

Charity Bike Run returns in honor of David Lawton



Riders take off from the South Killingly Fire Department for the fourth annual David Lawton Memorial Fund Charity Bike Run.

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KILLINGLY – The David Lawton Memorial Fund Charity Bike Run is quickly becoming a popular local ride supporting local causes in honor of its namesake. David Lawton passed away in 2017 and was an avid motorcyclist and company president of the South Killingly Fire Department. It's this department that served as the first of several stops in the 2021 edition of the annual run.

Josh Lawton, David's son and spokesperson for the Aug. 29 event, said the run is held each year to raise money to support local pantries including providing resources for families during Thanksgiving and the Christmas season. Now in its fourth year after taking a year off due to the 2020 pandemic, the Charity Bike Run drew around 55 riders who took off at noon from the

South Killingly Fire Department towards four checkpoints along the route.

Josh Lawton called the event a fun tribute to his father's passion for motorcycles as David was often seen on his Harley Davidson enjoying rides through the community and beyond.

"Dad loved to ride. He was the one who taught me how to ride. It was one of his pastimes to just get on his bike and explore the countryside. So, this is a good way to honor his memory and enjoy something that was a big part of his life," Josh Lawton said.

After departing in Killingly, riders made their way to Happy Jacks in Plainfield, the Bach Dor Café in Chaplin, The Main Moose in Columbia, and finished their ride at the Bozrah Moose Lodge where music, food, drinks and family fun awaited them. Josh

Please Read **BIKE RUN**, page **A3**

FDA approves first COVID-19 vaccines

PUTNAM — On Monday, Aug. 23, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the first COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccine has been known as the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, and will now be marketed as Comirnaty, for the prevention of COVID-19 disease in individuals 16 years of age and older. The vaccine also continues to be available under emergency use authorization (EUA), including for individuals 12 through 15 years of age and for the administration of a third dose in certain immunocompromised individuals.

"While only the Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty vaccine is fully approved at this juncture, all paperwork and approval application details have been completed and submitted to the FDA for full approval of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, which will be marketed as Spikevax," said John Graham, chief medical officer and vice president medical affairs and quality, Day Kimball Healthcare. "It is anticipated that the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine will receive comparable approval from the FDA," Graham said.

Additionally, federal health officials and medical experts recently announced that COVID-19 booster shots will be available to all American adults starting Sept. 20. The plan, outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other top public health officials, calls for a booster shot eight months after receiving the second dose of either a Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna mRNA vaccination. The current recommendations do not apply to

Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine. For now, booster shots are being advised for the mRNA vaccines only.

"Day Kimball's COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force is reviewing this guidance and formulating a plan for administering third doses to our healthcare workers and the public," said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare.

"Eligible individuals will be able to receive COVID-19 booster shots at Day Kimball Hospital, and at Day Kimball Medical Group adult primary care locations in Putnam, Plainfield, Danielson and Dayville," Kramer said.

"DKH's booster vaccine distribution plan is being developed in accordance with guidelines from the CDC, the FDA, and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH)," said John O'Keefe, chief nursing officer and vice president patient services, Day Kimball Healthcare. "A schedule of Day Kimball's booster vaccination clinics is forthcoming," O'Keefe said.

In the meantime, the CDC currently recommends that certain individuals – those who are moderately to severely immunocompromised – receive a third dose now. This includes people who:

- Are receiving active cancer treatment
- Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Received a stem cell transplant within the last two years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- Have advanced or untreated HIV infection

Please Read **VACCINES**, page **A8**

Weather Service confirms tornado strike in Thompson

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON – Following reports of a "wind event" in Thompson on Thursday, Aug. 19, the National Weather Service has confirmed that a tornado touched down in the town of Thompson.

More than 24 hours after wind and heavy rain impacted the region, the National Weather Service issued an

official report that an EF-0, the weakest ranking on the Enhanced Fujita Scale denoting a confirmed tornado with wind speed between 65 and 85 mph, touched down in Thompson reaching the maximum wind speed for the rating. The National Weather Service conducted a storm survey after receiving tips from amateur radio operators and local meteorologists resulting in their conclusive findings.

The tornado touched down between 10:15 and 10:24 a.m. near the intersection of Quinebaug Road and Riverside Drive with the funnel being a reported 50 yards wide. The tornado then moved northeast impacting Riverside Drive, Wilsonville Road, Wagher Road, Denis Drive and Labby Road. No injuries or fatalities were reported. The storm continued into Massachusetts where it eventually ended as a

waterspout on Webster Lake. The National Weather Service did confirm a tornado in the town of Webster, Ma however it was not confirmed if this was the same tornado or a second isolated event. The tornado was part of a storm system that moved into New England as a remnant of Tropical Storm Fred.

Photos on social media as well as the official report from the National Weather Service confirmed that the storm downed branches and trees blocking roadways and damaging power lines especially near the intersection of Ryler Court and Riverside Drive. Some minor property damage has also been reported due to

the storm.

This is at least the third EF-0 tornado to touch down in the state of Connecticut in 2021 alone. In April, an EF-0 was reported in Kent and in July another EF-0 touched down in Somers. A series of EF-0 tornadoes were also reported in August of 2020. The last reported EF-0 or higher tornado in the Quiet Corner region were in 2018 when twisters touched down in Ashford and Woodstock in July and August respectively. A heavily covered EF-1 tornado also hit Webster and Dudley just across the Massachusetts border on the same day as the Woodstock tornado in 2018 as well.

Volunteer Fire Department benefits from Loos & Co. donation



Loos Director of Corporate Marketing Robert Davis, PVFD Chief Brett Sheldon and Loos Director of Manufacturing Jason Kumnick celebrate a recent donation.

Volunteer Fire Department benefits from Loos & Co. donation

POMFRET — Since May, Pomfret's Loos & Company, Inc. has donated close to \$5,000 as part of its continuing philanthropic mission.

The most recent recipient is the Pomfret Volunteer Fire Department, which received \$500 from its neighbors.

Fire Department Chief Brett Sheldon said the department is very appreciative of the company donation.

"Loos and the fire department have always had a good working relationship," Sheldon said. "From Loos' staff volunteering with the department to the company property serving as a potential emergency response site, the relationship has always been positive."

This donation is one of many made by Loos this summer to support the efforts of area organizations.

"We're making connections within our local community," said Loos Director of Manufacturing Jason Kumnick. "The health and wellness of our neighbors matter to us, so we're providing support and outreach wherever we can."

Total donations made this summer are approaching \$5,000. Donations were recently given to the Danielson United Methodist Church Food Pantry, the Pomfret Community/Senior Center, the Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse, the Putnam Daily Bread Food Pantry, the Norwich St. Vincent de Paul Place, the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut's Northeast Women & Girls Fund, the Willimantic Covenant Soup Kitchen and the Northeast District Department of Health.

The volunteer fire department is funded through the town's taxpayer base. Every once in a while, however, the department has expenses they prefer not to use taxpayer funds for, like award banquets or flowers for the family of a fallen member. Sheldon said the donation will be used for those incidents within the department.

"Because of donations like this, we're able to do more for the team and, ultimately, more for the town," Sheldon said.

According to Sheldon, the department cur-

Please Read **DONATION**, page **A8**

The lives of our early settlers



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

I've been reading a book I borrowed from the Killingly Public Library called "For Adam's Sake" by Allegra Di Bonaventura. Based on the lives of several families in colonial New London at the end of the 17th century and first half of the 18th century, it makes copious use of the diary of Joshua Hempstead, Jr. The book has made me stop and reflect on the lives of several of the earliest inhabitants of Northeastern Connecticut, especially those of Peter Aspinwall and Joseph Leavens, son of John Leavens. They were among the earliest settlers of Woodstock, Killingly, and Putnam. So I have been reflecting on who these men were and what they and their families were doing and enduring, particularly in the late 1600's and early 1700's.

The story begins with the planting of one of the earliest towns in Northeastern Connecticut, Woodstock, in the 1680's. By 1683, Roxbury, Mass. had run out of land for its younger generations. The selectmen petitioned the Massachusetts General Court for additional land in the Nipmuck Country, particularly where the Natives had once lived near the praying towns of Quinnetisset and Wabbaquasset. Quinnetisset (now included in Thompson) was already taken. In January of the following year, the town of Roxbury accepted a grant and the stipulation "that thirty families be settled on said plantation within three years and maintain among them an able and orthodox godly minister." During that year land was chosen at Wabbaquasset and Senexet. (Part of it was later discovered to be over the border in Connecticut. The Massachusetts-Connecticut border at that time was unclear and poorly marked). Peter Aspinwall was among the thirteen "advance" men who went to prepare for what was at first referred to as New Roxbury. Others were Benjamin Sabin, Jonathan Smithers, Henry Bowen, John

Frizzel, Mathew Davis, Nathaniel Gary, Thomas Bacon, John Marcy, Benjamin Griggs, George Griggs, Joseph Lord and Ebenezer Morris who went early in the spring of 1686 "to break ground, plant it and make some preparations for the main body of settlers." They also established a sawmill. According to early records some progress in this had been made by April 5, 1686. The main body of settlers left Roxbury in late July 1686 and arrived in the Wabbaquasset area before the end of August. Imagine what it must have been like to walk slowly along the rude, rocky paths, crossing the river herding cattle, sheep, and other livestock, helping young children and old family members--ladies in long dresses included--through the river crossings and rough spots. It could not have been easy. The rough "barracks" that the first pioneers had erected on Plaine Hill served as shelter and was the location of the first town meeting held August 25, 1686. Before the end of the month thirty-eight proprietors had drawn house lots. (Ellen D. Larned, "History of Windham County, Connecticut," Vo. I. p. 13-20).

