# Greenwich Journal

& Salem Press of Washington County



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# **Governing Greenwich**

Early July 2024 Vol. 183; Issue 13

# New village mayor Amanda Hurley aims for consensus

Greenwich mayor Amanda Hurley sat down with The Journal & Press to talk about her experiences in corporate marketing and how that relates to her new role. Hurley came back to Greenwich after traveling the country for work and feels she's a moderate and consensus-builder whose goal is to listen first before acting.

Please read more starting on page 6

Also:

Our 'Ride Along' column returns – 5







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# Main Street's new general store

Maureen Cary Journal & Press

It was an emotional day for Rulyn Graves when her family's new business, Clutch Market & General Store, opened on June 1 at 101 Main Street in Greenwich.

"To have all those people come out and care about it...it was just very emotional," she said, referring to the dozens of well-wishers who crowded the sidewalk that day for the grand opening. "And it still is," she said three weeks later as she greeted customers and talked about the new market and its nearly 125-year-old home.

Renovating the building and seeing the hardware store go from an idea to reality has been quite a journey for the Graves family. And it's connected to another of their community ventures, Gather, the event venue and community space that Graves and her husband Tom opened in 2018. It's where they've hosted all kinds of community events from dance lessons to Do-It-Yourself workshops, and where they've held numerous pop-up markets and built relationships with local vendors over the last few years.

In 2021, the Graves were approached by the bank about buying the abandoned building next to Gather. They initially declined, but a year later, with the property in foreclosure and in a serious state of disrepair that was starting to affect their own property, they reconsidered. The purchase was complicated by restrictions on property foreclosures put in place during COVID. So, while they held the mortgage and waited





for the property to be available to purchase at auction, they nonetheless invested considerable funds to repair the roof, pay back taxes, and begin demo work. Another year passed before they were able to officially buy it. Despite the complications, Graves said they never had any doubts it was the right move.

"We've seen ups and downs, but we're committed. We've been in Greenwich for 30 plus years, and we love the community.

We didn't want to see this become an eyesore. Wallie's and other businesses were trying to get off the ground — we felt like it was really the time. We were seeing a real renaissance and we wanted to continue that effort," she said.

Grants from the Village of Greenwich and a Core and Shell Renovation Grant from National Grid "were a tremendous help" with the building renovations. The project is a family affair. Their son Collin is general manager, daughter Haley Gori manages vendor relations with her mother as well as managing their social media presence. Graves' husband Tom, a retired Postmaster and Town Councilman, is a "Jack-of-all-Trades." Son-in-law Ethan Gori also pitches in when he's not working full time.

Graves, an interior designer, works in the commercial interior design and furnishings field and relished the chance to use her skills and talents on the new project. Even amidst the leaking roof and water-damaged walls and floors, she said she and her husband, whom she credits with also having an "eye for design," appreciated the building's architectural features and could see possibilities in the new space. "It had good bones," she said.

As the renovation evolved, they were excited to see the building's character and history emerge. They pulled wet sheet rock off the walls to reveal exposed brick and found original wood floors beneath layers of old sodden carpet and vinyl flooring. They were able to keep the original tin ceilings after removing layers of paint and rust. An old coal door which opened to the outside alley

Please read more on the next page

# (cont.)

was preserved in the new store.

The idea of the market began to take shape later and grew quite naturally out of the family's collective skill set and their relationships with those local vendors from the pop-up markets. Despite not having retail management experience, Graves said they knew many talented people who could benefit from selling at a new retail space. And they also knew the fall, holi-

day and Valentine's Day marer. She said they

have a general needs." While store is meant to have a space was our mission

Graves loves
many of the margets animated
shelves made from
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pantry, and special
the market's sign
and the globe lights
were repurposed
Graves' family farm in Texas.



kets were very popular at Gaththought, "Wouldn't it be cool to store? That's what this town they welcome tourists, the for the community. "We want for people to hang out. That for the community," she said. telling the stories behind

telling the stories behind ket's design features. She talking about the maple a tree taken down from the nearby Cottage Street, now essentials for the home, occasions. She beams at made by Mad Iron Works, over the back counter that

from milk canisters saved years ago from

Clutch is named for the idea of grabbing something quick to go. Their website says, "It's your one-stop-shop for locally-sourced products, every-day essentials, and quick, quality food."

The store is stocked with local and regional bread, cheese, eggs, milk,

dry and canned goods, pastas, baking supplies, snacks, and sweets. You can sit at tables inside or out – there are even plans to spruce up the alley next to the building – or grab coffee and a breakfast sandwich, or soft ice cream to go. There are also items for the home and special occasions like ceramics, books, dolls, house plants, and fresh flowers.

Reflecting on her family's labor of love she's still amazed at what they've been able to accomplish together. "I can't believe that we built it — I can't believe we did this, but it always felt like the right thing. It's been fun," she said.



The store is open Wednesday through Sunday. Check the store's website for updated store hours.

Website: https://www.clutchmarketny.com







### **RIDE ALONG**

# **Anthony Cafritz, founding director of SAW**

**Adam Harrison Levy** Journal & Press

**ADAM:** What road are we on?

ANTHONY: We're on our way to Salem Art Works, an art colony and sculpture park. It's the place with the most memories for me. We're on Stanton Hill Road, we're going to turn into the parking lot, drive past the water treatment plant, and then we are at the gates.

**ADAM:** When you look up at the hill, what do you think of?

ANTHONY: Many years of amazing people coming together in collaboration to make things happen, and to make art. Also, I'm always looking at the genetic diversity of what is growing here. We've planted fields that are cut after August 15 so that the flowers and the grasses can go through their whole growing cycle. It's good for the monarch butterflies and the insects and the birds.

ADAM: Were you always interested in agriculture?

ANTHONY: As a kid I worked on a tobacco farm, bailing hay.

**ADAM:** What about these pieces of sculpture?

**ANTHONY:** There are about 100 pieces of sculpture dotted around here on 119 acres. 69 of these acres are open fields and the rest is forested.

**ADAM:** Which piece of sculpture fits here the best?

**ANTHONY:** They all have an identity here, they are all well-sited, and each one has something to say that is different.

**ADAM:** What road are we on now?

**ANTHONY:** We're on the road to the top of the hill. It hasn't been graded yet. We're in a kind of a hand-to-mouth situation here but we always seem to make it each year.

**ADAM:** Do you have specific memories of this road?

**ANTHONY:** When I need to talk to someone and we need confidentiality we just drive Page Four | Early July 2024 | Journal & Press

around in the truck, it's the best way to talk.

**ADAM:** So driving for you is about privacy and connection with employees?

**ANTHONY:** You got it! It's about having a conversation between two people, sometimes three, and sometimes bringing a notepad and taking notes as you meander through the landscape.

**ADAM:** It's your mobile office?

**ANTHONY:** It's more like a sofa, a moving sofa, as you are moving through the landscape.

**ADAM:** We are at the top of the hill. What are we looking at?

ANTHONY: You can see the Green Mountains and that's Mt. Equinox shrouded in clouds. We are also looking at a Mark di Suvero sculpture. I worked for him for a year. When I moved up here he moved up two sculptures. He did it specifically to help start the art colony but at the same time it was a challenge: if I do this, what are you going to do? I was already trepidatious about the future but when he said that it was like a line in the sand. It made me work harder to get this place up and running.

ADAM How many artist-in-residents come to SAW every summer?

**ANTHONY:** We have about 15-18 people on campus now and we have another group coming in so we will have about 34 people by the end of next month.

**ADAM:** And where are we now?

**ANTHONY:** We're going back down the hill and if you turn left we have about 5.4 miles of trails going through the woods. They are old logging trails that we opened up for biking, horseback riding, and walking. And in the winter, snow-shoeing or cross-country skiing. This road goes all the way to the back 40. It's open to the public 356 days of the year.

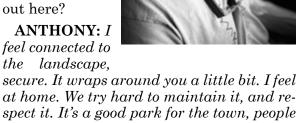
**ADAM:** And what are we looking at now?

**ANTHONY:** This is the horseshoe pit. Every Friday night around 5 o'clock people come to play horseshoes, have some beers,

and talk. You never know who is going to turn up. It's a mixture of people from town and some of the artists.

**ADAM:** How you feel when you are out here?

ANTHONY: I feel connected to the landscape,



at home. We try hard to maintain it, and respect it. It's a good park for the town, people come from all over, and I think it does help local businesses.

**ADAM:** Does this road inspire you?

**ANTHONY:** I use this road to write songs and to draw things out. Sometimes I'll back my truck up and park off to the side and sit for hours. I've written a lot of songs up here.

**ADAM:** So this truck is special - it's both a mobile office as well as a place for inspira-

**ANTHONY:** Yeah, I grew up in trucks, it's part of my culture.

**ADAM:** Is there anything else that you would like to add?

**ANTHONY:** Every road has a story. It might be a highway that is part of your daily routine. For me, this is a road where you can be alone and no one knows where you are which is great. Having detachment for a while is always good for you, I think.

Adam Harrison Levy is a freelance author and journalist (The Guard-

ian, BBC). He teaches writing at the School of Visual Arts and offers workshops and private lessons in Salem. Contact him at adamharrisonlevy@gmail.com.





# PROJECT LAUNCH! Greenwich Bike and Pedestrian Connectivity Improvements

The Town and Village of Greenwich are launching a joint project funded by the Adirondack-Glens Falls Transportation Council to improve pedestrian accessibility and bicycle connectivity throughout the community.

### **Project Purpose**

Build on what was identified in the Comprehensive Plan as the need to improve pedestrian and bicycle access & establish priorities to improve connectivity.

### PROJECT GOALS

- Improve cyclist and pedestrian connections into the Village and throughout the Town.
- Connect green spaces and amenities.
- Ensure safety and access along the commercial corridor for all those walking or biking in the community.



### **FEEDBACK**

Provide your feedback on the map linked at the QR Code above or check out and mark up a map in person set up at Town Hall, Village Hall, and the Greenwich Free Library.



https://wikimapping.com/greenwich-ny.html

### **Project Contact**

Norabelle Greenberger Senior Planner, LaBella Associates ngreenberger@labellapc.com (518) 824-1933





# An interview with Greenwich's mayor

Darren Johnson Journal & Press

Greenwich's new mayor, Amanda Hurley, ran unopposed and was elected to the village's top spot in March.

She moved with her extended family to Greenwich when she was 12 years old and attended Greenwich CSD, where, now, with her husband Kevin, she has two children, William and Louis, enrolled.

She and Kevin moved around the country – Amanda Hurley working hospitality and marketing jobs – before moving back to town eight years ago. She now works remotely as a Senior Marketing Manager at Lotus Marketing Inc. for major hotel brands.

She earned a master's in Integrated Marketing Communications at West Virginia University and a BA from Bethany College.

I recently met up with her and conducted this interview:

### DJ: I know it hasn't been long, but how have you liked being mayor so far?

AH: It's hard being the mayor because one of my downfalls is that I overanalyze everything, including the things I say. But overall I find it very enjoyable, helping others and building consensus and unity in the village.

# DJ: I see that you were raised here, but left for a while, then came back eight years ago?

**AH:** I realized I needed to be closer to my [extended] family, and what better place to raise my own family than here?

## DJ: It still must have taken some convincing to get your family on board?

AH: My husband is a city slicker. So I didn't want to push him into it. Tell him "you have to live in Greenwich." What if he got tired of it or wanted more of that metropolitan experience? But he liked Greenwich a lot and decided on his own. It was hard at first, though. There weren't a lot of houses for sale.

DJ: So, after going to college and working all over the country, your

hometown of Greenwich is the place where you've lived in the longest.

AH: I've been here eight years now, but I've always had an interest in being a part of the happenings of the town.

DJ: It seems like you gravitate to leadership roles, also serving a lot of groups, including being president of the PTSA.

AH: I get along with a lot of people because I think I'm really middle ground on things, and the world's kind of so crazy with people being opposites. I just felt like if you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem.

# DJ: What was it like leaving the rat race of the corporate world?

AH: The hours started stacking up and the process started to become intense. So, I started looking for something else, and then I went to Lotus Marketing, which is a boutique marketing agency for hotels.

