Greenwich Journal

& Salem Press of Washington County

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Solar farms' bumper crop

Late April 2024 Vol. 183; Issue 8

Our comprehensive look at the growth of green energy here

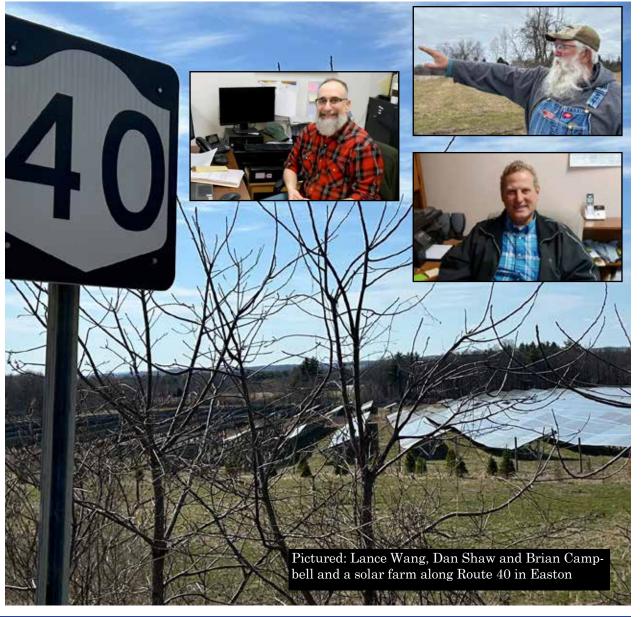
In a three-page spread, we look at the rapid growth of solar farms in our region, speaking to area supervisors including (pictured, L-R) Lance Wang of White Creek, Dan Shaw of Easton and Brian Campbell of Hebron, among others. How are municipalities ensuring they are up to code, and what does the future hold?

Please read more starting on page 2



Union Village Fest announced – 7





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Solar farms and plans for our region

Maureen Cary and Robin Lyle Journal & Press

Driving through rural Washington County has always guaranteed views of rolling hills and beautiful valleys dotted with dairy farms and apple orchards. But today there's a new sight to take in: acres and acres of solar panels where fields and farmland once were.

Currently, there are over 806 solar projects operating in Washington County, generating more than 80 megawatts (MW) of power. That number includes smaller residential installations, community solar projects, and utility-scale solar farms. These larger-scale solar farms can provide much needed revenue to farmers and produce higher amounts of clean energy than residential or community solar. Utility-scale operations feed directly into the electrical grid for distribution across the state. It is estimated that a typical 20 MW site covering approximately 100 acres would be able to power about 5,500 homes.

Utility-scale solar farms are a direct outgrowth of the state and federal governments' goal of transitioning from fossil fuels to clean energy. Alternatives like solar, wind, and hydro-electric power are considered necessary to address climate change. (See Climate Action Legislation sidebar.)

Over the past month, elected officials in several of the towns in the catchment area of the Journal & Press were interviewed, along with other stakeholders, about the growth of solar energy development and the large solar projects currently in various stages of planning. Utility-scale solar development in this area has varied widely by community.

Easton

More solar farm development has



taken place in Easton than in any of the other towns in the Journal's catchment area to date. Currently, the town is home to two operational utility-scale solar farms.

Town Supervisor Dan Shaw said he was initially told that "energy capacity limits" would prohibit additional solar development in Easton. But he anticipates there could be upgrades to the high-power transmission lines required for the utility-scale solar farms that could "open up a ton more opportunities for solar farms," adding he thinks all signs point to more solar.

He said the appearance of large arrays and the loss of bucolic views are frequent complaints from residents. "We don't have any restrictions. We need some restrictions. If we don't have anything, they're going to do whatever they want. The most we can hope for is we can steer them to get property that is not prime agricultural land," Shaw said, adding that Easton has now implemented a moratorium on renewable energy and battery storage to give the town more time to consider how best to manage potential future growth.

"We're collecting data and trying

Please read more on next page

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(cont.)

to come up with something that is fair," said Shaw, adding, "Everyone on the committee feels 'how far do we speak into the lives of property owners about what you can and cannot do.' For the last 100 years we've said you can do whatever you want."

The first utility-scale solar farm in Easton is in the southwestern part of the town along Crandall's Corners and McGowan Roads. This was the first project of this size to begin construction in upstate New York. It opened in 2021 with a ribbon cutting ceremony presided over by then Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul.

A second operational facility has high visibility from Route 40 between North Easton and Crandall's Corners. Both projects were developed through a partnership with CS Energy and Goldman Sachs Renewable Power Group. Each generates more than 20 MW and covers approximately 100 acres.

A third solar farm, proposed by Boralex, a Canadian developer, is in the planning stages. The project has local approval but is pending a New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) contract award, expected later this month. It has not yet begun construction.

This solar farm will cover a 136-acre area between Windy Hill Road and Old Schuylerville Road, north of Route 29. It will be built on land that had been operating as a sand and gravel mine between 1984 and 2013. Boralex materials online say, "the solar facility is anticipated to have a 30-

Open forum

An in-person open house for the Fort Edward solar farm project is scheduled for Thursday, April 18th from 5-8 p.m. at the Durkeetown Church, 2 Durkeetown Road in Fort Edward. According to materials available online, Boralex "will provide information on the current project area, results from field studies, and discuss our intention to submit an application to the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES)." For more information visit Boralex.com/Ft.Edward. 40-year lifespan, after which it will be decommissioned, and the land restored to its current or an improved condition."

Boralex spokesman Zack Hutchins said, the company is "cautiously optimistic" the project will be awarded by NYSERDA later this month, but the earliest it is expected to be operational is 2026.

Greenwich

Town Board Supervisor Jim Nolan and Planning Chairman Bill Tomkins both expressed confidence that zoning regulations in place in Greenwich since 2007 provide the tools they need to manage solar development well. Regulations ensure that land developed for solar will include no more than 20% of prime agricultural soil. In addition, the regulations require buffers and screening, as well as other land use restrictions, to protect the prized views.

Greenwich regulations require developers to include plans for is agricultural production, such as crop or livestock production or pollinator habitats, underneath or adjacent to solar panels.

"I think we did a good job of making sure the public was protected and the ag land was protected. I think it will fit in," said Tomkins.

Boralex, the same developer operating in Easton, has plans to build a large solar farm on approximately 140 acres on Bald Mountain in Greenwich. The land is currently being used for corn and hay production. The project has local approval, but like the Easton project, is currently waiting to hear whether they will be awarded the proj-

ect contract through NYSERDA. Boralex's spokesman said he does not expect the project to be operational until 2026, although a firm date is hard to predict.

Tomkins said Boralex has agreed to plant rows of different varieties of 6-foottall trees for screening, and to set the solar arrays deep in the landscape, explaining that "Greenwich is stringent about screening. When it's built, if you try really hard at a certain time of year, you might be able to see it."

Fort Edward

Another Boralex site is also planned for Fort Edward. While the town is not

Legislation

In 2019, the New York State Legislature passed landmark legislation entitled the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA). CLCPA was enacted to dramatically reduce reliance on fossil fuels by transitioning to renewable energy sources such as wind and solar. The law mandates that by 2030, 70% of the state's electricity will be coming from renewable sources.

In regards specifically to solar energy, CLCPA sets an intermediate target of six gigawatts statewide, by the year 2025. A single gigawatt is enough energy to power about 750,000 homes. Many of the solar farms so far developed in Washington County are in the 5 to 25 MW range, although a project planned for the Ft. Edward Grasslands is set for 100 megawatts.

in the Journal's catchment area, it's significant nonetheless, because of its large scale and location. When completed, the site will cover several large parcels of land totaling more than 750 acres and will generate 100 MW of power. A large portion of it will be built on the Fort Edward Grasslands, a critical habitat for declining populations of short-eared owls. The site isn't expected to be operational until 2027.

Hebron

Early on, Hebron Supervisor Brian Campbell didn't really think utility-scale solar development was likely there. So, while he was a bit surprised when a 20 MW, 125-acre installation was proposed, he wasn't surprised by the location - the northeast corner of town near Granville. This area of Hebron lies closest to a utility substation where the facility can connect to high-power transmission lines.

"I knew the only place we were going to get it would be right there. And lo and behold, that's where it is," he said. Unlike other local developments, where developers lease the land, in this case it was purchased by a company based in Rochester, Norbut

Please read more on page six

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LOCAL THEATER

'Cinderella' for one weekend only

Schuylerville Community Theater (SCT) is happy to announce its magical rendition of the dearly beloved Rodgers and Hammerstein fairytale musical: Cinderella! This enchanting performance is set to take place between April 26th-28th in Schuylerville Central School's High School auditorium.

Cinderella was originally written by Charles Perrault 1697. The first musical version of this classic fairytale was brought to life in 1965 and has remained a theatre classic for decades due to its whimsical storyline, beautiful romance arch and captivating score.

The timeless fairytale centers around the beloved protagonist Cinderella, whose resilience shines through despite the host of challenges she faces from a tender age. Reduced to the role of a maid in her own home by her stepmother and stepsisters, Cinderella's unwavering optimism serves as her guiding light through loss and adversity. An extraordinary opportunity presents itself when the whole kingdom is invited to a grand ball hosted by the king and queen. With a touch of magic from her fairy godmother, Cinderella is transported into a world of opulence, donning elegant ballgowns, riding in carriages, and even slipping into a pair of glass slippers—only until midnight!

Entranced by the enchanting ambiance of the ball, Cinderella finds herself immersed in a realm vastly different from her own. Serendipity intervenes as she captures the attention of the kingdom's charismatic prince. Spellbound by her grace and allure, the prince is drawn to her side, and amidst the whirl of music and joy, the stroke of midnight heralds Cinderella's hasty departure. In her wake, she leaves behind a single glass slipper—a tantalizing clue that propels the prince on a quest to find the mysterious beauty who has captured his heart.

Schuylerville Community Theatre's production of Cinderella is directed by the fabulous Jonathan Pate and this local production has a collection of gifted actors and actresses that are passionate about bring-



ing the life of Cinderella on stage. Sarah Cordts, Brain Fitzgerald, Helen Annely,

'Beethoven: Live' at Fort Salem

Fort Salem Theater has announced the full cast and creative team for the upcoming developmental production of "Beethoven: Live in Concert," a groundbreaking rock musical written by Jad Jacob, which performs April 19, 20 & 21 on the theater's mainstage. Tickets are now on sale at www. FortSalem.com

"Beethoven: Live in Concert" is a new original musical about the world's first rock star: Ludwig van Beethoven. Bringing the famous composer to life, the rock 'n roll revolution of the 70s takes center stage, as Beethoven transforms the world of classical music into an electrifying rock journey through his tumultuous life. From political revolution, to scandalous affairs, to his struggles with encroaching deafness, this is the story of the man who defied fate and changed music forever. Sarah Beth Pfeifer (Broadway's "The Lightning Thief") joins the cast as Josephine Brunsvik, a widowed Countess and piano student, with whom Beethoven begins a scandalous affair. She joins the previously announced Jad Jacob (Ludwig van Beethoven), who leads an ensemble cast.

"Beethoven: Live in Concert" is directed by Em Hausmann, with choreography by Gabi Bazinet Douglas and music direction by Emily Rose.

