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Greenwich Journal

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24 FULL-SIZE PAGES!
APRIL 16-30, 2023



GREAT BOUQUET 13



GCS PROM COURT 13



VERY KIND KIDS 5



B'FAST 20

SOLVE 20

Historic home's reno

Abandoned decades ago and bought for \$15K

Hidden in a cul-de-sac along the Battenkill River off of Mill Road in Greenwich now sits the restored home of what was a shell of memories for some families in the community. Bethany Moss Parks has been restoring what she has dubbed the Mill Hollow Project. She believes this area was likely an original part of the town since people typically settle along waterways and then spread out.



Please read more on page 3

Down on Main Street

It's impossible not to notice – there are so many vacant storefronts locally. Two of our columnists tackle the issue. Hopefully, this is the beginning of a conversation we need to have as a community to help create a more sustainable Main Street.



Please read more inside this issue



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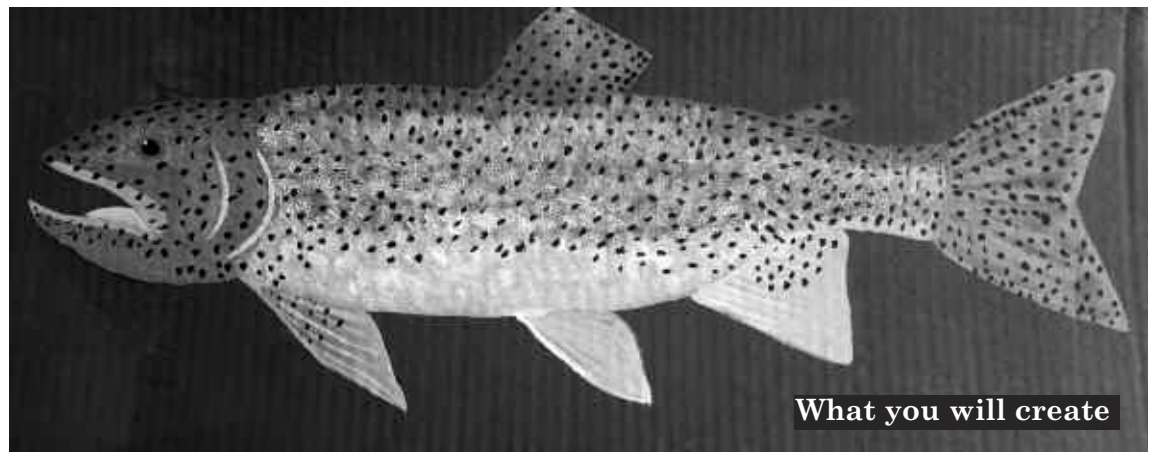
Sip & Paint event benefits museum

The Slate Valley Museum will host its spring session of Sip & Paint on Slate on Friday, April 28 from 7-9pm.

This event is the second of six unique, stand-alone sessions that the museum will offer this year. Painters use a slate tile sourced directly from the Slate Valley as their canvas and create their own painted works with step-by-steps guidance and encouragement from art teacher Darcie Parrott. For this workshop, attendees will paint a colorful Rainbow Trout.

Pre-registration for Sip & Paint on Slate is required. Tickets are \$40 per person and include all art materials, one beverage ticket, and

a selection of delicious, locally and regionally sourced snacks or finger foods. This month's event will feature foods donated by Consider Bardwell Farm, B&G Foods, Vermont Creamery, Argyle Cheese Farmer, BJ's Warehouse, Lactalis American Group/President Cheese, Nuns of New Skete, and Walmart. A variety of alcoholic drink options have been donated by Adirondack Winery, Empire Winery, Slyboro Cider House,



Slate Town Brewery, and the Liquor Stop. A selection of non-alcoholic options will also be available. Anyone planning to consume alcoholic beverages should come prepared to show a valid ID.

Space is limited. Those interested in registering should contact Museum Associate Wendy Bordwell at 518-642-1417 or associate@slatevalleymuseum.org.

Greenwich Eagle Scout honored

Brian Wells, Jr., 18, Eagle Scout for Boy Scout Troop 127 in Greenwich was honored on March 19 at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center with a Court of Honor Eagle Scout Ceremony surrounded by scouts, family and friends.

Brian completed primitive campsites for his Eagle Project with the support of the Troop and his parents Brian, Sr., and Bonnie Wells (pictured).

"Brian created three primitive campsites at Christ the King Center," Scoutmaster Scott Campbell said. "They overlook the lake and he had to clear the woods, create tent sites with fire pit and fire ring; he mulched the sites and paths leading in off the main trail and create signage. It was over 60 hours of work he coordinated with all the materials donated."

Brian Jr. plans to attend Gordon College in Massachusetts in the fall and will continue as a Scout Reserve helping out Troop 125.

Here is what Brian, Jr., had to say about the honor:

Q: What are you plans at Gordon College in the fall?

BW: *I will be studying in the pre-law program. I hope to attend law school and intend*

to become a lawyer in the family court system.

Q: How do you feel about being a Scout?

BW: *Being a Scout has given me a great opportunity to be a part of an organization that focuses on the development of young people. I have met wonderful people, some of which have been mentors to me, and have made some life long connections. The values that Scouting passed on encourage good citizenship, community service, and leadership.*

Q: How has it been helpful in your life?

BW: *Scouting has given me opportunities to serve others and enjoy experience in leadership positions. I, again, was able to meet some wonderful people, all of which contributed to who I have become today. The camping activities I participated have left some great lessons and memories I will never forget.*

Q: Would you encourage others to join?

BW: *Scouting offers great opportunity for personal growth and achievement. As a Scout led Troop, we also have a lot of fun participating in recreational activities such as camping, canoeing, swimming, skiing, fire building, and more. I highly encourage others who are eligible to look into Scouting. If anyone has any interest in Scouting, contact our Troop at troop6127@gmail.com.*

Q: Anyone you'd like to thank?

BW: *I would like to give a special thanks to Tim Banfield, Cheryl Fearon, Bridget Lent, Isaac Sievers, Zach Lent, Scott Campbell, Brian and Bonnie Wells, and my fellow Troop members.*

His father, Brian, Sr., added:

"Scouting has been a



wonderful program for Brian J. It has given him the opportunity to learn so much about himself. He has learned skills that will serve him well in life. I have seen him blossom from an unsure pre-teen into a confident young man in a large part because of the scouting program.

"While I am very proud of him getting to this point, I also realize that he has been blessed to have great mentors and leaders along the way. I am so grateful for the merit badge counselors, camp counselors, den leaders, Scout masters, committee chairs and fellow scouts who have had such a positive influence on him."

—Darren Johnson



Clay Art exhibit

Saratoga Clay Arts Center's Schacht Gallery presents "Architectonic: Wesley Brown & Bryan Hopkins," a duo exhibition showcasing two artists who are pushing the material to its limits. It will run through April 29, 2023. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is free. The Center is at 167 Hayes Road in Schuylerville.

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'Mill Hollow Project' takes shape

Samantha Simmons
Journal & Press

Hidden in a cul-de-sac along the Battenkill River off of Mill Road in Greenwich now sits the restored home of what was a shell of memories for some families in the community.

Bethany Moss Parks has been restoring what she has dubbed the Mill Hollow Project. She believes this area was likely an original part of the town since people typically settle along waterways and then spread out.

Construction for the duplex home began in August 2022. In just nine months, Parks and her team of contractors, electricians, floorers, and more, have been able to make the homes a lively living space.

In years past, the house has been bought but abandoned before any major work had been done. Now, as you enter the finished apartment, remnants of the original home can be seen. On the wall by the front door and in the kitchen lies the original floorboards from the kitchen as a backsplash. On the second floor, she was able to keep the original floorboards though filled with minor dings and scratches, she said the house has more character this way.

"It's meant to be lived in," she said, "It feels comfortable."

Most of the material Parks uses, down to the knobs on the drawers, are recycled from past projects. Even some of the appliances found throughout the apartments like the sinks come from sites like Facebook Marketplace.

Neighbors are always stopping by to check out the progress on the homes. In fact, Parks said that she recently hosted an open house to let community members who were curious about the work being done and past residents see what has been done with the duplex that



has sat vacant for years. Gathering in the newly renovated apartment were dozens of people reminiscing over memories and fawning over the work that has put into a home that has been abandoned for 32 years to make it a livable space again.

She gives a lot of credit on this project to her contractors, Kevin Millington, and Thomas Terpening. She said, "He's [Terpening] magnificent. I gave them the plans, and nothing phases him. He continues to be even keel. Nothing rattles him."

When she found the listing and the \$15,000 price tag for the building, Parks knew she had to take this project on. Once work began, many who came to give repair estimates thought she would demolish the house. The whole back side of the house needed to be rebuilt and the dirt floor basement had sunken, but that did not scare her away.

It was during COVID-19 that she met her now boyfriend, Mark Samu, who had restored and flipped over a dozen houses with his late wife. He gave her a push to take this on. She said this passion project was what she needed during this time of isolation.

"It was so crazy. You could literally

walk through the floors," Parks said. The house that once had rotten floors and ceilings now has sustainable heating and cooling throughout both units.

William Godfrey was a past resident of the home. His daughters Sherry and Stacey Godfrey stopped by to be caught up to speed on the renovations. While he has not seen the inside in person since it has been redone, his daughters share photos from the Mill Hollow Projects Facebook page where Parks posts frequent updates and photos. They say, "He thinks it is a wonderful thing."

Social media has been a way for Parks to incorporate some creativity outside of interior design aspects of the project. She uses Instagram, TikTok, and Facebook to share progress on the project and to engage interested community members.

"What a project this has been," she said. Next door is a blue house, Parks owns this one too. She is hopeful work will begin on it next year. With the same slate roofing and foundation, she knows and looks forward to what she is getting herself into with this next project.

Parks said she did not think restoring and developing properties would become something she invested her time and money into on a regular basis but, "Everyone appreciates it, and it is fun saving houses," Parks said. She plans to have both units rented out by May.

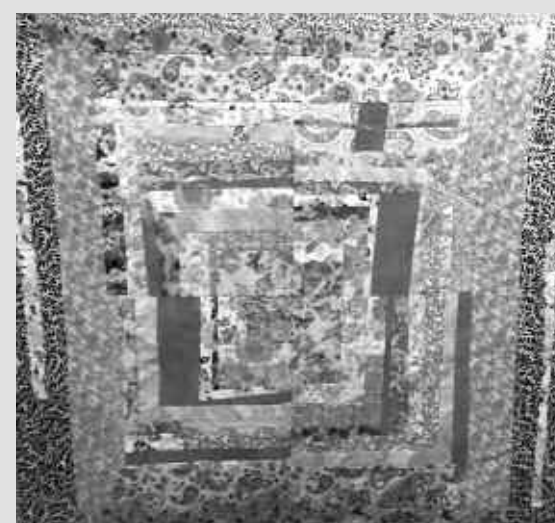
Sitting in the apartment, which she just received the first month rent for, in her "Keep it funky" hat, she said, "I don't want it to be perfect. I just want it to be a nice livable space."



Quilts on display

A Small Gallery Exhibit by Maud Maynard, "Quilt Like No One is Looking," will happen May 5 - May 30. An opening reception is Saturday, May 6, 3-5 p.m., at the Valley Artisans Market's "Small Gallery" located at 25 East Main Street (Rte 372) Cambridge. The public is invited. Gallery hours at VAM are Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm. For more information, call Valley Artisans Market at 518-677-2765. To receive their monthly newsletter for future shows, sign up at valleyartisansmarket.com.

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



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Finding our own stability

Teresa M. King
Journal & Press

If we depend on the outer world for stability, we will be hard pressed to find any. If we turn to the natural world, we will find an endless amount of support. Open to see with new eyes. Life is malleable. It is through perspective and free will that we create new life.

Nature can help us build a new foundation. Mountains are wonderful examples of stability. They have a wide base and continue to stand, open to the changes the elements bring. Sit by a calm lake; allow its serenity to fill your mind and body. Take in the boundless beauty and freedom of the sky.

Feel the unlimited potential that exists in this large space. Open to the deep peace of the stars. They are one of the few constants we have in life.

There are many other ways to create stability. Some come through Silence, by connecting with our Soul, by knowing our Truth and by creating life with Joy.

If you sit alone in silence, you will be amazed to see how much guidance, clarity and peace you receive. If you practice this on a regular basis, you will feel stronger, much more confident in yourself and be far less affected by the exhausting chaos of the outer world.

Open to know your Soul, as deeply as possible, by asking yourself these questions: What lights me up from the inside? What do I need to do before I die? What brings me deep peace? What essences in life are non-negotiable? For me, it is freedom!

Know your larger Truths. You can start this process by identifying what you know to be true about yourself and what you need in your life. Keep asking, what else is true? Once you start this process, more will surface. See how much you can discover about yourself.

Consciously create your life with Joy by asking yourself What brings me joy? Do I give joy to

myself on a regular basis? Spend time identifying ways you can do this on a small scale and on a large scale.

We are always free to create new experiences. Live outside the box. Maybe that proverbial glass isn't half full or half empty. Maybe it's bottomless. Have at it!

Teresa King is currently working on her first book about her ancestors. She can be reached at teresaking1@live.com or at <https://thelargerpicture.com>



They have good character

A little bit of kindness goes a long way. A little recognition goes a long way as well. The Kindness Award recognizes third grade students exemplifying traits of generosity, teamwork, compassion, and ethics. The students are nominated by teachers and staff for the Kindness Award. April's Kindness Award recognizes Cassidy Eastman in Mr. Brian Talmadge's class, and Paul Snyder in Mrs. Stacia Bonanno's class.

Cassidy Eastman's Nomination: As the saying goes, "Treat everyone with politeness and kindness not because they're nice, but because you are." Cassidy truly represents the essence and embodiment of this quote. Cassidy has been consistently kind and respectful to peers and adults throughout the year. In her own quiet way, she helps others in need to simply help. The motivation behind such politeness and kindness comes from within, for never a word is spoken afterward in searching for recognition or reward. Cassidy leads her peers by example with a positive atti-

tude and consistently always taking the right actions. All of these examples and attributes make Cassidy remarkable and truly kind.