## DJ: So your current job is remote and allows you the time to be mayor?

AH: Since becoming mayor, I go to the village office from 9 to 11. It kind of flexes a little bit. And I'm loving being around people. I didn't realize I was starved for that. Of course, being a young mom, that's helpful. Being a mom and being able to have control of your schedule.

### DJ: What made you want to run for mayor?

AH: People recruited me, including Rulyn Graves [chair of the Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce and owner of Main Street businesses]. She knew me growing up, through high school. And I was always involved in everything. That's actually something I've missed, having bounced around the country every few years.

I would just start getting into the community and then we'd have to move again.



I talked to [former mayor] Pam Fuller. She did a great job. So once I felt comfortable that I could manage work and being a parent, I was all in.

Now we're trying to find more members of the village who are interested in serving.

### DJ: What do you see as the job of mayor?

AH: We'd like to continue revitalizing the village to make it more attractive to bring other people in, and to make it a community center, where people can meet and hang out. I think the school does a good job of bringing people together. Of course, that's just kind of parents and children, though.

But a village is where you really get to know people and understand them. And I think people get along better if they regularly see each other and you talk. And so having a village where people go to do things, whether it's a restaurant or an event or what have you, I think bringing people together is the key to stability. Bringing people together, for example the recent new event, Union Village Fest. That was a nice event attractive to lots of different groups.

And people are very passionate about the

Please read more on the next page

# (cont.)

village.

I want to make sure we continue on a path of growing the village sustainably; to looking at projects and looking at grants that will not increase the tax burden, or anything to help the infrastructure in this aging village. Water projects, there's a lot of that to be done.

### DJ: Does your PR/marketing background help?

AH: My experience in that work, professionally, has been similar to project management. I've dabbled in areas that can help us do these great projects.

But I'm humble enough to know that I don't know what I don't know. And I've learned that a lot in three months. But I feel like my background is appropriate to help those working for the village juggle all this.

### DJ: I heard you also were out doing crossing guard work?

AH: One of the crossing guards had surgery. So we had to move crossing guards around, and we didn't have anybody to be a crossing guard. So I went out and I was a crossing guard.

It doesn't take much to pitch in. Like just do it. If more people pitch in, even better.

Instead of being keyboard warriors, and complaining, or saying anything negative, get involved. Show up.

# DJ: How do you deal with all of the different personalities who contact the village for various matters?

AH: I feel like much of what I do is mediation between residents, but one thing I've learned is I have to listen and not look to make instant decisions. I've always struggled with that, I want things done fast, and I want them done perfect.

In the corporate world it's like that, and that has probably burnt me a couple of times in terms of being a taskmaster. But here sometimes you have to slow down. And something might be very important to a group of people but you just see it as an object. So really slowing down and asking questions and relying on the longtime experts here for the history.



You know, the [Mowry Park] gazebo, for instance, painting that could be controversial for some. By the time we got to that point, I was like, okay, who needs to know that we're thinking about painting the gazebo?

I think the PR background helps with that because you can kind of anticipate how long it takes to get information dispersed to the right people.

You also have to study where things came from and making sure people are included and involved when change is happening. And yes, not to slow down progress, but just out of respect to get things done and for the volunteers.

### DJ: What's one of your most pressing projects?

AH: The wastewater treatment plant, which we're currently working on getting, some funding to get that upgraded. It's under a Department of Health consent order, and we have to make upgrades to it.

We've got Kyle Vandewater and Willy Grimke on the board. It's amazing having the two engineers. I feel like that is another part of my personality – feeling comfortable deferring to experts if I don't have that background.

They can speak the language. They know how to ask the questions and we have construction progress meetings once a month.

If we didn't have that, it would cost a lot of money to have paid consultants to help translate that to represent the village. So, having them is fantastic.

# DJ: Your predecessor, Pam Fuller, did a good job working with the town and supervisor Jim Nolan. Do you plan to continue that partnership?

AH: We're looking at a bike/pedestrian kind of grant. That's in progress. What's good for the village is good for the town. So the town should want to see the village succeed because we are the core, part of the business district and all of that. I think it naturally makes sense.

I know some people in the past wanted to dissolve the village and town into one. I don't think that's a great idea. There's so many things that happen in the village that require a different set of skills than maybe the town has. And a different focus. Like, the town could say, "Let's put a McDonald's where Napa Auto Parts is." The village residents might not want that. They might want to keep it cozy in the historical district, the historical buildings and all that.

So I think having a second set of people that focus specifically on that is good for our development. But yes, I'll definitely continue to work with the town office. It also is favorable, like if we're looking at grants ... they favor municipalities that work together.

Then it uses New York State funding in a way that's more impactful. Versus doing, say, one in the village and one in the town with two separate projects. It's better if it's connected. It just makes sense.

# **End of life – making your plans known**

Members of the public are invited to Greenwich Free Library on Wednesday July 17 at 11:00 am for the second in a series about remaining in community as one ages, presented by Barbara Price, BCPA. The theme for this event is Having Conversations about End of Life Wishes. Barbara Price says, "The first step in defining how you want to age and your hopes for end-of-life is to think about it. The second step is to talk with your loved ones, so they know

and respect your wishes." This 90-minute session will cover the major topics to think about and how to get started on the conversations.

Price, an End-of-Life Doula, explains, "Expressing your wishes to your family before a serious illness or close to death, can give you more control, autonomy and dignity during a critical illness. It's a process that happens over time. This community conversation will help you get started."

All are welcome, and no registration is required.

Barbara Price, BA, BCPA, has a degree in psychology with a certificate in Psychosynthesis counseling. Her further studies include compassion in action, community palliative care, and end of life care (EOLD). She lives in Greenwich, is a hospice volunteer, and is also the primary caregiver to a disabled family member.

# 'Recovery' doc and panel discussion

This summer, Salem, Cambridge, and Greenwich libraries invite members of the community to come together to learn about an issue that has affected many in our region: alcohol and opioid use. A screening of Adirondack Health Institute's "Hope of Recovery" documentary will be shown at all three locations this summer.

"Hope of Recovery" highlights first-person stories to affirm that recovery is a process of change through which people improve their health and wellness in a self-directed way. Substance use disorder affects not only the person who is battling the disease, but family and friends alike. Every pathway is different. Every story is unique. All empowered by hope. Following the one hour film will be a panel discussion with several community members and/or persons who were featured in the documentary.

Who should come to this program? Anyone who is curious about learning more about the opioid and alcohol epidemic, specifically in the North Country, and how it impacts us all. Teens through seniors who are currently facing their own struggles with substance use, or who have family members or friends struggling with addiction, and anyone who wants to become more empathetic to the struggle of so many.

The dates and locations for the screenings are:

- Salem Bancroft Library: Thursday, July 25th, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- Cambridge Public Library: Wednesday, August 7th, 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- Greenwich Free Library: Monday, August 12th, 6:30 8:30 PM

The documentary was directed and produced by Jordan Craig Media LLC and funded by the Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Grant of Adirondack Health Institute. This project is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

# **Get ready for Schuylerville Flower Show**

The Schuylerville Garden Club will present its annual National Garden Club Inc. Standard Flower Show entitled "A Little Bit Country" on Saturday, July 20 from 1:00 – 5:00 pm and Sunday, July 21 from Noon- 4 pm in the Town Hall, 12 Spring Street (corner of Spring & Broad) in Schuylerville, NY.

There will be Floral Design, Horticulture and Artistic Crafts competitions which will be judged by trained judges. A Photography division will be judged by the people attending the show. The public is invited to submit photos to the photo division and horticulture specimens to the horticulture division. See the website for details. All divisions reflect the "Country" theme.

The Schuylerville Garden Club, established in 1938, has presented many annual Flower Shows that have been enjoyed by the public through the years. The club has won many national and state garden club awards for the shows. This year's show should also be a prize winner! Gardeners and nongardeners alike enjoy the show each year

In addition to the competitions, there will be plant, glove and bake sales, prizes from a benefit table and special exhibits.

Admission and refreshments are free! The public is invited to attend and participate in the show. For more information, visit www.schuylervillegardenclub.org.



# #MakeAmericanFlagsinAmericaAct





# Is Your American Flag Made in the U.S.A.?



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# Watch our Inspirational Video: https://tinyurl.com/HR4137

The Make American Flags in America Act is proudly endorsed by The National Independent Flag Dealers Association, & The Flag Manufacturers Association of America.





SARATOGA FLAG.com

## **Exhibit at Courthouse**

The Historic Salem Courthouse welcomes artist Jeri Macdonald with an opening reception from 5-7:30 p.m. on Friday, July 5th. The reception is free and open to the public; light refreshments will be available. The show of her works, entitled "A Decade and Then Some." runs until July 28.

Macdonald is a native of Cambridge, NY, having been born there and residing there most of her life. She received her BFA from Windham College in Putney, VT. While at Windham she spent a semester in Aix en Provence studying Romanesque architecture and concentrating on studio drawing and painting. After traveling around the country for few years, she started her family and returned to Cambridge in 1980. In 1985 she set up her studio in Varak Park where she painted until moving to her new studio at her residence in Center Cambridge in 2008.

Over the years she has worked in various

OPEN HOUSE

July 14th, 2024
80th Birthday
for Stuart Mowrey
Middle Falls Fire House
Rt. 29 & 40
Middle Falls, NY
1:30pm-4:30pm
No gifts please,
your presence
at the celebration
is present enough.

media including watercolor, pastel, ceramics, woodcarving, and encaustics. For many years oil paint has been her first love. More recently. she has been drawn to painting with India ink on Yupo paper as well as collage. Just as her mediums have changed over the years so have her subject matter. In the late 80's and early 90's, highways and family photos were her focus. Later, that focus became glassware and dishes and more recently fabrics and drapery. Whatever the subject matter, her primary focus has been light, how it creates illusion and the dynamics of composition.

According to the artist: "In my painting I like to construct still lifes reflecting the everyday materials around me. I find myself drawn to piles of objects providing me the opportunity to explore multiple layers and the spaces in between. In the past I have used dishes and glass and now fabric. All these motifs are a way to play with the possibilities of light, form, color and their relationships within the confines of the rectangle and square. Then I close in on the subject and crop it to enhance the abstract possibilities. I am not always as interested what a subject is as what it does."

Macdonald chronicles the evolution of her work by saying: "The glass and dish paintings began in 2000 using my sink full of dirty dishes as subject and evolved into set ups of glasses on fabric to play with the bending of patterns. Also included here are several paintings where I have placed



glasses on magazine glamour shots of women. By placing them behind glassware, creating distortions, I have further skewed our concept and perception of beauty."

In the newer works I enjoy how fabrics twist, entwine and drape. I was surprised to realize how the shapes of the bolts and the drapes of fabric echo that of the human form with their curves and creases, intersecting and overlapping edges. As with the glass and dishes, the fabrics have allowed me to play with layers, shapes and their abstract possibilities.

Macdonald has shown her work in many local venues. These include The Valley Artisans Market, Albany Center Gallery, Larac, Southern Vermont Arts Center, and The Mohawk Hudson Regional Exhibit. The Historic Salem Courthouse is located at 58 E.Broadway, Salem, NY. For more information about this show and other Courthouse events, please visit the website, www. SalemCourthouse.org or call 518-854-7053.

# **July 4th parade and BBQ**

The Argyle Independence Day Parade Committee is again making plans for the 2024 Argyle Independence Day Parade! This year's theme is: *Made in America*. The parade will take place on July 4th at 11:00 am. They invite anyone who would like to participate to email ArgyleParade@gmail.com or to call 518-744-1480

for more information or to enter. All entries should be received by June 26th.

There will be a pre-order only drivethru Chicken BBQ at the firehouse following the parade. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Please visit argyle-fire-dept-bbq.square.site to order tickets.

### Available weekly in Salem and Whitehall!



At Hudson Headwaters, we're making access to vital health services more convenient than ever. Our Mobile Health Center can be used as your primary care provider, or supplement your health care needs—including pediatric and adolescent medicine, and gynecology. All are welcome, regardless of your insurance or ability to pay. We're here for you—closer to home.