Performances run Friday, April 19 (7:30PM), Saturday, April 20 (7:30PM), and Sunday, April 21 (2:00PM). All performances are on the Fort Salem Theater mainstage, located at 11 E Broadway, Salem NY 12090. Tickets range from \$20-\$36 and can be purchased at www.FortSalem.com. Donna Dodd Thomas, Katie Hawksby, Dane Martin, Aimee McMaster, Michael Nichols-Pate and Lauren Risley have worked diligently to bring this production to life with the aid of our wonderful extended cast and crew!

Performances are Fri. April 26 (7:30pm), Sat. April 27 (2pm and 7:30pm) and Sun. April 28 (2pm). Tickets for the show are priced at \$24 for Adults, \$22 for Students & Seniors and \$10 for those who are 10 years old or younger. Tickets can be reserved by calling 518-695-5480 or by visiting www.scttheater.org.



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Solar arrays (cont.)

Solar Farm, for \$7,600 per acre, totaling \$950,000 for the parcel.

Without solar specific regulations solar farm proposals in Hebron are subject to the same scrutiny as a property subdivision or site plan review. The planning board will notify adjoining property owners by letter and schedule a hearing. While the public can attend and speak in favor or against a proposal, Campbell said final decisions must be made based on established regulations rather than community sentiment.

White Creek

Although no large solar developments have been proposed in White Creek so far, Supervisor Lance Allen Wang believes it's only a matter of time. He noted that rural Washington County has many characteristics favorable to utility-scale solar. Even so, he said the town is taking a "wait and see" approach and not pursuing regulations or restrictions on solar development. Right now, a solar proposal would go before the planning board in a process like Hebron's.

Wang expressed the same regard for the rights of landowners voiced by other towns supervisors. "It's a very rugged individualistic community. No one wants to be told what they can or can't do on their land."

Salem and Cambridge

In Salem, Town Supervisor Sue Clary said the community is working with University of Pennsylvania students on a "Climate Smart Community" designation. Clary said that while there are no plans for a zoning ordinance, a solar law was adopted about two years ago after a large developer went bankrupt before finishing a project and reneged on certain of the town's stipulated regulations – like screening. Clary said Salem enacted a solar law to ensure they have the tools necessary to manage projects and better protect the town.

No large solar development is planned in Cambridge either, but Town Supervisor Catherine Fedler, said a moratorium is currently in place while they work on a solar law.

Argyle

In Argyle, there are two community solar projects of 15 MW each on adjoining parcels. The Dowmont site is just east of Fort Edward off Route 197. The second, Hidden Meadows, is along Mahaffey Road and visible from the Alfred Z. Solomon Grassland Viewing Area on St. James Road. The developer of both projects, Eden Renewables, says on their website that community solar subscriptions are currently reserved for Town of Argyle residents and businesses only.

The Future of Solar

Much remains to be seen about solar development in Washington County. While protecting the viewshed and prime agricultural land is of immediate concern to some, town supervisors mentioned additional concerns, as well.

Bob Henke, Chairman of the Washington County Board of Supervisors, said his biggest concern is decommissioning the facilities. Other supervisors echoed this concern. Even though solar developers are required to have bonds in place to cover future costs of decommissioning, some are not confident the removal of acres of the silver structures and associated infrastructure will be easy or affordable.

The potential for more solar farms and

the possibility of battery storage facilities being built to store energy from them raises even more concerns. All of it has been challenging as town leaders navigate the complex long-term projects, regulations, potential town revenue, and impacts on the wider community.

As the state moves to accelerate the pace of clean energy initiatives, some town leaders have expressed confusion and frustration. "I think everybody is confused by what's going on and what's going to happen next," said Henke. "The town legisla-

NYSERDA

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, NYSER-DA, created in 1975, is tasked with ensuring the energy needs of the state are met while keeping costs affordable and furthering the state's ambitious goals established through CLCPA. NYSER-DA tracks all solar projects in the state from small residential to large installations.

ORES

Concerned that solar development wasn't happening at a pace that was adequate to this goal, NYS created the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES) to fast-track projects of 25 MW or more. These will be considered by ORES, rather than by the local town as they had been previously. Projects between 20-25 MW can be approved by either ORES or the town at the discretion of the solar developer. Smaller projects will bring their case to the town to determine compliance with any zoning or planning board regulations.

tors, town boards can't get far enough ahead of it to decide what sort of regulations they want or would be allowed to have. I think it's very much a ship that's sailing under full steam without a rudder."



Duo offers Whipple City alternative

Darren Johnson Journal & Press

An event called the Whipple City Festival had been hosted in the Village of Greenwich each June in one form or the next since 1980, named after Job Whipple, credited as the village founder. Since 1992, the event had been picked up by the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce.

However, on March 14, the Chamber held a meeting saying that they no longer could handle the event – just three months before its usual run. They cited the meteoric growth of the November Holiday Lighted Tractor Parade as demanding more of their attention, and that the Whipple City Festival had been suffering poor attendance and mixed online reviews in recent years.

The announcement caused some discussion in The Journal & Press's Facebook Subscriber's Group, and word quickly got to Greenwich resident Liv Thygesen, who happened to already have an alternative plan for the event, which she authored, on her hard drive. She teamed up with fellow Greenwich resident Karen Prime to formalize it into a proposal, asking the Village of Greenwich Board of Trustees for a special events permit. The Board passed it unanimously on April 15.

The event – taking place Friday 3 to 9 p.m. and Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., June 14-15 in the Village along Church Street and utilizing Mowry Park – will be called Union Village Fest.





What is now the Village of Greenwich had been called Whipple City for a while and later became known as Union Village before the village adopted the town's name.

Thygesen said that the Union Village

Fest name for the event continues the timeline from Whipple City to the next historic incorporation.

"We're moving forward with history," she said. "We're really try-

ing to tie history into this event, while making it kid-friendly and family-friendly."

The details of the event are still being nailed down, but it should include lots of

community vendors, local businesses showing off their talents via demonstrations (one example Thygesen gave was a local martial arts studio could have instructors and students in gear, replicating a class for an audience).

Also, planners expect there to be lots of food and musical offerings and even a "block party."

Thygesen is not a newcomer to leading events. She previously was president of the Chamber of Commerce and also created a se-

'We're tying history into the event, while making it family-friendly.'

ries of concerts at Mowry Park last summer that were well-attended.

Prime said that while this event will have a new name and new energy, it will truly be a local event with locally-sourced vendors

> and entertainment. "People shouldn't be afraid of change," she said.

> Job Whipple himself hasn't been forgotten, the planners noted. There is talk of an old-timey celebration featuring the

village founder.

Thygesen added: "When I found out that the Whipple City Festival wasn't happening, I realized this is our window of opportunity. ... Here is our chance to bring back to life the history of our town."

Thygesen said that several area groups have given verbal commitments to host events and booths during the festival. This newspaper will publish notice when the schedule becomes official.

Planners are looking for volunteers to help organize and staff this new event. As well, sponsors and vendors are invited to join the fun.

Contact info@unionvillagefest.org or call 518-531-8089 to get involved.



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Walk for suicide awareness, hope

For the fourth year, SUNY Adirondack joins the national Out of the Darkness Campus Walk to increase suicide awareness at 11 a.m. April 27 on the college's Queensbury campus.

This year's event, Hope Walks Here, is part of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's (AFSP) event to draw attention to the fight for suicide prevention.

"Suicide touches one in five American families," said Holly Irion, event organizer, counselor and assistant professor of Counseling at SUNY Adirondack. "Our goal is to de-stigmatize mental health concerns to help prevent our community from suffering such unimaginable losses."

Suicide is the 10th-leading cause of death in the United States, and the second-leading cause in adults ages 20 to 34. Volunteers at the SUNY Adirondack event are joining a quarter of a million people walking in towns across the United States.

Hope Walks Here supports the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's education and support programs. According to the AFSP, the walk is one of more than 550 Out of the Darkness events being held nationwide this year. The walks are expected to unite more than 300,000 walkers and raise millions for suicide prevention efforts.

"These walks are about turning hope into action," said AFSP CEO Robert Gebbia. "The research has shown us how to fight suicide, and if we keep up the fight, the science is only going to get better and our culture will get smarter about mental health. With the efforts of our courageous volunteers, and a real investment from our nation's leaders, we hope to significantly reduce the suicide rate in the United States."

Register for SUNY Adirondack's Hope Walks Here event at afsp.org/sunyadk.

Plattsburgh

SUNY Adirondack and SUNY Plattsburgh Queensbury announced a dual admission agreement on April 16.

Students who apply to select SUNY Adirondack programs will have the option to also be accepted into related bachelor's degree programs at SUNY Plattsburgh at Queensbury, further simplifying the transfer process.



Beavers are 'dam' important

Greenwich Free Library invites the public to join Joey Sendzik from the Albany Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club for a presentation on beavers in the Community Room on Wednesday, April 24, at 7:00pm. He will discuss the historical importance of beavers and the fur trade; beaver behavior, habitats, and the natural history of the beaver; and beaver-human conflicts and conflict resolution. This presentation is open to all, but registration is required. Visit www. greenwichfreelibrary.org or call 518-6927157 to register.

Joey Sendzik is the Trail Maintenance Chair for the Albany Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club. He enjoys hiking, trail running, swimming, and paddling in the Adirondacks. Joey has a passion for learning about wildlife and local history and sharing that passion with others.



Plant and flower sale

The plant sale returns to the Greenwich Free Library on Saturday May 11 on the Greenwich Town Green behind the library, from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. There will be the usual selection of vegetables and herbs as well as more flowers.

Donations of all kinds of plants and seedlings are a major part of the library sale. Gardeners who are currently thinning perennials or starting vegetables or flowers are encouraged to donate extras. Plant donations can be brought the morning of the plant sale by 8:00 AM or by contacting the library. Used planting containers, particularly flower six-packs, are needed immediately, and used pots, tools, and gardening books are welcome as well. Planting containers can be brought to the library anytime during open hours.

Greenwich Free Library is indebted to Windflower Farm and to Andrea Grom and Jason Heitman of Green Jeans Market Farm for support, and the library is also grateful to the local individuals and



businesses who donate plants. All proceeds from the plant sale go directly towards library materials and programming.

Fire safety presentation at library

According to the National Fire Protection Association. US fire departments are estimated to respond to over 350,000 home structure fires per year. These fires cause death, injury, and billions of dollars in property damage. Everyone can benefit from education around fire prevention, and families and individuals in our area are invited to Greenwich Free Library's Community Room on Saturday, April 27th at 1:00pm for a workshop on fire safety and prevention hosted by the Greenwich Fire Department. Fire in a home can spread rapidly, leaving just one or two minutes to escape the house safely if a smoke alarm goes off. Advance planning and smoke alarms can make the difference in remaining safe during a house fire. Thanks to a generous donor, the first 20 attendees will receive a smoke/carbon monoxide detector to take home. Admission is free and all ages and abilities are encouraged to attend, but registration is required. Visit www.greenwichfreelibrary.org or call 518-692-7157 to register.

Earth Day at Gazebo

Members of the community are invited to join the Greenwich Free Library on Saturday, April 20 at 1:00pm at the Mowry Park Gazebo to celebrate Earth Day with a special Bluey storytime and scavenger hunt.

Battenkill Conservancy will bring their picky bugs program for all to enjoy, and the local 4-H program will be there with a special craft. Households are invited to bring food scraps and other organic material for composting with Adirondack Worm Farm and can even view the library's own composting worms. No registration is required and all ages are welcome to attend.

