

## Get the lowdown on the Preakness

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## Q&A with singer Amy Gallatin

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SATURDAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 20 - 21, 2017

# Probe eyes White House official

By Devlin Barrett and Matt Zapotosky

Washington Post

The law enforcement investigation into possible coordination between Russia and the Trump campaign has identified a current White House official as a significant person of interest, showing that the probe is

reaching into the highest levels of government, according to people familiar with the matter.

The senior White House adviser under scrutiny by investigators is someone close to the president, according to these people, who would not further identify the official.

The revelation comes as the investigation appears to

be entering a more overtly active phase, with investigators shifting from work that has remained largely hidden from the public to conducting interviews and using a grand jury to issue subpoenas. The intensity of the probe is expected to accelerate in the coming weeks, the people said.

The sources emphasized that investigators remain keenly interested in people who previously wielded influence in the Trump campaign and administration but are no longer part of it, including former national security adviser Michael Flynn and former campaign chairman Paul Manafort.

Flynn resigned in February after disclosures that he had lied to administration officials about his contacts with Russian Ambassador Sergey Kislyak. Current administration officials who have acknowledged contacts with Russian officials include President Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, as well as Attorney General Jeff Sessions and Secretary of State Rex Tillerson.

### British paper names Jared Kushner, Page 3

People familiar with the investigation said the intensifying effort does not mean criminal charges are near, or that any such charges will result. Earlier this week, Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein appointed former FBI director Robert S. Mueller III to serve as special counsel and lead the investigation into Russian meddling.

It is unclear exactly how Mueller's leadership will affect the direction of the probe, and he is already bringing in new people to work on the team. Those familiar with the case said its significance had increased before Mueller's appointment.

Although the case began quietly last July as an effort to determine whether any Trump associates coordinated with Russian operatives to meddle in the presidential election campaign, the investigative work now being done by the FBI also includes determining whether any financial crimes were committed by people

## YOUNG FARMERS



Jared Ramsdell / Journal Inquirer

Junior farmers work their plot Friday at the Northwest Park Community Garden during the Junior Farm Apprentice program, where kids learn a variety of farm activities. ■ Another photo, Page 4

■ SEE PROBE / PAGE 3

Conversation with Amy Gallatin

# 'I have so much music in my head'

By Suzanne McLaughlin

Journal Inquirer

People who have listened to Amy Gallatin and her bluegrass band Stillwaters may not realize she grew up in the South. Raised in Louisiana, Gallatin moved to California when she was in eighth grade. During a stint as a newscaster in California in her early 20s, she said, she had the remnants of her Southern accent "beaten out of her."

She picked up the 12-string guitar as a kid after seeing John Denver on "The Tonight Show." Now she does shows with Stillwaters and her girl band, "The Hot Flashes."

**Q: You were born in the South but you don't have a Southern accent?**

**A:** I was born in Alabama and raised in Louisiana. My parents were Southerners ... I worked in radio in Sacramento, California, for two years in my early 20s. They beat it out of you. They don't want to hear any sign of an accent. They would say "senator." Being from the South, I would say "senator."

I finally got a one a one-on-one with Jerry Brown, but my mic wasn't on. They had deregulated radio in that time and the job situation was bad. I got in my car and drove up the West Coast and across country. I met a cowboy. I was riding horses in every state. I worked at ranches in the West for 12 years.

**Q: So you were in the West in your 20s. Those are formative years.**

**A:** They were pretty formative for me. I also worked as a ski bum and a bartender. I grew up sheltered. I had never done anything blue collar.

**Q: That's gutsy. When you came East is when you met your life partner and the Dobro player in Stillwaters, Roger Williams?**

**A:** I hired him as a Dobro player in 2000-2001. I discovered then that the acoustic music scene was better here than it was out West back then. I sang around the campfire in the West, but it felt more like a career here. I made my first recording here. There was a network of acoustic musicians here. There is a whole bluegrass scene here. I was in heaven. I packed my Ford Econoline van and moved here.

