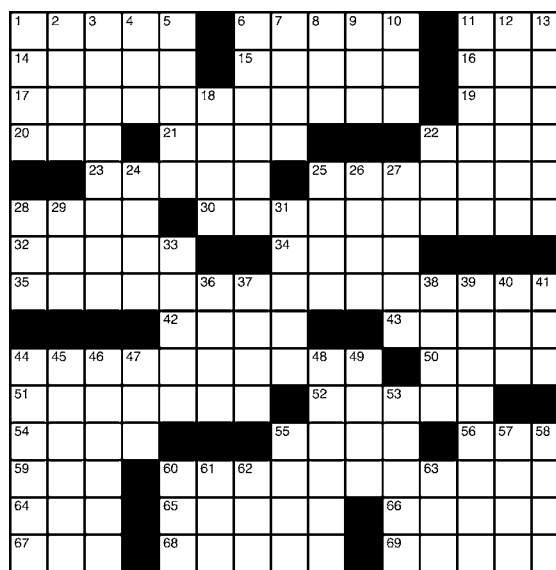


Political Cartoon of the Month by Joel Pett



Crossword

Across
 1 Starts a triathlon
 6 Airplane assignments
 11 Short lines at the register?
 14 Chocolate source
 15 "I've ___ up to here!"
 16 Swelter
 17 *When "you can see forever," per the classic song
 19 Watch chain
 20 Top ___
 21 Requests
 22 DVR pioneer
 23 Rich cake
 25 Air purifying gadget
 28 Skateboarding star Tony
 30 *Genetic lab project
 32 Datari bigwigs
 34 "___ I say more?"
 35 *Almost got the gold
 42 Word on Irish euros
 43 Finnish hot spot
 44 *Long, curved barrette
 50 Academic acronym
 51 Glasses for bookworms
 52 Court attire



54 Itch
 55 Han who said, "It's not wise to upset a Wookiee"
 56 [shrug]
 59 ___ sale
 60 Quantity applied to dubious advice, and what's found in the answer to each starred clue
 64 Put away

9 Hermana de la madre
 10 Farm pen
 11 Florence gallery with Botticelli's "Birth of Venus"
 12 Tried and true
 13 Seven of Nine of "Star Trek," for one
 18 Founded, for short

Sudoku

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

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

65 Very serious
 66 Leading
 67 ___ light bulb
 68 Cookie source
 69 Ready to flow

Down
 1 Person in Paisley
 2 Diminish
 3 "Gosh, no one is happy with me!"
 4 PC alternative
 5 ___ power
 6 Like some martinis
 7 AirPods holders
 8 Total

22 Pewter component
 24 Gumbo vegetable
 25 Cold, slushy treat
 26 World Cup chants
 27 Network connections
 28 She/___ pronouns
 29 "No question is too personal" session, for short
 31 "Yosemite Valley Winter" photographer Adams
 33 Part of an act
 36 Storyteller
 37 Tolkien creatures
 38 Wholesale quantity
 39 Get the better of
 40 U-tum from SSW
 41 Hydroelectric power source
 44 Merciless
 45 Gas up?
 46 Hounded
 47 Stand buy
 48 Wrinkle remover
 49 Casual top
 53 Awesome, in showbiz
 55 Etsy, e.g.
 57 "Frozen" sister
 58 Start of an address
 60 Shoot the breeze
 61 Color TV pioneer
 62 North Sea diving bird
 63 Transgression

SCHOOL NEWS

Breakfast with Santa

On Saturday, December 7th over 60 students from the Greenwich High School FBLA, FFA, and NHS chapters donated their time to host Greenwich's Annual Breakfast with Santa. Breakfast was well attended with all proceeds going to support Operation Santa for families in the Greenwich area.

Members of the Greenwich Elks cooked a hearty breakfast while the students served breakfast and helped children make holiday crafts. Evergreens donated by Steve Patrick were turned into wreaths and centerpieces by GCS Plant Science students and sold to attendees. Students from Greenwich's pre-K classes sang holiday songs for all to hear! Ben Elsworth carried on the age-old tradition of hosting the world's coldest hayride with his elaborately decorated tractor and wagon. Santa took pictures with the children and sent everyone on their way with goodie bags and a free ice cream cone from Stewarts!

This event is prepared and hosted entirely by students from the mentioned organizations. This event is an excellent opportunity that allows students to see the results of their efforts firsthand in their own community and realize that they have the ability to make a positive difference in the lives of others. It is also an opportunity for students to witness the partnership between adult-led civic organizations in our community.

The members of FBLA, FFA, and NHS would like to thank the following community partners who made this event possible. Those partners include, the Greenwich Elks Club, photographer Faith Alheim from Missy Mae's



photography, Stewart's Shops, the Greenwich Fire Department, Steve Patrick, the Elsworth Family Farm, and of course, Santa!

Sales success

The Salem FFA group would like to thank the local community for the great support of one of their major fundraising drives, the fruit and cheesecake sales, both sold in-person and online.

The FFA group had set a goal of raising \$5,000 but when the final tally was totaled, they surpassed their goal and earned nearly \$2,200 for the FFA chapter which will be used for trips, training and activities. The photo shows the FFA members unloading the



truck delivering the fruit to Salem Central School.

FUN & GAMES SOLUTIONS

Boggle: OMAN IRAQ
PERU FIJI ITALY
FRANCE NORWAY
POLAND

Jumble: WOMAN
GUILT OVERDO OP-
POSE – UP “TWO” NO
GOOD

SCRABBLE G.R.A.M.S. SOLUTION							
P ₃	E ₁	D ₂	A ₁	G ₂	O ₁	G ₂	RACK 1 = <u>62</u>
I ₁	M ₃	P ₃	L ₁	O ₁	R ₁	E ₁	RACK 2 = <u>61</u>
C ₃	O ₁	M ₃	B ₃	U ₁	S ₁	T ₁	RACK 3 = <u>89</u>
L ₁	E ₁	N ₁	I ₁	E ₁	N ₁	T ₁	RACK 4 = <u>57</u>
S ₁	U ₁	B ₃	C ₃	O ₁	D ₂	E ₁	RACK 5 = <u>63</u>
PAR SCORE 255-265							TOTAL <u>332</u>

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

SWIMS	SEATS	UPC
CACAO	HADIT	FRY
ONACLEAR	DAY	FOB
TEN	ASKS	TIVO
TORTE	IONIZER	
HAWK	DNACLONING	
EMIRS	NEED	
RANACLOSE	SECOND	
EIRE	SAUNA	
BANANA	CLIP	STEM
READERS	ROBES	
URGE	SOLO	MEH
TAG	GRAIN	OF
ATE	ACUTE	FIRST
LED	BAKER	ONTAP

Motivation tools tackle big problems

Dr. Daneen Skube
Tribune Content Agency
Special to Journal & Press

Q: *I'm upper management in a company that was just acquired by a global company. The problems are discouragingly complicated and I'm not sure how best to motivate my team. How do you coach your management clients to keep their teams productive when the problems are huge?*

A: When the problems are huge, a leader needs to make clear what power the employees have and don't have. Then describe the problem, admit you don't have easy answers, and let your team brainstorm ideas. Once the ideas are created, ask them to summarize, and provide to you for review.