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Parkinson's and farmers

Hebron resident and award-winning documentary filmmaker Sarah Teale is hosting an event with Dr. Ray Dorsey to discuss the rising incidence of Parkinson's disease among local farmers and their neighbors in Washington County. This is happening on Sunday, April 21, starting at 2 p.m. at Hebron United Presbyterian Church, 3153 County Rte. 30, Salem. Farmers are 170% more likely to get Parkinson's than nonfarmers.

Dr. Ray Dorsey, a neurologist from Roch-

ester University, is the author of "Ending Parkinson's: A Prescription for Action." In his presentation, Dr. Dorsey will address the causes of Parkinson's, and how we can adapt moving forward. He will also discuss some of the ways we can improve living with Parkinson's, including deep brain stimulation and the dopamine effect.

For further information, call Rev. Dr. Bill Crawford at 518-854-3729.

Salem FD holds event to recruit vols

The Salem Volunteer Fire Department, located at 53 South Main St., is holding an Open House on

Saturday April 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you'd like to serve and protect and give back to your community they would like to talk to you. A

From 16 years of age and older you can

apply for regular membership into the department as an interior/exterior firefighter, a driver, fire police person, or a support group member.

You can also join the junior firefighter program if you are 14-15 years old. They meet every Tuesday night at 6 p.m.

If you are new or old to a volunteer fire

department and you complete the BEFOexterior firefighter class for the first time since August 2023 the State of New York has offered to pay \$1250. For IFO-interior participants, they will pay \$750.

If you any questions, contact Steven Saunders, Fire Chief, at 518-854-7516.

Donate blood

During National Volun- a merchant of choice.

teer Month in April, the American Red Cross asks donors to help protect the blood supply by making and keeping blood or platelet donation appointments in the weeks ahead. Donors of all blood types – especially type O blood donors and those giving platelets – are needed now to keep the blood supply strong enough to support critical patient care this spring.

Spring into action – book a time to give lifesaving blood or platelets now by visiting RedCrossBlood. org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS or by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App. Those who come to give April 8-28, 2024, will receive a \$10 e-gift card to Upcoming blood drives:

Lake George

4/22/2024: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Lake George High School, 381 Canada Street.

Queensbury

4/19/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., Aviation Mall, 578 Aviation Road.

Saratoga Springs

4/25/2024: 12 p.m. - 5 p.m., St Paul's Lutheran Church, 149 Lake Ave.

4/26/2024: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Saratoga Regional YMCA Wilton Branch, 20 Old Gick Rd.

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Greenwich Library grants announced

Greenwich Free Library has been selected as one of 310 libraries to participate in round two of Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities, an American Library Association (ALA) initiative that provides community engagement and accessibility resources to small and rural libraries to help them better serve people with disabilities.

The competitive award comes with a \$10,000 grant that will help the library in three important ways: to increase patron access to materials like DVDs, large type books, and audiobooks; to develop more inclusive programming that can be enjoyed by patrons with disabilities and the rest of the public; and to add sensory-friendly accessories and furnishings to our space.

"We are proud to be chosen for this amazing opportunity," said Library Director Sarah Murphy. "We are committed to working with the public, and especially with our patrons from Battenkill Community Services, to help us determine how best to improve our services to ensure everyone feels welcome and comfortable in our space."

As part of the grant, Greenwich Free Library staff will host a conversation with community members about disability awareness, accessibility and inclusivity. This conversation will help guide the library in its specific use of grant funds. The conversation will be open to the public,

and will be announced via the library's website and on social media and in print.

Anyone interested in getting involved or taking part in the conversation, should contact Sarah Murphy at grn-director@

sals.edu, or visit greenwichfreelibrary.org for more information.

Since 2014, ALA's Libraries Transforming Communities initiative has re-imagined the role libraries play in supporting communities. Libraries of all types have utilized free dialogue and deliberation training and resources to lead community and campus forums; take part in anti-violence activities; provide a space for residents to come together and discuss challenging top-



ics; and have productive conversations with civic leaders, library trustees and staff.

Libraries Transforming Communities: Accessible Small and Rural Communities is an initiative of the American Library Association (ALA) in collaboration with the Association for Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL).

Greenwich Free Library has also been chosen as a recipient of a 2024 Community Arts Grant by the Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council. The library will use funding from this award for two dynamic programs:



Strum in Joy: Ukulele for Seniors this spring and Music at the

Library this summer.

The Ukulele for Seniors program is in partnership with Schuylerville Public Library and EarthBeat Music. Participants of all levels are gathering with instructor Chelsie Henderson on a weekly basis to learn the basics of the ukulele. Although several participants own their own instruments, others are able to utilize the Library of Things collections at Greenwich, Schuylerville, and other area libraries to borrow a ukulele for the duration of the program. The LARAC funding has also allowed Greenwich Free Library to add two more ukuleles to their lending library.

Participants in the Ukulele for Seniors program will gather together for their final meeting at Hudson Crossing Park to strum in joy with the greater community. All are invited to celebrate at the park pavilion on May 15th from 2:00 - 3:00 PM.

Community Arts Grant funding will also enable the library to host four free concerts at the Mowry Park Gazebo this summer. Building on the success of 2023's Music at the Library series, the library will invite local and regional musicians and bands to perform at the Gazebo throughout the summer. The music series will be tied into the library's Summer Reading program, and free children's books will be available at each concert. Dates and musicians will be announced soon.

Strum in Joy and Music at the Library are made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Regrant Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by the Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council.

PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY'S VOICE

Include the Local Journalism Sustainability Act in this year's state budget.



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HI, WE'RE MACKENZIE AND KATE, OWNERS OF IDLNOT FIBERSMITHS,

AND OUR CRAFTING PHILOSOPHY IS THAT AS LONG AS YOU'RE HAVING FUN, YOU'RE DOING IT RIGHT. WE'RE PROUD TO OFFER LOCAL & RESPONSIBLY SOURCED MATERIALS FOR CRAFTERS OF ALL PERSUASIONS, PLUS GIFTS FOR THE IMPOSSIBLE TO SHOP FOR, WORKSHOPS EVERY MONTH TO HELP YOU KICKSTART YOUR NEWEST HOBBY AND MAKER MEETUPS ON THE 1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 5PM - 7PM. ALL ARE ALWAYS WELCOME, SO STOP BY AND SAY HI!

IN GOOD FAITH

For the beauty of the Earth

MaryAnne Brown Journal & Press

While we were out with neighbors honoring the solar eclipse this week, some happy souls broke into song, singing "The Age of Aquarius." I really wanted to follow that by warbling "When the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie, that's amore," but I was too shy. It was delightful to see and hear how everyone was in such a great mood. All along the path of the eclipse, we earthlings were united as we shared our joy and excitement over a remarkable event that took place in the natural world.

There is something about being in the great outdoors that we instinctively know - it is good for us. There is a growing body of evidence that outdoor activities such as walking, gardening, and playing sports improve our health and our spirit of wellbeing. We don't need to climb the high peaks of the Adirondacks or participate in a marathon to gain from this outside advantage. Scientific studies indicate that enjoying time in Mother Nature can reduce our stress, increase our focus and improve our body, mind and spirit.

Author, Richard Louv wrote the best-selling "Last Child in the Woods – Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder". He has a new book titled "The Nature Principle" and has identified that we all appear to have a deficiency in Vitamin "N". He is wise with his research and conclusions and prescribes nature as therapy for what ails our wired and tired spirits in today's world of busy-ness, bad news, and self-neglect.

There is another outdoor practice that began in Japan in 1982 that also supports the goodness of nature. Perhaps you have heard of Forest Bathing. This method has nothing to do with water. Instead, one mindfully immerses in the green woods to "soak up" the many healthy benefits. Also termed Forest Therapy or Nature Therapy, you can find many ways to learn this practice through articles, tutorials, and books. Forest Bathing is well researched, and the science of the trees is quite fascinating. The trees in the woods are the secret Forest Bathing formula.

Trees release phytoncides or chemicals that have antibacterial and antifungal qualities which help plants fight disease. As we walk in the forest we breathe in these natural antimicrobials that boost our body's immunity and act as antiinflammatories, help us sleep, lower our stress, and blood glucose levels.

As we approach World Earth Day on April 22nd, I have been thinking about the trees in our lifetime. Growing up in North Creek, I was fond of a grand maple tree in the northern corner of our front yard. It held the family tree house where I would go and read, spend time when

I missed my brothers away at school and mourned the upcoming move to the big city of Glens Falls. It kept me company and felt like a good friend to me through those early vears. One autumn day a few years ago, my husband. Don and I decided to travel north to do some leaf peeping. On our way back I drove past our old homestead on Route 28. What a shock when I discovered our house had been replaced by a Stewart's Shop! After I recovered, I remarked to Don, "Well, at least it's not a Hooters!" I've been back a couple times and visited the grand maple tree that is still there. It is looking a bit less grand, as the brook that had served as its main water source has been blocked by some parking lot grading. I must write to Stewarts about this. Perhaps, they can free up the brook with a bypass. Yes, I aim to save that tree as it helped me grow and put down strong roots.

There are other trees that keep us healthy and connected; some downed trees cause us to go a different way; trees that we always look for on our travels; trees that trigger the happiest memories; trees that teach us how to live. With trees as our teachers, we can learn to adapt, change, let go and weather



the storm.

As we approach the 54th World Earth Day, we know that we are to be good keepers of our planet. Without the splendor of our earthly home, we would suffer from severe nature deficit disorder.

As people who live in this sacred space we reverently call Mother Earth, it is important to integrate faith with eco-friendly care. What will my call to action be as I engage in World Earth Day activities and continue living this movement responsibly? Through our individual and collective efforts and commitment, we can nurture a sustainable future. Just as we enjoyed unity as earthlings during the solar eclipse, perhaps we can collaborate to sustain the health of our planet.

MaryAnne Brown, RN, BSN, MA is a music minister at St. Joseph's Church and has a special interest in spirituality and

health. She serves on the Retreat Team at Dominican Retreat and Conference Center in Niskayuna and provides grantwriting services.



News from local churches

Roman Catholic Churches

Mass at Holy Cross Catholic Church on Sunday is at 8:15 AM; at St. Patrick's at 11:30 AM and offers the 'Children's Liturgy of the Word'; and at Immaculate Conception in Hoosick Falls on Saturday at 4 PM and Sunday at 10 AM. Holy Cross's Pastoral Council, in order to meet the needs of the community, needs to have parishioners to join in order to help meet the needs of the Parish. Please contact Mary Rosmus or a council member for more information.

Adult Bible study, "Women in the New Testament," will delve into the lives of the fascinating women who befriended Jesus. There will be seven sessions on Monday evenings, 6:30-8:00 PM beginning April 8, in person at St. Patrick's or Immaculate Conception, or by zoom. Sign up near the door of the church or register online. Weekly topics are listed in the bulletin and on the website, www.battenkillcatholic.org.

The Home Visitation Statue of Our Lady of Fatima is still available to your home. Please contact St. Patrick's Office if interested.

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

All are welcome to the Bottskill Baptist Church Sunday Services starting at 9:15 and the Lakeville Baptist Church starting at 11:00. You are invited to join us as we celebrate our Christian faith led by Pastor Lydia Widbin. Sunday School Classes will be held at the Bottskill Church during every morning service with special Drum Sessions on April 14 and 21. The Lakeville Church is located at 625 Co Rte 49, Cossayuna, NY and Bottskill's location is at 26 Church Street, Greenwich ,NY.