Paul Snyder's Nomination: On a daily basis, Paul exemplifies what it means to be kind. He supports his peers when they need help with directions, whether it's a word problem or organizing their belongings. If a friend forgets an item in another class, Paul will pick it up and deliver it to them. His warmhearted ways are noticed by classmates and teachers alike. Paul is known for being positive, thoughtful, calm, and easy-going.



Order a great dinner

The monthly fundraising dinner at the Cambridge Food Pantry, "Loaves & Fishes," is being planned for Saturday, April 22. The menu will include chicken parmesan with pasta, homemade bread, salad and a dessert. Meals may be eaten inside or taken out to enjoy at 59 South Park St. (across from the school bus garage) in Cambridge, NY between 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.

Co-op cleanup

Join the Cambridge Food Co-op for an Earth Day event: cleaning up the organization's adopted section of County Route 59. Twice a year, the Co-op encourages members and residents of the community to get out and help keep the roadside free of litter.

Participants will meet at the Co-op at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 22, 2023, before carpooling/caravanning to sections along the road. Rain date is Sunday, April 23, 2023

The Co-op will provide helpers with orange vests and trash bags. Volunteers should plan to wear bright colors and layer for the weather. Bring your own gloves, snacks, and water.

Registration is helpful, so that we can plan to have enough vests. Participants must be 12 years of age or older. Please visit www.cambridgefoodcoop.com to learn more and register.

The Cambridge Food Co-op is a community-owned grocery store that sells local, natural, and organic produce and meat, bulk foods, wellness products, and more. It's been on Main Street in Cambridge for 45 years! The Co-op is located at 1 West Main Street, Cambridge, NY.

SUNY ADK 5K race

The Glens Falls Rotary Foundation is hosting its 11th Annual 5K Wellness Run/Walk on Saturday, April 22, 2023 at Suny Adirondack, Bay Road, Queensbury, NY. If you can and would like to run with us on race day, click here to register. If you cannot join us in person, this year, we are also providing an opportunity to run or walk VIRTUALLY during the month of April. If we can't be together in-person, the fun and focus on health and well-being is as great as ever!

This race is a virtual 5K, meaning you can run/walk it wherever and whenever (from 9am Saturday, April 1st to 12pm Saturday, April 22nd if you want. We have added a 1-mile fun run/walk, so people of all abilities can join in. To chart your course, go to <https://legacy.usatf.org/routes/index.asp>. This year the event has three great beneficiaries: Adirondack Vets House, Inc.; Adirondack Vets House, Inc. Tri-County Literacy; trilitcenter.org and The Charles R. Wood Theater; Charles R. Wood Theater

Adirondack Vets House, Inc. works with

homeless and at-risk veterans in Northern Saratoga, Warren, Hamilton, and Washington Counties and provides a safe, stable, and supportive longer-term living environment that prepares them for an independent and productive life.

Tri-County Literacy improves lives by fostering literacy skills among members of Warren, Washington, and Saratoga counties through practical, learner-centered education that provides opportunities for independence and economic mobility.

The Charles R. Wood Theater is a venue that promotes cultural and artistic endeavors within the greater Glens Falls area.

Whether you are an experienced runner or a novice, the Rotary 5K Wellness Walk/Run provides an opportunity to test your running skills and have fun. Challenge yourself, your family and friends in a run or walk in your very own neighborhood or anywhere in the world to show your support!

For information or questions, contact the race committee at GFRotary5k@gmail.com.

Down on Main Street

Darren Johnson
Journal & Press

It's in this newspaper's best interest to have healthy Main Streets in our towns and villages, especially Greenwich, where the bulk of our readers are and where this paper has the deepest historical connection, but also why not Salem, Cambridge and Schuylerville, too?

In case you don't know, newspapers have two primary revenue sources – sales of actual copies and ads. (Free newspapers only have the latter.) And where do ads come from? Businesses.

But not just any business. What has happened in our towns is corporate owned-businesses come in (Dollar General, for example), and what incentive do they have to advertise in what to their big-city HQ execs seems like a *random* newspaper?

These corporate-owned businesses are often at the edge of commerce centers, taking customers from them. Frankly, a lot of these corporate-owned businesses look pretty run-down, but who is there to complain to? Even when they build a new location, it seems to lose its luster in just a few years. Several older Cumberland Farms could use a power washing.

Without the traffic in the business districts, how can a mom-and-pop business flourish? Not to mention that the corporate-owned businesses take business away from the mom-and-pops.

I regularly read old issues of *The Journal* for the "Through the Decades" column, and, frankly, I'm a bit jealous of the past. The papers were full of ads. Let's say, fixed to inflation, those 20 or so ads were worth, conservatively, \$150 each. That would be a revenue stream of \$3000 per issue – not to mention that the paper had many more paid subscribers back then.

But now we have a lot of vacant storefronts, and I'll get calls to cover a ribbon cutting when one is to be populated – but deep inside, I know it's for naught. It's the equivalent of interviewing Elise Stefanik's opponent during election season. They talk a good game, and it's an obligation to



interview them, but they are not always able to see the bigger picture.

If you're going to open a business on a small-town Main Street in the year 2023, it should meet these requirements:

- The owner needs to be present early and often. A complaint I hear about some businesses is people would like to patronize them, but they have inconsistent hours. What a bummer if you go to a place at a relatively normal time – and it's closed! To make your business habit-forming, it needs to be open at convenient times for would-be customers.

- You can no longer rely on having low-paid hourly workers. They aren't as common as they used to be. The owner will have to actually work the business.

- Be fast and be ready! People are busy – that's why they go to the corporate places. Not everyone has time to wait a long time for an order. I hate going to a small business, often as the only customer there, and feel ignored as the proprietor is doing other things. Customers first!

- You should have an online element or some other side gig for your business. You will not make enough money off of walk-ins.

- Create buzz by having a high-quality product at a fair price.

- Actually create a business that there's a need for. Don't think your love is everyone's love.

- Advertise! And not just on social media, which can be an echo chamber. Social media gives one the impression that "everyone" knows something, but that's not true at all. You will need to do traditional marketing – press releases, display ads and so on.

Reviving Main Street requires the right combination of businesses, so they all bring in traffic and feed each other.

Maybe landlords, too, could consider lowering rents. This isn't the hopping 1990s. For a business to succeed, they will need to be lean in the first year or two. Landlords – their success is your success. You could raise the rent after the tenant gets a footing. If a business isn't successful after a couple of years, it probably never will be.

But only lower rents for the right types of businesses – those that do create synergy with other businesses nearby.

Perhaps the Chamber of Commerce or some other entity could advise prospective businesses. Review their plans (it seems many new businesses don't even have a business plan!) and give them a "seal of approval" to go ahead, if the plan seems decent.

(This is America, and a person should be allowed to spend their money any way they want, even on a bad business plan, but having a review process will at least offer some feedback. Many new business owners are swept up by their own optimism, and are unable to see potential pitfalls. A friendly give-and-take would at least temper expectations. It's slow-and-steady that wins the race in a small town.)

Schuylerville holds popular "Conversations" amongst the business community, and it's a great think tank for their Main Street (actually, it's Broad Street there; also Ferry and some others). Those would be helpful in other areas. Maybe our excellent Library in Greenwich can host something similar? I'd consider co-moderating.

I know grants are coming to help Greenwich's Main Street – the hard work of those who are making that happen is impressive and extraordinary – but the grants are mostly about *buildings*. Not what is *inside* those buildings.

Let's open up the dialogue about what we need here. It can't hurt to talk.

Contact Darren Johnson at editor@journalandpress.com.



Chicken parm to go

The Easton Methodist Church, 12053 State Route 40, Easton, will have a Chicken Parmesan Dinner to Go on Thursday, April 27, from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. The dinner, including the delicious chicken parm, pasta, salad, bread and dessert, will be take-out (drive thru-pickup) only to be picked up at the church. The cost is \$15.00. Reservations are necessary by April 24. To leave your order, call (518) 531-4558 and leave a message or email eastonchurch126@gmail.com. Visit www.eastonumc.org for information. The library is located at 1074 State Route 40, Greenwich (Easton), NY 12834. The library is handicapped accessible. Please call the library at 518-692-2253 with any questions.

Student artist

In February, Fidelis Health Care hosted a coloring contest to promote National Children's Dental Health Month. Each participating school was invited to submit an entry from the grade divisions PreK - 1st grade; 2nd & 3rd grade; 4th, 5th & 6th grade.

Sam Russo's work was selected from hundreds of entries in the grade 4-6 division in Washington County. Sam is Salem's first winner in the history of the contest. He was recognized for his creative efforts with a surprise visit from Fidelis Care's Community Relations Specialist Marisa Joseph, who presented Sam's artistic efforts with a trophy and a Crayola Markers Class-pack.

Pictured: Fidelis Care's Community Relations Specialist Marisa Joseph, Sam Russo and 6th Grade Teacher Suzanne Washburn.



Extra-'Ordinary' cast in Schuylerville

Schuylerville Community Theater presents its Spring musical *Ordinary Days* on April 21, 22 and 23rd. The production will be directed by Stephanie Willis and under the musical direction of Carol Hawks.

Ordinary Days is the captivating story of what happens when frazzled and uptight graduate student Deb loses the notebook that contains all of her notes for her thesis somewhere on the streets of New York. Little does she know that Warren, the struggling artist and professional cat sitter who finds and returns the notebook to her, will have such a profound effect on her life. And meanwhile, their actions affect Jason and Claire, a couple inching toward

marriage who ultimately can't seem to completely figure each other out because of an unspeakable tragedy from years ago.

The intimate cast of four features Brian Fitzgerald as Jason (front left), Barbara Zanoni as Claire (front right), Carly LaMay as Deb (back left), and Jack Adams as Warren (back right). All four actors are making their official SCT debut in this production.

For tickets call 518-695-5480 (seating is general admission and you will pay at the door); \$22 adult / \$18 Seniors and Students. The performance venue will be the Saratoga Town Hall building in the heart of Schuylerville.



\$500 for 600 words

The Old Saratoga Historical Association will award the Francis Ostrander Scholarship of \$500 to a member of the senior class at Schuylerville Central High School who will be attending a two or four year college in the fall. A \$350 scholarship will be awarded to the runner-up. Applicants must complete a 600-word essay on one of two topics, which are: *The role Philip Schuyler played in the development of Old Saratoga* OR *How living in an historic village or area has influenced my life.*

Submit applications by May 15 to Patricia Peck, 178 Wagman's Ridge, Saratoga Springs NY 12866. A short statement with the name, address, and career plans of the applicant and the college that the applicant will attend should accompany the essay. Announcement of the scholarship recipients will be made at commencement.

Frances Ostrander was a charter and life member of the Old Saratoga Historical Association who worked diligently for nearly fifty years to raise funds and secure furnishings for the Philip Schuyler House and to assist in giving tours of this historic landmark.

The Association provides programs and activities that help people understand and appreciate the historical significance of the Schuylerville area.

For further information call 518-584-4129.

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Writers group

Interested in getting together with other writers? Have you always wanted to giving writing a try? The Bancroft Public Library in Salem is starting the Bancroft Writing Group which will meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The next is Tuesday, April 25th. The group is for ages 16+ and will meet from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. The group will be self-driven depending on the interests of the members of the group. Come join us on the 11th and, if you'd like, bring a piece of writing to share.

Easton Library meets

The Easton Library announced a Board of Trustees meeting will be held Monday, April 17th at 6:30 pm, at Easton Library. The public is welcome to attend. Everyone who utilizes the services of the Easton Library and has an interest in this vital resource for the Easton community is encouraged to attend.

The library is located at 1074 State Route 40, Greenwich (Easton), NY 12834. The library is handicapped accessible. Please call the library at 518-692-2253 with any questions.

Petition workshop

Washington County Democratic Committee Chair Alan Stern will hold a workshop on how to complete a valid petition. Training includes laws pertaining to gathering signatures and filling out a valid form. Petitions are required to get candidates for office on the ballot.

The workshop will be held Monday, April 17, at 7 pm at the Cossayuna Firehouse, 21 Bunker Hill Road, Thompson, NY. To register, contact WashCoNYDems@gmail.com.

Vega's fine art

Ernesto Vega of Schuylerville, NY, is one of 50 students with artwork displayed in SUNY Oneonta's 2023 Juried Student Art Show. Featuring more than 80 works by talented student artists, the exhibition opened on March 28 and will run through May 13 in the university's Martin-Mullen Art Gallery on campus.

Featured artwork was submitted by students and selected

by Art Department faculty members. This year's award winners were chosen by invited jurors President and Founder Karen Shafer and Director of Program Initiatives Dan O'Neil at Aunt Karen's Farm. Located in Mount Vision, Aunt Karen's Farm is a quiet residency program for artists, educators, administrators, environmentalists and agrarians to incubate new work and celebrate nature.

The show highlights the different mediums and themes explored by students over the academic year. Prints, 3D models, clay sculptures, digital designs, photographs, drawings and mixed media make up this year's offerings.

Vega exhibited a graphic design piece titled "Batman Film Poster."

An opening reception March 30 celebrated student talent with an award ceremony and refreshments.

The Martin-Mullen Art Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Obituary

Dr. Richard C. Ashcroft

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Dr. Richard C. Ashcroft on March 3, 2023. He fought a long and courageous battle with cancer and heart failure that spanned the course of almost 16 years. His devoted family was by his side when he passed.

Richard was born December 24, 1941 in Port Chester, New York to Lawrence and Sophie (Sue) Ashcroft. He graduated from Greenwich High School and entered the Navy where he served on the USS Charles S Roan DD-853, a destroyer, at the Cuban Missile Crisis. He also served on the USS Jonas Ingram DD-938. Following his military service, he married Linda L. Mattison and moved to Iowa where he entered Palmer College of Chiropractic. His son, Karl, was born in Iowa. Upon his graduation they moved to Fair Haven Vermont where he began Ashcroft Chiropractic Center. His daughter, Laurel, was born two years later.

He served his community as a Health Officer and on the school board in Fair Haven. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus, Rotary Club, American Legion and Tin Can Sailors.

Richard loved being a chiropractor and helping his patients, many of whom became lifelong

friends. He earned his Diplomate of Neurology in 1989 allowing him to help even more people. He gave his time to help students, athletes, and anyone in need. He thoroughly enjoyed talking to people from babies to the elderly, often telling stories and jokes.

His favorite hobby was metal detecting. He founded The Green Mountain Treasure Hunters of Vermont, Inc. It brought him great joy in finding lost rings, returning them to the rightful owners, and seeing their smiles and the happiness it brought to them.