HHHN.org

# **Bancroft mulls expansion**

-Submitted by Melissa Carll, Library Director

The Bancroft Public Library has initiated a project to explore the possibility of enlarging the library. The Board of Trustees is actively considering extending the library into the space that formally housed the Salem Fire Department. Why is the library looking to expand? The 2023 annual report to the community shows a 28% increase in visitors and an 81% increase in program attendance over the past year, and this upward trend in library use has been consistent over the last few years. The increase in participation, and especially our afterschool attendance, clearly shows a need for more space.

What steps are being taken to scope out this potential project? Earlier this year, the Board of Trustees applied for and received a grant from the Southern Adirondack Library System (SALS) to enlist



the services of an architect to prepare schematic design consisting of plans and outline specifications. The Board of Trustees has engaged the services of John G. Waite Associates. This firm has extensive experience with historic library projects and is the same firm that oversaw the accessibility project at Bancroft Public Library.

The firm's principal and lead project architect sat down with the Board of Trustees at its June meeting. A few suggestions mentioned at the meeting include:

- · Moving the adult stacks to the new space
- · One or two small rooms for studying or business
- · Enlarge children's space in front of the checkout desk
  - · A young adult space
  - · A reading nook with comfortable chairs

Once preliminary plans are prepared, the Board of Trustees will hold a meeting for the community to showcase what is planned and to gather the community's input.

If any of the library's patrons or Salem community members have suggestions regarding the library expansion, please pass them on to the library staff, or leave us a note in the suggestion box in the library.

The Bancroft Public Library is located at

181 South Main Street, Salem, New York. Feel free to stop by anytime the library is open to access a variety of resources: books, wifi, computers, dvds, audiobooks, makerspace, games, and printing. The library has a great line-up of clubs and groups that meet weekly and monthly, check out our website to learn more: www.bancroftlibrary.org.

# Multi-Family Tag & Art Sale

Saturdays - All Summer

Beginning May 18 10 AM - 4 PM

Rain or shine (under cover)

2413 Route 22 Cambridge, NY 12816

½ mile north of Jackson Town Hall Driveway north of house Building at back of property









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### **RANDOM THOUGHTS**

# **Avoiding 'Idiocracy'**

Michael Levy Journal & Press

In 2006, the satirical movie "Idiocracy" was released. The movie, directed by Mike Judge, presents a dystopian future where human intelligence has drastically declined due to societal and environmental factors. Maybe reality is beginning to match fiction!

The film follows Joe Bauers (Luke Wilson), who was selected for a top-secret hibernation experiment. He was chosen because he was the MOST average person in the U.S. military. Alongside a woman named Rita (Maya Rudolph), he is put into stasis for what is supposed to be a one-year experiment. However, the project is forgotten, and both Joe and Rita end up being frozen for the next five hundred years.

When Joe and Rita awaken in the year 2505, they find a society where intelligence has regressed significantly. The population is overwhelmingly dumbed down, largely due to a combination of anti-intellectualism and consumerism. Society is dominated by lowbrow entertainment, commercialism, and an overall lack of critical thinking. No one knows how anything works or functions anymore, and society is about to collapse as a result.

Ultimately, Joe discovers that he is now the smartest person in the world despite being decidedly average back in 2006. It is not that he became smarter, everyone else became dumber. Joe is eventually enlisted by the President of the United States, President Dwayne Elizondo

Mountain Dew Camacho (Terry Crews), to solve the nation's overwhelming problems, such as failing crops and widespread trash accumulation. President Camacho is a former pro wrestler and porn star which gives you some of his major qualifications for the highest office in 2505. Joe solves the problem of worldwide hunger by using water in the crop irrigation system instead of what was being used by the people of the future, an expensive electrolyte-rich sports drink

branded as "Brawndo: The Thirst Mutilator." Even though Brawndo was clearly killing the crops, folks in fictional 2505 be-Brawndo's lieved advertising slogan that "it got what plants crave!" and that water, which was free, was only to be used in a toilet.

"Idiocracy" is both humorous and thought-provoking, using exaggerated scenarios to highlight societal issues, encouraging viewers to reflect on the direction of contemporary society. Despite its comedic tone, the film raises important questions about the potential consequences of neglecting education, critical thinking,

Coming back to the current reality of 2024, we could be on the precipice of the satirical future portrayed in "Idiocracy". Let me give you some examples.

and environmental responsibility.

When you make a call on your cell phone,

# 'The film raises important questions about the consequences of neglecting education.'

do you realize that it is nothing but a sophisticated radio? Like a traditional radio, a cell phone uses radio waves to communicate. It converts your voice into an electrical signal, which is then transmitted as radio waves to a nearby cell tower. There is a lot of computing power in your smartphone, but do you understand how it works?

There might be a generation of young people alive today that do not even know what a dial tone sounds like. And for those



of you living in Cambridge and Greenwich before 1949, you had to speak with a living human being known as a telephone operator before making a local call. After 1949, telephone users could just dial the local number after they heard a dial tone, but they still had to go through an operator for their long-distance calls. There were eighteen operators employed in Greenwich at the time to assist callers on their toll free or long-distance calls. Kids today might not understand how a rotary dial phone works because they are so accustomed to modern touchscreens and digital inter-

faces. It is always humorous to watch them using a rotary dial phone for the first time.

How about the automobile? Automobiles have seen significant advancements over the years, making them better in many aspects compared to their predecessors. Modern

automobiles are safer, more fuel-efficient, environmentally friendly, and technologically advanced than their predecessors. They offer better performance, reliability, and comfort, making them a significant improvement over older models. But do we understand how new vehicles even work? Back in 1978, I bought a 1960 Cadillac for \$100. Standard equipment included power brakes, power steering, automatic

Please read more on the next page

# (cont.)

transmission, dual back-up lamps, windshield wipers, two-speed wipers, wheel discs, outside rearview mirror, vanity mirror, oil filter, power windows, and two-way power seats - all features that we think of today as ordinary but back then, all were considered to be true luxury options. Unfortunately, the driver's side power window stopped working a few months after I bought it (and in the middle of a downpour, no less). Luckily, it took me only 15 minutes to fix the window switch wiring and get things working again. Today's power windows are controlled by circuit boards comprised of a myriad of integrated circuits and chips. Who knows how to fix a non-functional window without replacing expensive parts? And how do modern On/ Off push buttons on cars work? Magically the car verifies the presence of the key fob in your pocket, deactivates the security system, and uses sophisticated electronic controls to start the engine. I remember having to turn the ignition key on the Caddy until the huge 390 cubic inch V8 engine roared to life and then letting go of the key once it started.

How about the food that we eat? We can buy a loaf of bread at the grocery store that has a shelf life of weeks, not days. Storebought bread often contains chemical preservatives like calcium propionate, sodium benzoate, and potassium sorbate. These additives inhibit the growth of mold and bacteria, extending the bread's shelf life. Funny thing is that the few times that I made bread using ingredients with no additives and preservatives, the resulting product lasted but a few days without getting stale and moldy.

Several years back, I asked some preteens if they knew where cereal came from. Looking at me like I was stupid or something, they told me that cereal comes from the grocery store. None could even relate to how it originally came from a plant in the ground, was processed and packaged, and somehow transported to a grocery store shelf.

Do not accept the future blindly! Here in Washington County, it is easy to take the kids or grandchildren to a local farm and show them where our food comes from. These trips can be highly educational, showing them firsthand how fruits, vegetables, and other foods are grown, harvested, and brought to market.

Think about the technology that we use every day and strive to learn about it. There are a multitude of resources online, including free courses, tutorials, and videos that explain how different technologies work. Read books and magazines focused on science and technology. Publications like "Popular Mechanics," "Wired," and "Scientific American" provide insights into how everyday technology functions. En-

gage in do-it-yourself projects that involve basic electronics, coding, or mechanical work. Kits like Raspberry Pi or Arduino can help you and your children learn about programming and electronics through fun, practical projects.

No one can be knowledgeable about everything and that is not the ask here. I am encouraging everyone to develop a mind-set of questioning and researching rather than blindly accepting today's world at face value. Critical thinking skills are essential for understanding and navigating the complexities of modern life and building a better future.

By taking proactive steps to educate ourselves and the younger generation about where our food comes from and how modern technology works, we can foster a deeper connection to the world around us. This approach not only enhances understanding but also encourages responsible and informed engagement with the future, helping us avoid "idiocracy" entirely. How about that for 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.



### Firecracker 4K

Saratoga's All-American Celebration is back this July 4th in downtown Saratoga Springs.

The day will include the annual Firecracker Road Race, the Saratoga-Wilton Elks' 55th annual Flag Day parade, a free family-friendly concert featuring Tops of Trees and a spectacular fireworks display. All events are open to the public.

Organized by the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce, Saratoga's All-American Celebration draws thousands of attendees each year and organizers expect an even greater turnout this year with the newly added Flag Day parade, a longtime patriotic tradition rescheduled this year due to the Belmont Stakes Racing Festival.

Registration for the Firecracker 4 Road Race is now open at www. firecracker 4.com.

## **Cemetery tour**

The Washington County Historical Society with the 250th Committee of Washington County invites the public to tour the historic Greenwich Cemetery with Sandy McReynolds on Thursday July 11 at 5:30pm in Greenwich, NY.

Join us as we visit the final resting places of some of the town's most influential people. Along the way enjoy the lovely examples of early tombstone art and symbolism. Attendees should note that as we explore the grounds, walking on uneven ground, slight hills, and dirt walkways is to be expected.

Tour guide Sandy McReynolds is the Town of Greenwich Historian as well as the Greenwich Free Library's I.V.H. Gill Room Historian. The tour will begin at the first roadway entrance to the cemetery on Cottage Street at 5:30 pm.

### **SUMMER READING**

# Summer reading for children: Fostering a lifelong love for books

**Dani Martindale** Special to Journal & Press

As schools close their doors for the summer break, it's time to dive into one of the most enriching activities a child can indulge in: summer reading. Summer reading plays a pivotal role in a child's intellectual, emotional, and social development. Despite this, according to the Scholastic Kids and Family Reading Report, there is a marked decline in parents reading to their kids, as well as the number of children who read for fun. This decline increases once a child reaches nine years old and never recovers. In the world of tablets, Minecraft, and Roblox, it is not hard to figure out why. However, the importance of reading cannot be forgotten, and the challenges faced today makes fostering a passion for reading early on in children so crucial.

### Why is Summer Reading Important?

- 1. Prevents Learning Loss: Research has shown that students often experience learning loss, or the "summer slide," during extended breaks from school. Engaging in regular reading during the summer helps combat this decline in academic skills, ensuring children return to school ready to pick up where they left off.
- 2. Expands Vocabulary and Comprehension: Reading exposes children to new words, phrases, and ideas, thereby enhancing their vocabulary and comprehension skills. The more they read, the more they understand, and the better they become at expressing themselves both verbally and in writing.
- 3. Stimulates Imagination and Creativity: Books have the remarkable ability to transport readers to different worlds, times, and cultures, igniting their imagination and fostering creativity. Through



reading, children can explore limitless possibilities and develop their own unique perspectives on the world around them.

- 4. Builds Empathy and Emotional Intelligence: Literature provides insights into the thoughts, feelings, and experiences of diverse characters, enabling children to develop empathy and emotional intelligence. By immersing themselves in stories, children learn to understand and relate to others with compassion and sensitivity.
- 5. Promotes Critical Thinking Skills: Analyzing characters, deciphering plot twists, and making predictions are all part of the reading experience. Engaging with literature cultivates critical thinking skills, teaching children to question, evaluate, and form opinions based on evidence and reasoning.
- 6. Stronger Mental Health: The Scholastic Kids and Family Reading Report shows that children who are frequent readers have less anxiety, depression, feelings of loneliness, and an overall better mental health.

## Tips for Fostering a Love for Reading:

In the digital age, it can be hard to get children to unplug and pick up a book. Here are some tips for encouraging reading.