Many managers make the mistake of not starting out by doing two things:

1. Define the limits of decision-making power for your team. Employees that are not told the limits of their authority get mad. Mad employees are not motivated.
2. Use vulnerability and humility in ad-

mitting you're also perplexed. When you model it's OK to not know, you open the door to exploration. To quote the British author J.R.R. Tolkien, "Not all who wander are lost." Most innovators must wander to find a breakthrough!

Paul Hawken, an American author and entrepreneur summarized, "Good management is the art of making problems so interesting and their solutions so constructive that everyone wants to get to work and deal with them." If a team has created solutions that are within their power to implement, they'll be in love with those ideas.

When you're in these brainstorming meetings, it's fair to use "advanced" paraphrasing. What this means is you insert some of your own effective ideas by saying, "What I'm hearing is the team is considering (insert your idea)." Then sit back and watch. Most team members will nod vigorously at a good idea and say, "Yes, that's exactly what we were thinking."

In this strategic manner, you enrich the teams' decision-making without taking

away their sense of accountability or pride in the solution. Employees that experience ownership over solutions will be fully committed to effective implementation.

Be aware that if you could pull a solution out of a magic management hat, your team would not be as motivated as if it was "their" idea. Define limits, enrich your team's decision-making, and turn them loose on inventing solutions.

By repeatedly implementing this form of management, you prepare and encourage your team to have the tools to tackle big problems. In our increasingly complex world, it's unlikely future problems will get smaller. Working hard on your current problems, means your team will be well prepared for anything else the world throws at them.

The last word(s)

Q: *I'd like to try a new business idea in my spare time. Do you have any suggestions on how to experiment with whether my idea will fly?*

A: Yes, as Dorie Clark, an American Executive Education professor, observed, "Sometimes you have to experiment with a lot of ideas and see which one sticks. If you're unsure, let the market decide." The best way to start a business is when you don't need the money and can afford to fail.

Daneen Skube, Ph.D., executive coach, trainer, therapist and speaker, also appears as the FOX Channel's "Workplace Guru" each Monday morning. She's the author of "Interpersonal Edge: Breakthrough Tools for Talking to Anyone, Anywhere, About Anything." You can contact Dr. Skube at www.interpersonaledge.com.



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The Tri-County United Way VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program has been honored with the National IRS “Hall of Fame” Award, a testament to its exceptional contributions and unwavering support for individuals and families with low to moderate incomes. Chosen from 14 national nominees, Tri-County United Way’s VITA program distinguished itself through its remarkable service, community impact, and dedication to financial stability.

Over the past 21 years, more than 200 volunteers have played a vital role in earning this Hall of Fame accolade. While some have moved on and others have passed away, we remain deeply proud of the dedication and positive impact our VITA volunteers have had on our local economy. These dedicated individuals continue to assist low-income families and seniors with their tax returns across Washington, Warren, and Northern Saratoga Counties.

Special thanks go to our most recent volunteers from the last two filing seasons:

Cathy Barton	Nanette Doheny	Frances Hanna	Dianne Lewis	Frank Musso	Will Sawma	Heidi Villarini
Charlene Bolster	Nancy Douglas	Margaret Hurlburt	Michael Linke	Donna Nichols	Mark Semon	Donna Waite
Roseanne Brevot	Julie Gann	Kay Hutt	Lyn MacAlpine	Kevin O'Brien	Stanley Shattuck	Rosemary White
Pat Bryant	Gerry Geddis	Sonya Jurnak	Marge Maxwell	Dee Park	Nancy Skirkanich	Mary Ellen Williams
Loretta Citarella	Victor Greco	Daisy Kavanagh	Sue McNeil	Bree Pisacane	Rachelle Tessier	
Phil Cote	Thelma Hack	ShannonKavanaugh	Douglas Meyerhoff	Joan Prouty	Ann Thibideau	
Larry Crandall	Lydia Hall	Jean Killian	Richelene Morey	Mary Provost	Judith Tholl	
Joseph Dewey	Bill Hamelin	Lee Lenhart	Jeanie Mullen	Arlene Reduto	John Truchon	




VITA, an IRS-sponsored program, offers training to local volunteers, equipping them to complete income tax returns for our community. Volunteers begin their training in December and must pass certification tests before they can assist with tax returns. Without their commitment, many individuals who rely on this vital service would likely have to turn to paid tax preparers. To volunteer, contact Laura Jensen, Director of Community Engagement at Ljensen@tricountyunitedway.org or learn more at www.tricountyunitedway.org.

Christopher Smith - Artist / Illustrator



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Breanna Lundy
Journal & Press

This time of year, we are ensuring our clients take their Required Minimum Distributions from their IRA's in the way that best suits them. One of these ways is a qualified charitable distribution, or QCD. In most walks of life, you'd probably be pleased if you could accomplish two goals with one action. That's exactly what happens when you can turn some of your retirement funds into charitable gifts that support a worthy organization while also realizing tax benefits.

Here's a little background: If you haven't already withdrawn from your traditional IRA, you must do so once you reach 73, or 75 if you were born in 1960 or later. If you don't take these withdrawals — called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — or if you take too little, you will be subject to a possible 25% penalty on the amount not withdrawn. These RMDs can be sizable, and they're also taxable. But when you move money from your IRA to a qualified charitable organization — a process known as taking a qualified charitable distribution, or QCD — you can possibly satisfy your RMD requirement for that year, with the funds then being kept out of your taxable income. You don't even have to wait

until you reach the RMD age because you can begin making QCDs of up to \$105,000 per year once you reach 70½. (This amount is indexed for inflation, so it may rise each year.)

And because QCDs won't add to your taxable income, you can get additional benefits. First, by taking QCDs, rather than accepting the taxable income from your IRA, you could lower your adjusted gross income (AGI), which, in turn, could help reduce the taxes on your Social Security benefits. The taxes on these benefits are based on your overall income and filing status. And second, a lower AGI can possibly reduce your Medicare Part B premiums, which are also based on your income.

Now let's look at the relationship between two other retirement accounts and QCDs:

- **Traditional 401(k)** — A traditional 401(k), like a traditional IRA, will be subject to RMDs, but it doesn't qualify for a QCD. However, you could roll your RMDs from a 401(k) into an IRA, which would then let you use the QCD strategy. This rollover may be more beneficial to you than simply taking the distribution from your 401(k) and then donating the money to a charity, but you'll want to consult your tax professional.

- **Roth IRA** — A Roth IRA is not subject to RMDs, so you can essentially keep your IRA intact as long as you want, though you're likely to need at least some of it to help you pay for your retirement. But because Roth IRA withdrawals are tax-free (provided you've had your account at least five years and are 59½ or older before you take withdrawals), you won't get the benefit of lowering your AGI by transferring your IRA funds to a charity. Of course, you're still free to take money from your Roth IRA and donate it to charities. If you itemize on your taxes, you can deduct your charitable contributions, up to 60% of your AGI. But many people no longer itemize because of a significant increase in the standard deduction a few years ago.

