



## Thanks for the memories and the tree!

January 18, 2021

By Stephen N. Flanders

The Norwich Lions Club added to the holiday cheer with its Memory Tree in the town band stand and invited the community to memorialize those who were special to the participants. At the same time, many of those participating made donations that benefitted the Upper Valley Haven—an organization that serves people grappling with poverty. The \$1,680 in donations received were matched by the Byrne Foundation. We thank everyone, who participated!



The Memory Tree helped light the Norwich green through the holidays.

Bonnie Munday, Norwich's town clerk, compiled the 75 names received and displayed them on the town's notice board. This is a cherished tradition for Bonnie. She remembers when the bulletin board was filled with names! We thank her for her kind attention to helping the community in its remembrances.



Bonnie Munday, preparing to take down the list of memorials on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

On January 7<sup>th</sup>, Lions Donna and Phil Wheeler, Debbie Bernal, Gary De Gasta, Brion McMullan, and Steve Flanders arrived at the bandstand to dismantle the tree and stow its decorations.



Dismantling the decorations



Moving the tree to its next stop

Meanwhile on a remote farm on Chapel Hill Road, some unsuspecting goats were wondering what their next trick would be to keep life interesting. They were pleased to see the tree arrive, after a long drive, to become their fodder!



Christmas arrives late on Chapel Hill Road!

As soon as the tree was rolled into their pen, the goats came out to investigate, followed by a curious donkey. The goats found the tree to be delicious—one of the best that they had ever had! The donkey said, “That’s OK. You guys go ahead and eat it. I’ll pass.” At least, that’s what I *thought* she said.

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