- 1. Lead by Example: Children often emulate the behaviors of their parents. If they see you reading regularly and expressing enjoyment from it, they're more likely to view reading as a pleasurable activity worth pursuing.
- 2. Create a Reading-Friendly Environment: Designate a cozy reading nook in your home filled with books that cater to your child's interests and reading level. Make it a comfortable and inviting space where they can curl up with a book anytime they please.
- 3. Set Aside Dedicated Reading Time: Establish a daily or weekly reading routine where the entire family spends time reading together. Whether it's before

Please read more on the next page

# 'Mary Poppins' cast, dates announced

Fort Salem Theater announced the talented cast and creative team for Disney's Mary Poppins, running from July 26 to August 11. Due to anticipated demand, a third weekend has been added to what is expected to be Fort Salem Theater's biggest production to date. Tickets are selling fast, so be sure to reserve your seats now at Fort-Salem.com or by calling 518-854-9200.

Executive and Artistic Director Kyle West shared his excitement: "This production is a fantastic opportunity for both experienced and new performers of all ages to share the stage. It's the perfect family-fun musical for our summer season, and one that kids and adults alike are sure to love."

Based on the book by P.L. Travers, this beloved nanny (made famous on film by Julie Andrews) is "practically perfect" and knows just what "A Spoonful of Sugar" can do to help a posh pair of children seeking the perfect nanny. The musical brings the Disney favorite to life with songs like "Let's Go Fly A Kite," "Step In Time," and "Supercalifragilisticexpi-

alidocious." The musical is based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney film, with original music and lyrics by Richard M. Sherman and Robert B. Sherman, a book by Julian Fellowes, and new songs and additional music and lyrics by George Stiles and

Anthony Drewe. It was co-created by Cameron Mackintosh.

Par-Javnie menter stars as Poppins. Mary Jaynie returns to the role, having won the HSMTA Award as Mary Poppins in 2017. She then formed at the Minskoff Theatre on Broadway as a Jimmy Awards nominee and now



has several songs available on Spotify, in-

cluding her single, "over u." She appears opposite Michael Nichols-Pate as Bert. Michael is an Upstate-based performer, director, and producer who has most recently been seen onstage locally in "Cabaret" (Emcee), "Seussical" (Cat in the Hat), "Cinderella" (the Herald), and the world premiere of the musical "Solstice," where he originated the role of Danny Romero.

Guest artist James Kidd makes his Fort Salem Theater debut as George Banks. James has performed in three National Tours, including "Annie," "Peter Pan," and "A Christmas Carol," plus numerous professional performances at Mac-Haydn Theatre and Park Playhouse.

Mary Poppins performances are Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30PM and Sundays at 2:00PM from July 26 to August 11. The historic theater is located at 11 E. Broadway in Salem, New York. Tickets range from \$20-\$30, with discounts available for groups 10+. Get yours before they "fly" away at FortSalem.com or by calling 518-854-9200.

# (cont.)

bedtime or during lazy afternoons, make reading a cherished family tradition.

- 4. Make A Tradition Out of It: Some of my favorite childhood memories are the weekly trips to the library. We were turned loose to explore the magic of the place, The entire family participated and there was a particular thrill about being able to pick out whatever we wanted. Afterwards we would often stop for a tasty treat on the way home.
- 5. Encourage Freedom of Choice: Allow your child to choose what they want to read, whether it's fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, or magazines. Giving them autonomy over their reading selections fosters a sense of ownership and excitement about exploring different genres.
- 6. Incorporate Reading into Daily Activities: Integrate reading into everyday activities by incorporating it into cooking, gardening, or outdoor adventures. For instance, you can read a recipe together while

preparing a meal or identify plants and animals in a nature book during a hike.

- 7. Engage in Book-related Activities: Extend the reading experience beyond the pages of a book by participating in book clubs, author events, or storytelling sessions at local libraries or bookstores. These activities not only make reading more interactive but also create opportunities for socialization and community engagement.
- 8. Celebrate Achievements: Recognize and celebrate your child's reading milestones, whether it's finishing a challenging book or reaching a certain number of pages read. Reward them with praise, stickers, ice cream sundays or small incentives to reinforce their love for reading.

Summer reading is not just a seasonal pastime but a gateway to a lifetime of learning, imagination, and discovery. By nurturing a love for reading in children early on, and providing them with the resources and support they need, parents can empower them to become lifelong readers and learners. So, as the summer unfolds,

let's embark on an enriching literary journey together and watch children flourish one page at a time.

Dani Martindale is a children's book author from Hebron, NY. She has a passion for instilling a love of books in young readers. When not writing, Dani can be found exploring the outdoors with her dogs and horses or competing in local barrel races and rodeos. Dani's works include "Frisky Finn Meets His Match," "Frisky Finn Makes A Friend," and "Yes, Molly Can."



### **ON THE SQUARE**

# The writing on the wall

Lance Allen Wang Journal & Press

As I write this, the latest controversy being played out in the news is the decision of the State of Louisiana to require the Ten Commandments on the walls of all public-school classrooms. I just watched an interview with one of the co-authors of the law, Louisiana State Representative Lauren Ventrella and when pressed, her justification for this measure was, "If parents aren't going to do their jobs, we'll do it for them."

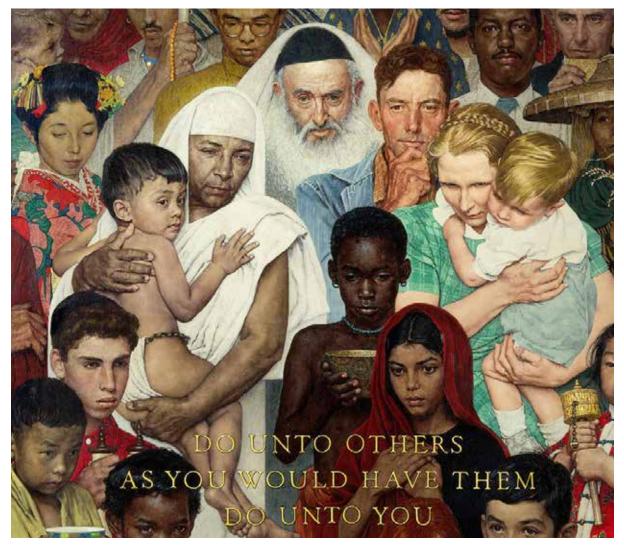
Wow.

Talk about big government. Before they imploded under the weight of their own contradictions, even the far-right "Moms for Liberty" performatively proclaimed "We don't co-parent with the government."

The interviewer, attempting to get Representative Ventrella off the scripted talking points, tried to get her to answer a hypothetical as to how she would feel if the commandments enumerated by another faith were mandated in her child's classroom. She refused to entertain such a hypothetical.

I suppose it is ironic that religion, something which in its truest form is supposed to make us empathetic to the needs of our fellow human being, is instead here placed as a stumbling block, a potentially divisive flashpoint, and a political line of battle. And as the son of a 30-year public school teacher, I'll say this – the ones who lose in this are the teachers, as usual.

For instance, the state is saying that the Ten Commandments are not posted as an endorsement of faith, but rather as a "historical" document. The law mandating the posting of the Ten Commandments also "authorizes" the posting of other "historical documents," including the Mayflower Compact, the Declaration of Independence, and the Northwest Ordinance. But the Ten Commandments (in the State's chosen translation!) is mandatory, as is a four-paragraph "context statement" which



points out that the Ten Commandments, "were a prominent part of American public education for almost three centuries."

But, it is the teachers who will have to lead discussions, and teachers who run the risk of further separating a parent from the right to choose whether and how they engage their children on spiritual matters. And recorded history is not always in accordance with the matters that we accept as faith. Some denominations believe that the Ten Commandments were written by God. Others believe that they were written by man and inspired by God. Historians do not agree at all as to when or by whom they were written. Is a teacher in a position to comment? Should they?

I am not against the Ten Commandments. I'm the president of a house of worship. I also lay lead worship services and have for years. The Ten Commandments are an important part of my liturgy. We discuss the Ten Commandments, and we discuss them in multiple contexts, many lenses. We know they don't stand alone, there are verses before, and verses after. The Ten Commandments are even restated — not verbatim—three books later in the book of Deuteronomy. Why are they phrased differently? Is it the school's place to provide context? And the magic question—what context?

Now, if the state wants the public schools

Please read more on next page

# (cont.)

to teach ABOUT religion, I think a basic survey of religions in the United States is a great idea. We're a big country and we're part of an even bigger world. But if you want to create a state-mandated worldview of America's founding principles coming from the Ten Commandments, you're going to start to walk into less stable ground. America's history is full of examples of tension regarding the separation between church and state. Our 2nd President, Founding Father John Adams, reinforced his feelings on the establishment clause when he assured the signatories in a 1797 treaty that, "As the government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian Religion..."

Let me offer for your approval a different path. If morality is to ornament our classrooms, center it around the Golden Rule. There are quite a few religions and denominations that agree on the principle, if not the phrasing, of this fundamental concept. This simple principle is the one that provides us with the roots of empathy, which, I suggest, is a deficit as bad for our country as a monetary one.

In Christianity, Jesus says in Matthew 7:12 "In everything, do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets."

In Judaism, Hillel writes in the Talmud, "What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. This is the whole Torah; all the rest is commentary."

In Islam, "Not one of you truly believes until you wish for others what you wish for yourself."

Among the Hindu faith, "This is the sum of duty; do not do to others what would cause pain if done to you."

Adherents of Buddhism say, "Treat not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful."

Sikhs say "I am a stranger to no one; and no one is a stranger to me. Indeed, I am a friend to all."

Do you get the idea? Using the Ten Commandments as a state-mandated lesson on morality only clearly draws a line between those whose faith embraces the Ten Commandments and those whose does not. And

even among adherents of the Ten Commandments, of course, there are those whose translation of the Ten Commandments matches the state and those who don't.

"Miss Othmar, my daddy says that the commandment is 'Thou shalt not murder,' not 'Thou shalt not kill.' He was in the war. Is he going to Hell?" Is it necessary to put Miss Othmar, a homeroom teacher, in the position of having to address this?

Perhaps by moving off the Ten Commandments and on to the Golden Rule, we can teach that among the multiplicity of faiths in America, there are common, explicit values as to how we treat each other. Who knows, perhaps our public schools can begin to heal the divides which are doing so much harm to our country, or at least plant the seed. But it's not going to happen following Louisiana's path.

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



## **Help Wanted**

### APPLICATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

The Town of Jackson Highway Department is seeking applicants for a full-time year-round permanent position. Potential candidate must have a minimum of a Class B CDL. Snow plowing and over time is a must. Mechanical abilities and equipment operator skills a plus.

Must be able to work with the public and be a team player.

Competitive pay, health insurance package, paid holidays, paid time off.

Interested parties may pick up an application at the Town of Jackson Highway Garage during normal business hours. For further information, please contact the Highway Superintendent Sean Carney at (518) 677-3678.



### **HUMOR HOTEL**

# Stumbling my way off of the ballot

**Greg Schwem** 

Tribune Content Agency Special to This Newspaper

When I was 5, I remember telling my dad I wanted to someday be president. He smiled and began peppering me with questions, clearly enjoying this father-son moment.

"Will you be a good listener? Will you work hard? Have you ever done anything bad in your life?"

My answers were, "yes, yes, no," but, again, I was only 5. Fifty-six years later I would have to answer all three in the affirmative, because, if I adhere to what seem to be the qualifications for becoming our next commander-in-chief, I have done some very bad things. Some absolutely heinous things. And the worst part? I continue doing them.

Take last week, for example. I went to Target. No, that's not the bad thing. Although, I did purchase some ibuprofen for my aching heel, which, when inflamed, causes me to walk with a slight limp. As we now know from social media and certain news outlets, presidents are not allowed to limp, shuffle, stumble or, heaven forbid, trip whenever they are on their feet. Doing so is a clear sign of physical decline. If our president can't even master the art of self-balancing, how can he or she be expected to balance the budget?

But it got worse. In the parking lot, I couldn't remember where I parked my vehicle! I must have wandered around for at least 45 seconds before realizing I had parked it one row over from where I was searching. You read that correctly; an ENTIRE ROW! Our next president must have impeccable GPS capabilities. If the simple act of locating a vehicle is too great a burden for me, then I shouldn't be given responsibility for deploying troops around the world. What if I forget where they are?