If you don't need all the required withdrawals from your traditional IRA, you may find that taking a QCD is a good way to use the money. By helping a charitable group and getting tax benefits, you'll be “multi-tasking” in a way that benefits everybody.

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



Victorian Christmas

Join the Cambridge Historical Society and Museum on Wednesday, December 18th at 6 pm, when all the trappings of a Victorian Christmas will be on display in our beautiful late 19th century house in Cambridge. Did you ever wonder how a house might have looked when preparing for Christmas? Or think about what their special treats might have been? We will tour the house, sing carols, hear sto-

ries, taste the sweetness of the holiday, decorate gingerbread people, and create something special to take home. Come and “Make Merry.” Experience “Comfort and Joy.” The Museum is located at 12 Broad Street, Cambridge, NY. The program will be held on the first floor, which is accessible to all. For further information call or text: 518-350-0627, or email: info.cambridge.ny.museum@gmail.com.

The evolution of Eagleville

Kim West

Special to Journal & Press

Russell's Mills, East Salem, Eagleville? The small, quaint hamlet of Eagleville in the town of Salem, approximately 2 miles east of Shushan, has had a few names over the many years since its founding.

Russell's Mills is credited to Charles Russell who, according to the April 11, 1883 Washington County Advertiser, died at the Central House in Salem at the age of 83. At one time he owned the woolen mills at Eagleville and was an influential member of the Methodist Church. He left a large estate.

It's not clear where the names East Salem and Eagleville came from. Some older residents have shared their ideas, but without any historical corroboration I hesitate to speculate. As late as 1912 maps indicate the area along the river where the mills were located as East Salem and that was the name of the Post Office there.

Phillip Embury, one of the earliest settlers of the Duane patent, then called Camden Valley, settled in Eagleville as early as 1770. He traveled north from New York City with others from Palatine receiving a grant of 8,000 acres to develop for the manufacture of linen. Embury settled on what is now known as Roberson Road in Eagleville.

The Eagleville Presbyterian Church was erected in 1822 at the junction of Juniper Swamp Road and the current county Route 61. Only the parsonage is still standing today, serving as a private residence. In 1826, Isaac Binninger Sr. and his brother Abra-

ham bought the grist mill buildings and 1.6 acres in Eagleville for \$27. Isaac also operated a store there, as did William Law. William, born in 1807, opened a store at the age of 17, (c.1824) and ran it for about 3 years before he left for New York City, not returning until 1837. Binninger Road remains today as a reference to influential Eagleville residents of the past.

According to Corey's Gazetteer of Washington County, in 1849 Eagleville was a thriving village of about 70 persons containing a Post Office, Grist Mill, Saw Mill, Woolen, Sieve Factory and several mechanics shops. In the 1800s, a mechanic was someone who had specialized training and usually worked with their hands. This included a wide range of trades, such as carpenter, brick layer, painter, plasterer, plumber, and blacksmith. The factories at Eagleville were then doing a large business. The Woolen Mill averaged from 15-25 thousand yards annually. The Sieve factory supplied many sieves for the New York and Philadelphia markets. By comparison, Corey's Gazetteer believed that Shushan's population was closer to 300 at the same time.

The Eagleville Post Office was known as the East Salem PO and was established there in 1831, Isaac Binninger was Postmaster and held the office up to 1850 when George Russell was appointed. This once thriving community had, by then, become almost extinct and, once the railroad came to Shushan, many moved closer to there.



In 1849, Henry Barnes kept a Select School less than a mile west of Eagleville on the road to Shushan with about 20 students although the school was short lived. It appears to have been very near where the Presbyterian Church and Parsonage were built on Juniper Swamp Road.

Many are familiar with the Eagleville Bridge that was constructed in 1858 by Ephraim W. Clapp. It is one of four Washington County covered bridges submitted for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in one multiple-property submission. The others are the Buskirk Bridge, the Raleigh Bridge, and Shushan Bridge. All four received the distinguishment of being listed on the National Register of Historic Places on March 8, 1972. All four still stand today with the Shushan Bridge being the only one converted to a museum. In the spring of 1977, a flood washed away the southern abutment of the Eagleville Bridge, dropping and twisting the historic structure. To the relief of local Eagleville residents and all who frequent the Eagleville Bridge, it was repaired and returned to service in February of 1978 and remains used today.



Phrases to avoid as you age

Greg Schwem

*Tribune Content Agency
Special to Journal & Press*

BARRE BOOTCAMP!

The phrase screamed at me as I entered my health club shortly after 5 a.m. last week. Written in blue marker on a whiteboard, “barre,” for those not familiar with ballet, is the horizontal bar dancers grip while performing certain exercises.

As I trudged into the locker room, wiping sleep from my eyes, I wondered: “Why ruin something so graceful by adding ‘bootcamp’ to it?” It’s a word one normally associates with military drill sergeants, sweltering practices for aspiring football players and, in my case, pain.

Ten years ago I participated in my first and only bootcamp. Four weekly sessions, the first being complimentary. I discovered the camp while scrolling Groupon, the online coupon marketplace.

Ominous warning sign number one...a DISCOUNTED bootcamp.

The class did not occur in a health club or any type of exercise facility. Instead, as Google Maps revealed, it took place in a strip mall.

Ominous warning number two.

Entering the unit, I encountered a wooden gym floor and six other bootcamp participants, all female. My male ego told me that, perhaps, I had signed up for the wrong class. That thought was short lived for, moments later, a male Hungarian bodybuilder with an unpronounceable first name appeared, greeting everyone with: “Are you ready to have your asses kicked?”

Before anyone could answer, he launched into a series of jumps, his knees nearly succeeding in colliding with his chin. The ladies followed suit. I did the same, trying to keep up.

This went on for nearly an hour. When we weren’t jumping we were squatting, thrusting and running out of the room into the

hallway and back. I left class feeling lighter, stronger, and anxious to return.

The next day I couldn’t get out of bed.

Lesson learned; avoid the word “bootcamp” at all costs.

As I age, my vocabulary of words and phrases to stay away from has grown considerably. Take, for example, “bottomless.” It’s a word I often see written on chalkboards inside or, in warm weather, outside drinking establishments near my Chicago condo. An alcoholic beverage typically follows.

What’s Sunday brunch with-

‘Want to depress me? Invite me to trivia night to suffer in silence.’

out BOTTOMLESS mimosas or bloody marys? Have a taste for Mexican food? Wash it down with bottomless margaritas. I’ve even seen the word applied to foods ranging from crab legs to chicken wings. Indulging in bottomless quantities of either would, at my age, only lead to a more ample bottom. The chicken wings might be cheap, but a trip to a menswear store to purchase larger pants would not be.

Finally, I no longer get excited when I see establishments advertising “Trivia Night!” What’s wrong with being surrounded by friends and exercising your competitive nature by answering questions from bygone times? Plenty, depending on your definition of “early.”