At the time Peter Aspinwall went to help "spy out" and begin the difficult task of planting Woodstock, he was a 21-year old single man (b. June 14, 1664 in Brookline, Mass.). His father was a surveyor so it was likely Peter had learned that valuable art as a teen. His house lot, #11, consisted of twenty acres on the west side of the east vale (South Woodstock), bounded north on John Chandler and south on John Frizzel. Each member of the new community was required to contribute to the town rates. In 1690 Peter agreed to repair and maintain the bridge at John Chandler's for seven years to offset these charges. (Larned, op. cit., p. 20).

John Leavens also received a lot in the east vale, lot #24 in between William Lyon, Jr. and Nathaniel Sanger. Unlike Aspinwall, Leavens was a mature, married man with six children ranging in age from 19 to under 1 including four young sons. Forty-six at the time of the move to New Roxbury, John was born April 27, 1640. He had married 1st Hannah/Sarah Woods who died in 1666 after the birth of their daughter Hannah, the 19 year-old. John married 2nd, Nov. 23, 1674 at New Haven, Elizabeth Preston (born 1665), daughter

of Edward. It was she who accompanied him to the wilderness. As a female, I think the move must have been especially trying for her --and the other females of the settlement. She had lived in bustling, established communities, which offered frequent contacts with the coast. Now, at 31 years old, she had to start over with six children and the rudest of accommodations in a wilderness far from civilized towns. It was enough to stress any woman. Surely, her step-daughter, Hannah, must have been a help, but it in 1687 she married Jonathan Peake, also an early Woodstock planter, and began bearing children. Elizabeth, herself, bore two more children in Woodstock in 1692 and 1696. John Leavens was apparently well-respected by his fellow planters for at the town meetings in November 1690 he was elected one of the selectmen of the town and the following October he was chosen for the committee to oversee the building of the first meeting-house. (Larned, op. cit., p. 25,26). John Leavens died October 16, 1696, age 56 leaving his widow with seven children still at home. Peter, her oldest child, was almost 20; his brother, James, nearly 17, Joseph, who continues the Leavens story, 13.

Peter Aspinwall, too, assumed more challenging tasks related to improvements for the young settlement. About 1691, he agreed to make "a way unto the cedar swamp on the other side of the Quinebaug River for a road to Providence." The cedar swamp was located in present-day East Killingly north of Quinn Hill Road (Think Eddie Pray Reservoir). It seems as though the Woodstock (Massachusetts) men felt no compunction in crossing into what was definitely Connecticut territory to make use of its excellent supply of cedar. Hmmm! Why did they want the road to Providence?

During the late 1600's Natives who had left the area returned and bothered the Woodstock settlement and other young towns in Connecticut and Massachusetts. At the June meeting of the Governor and Council of Connecticut, Lt. Gove. Stoughton reported the return of the English and "Indians" that had gone forth against the enemy under the command of Peter Aspinwall, and desired that they might be re-inforced and sent forth again with

speed. (Colonial Records of Connecticut, 1689-1706 p. 218).

During this time Aspinwall's life became intertwined with that of the widow Elizabeth Leavens and her children for he married her in March 1699. She bore Peter a daughter in 1700.

According to historian Ellen Larned, the "valley of the Quinebaug, extending from the Great Falls, now in Putnam, to Lake Mashapaug (now Alexander's Lake), and known as Aspinock, had now attracted the attention of Woodstock's businessmen. Turpentine was gathered here in large quantities from its numerous pine trees by that noted trader James Corbin. James and Joseph, sons of John Leavens, were thus employed by him in 1700. The younger brother, Joseph, on one occasion strayed off alone, and while felling a tree was suddenly attacked and wounded in the thumb by one of the original proprietors of the soil--a venomous rattle-snake. No help was near, the young man was in imminent danger, but with great resolution and presence of mind he hacked off the bitten thumb with his axe and then dispatched his assailant. His very peculiar chirography corroborates the truth of this legend, as also the sobriquet, 'Old One Thumb,' afterwards given him by the Indians." (op. cit. Vo. I, p. 134-5).

Joseph lived to the ripe old age of 90 and became one of the area's venerable residents so I'll continue his tale at a future date.

If nothing else, I hope this column causes you to reflect on the hardships the pioneers of Northeastern Connecticut faced. We owe them many thanks for paving the way.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian August 2021. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or www.killinglyhistorical.org. Leave messages at the Killingly Historical Center 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. beginning Aug. 4. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

NOW receives grant funds from Putnam Area Foundation

PUTNAM — A \$1,100 donation has been made to Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, Inc. (NOW) from the Putnam Area Foundation to fund a new Healthy Family Cooking Clinic Series. NOW Executive Director, Tayler Shea, and Alternate Board Member and volunteer grant writer, Lynn Bourque, met with Tom Borner, President of the Putnam Area Foundation to receive grant funds recently awarded to NOW.

NOW Executive Director, Tayler Shea commented, "NOW is very grateful to the Putnam Area Foundation for this grant. We believe in the importance of making healthy, home-cooked meals achievable to all families. Cooking is a

foundational life skill. These clinics will allow parents and children the opportunity to learn new culinary skills, tips, and tricks. All of the funds will be used to ensure that families in the region have the knowledge and opportunity to cultivate a nutritious diet and lifestyle at home thanks to the Putnam Area Foundation."

Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, is a non-profit human services organization focused on youth wellness. Serving the 10-town area of Northeast Connecticut, NOW provides children with the opportunity to participate in area athletic programs and activities, offering scholarships to the youth of the



community with up to 95% of the cost being subsidized by NOW. The mission of the organization is to provide all children, regardless of financial resources, equal opportunities to achieve & main-

tain youth wellness, beginning at an early age.

For more information on Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, visit: www.nowinmotion.org or call 888-940-4669.

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At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Aug. 23: Common Nighthawk, Black and White Warbler, Hummingbird, Downey Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Barn Swallow, Bobolink, Song Sparrow, Baltimore Oriole, Carolina Wren, Catbird, Bluebird, Cedar Waxwing, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Goldfinch, Turkey Vulture. Visit ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home.

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Conservation District launches Farm Talk series

WOODSTOCK — The Eastern Connecticut Conservation District is hosting a series of “Pie & Coffee Farm Talks.” The talk series is geared toward small farm owners, hobby farmers, homesteaders and horse keepers who want to be sure their farms, forests, grazing lands, and animals are healthy and productive. Attend one talk or all of them. Admission to the programs is free. This talk series is being funded by a National Association of Conservation Districts Technical Assistance Grant, and in partnership with the Senexet Grange #40 and the Woodstock Agricultural Commission.

Due to the ever-changing and unpredictable factors around Covid variants, the talks will be given using a hybrid model. A limited number of local farmers will be able to participate in-person, at the Senexet Grange located at 628 Route 169 in Woodstock. Face masks will be required. Those who choose to will be able to attend remotely via Zoom. The talk series may shift to an all Zoom format based on up-to-date CDC and state recommendations.

All programs will begin at 6:30 PM and will include a very informative talk followed by a chance to ask questions. Pie and refreshments will be available for sale to support the Senexet Grange and the programs they provide to keep agriculture alive and thriving in our community. To register for any of the talks, or for more information, please email to maura.robie@comcast.net and include the talk title in the subject and whether you want to attend in person, or via Zoom.

Thursday, Sept. 30 - Manure and

Nutrient Management on Small Farms. This presentation will be given by Jim Hyde, State Agronomist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Hyde has 25 years of experience with manure management and soil nutrient planning and still finds love for the farm projects and excitement for sharing best management practices to help others improve their animal waste management systems.

Wednesday, Oct. 13 – The Importance of Forest Management and Potential Funding, presented by Bill Reid, Chief Ranger for The Last Green Valley. Healthy forests can provide many economic and environmental benefits, and a good forest management plan (FMP) will help you reach your goals. Certain woodland owners may also benefit from funding assistance to develop FMPs through USDA NRCS cost share programs. Bill Reid from The Last Green Valley has helped sign up many of your neighbors and will be explaining how you, too, can also benefit from these programs.

Wednesday, Oct. 27 – Grazing Animals 101 presented by Joe Emenheiser, PhD, Livestock Extension Educator/Instructor, UCONN College of Agriculture, Health & Natural Resources. Joe enjoys a combination of teaching and applied research and connecting with Connecticut farmers to promote healthy livestock production systems and the economies that go with them.