Speaking of forgetfulness, I was having a phone conversation a few days ago and found myself searching for a particular Page 20 | Early July 2024 word to complete my thought. I said, "I felt a little self-conscious being the only single person at the party but soon I lost my..."

The word I was searching for was "inhibition." I remembered it quickly, but not fast enough to be president, apparently. Our presidents are forbidden from mixing up words. They must always speak in perfectly fluid sen-

tences. Each sentence must have a subject and a predicate. Verbs must be correctly conjugated. What if our next president, attempting to negotiate peace between Israel



and Hamas, turned to Israeli representatives and said, "You must agree to a unilateral, uh, um..."

The silence would allow Israel to insert whatever word or phrase it felt like. While the U.S. president racked his or her brain trying to come up with "ceasefire," Israel could say, "I believe you mean, "escalation of hostilities."

"That's what we've been planning all along, Mr. President. Thank you for your support. We will show ourselves out."

Finally, and this is the clincher, I was searching for my sunglasses the other day before realizing they were perched on top of my head. I've done that before, and, chances are, you the reader have too. We all laugh because we realize the situation's



absurdity, but then we go about our days, grateful for UV ray protection.

But what if our president ransacked the White House searching for something, before realizing it was in his or her possession? What if that "something" was the nuclear launch codes?

"Silly me. They were in my pocket the entire time. I wish I'd discovered them before North Korea fired on us!"

Hey, it could happen.

So, to recap, our president MUST be someone who, at all times, possesses a photographic memory, perfect diction and an outstanding gait. Find me that person, and he or she will have my vote.

Thankfully, the election is still about four months away.

Greg Schwem is a corporate stand-up comedian and author of two books: "Text Me If You're Breathing: Observations, Frus-

trations 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.

### **COLLEGE NEWS**

# Health care training, fully funded

SUNY Adirondack announced New York State Education Department approval of the college's Personal Care Aide (PCA), Home Health Aide (HHA) and Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) training programs.

Healthcare Pathways, a program funded by a State University of New York (SUNY) Future of Work Centers grant, resurrects courses the college hasn't offered in several years.

"I am thrilled to announce the return of PCA, HHA and CNA health care training programs to SUNY Adirondack," said Kimberly Comisky, director of Healthcare Pathways. "These programs will provide participants with essential skills and knowledge to make a difference in providing health care in our community."

Demand for direct-care professionals in our region is at a high.

"The demand for well-trained and highly competent caregivers has never been greater in our community, and these training programs will help meet this growing need," said Andy Cruikshank, CEO of Fort Hudson Health System.

Two trainings — Personal Care Aid and Personal Care Aide to Home Health Aide — will be offered free this summer, with the \$750/\$850-per-participant cost of training paid for by the Healthcare Pathways grant.

The Personal Care Aide (PCA) training is from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Fri-

day, July 8 to 19. This 40-hour course prepares students to care for clients in a home setting. Students who successfully complete this class will gain entry into the NY State Department of Health Home Care Registry as a certified Personal Care Aide.

A second training, Personal Care Aide to Home Health Aide (PCA-HHA upgrade training) provides PCAs 40 hours of classroom instruction and lab experience, and an additional eight hours of clinical/supervised practical training at an assisted living facility. The class is from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, July 29 to Aug. 9, with a clinical from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aug. 12.

Students who successfully complete course requirements receive HHA certification and will be listed in the NY State Department of Health Home Care Registry.

Participants in each must be at least 18 years old; attend every class; pass a criminal background check for employment; and provide some medical documentation.

Preregistration is required. Please contact Samantha Williams, Healthcare Pathways program assistant, at 518-743-2256 or healthcarepathways@sunyacc.edu.

Said Charles Nelson, executive director of Greater Adirondack Home Aides: "Greater Adirondack Home Aides is grateful for the opportunity to work with SUNY Adirondack. With the offering of training courses for Personal Care Aides, and Home Health



Aides, SUNY Adirondack will be training the next group of caring, compassionate, professional aides. This will allow Greater Adirondack to expand its mission to provide high quality care for our community's elderly and disabled citizens."

Said J. Brian Nealon, CEO of The Wesley Community: "We feel privileged to partner with SUNY Adirondack as a clinical site for the Healthcare Pathways program. The Wesley Community and our seasoned nursing staff have created a nurturing and supportive environment for health care students who want to pursue certification or prepare for a nursing degree. The success of our own in-house Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training, through a separate program, has laid the groundwork for this exciting partnership with SUNY ADK, and we look forward to launching even more careers."

### **FUN & GAMES SOLUTIONS**

Boggle: BEE ANT FLEA WASP MOTH GNAT APHID BEETLE CRICKET

**Jumble:** SWEPT GLOAT SHRANK NEATLY – EASY TO GRASP

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### **THROUGH THE DECADES**

# It's time to get a driver's license

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

### 100 Years Ago July 2, 1924

The provisions of new automobile laws went into effect Tuesday, July 1, but a period of three months is given for owners to obtain the new operator's licenses, which are required by the new law. Heretofore, the ability and willingness to purchase a car has apparently been sufficient proof that a person was competent to operate it, but under the terms of the new law no one will be permitted to drive automobile unless he or she either an operator's license or a chauffeur's license, and this applies to owners as well as members of their families. It is the purpose of law to reduce the number of incompetent and inexperienced drivers on the road and thereby cut down the appalling number of automobile accidents.

It is understood that the new law will not require persons who are now owners or drivers of any car to pass any examination, but they will have to make regular application for a license and if found after October 1 without such license, will be liable to arrest and fine. No person under eighteen years old can secure a license.

### 90 Years Ago July 11, 1934

Although passenger service on the Eagle Bridge-Rutland branch of D. and H. Railroad was discontinued more than two weeks ago, it was not until yesterday that the New York State public service commission got around to hold a hearing on the subject. The hearing was held at Granville, and citizens of Cambridge, Shushan, Salem, and other places along the line were among those in attendance. Commissioner W. D. Himes presided at the meeting.

Those at the meeting were all interested,

but there was little disposition shown to oppose the railroad company in taking off the trains, as it seemed to be generally agreed at the meeting that the patronage was just too light. Among the facts brought out from the testimony of railroad officials was the statement that 108 trains arrived at and left Cambridge Station this year and that 292 passengers were carried in and out of that village.

### 70 Years Ago July 7, 1954

Ordinarily I am reluctant to meddle in public affairs, but my indignation is so aroused that I am impelled to depart from this practice. The cause of this indignation is the spraying of our roadsides with chemical weed killer. The result is the change of many parts of our beautiful countryside to an ugly shambles.

Last week I drove along one of the back roads of Easton. The town dirt road was in excellent condition, and ordinarily, it is one of our most beautiful drives. The weed killer spray had changed it to a scene from Dante's Inferno. This condition is also found in Greenwich and other Washington county towns, noticeably along county highways. Even the neat little hamlet of Cossayuna has had a dose of it.

The beauty of our Washington county countryside is outstanding and is a tangible asset affecting the value of real estate, attracting many visitors, and home seekers. We should jealously guard it.

### 40 Years Ago July 12, 1984

The Greenwich school board held its annual organizational meeting Monday, July 2. Judy Klingebiel was elected president of the board and Tom Simoneau, vice president... During this meeting, the board announced that starting July 9 and continuing for four weeks the district would

be conducting a workshop to plan for the full-day kindergarten in September. There would possibly be a report ready for the August regular meeting.

## **30 Years Ago July 7, 1994**

Salem parade officials estimated one of the largest crowds ever for Monday evening's Independence Day Parade. The 48th annual Salem event was very well attended with some 7,000 packed along the parade route. The five division parade marched along Main Street with music livening the steps from The Salem High School Band, The Fiesta Band, Adirondack Pipes and Drums, The Cambridge Fireman's Band, and The Taconic Bagpipe Band. The theme this year, 'Building Our Future With Our Youth,' was captured by the many floats in the parade.

### 20 Years Ago

A Year in the Life of a Civil War Soldier - Lieutenant George Robinson's 1863 is a collaborative work by Edward C. Robinson of Alexandria, Virginia, Tim Tefft of Greenwich, and through the pages of his diary and letters, Lieutenant George Robinson, deceased, formerly of Bald Mountain.

As much as possible, the entries made by George Robinson in his 1863 Pocket Diary have been transcribed as he wrote them. Every effort has been made to preserve his spellings. Some punctuation has been altered, however, so that the modern reader will be able to follow his thoughts. In a few cases, the transcriber has been unable to clearly discern what some words are meant to be. These uncertain transcriptions are indicated in the text of the entries in the italic type. Dotted lines between entries indicate page breaks in the original diary.

Notes, intended to inform the reader about some of the information in the text, follow many of the transcribed entries. These are produced in a bold font to make

Please read more on the next page

### THROUGH THE DECADES

# (cont.)

clear they are not George Robinson's words. The words underlined in Robinson's entries by the transcriber (not by Robinson) indicate that a note or notes related to the underlined item(s) appear(s) below the entries in question.

### Wednesday, 14 Dechard

I was detailed Regimental Officer day. Lieut. Quinn Officer of Picket. Mason procured pass for Rice to go outside the Picket line for provisions. Wrote No. 74 Letter to Wife. Took all the guards from around Camp but one at headquarters at night. Drew rations for the first time since we have been here. Romans 16th 11 ½ A.M. Rainy by spells all day. (Rice – Corporal Hiram Rice of Company A.)

### Thursday, 15

### Dechard

Rained very hard all night. Lieut. Reid and Cruikshank Officers of Picket from our Regt. Aaron Hyatt, Corporal Guard for Co. A, Lieutenant Carrington Officer of the Day. Read nearly all day. Expected every moment to get the order to move to new Camp but it being so wet all day that we laid still. 1st Corinthians 1st Chap.12 M. Showery. (Aaron Hyatt – Another Company A. Corporal. He served the duration of the war with his regiment.)

### Friday, 16 Dechard

Capt. Shaw Officer of Picket. Got order to move to a new Camp in fore noon. Went over and staked out quarters for men and laid out camp and swept the ground for our quarters in the fore noon. Moved in after noon and drained tent and got ready to live again. 1st Corinthians 2nd 8 ½ P.M., pleasant.

### Saturday, 17 Dechard

Finished draining and put up clothes poles for the fore noon. Capt. Mason officer of the day. Lieutenant Smith Officer of Picket went to depot in the afternoon and got some apples. Lieutenant Rice of Co. G. arrived having been a prisoner since the battle of Chancellorsville. Went over to Ohio Cavery Camp and got boards for bunk in the evening. (Lieut. Smith - George W. Smith of CompanyofCompanyB.) (Lieut. Rice - This was Jerome B. Rice of Jackson, later famous for his seedcompany. He had started with Company G as an orderly sergeant and was promoted to the rank of second ant shortly after the Battle of Chancellorsville.)

-Compiled by Kaylee Johnson

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Town of Easton Democratic Party Caucus
The Democratic Party Caucus for the Town of Easton will be held at 123 Waters RD, Greenwich, NY 12834 on Friday, July 12th at 4:00pm
The purpose of the caucus is to nominate a candidate for the following Town of Easton office:

Office

Term

**Town Assessor** 

1 -year term unexpired term

Only enrolled Democrats are entitled to vote at the caucus, and no write-in or floor nominations will be accepted at the caucus.

Those wishing to seek the above office, must submit a letter of intent or email to the Easton Democratic Town Chairman, postmarked or emailed by Wednesday, July 10th, 2024.

Phil Nicholas 463 Herrington Hill RD Greenwich, NY 12834 philnicholas53@gmail.com

By order of the Town of Easton Democratic Committee, Phil Nicholas Chairman

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

Notice of formation of P.M.A Services 769, LLC. Articles of Organization filed with the Secretary of State New York on May 15, 2024 Office Location: Washington County. SSNY designated as agent of P.M.A Services 769, LLC. upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail process to: P.M.A Services 769, LLC., 1187 CR-64, Shushan NY 12873. Purpose: any lawful activity of the LLC.