Granted we are a quarter through the 21st century, but don’t remind me by tossing out



questions in categories with names ranging from “Game of Thrones” to “Famous early 2000s bands” If I’m playing music trivia, the answers should range from Rod Stewart to The Rolling Stones to Journey.

Want to depress me? Invite me to trivia night and make me suffer in silence, while a team of early 30-somethings high-five each other after one member correctly answers “Nine Inch Nails.” in the music category.

“Dude, how did you remember THAT band?” I’d hear another team member say as I crumble up my scorecard and head to the bar.

Bottomless margaritas suddenly seem more appealing.

Greg Schwem is a corporate stand-up comedian and author of two books: “Text Me If You’re Breathing: Observations, Frustrations and Life Lessons From a Low-Tech Dad” and the recently released “The Road To Success Goes Through the Salad Bar: A Pile of BS From a Corporate Comedian,” available at Amazon.com. Visit Greg on the web at www.gregschwem.com.



OBITUARIES

Donald L. Brooks, 92

Donald L. Brooks, 92, a resident of Greenwich, NY, and more recently of Saratoga Springs, NY, passed away peacefully at St. Peter's Hospital on December 12, 2024. Don was born on February 4, 1932, in Malone, NY, and lived there until his parents moved to Ellenburg Center, NY in 1937. He continued to live there, spending summers at Cha-teaugay Lake, until graduating from Ellenburg Central School in 1949.

Don began his college education at Clarkson College. After two years and a required summer session, he changed his major from engineering to teaching, transferring to Oswego State Teachers College, where he graduated as an Industrial Arts teacher in May 1954. Following graduation, he was drafted into the Army and spent the next two years stationed at Fort Dix, Fort Benning, and Fort Knox.

Upon his honorable discharge in 1956, Don started his teaching career as an Industrial Arts teacher at Greenwich Central School. In 1958, he married Marcella "Teddy" Johnson, and the couple moved to

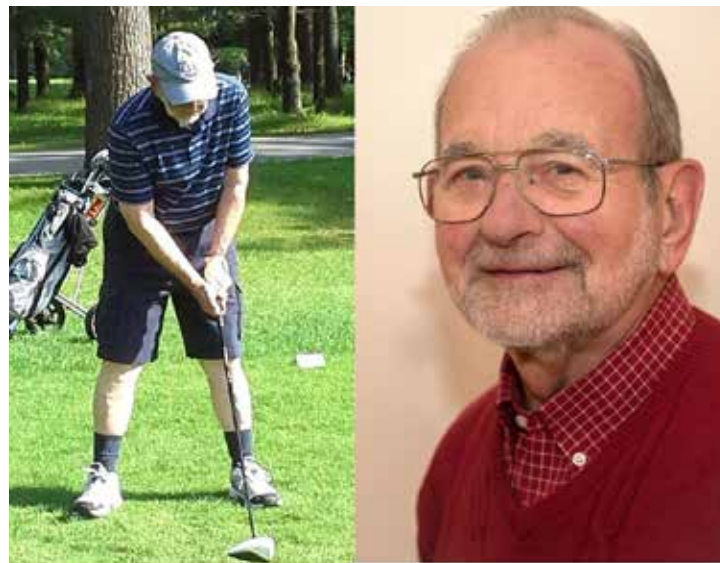
Schenectady, NY, where Don continued teaching Industrial Arts at Shaker High School. After earning a master's degree from SUNY Albany, he transitioned to a role as a guidance counselor at Fallsburg Central School. After three years there, he returned to Greenwich Central School as a guidance counselor, a position he held until his retirement in 1987.

After retiring, Don became an interviewer for the Admissions Office at Skidmore College, a role he fulfilled for 21 years. He humorously noted that by the time he retired from this position, he was interviewing students who had not yet been born when he retired from teaching.

Don's lifelong passions included woodworking particularly carving cardinals, golf, and volunteering. In retirement, he embraced new opportunities for service, including singing in the church choir, completing Formation for Ministry, serving faithfully at St. Joseph's Church, developing Van Go Transportation for Greenwich Interfaith, and coordinating its annual golf tournament. He was especially proud of shooting his age in golf with a score of 81 at Pole Valley. Don was recognized for his contributions by the Elks, the Masons, the Knights of Columbus, and Washington County, which named him "Senior of the Year."

Don had a special way of making people feel cared for, and his kindness and warmth touched everyone he met. His joyful spirit, hearty laugh, and huge hugs will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Don was predeceased by his parents, Lorin and Dagma Brooks; his first wife, Marcella "Teddy" Johnson Brooks;



his son-in-law, Scott Boyd; and four nephews. He is survived by his wife, Mary Anne Brown; daughters, Lorraine Brooks of Erie, CO, Denise McQuade (Mark) of Lincolnton, NC, Elaine Blanchet (Robert) of Albany, NY, Marcia Brooks (Ken) of Beverly Hills, FL, Julianne Girard of Clifton Park, NY; and son, Gabriel Girard (Stephanie) of Plattsburgh, NY. Though Don was an only child, he was blessed with six children, twelve grandchildren, and thirteen great-grandchildren. He is also survived by Teddy's siblings, Joyce Johnson Mead (David) and Rev. Darrell Johnson (Tash Zukowski) and many cousins, nieces, a nephew, and their families.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, December 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Greenwich, NY, followed by a Funeral Mass at 12:00 p.m. Friends are invited to a reception at the Parish Hall afterward to share memories and refreshments.

Memorial contributions in Don's name may be made to St. Joseph's Memorial Fund, 36 Bleecker St., Greenwich, NY 12834, or to Greenwich Interfaith Fellowship, Inc., P.O. Box 124, Greenwich, NY 12834.

Arrangements are under the direction of Flynn Brothers Funeral Home, Greenwich, NY.

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

Stop DWI checks

Washington County STOP-DWI Coordinator John Winchell announced today that Washington County police agencies will participate in special efforts to bring awareness to the dangers of impaired driving.

While people spend this Holiday Season celebrating with friends and family and looking forward to the blessings of a New Year, in a combined effort to bring awareness to the dangers of impaired driving, prevent injuries and save lives law enforcement officers across New York State and STOP-DWI programs will be participating in special engagement efforts. The statewide STOP-DWI High Visibility Engagement Campaign starts on December 11, 2024 and will end on January 1, 2025.

The STOP-DWI Holiday Season High Visibility Engagement Campaign is one of many statewide initiatives promoted by STOP-DWI NY and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee.

Don McLean's All-American Salem ties

William "Al" Cormier, Historian
Special to Journal & Press

After writing an article in 2022 about folk singer Don McLean who performed in Salem on July 5, 1968, I was happily surprised to receive a telephone call from Joey McGowan, collector of audio tapes and records of famous singers.