Tuesday, Nov. 16 – Soil Health for Small Farms presented by Caro Roszell, Soil Health Specialist, American Farmland Trust. Caro will talk about

soil health indicators for small farms, i.e. methods for self-monitoring of soil health impacts on management practices. She will give examples of various farms she’s worked with around New England.

Farm owners may be eligible for funding assistance through USDA NRCS cost share programs to implement many of the methods discussed in the talks.

The Eastern Connecticut Conservation District is an independent not-for-profit organization created by CT State Statute to serve 36 towns in eastern Connecticut. Their mission includes promoting Healthy Soils, Healthy Animals, Productive Farms and Cleaner Water.



ACCURACY WATCH

The *Villager Newspapers* is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page A3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake call (860) 928-1818 or e-mail charlie@villager-newspapers.com.



Woodstock resident Eli Werstler enrolled at College of the Holy Cross

WORCESTER, Mass. — The College of the Holy Cross is excited to welcome Eli Werstler of Woodstock as a member of the College’s Class of 2025.

At 822 students, the Class of 2025 includes students from 33 states and 15 nations across the globe. This year’s incoming class is made up of 54 percent women and 46 percent men, with 23 percent of students coming from ethnically diverse backgrounds and 16 percent as proud first-generation college students.

These newly minted Crusaders have distinguished themselves through community service, leadership roles, and diverse participation in areas like the arts, music and athletics.

The new Crusaders will arrive on campus and move into the residence halls starting at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, August 28th, where they will be welcomed to Mount St. James by an enthusiastic purple crew of current students, staff, faculty and alumni. Fall classes are set to begin Monday, September 6th.

“I am thrilled to welcome Holy Cross’ Class of 2025 - a vibrant and diverse group of exceptional students who are also one of the most academically accomplished classes in the College’s history. I can’t wait to see what you do and how

you will grow ethically, spiritually and intellectually on The Hill,” said Holy Cross President Vincent Rougeau.

About Holy Cross

The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation’s leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,100 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

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BIKE RUN

continued from page A1

Lawton said it was a thrill to see so many bikers come out to support the cause.

“It’s awesome to see people come out. A lot of people here knew dad so every year we get different stories and memories of what they remember of him. It’s just cool to see people come out and support the community in his honor. We’re trying to take a sad thing and turn it into something good and to give back,” Lawton said.

Those interested can learn more about the David Lawton Memorial Fund by visiting the fund’s page on Facebook.



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Designing gardens for year-round color and protecting your investment



GARDEN
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Create a colorful year-round garden filled with flowers, greenery, colorful fruit, fall color, winter interest and a few surprises. Consider seasonal interest when planning a new garden or landscape. Adding a few key plants to existing gardens can help boost your landscape's seasonal appeal.

Include a variety of plants with multiple seasons of interest as well as bird and pollinator appeal. You will look forward to the change of seasons as your landscape transforms throughout the year.

Use trees and shrubs to provide the framework and longevity in your landscape. Serviceberries, crabapples, dogwoods, and many others have flowers, fruit, pollinator, and bird appeal and add winter interest with their bark or form. Look for those with colorful exfoliating bark like paperbark maple, heptacodium, and river birch for a beautiful statement in the winter garden.

Include a few summer blooming shrubs like St John's wort, buttonbush, panicle hydrangeas and Rose of Sharon. They add an unexpected fresh look to

your summer landscape.

Perennials combine nicely with trees, shrubs, and annuals, adding seasons of color and texture. Include those that also attract songbirds, bees, and butterflies by creating a beautiful habitat. Blue star (*Amsonia*), Siberian iris, sedum, Rudbeckia, coneflower, and grasses are just a few that can brighten any garden with several seasons of color, provide homes for beneficial insects and food for the birds.

End the season with fall bloomers like goldenrod, asters, and hardy mums. These provide food for late season pollinators. Leave healthy plants stand, providing homes for many beneficial insects, winter interest in the garden, and food for the songbirds.

Use annuals to fill any voids, add season long color and yearly changes in the landscape. Containers on steps, decks and patios help bring the garden to your front and back door.

Include spring flowering bulbs like tulips, daffodils and hyacinths planted in fall for a colorful welcome to spring. These and many of the earliest bloomers like winter aconites, grape hyacinths, and crocus provide needed nectar for early season pollinators.

Evergreens are always a welcome addition to any landscape. They provide shelter for the birds and year-round greenery. Find new and interesting ways to include them in your landscape.

Use taller evergreens for screening bad views, buffering traffic and other noises, or creating privacy. Use ever-

greens with interesting form and texture to create a focal point in a garden bed or landscape. Combine them with perennials and flowering shrubs for added seasonal interest.

Then keep your landscape looking its best by protecting key plants from hungry critters like deer, rabbits and voles. Skip the fencing and scare tactics by applying a rain resistant, organic repellent like Plantskydd (plantskydd.com) at planting. You will need fewer applications and the odor-based repellent sends animals dining elsewhere before taking a bite out of your plants. Apply repellent before animals start feeding and follow the label directions for best results.

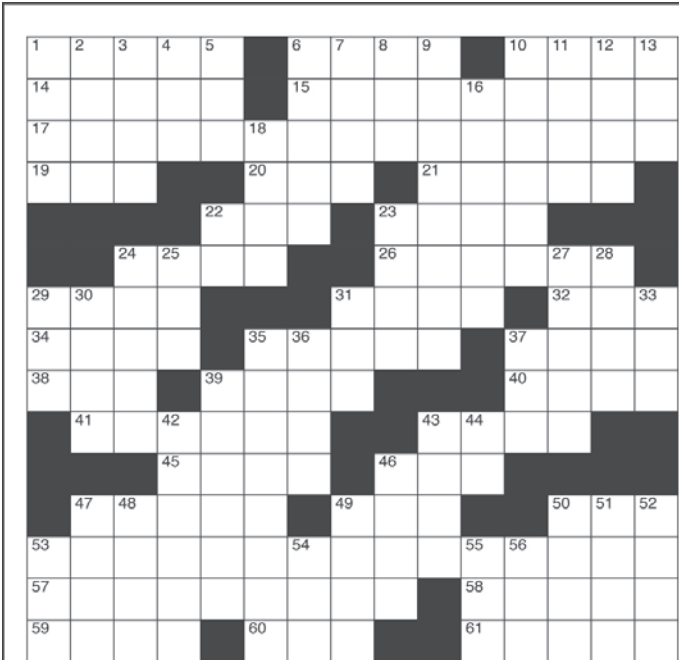
Continue to gather ideas with visits to public gardens and partaking in garden tours. Be sure to take notes and pictures that you can reference later. Creating a year-round landscape is an ongoing process that is part of the fun and adventure of gardening.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Tree World Plant Care for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



Photo Melinda Myers

Include shrubs like this Blue Satin Rose of Sharon to add color and interest to the garden.

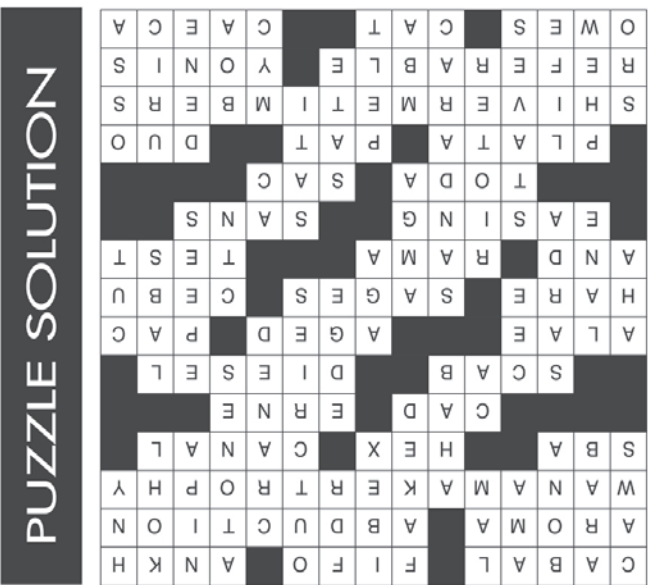


CLUES ACROSS

1. Secret clique
6. Earliest in and out
10. Ancient Egyptian symbol of life
14. Olfactory property
15. Kidnapping
17. Golf prize
19. Helps little firms
20. Cast a spell on
21. Panama is one
22. Dishonorable man
23. Sea eagle
24. Part of the healing process
26. Vin's last name
29. Wings
31. Made older
32. Political device
34. Looks like a rabbit
35. Gurus
37. Philippine Island
38. Not or
39. Hindu model of ideal man
40. Exam
41. Making less difficult
43. Without
45. Dravidian ethnic group
46. A baglike structure
47. Buenos Aires capital La ____
49. Dab
50. Singers who perform together
53. Pirates' saying
57. OK to allude to
58. Somaliland diplomat
59. Has to pay back
60. Felix is one
61. Intestinal pouches

CLUES DOWN

1. Harsh cries of a crow
2. Type of horse
3. ____ fide: authentic
4. Doctors' group
5. Fugitives are on it
6. Forged
7. Wild goat
8. Influential American president
9. Calls for help
10. Repents
11. Palm tree with creeping roots
12. Black powder used in makeup
13. Happy New Year
16. Stretched out one's neck
18. Whale ship captain
22. Atomic #20
23. Border
24. River that borders India and Nepal
25. After B
27. Fencing swords
28. Where researchers work
29. Expression of satisfaction
30. Broadway actor Nathan
31. Heavy, heat-retaining stove
33. A way to eliminate
35. Type of tree resin
36. Russian river
37. Children's TV network
39. Troublemaker
42. Averts or delays
43. Self-immolation by fire ritual
44. It cools your home
46. Satisfy to the fullest
47. Stinks!
48. Popular board game
49. Attack by hurling
50. A vale
51. Type of acid
52. Tasmania's highest mountain
53. No seats available
54. Licensed for Wall Street
55. Family of genes
56. Constrictor snake



Pomfret's Celeste Robbins attends Advanced Cyber Academy

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Celeste Robbins of Pomfret Center recently attended US Advanced Cyber Academy at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center, home of Space Camp®, Space Camp® Robotics™, Aviation Challenge® and U.S. Cyber Camp®. The Rocket Center is a Smithsonian Affiliate and NASA Marshall Space Flight Center's Official Visitor Center.


