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Trauma, addiction and hope at Forum

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MILLERTON — Addicts and alcoholics have a physical addiction.

And they often have unresolved, traumatic experiences that also need to be acknowledged and resolved.

Getting to the root of the addiction is what social worker Hope Payson and filmmaker Tory Jadow (a Cornwall resident) address in “Uproot-

ing Addiction,” a documentary film about how trauma affects addiction — and recovery. It will be shown on Sunday, Jan. 27, 11:30 a.m. at The Moviehouse in Millerton as part of the Salisbury Forum series.

The film, two and half years in the making, is a collaboration between social worker Hope Payson and filmmaker Tory Jadow.

Six people are profiled in the film. In a phone interview Friday, Jan. 11, Payson said

the subjects speak about the specific events in their lives — trauma, addiction to various substances and “different pathways to recovery.”

Jadow, also interviewed by phone on Jan. 11, said the movie is intended to raise awareness of the relationship between unresolved trauma and addiction.

She said a punitive approach to addiction is ineffective. Once people realize this, “it’s easier to have a

compassionate response.”

Jadow started shooting for the film in June 2016. Some clips were shown at a presentation at the Salisbury Congregational Church in June 2017. The version that will be shown at The Moviehouse will be considerably more polished, although it will still be a rough cut, running a little over one hour. Jadow said she anticipates the final version will be finished in June of this year.