Bible Study Classes will be held at the Bottskill Baptist Church on Saturday mornings April 13 and 27, lead by Steve Morse with the topic of "The Book of Mark" at 9:00. Classes will also be held every Tuesday at 10:30 lead by Pastor Lydia.

A real entertaining and enjoyable time is the "Men's Coffee Hour" which is held the first Saturday morning of every month at 9:00 at the Bottskill Church . Anyone is welcome!

Bottskill will once again be hosting its FAMOUS Chicken and Biscuit Dinner on April 20 with pickup time of 4:00 to 6:00. This fabulous meal includes Chicken and Biscuits, rolls, mashed potatoes, vegetable, cranberry sauce, and dessert for only \$15.00. Reservations can be made by calling 838-333-9123.

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

Bottskill and Lakeville Baptist Churches

Whipple and Mowry (cont.)

ing to admittance into the mills. Their requests to inspect the interior of the English mills were refused with a force that made up for the lack of elegance. To see the inside of these mills was the object of their long and expensive journey. Facing the possibility of failure, they grew desperate, and finally resolved to take the chance of being forcibly ejected by entering one of the mills without permission. This they did and were overjoyed at discovering in the first room they entered, a double speeder in full operation. Meeting with no interference, the two Yankees proceeded to give the machine a searching examination. After a short time and while they were still engaged scrutinizing the mechanism, the overseer entered the room. As soon as he discovered Mr. Wild examining his machinery, there were two wild men in the room, and the Englishman lost

no time in the Americans to the door, showing no inclination to encourage their desire to gain useful knowledge. Mr. Mowry was in despair, but Mr. Wild assured him that he seen enough to enable him to duplicate the speeder. Upon their return home Mr. Wild built and installed a double speeder in the Whipple mill, this being the first machine of the kind to be operated in America.

Mr. Mowry ran the mill at Greenwich with success for many years and at the time his death in 1845 was one of the wealthiest men in that section of the country.

While there were some who did not believe that these two could understand such complicated equipment in the very brief time they spent inside that factory, a much more plausible version is that Mr. Wild obtained employment as a worker so that he could study the machines. He would make drawings at night while Mowry would hide them in a trunk with a false bottom. For these illegal deeds, both risked arrest and a long imprisonment.

Admittedly, the history of Greenwich is multi-layered, complicated, and ever evolving. However unpleasant, the "interesting" history of Greenwich must not be abandoned. Just a random thought!

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



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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 6, 2024, 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 21, 2024 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, 2024, and expiring June 30, 2029, to succeed Thomas Powers whose term expires on June 30, 2024.

PROPOSITION #1 - EQUIPMENT

SHALL the Board of Education of the Greenwich Central School District be authorized to: (1) acquire school buses and a transportation vehicle, at a cost of not to exceed \$295,840, which is estimated to be the maximum cost thereof; (2) expend such sum for such purpose, including the expenditure of \$133,618 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 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 \$162,222, 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 \$112,535 to \$159,738 annually?

EASTON LIBRARY PROPOSITION

Shall the Board of Education be authorized to increase the appropriation to support the Easton Library from \$47,956 to \$49,321 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 2024-2025, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained 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 22, 2024, 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 residents who are qualified voters of the School District may apply for an Early Mail ballot. Applications for early mail ballots for the budget vote and election of Board Members may be applied for at the Office of the District Clerk. An application for an early mail ballot 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. A list of all persons to whom early mail ballots shall have been issued will be available in said Office of the Clerk on each of the five days prior to the day of elections, except Saturday, Sunday or holidays, and that such list will also be posted at the polling place on the day of the Annual Election and Budget Vote.

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 21, 2024.

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 21, 2024, 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 District shall be entitled to vote at said annual vote and election. A qualified voter is one who is (1) a citizen of the

Please read more on the next page

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Woerner Town Halls

Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner (D-Round Lake) announced that she will hold seven town hall-style meetings along with local elected officials across the 113th Assembly District to discuss this year's state budget, to get an update from local leaders and to speak with residents.

Woerner said she looks forward to fielding questions from community members and welcomes all constituents to attend one of the meetings throughout this month.

Local events include:

Thursday, April 25, from 6:30-8pm at Saratoga Springs Public Library, 49 Henry St., Saratoga Springs.

Local events include: Tuesday, April 30, from 6-7:30pm at Greenwich Free Library, 148 Main St., Greenwich.

LEGAL NOTICE (CONT.)

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 22, 2024, 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

A bonded pair

H.O.P.E. Animal Rescue has many adoptable dogs, cats, and other

small animals that are looking for their forever home. This week they are featuring a dog and cat that are looking for their forever home.

Bumble (Buff) and Bee (Orange) are bonded 7 month old bothers looking for a home together. Bee is the shy one of us, but give him 5 minutes and he will be in your lap!

The boys love playing together. They chase each other around and play with toys. Bee does have a very different type of purr. He gets so excited that his purr makes his whole body shake! It does not sound like a normal purr either.

If you are interested in adopting these or others animals, fill out an application at hopeanimalrescue. org/forms.







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RANDOM THOUGHTS

Who were Whipple and Mowry?

Michael Levy Journal & Press

For those who live in Greenwich, they probably know that the community was originally named Whipple City after Job Whipple, the owner of a cotton mill located here in the early 1800s. There is also a park and a street named after William Mowry. Preparing for this edition of "Random Thoughts," I started with a simple Random Question, "Who were Whipple and Mowry?" The answer was more shocking than I realized. It is a story that also includes a bit of international industrial espionage, seriously!

Mr. Job Whipple, a Quaker from Cumberland, Rhode Island was looking for a new home for himself and his family. When he came to Greenwich, there was not much here in this wilderness. With a few dams across the Battenkill, that all changed. With ample waterpower at his disposal, Job erected a sawmill, grist mill, and a wood cording mill and this area was known as Whipple City during this period. Whipple City was later incorporated as Union Village in 1809 and renamed Greenwich in 1867.

After erecting his mills and finding that he had surplus water supply from the Battenkill, Whipple returned to Rhode Island looking for a mill manager and mechanic for his proposed cotton mill. He found William Mowry who had worked for several years for Mr. Samuel Slater, owner of one of the major cotton mills in Rhode Island. In 1804, Whipple and Mowry established the first cotton factory in New York State, which was also the first in the country outside Rhode Island. As part of the recruitment package, Job Whipple gave Mowry half of his waterpower rights as well as providing virtually all the capital needed to run the mill. It was not part of the lucrative deal fashioned to get him here, but Mr. Mowry ended up married Job Whipple's daughter Lydia. A couple of years down the road, William Mowry ended up owning the entire enterprise which prospered to Page 24 | Late April 2024 | Journal & Press

about 1845. Whipple was only in this area for about 20 years and ended up in Illinois where he died in 1822.

Did I mention this story includes international industrial espionage? In 1816, Mr. Mowry went with a machinist to England to visit the cotton mills and brought home secrets from the largest cotton mills in the world at that time. The English manufacturers, becoming alarmed at the rapid spread of the cotton industry in America, had already closed their doors to American merchants. But Mowry had a devious plan and with the secrets that he learned; Mowry transformed the cotton mill business for Greenwich.

Here is an old excerpt from the Textile World Record, Volume 35, page 668 (1908) that tells the story.

THE FIRST COTTON MILL IN NEW YORK STATE - The first cotton mill to be operated in the state of New York was built at what is now known as Greenwich about the year 1800 by William Mowry and Job Whipple. Mr. Mowry had previously been employed at Pawtucket RI by Samuel Slater in building and operating the first cotton mill in America. After Mr. Mowry had worked a number of years for Mr. Slater and become versed in the business, he asked his employer to admit him as a partner. Upon meeting with a refusal, he resigned his position and went to Greenwich then called Whipple City after Job Whipple, who owned a good water power and operated a flouring mill at that place. Plans were at once made by Whipple and Mowry to build a cotton mill. Mr. Slater having heard of the proposed enterprise wrote to Mr. Mowry, offering to admit him as a partner in the Pawtucket business on condition that he abandon the project at Whipple City. Mr. Slater evidently feared that the product of



two cotton mills would glut the American market and deprive the Pawtucket mill of the monopoly it then possessed.

It was now Mr. Mowry's turn to reject a business proposition from Mr. Slater. This he did without hesitation and that his refusal was not prompted entirely by business reasons may be inferred from the fact that shortly afterwards the wedding of Mr. Mowry and Lydia, Mr. Whipple's daughter occurred.

After operating the mill at Whipple City with great success during the war of 1812. Mr. Mowry decided to visit Lancashire, England and obtain information regarding the most improved processes of cotton manufacturing in that district, which was then, as now, the center of the world's cotton trade. He sailed from New York on July 9, 1816, on the packet ship South Carolina for Liverpool taking with him a machinist named Wild whose home was at Hudson NY. After a passage of 23 days they arrived at Liverpool, where they were very courteously received. They met a very different kind of a reception when traveling through the manufacturing districts and attempt-

Please read more on page 19

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 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM, E.D.S.T., for the presentation of the budget. The budget will be available for review on May 7, 2024 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 21, 2024 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 21, 2024 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:

- To adopt the annual budget of the School District for the fiscal year 2024-2025 and to authorize the requisite portion thereof to be raised by taxation on the taxable property of the District.
 To elect one (1) member of the Board for a five (5) year term commencing July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2029 and to succeed David Holck, whose term expires on June 30, 2024.
- 3. To appropriate monies to the Argyle Free Library and to authorize the requisite

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 2024-2025, exclusive of public monies, may be obtained by any resident of the District during business hours beginning Tuesday, May 7, 2024 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 22, 2024, between 8:00 AM and 4:00 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

fice and the name of the last incumbent.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that applications for early mail and absentee ballots will be obtainable and are returnable no earlier than April 22, 2024 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday, except holidays from the District Clerk. Completed applications for early mail and absentee ballots 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 (May 14, 2024), or the day before the election, if the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter (May 20, 2024). Early mail and absentee ballots must be received by the District Clerk not later than 5:00 PM, prevailing time, on Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

A list of persons to whom early mail and absentee ballots are issued will be available for inspection to qualified voters of the District in the office of the District Clerk on and after May 1, 2024 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM on weekdays prior to May 21, 2024, the day set for the election, and said list will be posted at the polling place(s) at the election. Any qualified voter present in the polling place may challenge the acceptance of the ballot of any person on such list, by making his/her challenge and the reasons therefore known to the Inspector of Election before the close of polls. A challenge against an early mail ballot cannot be based on the reason that the voter should have obtained or applied for an absentee ballot.

The Education Law makes special provisions for absentee voting by "permanently disabled" voters of the District and any questions regarding these rights should be directed to the Clerk of the Board.

AND FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

Education Law provides special provisions for absentee voting by "military" voters of the District. Military voters may elect to receive a military ballot application and military ballot by mail, email, or facsimile. The military voter must, however, return his/her original military ballot application and military ballot by mail or in person. The Clerk of the Board shall transmit the military voter's military ballot in accordance with the military voter's preferred method of transmission not later than 25 days before the vote, April 26, 2024. The Clerk of the Board must then receive the military voter's military ballot by mail or in person not later

than 5:00 PM on the day of the vote.