The surprise was this: He had a tape of the McLean concert in Salem and had read my article about McLean. He initially spoke with Town Historian Judy Flagg, a high school senior at that time, who attended the 1968 concert. She referred McGowan to me who offered to send CD copies of the concert for Judy Flagg, Bill Taggart and me. He also wanted to know who recorded the concert. I was skeptical, always aware of scams over the internet and telephone, but when the CDs arrived, I quickly played them. They were real, and I called Bill Taggart who told me that he recorded the concert. After singing the first two songs, McLean said he was in Salem as part of the Hudson Valley Troubadour tour, was a friend of Peter Seeger, and his manager Bill Taggart. What better confirmation of his being in Salem than in his own words.

As mentioned in my first article in 2022, McLean, while in Salem, was welcomed by a number of Salem people: Jon McClellan, Jim Carrolan and other members of the Salem Rotary Club who sponsored the event. But, as it turned out there were other locals with stories. Now added to the list of Salem contacts is the Leon Conety family story.

Jean Conety McMorris' story:

On July 4, 1968, I was about 15 and living with my parents, Leon and Viola Conety and three brothers, Mike, Jim and Brian, at 18 Thomas Street in the village of Salem. We were looking forward to the annual Fireman's 4th of July parade. My brothers were firemen and involved in the preparations. Little did I know I was about to join in the prep. Bill Taggart and Jon McClellan



were friends with my brothers. Bill and Jon stopped by that afternoon with Don McLean. He was going to ride in the parade and play his guitar. He was also going to do a concert at the carnival grounds the next day. The boys needed some posters made for Bill's convertible that Don was going to ride in.

I was considered artistic and put to work making signs. Don rode in the parade with my signs on the car. He was staying on Archibald Street with Bill Taggart and his mother. The next night we all went to the concert at the carnival grounds. Don stood on a wagon out near the road and put on his concert. He even wrote and sang a song for my dad, Leon, called the "Milkman Song." I taped the song on my reel to reel recorder. We loved the concert and never dreamed he would become so famous. When our daughter, Erin, got married, Don sent her a CD of love songs. He still remembered Salem and my Dad's song, which for some reason I taped over. I have picture of him in the parade. I was more interested at the time in getting a shot of my posters than him.

The two CDs of the McLean concert on July 5, 1978 preserve a historical moment in Salem's history. The musical program included these songs: Come All You Fair and Tender Ladies; Johnny Sands; The Leaves Roll In, The Waves Roll Out; Blow Boys Blow; Castles in the Air; Mr. Shadow; Color T.V. Blues; Careless love; Circus Song; Portuguese Song; Milkman's Matinee; Round and Round; River of Tears; Silly Songs; Old McTavish is Dead; Buffalo Skinners; Johnny McEldoo; I Put My Corduroy Britches On; Blue Mountain Lake; Wooden Soldier; Russian Song; Down By the Riverside; This Little Light of Mine; It Takes a Worried Man to Sing a Worried Song; Camp Song; All the Women Knew Him; Let Me Wander Through the Valley.

Editor's Note: *An interesting documentary on Don McLean, "The Day the Music Died: American Pie" debuted in 2022 and can be seen currently on Paramount + streaming services. It includes a great deal of content of Pete Seeger's influence on Don McLean and his life in the late 1960s and early 1970s, which was the time he performed in Salem.*

Why Johnny won't read

Warren Schultz

Special to Journal & Press

In the 50s, Rudolf Flesch wrote a bestselling book titled “Why Johnny Can’t Read.” In it, he blasted the American education system for failing to teach phonics. And though the title struck a chord, the book did little to reverse a decline in student reading scores. Today, some 70 years later the regression continues. And I have a confession to make: my reading habits have declined over the years. Even though I work in a library — two libraries, actually — I don’t read as much as I used to. Of course, at my age, I don’t do anything as much as I used to. Books pile up on my coffee table, but I do read them all eventually — when I’m not scrolling the web or checking in on social media sites. Instead of picking up a print newspaper to read with my morning coffee, I click on the online Times.

“But doesn’t that count as reading?” you ask. Reading is reading, right? No, it’s not. There is a distinct difference between reading a website and reading a book or a magazine.

A team from Universitat de València found that “leisure digital reading does not seem to pay off in terms of reading comprehension, at least, as much as traditional print reading does.” In fact, for primary and middle school learners, leisure digital reading had a negative result. Just in terms of personal observation, digital reading is not as satisfying or relaxing as paper reading.

Those who study such things recognize that screen time is a big factor in the decline of real reading — that and the Covid pandemic. I have first-hand knowledge of the decline of library visits due to Covid. While working at Skidmore’s Lucy Scribner Library during the Covid lockdown, I saw student use of the library decline dramatically. It’s only in the past year that the number of students in the library has returned to “normal.”

In America, the decline in reading is very

real. Buckle up for some startling numbers.

A 2021 survey from the Pew Research Center found that 23% of American adults have not read a book in any form in the last year. Reading for pleasure is becoming less popular among American adults, despite all its benefits. Those who do still read for pleasure are now reading less per day, as evidenced by a decrease from 23 minutes each day in 2019 to only 16 minutes in 2024. The lack of reading is especially alarming for children and adolescents in the midst of a crucial period for brain development. Another survey, conducted by the National Assessment of Educational Progress found that children aged 9 years old to 13 years old are reading for pleasure less than children in 1984 were. The recent evidence suggests that Americans of all ages have lost their love of reading for pleasure.

Of course, our lives are busy with work, school, family, or hobbies, but if most Americans have time for an average of more than six hours of screen time per day, you would think they could carve out a few minutes each day to read.

The decline in the inclination and pleasure of reading books has gotten through to teachers and professors. In a recent New York Times article, Jonathan Malesic, who teaches writing at Southern Methodist University, writes that he once assigned as many as 14 books to read during a semester.



Reading at the Library

Now he assigns none, because of the steep decline in students’ willingness to read on their own. In short, he doesn’t assign reading because his students don’t want to read. They find it increasingly difficult.

Schools must not give up on encouraging — and requiring — their students to read. Today, it seems that many colleges concentrate on preparing students for jobs, high-paying jobs if possible. Perhaps more should adopt Skidmore’s attitude touted in their motto. “Creative Thought Matters.” Their slogan is not “Getting a High-Paying Job Matters.”

Please read more on page 35

Saving lives

Michael Levy
Journal & Press

Westbound on Route 372 near Cambridge during the early morning of December 13th, another accident involving a motorized vehicle and an Amish horse-drawn buggy occurred. There were two children and two adults in that carriage. No injuries were reported and the horse also survived. But that may not be the case when another accident like this happens. The question is not “whether” someone will get killed in an accident like this. The question is actually “when?”

Roads designed for modern motorized vehicles present a unique challenge when used by horse buggies. Accidents involving motorized vehicles and Amish horse buggies can result in severe injuries or fatalities. With growing traffic on our rural roads, addressing the root causes of these accidents is essential to ensuring the safety of all road users. The reality is that these collisions are fully preventable if we want them to be! And at the same time, we can preserve the Amish way of life and maintain harmony between traditional and modern transportation modes.

Horse-drawn buggies, constructed from lightweight materials, provide minimal protection for passengers. Unlike modern vehicles, buggies are not required to meet federal standards for crashworthiness or crash compatibility. Buggies are not equipped with seat belts, airbags, or other modern safety features. When matched against the speed and mass of cars and trucks, buggies face devastating outcomes in collisions. Studies show that these accidents are more likely to occur on narrow, high-speed roads where visibility is limited.