Richard was preceded in death by his parents, his brother Robert, his son Karl, and his grandson Hunter.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Linda, his daughter Laurel (Casey) Gebhard, his grandsons Cade and Ty Gebhard, daughter-in-law Lorie, brother Lawrence Ashcroft, sister Ruth (John) Andrew, sister Lorraine (Melvin) Rose, step-grandchildren Heather Tate (Kris Lubinsky), Thachary, Gideon and Emerson, brothers-in-law Bruce, Richard and Clark Mattison and many other family and friends.

An interment ceremony is planned for July 7, 2023, in the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga Na-



tional Cemetery. Following the interment, family and friends are invited to a Celebration of Life. The Celebration will begin at noon and will be held at the Middle Falls Fire House in Middle Falls, NY. For additional information, to RSVP or to share photos, please email docashcroftcelebration@gmail.com.

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 Reconstruction and Alterations project all in accordance with the plans and specifications for the following categories of work:

Edit contracts as required

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

SITE

MECHANICAL

PLUMBING

ELECTRICAL

Sealed Bid Proposals will be received until 10am prevailing time on April 28, 2023 at Middle Grade Cafeteria, 10 Gray 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.

Typically delete or modify the next paragraph.

The bidding documents may be examined, free of charge, at the office of MO-SAIC 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 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: 1-877-272-0216, 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 CSD. 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, UN-MARKED, 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: March 30, 2023

Rachel

Logan

District Clerk

PRE-BID CONFERENCE MEETING

DATE: April 13, 2023 at 9am

LOCATION: Primary Building

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

Edit as required per owner's requirements

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

Here's one task ChatGPT cannot perform

Greg Schwem

Special to Journal & Press

Lately I have been messing around with ChatGPT, the artificial intelligence chatbot destined to make our society even lazier than it is now.

While reviews of ChatGPT have been mixed — Elon Musk called it ‘scary good’ while professors and other humans not named Elon Musk fear students will never realize what it takes to write a term paper or thesis on their own — I’ll admit it is addicting.

ChatGPT, for those not paying attention to the news this past year, produces detailed, usually correct, answers to questions about almost any topic. But unlike Alexa or Siri, which merely answers our queries, ChatGPT can compose poetry, suggest song lyrics and even become our personal therapist. In other words, it thinks, so we don’t have to.

I recently asked ChatGPT for sightseeing destinations in Malta, a country I visited last week for the first time. It was only too happy to return eight suggestions, numbered and bulleted, featuring answers like “St. John’s Co-Cathedral: This stunning Baroque church in Valletta is one of Malta’s most iconic landmarks, with ornate decorations, stunning artworks and a rich history dating back to the 16th century.”

There were no car rental or hotel ads cluttering the responses. Just information, plain and simple. Heck, I expected it to conclude by stating, “A reservation has been made and your credit card has been charged ac-

cordingly.”

With answers like that, no wonder more than 100 million people are using ChatGPT, the majority being college students with term papers due tomorrow morning.

Yet, like any new technology, I find myself thinking about what will be eliminated once this new, and easier way of doing things becomes the norm. For example, the cellular phone’s arrival meant the days of telling your kids that, as soon as they arrived at a party, to call from the house phone and let Mom and Dad know they had arrived safely, were gone forever. Now parents have no idea if their kids are telling the truth because that call can be made from anywhere.

Unless the parents install tracking technology on their kids’ phones, which their kids can easily disable, which means...

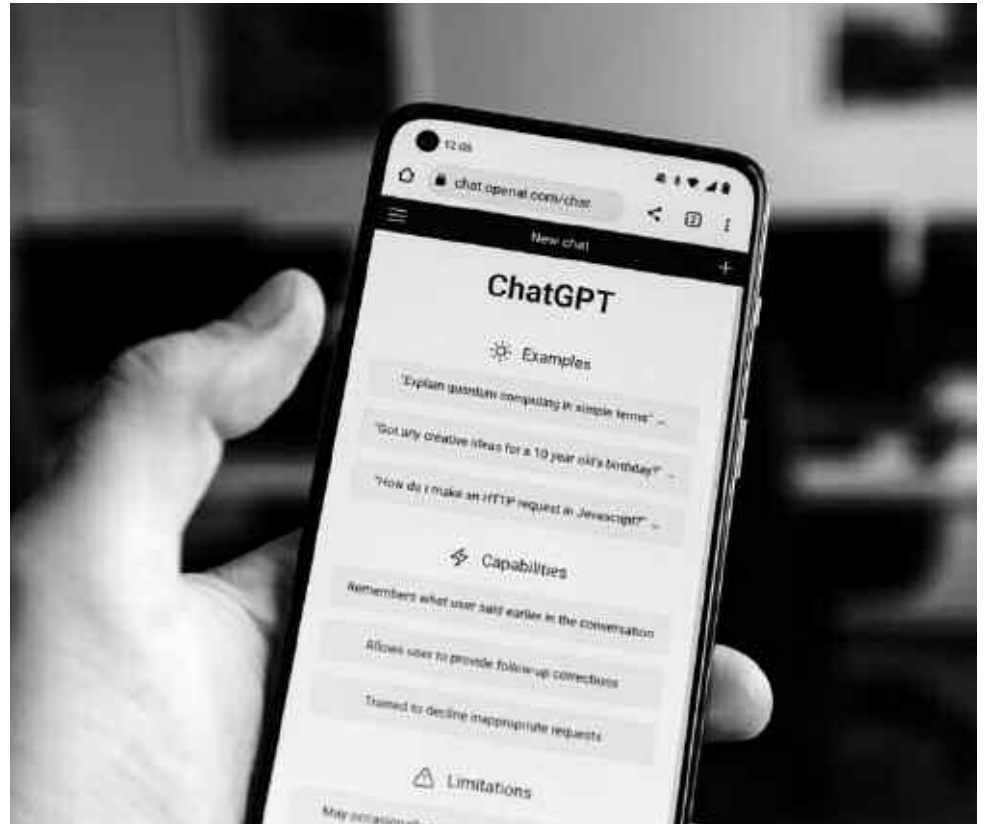
Oh, forget it.

Which is why I become positively giddy when I engage in a task that brings me joy, and one that I know cannot be handled by a bot.

‘A forgotten nickel or dime would bring squeals of delight. Found money tends to elicit that emotion.’

Behold...the coin counting machine.

For years I deposited my spare change in a glass goblet that I believe I won at a county fair sometime in the early 1980s. Twice a year, the goblet became full



enough to necessitate a trip to my local bank, where I would hand it over and wait while a teller dumped the assortment of pennies, nickels, dimes and quarters into a stainless-steel bin while I silently tried predicting the final tally.

Although most banks have phased out coin counting machines, perhaps anticipating the eventual elimination of coins and cash in general, my bank went the other direction. The machine is now in the lobby, available to customers who enter with their goblets, Ziploc bags or simple handfuls of coins that will eventually be turned into bills... and some leftover coins.

My last haul netted me \$42.17, but I didn’t care about the amount. Instead, I remembered the days where my sister and I would excuse ourselves from restaurant dinner tables so we could sneak into the lobby and stick our fingers in pay phone change return slots, hoping somebody hung up and left without collecting change from their calls. A forgotten nickel or dime would bring squeals of delight. Found money tends to elicit that emotion.

Obviously, I didn’t “find” the coins I brought to the bank but it “feels” that way when I watch change swirl in the machine as the digital counter increases. How much fun would a child have performing the same task? Parents, if you still give your children allowances for household chores — incidentally, ChatGPT says doing so is “a personal decision that will depend on a family’s individual circumstances and values” — please consider giving them coins as opposed to a Venmo notification. Let them dump those coins into a sorter and watch and listen to their efforts being rewarded. Trust me, you will see smiles of pure delight.

Nothing artificial about that.

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.



Equine grant


Nipper Knolls Equine Center is pleased to announce they have been selected as a recipient of a generous grant through The Cloudsplitter Foundation.

The Cloudsplitter Foundation was formed as a 501(c)3 charity in 1987, and re-domiciled in New York in 1999. From 2011 through 2020, a total of \$11,264,232 has been distributed to other 501(c)3 non-profit organizations, with at least 70% of its grants awarded to Adirondack grantees. Through strategic giving, The Cloudsplitter Foundation promotes public support or support of other foundations, support a policy direction or change and provide leadership grants.

Nipper Knolls Equine Center, Inc., is a 501c 3 nonprofit and a 100% volunteer organization located in Granville. There are no administrative costs or salaries paid. The organization has been providing therapeutic (adaptive) horseback riding, horsemanship lessons, and physical therapy services using the unique equine movement for people with special needs for more than ten years. The program is designed to teach people in a small class setting the joys of horsemanship and riding. Each lesson includes dedicated volunteers who assist the PATH (Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship) certified riding instructor.



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Legal Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION

GREENWICH CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing of the qualified voters of the Greenwich Central School District, Washington County, Greenwich, New York, will be held in the High School building in said District on Monday, May 8, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. prevailing time, for the presentation of the budget.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a vote will be taken of all those qualified to vote at School District Meetings in said District at the Greenwich Primary School Building, Greenwich, New York, on **Tuesday, May 16, 2023** and the polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. E.S.T. until 8:00 p.m., E.S.T.; at such time the voters of the District will vote upon the following matters:

ANNUAL BUDGET

To adopt the annual budget of the School District for the fiscal year and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.

BOARD OF EDUCATION SEATS

- To elect one five-year term commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring June 30, 2028, to succeed Heather Mattison whose term expires on June 30, 2023?

PROPOSITION #1 - EQUIPMENT

Resolved, that the Board of Education be authorized to: (1) acquire two school buses and one pick-up truck with plow, at a cost not to exceed \$380,000, which is estimated to be the maximum cost thereof; (2) expend such sum for such purpose, including the expenditure of \$220,000 from the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund; (3) levy the necessary tax therefore, to be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education in accordance with Section 416 of the Education Law, taking into account state aid, trade-in values and the amount expended from the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund; and (4) in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue bonds and notes of the District at one time or from time to time in the principal amount not to exceed \$155,000, and levy a tax to pay the interest on said obligations when due?

GREENWICH LIBRARY PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to increase the appropriation to support the Greenwich Free Library from \$106,044 to \$112,535 annually?

EASTON LIBRARY PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to increase the appropriation to support the Easton Library from \$45,190 to \$47,956 annually?

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the School District's budget for 2023-2024, exclusive of public monies, may be ob-

tained by any resident of the district during business hours beginning fourteen days before the vote, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays, during the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education shall be filed with the Clerk of said School District at her office in the Middle Grade school, not later than Monday, April 17, 2023, between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Each petition shall be directed to the Clerk of the District and shall be signed by at least 25 voters of the District, must state the name and residence of the candidate and shall describe the specific vacancy for which the candidate is nominated.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots/military ballots will be obtainable between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except holidays, from the District Clerk. Completed applications must be received by the District Clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

A list of persons to whom absentee ballots are issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District in the office of the District Clerk on each of the five (5) days prior to the election between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on weekdays prior to the day set for the annual election and on May 16, 2023, the day set for the election. Any qualified voter present in the polling place may object to the voting of the ballot upon appropriate grounds for making his/her challenge and the reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the qualified voters of the School Dis-

trict shall be entitled to vote at said annual vote and election. A qualified voter is one who is (1) a citizen of the United States of America, (2) eighteen (18) years of age or older, and (3) resident within the School District for a period of thirty (30) days next preceding the annual vote and election. The School District may require all persons offering to vote at the budget vote and election to provide one form of proof of residency pursuant to Education Law Section 2018-c. Such form may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill, or a voter registration card. Upon offer of proof of residency, the School District may also require all persons offering to vote to provide their signature, printed name and address.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that pursuant to a rule adopted by the Board and in accordance with Sections 2035 and 2008 of the Education Law, any referenda or propositions to amend the budget, otherwise to be submitted for voting at said election, must be filed with the Greenwich Central School Board of Education at the Middle Grade Building on or before April 17, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. prevailing time; must be typed or printed in English, must be directed to the Clerk of the School District and signed by at least 25 qualified voters of the District; and must state the name and residence of each signer. However, the School board will not entertain any petition to place before the voters or any proposition for the purpose of which is not within the powers of the voters to determine, or any proposition which fails to include a specific appropriation where the expenditure of monies is required by the proposition.

Rachel Logan

District Clerk

Publication Date: April 1, 2023, April 11, 2023, April 25, 2023 and May 9, 2023

Bee there!

What is the waggle dance? David Peck from Betterbee will explain this and more during his visit to the Historic Salem Courthouse on April 27 at 6:30 p.m. Dr. David Peck (Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Entomology, Cornell University) is the Director of Research and Education at Betterbee in Greenwich, NY. He will explain basic bee biology and bee-keeping, and plans to bring his observation hive of bees along with him as well. He specializes in all things related to honey bees and beekeeping, particularly honey bee health. Anyone who wants to learn more about bees is welcome. This is a free event.



Offer ends 12/24/23

JOURNAL & PRESS

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It's art meets physics at college event

The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College announces the next event in its Dunkerley Dialogue series will be Thursday, April 20, at 6 pm, featuring artist Anna Von Mertens and Skidmore College Associate Professor of Physics Kendrah Murphy.

Von Mertens, whose work is on view in the exhibition *Parallax: Framing the Cosmos*, is known for creating textiles that explore science and history. The hand-stitched work now on view, *The Day Without Yesterday*, June 18, 1925, Mount Wilson Observatory, California, traces the trajectory of the stars at that specific time and place: when a Jesuit priest and PhD student at MIT Georges Lemaître visited the observatory where Edwin Hubble was studying the movement of galaxies. Lemaître would later be credited with formulating the Big Bang theory, that the universe began at a single moment in time.

Kendrah Murphy, a Skidmore College associate professor in the Physics Department, will be in conversation with the artist. Murphy's

current research focuses on X-ray spectral analysis of active galactic nuclei, which are regions at the center of galaxies that are brighter than the areas around them.

Dunkerley Dialogues pair Skidmore professors with artists in a conversation format, which is often a catalyst for new connections and understandings across disciplines, and can spark new ideas for all participants. Dunkerley Dialogues are made possible by a generous gift from Michele Dunkerley '80.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact 518-580-8080 or tang@skidmore.edu.