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 ARGYLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

FOR KIDS (AND PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS...) The weather warms, activity rises

Shirley Renauld Journal & Press

It's Springtime! It's baby farm animal time! Where are you seeing, visiting, feeding, hearing, smelling and feeling them? Do you have some of your own? Let's compare the charts we filled in with the column headings of Animal, Baby Animal, Adult Female, Adult Male, Sound It Makes:

Cattle (both Dairy and Beef): calf (heifer or bull), cow, bull (steer if raised for meat), moo. Goat: Kid, Doe, Buck, Maa. (How do you feel about being called a kid?) Sheep: Lamb, Ewe, Ram, Baa. Chicken: Chick, Hen, Rooster, peep (even inside the shell, before hatching), cluck (a special one for her chicks to follow her, and a different one after laving an egg), Cock-A-Doodle-Doo. Duck: Duckling, Duck, Drake, Quack. Goose: gosling, Goose/Hen, Gander, Honk. Turkey: Poult, Hen, Tom, Gobble. Horse/ Pony: Foal (female - Filly, male - Colt) Mare, Stallion, Neigh. Pig: Piglet, Sow, Boar; Oink. Rabbit: Kitten/Bunny, Doe, Buck, not much unless scared. Did you add any others? Someone added Guinea Hens/ Fowl because they can take care of themselves to free-range and because they like to eat those pests, especially ticks.

What songs did you sing or play on the piano while making your chart? Which books did you enjoy for yourself or reading to others?

For your own animals, you are dehorning your baby goats, trimming hooves (or having the farrier come do it), having the vet checks and vaccinations, training them, always the cleaning and grooming before showing them off--all working around your sports' practices and games. Register for the free vaccinations for your pets at the Wash Co Clinic on the 20th by the 17th.

When we see groups of animals, we call them a herd of cattle, but a flock of sheep or poultry, a litter of piglets.

We can watch a team of draft animals doing the work they were trained to do before there was equipment with engines. Page 26 | Late April 2024 | Journal & Press It's Plow Day on the 20th when a team pulls a plow to overturn the soil for planting.

We could have a team give us the first of the season's wagon rides at one of the farms during the Wash Co Fiber Tour on the 27 & 28, when we visit alpacas, llamas, goats, sheep and lambs or rabbits (ves. those for Also their long fiber). visit the Battenkill Carding and Spinning Mill in Middle Falls see how their "fleece is made as white as snow" after be-

ing sheared (thank you, Fred), the fibers straightened by carding, then spun into yarn that we can buy for knitting. Members of the Hudson Valley Draft Horse Assoc would work with your 4-H, FFA, Scout or other group to learn to harness and drive a pony to pull a cart. Who knows, JoAnne might bring hers out of storage and it could be in a local parade again.

Passover (historically so called for when houses of the Jewish families were "passed over") holidays are from the 22nd until the 30th. They include religious and family events starting with a Seder at which each food on a plate has a special meaning. In stores we see displays of typical foods eaten during this time, especially matzo/matzah which crunches like a cracker but is actually a bread with no yeast to make it rise. We eat it with our favorite dips or toppings like egg salad, guacamole, hummus, even peanut butter. We can make our own matzo meal in a food processor to make pancakes (remember lattes?), use it to make casseroles or make and roll balls for Matzo Ball Soup.as Debbie does, in which the balls replace the noodles in Chicken Soup.

Ed says you can easily make a casserole called kugel: Whisk up some eggs, whisk in some sour cream, cottage cheese and sugar.



Mix in your favorite noodles. Bake in a buttered casserole dish. Drink grape juice as you eat,

We can get cookies for dessert from.the display or make our own: Rugelach by rolling the dough flat, covering it with favorite fruit preserves, rolled and sliced as for pinwheel cookies or cut into triangles and rolled as for crescent rolls. Make Macaroons by making meringue again, this time by mixing in coconut. Matt's favorites are those dipped in melted chocolate when cooled.

Much is always happening in our world. Are you keeping a diary of it? Most recently, how did you enjoy the second greatest snowfall of the Winter--after Easter! Then on Fri we had an earthquake of "4.8 magnitude with an epicenter in NJ" reported by the US Geological Survey. Where were you and what did you see and feel moving?

We observe more routine seasonal happenings: The Willows are already showing their weeping leaves and catkin flowers. As new leaves of the oaks unfold, they finally push off the last old ones. Catch them, find any acorn parts that the squirrels have left to be the pilots of boats you set afloat on water in roadside ditches, streams or ponds?

Please read more on the next page

(cont.)

The last Fri of April is Arbor Day, the day to plant trees. What kind of tree would you plant? A tree to enjoy: one to climb, hang a swing or hammock from, have picnics under...? One to grow fruit or firewood or lumber, as Shel Silverstein's "The Giving Tree" in Spanish or English? A Truffula tree to please The Lorax...? Your future Christmas tree? But a tree takes so long to grow. A timber harvest is done only every 15 to 20 years. So grafting is done, as on a local crabapple tree that is soon showing sections with blossoms of different sizes and shades of color. Crawl under it to feel bumps on its lower trunk where the different varieties had been fitted to grow from an old trunk. We are reminded to finish pruning our fruit trees before they blossom, cutting out some branches to make room for the fruit to grow. As we pass orchards, we see these cut branches around trees, perhaps waiting for Summer bonfires.

The week started with Earth Day. What had you and your group already done?

Roadside pick-up of trash? There's less of it now that we all are more conscious about trash disposal. But highway dept workers shouldn't have to use their time doing it. Even though there has been less snow removal to do, have you seen them doing ditching to prevent flooding? At schools, we have been able to get hot cocoa now and whole milk. But there is a milk carton shortage. Are we able to use our refillable drink containers? When we see the piles of trashed plastic bottles and metal cans, we thank Saratoga Apple and others for refilling our drink bottles.

On the last week of the month, we can all learn and enjoy during the Homesteading Festival at the Washington County Fairgrounds. On Friday we can go on self-guided tours of farms where owner homesteaders are living the lifestyle of growing, producing, preserving their own food--even finding it: Take a Foraging Walk with Rich to find edible wild plants available now. (We can get more free food since trout season opened on the first-- and the Battenkill's not far away.)

On Saturday and Sunday we can par-

ticipate in hands-on workshops and watch demos with maple producer Brian, bee farmer David, beef farmer Erin, gardening with Master Gardener Debbie, fruit trees with CCE's Laura and growing mushrooms from Aaron and others. And there's more: If you're under 14, you can attend them all free. There's the season's first Chicken Bar-BQ on Sat and overnight camping, too.

The next thing we have to follow is the Olympic torch as it makes its way to start the 2024 Summer Olympic Games in Paris in July.. With much ceremony, it was lit on the 16th in Olympia, Greece, where Olympics first started. It's always lit using the sun's rays, as we once learned that we could have sun's rays shine through a magnifying glass to start paper on fire. The flame was put on a sailing ship and is now sailing west on the Mediterranean Sea. Time to get out a map so we can keep following the torch as it travels. As we wait, we can read "The Life-Changing Magic of Skateboarding" that Olympian Sky Brown wrote especially for these 2024 Summer Olympics. We can learn which of our athletes will be on the USA teams.

Scout trip a success

The Scouts of Troops 6027 B and G and their leaders recently traveled to the western part of the nation, where they spent much of the time enjoying the amazing scenery, hiking and sightseeing. The trip started with Lake Mead and the Hoover Dam. An informative tour of the power plant was taken. The next morning started with snow! It was an AMAZING way to see the Grand Canyon. The day was spent exploring the south rim of the canyon, taking in the spectacular views. The next day, the scouts traveled through 4 states, stopping in Monument Valley and the Four corners monument. The scouts all placed themselves in 4 different states all at once! At Arches National Park, the scouts hiked the Devil's Garden Trail, enjoving the spectacular natural rock formations. At Bryce Canyon National Park, the scouts hiked through the amphitheater, again, enjoying the amazing rock formations and colorful scenery. At Zion National Park, the scouts hiked up to the start of the Narrows formation and back, then walked from the grotto to the emerald pools. There was some discussion about staying for another week, but the leaders were told that the scouts had to get back to school!

The scouts would like to thank everyone who supports them at the Eagles Nest and by bringing bottles to the bottle return



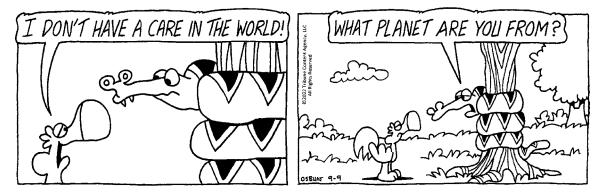
boxes. Your support made this amazing trip possible.

Anyone interested in learning more about scouting programs in the Greenwich area should contact either Jeff Conkey, Scoutmaster Troop B-6027 518 - 321- 4926 or Lucy Lauzon-Fahy, Scoutmaster G-6027, adkdiver@msn.com. Scouts BSA website is www.beascout.org.

The scouts and their leaders are pictured at the Grand Canyon south rim.

FUN & GAMES

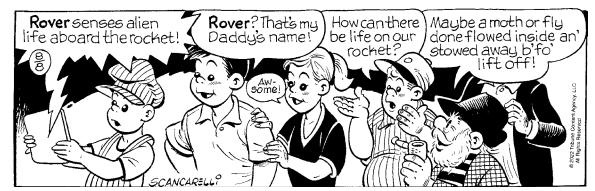
Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli

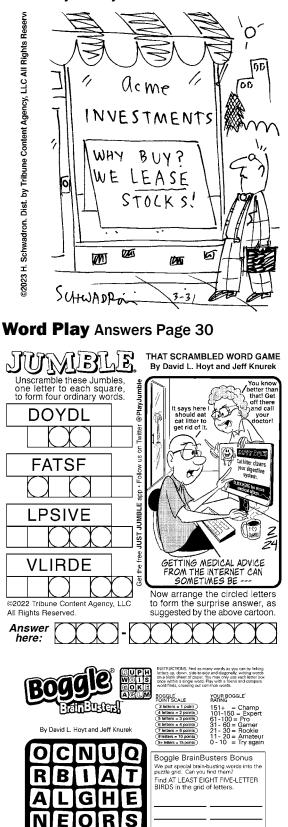


The Middletons by Dana Summers



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9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron

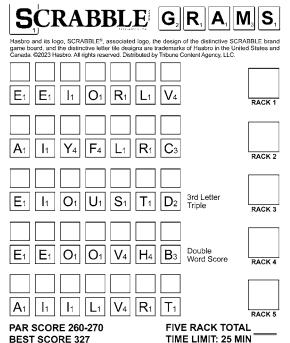


NIOIK

Answers to Last Sunday's Boggle BrainBusters: ARGO BABE BABEL EVITA BUGSY ROCKY SIDEWAYS

FUN & GAMES

More Word Play Answers Page 30



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

Word Find By Frank J. D'Agostino

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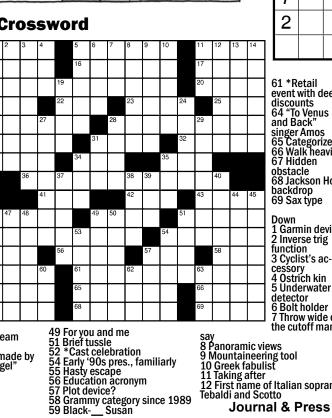


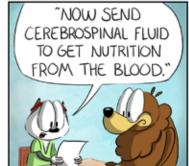
Political Cartoon of the Month by Joel Pett

HIVE TRANK

Cambridge Crossword

E





Sudoku

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

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5								9
						8		3
	6		3				5	
			7	9	2			
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14 Quick drawing						
19 Vegetable that may stain a cutting board						
24 Bulgaria's canital						
24 Bulgaria's capital 27 Joins the conversation						
28 Viognier or Vouvray						
29 Ticks by						
31 Mojito liquor						
34 Shifty						
35 Shed tears						
37 O.K. Corral brothers						
38 Askew						
39 Neon or freon						
40 Captivate						
44 "This is all more than I can						
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45 Ruin, as plans						
46 Nocturnal nestlings						
47 Medium for most refrigera-						
tor art						
48 Shape outlined in Insta-						
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49 Vague threat						
50 Absolute						
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60 Use a spade						
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ata April 2024 Dago 20						
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Opera returns to Hubbard Hall

After a five-year hiatus, opera is returning to Hubbard Hall in Cambridge. On May 19 at 3:00 p.m., singers from the Brandon, VTbased BARN OPERA will perform a concert of popular arias duets and ensembles from *La Traviata, The Barber of Seville, Die Fledermaus, Madama Butterfly, Carmen,* and more.