The weeklong educational program is the newest in the Space Camp family of programs and promotes science, technology,

engineering and math (STEM), while training students with hands-on activities and scenarios based on teamwork, leadership and problem solving.

This program is specifically designed for trainees from the United States who have a passion for computer technology. Robbins spent the week building computers and networks, learning how to defend systems from cyber attacks and meeting professionals in the growing field of cyber security.

Almost one million train-

ees have graduated from a Space Camp® program since its inception in Huntsville in 1982, including European Space Agency astronaut, Samantha Cristoforetti and NASA astronauts Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger, Dr. Kate Rubins, Dr. Serena Auñón-Chancellor and Christina Koch, who set the record for the longest duration space flight by a female. Children and teachers from all 50 states and almost 150 international locations have attended a Space Camp® program.



TOWN OF AUBURN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

SNOW REMOVAL APPLICATIONS

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The Town of Auburn Department of Public Works is accepting applications for snow plowing for the 2021 - 2022 winter season.

**Applications may be obtained at the
Department of Public Works – Highway Division,
5 Millbury Street, Auburn, MA 01501,
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Applications are also available on the Town of Auburn website
www.auburnguide.com.**

Applications must be returned to the DPW by October 1, 2021. The Town of Auburn reserves the right to waive any informalities and accept or reject any or all applications, or portions of such, if thought to be in the best interest of the Town.

Kenneth Fairbanks, Highway Superintendent



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Brooklyn Fair returns for 171st year



The sun sets over a crowded carnival section of the fair where visitors enjoyed games and rides throughout the four-day event.



Lawnmower racing was one of the biggest draws for spectators as the New England Lawn Mower Racing Association took to the dirt track.



A line of antique tractors was just one of many historical elements incorporated into the 2021 Brooklyn Fair.



Sheep owners shear their animals in a public display of their livelihood for fairgoers.



A pair of poultry interact with spectators inside the poultry and rabbit shed.



A competitor leads his animals in a pairs competition.

BROOKLYN – After shutting down in 2020 due to the pandemic the Brooklyn Fair returned in full force in 2021 for the 171st edition of the oldest continuously running agricultural fair in the United States.

The 2021 fair brought back a lot of staples including live music, cattle shows, lawnmower racing, truck pulls, vendors, carnival rides and more all with COVID protocols in place to help guarantee the safety and health of both visitors and workers. The four-day event ran from Aug. 26 to Aug. 29, and brought hundreds to the fair daily to officially kick-off the march towards fall in New England.

Photos Jason Bleau



Genuine blacksmiths showcase their art for onlookers in the Brooklyn Fair's forge.



A member of Awesome Relics New England shows visitors how a metal detector works. The group meets monthly at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds.



A popular visitor to the fair in 2021, JJ is an American Mammoth Jack Stock Donkey and was as big as some of show horses at the event.



Live Wired plays on one of several stages at the Brooklyn Fair which incorporated mostly local musical acts for 2021.



Butterflies rest in the butterfly test which allowed visitors to interact with the beautiful insects.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Get a hobby

Although we typically hear the phrase ‘get a hobby’ as a sarcastic way of putting someone down, there is also some truth to it. It’s important, especially for students to get involved in extracurricular activities.

Even as adults, when looking for work, it’s important to showcase experience as well as other aspects of your life. Most employers are looking for candidates who have a range of skills.

We learn this from a very young age. Striking a balance between work, school and taking time for yourself is key to a happy life. These days however, time seems to be something there is just never enough of. In fact, over the past several years, there has been a decline in civic engagement including neighborhood get togethers and leagues such as bowling, softball etc. Time seems to get eaten by social media or bingeing tv shows. Experts say the term ‘busy’ has been used as a badge of honor to make us feel important, not that we need to be busy, to actually be important.

Hobbies tend to make us more efficient. If we have a meeting to attend, or workout class to go to, we will check things off the list for work, to make time for what we want to do. When we feel like we have more time ahead of us to finish work, with nothing else to do, that time will get eaten up by work.

People tend to be more energized by active leisure, as opposed to watching movies or scrolling through social media. Active engagement allows us to be more present.

Hobbies are great for both students and adults alike in that it creates a chance to make friends and create new connections. We all know that social connections are key to creating happiness. People want to feel like they’re a part of a community.

Further, learning new things gives you more to talk about it, therefore making you more of a unique person. It makes you a more well rounded. Whether you hunt, mountain bike, play music, collect stamps, or Doors memorabilia, you’ll always have an interesting story to tell.

Being involved in other things besides school and work does relieve stress. Experts say to allocate one hour per day or a few hours per week to do something you feel inspired by. If there’s something you’ve always wanted to do, don’t wait for ‘someday’ do it now.

In our office, there are all sorts of conversations that take place because we all have different hobbies. We have history buffs, runners, musicians, hikers, snowboarders, actors, artists, movie buffs, podcasters and so much more.

As Dale Carnegie said, “Make the most of today. Get interested in something. Shake yourself awake. Develop a hobby. Let the winds of enthusiasm sweep through you.”

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to Brendan@villagernewspapers.com

Please include your place of residence and phone number for verification, not publication. Letters must be received by noon on Tuesdays.

READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

Killingly’s paraprofessionals deserve respect

To the Editor:
School has started, and Killingly paraprofessionals are as excited as ever to work with our students.

However, we are deeply concerned that skilled and dedicated paras are leaving Killingly to work for neighboring school districts that offer significantly better wages and benefits. The number of resignations is 18 and counting. This further depletes our workforce, and makes it even more difficult to provide the services our children need.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hurricanes funded by fossil fuel

To the Editor:
The damage from hurricanes and other extreme weather events has increased four-fold since 1980, to about \$80 billion per year, according to a study by the Environmental Defense Fund. There is scientific consensus that greenhouse gas emissions have caused the increase in global temperatures which add energy and intensity to storms such as hurricanes.

But our government has done little to combat climate change, thanks to the fossil fuel industry. They spent \$2.9 billion on advocacy advertising alone in a 10-year period ending in 2015, \$1.3 billion more lobbying, and \$27.9 million in campaign contributions from 2000

to 2018 to elect sympathetic officials at the local, state and federal levels. About 85% of their money goes to Republicans, and they outspend alternative energy companies 13 to 1.

This month, the budgetary details of climate related provisions of the reconciliation bill will be decided. But Speaker Nancy Pelosi is under pressure to cave to the fossil fuel interests. You can tell her what you think by calling (202) 225-4965.

And you can call your Connecticut representatives at 844-USA-0234.

JOCK MCCLELLAN
WOODSTOCK

Voter’s remorse?

To the Editor:
So nice to hear the daily briefings from Major General Hank Taylor and Admiral John Kirby...between the ah’s and um’s and “I won’t discuss this issue,” I just wish they were spending as much precious time on the mission...which has failed miserably. And just to clarify, our former president had a deadline for withdrawal of May 1. Our lying leadership is continuing to blame President Trump’s plan, which they say they were bound to and followed, but didn’t. Such lies.

For those who voted for Biden, I feel so sad for you. How could you know that in seven months, he and his administration could create the national and international chaos that they have? Not just for our military, but

for our American citizens and allies abandoned...abroad and around the world.

But, Sleepy Joe didn’t disappoint...falling asleep during his visit with Israel’s Prime Minister. Or, checking his watch while the flag-draped coffins of our fallen heroes were delivered to Dover. Wow...his incompetence is glaring, and an embarrassment to our great country.

I pray that somehow, this insanity will end. I pray that those fallen rest in peace. I pray that those, regardless of their party affiliation will wake up, stand up and demand true transparency from those that are leading us down this dark path.

TAMI JO WYKES
BROOKLYN

Insults vs. criticism

To the Editor:
Once again, Ed DeLuca’s letter to you, published on Aug. 27, fails to address the issue that he claims to write about, namely civility. Intentionally, or unintentionally, Mr. DeLuca conflates ad hominem insults with criticism. Apparently, he cannot, or will not, distinguish between the two. Permit me to help.