Von Mertens is an artist whose work uses the material intelligence of making as a lens to see science and history. She is the recipient of a 2010 United States Artists Fellowship in Visual Arts and a 2021-2022 Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where she studied dark matter as a structuring force in our universe. Her artwork has been

exhibited widely at institutions including the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and Berkeley Art Museum.

Murphy is an Associate Professor and the Associate Chair of the Physics Department at Skidmore College. Her current research focuses on the X-ray spectral analysis of Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN). After graduating from Skidmore with a BA in physics and mathematics, she earned her PhD from the Physics and Astronomy Department at Johns Hopkins University.



Anna Von Mertens

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Legal Notice

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING, BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION

ARGYLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

COUNTY OF WASHINGTON, NEW YORK

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a public hearing of the qualified voters of the Argyle Central School District, Washington County, Argyle, New York, will be held in the school library in said District on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:00 PM, E.D.S.T., for the presentation of the budget. The budget will be available for review on May 2, 2023 at the Argyle Central School.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the annual meeting of the qualified voters of the Argyle Central School District, Washington County, New York, will be held in the atrium of the Argyle Central School in said District on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 8:00 PM, E.D.S.T., for the transaction of such business as is authorized by the Education Law.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that said vote and election will be on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 between the hours of 12:00 PM (Noon) and 8:00 PM, E.D.S.T., in the atrium at Argyle Central School, at which time the polls will be opened to voting by ballot upon the following items:

1. To adopt the annual budget of the School District for the fiscal year 2023-2024 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.

2. To elect one (1) member of the Board for a five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2023 and expiring on June 30, 2028 and to succeed Rodney Saunders, whose term expires on June 30, 2023.

3. To appropriate monies to the Argyle Free Library and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.

4. To determine if the Board of Education be authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to §3651 of the New York Education Law in an amount not to exceed

\$900,000, with a probable term of ten (10) years, for the purpose of financing the

construction, reconstruction and renovation of school district buildings, facilities and sites, and the acquisition of furnishings, equipment, machinery or apparatus

for use in such buildings and sites, with such Capital Reserve Fund being funded

with (i) year-end budget surplus funds known as unassigned fund balance, as available, (ii) transfers of excess monies from Board of Education reserves, (iii)

amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (iv) State aid

received and made available, all as permitted by law, as may be determined from

time to time by the Board of Education.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that a copy of the statement of the amount of money which will be required to fund the School District's budget for 2023-2024, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any resident of the District during business hours beginning Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at the Argyle Central School.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that petitions nominating candidates for the office of member of the Board of Education shall be filed with Clerk of said School District at her office in the School, not later than Monday, April 17, 2023, between 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM. Each petition shall be directed to the Clerk of the District and shall be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters of the District, must state the name and residence of the candidate and shall describe the specific vacancy for which the candidate is nominated, including the length of the term of office and the name of the last incumbent.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots (where applicable) will be obtainable between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM Monday through Friday, except holidays, from the District Clerk. Completed applications must be received by the District clerk at least seven (7) days before the election if the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter. Absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on Tuesday, May 16, 2023.

A list of persons to whom absentee bal-

lots are issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District in the office of the District Clerk on and after May 12, 2023, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM on weekdays prior the day set for the annual election and on May 16, 2023, the day set for the election, and said list will be posted at the polling place at the election. Any qualified voter present in the polling place may object to the voting of the ballot upon appropriate grounds for making his/her challenge and the reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of the polls.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the qualified voters of the School District shall be entitled to vote at said annual vote and election. A qualified voter is one who is (1) a citizen of the United States of America, (2) eighteen years of age or older, and (3) resident within the School District for a period of thirty (30) days next preceding the annual vote and election. The School District may require all persons offering to vote at the budget vote and election to provide one form of proof of residency pursuant to Education Law 2018-c. Such form may include a driver's license, a non-driver identification card, a utility bill, or a voter registration card. Upon offer of proof of residency, the School District may also require all persons offering to vote to provide their signature, printed name and address.

KIMBERLY HUMISTON, CLERK OF THE DISTRICT

Identical honors for Cambridge twins

Lucy and Kate McKay were born together, homeschooled together, attended college classes together and, true to form, earned a State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence together — the first siblings to do so in the same year.

"We are proud of Lucy and Kate's achievements," said Kristine D. Duffy, Ed.D., president of SUNY Adirondack. "This is the most recent of several acknowledgements of their remarkable efforts and, I'm sure, there are many more to come."

The identical twins were raised in Cambridge, where they were homeschooled by their mother. The family's love of camping, hiking, gardening and being outdoors led all three McKay children — Lucy, Kate and an older brother — to an interest in ecology.

"I've been interested in nature as long as I can remember," Lucy McKay said. "So I knew I wanted to study ecology and the environment."

The pair enrolled at SUNY Adirondack as Liberal Arts: Math and Science majors. They are waiting to hear back from colleges before deciding where they will transfer in Fall 2023 to earn bachelor's degrees.

One thing is for certain, though: Lucy and Kate will attend the same college.

"We're pretty inseparable," said Lucy, who despite being four minutes younger than her sister is usually first to speak. "We're very much alike."

That proved true at SUNY Adirondack, where the McKays each earned a perfect 4.0 grade

point average (GPA) all four semesters, putting them on the President's List. Kate was awarded the Harold "Hal" Burrell Freshman Chemistry Achievement Award and Lucy the H. David Hodgson Outstanding Biology Student Award.

Both McKays earned the TRIO Academic Excellence Award for their performance within TRIO Student Support Services (SSS), a federally funded program that provides services to help eligible students — based on income eligibility requirements, potential first-generation college student status, academic needs, or physical and developmental disabilities — succeed in earning a degree.

The young women are chemistry tutors and members of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society. They both volunteer regularly at regional environmental organizations, including Vermont Center for Ecostudies, The Caterpillar Lab, Albany Pine Bush Preserve, National Audubon Society, National Park Service and Berkshire Environmental Action Team.

Kate McKay keeps illustrated field journals of nature sightings, providing her opportunity to further pursue her love of drawing and painting. She is also an avid nature photographer and has uploaded her photographs of species to eBird and iNaturalist, where she joins online communities of naturalists in recording observations and contributing to research.

She plays piano and violin, has performed in plays as an actor and dancer, and sings in Hubbard Hall Women's Choir and at various events in her community.



L-R, Kate and Lucy McKay

She has also volunteered for the Northeast Darner Flight Watch, contributing to understanding of the behavior of migratory dragonflies for Vermont Center for Ecostudies, and as a citizen scientist for Vermont Center for Ecostudies as a whip-poor-will surveyor.

Lucy McKay also loves photography and drawing, and keeps field journals of birds, plants and insects. She uses her photographs to promote conservation, contributing to SUNY-ESF's NY Wildflower Monitoring Project, documenting new species for the North American Leafminer Project, and sharing biodiversity photographs on iNaturalist and eBird.

She sings and acts, and sings at community nursing homes. She also worked for NYSDEC and Cornell University's Amphibian Mi-

grations & Road Crossings Project, participated in the Berkshire Bioblitz, an event to document as many different species as possible in a short time period at a specific location, and worked on campus to protect and assist Ruby Tiger Moth caterpillars on their migration across campus roads.

When asked about their differences, the McKays answer simultaneously, "Good question" (Kate) and "Hard question" (Lucy). They agree: They don't have any notable differences.

"Kate and Lucy are amazing individuals," said Michelle Bilodeau-Lanne, a TRIO SSS advisor at SUNY Adirondack. "They embody the highest ideals of SUNY Adirondack, and we are extremely proud of their accomplishments."

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Greenwich CSD's Class of 2024 held its prom on April 1. Pictured is the Prom Court from left to right: Elizabeth Marci, Keira Kirk, Sophia Tomczak, Molly Abate, Allison McQueen (Queen), Eli Strasswimmer (King), Matthew Conlin, Jackson Fortier, Hunter Logan and Noah Davis
 Photo taken by Bielmar Inc. (Adirondack School Portraits). Find many more prom photos on our Facebook page: fb.com/JournalPress.



Nothing but flowers

Easton Library will host Samantha Allen on Monday, April 24th at 3 PM to teach a program about all things cut flowers: Growing a Cut Flower Garden. Samantha will be discussing all parts of growing cut flowers, from variety selection and seed starting to harvesting and arrangement. She will also talk about the beauty and fun of growing flowers to enjoy in your home!

Samantha Allen is a farmer's wife and mom of five little ones. She grew up

on a dairy farm in Saratoga County and has been involved in agriculture her entire life. In 2021 She began selling cut flowers and arrangements and created Lane House Florals, a micro flower shop located in Easton NY.

Easton Library is located at 1074 NY State Route 40, Greenwich (in the Town of Easton). Please call the library at 518-692-2253 with any questions.



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Beginning with the end in mind

Michael Levy
Journal & Press

There is a cliché, “the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result.” In the Village of Greenwich, residents should look at the current result and consider whether we are suffering from a mild case of mental illness.

Walking down Main Street over the past few weeks, it is hard not to notice the number of businesses that have recently departed. A downtown with empty storefronts is simply not an inviting place for residents nor is it for visitors either. I overheard one business owner complain that her rent was too high, and that shop is now gone. I heard about another business that closed recently and that owner is said to have moved south. Unfortunately, both establishments were in the same block. What about the cider place that was located on Main Street? The reasons for each departure from Greenwich’s downtown may be unrelated. The fact remains that there is an emptiness being created that only leads to more emptiness.

Does the Village of Greenwich have a plan to prevent downtown blight? In fact, Greenwich has several plans, and you can find them on the village’s webpage under the Projects listing.

There is a draft “Streetscapes Plan” dated July 2019. This one describes things like sidewalk enhancements, parking management, traffic improvements, waterfront access, and wayfinding (a signage scheme to highlight Village assets located within and near Main Street and draw new visitors to the heart of downtown). In this plan there is discussion of street furniture and streetscape elements such as streetlights, bicycle racks, benches, trees, and plantings. There is also a recommendation to replace the street lighting with pedestrian scale lighting with a more historic aesthetic. This plan will soon see its fourth birthday, so it needs to mature a bit more.

Déjà vu? Wasn’t this discussed in the “Village of Greenwich Vision Plan” from 2009? The 2009 plan mentions reinforcing the village as a walkable community and strengthening pedestrian-oriented connections, establishing a strong and visual connection between the Village and the Battenkill, establishing a sustainable diversified village economy and bring new uses to strategic development sites, improving public and private properties, and respecting and marketing the historical characteristics that define Greenwich. The plan also includes recommendations for streetscape enhancements along Main Street, additional waterfront parks, and strengthening the visual connection from Main Street to the Battenkill.

How about the “Final Greenwich Revitaliza-



-ml photos

tion Plan” dated February 2022? This plan is based on ten goals and is very insightful. There are solid recommendations incorporated in the text, but have any of them been acted upon yet? If you do read all 132 pages of this plan, please tell me if you find Table 7 because I could not. There is discussion in the document on page 64 regarding retail sectors in Greenwich that are either non-existent or are experiencing high leakage rates. Retail sectors that are experiencing

‘You may want to pick a retail model that is not listed as being in surplus here.’

surplus in Greenwich are used merchandise stores, non-store retailers, auto parts/accessories/tire stores, and direct selling establishments. A word to the wise, if you are planning to start a business on Main Street, you may want to pick a retail model that is not listed as being in surplus here if you wish to be successful. There is also mention in the report that there is an “unmet demand for restaurants locally” and that “Greenwich could capture between one and five percent of the Capital Region’s demand for food and beverage service space, which amounts to 2,550 to 12,750 square feet over the next decade.” A great idea if we can draw folks in!

Last year, the Village and Town decided to prepare a joint Comprehensive Plan. The plan will

reflect the recently completed Greenwich Revitalization Plan and establish strategies to guide development in the Village and Town over the next 15 to 20 years.

The vision for Greenwich appears to be consistent from 2009 to 2023. The problem with all these plans is that they describe the accoutrements of a thriving village and downtown, but they do not elaborate on a pathway to make this come to fruition. It is like putting the horse before the cart. Or is it the old chicken and egg dilemma instead?

Here is an alternative idea that may change things. Steven Covey in his “The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People” speaks of “Begin with the End in Mind.” “Begin With the End in Mind” is based on the ability to envision what currently does not exist. This is a two-step process. First is to create a vision which is followed by bringing the same vision to fruition. The final result needs to be envisioned in its entirety or it will end up being something else. Imagine an architect who designs a building, creates a blueprint that is fantastic, but somehow does not know what the final use of that building will be. In other words, it would be pointless to design an office building when the ultimate use of that same building is a foundry.

What kind of establishments will make Greenwich into a destination, creating a thriving downtown? The concept must draw both residents and visitors alike. Let us recruit businesses to fill the downtown and make that happen. How about a makerspace? A makerspace is a shared place for making, learning, and sharing and has a variety of maker equipment including 3D printers, laser cutters, CNC machines, and other specialized equipment that allow people to explore their creativity and collaborate with others. These spaces are open to students, adults, and entrepreneurs. They are extremely popular elsewhere.

How about a regionally renowned artist supply store that offers classes and workshops? This will draw people from around the area and the entire northeast. There are plenty of artists in Washington and the surrounding counties to support such an endeavor. Imagine if they came to buy their supplies or take a class and then spent the rest of their day in Greenwich.

How about visualizing new enterprises that will revitalize our downtown and our economy? Is



Farm Equipment Auction Weeping Birch Farm Retirement

Saturday, May 6, 2023
11:00am Sharp
Greenwich, NY 12834



Tina & Derek having decided to retire will sell their complete line of farm equipment at public auction. Sale to be held at the Washington County Fairgrounds 392 Old Schuylerville Rd. Greenwich, NY 12834. Please enter State Route 29 entrance into the fairgrounds.

Tractors: NH T6.165 Auto-Command, 4wd, cab, frt wts, 3370 hrs. (Like New); NH 8670 4wd, cab, frt wts, 8874 hrs.; NH 8670 4wd, cab, 9072 hrs. w/Quicke Q990 loader, bale spear, extra bucket, pallet forks, rock bucket, push blade; NH TL80 4wd, cab, 52LA loader 1597 hrs; IH 1086 2wd; IH 1066 2wd Hydro; JD 4430 (needs clutch); JD 620 with loader; NH LS160 Skid Steer Loader 6500 hrs.