"People in our community have been asking us to bring opera back for several years," said Margaret Surowka, Chair of the Hubbard Hall Board. "We're so excited to be hosting BARN OPERA in delivering what's going to be an exciting and muchanticipated afternoon."

Joshua Collier, Artistic Director of BARN OPERA agrees. "This concert, in the jewel box theater of Hubbard Hall, will feature some of opera's best-loved music, sung by some of our favorite artists. We're going to fill the hall with some recognizable tunes like Libiamo from *La Traviata*, the Butterfly Trio from *Madam Butterfly* along with favorites from *Carmen*, and more. It's going to be a thrilling afternoon for opera lovers, and for those who will be opera lovers after

this concert."

The performers include Soprano Emily Baker, Mezzo Soprano Rachel Deatherage, Tenor Chad Kranak and Baritone Wayne Hu. They will be accompanied on the piano by Eric Malson.

Tickets are \$35 for adults, and a \$10 special "Students 21 and Under Price," made possible by a generous supporter. Tickets are available at hubbardhall.org.

Canal Clean Sweep

Volunteers of all ages are invited to take part in a park-wide clean-up at Hudson Crossing Park on Sunday, April 21, 2024 from 10am - 1pm. The clean-up day is in recognition of Earth Day and part of the New York State Canal Corporation and Parks & Trails New York's Annual Canal Clean Sweep, a state-wide effort to prepare for the navigation season on the New York State Canal System.

Clean Sweep volunteers will be helping with park clean-up, gardening, and repairs to the play garden, as well as preparing trails and grounds for cyclists and other visitors who will be enjoying our communities this year. Hudson Crossing Park will have projects suitable for all ages. Individuals, families, groups, clubs, troops, and organizations are all welcome. Students interested in earning community service are also encouraged to join in as well. If able, participants are encouraged to bring light gardening tools.

Canal Clean Sweep highlights the growing significance of the Canal System and the Canalway Trail System as a recreational and tourism destination across the state and here in our own communities. Community organizations, service groups, municipalities, and businesses across the New York State Canal System are participating the weekend of April 19-21, 2024. Last year, more than 150 clean up events were held along the Canalway Trail.

Complete pre-registration through Parks & Trails New York. Choose "Hudson Crossing Park Clean Sweep" as your event site at www.ptny.org/events/canal-clean-sweep.

Heritage Hunters

Heritage Hunters will meet on Saturday, April 20, at 1 pm at the Town of Saratoga Town Hall, 12 Spring St. in Schuylerville. Associates and Neighbors who can help you fill in information that might be missing in your research. Lisa Dougherty, professional genealogist, will help you take the steps to identify them and show you how to use that information in your family tree. Lisa specializes in Irish ancestry and assists researchers at several local libraries. Lisa's website is www.upstatenygenealogy.com. Public is welcome. For info call 518-885-9309.

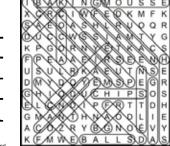
FUN & GAMES SOLUTIONS

Boggle: QUAIL GOOSE HERON EGRET ROBIN EAGLE STORK CRANE

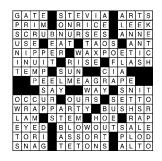
Jumble: ODDLY STAFF PELVIS DRIVEL

Final Jumble: ILL-AD-VISED

SCRABBLE GRAI	M, S, SOLU	ITION
O1 V4 E1 R1 L1 I1 E1	RACK 1 =	60
C ₃ L ₁ A ₁ R ₁ I ₁ F ₄ Y ₄	RACK 2 =	65
T ₁ E ₁ D ₂ I ₁ O ₁ U ₁ S ₁	RACK 3 =	62
B3 E1 H4 O1 O1 V4 E1	RACK 4 =	80
T1 R1 I1 V4 I1 A1 L1	RACK 5 =	60
PAR SCORE 260-270	TOTAL	327



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



FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

The state can act to help historic papers

A few short weeks ago, we told you about the newly-formed Empire State Local News Coalition. The Journal & Press is proud to be a member of this fast-growing group of over 150 New York local news outlets that have joined forces to protect local journalism across the state.

The work of our coalition has raised awareness of the importance of local journalism as well as the challenges facing the local news industry. (New York has lost half of its newsrooms since 2004!) We are grateful to communities across the state who have united behind us.

In just the past month we rallied in Westchester, where locals were stunned by the abrupt closure of three community newspapers. We went directly to Albany to appeal to lawmakers and where we also rallied with elected officials from both the senate and assembly. Numerous localities have adopted resolutions expressing their support for legislation that would support local journalism, and more municipal resolutions are in the pipeline. Even unconventional allies like Microsoft have joined our calls to save local news.

Thanks to these collective efforts, the Local Journalism Sustainability Act – which would provide tax credits to local news organizations for retaining and creating newsroom jobs – was included in the State Senate's recent budget proposal for fiscal year 2025. This is a key step for inclusion in the state's final budget, which is currently being negotiated by the Senate, Assembly and Governor Hochul.

However, there is a lot of work to be done over the next few days, when the final budget will likely be announced, to ensure the bill is actually included in the state's final budget. It is crucial that the Local Journalism Sustainability Act is included; otherwise, communities throughout the state risk thousands of newsroom jobs being lost and even more important stories going untold.

The Local Journalism Sustainability Act is sponsored by NYS Senator Brad Hoylman-Sigal with the bipartisan support of Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner and more than 70 co-sponsors. As newspapers shutter and layoffs roil the industry, the bill is a necessary measure for incentivizing job creation, returning reporters to many of the state's emptying newsrooms. The bill is content-neutral and designed to ensure that truly local news outlets will receive this assistance. The leadership of the Legislature's Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Caucus has also endorsed our bill. which is a major testament to the fact that this bill will improve access to news for all communities.

New Yorkers are standing with local news, and now lawmakers must answer the people's call to save community journalism. To get the Local Journalism Sustainability Act across the finish line, lawmakers must hear from you about why our newspaper matters and why this bill is meaningful to you and your family.

Chicken parm dinner

The Easton Methodist Church. 12053 State Route 40, Easton will have a Chicken Parmesan Dinner on Thursday, April 25 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. The dinner will include chicken parm, pasta, salad, bread and dessert. Dinner may be eaten in at the church or taken out. The cost is \$18.00 each or 2 dinners for \$35. Reservations are necessary by Monday, April 23. To leave your order, call (518) 531-4558 and leave a message or email east-onchurch126@gmail.com. Include the number of dinners and your preference for eating in or taking out. Visit www. eastonumc.org for information.



So, if keeping local news alive in our state is important to you, please reach out to Governor Hochul and your local representatives to let them know you stand with local news. Budget negotiations are wrapping up imminently – the time to act is now!

Read a Knox bio and go

Washington County Historical Society's Local History Book Club will meet from 12 PM until 1 PM on Friday, May 10, at Fort Miller Reformed Church, 1239 Fort Miller Road, Fort Miller. Historical society membership is not required. Attendees are asked to read any biography of Henry Knox, focusing on his cavalcade of sleighs and cannons that moved from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston in January 1775.

At the end of your rope?

Dr. Daneen Skube

Tribune Content Agency Special to Journal & Press

Q: I'm depressed and demoralized and nothing I'm doing seems to be working at work. I dread going there, and come home drained. I feel thoroughly burned out in my career. What can I do when I'm at the end of my rope in my current industry?

A: When you're at the end of your current rope, you're in an ideal position to find a new, more rewarding, rope to climb. Not all jobs work for all people for a lifetime. There's nothing wrong with reinventing your career, and yourself mid-career.

The saying that desperation is the mother of invention is good advice here. Most adults are stubborn and won't change, unless they hit bottom. Hitting bottom in a career looks exactly like you're describing. In a career that's good for you, you'll get both a financial and emotional paycheck.

Most adults find it hard to imagine a different job or life than they currently have. I notice the proliferation of documentaries on television that show people selling everything and moving to a \$1 home in Italy. On television, this "jump-off-the-cliff-withno-parachute" approach looks glamorous. However, in real life, change is easier if it's gradual.

I'm not knocking your "stop the world and get off fantasies." Many people enjoy the "sell everything and move to a new country" relief valve when life becomes a grind. My family watched one show called, "Mediterranean Life." Everyone on the shows says the same thing: They wanted to slow down, have a higher quality life, and have better work/life balance.

Despite what people say on Mediterranean Life, a quality life is not a specific zip code or job. One person's heaven is another person's hell. The thing is to start exploring what makes you happy, rather than dramatic change.

Try the following tricks:

1) Go to your closet and look at your clothes. If you were a stranger, what would these items tell you about the person?

2) Enter your house, as if you are a stranger. Walk around, evaluating what the person who lives here values.

3) Look at shows you watch, books you read, and things you dream of doing.

Now take all this data and imagine the kinds of careers that would be interesting to the person you're learning you are. Don't believe that just because you're a certain

Spring grazier meeting

Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Regional Capital Area Agriculture & Horticulture Program (CAAHP) will host Spring Turn-Out Grazier Meeting on April 30, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Golden Acres Charolais Farm in Westerlo, NY. Speakers are Karen Hoffman, Grazing Management Specialist from NRCS, who will discuss balancing pasture nutrition in a variable weather environment and Ken Wise, Senior Extension Associate, NYS Integrated Pest Management will discuss fly management regarding livestock.

Concerns about the nutrition of forages, the mud, the flies and parasites affecting the animals will be addressed.

The cost is \$10/person. Contact (518) 649-0267 or ram72@cornell.edu.

age you know yourself. Without deep inner work, most adults only possess a superficial knowledge of their authentic identity.

A good career requires you to dig deeper into your inner world. Otherwise, you'll live a life and work in a job that might be great for the person you think you are, but not the person you really are.

In therapy sessions, I frequently find myself saying to clients, "You aren't who you used to be, and you have no idea who you're becoming, but you are working hard to find this new you. It's only then that I can help my client pick the right job, people, or education that makes them happy.

On bad days, feel free to fantasize about dramatic change to provide relief. Then get back to exploring what rewards your new rope has to offer you and let go of your old rope.

The last word(s)

Q: The career goals I have involve an overwhelming number of steps. I'm older and not sure my goals are worth it? Do you have advice for someone who dreams of hitting the moon but is tired?

A: Yes, as the American writer William Faulkner noted, "The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones." Even if you don't hit the moon, but try, your life will be richer and you may even...hit a few stars!