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

### NOTICE OF FORMATION OF LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC)

Articles of Organization for a New York LLC, to wit, BENTLEY FARM & STAND, LLC whose principal business location is in Washington County, were filed with the New York State Department of State on May 4, 2024. The Secretary of State is designated agent for service of process. The P.O. address to which the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of any process against it served upon him or her is c/o The LLC, 228 County Route 313, Cambridge, New York 12816. The purpose of the LLC is to engage in any lawful activity to which a LLC may be organized under the LLCL of New York State.

### FROM THE STACKS

# 'Rules' for summer reading

### Sarah Murphy

Special to Journal & Press

It's finally summertime, time to join the library's annual challenge, and time to enjoy the perfect book. But, what is the perfect book? What makes a good summer read? With my librarian authority, I present to you the definitive answer.

A good summer read...

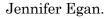
- Should obviously have the word beach in the title. *Like On Chesil Beach* by Ian McEwan.
- Or should have a specific beach town in the title, like *Sag Harbor* by Colson Whitehead.
- Should just have a beachy vibe. Anything by Emily Henry will do.
- Must better reflect our local geography. It's got to be Daniel Mason's *North Woods*.
- Should obviously be titled summer, like *Summer* by Edith Wharton.
- ullet Could perhaps be Autumn by Ali Smith.
- Should be something as short and fleeting as summer itself, like *Foster* by Claire Keegan.
- Or something really long to last all season, like Paul Murray's *The Bee Sting*.
- Should be brand new popular fiction that everybody else is reading, perhaps Kristin Hannah's *The Women?*
- Unless there are too many holds on the brand new popular book of your choice, in which case, choose something a few years old that everybody else has already read. How about *The Night Watchman* by Louise Erdrich?
- Should probably be a biography of a baseball player like *Willie Mays: the Life, the Legend* by James L. Hirsch.
- Or could be a novel about baseball like *The Art of Fielding* by Chad Harbach.

- Might be a book in translation. It's time for Elena Ferrante's *My Brilliant Friend*.
- Should be something none of your friends have read, but really ought to because you need to discuss it with somebody: *No One Is Talking About This* by Patricia Lockwood.
- Must be the biggest thing on your years-old To-Be-Read pile, probably *The Luminaries* by Eleanor Catton.
- Must be pure joy like *Anne of Green Gables* by L.M Montgomery.
- Needs to be full of anguish; why else do we read but to weep? *A Little Life* by Hanya Yanagihara.
- Should get you to think, rethink, unthink, and think some more like *Between the*

World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates.

- Should make you laugh outloud like *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole* by Sue Townsend.
- Needs to embrace the summer theme, but in a dystopic way, like *A Children's Bible* by Lydia Millet.
- Should be a family saga like Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko*.
- Should focus on a barely functioning friend group like *Our Country Friends* by Gary Shteyngart.
- Should be an American classic that reminds us why reading matters like *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*.
- Probably ought to be romantic like Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*.
- $\bullet$  Must be exquisitely crafted like Alice Munro's Runaway.
- Should be extraordinarily readable like Andy Weir's *The Martian*.

- Might be excruciatingly tense like Donna Tartt's The Secret.
- Should probably be a contemporary take on the zombie apocalypse featuring commemorative bibles and an abandoned shopping mall like Severance by Ling Ma.
- Must keep you up all night like Tana French's In the Woods.
- Should be something to look forward to in the morning like Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann.
- Might be a fantasy trilogy you skipped because it's "for children," but oh my goodness, is it complex, like His Dark Materials by Philip Pullman.
- Ought to be fiction that explores human-octopus connections like Remarkably Bright Creatures by Shelby Van Pelt.
  - Ought to be nonfiction that explores humanoctopus connections like The Soul of the Octopus by Sy Montgomery.
  - Must build on sea creatures and marine biology, but also include freedom from slavery and adventures in the arctic and the desert like Washington Black by Esi Edugyan.
  - Needs to include a portrayal of early 20thcentury deep sea diving like Manhattan Beach by



- Really should get back to that whole beach vibe like Boy-Crazy Stacey by Ann M. Martin.
- Must not overlook rivers and canals as suitable settings, as in Daisy Johnson's Everything Under.
- Might head to the skies like The Great Circle by Maggie Shipstead.
  - Should make you want to change the



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## FOR KIDS (AND PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS...)

# July events heat up!

### Shirley Renauld Journal & Press

We kick off July with a bang! The Washington County Fairgrounds hosts a fireworks and drone show on the 3rd. Head to SNHP (Schuylerville National Historic Park) on the 4th for patriotic ceremonies. Witness new citizens take the Oath of Allegiance in the morning, followed by Ranger Joe reading the Declaration of Independence and leading a celebratory lemonade toast. At 11 AM, enjoy Argyle's traditional parade, themed "Made in America" this year. Grab a delicious chicken BBQ at the firehouse afterwards.

### Earth Day Every Day

Remember to be eco-conscious at your picnics! Opt for paper plates, wooden utensils, and reusable straws instead of disposable options. Burn these paper items in your outdoor fire pit as you roast marshmallows and sing along – after all, Earth Day is every day! Similarly, Flag Day is every day – put out your flag for Flag Day on July 4th, but remember to take it down during heavy rain or at sunset.

### Learning from Paris

As we see the ubiquitous recycling triangle on our trash bins, we're reminded of

# (cont.)

world like Bryan Stevenson's Just Mercy.

- Might be challenged and censored around the country like Toni Morrison's *Beloved*.
- Could be a graphic novel like *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel.
- Or a comic strip like *Calvin and Hobbes* by Bill Watterson.
  - Isn't a book at all, it's a magazine.

Paris' commitment to sustainability for the Olympics. Their goals include cleaning the Seine for swimming events, reusing past Olympic structures, and incorporating recycled materials into new buildings, even the torch's case!

### The Games Begin

The Olympic torch will traverse many bridges over the Seine, visiting sites across the city. Have you been following the trials for the USA teams? Perhaps watching the Olympics will inspire you to hone your skills in a particular sport, especially swimming this summer.

### A Parisian Treat at Home

While the Notre Dame repairs won't be complete by the Olympics, you can still enjoy a taste of Paris closer to home. Visit Bonnie and Bob's food truck for authentic crepes with a variety of fillings. They also offer croissants for sandwiches.

### Schuylerville Garden Club Flower Show

Join the Schuylerville Garden Club's Flower Show with the theme "A Little Bit Country." The library class is making a dish garden for the competition. Learn about the photo contest categories from Nancy, the

- Should be an all-timer like *Little House on the Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder.
- Might reflect our past and present at once like Paul Auster's 4 3 2 1.
- Ought to be magical realism like *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle* by Haruki Murakami
- Or just plain magic like *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll.
- Could be something that you love,
- Or something that you love to hate,

consultant. Hum along to familiar tunes as you browse the farm animal pictures, land-scapes, and close-up pollinator photos.

### **Summer Reading Programs**

All Washington County libraries are hosting Summer Reading Programs for all ages this year, themed "Adventure Begins at the Library." Sign up as a family and enjoy related programs. The first program at Easton on July 10th is "Felt a Masterpiece" with Idlenot, where you can create a needlefelted piece. Stay cool on hot days with Story Laurie's sea chanteys on July 17th.

### Washington County Historical Society Meeting

The Washington County Historical Society invites you to learn about the history of the County Poorhouse, a forerunner of the Washington Center homeless shelter, on July 13th. The meeting will be followed by a hike to the Poorhouse cemetery.

### **Honeyberry Time**

With strawberry season ending, Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) is introducing honeyberries. These versatile berries combine the taste of blueberries and raspberries and can be enjoyed fresh, frozen, or used in jams, popsicles, and crafts.

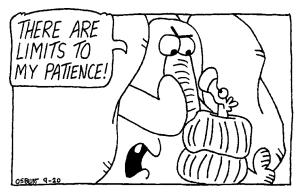
- Or just something that's okay for now.
- Is something you're allowed to stop reading at any time for any reason.
  - Is something that feels right.
- Is whatever you say it is.

Sarah Murphy is director of the Greenwich Free Library.



### **FUN & GAMES**

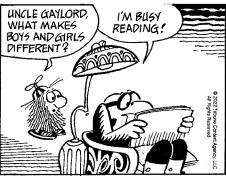
### **Animal Crackers** by Fred Wagner





### **Broom Hilda** by Russell Myers







### Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



### The Middletons by Dana Summers



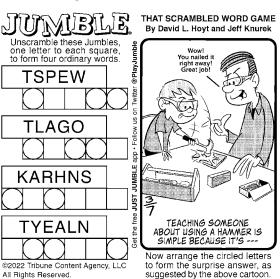


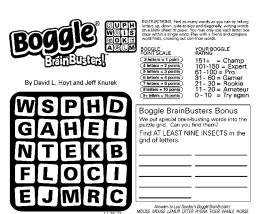
### 9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



"Just something to tide me over until I win the super duper lottery jackpot ..."

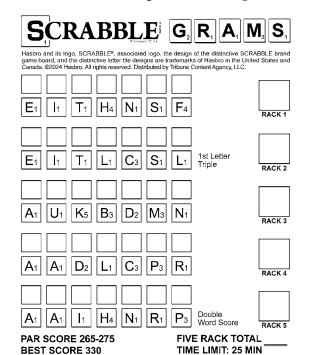
### **Word Play Answers Page 21**





### **FUN & GAMES**

### More Word Play Answers Page 21



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

### Word Find By Frank J. D'Agostino

Find these Advisor Freshmen Tour words associ-**Bookstore Towels** Lamp ated with col-Boxes Laptop Visit lege orienta-Bursar Lessons Welcome tion (and find Move In Campus Frank's word Check-in Orientation find books on College Printer Amazon): Credits Roommate Curriculum Schedule Admissions Setup



### Filbert by LA Bonté







### **Political Cartoon of the Month** by Joel Pett



### **Tribune Crossword**

31 Fast tracks? 33 Element of 1990s fashion

35 Stand in a painting class

36 Tries out 37 Handheld or holding hands,

34 Sticks in windows

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40 Performs brilliantly

Moines

46 In the stars

47 Reddit Q&A

43 Did some digging

44 Many a Mugler garment

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

48 Celebration where many are out on the streets? 52 Bestie 53 Cry of horrible realization? 54 Class for some immigrants: Abbr. 55 Cool footwear

Down
1 Place for some
nail trims
2 Camp nurse's
item
3 Great Hill
People
4 Flair
5 flare
6 Tally

7 Pilates roll 8 Employee's perk: Abbr.

9 Provided backup, in a way 10 Twosomes

11 Flashers in a club 12 Sycophants 14 \_\_-variance tradeoff 17 Brooklyn MiLB team 21 Stripes, florals, etc. 23 "I got this!" 24 Herb honored with a National Medal of Arts in 2013 25 Sucked hard

28 Cancel one's order?
29 Go against

31 Paired symbols, for short 32 Seasons, as pasta water 33 Wants for nothing

34 Nation in the Lucayan Archipelago

35 \_\_ room 37 Latke ingredient

38 "Dexter's Laboratory" older sister

39 One of three snake species native to Britain

41 Assistant who can control HomeKit accessories 43 Cruel

45 Sturdy tan work boots, slangily

46 Album buyers, presumably 49 Auerbach of the Black Keys

50 Prefix with "pop" or "rock" 51 Hard-hitting sound

### **VILLAGE OF GREENWICH MATTERS**

# **Home Rehabilitation Grant Program** A new opportunity for income-eligible Village of Greenwich residents

Amanda Hurley

Mayor of Greenwich Special to Journal & Press

I am excited to share a significant opportunity for our residents to enhance their homes and improve our community. The Village is applying for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to fund housing rehabilitation, prioritizing lateral connections to municipal utilities for income-qualified residents. This program is more than just home improvement. It is about building a stronger, more resilient community and allowing residents to age in place in the home and community they have loved for years.

The Village is partnering with Flatley Read, a local community development consulting firm based here in Greenwich. Flatley Read will be assisting the Village by answering questions, reviewing applications, and helping residents navigate the process of securing grant funds. They've assisted rural communities throughout NYS with community development for nearly 25 years.

Who is Eligible?