S.P. Forage Harvester: NH FX 40 Harvester 4wd, processor, 2729 cutterhead hrs., 3826 engine hrs.; NH 356W Hayhead; NH RI450 6 row big drum rotary cornhead (Kemper).

Trucks: IH S2600 Dump truck (1996) w/20' body; IH 8200 Dump truck (1993) w/22' body; Mack RD688 (2000) Dump truck w/22' body; GMC 2500 (2002) Service truck 99K.

Implements: IH 720 5 bottom plow; Krause 7300 rock flex 18' disc harrow; Glenco 9 shank chisel plow; Brillion 15' cultimulcher; JD 1780 6 row liquid corn planter; Richardton dump wagon; Kuhn /Knight 3142 mixer wagon; H & S 5120 manure spreader; NH 1431 Hydra-Swing Discbine; H & S HSM-P Hay Merger; Kuhn GF 5001 4 star tedder; Enrossi RR420 EVO 14' rotary rake; JD 335 round baler; JBM slant bar feeder wagon; JDM T800 hyd. dump cart; Penns Creek 300 gal. pull type 30' boom sprayer w/injector JD 503 5' rotary cutter; Landpride RC2584 rotary cutter; Post pounder; Winpower pto generator; 7 - Motorola 2 way radios; 14.9R x 46 Axle mount duals; 18.4R x 42 Axle mount duals; NH 3pt Quick Hitch; JD 3pt Quick Hitch; Misc. tractor wts.; IH 735 5 bt. Plow (parts); Tire Chains 18.4 x 34 & 20.8 x 38.

Special Interest: (These items to be inspected and picked up at the farm please call for preview): Girton 1510 Gallon Bulk Tank; Boumatic 4 Hp Variable Speed Vacuum Pump; Copeland 5hp Compressor; Grain Bins: 24 Ton; 21 Ton; 15 Ton; 3 Ton all bins equipped with auger & motor.

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(cont.)

there a high-tech industry that will create a renaissance for Greenwich as well as support our tax base? How about lobbying for a SUNY campus to be located here? Wouldn't a satellite of the NYS College of Agriculture & Life Sciences at Cornell University be a success here? How about a theater and concert venue? How about an outside amphitheater like SPAC, Finger Lakes Performing Arts Center, or Tanglewood?

These are a few of my thoughts for our community. I am sure that there are other villagers that have even better ideas who can weigh in. We need to create a shared vision for Greenwich and work hard to make it happen. We should be bold enough to say that we want certain things to make our community thrive and help us stand out. Then we need to do what it takes to make this happen.

It is time to change the paradigm. Instead of repeating the past, let us embrace the most



quotable phrase from Kevin Costner's 1989 movie, "Field of Dreams." It is time to imagine what a thriving and vibrant Greenwich will look like – the entire package and not just nice streetlights along the path to the Battenkill. "If you build it, they will come" and that is this edition's

random thought.

Michael Levy is a government manager residing in Greenwich. He is also a Commercial Pilot and a Ham Radio operator.



Springtime Q&A

Jill Schlesinger
Special to Journal & Press

It's time to clean up the inbox. Here's a smattering of questions that I have fielded lately:

Fred: Are there income limits to consider for a backdoor Roth IRA conversion? My wife and I are in our late 50s and make about \$300,000.

Answer: The first step of a backdoor Roth is a contribution into a non-deductible traditional IRA. Because it is not deductible, there is no income limit. The second step is to convert the non-deductible IRA into a Roth IRA, which can be done almost immediately. Just remember that in order for this to work to your best advantage, make sure that you do not have traditional IRA accounts, which would trigger the pro-rata rule and limit the effectiveness of the backdoor Roth.

David: I have been converting big blocks of my traditional IRA to a Roth over the last two years. Thanks to Secure Act 2.0, I think I have a few more years before I'll need to begin taking Required Minimum Distributions. Does it make sense to continue to convert and pay the taxes now?

Answer: Secure Act 2.0 increased the RMD age to 73 (and it's going to increase again in 2033 to age 75). As long as you are not soaking up all of your available cash to pay the tax that is owed, I would continue with the conversions. Try to do a little at a time and stay in the tax bracket that's affordable to you over the next few years.

Bobby: I'm 45 years old, divorced, with no children. I receive full disability benefits from my

'The big downside of paying off the mortgage is that you lose liquidity.'

service in the army, but luckily, my injury does not prevent me from working, so I have extra money at the end of each month. Before you ask, I have an emergency fund and I am completely debt free (including on my house). I max out my Roth retirement plan at work but after that, I'm not sure what to do...should I open a brokerage account? If so, how should I invest it — just like the retirement account?

Answer: A brokerage account would be great — and no need to make it too complicated, just choose a few index funds to start out, maybe a stock index fund, an international stock index fund and an intermediate term bond index fund. Because you may need (or want) to access the account sooner than the retirement funds, consider making the account a little less aggressive than the retirement account.

Mary: I'm 64, single, still working, no debt. My total assets (brokerage, IRA and 401(k)) totals just over \$1 million. My mortgage balance is \$80,000 and I'm thinking of using some of my 401(k) to pay it off. I know it's probably not the best financial decision, it's psychological. What do you think?

Answer: The big downside of paying off the mortgage is that you lose liquidity (or easy access to your money). But if you're really hyper about the outstanding debt, do not pull from the tax-deferred retirement account and pay taxes;

instead tap the taxable brokerage account. Try to leave yourself with ample post-tax dollars, just in case!

Andy: I'm 60, still employed with no children or spouse. My investments and savings total about \$500,000 and my house is worth about the same amount. Should I be considering a revocable trust?

Answer: It does not seem like you need a revocable trust, especially since you don't have any heirs to whom you wish to direct your assets. That said, you need a will, a power of attorney and a healthcare proxy. A qualified estate attorney can handle all of this for you.

Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. A former options trader and CIO of an investment advisory firm, she welcomes comments and questions at askjill@jillonmoney.com. Check out her website at www.jillonmoney.com.



Interpersonal Edge

Ignorance is the beginning of wisdom

Daneen Skube
Special to Journal & Press

Q: I'm in my 50s and consider myself competent and experienced in my field. However, I find myself more often realizing how much I don't know. Why am I suddenly more often feeling ignorant? Will my newfound awareness hurt my career? Why did I feel so much more confident when I was younger?

A: You're suddenly feeling ignorant more often because however much we think we know, we actually don't know much. As Socrates, the famous Greek philosopher, sagely summarized, "Awareness of ignorance is the beginning of wisdom." Likewise, your new awareness will enrich your career.

I'm in my 60s and now days I feel like I'm gazing through the Hubble telescope at infinite galaxies of knowledge that surpass my current awareness. I find this ignorance inspirational about the learning that awaits me. My ignorance also keeps me humble and open minded.

I also felt more confident and arrogant about what I knew when I was younger. Now I joke with all seriousness that, "What I know is

just my current best theory."

When we're young in age or in our stage of mind, we tend to be much more insecure. Believing that we have "it all figured out" can make us feel safer.

However, truth does not cease to affect us because we refuse to see it. We just end up with tire tracks from reality; they run down our backs when our limited theories cannot help us understand or avoid events that run us over.

People who refuse to let in new information generally feel like victims. They cannot see the greater forces at work that they themselves are setting in motion.

When we finally have the inner security to embrace our ignorance, we have put our feet on the path of wisdom. No one can understand himself or herself or others without gazing into that inner Hubble telescope of inner space with awe and reverence for the mystery therein.

Any career will benefit from your newfound humility, open mindedness, and curiosity. When we achieve this stage of mind and age, everything and everyone around us becomes our teacher. No lemon event drops into our lap

that we cannot use to make lemonade. We see it isn't the events in our life which shape us, but our response to those events.

When we arrive at 50 and beyond our development demands humility. At 50, when we gaze into the future we can feel the cold breath of death on our shoulder — the ultimate mystery of what happens next!

An awareness of the ultimate ignorance, what happens when we die, is an invitation to become thoughtful, not morbid. How many minutes do we have left? What will we regret not doing? What are our priorities since we're facing an unknown deadline?

I say to my closest friends who are also in their 60s or 70s, "We need to start thinking about 85." They ask me why and I say because we'll all be there faster than we think. There's no time like the present to show up, do what you've been waiting to do, take the risks you'll regret not taking, and learn about the infinity in front of you.

As a line from a Beatles song noted, "You only take the love you make," which is probably right. I would add, "You also take the learning you create." If there's something more at the end of this

adventure, my advice is make sure you take as much love and learning as you possibly can!

The last word(s)

Q: I work with a guy who has two Ph.D.s. He's clearly smart, and in his 60s. But he is the dumbest person I have ever met when it comes to dealing with others. Is there a reason someone so smart can be so incompetent with people?

A: Yes, as the American actor Morgan Freeman noted, "Your age doesn't define your maturity and your grades do not define your intelligence." High effectiveness at work requires a combination of experience, education, interpersonal skills, and personal awareness, not just high I.Q.

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



Why do we believe in conspiracy theories?

Lance Allen Wang
Journal & Press

I remember years ago joking with some Army buddies that we were going to send a request up the chain of command that if there were any super-secret conspiracies that the military and government were involved in, well, we wanted in. Especially if they involved space aliens. But we were tickled by the idea of it. I think at that time, the conspiracy du jour among the lunatic fringe was that there were black unmarked helicopters flying around American airspace, under the command of the United Nations and putting the pieces in place to enforce a “New World Order.”

Well, here it is 30 years later, there are still conspiracy theories about – even some of the same ones. I only recently heard that a municipality in which I work is actually guilty of “treason,” and “signed away its sovereignty to the United Nations.” Yes, evidently, a United Nations (UN) plan called Agenda 2030 is going to turn our residents into a “debt slave[s] to the central bank.”

This is the point in the movie where you hear a the sound of a needle scratching across a record and the narrator says, “What?”

To understand this very odd perspective, I’m going to provide you two things – first, a little bit of history as to this conspiracy theory, and then a nifty tool with which to examine statements that seem perhaps a bit too outrageous.

First of all, Agenda 2030, a UN plan for sustainable development, was approved by member states in 2015. As with its predecessor, Agenda 21, it is not a treaty, and “It has no force of law, no enforcement mechanisms, no penalties, and no significant funding.” So with no force of law, explain again how sovereignty is surrendered? But rational explanations never get in the way of a good conspiracy theory. Second, before there was Agenda 2030, there was Agenda 21, a previous UN plan along the same lines with no force of law – yet had the exact same conspiracy theories leveled against it. This is the same way that some of the COVID-19 vaccine conspiracy theories matched similar theories leveled against fluoridation of water and the polio vaccine seventy years before, often word-for-word.

Who was behind these conspiracy theories? It goes back to an organization called the John Birch Society. Emerging in 1958, the Society was a far-right organization which was anti-communist, anti-globalist, anti-UN, and more than a little fantasist. By the mid-1960s, its members (or “Birchers”) were actively against the civil rights movement. After emergence of writings from the movement’s founder accusing President Eisenhower of being a communist agent, the Society found itself banished to the fringes of the Republican tent, where it occupied an innocuous, although occasionally loud and often obnoxious place within the right wing of the GOP.

They kept their place on the fringes through the 1970s – opposing the Equal Rights Amendment, and then later opposing Earth Day, on the grounds that it was a Com-

munist plot. The proof offered was that the first celebration was on the 100th anniversary of Vladimir Lenin’s birth. The Society lived on the fringes until the Conservative Political Action Committee convention in 2010. It had appeared that now the edges of the mainstream and fringe were beginning to overlap. All of the sudden Birchers in Texas had enough influence to assist in the passage of a Texas law to prevent “Sharia-creep” – Islamic Sharia law infiltrating into Texas’ court system.

In a party which now indulged conspiratorial fantasies, fear of the UN “Agenda 21” (or “Agenda 2030,” depending upon the date of the document) and its plan “to establish control over all human activity,” according to the Birchers, found receptive ears. This theory joins good old-fashioned conspiracy fantasies like the influence of the 18th Century Bavarian “Illuminati” and their “grandiose dreams of overthrowing all existing human institutions and of rising... as the all-powerful rulers of a ‘new order of civilization.’” Remember the “New World Order” conspiracies? That’s where it comes from. The Birchers like that one, too.

‘This is the point in the movie where you hear a the sound of a needle scratching across a record.’

So, how do we calibrate ourselves to identify conspiracy theories before we react?

One technique I read about, by Professor Jeannie Banks Thomas of the Utah State University, is called the SLAP test. It doesn’t determine the truth – it simply is a way to sniff a story first, and determine if we need to go from “sniff” to “dig.” First of all, does it contain a Scare? Is it an attempt to scare or shock you? You know, like, something “establishing control over all human activity.”

The next letter in the SLAP test is the “L” – for “Logistics.” This is where most conspiracy theories die for me. Does the story rely on complicated or far-fetched logistics – that is to say, how, mechanically, do you see this story working? Explain how the UN can “establish control over all human activity.” How would this

be enforced? By whom? Anybody who has ever worked in government, the military, or any bureaucracy can shoot this down in a New York minute. And to think that this is the same UN that is so-often described by critics as ineffectual, suddenly portrayed as masterminds of absolute control. The UN pulling this off would be as magical as, I don’t know, establishing Sharia Law in Texas.



This is followed by “A,” which is the “A-List test” – does the account involve famous people, products or events? In the case of Agenda 2030, chatter about conspiracies started to gain popularity again during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was the “A-List” event. A UN program which pre-dated COVID by five years was wrapped up in a COVID conspiracy.

The last letter is “P,” for Prejudice. Does the story demonize or portray a person or group as an “other”? In the case of a conspiracy theory involving the UN, of course the organization itself represents the ultimate “other” to paranoid minds – an agent of foreign influence here to rob us of our sovereignty.

SLAP is a hasty check if we should take the story at face value. As to whether my local municipality is involved in a plan to hand over sovereignty to the UN, either by committing outright treason or by participating as unwitting dupes? Well, it really doesn’t pass the SLAP test, so more research is needed. In this case, a few minutes of research consigns it to the bin of urban legends, folk tales, and conspiracy theories.