When Mr. DeLuca calls a black woman, Vice President Kamala Harris, a “laughing hyena” in your July 2 edition, people intuitively understand the racism and misogyny being expressed. That type of gratuitous insult is hate speech, not criticism. It serves no useful purpose except to inflame passions and, therefore, stifle reasoned debate.

When former President Trump is described as a “liar” after having told thousands of lies,

a fact that is objectively true, that’s criticism. Please note, Mr. DeLuca, that I never referred to Trump’s age, appearance, hair, obesity, slurred speech, etc. when criticizing his crude, obnoxious and illegal behavior. I never referred to him as some sort of animal.

So no, Mr. DeLuca, I’m not being hypocritical. I’m not offended by differing opinions and I don’t need a backbone. I do object to the infantile insults that you seem to think constitute “criticism.”

Readers of the Villager may be looking forward to your “criticism” of President Biden, especially if it continues to depend on puerile name calling.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
KILLINGLY

When school bus red lights are flashing, stop

To the Editor:
Schools are back in session. This means that school kids are getting onto buses in the mornings, and getting off buses in the afternoon.

The Woodstock Safety Patrol reminds you that when you see the school buses, drive safely to keep the kids safe. Buses flash yellow lights when slowing down to stop for pickups and drop offs. Be prepared to stop. The school buses flash red lights when kids are being picked up or dropped off. Stop.

Kids do not know if you have stopped or not. They will cross the road regardless. It is your responsibility as a driver to stop. Never pass a school bus when its red lights are flashing. To do so can injure or kill a child. It is sad to hear ongoing reports of drivers who

decide to speed past a stopped school bus. It is a risk that never should be taken. It is illegal.

The Woodstock Safety Patrol donated last year dash cams for the town’s school buses to record videos of drivers who drive past a stopped school bus. Don’t become infamous by appearing on this video. It takes a few minutes to wait for the kids to get on or off the school buses, for the drivers to check that all is safe, and then to proceed when the buses shut off the flashing red lights. Let’s keep doing our part to keep the school kids safe. Stop when school buses have flashing red lights.

JEFF GORDON, M.D.
VICE-PRESIDENT
WOODSTOCK SAFETY PATROL

Will we ever learn from our past mistakes?

To the Editor:
Afghanistan: an unnecessary and tragic disaster. And now, we have to listen to all the “wind-bag” politicians. The Republicans blame Biden and the Democrats, and the Democrats blame Trump and the Republicans. In this case, both sides are right.

The Biden administration may be the latest group to make bad decisions in Afghan policy, but they’ve had lots of company. Every one of our presidents in the last 20 years owns a piece of this mess, and every member of Congress who voted to go to war, or to continue it, is guilty as well. There’s no party lines when it comes to bad foreign policy, there never has been.

After 9/11, our troops should have been in and out of Afghanistan in days or weeks. U.S. political “leaders” have a history of

getting our country involved in open-ended conflicts that can’t be won, cost thousands of lives, and accomplish nothing. It all seems like déjà-vu to this Vietnam veteran.

Our Armed Forces should never be used as “nation builders,” or as an international police force. The United States needs to lose the notion that we can export our way of life to countries that don’t understand it or want it. We’ve got plenty of problems at home that need attention.

In a few years, we’ll have a new memorial in our nation’s capital to honor the brave men and women who lost their lives in this latest fiasco. I’ve given up hope that we will ever learn any lessons from the past.

TODD PATRIE
POMFRET CENTER

Back to school

The roar of the school bus as it accelerates after stopping at my neighbor’s house sends a frisson of excitement through me. I feel a mix of anticipation and anxiety, even though I am not stepping on the bus. Everyone who has ever gone to school recalls the moment. Filled with hope, we began every new year believing that it would be the best. We would be successful, popular, organized and confident. If not, perhaps we had the right back pack or sneakers, the best teacher or easiest schedule. School educates our brains and our hearts.

I’ve read that there is a shortage of school bus drivers. It is a hard job to maneuver narrow roads

or drive along highways, obeying the speed limit while others pass in frustration. It’s easy to bemoan the unruly behavior of today’s pupils, but the same comments are uttered by every generation of adults who forget their own poor manners. My grandson, who is beginning third grade, can’t wait to take the bus again. He wants to observe everything about the “big kids,” and the bus is the perfect place.



NANCY WEISS

I’d like to think that third grade is a pivotal year, but it is probably no more important than others. My third grade teacher, Mrs. Niles, looked very old, but probably was in her forties. Her husband was a caretaker at a grand estate, at that time a retirement home for Jesuit priests, some of whom dropped by my home in the evening for whiskey with water and conversations with my parents.

The priests had all been fine students and liked to ask me about my school work. The best part I would say was when Mrs. Niles read to us. Suddenly, she was magical as she whisked away even the most disinterested among us to an imaginary world. Perhaps she read from “The Little House...” “books or “The Box Car Children”. Today’s Mrs. Niles might read “Harry Potter...” but whatever the book, I hope today’s teachers continue to read aloud. It creates a bond for every student in the class where connections are pivotal.

We are all taught by others and outside of the home, school is where it happens. I was good at the academic work, but not as sure of myself in other aspects. I admired the kids from large families who seemed to know how to handle themselves on the playground. School stimulates our brains, but our hearts get educated too, sometimes not in the kindest ways. I wish I could go back and be nicer to the kids that didn’t fit in or the teachers that were too young or too insecure. I wish some had been more amiable to me.

We want to protect our offspring from the negative aspects of school, but it isn’t possible. One hopes that teachers and other students intercede when kids are bullied, but the lesser cruelties are always there and only by facing them do we gain some mastery of ourselves.

When I see the faces of Afghan children, especially girls, who may not be allowed to go to school, my heart sinks. Their best hope for better lives is via the classroom. When I think of those old priests, most from poor families, it was education that changed their lives. When I remember Mrs. Niles, I can hear her voice taking us to faraway lands, where we could laugh or cry.

The school bus roars. Another year begins. This one will be the best. I’m sure of it. Stories, riding together, growing or remembering will spur new memories.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What goes around comes around

To the Editor:

Andrew Coumo is now gone. However, the brightest part of his mostly pat myself on the back, bye bye speech was when he admitted that defunding the police is stupid. Will Gavin Newsom be the next to go? Kamala Harris is heading out to California to campaign for him because she feels that she (still?) has influence there. However, one person who isn't falling for the Harris stunt is the former Democratic majority leader for the California state Senate, Gloria Romero, who has endorsed Republican gubernatorial candidate Larry Elder.

Other little tidbits in the news that you probably didn't hear about from CNN was that the Supreme Court ordered Trump's «Remain in Mexico» policy to be reinstated. Its amazing, though, that while Trump isn't even in office anymore, his policy will do more about the border crisis than the Biden regime is doing. (On Tuesday, Aug. 24), Kamala Harris chastised China for its aggression in the South China Sea. China didn't take her criticism well, and its representatives laughed (ha ha ha) and scoffed at the Biden administration's tumultuous withdrawal from Afghanistan. Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin responded to Harris's remarks by saying that the U.S. no longer enjoys international credibility. (What an asset she's been, huh?) And then there was the felon who was caught while passed out behind the wheel of his car in the Los Angeles suburb of Torrance. In his possession was a loaded handgun, drugs, California driver's licenses, credit cards and 300 unopened mail-in ballots for the recall election. No concern about possible election rigging there, right?

I was sorry to hear about Todd Patrie's most cowardly troll incident. Our letters (from last week) reflected

the same thoughts as in "it comes with the territory" and that "it's to be expected." For me, however, the best part of your letter was when you said: "If you dislike my letters so much, don't read them." Also reflected was when you mentioned that, and that I said "(to) ignore." It also seems that you and I are the only ones that have ever spoken out against both sides of our Congress and feel the need for term limits.

Kudos to Ernrich Place for his letter where he definitely hit the nail on the head, and coincidentally, our letters were reflected by mentioning "debauchery" and "debacle." So now we've witnessed what was also referred to as "Biden's Dunkirk," and what will forever be an immense stain on the Biden presidency, but more unfortunately on our country! This is 100 percent on Joe Biden, though we have the likes of Jen "snarky" Psaki and those other biased, cheerleader clowns for the Biden administration, like Jim Acosta, Anderson Cooper and George Stephanopoulos (who disguise themselves as news reporters) that can only blame Donald Trump for this epic disaster. (But that's also to be expected.) It's no wonder that Biden's approval rating is at an all time low, now, is it?

I have to shake my head and laugh at the hypocrites who want to come for our guns that have now put high grade military weapons in the hands of terrorists.

Remember when comments in Villager letters included, "the Trump presidency left a stain on this nation," and, "Are you still glad that you voted for Donald Trump?" Well, are you still glad that you voted for Biden and Harris? What goes around comes around, now doesn't it!

ED DeLUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Reach. Love. Weave.