Today’s “Random Thoughts” is a call for implementing strategies to mitigate these risks. Key suggestions include widening lanes, reducing speed differentials, adding lighting and reflectors to buggies, and restricting buggy travel on certain roads.

Widening Lanes and Lighting: One proposed solution is to widen certain two-lane



Greenwich (file photo – dj)

roads in Washington County, adding shoulders or separate lanes specifically for horse-drawn buggies. Dedicated lanes provide a safe space for buggies, reducing the chances of collisions with faster-moving vehicles. In Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, a region with a large Amish population, many roads have been updated with buggy lanes, with clear delineation for buggy traffic. Safety is further improved by the installation of overhead lighting in areas with high potential for collisions.

Reducing Speed Differentials: Every day on Washington County roadways, semi-trailers, cars, and trucks traveling more than 55 mph, race past horse-drawn buggies clip-clopping along at a 5-mph pace. Limiting the speed differential between motorized vehicles and horse-drawn buggies is a critical strategy. Setting speed limits on roads frequently used by Amish buggies can save lives. But is everyone willing to reduce the speed limits on Routes 29, 40, 372, and 61 (among other local roads) to a reasonable level to save lives? Additionally, signs warning drivers about buggy traffic might be another component of a solution.

Restricting Buggy Travel: To minimize

risks, buggy travel may need to be restricted on high-speed highways and roads with heavy traffic. For example, prohibiting horse-drawn vehicles on roads with speed limits above 45 mph or where heavy commercial traffic is prevalent can prevent potentially fatal interactions. In such cases, alternative routes or specially designated buggy-friendly roads will need to be identified.

Improved Lighting and Reflectors: Admittedly, the local Amish have increasingly adopted safety measures such as reflectors, flashing lights, and reflective tape on their buggies. These enhancements certainly improve visibility, especially during dawn, dusk, or nighttime travel. While this is a start, it is probably not enough. Personal experience shows that these measures, while better than nothing, are insufficient on dark and moonless nights.

Collaboration and Education: Amish communities need to be active participants in improving road safety. Their involvement ensures that solutions are respectful of their religious and cultural values, which often influence decisions about the use of technology. Safety is most effectively achieved

Please read more on next page

MoonCatchers at Greenwich library

Greenwich Free Library will host The MoonCatcher Project on Saturday January 11 at 1:00 pm for a MoonBee, a two-hour session for community members to come together and create MoonCatcher kits. All are welcome regardless of their sewing skills—or lack thereof!

The MoonCatcher Project has a mission to optimize girls' lives worldwide by removing barriers related to menstruation. They create MoonCatchers, washable reusable period pads, for distribution to girls around the world. The pad comes in a kit with a waterproof bag for used pads along with a drawstring bag to carry everything. It is distributed with a menstrual management

and reproductive health curriculum and a calendar so that girls understand what is happening to their bodies and can chart their cycles. MoonCatchers are more than just period pads. They're a simple yet powerful means for girls to stay in school, get an education and participate fully in their communities.

The MoonCatcher Project is based in Schenectady and was founded by Ellie von Wellsheim in 2011. The project has made an impact in over 30 countries around the world and supports eight sewing guilds in Africa. In India they established a sewing center where five women working full-time produced up to 2000 kits per month. Over

30,000 kits have been distributed in India since 2018. They have also assisted partner organizations to start other cooperatives in Pakistan, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and the Philippines.



Reading (cont.)

Reading is good for students and for those of us who have been out of school for many years. Studies have shown that there is no downside to cognitive activity, including reading. And actually, cognitive activity late in life may well turn out to be beneficial for reducing amyloid in the brain, a contributor to Alzheimer's Disease

So, what can we do to reverse this decline in reading? Libraries today are at the forefront of promoting reading. In years past,

libraries were a passive source of reading. The attitude could be described as: "Here are the books; read them if you like." Today, libraries actively encourage reading and build reading habits, especially in young people. Yet, there was a 24% decrease in in-person library visits per 100 people from 2009 to 2018.

Greenwich Free Library is doing its part with programs such as 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, the early learning Building

Blocks programs, our Summer Reading Program, our After School Story Hour, Reading with Lola, the therapy dog, and more.

For me, working in the library, handling books day after day has started me back into reading mode. Real reading. On some mornings now, I pick up a novel instead of turning on my computer. With a cup of coffee, of course.

Warren Schultz is an author and playwright who has worked in five libraries. He is an upstate native.



Buggies (cont.)

through collaboration between local governments, Amish communities, and the public. Regular meetings with all parties to review accident data and to assess the effectiveness of existing strategies can lead to continuous improvement.

Driver Education: Educating drivers about the unique characteristics of horse-drawn buggies—such as their slower speeds can significantly reduce accidents. Public service announcements, signage, and school programs can inform drivers of safe practices, including maintaining a safe distance

and passing cautiously.

Government Action: Elected officials play a critical role by securing state and federal funding to implement the changes needed to make roads safer for everyone. Infrastructure updates, enforcement of safety measures, and educational campaigns all require adequate financial support to save lives!

Preventing accidents involving motorized vehicles and Amish horse buggies requires a multifaceted approach. Balancing the needs of tradition and modernity is not always easy, but it is essential. By working togeth-

er, we can honor the Amish commitment to a simpler way of life while ensuring their safety and the safety of everyone else who uses our roads. By combining engineering solutions, education, enforcement, and community cooperation, rural communities can create safer environments for all road users. That is more than a random thought.

Michael Levy is a retired government manager residing in Greenwich NY and is employed now as a technical consultant. He is also a Commercial Pilot and a Ham Radio operator.



Bruce A. Ferguson, 83

Bruce A. Ferguson, 83, died at home on the family farm with his son, daughter and cat Percy by his side. The cause was acute myeloid leukemia.

Bruce was a true son of Salem, the sixth generation of Scottish descendants to farm in Washington County starting in the early 1800s. Bruce served for 16 years as Salem town supervisor and as town board councilman for 10 years.

Bruce graduated as salutatorian from Salem Washington Academy in 1959 and from Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, majoring in economics and rural government.

His father Stuart died suddenly before his college graduation. Bruce, the youngest of four children, came home to take care of the family's Scott Hill Farm. He never left.

Bruce was an exceptional dairy farmer and high-quality milk producer, known for his care of animals. In 1986 a national milk surplus forced many small-sized dairy farms out of business. The dairy cows were sold, a sad time for the family. Bruce retained the farmland and raised Beefalo, a cross between Bison and domestic cattle.

In 1990, Bruce reinvented himself by entering local politics. He led a great number of committees and held a number of county and town positions in the decades that followed, with much of his time volunteered.

Bruce was known as a kind man with a good heart and a wry sense of humor. He could be quiet and reserved but grew into leadership.

Some of the causes he dedicated his time to were protecting the area's farmland, supporting local railroads, and preserving Washington County's historic covered bridges.