Look, I love a good conspiracy theory as much as the next person. Listening to the late Art Bell was one of my guilty pleasures on many a late-night drive. When the stories leave the realm of entertainment and instead become a substitute for reality such as in the worlds of InfoWars or Q-Anon, or worse, fringe news outlets that wear the sheen of legitimacy, then they require prompt, rigorous scrutiny and a critical eye so they may be debunked and dismissed.

The price of freedom of speech is sometimes a few minutes of honest research. In the free marketplace of ideas, “Caveat Emptor” still applies – the buyer should always beware.

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



Here comes the sun

Shirley Renauld
Journal & Press

How are your Snow Peas growing as well as your Indoor seed plantings? This time of year, we can especially see how leaves grow on different plants: opposite each other or alternately along the stem, and if they all the same shape. We see the plant grow branches with leaves.

We see yellow: Daffodil blossoms on stems directly up from the center of bulbs, Forsythia on bushes and dandelions on the ground everywhere--are they good or just bothersome weeds? If you eat the small leaves, whether cooked like spinach or fresh in your salad, maybe with lettuce you're growing. Your bunny or chickens will eagerly munch the whole plant. You hear more honeybees as they search for the new pollen: Their queen is laying more eggs so those new bees will mean more mouths to feed. We watch the buds on fruit trees. We see the unfolding of the leaves that come up before the stem of rhubarb, but remember to wait for the stems to eat as that first fruit of Spring. We watch for green in the distance, as trees get their new leaves. Encourage the willows that seem to be first, along streams and in wet areas because they are so good for climbing.

Your family might have potted bulbs from Easter, and after enjoying them inside, plant the bulbs outside. The pot with hyacinths will have a few bulbs, the Lily will have only one. but they will all bring you joy again next Spring.

Now that the ground is thawing so water can seep into the ground and dry the surface, it's good to dig around in the vegetable garden again. Did the Easter Bunny bring you some new tools? It's garden clean-out time. Remove what Winter and wind left you; twigs and dry leaves could go into your firepit for starting your first Spring fire when the burn ban is over on the 14. Are there last year's dry tomato vines to add, too? Dig out any weeds that are already starting to grow and give them to your pets. Work the soil to loosen it and work in the composted material. Make your garden plan: What will grow straight up, what has big leaves and will need lots of room to grow, what can you stake to grow upward, but what should be planted near the edges of the garden? Will you have your very own plot? You could plant green beans to climb along the fence and put onion sets in a row in front of them, even now. It would be convenient to have a compost bin near the garden as well as a container to collect rainwater. As you're working, do you hear songbirds who have returned? Are they already choosing a place to make their nests and collecting material to make it? If so, hang strands of yarn on bushes to help them.

For hearing and seeing more songbirds, this is a good time to re-

turn to the Denton Sanctuary. Remember that you could have safely ice skated on the ponds there, on the part between Rt 4 and the Hudson. While that part is now wetland, we can hike in the section on the east side of the road. This was the original part of the Preserve that a group of volunteers (Thanks Pat and Jonathan) cleared for hikers to see the exposed area of shale mining and sections of both the old trolley line and the Old Champlain Canal (This has long been a transportation route!). It was originally named for Mildred Denton as the Denton Nature Preserve. It's great to hike or sit on the shale in the peace and quiet and listen for the birds. Bring your binoculars so you can see them up close to identify them, a guidebook that you might need and even a sketchpad and pencils to use.

You might bicycle to the Preserve. We can also commemorate National Parks Week by biking the Tour Road of Saratoga National Historical Park from the 22nd to the 30th. If you want to bike leisurely along the country roads of Wash Co, you might want to do so on a day other than the 29th, the day of the Tour of the Bat-tenkill road race.

When you do bike these rural roads, you're sure to see Spring on the Farm. Are the new baby animals beef or dairy, sheep or goats? Might the timing be right to even stop to watch one being born. Fencing this time of year is a major part of farm work, so you might see damage from Winter being repaired, tree

'Check your bike over routinely and do your own basic maintenance.'

limbs being cleared away or even fencing being put up: Is it rectangles of woven wire, often called American wire, being hung on the hooks of strong metal posts? Is the wire just straight electric wire fastened on insulators on smaller metal posts (note the triangular pieces to hold it in the ground and straight up. When you visit a farm with a friend you might hear the beeping to know where the wire is getting its power--and a warning not to touch! Is it barbed wire being stretched and stapled onto wooden posts? Not a good idea to climb over it or you could have a mending job to do, and a 3-cornered tear is hard to mend. Corners of fences need to be especially strong, so you might time it right to see a post-hole digger mounted on the back of a small tractor drilling a deep hole for an extra-strong corner post--that might need braces, too. Fence maintenance will be necessary whenever animals are pastured there. Farmers agree with Robert Frost that "good fences make good neighbors" (What does that mean?)

It's a country road where we



stopped to watch: no biking lane so we watch safely. When we ride, we do so WITH other vehicles going in our direction. The edges can often be rugged when pieces break off. We're thankful that the highway workers filled the potholes. As always, we wear our helmets.

We keep our bicycles always maintained. Perhaps Spring Tune-up is a family project. Get the bikes into the family garage or shop. Get to know how your bike works: How the pedals, gears and chains work and are lubricated to make the bike take you forwards--and backwards. How the brakes work to make you stop--safely. How the steering mechanism works. The wheels: How to take them off--and put them back on. Why do they have spokes? Reflectors? The tires: How much tread they have. How to take them off to replace them. Why there are tubes inside the tire, how to get air into them, from where, how much pressure they should have and how to measure it?

Look over all the little parts that hold your bike together. Make sure all of them are tight. Did you lose any part and, if so, do you have a replacement? Look for any rust, especially caused by salt spread during the Winter? How do you get it off? If you check your bike over routinely and do your own basic maintenance, you'll save taking it to a pro.

When working with tools and supplies, rule #1 is to put it back where you found it--somebody organized them so we can find what we need: Tools are arranged by kind and size, with supplies in containers near them if you need a replacement.: For your bike maintenance, do you need: Wrenches (open-ended or closed, adjustable), pliers (needle-nosed, adjustable). Screws: look at the head to know if you need a straight or Phillips' head screwdriver.

or just an Allen wrench

(?). Or they might be bolts with nuts turned on their flat ends.

What would you do if you got a flat tire during your ride? If there's a hole in the tube, could you patch it? If you need to replace tubes or tires, what size would you get?

We're glad this tune-up was a family project. We learned so much. We're ready to ride and have fun. Before every ride though, we're told to do the A B C check: air, brakes, chain.

As we bike or walk, we are thankful for less litter along the roadsides. People are now littering much less; most now seems to be a result of wind. Perhaps your 4-H club will pick up litter along a given road. Earth Day is the 22nd but we care for our earth every day. We see the three Rs symbol on collection bins reminding us that we Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. We REDUCE the amount of waste we put into them when we refill our water bottles, compost or feed animals our food waste... We find that if we can avoid getting containers, we don't have to get rid of them--and it could be a health benefit, too, as with drink cans and bottles. How do we avoid using straws? Ask grandparents for all the ways they used and washed cloth items instead of using paper: napkins, for cleaning, for runny noses -- there were no tissues. Handkerchiefs became works of art as edgings were crocheted around them. A bride carried a special handkerchief that became a family heirloom. Ask if you have some in your family. Men still match their tie with one in their jacket pocket. Dishes were washed, no paper plates thrown into the trash. Think of all the ways we save trees/paper: reusable containers for food, using both sides of a sheet of paper... Slates were used in country schools; you use your tablet+ When we do dispose of paper, we use it as fire starters. Newspaper is absorbent, then we let it dry and burn it. This even works as bedding when we raise baby chicks, right girls?

Continued on next page

Piano Man tribute



Fort Salem Theater presents "River of Dreams," a musical tribute to the iconic Billy Joel, running one night only: Friday, May 19 at 7:30PM. Tickets are on sale now, ranging from \$27-\$36.

"River of Dreams" features many of Billy Joel's greatest hits, including "Uptown Girl," "Piano Man," and "New York State of Mind," performed by John Cozolino, who is nationally known as one of the best Billy Joel tributes in the US. Cozolino leads a 5-piece band in the popular act.

"We're thrilled to bring 'River

of Dreams' to the stage at Fort Salem Theater," said Executive and Artistic Director Kyle West. "Billy Joel's music has been a part of the American soundtrack for decades, and this show celebrates that legacy in a way that local music fans are going to love."

Tickets for "River of Dreams" are available now at fortsaalem.com or by calling the box office at (518) 854-9200. Don't miss your chance to experience this incredible tribute to one of America's greatest musical icons.

Sun (cont.)

We REUSE items for our crafts, gardening, music instruments... To RECYCLE, companies can make new products, as plastics into playground items. We thank the GCS students in the STOP program for their collections.

By the way, did your school group order and plant tree seedlings? The Lorax would be proud of you.

Rachel Carson wrote "Silent Spring." As we hear the birds and other sounds of nature, we are glad that is not true.

If we need this or so many other previously-owned books, we have so many to choose from among the 30,000+ at the Owl Pen when it re-opens on the 29th. Well named when it was started some 60 years ago in farm buildings. As we browse, we could hear music from the vinyl record collection. Do you have some, or do you use them to decorate the walls of your room like Isabella does?

Congratulations to all our area athletes on their

accomplishments as the indoor sports' season winds down. Now on to Spring sports. Have you signed up for the Battenkill Lacrosse Club? You PreK and K Lil' Laxers can have fun on Sat mornings. If you're Grade 1-6, you'll play home and away games.

Remember the Fiber Tour on the 29th & 30th when you can make the rounds of sheep, goat, even rabbit farms to visit the animals that produce what keeps you warm in Winter. We can also visit Battenkill Fibers to see how the fiber is cleaned and straightened/carded and spun into yarn.

Also during April, Jo-Ann Fabrics is holding a fund-raiser to benefit 4-H, so as you 4-Hers get supplies for your sewing and crafting projects, you are benefiting.

RC Churches News

Masses at Holy Cross Catholic Church are Sunday at 8:15 AM and Tuesday at 9 AM. St. Patrick's celebrates on Sunday at 11:30 AM and on Wednesday at 9 AM. Immaculate Conception in Hoosick Falls Masses are Saturday at 4 PM and Sunday at 10 AM and Monday at 9 AM. The daily Mass will be cancelled if there is a funeral at that time.

The Holy Week Schedule: St. Patrick's will hold a Holy Thursday Mass on April 6, followed by a potluck dinner at 6 PM. Good Friday, April 7, there will be: Stations of the Cross at Holy Cross at noon, also at noon The Way of the Cross in Hoosick Falls beginning at Immaculate Conception. At 6 PM Immaculate Conception will hold a Good Friday Service. On Saturday, Holy Cross will hold the Easter Vigil at 8 PM. Easter Sunday Masses are at their regular time.

There will be a Community Job Fair and Volunteer Expo on Tuesday, April 25, from 12 - 3 pm at the Hoosick Falls Armory at 80 Church St. Organizers felt it will be a great way to facilitate getting together in one place to benefit all. Registration is \$65 which helps cover the cost of the event. The event will also include civic organizations seeking members. For questions and registration info call or email Gail Smith at 518-390-4986, or pray4yougms@gmail.com. Gail is the Outreach Coordinator Hoosick Falls Community Alliance Church.

For additional information and articles of interest, please go to battenkillcatholic.org.

Please consider donating to the Salem and/or Cambridge Food pantries. The Salem pantry is in need of pasta, cereal, paper towels and toilet paper. The Cambridge site needs breakfast items. Donations are greatly appreciated.

—Submitted by Rose Mary Sheffield

U.S. Grant, family man

"Grant Cottage: A Story of Family Devotion" is the subject of the Old Saratoga Historical Association's meeting on Thursday, April 27, at 7 pm at the Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville.

Most think of Ulysses S. Grant as the commanding general in the Civil War and a two-term U.S. President, but those closest to him also knew him as a loving family man. Join Grant's eldest son Fred (portrayed by living historian Ben Kemp) as he shares the compelling story of how his father ended up spending his final days on the picturesque heights of Mount McGregor in Saratoga County, New York. The story is a touching inspirational tale of family devotion and a true character study of a man known for his triumph over adversity. The program will feature a question & answer session and a brief overview of major projects planned at the historic site.

Ben Kemp was born and raised in the Saratoga region. He is a living historian, speaker, and researcher who has been featured by C-Span, PBS, the National Park Service, and on the 2020 History channel documentary Grant. Ben has been a staff member at Grant Cottage Historic Site since 2014. His research into Grant has been primarily focused on the lesser-known private life of U.S. Grant, especially his family life. This research has revealed a relatable figure and fostered a fresh appreciation for the man who saved the Union. Ben is a contributor to the recently released book Grant at 200: Reconsidering the Life and Legacy of Ulysses S. Grant celebrating the bicentennial of U.S. Grant's birth.

Coincidentally, the program is presented on 201st anniversary

of Grant's birth. The meeting is open to all, free of charge.



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Breakfast and a raffle

Ashlar Lodge is excited to announce the availability of 50/50 raffle tickets during their upcoming Good Sunday Morning Breakfast Buffet on May 7, with all raffle proceeds going to support the Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI). The Lodge is dedicated to advancing patient care and finding new treatments for diseases affecting millions.

The popular farm-to-table experience at the Good Sunday Morning Breakfast Buffet has become a favorite among friends and families. Guests can indulge in a delicious spread of pancakes, waffles, eggs, bacon, sausages, home fries, and all the fixings for a suggested donation of \$12 for adults and \$6 for veterans and children (12 and under). The last breakfast buffet for the spring is Sunday, May 7, 2023, from 7:30 - 11 am.

The Lodge proudly supports the Masonic Medical Research Institute (MMRI) through this 50/50 raffle fundraiser. According to an MMRI Board of Directors member, Dr. Peter Gray said, "Research like ours is essential in advancing patient care and finding new treatments for diseases that affect millions of people."

"We are grateful for the community's support towards the Lodge and MMRI," said Brian Nilsen, master of Ashlar Lodge. "We encourage everyone to join us at the upcoming Good Sunday Morning Breakfast Buffet on May 7 and participate in the 50/50 raffle to win big while supporting a great cause."