To the Editor:

Hampton Congregation Church celebrated the last day of Rev. Virginia (Jinny) Smanik's pastoral leadership with a release ceremony and a farewell brunch outside the church on June 13, 2021. Jinny, a resident of Brooklyn had heard God's call to a ministry of faith formation 14 years earlier, when she was serving as a Director of Christian Education at Westminster Presbyterian Church. Knowing she needed to learn more, Jinny headed off to Hartford Seminary and then transferred to Yale Divinity School to finish her work. She was installed as pastor at HCC in June 2014. Reach, love, weave: these words mark the story of Jinny's ministry.

Reach.

Jinny sought to widen HCC's reach and make visible the good works within the church. Reach is defined in the Merriam-Webster Dictionary as follows: "to have an effect on" or "to arrive." Not stated but important is knowledge of the starting point, as it informs one of both the nature or place from which you begin and the direction you choose. Jinny skillfully sought to understand both and made a practice of asking questions. During Jinny's tenure, HCC clarified its mission—"Welcoming, Seeking, Serving"—and did widen its reach. With the support of a gifted administrative assistant (a newly created position), communications improved with the creation of a newsletter and an expanded digital presence—the HCC Web site, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. Outreach grew through a digital worship presence and with new feeding ministries. Significant upgrades were made to the church, including the installation of an elevator, the repair and repainting of the steeple, WiFi, a computer serving as the church's archival memory, and many other building repairs.

Jinny took extra care to reach people. On Easter morning, I found a small loaf of bread on my doorstep. It was from a larger batch that Jinny made for the congregation, which had been delivered to many doorsteps for communion on Zoom during Covid. It would remind us of our connection, despite our separation. This was one of many handmade spiritual tokens she gave to us: quiet invitations for contemplation

WETHERBEE
continued from page A6

Tomato Festival to attract bus drivers, but nothing to attract paraprofessionals.

All we are asking for is to be treated with fairness and respect. We are always here for the students. But how can we provide quality services when we are so understaffed? What exactly is the district's plan to meet Individualized Education Program requirements? Where is their commitment to providing our students with the academic and emotional support they need?

and reminders for space and spiritual practice in real time.

Church member Debby Barton said, "I was especially touched by her efforts during the pandemic to have various supportive materials delivered, and to personally visit as many of us as she could."

Jinny worked to grow our thinking about ourselves, our connection to each other and to communities near and far, especially those different from our own. In the vignettes of her sermons, she explored and celebrated the under-recognized and marginalized. I appreciated her voice, passionate and empathetic, a vibrant advocate for equity. Jinny created a faith formation class for adults built on that spirit.

Church member and participant Bonnie Cardwell said, "[It] focused on building connections and community. The topics chosen were geared to make participants uncomfortable. She provided a process and a language to disagree with civility."

Jinny believed in the power of people's stories and made time for them. HCC member Michelle Mylniec shared, "One thing that I especially loved about Pastor Jinny's leadership was that she initiated a practice of starting every Board or Committee meeting with an opportunity for those gathered to share a moment when they have felt God's presence or Spirit in their lives. This practice not only re-centered us on the important purpose behind the work we had to do, but also provided a way to strengthen our ties. By hearing about one another's joys and struggles, we were a more faith-filled and better-connected church community, and I deeply appreciate this experience."

Love.

1 Corinthians 16:14 reads, "Let all that you do be done in love." Jinny believed that kids developed and kept their faith more fully in the community of the whole church rather than apart. On Sunday mornings, during the children's sermon, Jinny invited the youngest of our congregation to sit with her on the altar steps as she often held a picture book in her lap and read a story. Jinny knew kids. She made them feel good. She respected their intellect and celebrated their zest. In truth, we were all drawn into the huddle. Those stories invited us to see

The next Board of Education meeting is Sept. 8. Please join us in sharing your concern about the exodus of paraprofessionals and the district's refusal to reach a fair settlement that will keep good paraprofessionals in Killingly. We ask you to send your comments ahead of Sept. 8 to publiccomment@killinglyschools.org or to Killingly Public Schools, 79 Westfield Ave., 06239-0210. Thanking you for helping us step up for the children we educate.

JENNIFER WETHERBEE AND
MICHELLE PION
KILLINGLY

What a republic requires

To the Editor:

The last "Star Wars" movie I've seen had a marvelous retort from an aged Luke Skywalker. Delivered charmingly with a hint of awe — "That's amazing. Every word you just said is wrong." It is stupefying how little the vast majority of people know about the basic theory or practices of a republic. This does not inhibit them from wild pontifications illustrating their ignorance. The voting of each affects the lives of all. A basic civics exam with classes provided as needed should be a requirement to cast a ballot. I, for certain, have little faith in a dullard majority.

Our republic is crumbling. Where once intellectual giants strode among us, here we are! Where to even begin? A few basic tenets to consider.

Self government requires self governing. Individuals in a republic who judiciously govern themselves sustain the health of the entire political body. An individual who self governs requires little. For a person who is unable or unwilling to self govern, there is never enough.

The fundamental structure of a republic through elected representatives limits the partisan passions of a democratic mob, a threat that should be recognized by even the most passive observer. But where is attention directed? Everyone recognizes the names of famous or infamous actors and sports celebrities. If you recognize the name of Edmund Burke and bump into me at the local corner market, the coffee is on me.

A republic requires respect of process over immediacy of outcome. Also, there is no such thing as "in perpetuity," an immature manifestation of desired immortality. The best obtainable is to labor for and adhere to elevated foundational processes. The most enlightened foundational document – and no, it's not an ode to individual rights – existing today is the Constitution of the United States.

A republic requires fealty to societal concerns at necessary and reasonable cost to individual personal liberty.

We really are "a part of the main." There is a condition where individual rights unilaterally take precedent over societal rights and responsibility. Anarchy. Sorry, it is not about I or you, but us. In truth, nobody stands alone. Survival requires evolution in myriad forms – biological, scientific, spiritual, societal, etc., with striving for mankind's survival taking precedence over individual choice. Not a wildly popular concept for the developmentally challenged, perpetually adolescent "me" generation.

Without respect for process, no outcome is valid or sustainable. It is extremely naïve to believe a simple majority can dominate a cohesive and determined minority. The structure of a republic protects cultural, economic, religious, regional and other distinct minority interests from majority tyranny. It is a rare individual devoid of minority views on various topics. Consensus (greater than a simple majority, but less than unanimity) is preferable, but totally impractical with our current population. Too many simply are not educated to understand the beauty of our checks and balances structure comprising a distinct three-branch federal system, an appointed civil bureaucracy, and brilliant structural nuances such as the U.S. Senate and electoral college, which protect against factional division, thus avoiding a house divided.

A final perusal of the above finds me thinking it a bit of a whine. So maybe a constructive thought. We need to cleanse and de-weaponize our education system (the media, I fear, is beyond redemption) from political bias. Sisyphus' task suddenly appears envious.

Note: Regarding the rather catty remark on "in perpetuity" above, I do have a prejudice against that phrase; something about the often condescending tone and pursed lips upon delivery.

ALLAN PLATT
EASTFORD

love within and the power of its (our) potential.

Jinny traveled often and sometimes far to be present for people and to provide comfort when it mattered the most. Referring to his late wife, HCC member Morris Burr shared, "The two of them were very good friends and Arlene got a lot of comfort from Jinny that last year." With corresponding affection, Jinny crafted sermons. Jinny paired scripture with our present time and lyrically wove history, literature, and song into story. Her distinctive honesty and laughter called us to remember the reality of God's presence (love) in the ordinary.

Weave.

To weave is "to make something by intertwining" (Merriam-Webster). Jinny, a quilter, is well acquainted with the art of joining pieces, and she did this naturally in her ministry. Weave is also the way the warp and weft yarns are interlaced. The art in the weave lies in the choices.

Jinny's unique artistry enlivened the rituals of our faith community, in everchanging compositions that included imaginative altarscapes, contemplative worship, prayer stations, and liturgical dance. I remember the feeling as I sat in the sanctuary, listening to the sermon, as colored forms moved above me. The names written upon them, some unfamiliar, others I recognized from here across the aisle, brought me deeper into thinking.

Jinny knew when to pull "the stitches" out and re-invent. HCC member Bonnie Cardwell said, "In our music worship as in so many other ways, Jinny advocated for mixing it up. We sang familiar and new and challenging songs. These added color and diversity to an already dynamic service, and I enjoyed stretching to learn them."

During many sermons, Jinny shared that, in her sewing room, she held space for listening and dreaming. In dreams, there are more colors and meandering lines. In dreams, the beginning fibers of tomorrow emerge. Church member Greg Stillman's words speak to the harvest of dreams. "Jinny's ministry was a huge blessing for HCC and she took us to places we couldn't have imagined ourselves going."

At the heart of many accomplishments is the support and sacrifice of

family. HCC acknowledges the support of the entire Smanik family throughout Jinny's tenure. Deserving of special recognition are Jinny's daughter Meg Walker and Jinny's husband Bob Smanik. Integral to the youth ministry, both Meg and Bob met with youth on selected Sundays for faith formation. Meg served on the Board of Faith Formation, the Board of Mission and Outreach, and played a pivotal role as head of operations for Sunday worship on Zoom and Facebook. As a youth leader, Meg played a central role in fundraising, mission trips, and as a soup kitchen volunteer. Bob served a key role as co-chair of the Uplift capital campaign which funded the steeple restoration and new elevator, was chair of the Stewardship Committee, served on the Board of Trustees and helped at HCC's numerous community dinners. HCC also recognizes the talent and generosity of Jinny's daughter Rev. Kate Smanik and daughter-in-law Rev. Kate Kozinski for leading worship on occasion.