To participate, applicants must meet several criteria:

- Property Ownership: You must own, occupy, and have title to a 1-4 unit residential property within the Village limits. The property must be your primary residence.
- Tax Compliance: You must be current with all local, school and property taxes.
- Income Qualifications: Your household income must fall within specific limits based on household size. Here are the in-

1 Person: \$50,750 2 Persons: \$58,000 3 Persons: \$65.250 o 4 Persons: \$72,500

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come limits for 2024:

How Does It Work?

0

5 Persons: \$78,300

6 Persons: \$84,100

7 Persons: \$89.900

8 Persons: \$95,700

Assistance is provided as a declining balance loan. No payments are required as long as the assisted property remains your primary residence. If you sell your home within five years, a prorated portion of the loan must be repaid to New York State. After five years, the loan converts into a grant, meaning no repayment is necessary.

The Village has prioritized water and sewer lateral connections, ensuring that our homes are safely and efficiently connected to municipal utilities. Additionally, the program may cover roof repairs, window replacements, accessibility improvements, and HVAC system upgrades. These improvements not only enhance the safety and comfort of your home but also contribute to the overall health and sustainability of our community.

Filling out the pre-application form is a critical first step. While it does not guarantee participation, it helps establish a waiting list and is essential for the Village to secure the necessary grant funds. Applications are available at the Village Office, Comfort Food Community, and online at the Village of Greenwich's website.

### **Common Questions**

- Who Chooses the Contractors? Homeowners can choose from at least two bids for the required work. Funding is based on the lowest reasonable bid. If you prefer a higher bidding contractor, vou'll need to cover the difference.
  - Can Local Contractors Participate?

Yes! Local contractors are encouraged to join the program. They must hold a minimum of \$1 million in general liability insurance plus workers' compensation. Interested contractors can contact Flatley Read at 518-577-5681 or via email at grants@flatleyread. com.

- When Will Funding Decisions Be Made? The Village will submit the CDBG application to the NYS Office of Community Renewal by July 31st. We anticipate that awards will be announced in December. If funding is granted, all pre-applicants will be contacted by mail and email in early 2025.
- Is There a Lien on My Property? Not exactly. Grant funds will be secured with a Property Declaration and UCC Security Agreement. This is not a mortgage and will not affect your home equity. It simply means the Village must be notified if the house is sold within the five-year regulatory period.
- What Happens If I Sell My House? If you sell your house within five years, you will need to repay a prorated amount of the grant. The repayment amount decreases by 1/60th each month. After five years, no repayment is required.

We urge all eligible residents to apply, even if you are unsure about your income qualifications. Your application helps the Village secure the necessary funds to support this initiative. For more information or assistance with the pre-application, please contact Flatley Read at 518-577-5681 or email grants@flatleyread.com.

Please submit pre-applications to Flatley Read by July 14, 2024. Let's work together to improve our homes and strengthen our community.

Amanda Hurley is Mayor of the Village of Greenwich.

# Town/Village Bike and Pedestrian Connectivity Plan

The Village and Town recently shared a press release launching a new project: a Bike and Pedestrian Connectivity Plan aimed at making Greenwich a better place for walking and biking. The goal is to increase connections, so residents can move more easily between locations such as the library and a Battenkill River access



point. The actual priorities and outcomes of this project will ideally come from residents who walk and bike and know where the opportunities lie. This stage of the project aims to encourage resident engagement.

Some have questioned the need for "all the studies." Back in 2023, the Town and Village adopted a comprehensive plan that identified major opportunities across housing, land use, infrastructure, parks and recreation, community services, and farming and agriculture. While this plan identifies the areas of need, it does not provide the required solutions or plans. Various studies are necessary to determine what needs fixing, the best methods to address these issues, and to develop a plan of execution to ensure that the results are both effective and sustainable.

This specific project is funded by the Adirondack Glens Falls Transportation Council (A/GFTC), which will support the process and development of the final plan. A committee overseeing the process includes community members, representatives from A/GFTC, and the NYS Department of Transportation. A key part of this project is hearing from everyone in town. Feedback is essential to determining the priorities, as not everything can be addressed at once.

An interactive online map is available for residents to provide feedback, accessible via the Town and Village websites and their social media pages. The map allows users to suggest locations for new crosswalks, improved sidewalks, bike racks, and more. For those who prefer not to use the online map, larger print maps are available at the Town and Village offices where feedback can be left using pens and Post-it notes.

Residents with experience walking or biking around the Village and Town of Greenwich are encouraged to share their opinions. Input from the community is crucial for identifying areas that can be improved or made more accessible.



### **JILL ON MONEY**

# Lessons better than summer school

Jill Schlesinger

Tribune Content Agency Special to Journal & Press

More than 2 million high school and college students are expected to work summer jobs or internships this year.

For most, the summer is about making money, but toiling during the dog days can help young workers flesh out what they like and dislike about a particular job, determine what kind of workplace environment appeals to them, and can help develop indelible skills that last throughout their careers.

Regardless of the role, workers can develop a deep respect for the value of work, learn to juggle multiple tasks concurrently, all while dealing with demanding and sometimes tough customers.

The summer job that stood out for me was after my freshman year of college when I was a clerk for my father's firm on the floor of the American Stock Exchange.

I performed menial tasks, which are obsolete today, like copying stock purchase and sales orders, folding them up and stuffing them into the pneumatic tube system, and then filing those orders that had been executed.

My least favorite task was taking lunch

requests from the senior clerks and traders. There were times when I would complain to my father and he would blithely say, "Well, that's why they call it work. Get used to it!"

What should young workers do to navigate and take advantage of their new environments?

I turned to Dr. Resa E. Lewiss and Dr. Adaira Landry, co-authors of the new book MicroSkills: Small actions, Big impact. Both are highly accomplished doctors who wrote the book to help people, especially those just starting their careers, by laying out "simple, measurable skills that are easily understood, practiced and incorporated."

Whether you are a camp counselor, an intern at a big financial company or a remote marketing assistant, Landry says that you must "demonstrate your engagement with the job."

That means the basics, like showing up on time and responding promptly to emails. You should also "ask questions, offer suggestions, and volunteer to take on tasks that align with your interests and/or skills."

Put your phone in a drawer during work hours, because when you divert your attention from the job, it "may be interpreted as lack of interest or commitment."

Additionally, you need to "learn proper

corporate etiquette: Do not confuse work events with hanging out with college friends." You need to respect boundaries and "familiarize yourself with HR's code of conduct in relation to dating, alcohol, and even use of humor or casual language."

Given that summer workers have limited time to make an impact, Lewiss says that you need to quickly assess and understand your supervisor's expectations.

"You don't have 90 days to get up to speed and figure out what your supervisor expects. Surf the company website, reread your job description, and, most importantly, just ask. Politely, directly, when the time seems right, ask your supervisor what they expect for your summer role."

As the job develops, workers need to push through their fear and ask for feedback. She suggests adopting the "just one thing approach." At the end of the week, ask "What is one thing I should continue to do next week" or "What's one thing I should stop doing to better help the team?" or "What's one thing you would like to see me start?"

For college students, Landry thinks that these short-term work arrangements are a great way to address your skills gaps.

Before you start, "identify a skill set you would like to strengthen — e.g. public speaking, using artificial intelligence, web design. Elicit the input of your supervisor to determine steps to work on the skill. To track progress, develop measurable goals."

Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. A former options trader

and CIO of an investment advisory firm, she welcomes comments and questions at askjill@jillonmoney. com. Check her website at www.jillonmoney. com.



## **Skidmore concert**

The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College announces the twenty-third season of its popular summer concert series, Upbeat on the Roof, which will run each Thursday from July 11 through August 15. Also returning this season are artmaking activity kits for kids, called Crafts on the Grass. The July 11 show is "Future of Broadway — Contemporary showtunes

from works-in-progress, presented in conjunction with The Orchard Project."

The musical acts this season include returning favorites, rising stars, and award-winners of the vibrant Capital Region music scene, as well as a new collaboration with Visitors are invited to bring blankets, camping chairs, food, and drink to picnic on the lawn. Craft kits will be available at 5:30 pm; concerts begin at 6



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### **IN GOOD FAITH**

## The town that I love

MaryAnne Brown Journal & Press

From the echoes of Bob Warren's "Greenwich, The Musical," the song titled, "The Town That I Love" beautifully captures the goodness of Greenwich. Each week provides new examples of how community members work together to enhance our small town, making it a truly remarkable place to live and visit.

Recently, there was a coin drop on Main Street. While the slower traffic on a Saturday morning may not have been favored by some, I was pleased to have a chance to look up at the veterans pictured on their banners lining each side of the street. Many of these veterans are familiar faces to us, and I like to think that even though many have passed away, they continue to protect us during these troublesome times. It's another opportunity to express gratitude for their service. Thankfully, Greenwich has mounted these banners at just the right height to ensure we can spot our favorite people along the way without causing harm to other cars or pedestrians.

On June 22nd, the Daughters of the American Revolution held a ceremony at the "Never Forget Garden" that they established in the

Commons Park behind the Greenwich Town Office Building at 2 Academy Street. Created as a "living tribute to all of America's veterans and their families," this memorial

is a place where we can quietly remember and honor these heroic people of Greenwich. As carved in the remembrance stone in the garden "we renew our mutual pledge to support them with our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor."

During the ceremony, the many people who assembled watched with admiration and awe as the DAR presented Clifford Oliver Mealy with its Distinguished Citizen Medal. A Navy veteran himself, Cliff has served the coun-Page 32 | Early July 2024

try in meaningful ways and has dedicated himself to educating people throughout the Northeast about the significant historic contributions of African Americans. Thanks to Cliff and his efforts as a reenactor, researcher and presenter, more of us appreciate how the African American population in upstate NY has left a profound mark on its history, contributing to social movements, cultural enrichment, economic development, and the ongoing struggle for civil rights and equality. He has helped us realize how their legacy continues to shape the region today.

There was something striking in Cliff's humble remarks. After acknowledging the support of his wife, Wendy, he emphasized that societal movements do not begin in big cities like New York or Chicago, but in small communities like Greenwich. He also noted that his efforts would likely have never been noted in most other

communities, but that "there is something special about Greenwich." Indeed.

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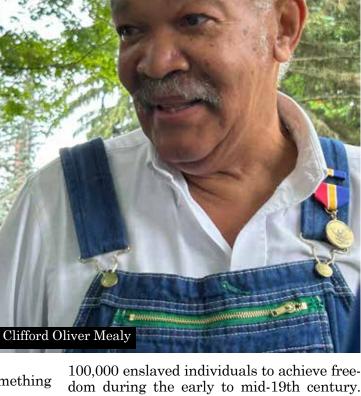
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Greenwich, such as Chester A. Arthur, Susan B. Anthony, Kim Gannon, et. al. who have led movements, served in government, created art and music, written, advocated, and shaped our community in countless ways. It is no surprise that Cliff settled in Greenwich, considering its historic support for freeing enslaved African Americans through involvement in the Underground Railroad. The noble and risky efforts of this railroad's "conductors and passengers" enabled approximately



100,000 enslaved individuals to achieve freedom during the early to mid-19th century. Undoubtedly, the inner call for justice and equality was powerful for all involved, giving them the courage to correct a profound injustice

As we consider these early citizens of Greenwich, we might reflect on how their faith helped shape the history we inherited and ultimately they provided a model for us to follow. While religion and faith have their faults, including the potential for promoting intolerance, causing conflicts, and hindering scientific progress, they can also offer strengths such as providing moral guidance, fostering community, and offering comfort during difficult times.

Most of us believe in helping others in need, stepping up to do our duty as citizens. Perhaps we are inspired by ancient wisdom from Buddha: "If you light a lamp for somebody, it will also brighten your path." Or by holy

Please read more on the next page

## **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. The 'Children's Liturgy of the Word' will resume in the fall; and at Immaculate Conception in Hoosick Falls on Saturday at 4 PM and Sunday at 10 AM. Weekday Masses are at 9 AM at Holy Cross on Tuesday, at St. Patrick's on Wednesday, and Immaculate Conception on Monday. Children's bulletins with Gospel activities are available near the doors of the church.

Wings of Care is a ministry of Holy Cross and St. Patrick's, to help the elderly and homebound. Some of the needs involve socialization, Light housekeeping, or transportation. If someone has an hour to give they may call the parish.