In addition to the 50/50 raffle, the Good Sunday Morning Breakfast Buffet features a delicious spread of locally-sourced farm-fresh ingredients, including Thomas Poultry Farm Eggs and Ruts Ridge Sausage and Bacon. The buffet is priced at a suggested donation of \$12 for adults and \$6 for veterans and children (12 and under). The breakfast buffets for March 5 and April 2, 2023 have already been a huge success, and the Lodge looks forward to continuing to provide a high-quality breakfast experience that commemorates their 190 years of masons in Greenwich.

"We knew we would do well if we provided a farm-to-table experience, and the response has been tremendous," said Nilsen. "Our Lodge has several farmers, and with their expertise, we sourced local food from their neighbors' farms. We are dedicated to producing the highest quality breakfast that brings the community together."

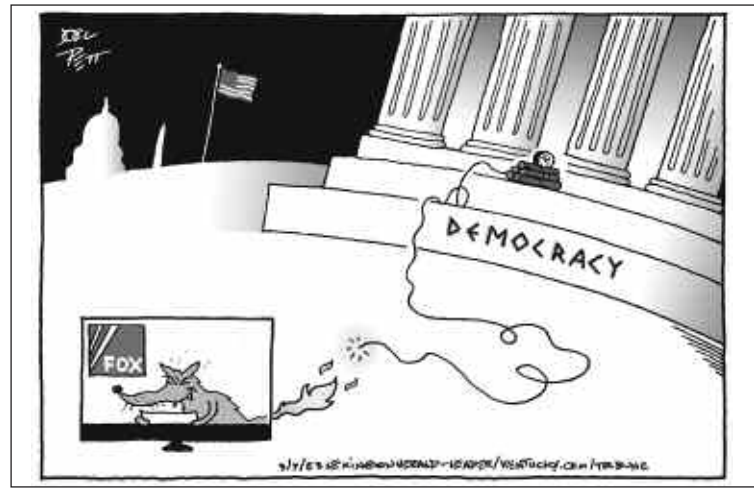
Reservations are not required, but the Lodge will try to accommodate any special requests. Guests can contact Brian Nilsen at (518) 366-3108 with any questions.

Don't miss the upcoming Good Sunday Morning Breakfast Buffet on May 7 at Ashlar Lodge.

Sign up for email reminders by sending an email to goodsundaybreakfast@gmail.com and be entered to win a free breakfast.

An Artist's Take

Political Cartoon of the Week by Joel Pett



JUMBLE

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

SREHF

RNSLA

PUYGMS

NCLEUT

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

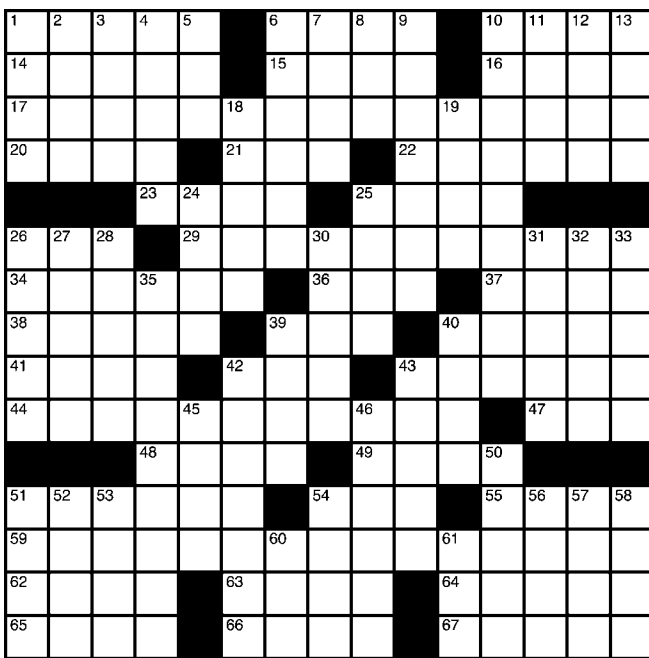


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

“ ”

Coila Crossword

(solution page 22)



Across

- 1 Treble symbol
- 6 "Do the ___!"
- 10 Toppers with visors
- 14 Siri's Amazon counterpart
- 15 Felipe of baseball
- 16 "The Thin Man" canine role
- 17 Monument on one end of the National Mall
- 20 Cathedral recess
- 21 Expected-in hr.
- 22 At first, say
- 23 Falsehood source
- 25 Rice-like pasta
- 26 Eleven-yr.-old insurance law
- 29 Singer of the 2019 #1 hit "Se-orita"
- 34 Mall cop's ride
- 36 "Brava!"
- 37 Schoolbook
- 38 O. ___
- 39 ___ rub: BBQ spices
- 40 One with a need for speed
- 41 Bread spread
- 42 Bro's sib
- 43 Mexican state south of

Veracruz

- 44 Local political gathering
- 47 "Acid"
- 48 Capricorn critter
- 49 Poker variety
- 51 Chosen groups
- 54 Watched
- 55 File format for digital books
- 59 Upscale restaurant's offering
- 62 Christian on a label
- 63 "Marriage Story" actor Alan
- 64 "We didn't do it"
- 65 Tall tale
- 66 Itchy red area
- 67 Foe found phonetically in four puzzle answers

Down

- 1 Lavish party
- 2 Film segment
- 3 Many a Zeiss product
- 4 Shine
- 5 Toy retailer ___ Schwarz
- 6 Meditation word
- 7 ___ mater
- 8 Piggy in a crib

9 "It's weird, but just do it"

- 10 Ecological levy
- 11 Himalayas locale
- 12 Education orgs.
- 13 Bargain hunter's delight
- 18 Patrick ___, Vermont senator since 1975
- 19 Cinq plus six
- 24 Words to an old chap
- 25 Sole
- 26 Had ___ : was still in the running
- 27 Songwriter Green
- 28 Nixon's first veep
- 30 Razzie Award adjective
- 31 Hot rod attachment
- 32 Management bigwigs
- 33 Highly coveted violin
- 35 Right that isn't right, e.g.

39 Paleo ___

- 40 Tortellini topper
- 42 Five-armed ocean creature
- 43 When a football may be snapped
- 45 Springfield bar
- 46 Old Testament prophet
- 50 Exorcist's target
- 51 Jacuzzi effect
- 52 Kylo Ren's mother
- 53 Composer Stravinsky
- 54 Criteria: Abbr.
- 56 Best of the Beatles, once
- 57 Word on U.S. coins
- 58 At it
- 60 ___ carte
- 61 Omaha-to-St. Paul dir.

Argyle Acrostic

By Frank J. D'Agostino (solution page 22)

Find these words that are associated with summer travel.

Carry-On
Coach
Cruise
Depot
Drive
Fare
Ferry
Guide
Hotel
Inns
Jetlag

Light Rail
Luggage
Maps
Motel
Pack
Passengers
Rails
Roads
Route
Subway
Taxi

Train
Views
Visa
Voyage

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

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

JUMBLE FOR KIDS

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME!®
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

The letters of these crazy words are all mixed up. To play the game, put them back into the right order so that they make real words you can find in your dictionary. Write the letters of each real word under each crazy word, but only one letter to a square.

TYR

GACE

FEAS

HSIS

Go back up, and get your shin guards. Hurry! We need to get moving!

Oh, yeah.

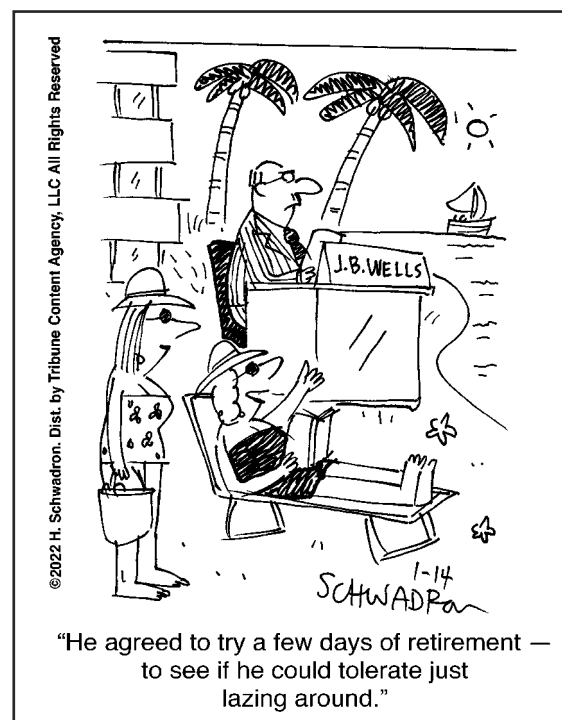
WHAT GOES UP AND DOWN, BUT NEVER MOVES?

Color me

Now you're ready to solve today's Jumble For Kids. Study the picture for a hint. Play around with the letters in the circles. You'll find you can put them in order so that they make your funny answer.

Answer here: A

9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



The rhythm of words and ideas

April is National Poetry Month, or NaMoPo for those who love a good abbreviation. The library is celebrating by hosting a partnership with writer, teacher, and local treasure Bonnie Hoag. Patrons and community members are invited to join Bonnie for a workshop on Thursday April 27th from 7:00 - 9:00. Participants should bring a favorite poem to share with the group. This could be an original poem or something from a beloved poet. Anything goes from Shakespeare to Rosetti to modern poets like Clint Smith or Amanda Gorman. Or, compose your own verse for the occasion! Following the share, workshop participants (or perhaps *wordshop* is a better term...) will work together, under Bonnie's guidance, to create a collective work.

All writers and would-be writers are invited, ages 16 and up. No matter your experience, your voice is valuable and we want to hear it. It takes courage to write poetry, and the world could use more courage.

The library workshop is free to the public, but those who are craving more can register for a paid series at Dionondehowa Wildlife Sanctuary and School in Shushan. Bonnie will lead the class each Thursday in May from 6:30 - 9:00 PM, and it is open to all writers and their form preference.

Thrillingly, the Dionondehowa workshop participants will be invited back to the library on Thursday June 1st at 7:00 PM to share their work—poetry or prose, whether fully realized or as works-in-progress—with each other and with the public. Writers Reading is another free event at the library.

Bonnie Hoag: writer, performer, citizen

Bonnie has been writing for a very long time. She may be a Madame Defarge of words, knitting ideas. She has three collections of short stories and essays: *View from The Museum Window*, *Thirsty Dust*, and *What I Meant to Say*. And one collection of poems: *Contents Under Pressure*.

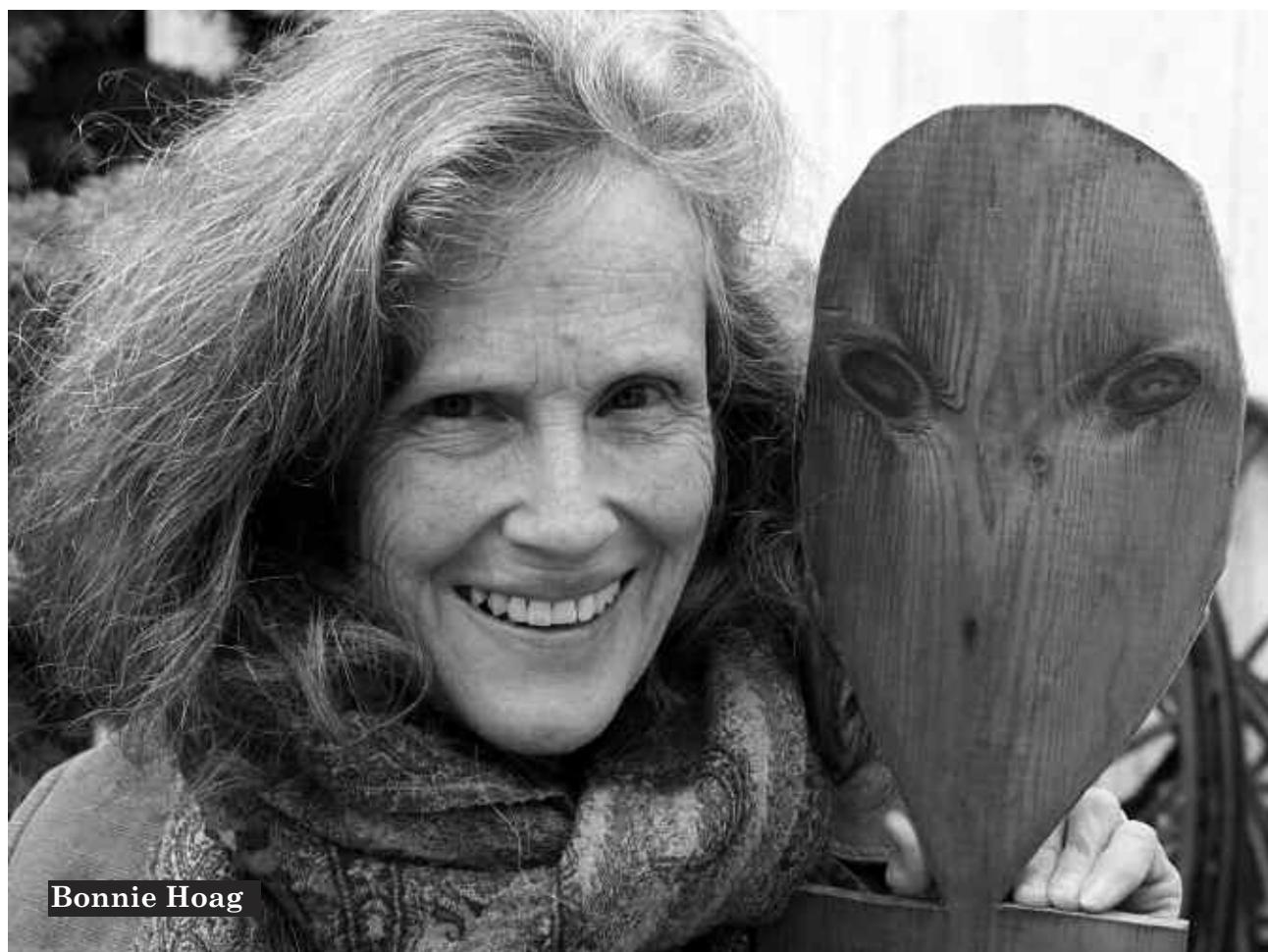
Bonnie has also written two illustrated children's books: *The Dragon Story* and *Carving the Stick*. And an Ahhhh-pera: *The Rift* - which is sung annually by brave souls who invent the tune for her "libretto".

For over forty years Bonnie has offered imaginative writing retreats and inventive workshops through many venues and - since 1995 - at Dionondehowa in Shushan.

