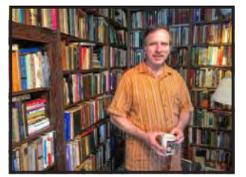


**Thetford Author Pens Soccer Novel B1**

**Woodstock Set to Hold Annual Book Festival C1**



Friday  
JULY 29, 2016  
\$1.00  
Volume 65 — Number 151

# VALLEY NEWS

THE NEWSPAPER  
OF THE  
UPPER VALLEY  
Copyright ©2016 Valley News

## No Lower Sentence For Fucci

### Judge Rejects Reduction Request

By JORDAN CUDEMI  
Valley News Staff Writer

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION — A Windsor Superior Court judge this week denied a prison sentence reduction for Louis A. Fucci Jr., the former owner of Benning Street Bar and Grill who pleaded guilty in 2013 to hiring a hitman to kill his former business partner and ex-girlfriend.

Fucci, through his attorney, Dan Sedon, went before Judge Robert P. Gerety Jr. in April and asked to have his 10- to 15-year sentence reduced to six to 15 years.

At the time, Fucci said the court failed to consider a number of factors into his sentence, including an untreated mental illness at the time he set up a plot to kill Bruce Weissman and Joy Barney in summer 2011.

In a ruling issued on Wednesday, Gerety said he wasn't convinced at the April hearing that Fucci's sentence should be reduced.

"There is no question that the conduct that formed the factual basis for these convictions was extremely serious conduct involving an unsuccessful criminal effort by the defendant to kill a member of the community," Gerety wrote in his three-page ruling, filed in Windsor Superior Court. "The court continues to be persuaded that the proper judicial response to (the) defendant's behavior should include substantial punishment and incapacitation."

At the April hearing, a mental health profes-  
SEE FUCCI — A4

## Elephant Sedative Tied To Overdoses

By KANTELE FRANKO  
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, OHIO — A drug used to sedate elephants and other large animals, 100 times as potent as the fentanyl already escalating the country's heroin troubles, is suspected in spates of overdoses in several states, where authorities say they've found it mixed with or passed off as heroin.

The appearance of carfentanil, one of the most potent opioids known to investigators, adds another twist to the fight against painkillers in a country already awash in heroin and fentanyl cases.

"It certainly is a very disturbing trend," Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine said.

A man suspected of selling carfentanil as heroin was indicted this week in central Ohio on 20 counts, including murder, in connection with a July 10 death and nine other overdoses that happened within hours of one another. Some of the surviving users told investigators they thought they were buying heroin, but test-

SEE OVERDOSES — A5

# Taking Her Place in History



PAUL SANCYA

Hillary Clinton takes the stage to accept the Democratic nomination for president.

## Clinton Is First Female Nominee

By EVAN HALPER  
AND MARK Z. BARABAK  
Tribune Washington Bureau

PHILADELPHIA — Hillary Clinton built on a week of potent testimonials from the Democratic Party's biggest stars, crystallizing her vision for the nation as she reintroduced herself to voters on Thursday night while becoming the first woman to accept a major-party nomination for president.

Clinton's speech bookended a week that started off rocky for the party as restive delegates supporting Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders booted on the convention floor and embarrassing email disclosures forced the resignation of the party chairwoman. But Democrats finished strong after leaders of varying factions delivered pitch-perfect appeals for unity.

"America is once again at a moment of reckoning," Clinton said. "Powerful forces are threatening to pull us apart. Bonds of trust and respect are fraying. And just as with our founders, there are no guarantees. ... We have to decide whether we're going to work together, so we can all rise together."

She accepted her party's nomination "with humility, determination and boundless confidence in America's promise."

Clinton offered contrasts in tone, outlook and level of detail compared with vague promises made last week by GOP nominee Donald Trump.

"We're going to empower  
SEE CLINTON — A8

## Trump Says He Was Kidding

By WILLIAM DOUGLAS  
McClatchy Washington Bureau

PHILADELPHIA — Hey, just kidding. Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said Thursday that he was merely being sarcastic when he said that Russia should look into Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton's missing emails.