The home visitation of 'Our Lady of Fatima', is still available to visit your home and honor her and pray the Rosary. Call the Office if interested.

Visit the Parish website, www.battenkillcatholic.org where people may sign up for flocknote notifications, make electronic donations, prepare for Sunday liturgy, find the weekly bulletin, access the Lifelong Faith Formation materials, and much more.

The Salem Food Pantry is currently serving about 80 families. Monetary donations and food can be dropped off at church or at the bank. Checks may be made out to the Salem Food Pantry. The Cambridge Food Pantry is in need of dry, boxed cereal, oatmeal, tuna fish, chicken noodle soup and jam or jelly. The communities appreciate those who help and those who donate.

### Bottskill and Lakeville Baptist Churches

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.

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 every Tuesday at 10:30 lead by Pastor Lydia and this class is studying Henri Nouwen's work, "The Return of the Prodigal Son."

The Bottskill Sunday School wrapped up an amazing year with a special kids-run service and a family picnic at Summit Lake. Sunday School resumes for children PreK-8th grade in the fall for any/all community families interested in participating. If you would like to be put on the Bottskill Bapitst Sunday School email or text notification list please contact us at bottskill@gmail.com.

Bottskill hosted the Interfaith Baccalaureate Service for the Greenwich Central graduating seniors, and members of the community with words of faith and encourage from local clergy. Following the service a special reception was held for the seniors in church's Fellowship room.

### **Hebron United Presbyterian Church**

The Hebron United Presbyterian Church is offering our four-teenth Free Community Dinner, Tuesday, July 9th. Mark your calendars for this scrumptious dinner at the historic East Hebron church facility, 6559 State Route 22. Come alone, bring a friend, get the family, bring the kids. We have a delicious sit-down dinner and dessert between 4:00 and 6:00 PM. Some dishes are plant based and others include meat. Fresh veggies, GF cornbread, desserts, fresh fruit, and apple cider are on the menu. Meet your rural neighbors and learn about programs at our church and other community programs in the area. Come as you are; no need to bring anything. Call Pastor Bill Crawford 518-854-3729 for more information.

# (cont.)

scripture from Jesus: "Love your neighbor." Maybe John F. Kennedy's words to "ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country" motivate you. Perhaps Cliff has stirred us to become citizens of distinction. Possibly we are moved to foster truth and work for justice.

Are there signs of intolerance, conflicts, and obstacles to progress in our community? How can we step forward to nurture patience and open-mindedness? How

can we create more har-

mony in dialogue and nurture peace when there is rivalry? How can we ease difficulties by staying in a problem-solving mode through listening and respect?

Most of us will not receive an award, but our legacy will be reward enough. What goodness will we leave behind? Author Barbara Brown Taylor says it well: "The best expression of our faith

is how we treat one another." Bob Warren applies this to Greenwich in his song "All Wrapped Up" in history.

Who we are,

Who we'll be.

That will be our legacy!

MaryAnne Brown, RN, BSN, MA is a mu-

sic 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.



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### **INTERPERSONAL EDGE**

# The art of diplomatic truth

Dr. Daneen Skube

Tribune Content Agency Special to This Newspaper

**Q:** I'm perceptive and smart, but my boss has told me I'm undiplomatic. I just say what I see. Why do I have to sugar coat the truth? Shouldn't my company pay me for my honesty? Why are people so easily offended? Are there ways to tell the truth and still be diplomatic?

A: You can tell the truth and still be diplomatic if you follow the guidelines of an Arabic proverb, "The words of the tongue should have three gatekeepers. The first gatekeeper asks, 'Is it true?' The second, 'Is it kind?' The third, 'Is it necessary?' "

The bottom line is that words should persuade people we work with to do what we want, and support our efforts. Lack of diplomacy makes enemies rather than making a point.

Before we open our mouths at work, it benefits us to ask, "What's the result or goal I want after I speak?" The second question we need to ask is, "How do I frame the truth I'm about to tell to make that result more likely?"

In order to be diplomatic, we need to evaluate our listeners and consider their needs as well as our own agenda. When everyone believes their needs were considered, a solution is both effective and diplomatic.

Business is often described as being a "rat race," or being a "dog eat dog world." If we approach our careers as if there has to be a winner (us obviously) and a loser (everyone else), we may win a few battles but will lose the war.

Empathy is a critical career skill often overlooked in education and training courses. Empathy allows us to put ourselves in the place of others and see the world through their eyes.

When we can see what someone else wants, we can piggy back what we want on the goal of the other. Persuasion is largely a matter of making it clear we can, and will help others get to their goals. A side effect is what we want happens as well.

A popular business mythology is that kindness and power exist at opposite ends of a continuum. Power that dominates or makes people fearful is indeed the opposite of kindness. But, dominating fearful power is a short-term win. In the end, people rise up and get even with dictators.

Effective kindness always creates win/win solutions. When people around you realize you won't try to win at their expense, their generosity, support, and practical help is a permanent benefit.

The third gatekeeper of the mouth — "Is it necessary?" — means that you should say only the bare minimum. Many of us think

the more we say, the more influence we have. The opposite is actually true. If you want people to listen, be concise. Think of the "elevator speech" in marketing. What could you say during the time you're in an elevator that effectively conveys your message?

People today are drowning in an overwhelming amount of data with an underwhelming amount of concise facts. Think about what you want people to do when you finish speaking. Only focus on saying what you need to for them to join you in that endeavor.

So on Monday before you open your mouth, review whether what you're about to say is true, kind, and necessary. If you can't meet this bar, choose silence until you can craft a message that meets all three goals.

### The last word(s)

**Q:** Nothing has gone to plan so far this year. I'm disoriented and frustrated. Is there a way to redesign my plan when none of my circumstances fit my former ideas?

A: Yes, as U.S. Army General George S. Patton advised, "Do not try to make circumstances fit your plans. Make plans that fit the circumstances." You'll only fail if you fail to be flexible!

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

aledge.com.or 1420 NW Gilman Blvd., #2845, Issaquah, WA 98027.

Sorry, no personal replies.



# **Best at county marketing**

On June 25, Shelby Schneider, Deputy Director of the NYS Economic Development Council, presented the "Excellence in Marketing" award to Jesse Tyree, Owner and Creative Director of Black Dog, and Laura Oswald, Washington County Director of Economic Development, at a Washington County Board of Supervisors Agriculture/Planning/Tourism and Community Development Committee meeting.

The NYSEDC "Excellence in Marketing Award" recognizes an organization that has achieved measurable results in telling its story about a project, redevelopment, rebranding, or community-based initiative that serves the mission of NYSEDC: to promote the economic development of the state and its communities, encourage sound practices in the conduct of regional and statewide development programs,

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The Rooftop offers games & cards for summertime fun (poker chips, othello, mancala, dominos, chess, checkers, scrabble, jenga)

# 'Purple' winners

As the Paint the Town Purple event wound down in the town of Greenwich last week on the 20th of June, two committee members Kathy Nichols-Tomkins and Katie Jilek tack-

led the job of judging the numerous business that decorated in Purple and the residents that did their homes the same. They looked over the photos that had been posted on Facebook and took a driving tour. Here are



the results. Best residential was awarded to the William Mapes family on John St. for an outstanding job. The best business was awarded to the Witches Wash, owner

is Megan Davis for their decorated and lit widow, memorial signs and beautiful purple floral pots outside of the building on Main St. An award was given to the owners of Bells, Whistles & Bottoms, Gina Grillo and Laura Grillo for the painted rendition of *Starry Night* the Vincent Van Gogh painting (pictured). This year we gave an award to the window painter Rachel Truax of 518truArt for her beautiful job there and at the Fort Miller Group buildings, and Capital Tractor window done in a purple tractor. Outside of the Village an

award was made to the Farm Credit East crew for the front lawn & sign decorating in purple flags & Alzheimer banners. Each was presented with a



gorgeous flower bouget donated by Suzanne Becker of Blooms Floral Design. Congratulations to all of you and thank you for your enthusiasm and creativity and participation..

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# Hebron solar program moves ahead

Town of Hebron Supervisor Brian Campbell, along with Sustainable Hebron, is pleased to announce a renewed campaign to extend the benefits of community solar to more residents of Hebron. A launch event was held on June 30 at the Hebron United Presbyterian Church Church, where residents had an opportunity to learn about community solar and its benefits.

"With the success of our initial campaign in 2022, we are excited to offer this opportunity again, helping even more residents reduce their utility expenses," said Town Supervisor Brian Campbell. "Community solar represents a practical solution for anyone looking to save on their energy bills."

Community solar is a solar farm located in New York State that generates utility bill credits based on the amount of electricity produced by the solar panels. When you subscribe to a community solar project, you get a share of the energy generated by that solar project in the form of monthly credits applied to your NYSEG bill. Savings will vary from month to month based on factors such as time of year, solar production, and individual energy usage, but subscribers can expect to save up to 10% on their electricity costs over the course of a year.

With community solar, no solar panels are installed on the subscriber's roof or property. There is no change to the subscriber's electricity supplier. There are no sign-up or cancelation fees. Just savings on the utility bill. It's hassle-free and costs nothing. Most everyone is eligible - homeowners, renters, farmers, small businesses, houses of worship, and others.

Susan Snyder, a long-time member of the Hebron United Presbyterian Church said: "HUPC enrolled in the Hebron Community Solar initiative in 2022 and we are happy with the savings on our electricity bills. PowerMarket customer service managed the setup with NYSEG and sends regular updates by email. The entire process was very easy."

Jill Nadolski, Town Council Member and Sustainable Hebron Coordinator said: "PowerMarket currently manages 26 community solar accounts in Hebron and has reported total savings of \$2,412 for those customers since a solar farm in central NY became operational in the Fall of 2022. This will be our second community solar campaign and we are pleased to again be partnering with PowerMarket."

The Sustainable Hebron (formerly Climate Smart Hebron) Task Force was formed in January 2022 to promote clean energy and sustainability initiatives in the Town of Hebron, becoming the first town in Washington County to receive the Clean Energy Communities designation by the NYS Energy Research and Development Authority.

Sustainable Hebron Task Force members serve as volunteer ambassadors and advocates, spreading the word and developing plans for high-impact actions. In addition to Ms. Nadolski, current members are Randy Brooks, Jordan LaMothe, Rich Roman, and Bill Throop. The Task Force also receives free technical assistance from the Capital District Regional Planning Commission's Clean Energy and Climate Smart Communities Coordinators.

Participants in the community solar initiative will be connected to the upcoming Dickinson Community Solar Project, a 3.7 MW solar farm located outside of Binghamton, NY, being developed by EDPRNA. The project is expected to be operational in December 2024. PowerMarket manages the enrollment process, connecting residents directly to solar projects, while handling all customer support. PowerMarket will email subscribers when the project is operational and when they can expect to start seeing credits on their bill.

The campaign will raise awareness through letter-based outreach, social media, and distributing flyers and posters. Members of the Sustainable Hebron Task Force will serve as campaign ambassadors and assist with spreading the word about educational events, answering questions from the public, providing insight and guidance as the campaign progresses, and any other needs identified during the campaign.

"Following a highly successful first campaign, we are thrilled to collaborate once



more to expand community solar benefits to more Hebron residents," said Brad Tito, Director of Community Energy at Power-Market. "This continued effort is a practical approach to reducing utility costs and enhancing environmental sustainability. We're excited to help Hebron continue making significant strides in clean energy adoption."

The Hebron Community Solar Campaign will officially kick off on June 30 when it holds its first information session. Hebron residents and business owners who are interested in learning more about the campaign are urged to attend.

Residents can learn more and sign up at powermarket.io/hebron.html.

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

### NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION PERSUANT TO NY LLC LAW SECTION 206

The name of the limited liability company is 2411 Overlook Way, LLC. The date of the filing of the Articles of Organization with the Secretary of State was 05/23/2024. The County in which the office of the LLC is located is Washington. The agent of the LLC upon whom process against it may be served is the Secretary of State and such shall mail a copy of any process to 73 Quiet Acres Rd., Manchester Ctr., VT 05255. The business purpose of the LLC is any lawful business purpose or purposes.

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