On her way there Bonnie has bicycled across the US, backpacked in the Dolomites, run for Greenwich Town Supervisor, created jewelry through Village Crafts & Curios, founded the Battenkill Conservancy, protested HAARP and Geoen지니어ing, and co-founded Dionondehowa Wildlife Sanctuary & School where she focuses her work these days.

Bonnie has performed her poetry on The Wharf in San Francisco, in the lofts of New York City and more locally at the State Museum, The Metro, Salem Art Works, and schools & libraries.

Three Poems from Bonnie Hoag



Bonnie Hoag

*The Little Pond is shivering.
A skittering wind
chatters across its skin.*

*I look again:
the sun is setting
IN the Little Pond.
I saw it
with my very-own eyes.*

*With no kerplunk
no kerplop
as might well-be expected.*

*Instead... the skin
goes silent
with this
skimming brimming nimbus.*

*I look again:
the disc broadens
swims easily*

*where
only moments ago
a rippling chill
might have said no.*

*You see? You see?
It is always
every moment
releasing itself
from itself:
from that first, second
third, fourth form*

*but too quick
too smooth
to count.*

*I am grateful
for the tiny hummingbird
who reappears May 9th
from thousands of miles away
I'm told
(and I have no reason to doubt it...)
who brings with her
my own sense of belonging
as though the rigid winds of winter
had flung me to Bolivia...
who returns to me
a blessed sense of order
and the possibility:
if one so tiny can get through
that I might, too.*

*Oh my... dear swallowtail
bumping my window
to say hello? or
are you dizzy
from being born?*

*I knew you as a worm:
bright green yellow black.
How splendid you were
even then
in your prison stripes
crawling your way
toward sleep.*

*Here I am half-worm
Half-butterfly
dreaming of wings.*

- B.E. Hoag from her collection "50 years of poems: Contents Under Pressure"

If you go...

Poetry Wordshop at the Library: Thursday April 27, 7:00 - 9:00 PM, register at greenwichfreelibrary.org or by calling 518-692-7157

Workshop series with Bonnie at Dionondehowa: Thursdays in May, 6:30 -

9:00, register by calling 518-320-0502 or writing to dionondehowa@yahoo.com

Writers Reading at Greenwich Free Library: Thursday June 1, 7:00 PM, no registration required

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Fun & Games

(solution below)

Boggle BrainBusters!
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

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

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

Boggle BrainBusters Bonus
We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?
Find AT LEAST SIX U.S. PRESIDENTS (LAST NAMES) in the grid of letters.

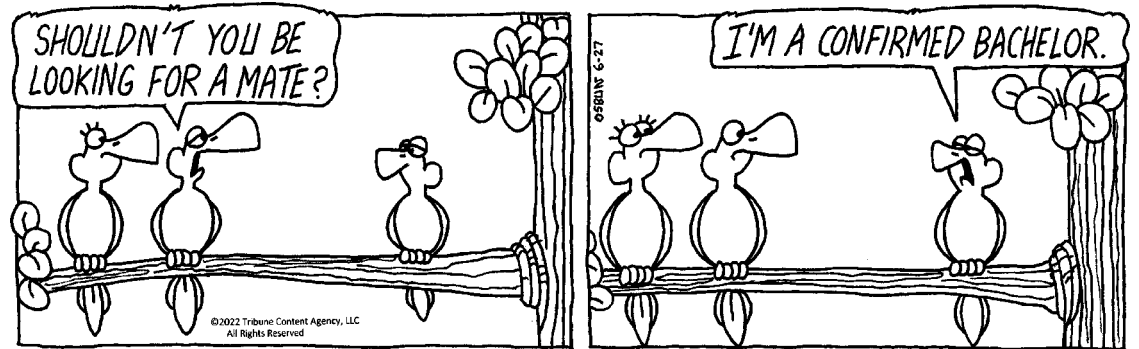
Answers to Last Sunday's Boggle BrainBusters:
WHALE HORSE ZEBRA CAMEL OTTER SLOTH HYENA

Salem Sudoku

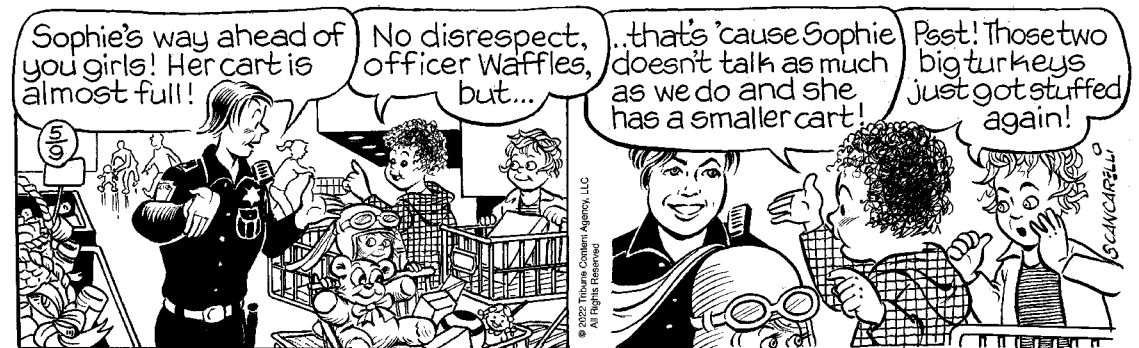
(solution below)

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

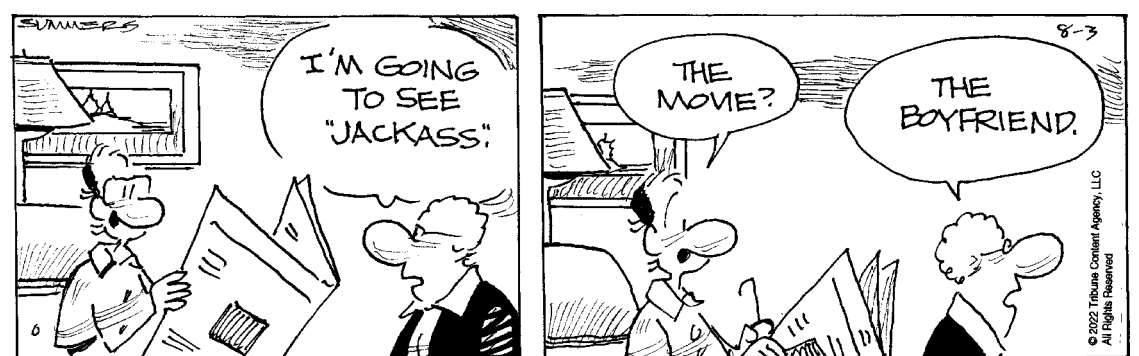
Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



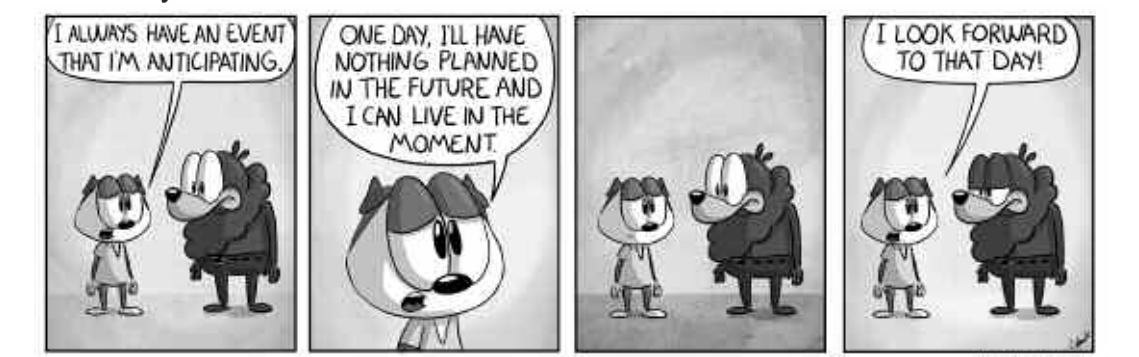
Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



The Middletons by Dana Summers



Filbert by LA Bonté



Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



Answers

Boggle: TAFT POLK PIERCE CARTER TRUMAN MONROE

Jumble: FRESH SNARL GYPSUM LUCENT -- "SUTURE" FANCY

Kid: TRY CAGE SAFE HISS -- A STAIRCASE

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

SCRABBLE G R A M S

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A ₁	A ₁	A ₁	T ₁	N ₁	S ₁	C ₃			
A ₁	A ₁	A ₁	M ₃	M ₃	L ₁	G ₂			
E ₁	E ₁	E ₁	N ₁	S ₁	D ₂	F ₄			
A ₁	A ₁	Y ₄	H ₄	W ₄	T ₁	P ₃			
A ₁	I ₁	K ₅	R ₁	T ₁	T ₁	L ₁			

2nd Letter Triple

Double Word Score

PAR SCORE 260-270
BEST SCORE 335
FIVE RACK TOTAL _____
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

It's married vs. single men

Here is where we look at past editions of *The Journal & Press* from late April decades ago...

70 Years Ago April 22, 1953

This Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the central school gymnasium, there will be two sports contests between married and single men of the community. Volleyball and basketball games will be played, and the games promise to be close, exciting battles. The program is being presented by the Greenwich men's athletic association. ... Donations will be accepted and given to the local cancer fund. Married men who will play in the contests this evening are: Loris Brownell, Bruce Cornell, Red Nicholl; Charles Edgington, Charles Kipp, Frank Ketchum, Tom Foster, Ken De Ragon, Nate Langdon, Vince Rathgeber, Harwood Brownell, Jack Ross and Bill Murphy. The bechelors who will meet them are Sonny Nolan, Willard Fletcher, Bob Pecht, Roland Mann, Steve Duket, Ed Cox, Gil Ruddock, Riley DeVoe, Chris Yandell, Don Wilbur, Bob Duket, Blois Barbur, Corky Langdon and Al Corcoran.

40 Years Ago April 28, 1983

At a meeting April 22 between the officials of the Mary McClellan hospital and officers of the Key bank it was announced that the bank has agreed to finance the \$1.3M commercial loan for the hospital's building project. This agreement completes

the loan package for the hospital's \$4.5M program that will replace areas of the hospital that are outdated and inefficient. A new east wing will be constructed to house emergency, radiology, intensive and coronary care, isolation and 16 semiprivate rooms replacing the current 10-bed wards. ... Michael P. Quinn, administrative vice president of Key Bank in Albany, stated. "It is a pleasure for us to make this loan and recognize the progress that Mary McClellan hospital has made in serving the health care needs of this wide ranging rural area."

20 Years Ago April 17, 2003

Richard A. Braiman, 49, passed away on Sunday, April 13, at his home in Burnt Hills of cancer. He was an English teacher at Greenwich Central School, teaching ninth grade classes.

Prior to teaching, he had been employed in the hotel restaurant industry. In addition to his AAS degree in hotel technology from Schenectady County Community College, he earned a BS in communications from SUNY Brockport, and an MS in developmental reading from SUNY Albany. ... Mr. Braiman was a golfer and enjoyed cooking. His funeral was held Tuesday. Greenwich Central's high school was closed for the day.

—Compiled by Darren Johnson

And He Wonders Why You Say "Please Speak More Distinctly"

YOU'VE talked with him over the telephone and you've noticed the tone of surprise in his voice when you say "speak louder." Sometimes he thinks you are hard of hearing or else the connection is poor.

The telephone is a wonder-worker, yes, but it cannot overcome failure to use it properly.

It works best when you talk straight into the mouthpiece, with your lips not more than an inch away. Each added inch between your lips and the mouthpiece is the equivalent of adding 120 miles to the distance your voice must travel.

Another suggestion: If you are told to "speak louder," get closer to the mouthpiece, use a full natural tone and take extra care to pronounce each word clearly and distinctly.

New York Telephone Company
Visit the Central Office and see how your calls are handled

An ad from 100 years ago

WCF readies for June

The annual parade and street fair celebrating the founding of Greenwich will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 16 and 17, under the sponsorship of the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce. The theme for this year's Whipple City parade is "Small Town Pride," while the Saturday street fair is envisioned as a "Block Party."

The parade will form in the Big Lots parking area at 5 p.m. on Friday, stepping off at 6 p.m. along Main Street, then onto Hill and Bleeker streets. Entertainment will be provided by Road House Rhythm and Blues in the Mowry Park gazebo immediately following the parade.

The parade will include dignitaries, floats, classic cars, fire trucks, horses, bands, and groups of local walkers. Chairing the parade this year is Rulyn Graves. Entry forms are available at whipplecityfestival.com or the Chamber info@greenwichchamber.org. The Chamber is seeking suggestions from the public for the parade grand marshal; nomina-

tions may be submitted to info@greenwichchamber.org. The grand marshal will select the best overall entry in the parade.

The "Block Party" is scheduled for Saturday, when Main Street will be closed from the light to John Street between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.. Businesses will be open, and a variety of vendors will line the street. Food vendors, along with family-friendly activities and games, will be set up in Wallie's parking lot and the adjacent green space. Music and food options will be available until 10 p.m. The festival will conclude with hometown favorite Eastbound Jesus performing. The community is encouraged to gather in a celebration of the warm and welcoming spirit of our small town.

The festival honors Job Whipple (1749-

1822), owner of the earliest mills along the Battenkill and considered to be the founder of Greenwich.



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C ₃	A ₁	N ₁	A ₁	S ₁	T ₁	A ₁	RACK 1 =	59
A ₁	M ₃	A ₁	L ₁	G ₂	A ₁	M ₃	RACK 2 =	68
D ₂	E ₁	F ₄	E ₁	N ₁	S ₁	E ₁	RACK 3 =	61
P ₃	A ₁	T ₁	H ₄	W ₄	A ₁	Y ₄	RACK 4 =	86
T ₁	I ₁	T ₁	L ₁	A ₁	R ₁	K ₅	RACK 5 =	61

PAR SCORE 260-270 **TOTAL 335**

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Date/movie night for kids/adults

There will be a Movie Night for Kids and a Date Night for Parents offered on April 28 from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Centenary United Methodist Church at 1 Gray Ave., Greenwich. The night will include supper, games and a children's film for ages 4-up. All are welcome. Supervision by Safe Sanctuary certified staff. Reservations required. Contact 518-961-1910 or meli44race@gmail.com.

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