Daneen Skube, Ph.D., executive coach, trainer, therapist and speaker, also appears as the FOX Channel's "Workplace

Guru" each Monday morning. She's the author of "Interpersonal Edge: Breakthrough Tools for Talking to Anyone, Anywhere, About Anything."



JILL ON MONEY

How will real estate be impacted?

Jill Schlesinger

Tribune Content Agency Special to Journal & Press

There has been seismic action in the real estate market - and it has nothing to do with bidding wars.

On March 15, the National Association of Realtors (NAR) announced a settlement to end an antitrust lawsuit. The organization will pay \$418 million in damages and agreed to blow up its decades-long practice on commissions paid to brokers.

The settlement came five months after a Missouri court ruled that the NAR and other large real estate brokerage firms had conspired to keep home sale commissions artificially high. The penalty for doing so was steep: \$1.78 billion to more than 260,000 Missouri sellers of residential homes in Missouri, Kansas, and Illinois from 2015 through 2022.

At the time, the defendants said they would appeal the verdict, but that process would have been a huge risk: Under U.S. antitrust law, the damages could have been tripled to more than \$5.3 billion. Losing an appeal would effectively have put the NAR out of commission (pun intended!)

Real estate agents have long been compensated on a model that was skewed.

When a home was sold, the brokers would be paid 5-6 percent of a home's sale price, with half of the amount paid to the seller's representative (the listing agent) and half paid to the buyer's rep. (For context, commission rates in other developed economies range between 1 and 3%.) Both sellers and buyers have complained that the existing model was out of date with the marketplace and squashed competition.

Under the old arrangement, sellers were forced to agree to the organization's pricing model in order to access the Multiple Listing Service (MLS) – that's the portal where homes are available for all would-be buyers to view. According to the NAR, MLS "is a private offer of cooperation and compensation by listing brokers to other real estate brokers." In other words, if you want everyone to see your house that's for sale, you must comply with the commission structure where both agents are paid by the seller.

The model also frustrated buyers who have complained that they are held to a structure that allows the best and worst agents to be compensated equally —and that the price of the house was always a bit higher, because both sides had to be paid equally from only the purchase price.

Presuming that the settlement is approved by a federal court, starting in July, sellers will no longer have to pay the entire freight for the transaction, buyers will be able to directly negotiate fees with their agents and those agreements will have to be put in writing.

This is a win for consumers, but a big loss for agents and their companies. Last October, analysts at Keefe, Bruyette & Woods predicted that a change in the real estate compensation model could reduce the \$100 billion consumers pay in commissions by 30%.

The big question is whether the settlement will lead to lower home prices?

Currently, the median price of a home sold is \$417,700, which means that the total commission paid would be about \$25,000. If that fee were to fall by 30%, would median home prices drop by \$8,000? In a real estate



market that remains dislocated due to low levels of inventory, the answer is probably not any time soon.

The near-term aftershock of the NAR settlement is more likely to impact the amount of money that real estate agents earn, and thereby potentially reduce the number of the more than 1.5 million brokers by half. The culling could help those superstar agents earn more but may mean that many others will need to find another profession.

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.



ON THE SQUARE

Pulse-takers or king-makers?

Lance Allen Wang Journal & Press

In the past week, "No Labels," another in a long line of political organizations hoping to sprout a viable third party in the United States, decided it was not going to put forward a challenger for the 2024 Presidential election. In an uncommonly realistic statement, the organization, formed in 2010, said it would not run a candidate without a clear path to victory.

But third parties and also-rans have a history in the United States, and while they have not been the ones to walk away with all the marbles, they have both served as kingmakers and bellwethers (or "pulse-takers") for the political climate in the country. In other words, they are more than simply answers to trivia questions.

For this election season, I see Ambassador Nikki Haley as a bellwether. She is an indicator of the climate in a portion of the Republican party, and the pulse she reveals is one of measurable disunity. Through the campaign for the Republican nomination, Haley represented that part of the GOP which hewed to the traditional moderate national platforms of Republican party. She





did not lean towards the more grievancefed, conspiracy-minded, and fantastical tone of the front-runner. She did not lean into more expansive power for the executive branch, nor did she neglect the 60 percent of the country which did not support the repeal of Roe v. Wade. Eventually, not long after Super Tuesday, Haley dropped from the race, as the former President seemed on a steady pace to claim the GOP nomination. While Ambassador Haley was no longer in play, she did represent an as-yet uncovered constituency, which is the remaining moderate Republicans.

As Ambassador Haley faded from the scene, the was no detectable effort on the part of the frontrunner to reclaim these voters. He made no outreach to the moderates in the party who wanted to continue to support Ukraine in its battle to retain its democracy in Eastern Europe against the invasion by Vladimir Putin's neo-Soviet Russia. No outreach to those who wanted to support a woman's right to manage her own reproductive health. And no outreach to those who were justifiably outraged by January 6 and the claim that those convicted felons are "hostages." Instead, the frontrunner responded with more rhetoric about RINOs ("Republican In Name Only") and "never-Trumpers," and even the statement that Haley's financial backers were "permanently barred from the MAGA camp."

Former Marine General and Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis noted this lack of outreach several years before when he stated that the former President "doesn't even pretend to try" to unite the American people, which we can extend to his own political party. His form of right-wing populism requires someone or something to pit himself against – unity would remove what he considers his best material. There is always an "other" out to get him, and thus in the story he likes to craft, his followers.

A former Democrat is now running as an independent, with a less clear constituency. Robert F. Kennedy Jr., a lawyer and environmental activist has mounted a run as an Independent for President. His primary selling point was his pedigree, being that he has the Kennedy name with all the promise that name implies. However as the old saying goes, if a deal sounds too good to be true, it usually is.

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His positions are all over the map. He is an anti-vaccine activist, added his amplification to conspiracy theories during the COVID-19 pandemic, disputes the connection between HIV and AIDS, and believes that governments and the media conspired to deny that vaccines cause autism. At the same time, he supported the Green New Deal, believes Putin to be a "thug," and that the Environmental Protection Agency is run by the oil, coal, and pesticide industries. And finally, he has expressed support for the convicted felons from the January



6th attacks, but then recanted.

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> Mr. Kennedy's scattershot candidacy is a solution in search of a problem. His conspiratorial leanings are not particularly attractive to the Democratic mainstream, but today's GOP mainstream contains elements which may find his more outlandish claims very palatable. If he makes it to Election Day, which I consider highly uncertain, I see him pulling votes from the right, not the left.

> The other players in the election, Jill Stein of the Green Party, and whomever the Libertarians decide to put on the ballot (should they meet the necessary entrance requirements), will scrape a few votes off the top, the Greens from the Democrats, and the Libertarians represent a wild card. It depends what type of Libertarians they run. If they run moderate Republicans, as they did in 2016, it could scrape equally from both sides, very similar to the Haley vote. As we've seen in several close elections this century, sometimes even a little bit can be decisive in a close election.

> I recall after the 2016 election, the Democrats were looking at the impact of Libertarian Gary Johnson and Jill Stein voters, which comprised 6,000,000 votes. The ini

tial response from the Democrats was bitterness towards these third-party voters. Rather than chastising those who voted third-party, the wider question needed to be what the big-ticket candidate did to attract those votes. Or as Ambassador Haley's campaign co-chairman said when she dropped out of the race this year, "... it's up to [Mr. Trump] to earn the support of those who supported her, and he's got to earn it."

The bottom line? For politics-watchers, the appearance of third-parties, independent candidates, and other possible indicators of the electorate's unmet needs can often help create a more complete picture of the political landscape. It helps identify uncovered issues and unserved or underserved constituencies. Sometimes they are politically insignificant. Other times they clearly point in a direction which may pull the field elsewhere. Let's keep watching and see what bubbles up around the edges...

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



OBITUARIES

Robert E. Dewey, 83

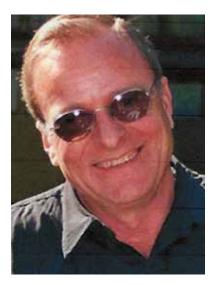
Robert E. Dewey, passed away suddenly on April 9, 2024. He was born Dec. 12, 1940 to James and Flora (Tefft) Dewey. He married Gail Saunders May 11, 1963 and celebrated 61 years in 2023.

He graduated from Greenwich Central School in 1958 and left the next day to join the USAF. As a Cryogenics Plant Operator, he served in Japan, Viet Nam, and Mass. until 1963, when he cross-trained to a Cable Splicer on the Minuteman Missiles. He served in that capacity at Elsworth AFB in Rapid City, S.D. till he left the service in 1965.

After returning home, he drove for Tracy Ready Mix, Agway Petroleum and later as a furnace repair man for Agway. He moved on to Briggs Construction and then drove tractor trailers for S & T paper until he was injured on the job. He then went to work for the Greenwich Town DOT as an Equipment Operator till his retirement in 1999. He was proud of the fact that he received an award from Ryder Trucks for driving over 3 million miles without ever having an accident.

Bob was a man that could repair almost anything that needed fixing, and over the years the family appreciated all his talents and his sons considered him the guy you called if advice was needed.

He was pre-deceased by his parents, two brothers, James Jr. and Hugh, and one sister, Janet Watkins. He is survived by his wife and sons Robin (Melissa) and Todd of Greenwich and Todd's children, James, Sarah, Emma and Leah, two sisters, Judith Couser and Marcia (John) Blake, three sisters-in-law, Janice (Laurence) Mc-Donald and K at h l e e n (Lawrence) Myers, and Marie Dewey and several nieces and nephews.



He donat-

ed his remains to the Albany Medical College Anatomical Gift Program. There will be no services. Donations in his memory may be directed to the Easton-Greenwich Rescue Squad, 441 St. Rt. 29, Greenwich, NY 12834.

New director

Washington Center, the 122-bed skilled nursing facility on State Route 40 in Argyle has named Kara Hargett, Director of Nursing, as the facility's new Administrator. Hargett has 16 years' experience working first as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), as Registered Charge Nurse (RN), RN Supervisor, Unit Coordinator, Assistant Director of Nursing (ADON), and Director of Nursing (DON) in a long-term care facility. She has specialized with a variety of patients including young adults, people with Alzheimer's Disease, mental health plus other areas of skilled nursing.



Since her start at Washington Center in October of 2018, Hargett came to the facility as the ADON, then moved into the DON role in January 2020, before becoming the facility's Assistant Administrator in January 2023 and now the overall Administrator.

Hargett has her Associate Degree of Applied Science in Nursing from SUNY Adirondack, where she graduated in May of 2013 and achieved her Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from SUNY Empire State College in May of 2020.

'The Friction of War'

On Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 7 PM, the Old Saratoga Historical Association will host a multimedia presentation entitled "Saipan: The Friction of War." Led by World War II historian and retired US Army officer Patrick J. Chaisson, this discussion details one of the war's most brutal and controversial battles.

Saipan, located in the Mariana Islands of the Central Pacific, was an objective the Americans desperately needed to capture. Some 50,000 US Marines and soldiers of the 27th Infantry Division (formerly a New York National Guard outfit) stormed ashore there on June 15th, 1944. Allied commanders planned to take Saipan in three days.

Instead, it took six weeks of bloody, relentless fighting before Saipan's Japanese defenders were defeated. Using the words of those who were there, Chaisson explains why this invasion went so wrong. He will also show how questionable decisions made on Saipan in 1944 still affect the modern military.

This program, which is free to the public, will be held at the Saratoga Town Hall at 12 Spring Street, Schuylerville. Call the Old Saratoga Historical Association president at 518-698-3211 for more information.