**Q: You're living in Glastonbury?**

**A:** I stayed in Glastonbury that first summer I came here. Back then it seemed more rural. I'm still here. It is centrally located to tour New England.

**Q: You've been to the European World of Bluegrass Convention in the Netherlands.**

**A:** Several times. They have their own scene there, but to hear an American band, that's a big deal. For them to hear an American bluegrass band, that is the authentic band. You could get a lot of work.

Europeans know bluegrass music, which is a niche. The people who like it are pretty rabid about it, like people here. People here are very protective of the genre. There is an element that wants it like Bill Monroe, the father of bluegrass, played it. In Europe, I found it was a little more wide open. I was freer there to do more folk.

**Q: You play country, folk, bluegrass, a little western swing, any blues?**

**A:** A little bit. Especially with the girl group. One of the girls in the group, Gail Wade, is an excellent blues singer. We also have Peggy Harvey in the group. She plays harmonica like it's ridiculous. It's unlike the way she plays fiddle. Gail is in Colchester and Peggy is in Columbia. There is a boatload of talent right here. We toured Europe together 14 years ago, and we're reunited.

We do a show every year at a place called Mineral Springs in Stafford Springs. It's a good place to sample local bands. It's an outdoor festival. We got a huge response there. Our group, the Hot Flashes, pretty much sells out. It's kind of crazy to me.

**Q: Do you use humor in those shows? I watched a song on Youtube, "All About the Bass."**

**A:** We were nervous about that show. We're going to Colorado. We needed to add songs. Those shows are like carefully controlled chaos. There are my three bluegrass boys and the girls.

**Q: Where did you get the name, The Hot Flashes?**

**A:** It was a joke, I think. And then it stuck. None of us can remember who came up with it.

**Q: You have a corresponding name for the guys?**

**A:** The Men-O' Pause. They love that.

**Q: The song I like the best that you**



Jared Ramsdell / Journal Inquirer

**do with Stillwaters is "I Know this Road."**

**A:** That song, really nobody else does it but Roger. He's at home recording it right now. It was written by a guy in New Hampshire who asked Roger to demo it with him. Now I'm trying to promote Roger's upcoming album which will have that song.

**Q: Which country singers would you say are big influences on you?**

**A:** I would say Emmylou Harris is a big influence. George Jones, Merle Haggard. His baritone is so smooth. His voice was almost like a gateway drug into country music for me.

**Q: What was the first music you listened to?**

**A:** John Denver. I saw him on "The Tonight Show." He played his 12-string. I'll never forget it. A 12-string guitar has a lot of overtones. I remember being transfixed. When you're an adolescent, you concentrate on one thing. I would play my guitar for six hours at a time in my parents' garage. My fingers would be bloody. With John Denver it's easy to hear the chords. He was a great guitar player. People don't really realize that about him.

**Q: Did you teach yourself?**

**A:** My high school boyfriend had a

band. He said, "Do you think your dad would pay me to give you guitar lessons? I said, "I don't know, I'll ask him." I was hooked. I thought, "I can hear this on the radio. I know what they're playing."

Linda Ronstadt was also a huge influence. When I was in high school, she had that "I've been cheated" song (When Will I Be Loved). She has amazing diaphragm support. For whatever reason, I can get a push and get that volume and I would get favorable reaction from people.

**Q: Well everybody probably can't do that, don't you think?**

**A:** Yeah. The vocal support thing is huge. I only sang acoustically, with no microphone, until I came East. I actually had to learn to tone it down with the microphone. It's like the difference between a manual typewriter and an electric typewriter. If you listen to early, early Alison Krauss, her voice is piercing. We liked it because it was so pure. But she later toned it down, and her voice is much softer. It has more crossover appeal. She has played with everybody. She has a dream, crossover career. There's people who I know who knew her when she was 12 years old, walking around taping people because

# 'I think I found my voice and who I was meant to be'

■ GALLATIN

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she was trying to learn how to play the fiddle.