Emily Dickinson's poem "I dwell in possibility" captures the spirit of the dreamer. Dickinson's title especially, makes me think of Jinny and of her parting nudge that we see ourselves as dreamers too. Sew. Stop. Restart.

When I asked Jinny about her next steps, Jinny said "I'm curious about where God will invite me to serve next, and I'll be listening for that call."

"I dwell in Possibility"
By Emily Dickinson

I dwell in Possibility –
A fairer House than Prose –
More numerous of Windows –
Superior – for Doors –

Of Chambers as the Cedars –
Impregnable of eye –
And for an everlasting Roof
The Gambrels of the Sky –

Of Visitors – the fairest –
For Occupation – This –
The spreading wide my narrow
Hands
To gather Paradise –

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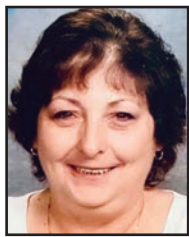
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Saturday: 8am-12pm
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OBITUARIES

Diane T. Brunelle, 61

Diane T. Brunelle, age 61, passed away peacefully on Friday, August 20, 2021, at her home in Danielson, CT surrounded by her loving family after a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was born June 11, 1960, in Woonsocket, RI to the late Roger E. and Helena (Hebert) Brunelle. She was the sister of Roger L. Brunelle and Robert J. Brunelle of Woonsocket, RI, Albert H. Brunelle of Lincoln, RI, Rosemary S. (Brunelle) Hudson of Damascus, MD and the late Roy L. Brunelle. She was a 1979 graduate of Woonsocket High School and made her career as a CNA caring for people. She married David B Cullen on June 29, 1980 and together they had two children, raising the beautiful family they had always dreamed of. Diane truly lived life to the fullest through simple pleasures; sharing conversation, food and kindness with all. She shared her love in many ways, but above all through her cooking. To be loved by



Diane meant a warm meal, cup of coffee and open door. When you were in her home you were home. Diane enjoyed crafting, sewing and crochet. Her greatest joy was spending time with her grandchildren; she always said they were her greatest gift. Diane also achieved recognition from the Guinness World Record for her contributions to the longest bra-chain for breast cancer awareness achieved at River's Edge Park in Woonsocket, RI on October 16, 2019. She spent the past year trying new things and traveling to places she had never been with her family. She is survived by her life-long partner David B. Cullen and son David B. Cullen II, both of Burrillville, RI as well as her daughter Stephanie A. Hogan and her grandchildren Brianna, Allyson and James Hogan, all of Danielson, CT. Family, friends and others whose lives Diane touched are invited to the funeral services to be held at All Saints Church, 323 Rathbun St, Woonsocket, RI 02895 at 10:00am on Saturday, September 18, 2021. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to local food pantries.

Conway T. Dodge, Sr.

Thompson, CT - The world lost a legend on August 24, 2021. A man of many names – Conway, Con, CT, Major, Captain Dodge, Dad, Parker, Lucky, and “the ladies’ choice” – died at peace with his devoted wife of 54 years, Linda, by his side.



While he was allegedly the ladies’ choice, there was only one choice for him. A Belgian beauty finally caught the eye of the man who many thought would be a forever bachelor. They met on a commissioned Pan American World Airways flight from Fort Dix, NJ to Madrid, Spain. Conway was the Flight Navigator and Linda was a Flight Attendant. The post cards Conway sent to Linda in the early days of their courtship, which today would have been reduced to a quick text and lost in the nanosphere, reveal that Conway considered Linda his Princess. In those post cards, he often shared brief updates on his worldly adventures, which included some very critical updates, such as “got a haircut in Tokyo” and “had a terrific meal in Frankfurt.” In classic Con fashion, they were married in 1967 at JFK Airport in Our Lady of the Skies Chapel.

Following their marriage, Conway and Linda settled into a home in the small town of Thompson, CT, where they raised four children. The home they created on Vernon Lane was always filled with love, hospitality, and fun. It became the scene of many shenanigans, often involving a motorcycle, a classic Volkswagen Bus, a 1974 AMC Gremlin, polar bear plunge dares, oil changes in the garage, car washes in the driveway, and cookouts on the deck. Good times and lasting memories, period.

Prior to his 25+ year career as a commercial airline pilot for Pan Am, Conway had enlisted in the US Marine Corps, where he flew fighter jets at the tail end of the Korean War. In 1955, he entered the “Mach Buster’s Club” when he broke the sound barrier in a U.S.

Navy (Marine Corps) FJ-2 fighter jet. A true patriot, he was always proud of his service to our country and retired with the rank of Major. Following his service, he dabbled in finance as a stockbroker and as a pilot for Cape and Island Airways, where he provided safe travel for the Kennedy family on several occasions. His love of adventure and passion for the airways ultimately led him to a career as a commercial airline pilot with Pan Am, which in the early 1960s was a prestigious and highly-selective profession. He retired from Pan Am as a Captain in 1991.

Conway was a devout Roman Catholic who attended mass almost daily. One of his favorite sayings was: “There are givers, and there are takers. Be a giver.” He led by example and performed acts of kindness for those in need, but rarely talked about what he did, or for whom. While we know he touched many lives, we don’t know the full scope of the impact he made.

Conway is survived by a large family who loved and respected him greatly. This includes his wife Linda (VanDamme) Dodge; his children Gabrielle Boisvert and her husband Marc of West Hartford, CT, Conway T. Dodge, Jr. and his wife Katie of Falls Church, VA, Daniel D. Dodge and his wife Nicole of Westport, CT, Benjamin F. Dodge and his wife Vicki of Smithfield, RI, and; his siblings Ogden Dodge of Barrington, RI, Raymond Dodge of Holden, MA, Nancy Fistori of Mattapoisett, MA, Priscilla Hesford of Ivy, VA, and Susan Dentch of Northborough, MA. “Parker” will be remembered by his ten grandchildren as the world’s best story and joke teller. Jackson, Sophie, Conway, III, Elizabeth, Maevie, Henry, Wyatt, Emerson, Sam, and Ella will miss his wit and movie star qualities.

Conway’s family would like to thank the staff, especially Liz Ponzi, at Wesview Nursing Home. A Celebration of Life will take place later this year. In lieu of flowers or donations, please consider donating blood to your local blood bank or local American Red Cross location.

Services have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

You are not your past

Many people feel like they can’t have the life they want because of their past limitations or failures.

Maybe your family wasn’t there for you; you didn’t get the proper education, you’ve been fired from multiple jobs, or mistreated in relationships.

Many things aren’t fair and can cause a chain reaction of events that may take us far off course. There are also many bad choices we make, and as a result, we end up missing out on the life we want.

You may have made mistakes, gotten into trouble, fired from a job, lost a relationship, but that doesn’t mean it always has to be that way.

George Washington Carver said, “Where there is no vision, there is no hope.”

I agree with his quote completely. George Washington Carver was a more brilliant man than I will ever be. For today’s column, I would like to modify the selection to say, “Where there is no positive vision of the future, there is no hope.”

It seems most people’s vision of the future is dictated by the failures and limitations of their past, and therefore, they do have a vision, but it’s a negative one.

One trait of a successful person is they don’t allow themselves to be defined by their failures or their present unfavorable circumstances. Instead, they define themselves by a positive vision of their future.

That seems odd when you think about it. They define themselves by something that hasn’t even happened yet.

It’s easy to look at a great person and assume they had everything handed to them or that somehow life was much easier on them than it was you.

I have many fond memories of my parents taking me to Disney World. I’ve been on the rides, seen the movies, and heard about the man who built

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
.....
TOBY
MOORE

it all, Walt Disney. I’ve driven past the Disney skyscraper in Burbank, California, hundreds of times; I’ve auditioned at Walt Disney Studios dozens of times. When surrounded by all that accomplishment, it’s hard to imagine that Walt ever faced any hardship.

Most don’t know that Walt Disney was fired from his job at the Kansas City Star after his newspaper editor told him that he didn’t have enough imagination or creativity!

What if Walt Disney allowed himself to be defined by that moment, and for the next 20 years, he wandered from job to job, telling himself, “I’m not creative, I don’t have a good enough imagination...”

If he would’ve, he never would have created Laugh-O-Gram. Laugh-O-Gram was an animation studio that Walt was contracted to run. The studio was supposed to make twelve cartoons. Although the company started promisingly, it wasn’t long before Walt was living at the office, taking weekly baths at Union Station in Kansas City, and finally bankrupting the studio; what a disaster.

He sold his camera, which gave him enough money for a one-way train ticket to Hollywood, Calif., and the rest is history.