OBITUARIES

Mildred C. Hayes, 89

Mildred C. Hayes, a woman of remarkable strength, resilience and an unwavering devotion to her family, passed away on April 15, 2024. Born on August 29, 1934, in Cossayuna, New York, to the late John and Ethel (Rouse) Sisson.

Mildred had an enduring spirit and a compassionate heart. Mildred was a longtime resident of Greenwich, New York and most recently lived with her daughter in Hebron for the past 9 years. She graduated from Greenwich Central School in 1953 and went on to attend the Mildred Ellie School of Business in Albany, NY. Mildred was a dedicated office clerk at the S&T Papermill in Greenwich. She attended the Centenary United Methodist Church in Greenwich. and a was a past member of the Cossavuna Fire Department, ladies' auxiliary. She enjoyed bird watching, picking wild berries and flowers, relaxing in her home and taking walks in nature.

Mildred is survived by her loving daughter, Nancy West and son-in-law, Chris-

topher West of Hebron; her cherished grandchildren, Katelyn Keys of Greenwich, Amanda (Travis) Murray of Bennington, Ryan West, and Joshua Wilson of Salem; great-grandchildren, Bentley and Hailey Wilson of Salem, Wyatt, Luci and Lydia Murray of Bennington, Marley Loveland and Allison Keys of Greenwich; her nephews, David (Roberta) Shaw of Simpsonville, SC, and Daniel (June) Shaw of Greenwich; and her nieces, Virginia (James) Donohue of Michigan and Arlene (Skip) Starr of Cambridge.

She is preceded in death by her beloved husband, William Hayes and her dear daughter, Carol Hayes, as well as sister Helen Shaw and brother in law Henry Shaw. Carol and Mildred enjoyed many happy memories together on the family farm on Mahaffy Rd in Greenwich.

As we remember Mildred, we celebrate a life of kindness and caring for all. We invite you to pay your respects to the family from 12 to 1 pm on Thursday, April 18, 2024, at

Flynn Bros, Inc. Funeral Home, 80 Main St, Greenwich, NY, 12834.

Her funeral service will follow at 1 pm at the funeral home, with Rev. Debbie Earthrowl officiating. She will be laid to rest in Greenwich Cemetery following



her service.

The family wishes to thank the Washington Center Day Program and staff, Dr. Barney Rubenstein and staff at Salem Family Health, Saratoga Community Hospice and her most recent caregivers, Rebecca, Valerie and Linda.

In lieu of flowers donations in her memory may be made be made to the Easton-Greenwich Rescue Squad, PO Box 84, Greenwich, NY, 12834 or the Salem Rescue Squad, 201 S. Broad St, Salem, NY, 12865.

Please share your memories of Mildred and upload photos to her memorial page, helping us to remember and celebrate her remarkable life at www.flynnbrosinc.com.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE: NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

SABRINA'S BUCKET LLC Articles of Org. Filed NY Sec. Of State (SSNY) 04/01/2024. Office in Washington Co. SSNY design. Agent of LLC upon whom process may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to THE LLC 3 County Route 60, Cambridge, NY 12816. Purpose: Any lawful activity.

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE: NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

LEGAL NOTICE: NOTICE OF FORM ATION OF PROFESSIONAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. NAME: Elkins Physical Therapy, PLLC. Articles of organization were filed with the Secretary of State of New York (SSNY) on 1/12/2024. Office location: Washington County. SSNY has been designated as agent of the PLLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail a copy of the process to Elkins Physical Therapy, PLLC located at 266 Meeting House Road. Valley Falls, NY 12185. Purpose: For any lawful purpose.

HUMOR HOTEL

This fails to emotionally support me

Greg Schwem Tribune Content Agency Special to Journal & Press

The yowling started shortly after I folded myself into seat 6C on the Southwest flight from Washington, D.C., to Chicago. It was coming from 6D or, specifically, under 6D.

"She's mad at me," said the woman occupying 7D, gesturing to the flowered bag nestled on the floor between her and the forward seat. "I gave her a ball of yarn, but she wants out."

The conversation didn't include me; it was directed at a fellow cat lover, sitting directly behind me. Together, the two swapped stories of taking their beloved kitties on flights to Lord only knows where.

"She's NEVER been away from me," the woman said, as the meowing increased, loud enough to pierce a jet engine's hum. "But next week I'm going to a bachelorette party and there's NO WAY I can bring her."

In the next few minutes, I learned the cat was a hypoallergenic Russian Blue breed; she was not a rescue; her first flight was to New Orleans where the woman's parents lived; she was still full of "kitty energy" despite her advancing age (the cat, not the owner) and cat toys interested her for five minutes tops, even those crocheted by her "mom." as the owner referred to herself.

Glancing over, I noticed the rambunctious, yet still unseen feline also occupied the woman's iPhone screensaver.

I have grown accustomed to airline passengers who insist on plane travel with their animals, whether it's for emotional support purposes, they're too cheap to pay for boarding, or they don't trust friends or relatives to tend to their animals' every need via daily visits.

While doing research for what may be an upcoming book on "gig work," I briefly drove for Uber. One fare consisted of a couple on their way to Los Angeles with their two dogs. I didn't recognize the breeds, but one pooch was significantly larger than its travel companion and commanded most of the owners' attention as we crawled to O'Hare. The couple was convinced the larger dog could potentially be trouble. Both dogs, I learned, were given ample amounts of medication prior to my arrival, in hope they would sleep the entire flight.

Later that day I texted the husband, halfjokingly inquiring if the dogs caused them to lose their frequent flier status.

"We got written up," he texted back. "Because of the little dog."

Like I said, I find these stories amusing. Pet lovers, travel with your live creatures at your own risk. I'm fine with that.

It's the fake ones I can do without.

I've lost count of the number of passengers I've seen trudging down airplane aisles with stuffed animals. Their owners are typically female, late teens to early 20s, and clad in workout pants and bulky sweatshirts bearing the name of either a university or a sporting event. During the flights, they cradle their cotton, hug it tight, or, worse, shove it in overhead bins reserved for other items. Like actual BAGS!

Thankfully, it appears the FAA has taken notice.

While stuffed animals are not illegal, larger ones now qualify as "luggage," a rule the Southwest gate agent confirmed over the loudspeaker as we lined up to board. In typical Southwest fashion, it was done in a humorous manner; but the message was clear: If you want to caress your fake animal in flight, plan to keep doing so while awaiting the bag you could have brought aboard but now have to check.



Hear that, Gen Z sorority sisters? You may want to look into train travel.

I didn't know how many stuffed animals were aboard my flight but, considering college spring break was in full swing, I guessed at least a dozen. Luckily, I found overhead space for my suitcase, allowing me to contemplate whether the cat owner next to me will actually be able to survive her upcoming bachelorette party without her beloved companion.

Maybe there's a Russian Blue stuffed kitty that will soothe her in flight.

Let's hope the bag she had to check doesn't go missing.

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

Dad" and the recently released "The Road To Success Goes Through the Salad Bar: A Pile of BS From a Corporate Comedian," available on Amazon.com. Visit Greg



on the web at www.gregschwem.com.

OP-ED

Sound the notification!

Thom Powers

Special to Journal & Press

There has been an emergence of evidence supporting a causal relationship between social media usage and mental health problems. This evidence is not correlational but causal according to Zach Rausch, Jon Haidt, and Jean Twenge. Using data from multiple sources as well as debunking common misconceptions surrounding the well-documented mental health decline of American teens: coronavirus, market crash, etc. they provide ample evidence that cell phone usage is the underlying cause.

Despite this information, we continue to be addicted to our phones. This is not entirely our fault. They are programmed to be addicting! Social media platforms algorithms are preving on our most basic drives of social connectedness, status-seeking, and... hold on, let me check and see if I have any likes. These devices are taking our attention and our time. They are wonderful devices that provide a plethora of entertainment and readily available information; arguably too much information. I own an IPhone and I am addicted to checking my email and my chess game. I have my notifications turned off and removed social media apps from my phone and I STILL struggle with being on my phone too often.

If you are unaware of the evidence that links the mental health decline in our children to cell phone/social media usage, allow me to highlight the findings:

1. The earlier a child receives a phone, the

Author event

Fort William Henry's Moments in Time with author Joseph W. Zarzynski will be presented at the April 23, 2024, 6:30 PM at the Greenwich Free Library.

The event is co-sponsored by Washington County Historical Society and Washington County 250th. more likely they will have mental health problems as a teenager.

2. The more often a student is on a phone, the higher the risk of mental health problems; the tipping point is 4 hours per day, which is correlated to significantly higher risk.

What is the average time teenagers spend on a phone within the US you ask? 7 hours a day. I'm going to repeat that: 7 HOURS PER DAY. Cell phone usage itself has been shown to increase anxiety in youth, but it also impacts our ability to stay focused, as well as taking away time from other activities that may be beneficial for our wellbeing; exercise and sleep. One particular study demonstrated that having a phone near the participants: on their desk, on their body, or

'I'm hoping people will join me in providing our children a cellphone-free childhood.'

in a bag near them, distracted them more than if the phone was in another room. They performed lower the closer their cell phone was to their bodies. If you are looking for more information, please check out Jon Haidt's new book, Anxious Generation, which provides significant evidence of the

decline of play-based childhoods, in part, due to cell phone usage. Visit www.anxiousgeneration.com for more information.

Despite this evidence, I continue witnessing the use of cell phones and reports of children using cell phones as Late As Kindergarten and younger. My wife, a general education 4th grade teacher, reports one of her students frequently posting videos on TikTok. I see children and adults in doctor's office waiting rooms and restaurants, completely disengaged with one another. Not that I am expecting a fullblown conversation in the middle of a waiting room, but being in the presence of people in the "real" world is a skill and one that I hope to develop in my children.

What the evidence doesn't discuss as of yet, or I am unaware of, is the detrimental effects of parental phone usage on their children. Cell phones, in particular the IPhone, didn't saturate the market until 2009. If a child was 3-6 years old at this time, they would have been exposed to a cell phonesaturated childhood and could potentially be parents of toddlers now. I am fearful that not only is the direct usage of cell phones causing significant mental health decline, but the lack of parental involvement and consumption of parental attention from cell phones may also be a contributing factor in children's development.

With all that said, I am hoping people will join me in providing our children a cell-phone-free childhood. Ironically, I have started a Facebook group - Real Social Kids, with the simple mission to ensure our kids are cell phone-free. It's easier to fight against societal pressures and peer pressures if we, as a community and well-meaning and intentioned parents, make sound decisions for our children's mental health and well-being together. Additionally, I am currently running for the Greenwich School Board for a second term. I will be continuously working for the betterment of our students' mental health and focus within the academic environment. I encourage you to raise your voices and your concerns around cell phone usage within the school and be more mindful of your own and your child's cell phone usage outside the school environment.

Thanks for listening,

Thomas Powers is a resident of Greenwich and dad of two boys.



Everyone has their favorite menu item at Wallie's. Here is a list of our most popular. Did your favorite make the lineup?

Entree/Sandwich:	1st Wallie Burger
	2nd Prime Rib
	3rd Reuben Sandwich

1

Appetizers:

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1st Fiddlehead IPA2nd Samuel Adams Seasonal3rd Guinness

Specialty Cocktail: 1st Strawberry Lemonade 2nd Classic Margarita 3rd Main Street Mule

Dessert: 1st Chocolate Fudge Cake 2nd Cheesecake