She grew up in the public eye. I've been watching her since then. She had health issues in her early years from touring all the time. You have to be disciplined to tour that much and stay healthy.

I recorded with Rich Adler twice in Nashville. We were fixing stuff. That means pasting over. I asked Rich, "Where am I on the paste scale? Am I choosing to fix a lot?" He said, "The Alison Krauss paste scale? You're a one. She would be a 10." She's a perfectionist, to the max.

**Q: If you're famous, you decide what you say yes to, right?**

**A:** Your manager decides. Having choice makes things better. I have my own record label, Happy Appy. I produce every album I'm on. The buck stops with you.

**Q: Now people buy individual songs more than CDs? That makes it more difficult to make money?**

**A:** Every musician I know,



Jared Ramsdell / Journal Inquirer

Amy Gallatin took up the 12-string guitar as a kid after seeing John Denver on "The Tonight Show."

even some of the big dogs, they all have side work. I do data entry for a company. I do it on my own hours.

**Q: You don't have to go to an office.**

**A:** We make money from gigs. Not much from sales. We get a penny if something streams on Spotify. It takes a lot of pennies. In the bluegrass world, most people have side jobs. If you're playing in Ricky Skaggs band, you're probably salaried.

My players get a portion of

what we get playing.

Up to the Alison Krauss level, you're doing it only for the love. You do it because you kind of have to, like you have to breathe. I can't imagine not having that outlet. There is much better support when you have other people/band members to play with. I've been doing this for 25 years with the band. It would be difficult to do on your own.

**Q: Do you play every day?**

**A:** No. As a singer, your voice is finite. If you're touring, you should not waste your voice.

**Q: You are more a vocalist?**

**A:** The guitar is more a tool for me. I don't listen to music like I used to. It's probably because I have so much music in my head. I think I found my voice and who I was meant to be as a singer and I have all that stuff in my head. If I'm in the car, I might have the radio off in the car. At home I listen to classical music.

**Q: What do you do to stay healthy?**

**A:** I try to do yoga every day.

**Q: Do you go to classes?**

**A:** Yes. I'm way too lazy to do it at home. I need the structure of a class.

# Audubon lecture at Trinity College

By Journal Inquirer Staff

HARTFORD — The Connecticut Audubon Society will host "Bird Protection & Outdoor Cats," a talk by Smithsonian ornithologist Peter Marra, Ph.D., on Wednesday, May 24, at 7 p.m. in the McCook Auditorium, Trinity College.

Marra will trace the historical and cultural ties between humans and cats starting with early domestication, accessibly explaining the science of extinction, population modeling, and feline diseases.

Marra is director of the Smithsonian Migratory Bird

Center. He is also co-author of "Cat Wars: The Devastating Consequences of a Cuddly Killer," published by Princeton University Press. He has authored more than 200 peer-reviewed papers published in journals such as Science, Nature, and the Proceedings of the National Academy of Science and Conservation Biology. He co-edited the frequently cited book "Birds of Two Worlds."

Tickets are \$5 for members of the Connecticut Audubon Society, or \$10 for non-members.

For more information, visit: [www.ctaudubon.org](http://www.ctaudubon.org)

# Art in the Park seeks area artists

By Journal Inquirer Staff

MANCHESTER — Art in the Park Manchester seeks artists to participate in this year's event slated for Sunday, June 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Artists of all types and ages are welcome, such as people producing original painting, sculpture, photography, wood, digital art, handmade jewelry, ceramics, fiber arts, and mixed media.

The show, held annually the first Sunday of June, features live and custom art as well as interactive art projects for all age groups on the ample lawn.

For more information or to apply, call 860-560-1100, email [artintheparkmanchester@gmail.com](mailto:artintheparkmanchester@gmail.com), or visit: [www.youngartartct.org](http://www.youngartartct.org)



Movie times are subject to change.