Bruce was a founding member of the Courthouse Preservation Association, which adapted the shuttered county courthouse and jail in Salem into a community kitchen and space. He also helped to establish the

Georgi Museum along the Battenkill River in Shushan.

He served for 10 years on the Salem Board of Education, was a licensed realtor and a certified New York State assessor, chaired the Washington County Board of Assessors and was vice chair of the Washington County Board of Supervisors.

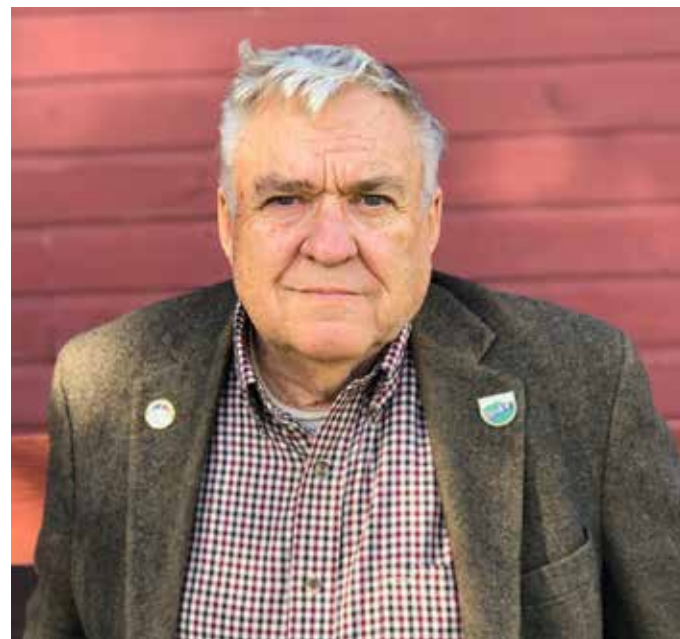
He supported local development and tourism as director of Adirondack North Country Association, director of the Washington County Local Development Corporation, board member of Lakes to Locks Passage, and member of the Office for Aging Advisory Council.

In 1997, he was named chair of the Warren-Washington Counties Industrial Development Agency. For his work creating the industrial park in Kingsbury, a road was named in his honor.

He also was a Washington County committee chair for solid waste, public safety, and planning and community development, and he represented the county at the New York State Association of Counties.

Bruce, a licensed EMT, volunteered for Salem Rescue Squad as first responder and ambulance driver and also served as squad president. For many years, he was a trustee for Evergreen and Cossayuna Lake cemeteries.

He loved the Grand Ol' Opry, local history and picnics at Scott Lake. Many of Bruce's closest kinships were with his animal friends, including his childhood cow Princess, the family dog Thumper, and his emotional support cat Percy.



He is predeceased by his father Stuart and mother Isabel (Stewart) Ferguson, and sisters Lois Hill of Maine and Marian Williams of Pennsylvania. Survivors include son Matthew Ferguson, daughter Kirsten Ferguson, brother Donald Ferguson of Virginia, and many friends, nieces and nephews.

Thanks to the nurses at Glens Falls Hospital C.R. Wood Cancer Center, who were very kind to Bruce and whom he loved.

A celebration of life will be held in 2025. Email brucefergusonmemorial@gmail.com for details. Contributions may be made to Historic Salem Courthouse P.O. Box 140, Salem, NY 12865, the Salem Rescue Squad, P.O. Box 360, Salem, NY 12865 or to assist the family at <https://gofund.me/9d0998b9>.

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

The McClellan-Gariepy Funeral Home, Inc. in Salem is assisting the family with arrangements.

On Substack

Did you know we have a *daily* Substack newsletter with everyday news, such as local sports results, obituaries, Letters to the Editor and event coverage? And much more.

This is free, whether you are a paid sub-

scriber to this newspaper or not.

If you become a paid subscriber to the Substack newsletter, you can get our e-editions of The Greenwich Journal AND Salem Press before they mail!

Go to JournalANDPress.com to join – more than 600 locals already have!

Paul D. Phillips, 73

Paul D. Phillips, 73, passed away on Dec. 3, 2024, at his home in Salem, New York, with his loving family by his side, just four days before his 74th birthday.

He was born on Dec. 7, 1950, in Grafton, New York, the son of George Phillips and Annie Burdick, moving to Granville at a

young age.

As he grew up, he developed an abiding love of the outdoors and participated in a wide range of activities, including hiking, snowshoeing, camping, fishing, spelunking, E-biking and golfing.

Paul enjoyed the company of many pet dogs over the years, providing the care and attention the canines – including Easy, Terra, Visa, Seren, Suzie and Jack – loved.

Paul was a talented musician as well, playing old country and folk tunes on piano and harmonica.

He received a BA in psychology from SUNY Oneonta.

He was an HVAC designer and contractor, employed for many years by Apollo Heating of Schenectady, New York, and other companies.

He enjoyed traveling and especially loved the time he and his wife, Brenda, spent in southern Arizona.

In addition to Brenda, Paul is survived by two sons, Matthew Phillips (Laranda) of Gansevoort, New York, and Nicholas of Valley Falls, New York, grandchildren Ciana, Elias, Cole, Kaelyn, Wyatt and Beckett, and siblings Edward Phillips (Mary Jo) of Parker's Prairie, Minnesota, Steven Philips (Catherine) of Petersburg, New York, Kevin Phillips (Collette) of Charleton, New York, William



Hallock (Detsy) of Florida, Jonathan Hallock of Texas and Kimberly Jones (Lloyd) of Granville. He will be missed by many nieces and nephews.

Paul was predeceased by beloved brother, Gregory Phillips of San Diego, California.

In late spring, there will be a private celebration of life on family land, with a tree planting in honor of Paul. There will be no calling hours.

The family suggests donations in Paul's name to Merck Forest at 3270 VT-315, Rupert, VT 05768 <https://www.merckforest.org/product/donation> or to Second Chance Animal Shelter at 1779 VT Route 7A, Arlington, VT 05250 <https://2ndchanceanimalcenter.org/>

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

The McClellan-Gariepy Funeral Home, Inc. in Salem is assisting the family with arrangements.

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The Board of Education of the Greenwich Central School District invites the submission of Separate Sealed Bid Proposals to furnish materials and labor to complete the 100K Reconstruction project all in accordance with the plans and specifications for the following category of work:

MECHANICAL

Sealed Bid Proposals will be received until 10am prevailing time on 12/17/2024 at the Middle Grade Cafeteria, 10 Grey Ave, Greenwich NY 12834, 518-692-9542, at which time and place the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Any bid may be withdrawn without prejudice prior to the official bid opening time or any publicized postponement thereof.

Any bid received after the time and date stated above will be returned to the bidder unopened.

The bidding documents may be examined, free of charge, at the office of MOSAIC ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS, The Frear Building, 2 Third Street, Suite 440, Troy, New York 12180, telephone (518) 479-4000.

Digital Bidding Documents: Complete digital sets of Bidding Documents may be obtained online as a download for a one-hundred (\$100.00) non-refundable deposit at the following website: mosaicaaplanroom.com.