But presidential and political scholars say Trump's remarks are no laughing matter and yet another worrisome example of the man who wants to be president acting very unpresidential.

They say Trump has yet to grasp that words, especially those from an aspiring world leader, can have serious consequences at home and abroad.

"You have to be very careful with your  
words," said Lance deHaven-Smith, an emeritus public policy professor at Florida State University. "It's not for nothing that diplomacy is diplomatic."

Trump sent shock waves through the political and foreign affairs communities Wednesday when he said that he hopes Russia either has or can get its hands on some of Clinton's deleted emails from her



AP — EVAN VUCCI

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump said on Thursday an invitation to Russian hackers to target rival Hillary Clinton was made in jest.

tenure as secretary of state.

"Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing," he said during a Florida news conference. "I think you will probably be rewarded mightily by our press."

Trump seemed to reinforce his comments with a tweet, saying, "If Russia or any other country or person has Hillary Clinton's 33,000 illegally-deleted emails, perhaps they should share them with the FBI!"

The invitation by a presidential candi-  
SEE TRUMP — A5

## Listen Community Services Names New Executive Director

By TIM CAMERATO  
Valley News Staff Writer

LEBANON — Listen Community Services announced on Thursday that Kyle Fisher has been chosen to take the reins as the nonprofit's next executive director. He will take over for Merilynn Bourne, who first joined the charitable organization in 1996

and will retire today.

"For the last year and a half, I have felt that he is the perfect individual to succeed me," Bourne said in a phone interview. "He communicates very well and he listens very well. He's compassionate and he really cares."

Fisher, 35, first came to Listen as a volunteer three years ago. After relocating to the Upper Valley with his

wife, he visited a store to drop off unneeded items from the trip and quickly recognized it as a hub of activity.

Although he initially saw volunteering as a way to bridge the gap in his resume while looking for jobs in the area, he readily accepted a volunteer coordinator position at the organization a few weeks later. A couple

of months into that job, he was chosen to take over as administrative director, managing Listen's human resources, facilities and IT departments.

"I was really able to engage and obtain the trust of all the Listen employees (during that time)," Fisher said. "I would have to say that the  
SEE LISTEN — A4



Fisher

## Global Effort to Develop Antibiotics Launched

By LENA H. SUN  
Washington Post

U.S. and British officials announced an ambitious collaboration on Thursday designed to accelerate the discovery and development of new antibiotics in the fight against one of the modern era's greatest health threats: antibiotic resistance.

CARB-X, for Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria Biopharmaceutical Accelerator, will create one of the world's largest public-private partnerships focused on preclinical discovery and development of new antimicrobial products.

The undertaking includes two agencies within the U.S. Health and Human Services Department that focus on biomedical research and Britain's Wellcome Trust, a London-based global biomedical research

charity. It also includes academic, industry and other nongovernmental organizations.

The partnership is committed to providing \$44 million in funding in the first year and could provide hundreds of millions of dollars over five years to increase the number of antibiotics in the drug-development pipeline, according to a HHS release.

The ultimate goal, officials said, is to move promising antibiotic candidates through the critical early stages so they can attract enough private or public investment for advanced development and win approval by U.S. and British regulatory agencies.

Biomedical innovations often take place in small companies and academic labs that don't have the resources and expertise to move products to clinical development. CARB-X aims to provide necessary fund-  
SEE ANTIBIOTICS — A4

INSIDE

### No Room For Error

After months of training, Luke Aikins says he's ready to leave his chute in the plane when he bails out 25,000 feet on Saturday. That's right, no parachute, no wingsuit.

PAGE A4  
AP



Post 84 Legion Baseball  
Click on 'Photo Galleries'  
www.vnews.com

Weather — A8  
Scattered storms,  
highs 75 to 81.



INDEX

CALENDAR .....	B6	LOCAL & REGIONAL .....	A2
CLASSIFIED .....	C4	OBITUARIES .....	A4
COMICS .....	B5	RELIGION .....	C3
EDITORIAL .....	A6	SPORTS .....	B1
FORUM .....	A7	TELEVISION .....	C8