## ■ AGAWAM, MASS.

**AGAWAM CINEMAS**  
866 Suffield St. Call 413-285-7162

## ■ COLCHESTER

**GALLERY CINEMAS**  
396 Old Hartford Rd. (860-537-6407)

**Alien: Covenant (R):** Sat. 12:55, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55, Sun. 12:55, 3:55, 6:55.

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul (PG):** Sat. 1, 4, 7, 9:25. Sun. 1, 4, 7.

**Everything, Everything (PG-13):** Sat. 1, 4, 7, 9:30. Sun. 1, 4, 7.

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (PG-13):** Sat. 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:05. Sun. 12:45, 3:45, 6:45.

**King Arthur: Legend of the Sword (PG-13):** Sat. 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:05. Sun. 12:50, 3:50, 6:50.

**Snatched (R):** Sat. 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 9:25. Sun. 1:05, 4:05, 7:05.

## ■ ENFIELD

**ENFIELD 12**  
90 Elm St. (860-741-6053)

**Alien: Covenant (R):** Sat.-Tue. 10:30,

1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30.

**Beauty and the Beast (PG):** Sat.-Tue. 12:15, 3:30, 6:30, 9:55.

**The Boss Baby (PG):** Sat.-Tue. 11:30, 2:30, 5, 7:35, 10:05.

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul (PG):** Sat.-Tue. 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15.

**Everything, Everything (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 10:45, 1:15, 4, 7, 9:45.

**The Fate of the Furious (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 11:05, 3:15, 6:55, 10:10.

**Going in Style (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 12, 2:40, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20.

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (PG-13):** Sat. 10:40, 11:40, 12:40, 2, 3, 3:55, 5:20, 6:20, 7:20, 8:40, 9:40, 10:30. Sun. 11:40, 12:40, 3, 3:55, 6:20, 7:20, 9:40, 10:30.

**King Arthur: Legend of the Sword (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 10:30, 1:25, 7:25, 10:25.

**King Arthur: Legend of the Sword 3D (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 4:25.

**Smokey and the Bandit 40th Anniversary (1977) Presented by TCM (NR):** Sun. 2, 7.

**Snatched (R):** Sat.-Tue. 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 10.

## ■ HARTFORD

**PALACE 17 & ODYSSEY THEATER**  
330 New Park Ave. (860-236-6677)

**Alien: Covenant (R):** Sat.-Sun. 10, 1, 4, 6:15, 7, 9:15, 10.

**The Boss Baby (PG):** Sat.-Sun. 10:30, 1:10, 3:45.

**Chuck (R):** Sat.-Thu. 12, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15.

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul (PG):** Sat.-Sun. 10:50, 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40.

**Everything, Everything (PG-13):** Sat.-Sun. 10:20, 1:20, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20.

**The Fate of the Furious (PG-13):** Sat.-Sun. 11:30, 3:10, 6:45, 10:10.

**Gifted (PG-13):** Sat.-Sun. 9:55, 12:50, 3:20, 6, 9.

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (PG-13):** Sat.-Sun. 10:10, 12:45, 1:30, 4:10, 5, 8, 10:40, 11.

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 3D (PG-13):** Sat.-Sun. 9:30, 7:20.

**How to Be a Latin Lover (PG-13):** Sat.-Sun. 9:35, 12:20, 3:15, 6:20, 9:10.

**King Arthur: Legend of the Sword (PG-13):** Sat.-Sun. 9:40, 12:40, 3:40, 6:50, 9:50.

**The Lovers (R):** Sat.-Thu. 12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:30.

**Norman (R):** Sat.-Sun. 9:50, 12:55, 3:50, 6:40, 9:45.

**Snatched (R):** Sat.-Thu. 12:15, 3, 5:40, 8:15, 10:50.

**Their Finest (R):** Sat.-Sun. 9:45, 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30.

**The Wall (R):** Sat.-Sun. 11:40, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 10:35.

## FRONT ST. STADIUM 4

39 Front St. (860-422-7711)

**Alien: Covenant (R):** Sat.-Tue. 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10.

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 4, 7.

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 3D (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 1, 9:55.