Hardcopy Bidding Documents: One (1) complete set of hard copy Bidding Documents may be obtained from REVplans, 28 Church Street, Unit 7, Warwick, NY 10990 Tel: 1-845-651-3845, through mosaicaaplanroom.com upon depositing the sum of \$100 (one hundred dollars) for each combined set of documents. Checks or money orders shall be made payable to Greenwich Central School District. Any bidder requiring documents to be shipped shall make arrangements with the printer and

pay for all packaging and shipping costs. The deposit will be refunded ONLY to those bidders who submit a bona fide bid proposal in accordance with the terms in the "Information for Bidders" and who return a complete set of Bidding Documents in COMPLETE, UNMARKED, and NOT TORN condition to REV within thirty (30) days after the award of contract(s) covered by such Bidding Documents, or the rejection of such bid(s). Non-bidders, including material suppliers and subcontractors, as well as plan holders who do not submit bid proposals, WILL NOT be eligible for a refund.

Note: REVplans (mosaicaaplanroom.com) is the designated location and means for distributing and obtaining all bid package information. Only those Contract Documents obtained in this manner will enable a prospective bidder to be identified as an official plan holder of record. REVplans takes no responsibility for the completeness of Contract Documents obtained from other sources. Contract Documents obtained from other sources may not be accurate or may not contain addenda that may have been issued.

Addenda: All bid addenda will be transmitted to registered plan holders via email and will be available at mosaicaaplanroom.com. Plan holders who have paid for hard copies of the bid documents will need to make the determination if hard copies of the addenda are required for their use and coordinate directly with the printer for hard copies of addenda to be issued. There will be no charge for registered plan holders to obtain hard copies of the bid addenda.

Each Bidder shall prepare their bid proposal, along with a bid security, in accordance with the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the "Information for Bidders".

Attention of bidders is particularly called to the requirements as to conditions of employment to be observed and the minimum wage rates to be paid under the contracts.

No bidder may withdraw their bid within 45

days after the date of the actual bid opening.

The Board of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities or defects in such bid either before or after the bid opening.

By Order of Board of Education

Greenwich Central School District

Date: 12-6-24

Rachel Logan, District Clerk

All interested bidders can attend this pre-bid conference to discuss the project scope, completion schedule, and any other items that may arise.

PROCEDURE FOR ACCESS TO BUILDING TO EXAMINE SITE OF WORK

Bidders can inspect the work locations before submitting bids. This can be done any Monday through Friday, except holidays, during hours when there will be School District Staff Personnel in the building.

Unless directed otherwise, immediately upon entering the building, report to the School Office. This page of the specification may be used to identify you as a bidder. Follow instructions of School Personnel and keep interruptions to teaching activities to a minimum.

Building may be inspected by bidders at pre-arranged times during normal school hours. To make arrangements for inspection, call:

Frank Pascarella – Facilities Director

518-692-6403

fpascarella@greenwichcsd.org

CHURCH SERVICES

At Centenary

Centenary United Methodist Church will be celebrating Christmas Eve with a service at 5 p.m. on December 24. The church is located at the corner of Church Street and Gray Avenue in Greenwich. All are welcome to join in-person or on a Facebook Livestream. See their Facebook page or [sites.google.com/](https://www.google.com/)

[view/centenaryumcgreenwich](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=centenaryumcgreenwich) for further information. Inquiries can also be sent to centenaryumcgreenwich@gmail.com.

You can also join the church every Sunday at 9:30 for their service, in-person and on Facebook Live. Sunday School is offered weekly during the service for elementary

age children.

They have two musical groups: a vocal choir sings every Sunday and practices on Monday at 7 p.m. A bell choir plays several times a year and practices on Mondays at 6 p.m.

Various Bible studies are offered. A Thursday night group meets at 7 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. This is a come-when-you-can group; all are welcome.

RC churches

Mass at Holy Cross Catholic Church on Sunday is held at 8:15 AM; at St. Patrick's at 11:30 AM, and at Immaculate Conception in Hoosick Falls on Saturday at 4 PM and Sunday at 10 AM. Weekday Masses are at 9 AM at Holy Cross on Tuesday, at St. Patrick's on Wednesday, and Immaculate Conception on Monday. At week three of Advent, the focus is to Practicing Peace with your heart, soul, and mind.

The Christmas Schedule is as follows: Tuesday, December 24; Vigil Mass at 2 PM at Holy Cross and at 4 PM at Immaculate Conception. Only St. Patrick's will hold a Christmas Day Mass and it will be at 10 AM. Tuesday, December 31, The Solemnity of Mary vigil Mass will be held only at St. Patrick's. There will be no Masses on January 1.

Holy Cross and St. Patrick's have offer-

ing envelopes available at the back of the Church.

For more information including access to the bulletin, please visit the Parishes website at www.battenkillcatholic.org where people can access the Lifelong Faith Formation materials, and much more.

The holidays can be especially difficult for families having a difficult time meeting their needs. The Salem food pantry is helping about 60 families. Please remember those who are struggling by donating to your local food pantry.

More holiday services

The Churches of Shushan will have a 5 pm Christmas Eve service at the United Presbyterian Church in Shushan. All are welcome to attend this special and joyous service.

The Hebron United Presbyterian Church will have a Christmas Eve service on December 24 beginning at 7pm. The Church is located in West Hebron at 3153 County Route 30, Salem. All are welcome to attend the service.

Saint Luke's Episcopal Church in Cambridge invites everyone to share in the joy of the newborn Jesus with Holy Eucharist Rite II on Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24. The service begins at 5:30pm and will include a wonderful re-telling of the story of the first Christmas by the children of the parish. All are welcome. There will be

no service on Christmas Day. Sunday Eucharist is celebrated weekly at 10 AM.

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church of Salem Christmas week services include Sunday, Dec. 22, 10:30 am, Advent 4: Morning prayer. Christmas Eve Service of Carols, Dec. 24, 4pm, with Very Rev. Gary Kriss celebrating. Wednesday, Dec. 25, 9 am, Christmas Day, Morning Prayer via YouTube and Sunday, Dec. 29, 10:30am Morning prayer. All are welcome.

Tuesday, Dec. 24, 7pm Candlelight Christmas Eve service at **First United Presbyterian** ("white church") Salem. Communion, carols, fellowship. All are invited to share in the celebration of the nativity.

On Tuesday December 24th at 6pm, join **Salem Community Fellowship Church** for a time of fellowship to celebrate the joy-

ous occasion of when Jesus Christ was born that one silent night in Bethlehem. Salem Community Fellowship Church, 204 Main Street, Salem.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Greenwich Sunday, Dec. 22 at 10am, will be a special lessons and carols service which will include festive songs, readings and the congregation participating in decorating for Christmas. St. Paul's will celebrate the Holy Night of Christmas at 4pm on December 24, Christmas Eve. All are welcome to the service at the Church at 147 Main St., Greenwich.

These church listings are only a few of the local services for Christmas week. Please call or look online for other local Church services.

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