

NEW FAIRFIELD THIS WEEK

TOWN TRIBUNE (203) 746-4669
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Veterans Association Awards Scholarships



At the monthly meeting on July 5th the NFVA awarded four scholarships to area graduates. The recipients received monetary awards ranging from \$500 to \$1000. Those receiving awards were Bryan Craven, Trevor Herter, Josh Sproule and Olivia Hanisch. The NFVA would like to congratulate all award winners and wish them success with their academic and career goals. We would also like to thank all the students that participated in our scholarship program. We wish them success as well.

Upcoming Events at Great Hollow

Invasive Plant Walk & Talk
August 12, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Non-native invasive plants and animals are one of the leading threats to native biodiversity around the world. They can also negatively affect property values, agricultural productivity, public utilities, fisheries, tourism, outdoor recreation, and ecosystem function, and are estimated to cost the U.S. \$120 billion in economic damages and control each year. There are now more than 100 non-native species of plants that have become established in Connecticut! Can you identify them all? Please email John Foley to register.

Guided Paddle of the Great Swamp
August 26, 9:00 am - 11:30 am

A Member Appreciation Event

In appreciation of their support, members are invited to join Great Hollow staff for a very special guided tour of The Great Swamp in neighboring Patterson, NY on Aug. 26th. The Great Swamp is a regionally significant wetland that is home to a wide diversity of plant and animal life, including threatened and endangered species. During our paddle, we are likely to see herons, kingfishers, painted turtles, beautiful dragonflies and perhaps a beaver or otter, among other wildlife. The paddle will be fairly easy and last approximately 2 hours round-trip. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own canoe or kayak if they have one; otherwise canoes can be provided upon request. Please email John Foley to register or request additional information. If you are not currently a member of Great Hollow and are interested in becoming one, please click here. *Rain date August 27*

Claire Kuntze Performs in "Annie Warbucks"



Claire Kuntze, a 13 year old from New Fairfield is keeping busy this summer, as she was cast in the New York City production of *Annie Warbucks*. *Annie Warbucks* is the sequel to the international smash hit *Annie* and Claire was cast as an orphan in the ensemble.

The world's favorite orphan returns to New York City in the sequel to the international smash hit! *Annie Warbucks* features all new laughs, romance and unforgettable songs by Tony Award winners, Thomas Meehan, Charles Strouse and Martin Charnin.

It's Christmas morning, 1933; *Warbucks'* adoption of *Annie* seems complete, and a holiday celebration is under way. But the festivities are interrupted by New York City child welfare commissioner Harriet Doyle, who directs Daddy Warbucks to find a wife within 60 days or it's back to the orphanage for *Annie*. As the story unfolds, we discover Doyle has a partner in crime and a devious plot. The musical features all new laughs, romance, and unforgettable songs and is a family friendly show for all ages.

Performances run from August 3-6 at the Alice Griffin Jewel Box Theatre at the Pershing Square Signature Center on 42nd Street New York City. Claire will be performing on 8/3 at 7:00 and 8/5 at 2:00. For more info or to order tickets please visit anniewarbucks-nyc.com. Tickets can also be purchased at ticketcentral.com



Community Theater Reviews

By Mary Hembree

Seussical - Musicals at Richter Danbury

Based on the works of Dr. Seuss

Music by Stephen Flaherty, Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens,
Book by Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty,
Director/Choreographer Lauren Nicole Sherwood

I can't think of a better way to round out the summer than in the company of characters created by Dr. Seuss. *Seussical* is a bright, whimsical play that brought fun and laughter to the opening night audience of all ages.

Seussical is an amalgamation of stories from the books by Dr. Seuss including "Horton Hears A Who", "Horton Hatches The Egg", and "Gertrude McFuzz". *Seussical* debuted on Broadway in 2000 and after a brief run went into national tours for many years.

This is an enormous cast with over fifty actors and at times most of them are on stage singing and dancing. It would be a blur if not for the tight direction and choreography of Lauren Nicole Sherwood. Ms. Sherwood manages this complexity skillfully resulting in a seamless flow across the stage in every number.

Seussical is chock full of music and dance so the orchestra is key. Musical Director Zachary Kampler and his ten piece orchestra are superb in supporting the roller coaster ride of thirty upbeat, bouncy tunes.

With a cast this large it would be impossible to call out every performance but I will say from the smallest of parts and the smallest performers they all deserve applause.

The Cat in the Hat is our zany "master of ceremonies" and Robert Bria brings him to life in a comical, campy way. A fun, energetic performance! Dani Assis is a loveable Horton the Elephant with a passionate voice that draws you into his gentle, caring heart.

With a voice that is larger than, well...he is, Jesse Goodman is impressive as Jo Jo.

Carly Post (Gertrude McFuzz) and Cat Tron (Mayzie LaBird) are two feathered creatures with voices that belong on stage. Sour Kangaroo artfully played by Aaron-Noel Treppeda has a show stopper voice and her daughter Samantha Treppeda is terrific as Young Kangaroo.

Emma Lubbers (Thing 1) and Viktoria Wulff-Andersen (Thing 2) bring brightness to the shenanigans throughout the show and The Wickersham Brothers were fun to watch thanks to William Armstrong, Andre Grigorio and Stephen Moores.

The set design by Jake McGuire is everything you'd want in the land of Seuss - bright and colorful and the lighting design by Lauren Nicole Sherwood and Mike Campbell is perfect.

If you're looking for an evening of lighthearted fun, *Seussical* is a wonderful summer treat for the whole family.

Seussical at Musicals at Richter (100 Aunt Hack Road, Danbury) runs August 4th through August 12th, Friday and Saturday evenings under the stars beginning at 8:30 PM. Grounds open at 7:15 PM for picnicking before the show. Special reduced price on Thursdays August 3rd and August 10th. For prices and more information visit the website at www.musicalsatrichter.org or call 203-748-6873.



General Genghis Kahn Schmitz (Mike Armstrong) sizes up Jojo (Jesse Goodman) as a new cadet while his parents (Steven Taliaferro and Shannon Grumet) look on. Photo by David Henningsen

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