**King Arthur: Legend of the Sword (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 3:45, 6:45.

**King Arthur: Legend of the Sword 3D (PG-13):** Sat.-Tue. 12:45, 9:30.

**Snatched (R):** Sat.-Tue. 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:30, 9:40.

## ■ MANCHESTER

**CENTURY BUCKLAND HILLS**  
99 Red Stone Road (860-646-4555)

**Alien: Covenant (R):** Sat. 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30, 11:30. Sun. 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30.

**Alien: Covenant — The IMAX 2D Experience (R):** Sat.-Wed. 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:45.

**Baahubali 2: The Conclusion (NR):** Sat.-Wed. 2:30, 10:10. Sat.-Wed. 10:45, 6:20.

**Beauty and the Beast (PG):** Sat.-Wed. 12:10, 3:10, 7:05, 10:15.

**The Boss Baby (PG):** Sat.-Tue. 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:45.

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul (PG):** Sat.-Wed. 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40.

**Everything, Everything (PG-13):** Sat.-Wed. 11, 1:45, 4:15, 7, 9:45.

**The Fate of the Furious (PG-13):** Sat. 10:35, 1:55, 5:05, 8:20. Sun.-Wed. 12:50, 4:20, 7:40, 10:50.

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (PG-13):** Sat. 10:40, 11:20, 12:40, 2, 2:40, 4, 4:40, 5:20, 6, 7:20, 8, 8:40, 9:20, 10:40. Sun. 10:40, 11:20, 12:40, 2:40, 4, 4:40, 6, 7:20, 8, 9:20, 10:40. **3D (PG-13):** Sat. 12:10, 3:20, 6:40, 10, 11:20. Sun.-Wed. 12, 1:20, 3:20, 6:40, 10.

**Half Girlfriend (NR):** Sat.-Wed. 11:40, 2:50, 6:05, 9:35.

**King Arthur: Legend of the Sword (PG-13):** Sat. 10:50, 1:50, 4:50, 8:10, 11:15. Sun.-Wed. 10:50, 1:50, 4:50, 7:55, 10:55. **3D (PG-13):** Sat.-Wed. 3, 9:05.

**Smokey and the Bandit 40th Anniversary (1977) Presented by**

**TCM (NR):** Sun. 2, 7. Wed. 2, 7.

**Snatched (R):** Sat. 11:30, 1, 2:20, 3:40, 5:10, 6:10, 7:45, 8:45, 10:30, 11:10. Sun. 11:30, 1, 2:20, 3:40, 5:10, 6:10, 7:45, 8:35, 10:30, 11.

**The Wall (R):** Sat.-Wed. 12:25, 6:35.

**PARKADE CINEMAS**  
416 W. Middle Turnpike (860-647-1439)

**Beauty and the Beast (PG):** Sat. 12, 4:10, 6:20, 8:30. Sun. 12, 4:10, 6:20.

**The Boss Baby (PG):** Sat.-Sun. 10, 1:50.

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul (PG):** Sat.-Sun. 10, 11:50, 2, 4:05, 6:30.

**Gifted (PG-13):** Sat. 12:10, 6:30, 8:40. Sun. 12:10, 6:30.

**The Shack (PG-13):** Sat. 3:50, 8:30. Sun. 3:50.

**Smurfs: The Lost Village (PG):** Sat.-Sun. 10, 2:20.

**Snatched (R):** Sat. 10, 12, 2:15, 4:10, 6:40, 8:40. Sun. 10, 12, 2:15, 4:10, 6:40.

## ■ MANSFIELD

**MANSFIELD DRIVE-IN**  
228 Stafford Road (860-423-4441)

**Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (PG-13) and The Fate of the Furious (PG-13):** Sat.-Sun. 8:30.

**Alien: Covenant (R) and Snatched:** Sat.-Sun. 8:30.

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul (PG) and The Boss Baby (PG):** Sat.-Sun. 8:30.

**WEST SPRINGFIELD**

**WEST SPRINGFIELD 15**  
864 Riverdale Road. Call 413-733-5131