I wonder how many potentially great people never accomplished their vision because they believed in their failures more than their vision of the future. They accepted what their present circumstances were telling them, rather than what their future vision was telling them.

If Walt Disney was one of those people, we’d have missed out on one of the most creative minds of the 20th century. Most obviously, he chose not to allow those negative experiences to define him because he became one of the most influential people of all time.

Like all great people, Walt Disney didn’t allow his future to be dictated by the failures or limitations of his past.

VACCINES

continued from page A1

- Are in active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress the immune response
- Have moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency

Individuals who meet any of the above criteria, and for those who have further questions regarding their eligibility for a booster vaccine now, should contact their healthcare provider.

The current recommendation is that individuals who received the Pfizer or Moderna COVID19 vaccine series should receive the same mRNA vaccine for the third dose. A person should not receive more than three mRNA vaccine doses. If the mRNA vaccine product given for

the first two doses is not available or is unknown, either mRNA COVID19 vaccine product may be administered.

“DKH continues to engage with our local, state and federal officials in discussions around providing third doses to eligible individuals 8 months after their second shot was received,” Kramer added. “Day Kimball looks forward to providing access to booster shots to our healthcare workers and the general public in the weeks and months ahead.”


For the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 vaccination distribution plans in Connecticut, call 2-1-1, the CT State Hotline for information or visit ct.gov/covidvaccine. Local information is available on the Northeast District Department of Health website at nndh.org.

org. For more information about Day Kimball Healthcare’s COVID-19 vaccine rollout visit daykimball.org/coronavirus.

About Day Kimball Healthcare

Day Kimball Healthcare is a non-profit community healthcare system composed of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare at Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Healthcare’s comprehensive network employs more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its Web site is www.daykimball.org.

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DONATION

continued from page A1


rently has around 30 volunteers. He said the department is always interested in recruiting new volunteers, and that volunteers do not need to reside in Pomfret.

More information about the fire department is available at pomfretct.gov/fire-district or on the department’s Facebook page at facebook.com/PomfretFireDepartment/.

Loos & Co., headquartered at 16B Mashamoquet Rd. in Pomfret Center and owned by Central Wire Industries, is the leader in the wire and cable industry. More information about Loos is available at loosco.com.

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Estimate your retirement needs in six steps

You know how important it is to plan for your retirement, but where do you begin? First, you'll need to have an idea of how much income you'll need to fund the length and type of retirement lifestyle you want to live well. Your specific needs depend on your goals and many other factors. Here's a six-step process to help you answer this very important question so that you can plan well now, and live well in retirement.

Step 1: Use your current income as a starting point

It's common to discuss desired annual retirement income as a percentage of your current income. Depending on whom you're talking to, that percentage could be anywhere from 60 to 90 percent, or even more. The appeal of this approach lies in its simplicity: your current income sustains your present lifestyle, so taking that income and reducing it by



FINANCIAL
FOCUS
LEISL L. CORDING

a specific percentage to reflect the fact that there will be certain expenses you'll no longer be liable for (e.g., payroll taxes) will, theoretically, allow you to sustain your current lifestyle. But bear in mind that this is a general benchmark, and you also have to take into account your specific plans. If you intend to travel extensively in retirement, for example, you might easily need 100% (or more) of your current income to get by. That leads us to step two...

Step 2: Project your retirement expenses

Your annual income during retirement should be enough (or more than enough) to meet your retirement expenses, so estimating those expenses is a big piece of the retirement planning puzzle. Some common retirement expenses to think about and estimate include: basic needs, such as food, clothing and utili-

ties; housing costs, including property taxes, homeowner's insurance and repairs; transportation costs; insurance costs, including auto, medical, dental, life, disability and long-term care; health costs not covered by insurance, such as deductibles, copays and prescriptions; taxes; debts; gifts you'd like to make to others, such as charitable contributions and education funds for children or grandchildren; and costs associated with the "living well" part of retirement, such as recreation, travel and other miscellaneous items.

Don't forget that the cost of living will go up over time (the average annual rate of inflation over the past 20 years has been approximately 2 percent.1) and that your retirement expenses may change from year to year. To protect against these variables, build a comfortable cushion into your estimates.

Step 3: Decide when you'll retire

The longer your retirement, the more years of income you'll need to fund it. The length of

your retirement will depend partly on when you plan to retire. This important decision typically revolves around your personal goals and financial situation. For example, you may see yourself retiring at 50 to get the most out of your retirement. Although it's great if you have the flexibility to choose when you'll retire, it's important to remember that retiring at 50 will end up costing you a lot more than retiring at 65.

Step 4: Estimate your life expectancy

The age at which you retire isn't the only factor that determines how long you'll be retired. The other important factor is your lifespan. We all hope to live to an old age, but a longer life means you'll have even more years of retirement to fund. To prevent outliving your savings and other income sources, it's important to estimate your life expectancy. You can use the life expectancy calculator on our website at whzwealth.com/financial-calculators to get a reasonable estimate of how long you'll live based on your age, gender, race, health, lifestyle, occupation, and family history. This is just an estimate – there's no way to predict how long you'll actually live, of course. But it's good to have an idea and then to assume you'll probably live longer than you expect, given that life expectancies are on the rise.

Step 5: Identify your sources of retirement income

Once you have an idea of your retirement income needs, your next step is to assess what sources of retirement income will be available to you. You can likely count on Social Security to provide a portion of your retirement income. You can get an estimate of your Social Security benefits on the Social Security Administration website at ssa.gov. But also think about what other sources of income you can expect to have.

Do you plan to work part time during retirement? Does your employer offer a tradi-

Turn To **FINANCE** page **A10**

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
BOARD OF
ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Citizens of Woodstock are hereby informed that the Board of Assessment Appeals for the Town of Woodstock will hold its sessions on the following dates: September 13, 2021 – Monday, beginning at 6:00pm September 14, 2021 – Tuesday, beginning at 6:00pm September 15, 2021 – Wednesday, beginning at 6:00pm. Appeal forms are available by calling the Assessor's Office at (860) 928-6929 ext. 327 or downloading the form from the website at www.woodstock.gov. Such sessions are held solely for appeals on motor vehicles for 2020 Grand List and the 2019 Supplemental Motor Vehicle List. Vehicle in question must be present at appeal session.

Due to covid restrictions, meeting format to be determined. Notice given of sessions held to conform to section 12-110 of the General Statutes of the state of Connecticut.

Board of Assessment Appeals
Rebecca Hyde,
Ronald Cabana,
John Davis
August 27, 2021
September 3, 2021

TOWN OF BROOKLYN
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Brooklyn Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing and Meeting on Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. held at the Clifford B Green Meeting Center 69 South Main Street Brooklyn, CT and via Web Ex on the following applications:

1. ZBA-21-003 Brad and Heather Oatley, 268 Allen Hill Road, Map-33, Lot-88-7, Acres 2.15, RA Zone. Construct 32-ft x 30-ft two car garage with second story storage area with log siding. Requesting variance of section 3. C.5 .2.1 from the minimum front yard setback.

2. ZBA-21-004 Brian and Christine Therrien, 286 Cherry Hill Road, Map-1 1, Lot 1-2, Acres 0.5, RA Zone. Construct a farmer's porch with roof including handicap accessibility ramp. Requesting variance of section 3.C.5.2.1 from the minimum front yard setback.

3. ZBA-21-005 Theodore R. Stever, 82 South Main Street, Map-47 Lot 012, Acres .43, NB Zone. Construct living space on third floor, convert space to a one-bedroom apartment. Requesting variance of section 6.E.3.8 for living quarters above the second story. Interested persons may appear and be heard. Written communications will be accepted. A copy of the application is available on the Town of Brooklyn Website. Web Ex meeting information will be included on the September 8, 2021 Zoning Board of Appeals Commission Agenda.

Bruce Parsons, Vice Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
August 27, 2021
September 3, 2021

6929 ext. 326 or downloading the form from the website at www.woodstockct.gov. Please make an appointment to be heard. Please submit your form, and make your appointment, by 4 pm on September 9th. Such sessions are held solely for appeals related to the assessment of motor vehicles for the 2020 Grand List. Vehicle in question must be present at appeal session.

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, meeting format to be determined. Notice given of sessions held to conform to section 12-110 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut.

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS
Rebecca Hyde, Ronald Cabana,
John Davis
August 27, 2021
September 3, 2021

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On August 19, 2021, Woodstock Planning & Zoning Commission approved SP-M2-96-04 – 130 Brockway Road – GED Enterprise, LLC dba Bradford Standing Seam – 58' x 60' building for contractor's business – as presented and SP-650-06-35 – 1438 Route 171 – Jamie Reynolds & Jordan Wells – construct 20-unit dog kennel – with conditions. Dr. Jeffrey Gordon, Chairman
September 3, 2021

TOWN OF KILLINGLY
BOARD OF ASSESSMENT
APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals of the Town of Killingly will be in session at the Killingly Town Hall, Room 102, 172 Main St., Danielson, CT, on the following day:

Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 6:00 PM

For the purpose of hearing appeals for the October 1, 2020, motor vehicle assessments only.

Dale Dauphinais
Kevin Gaudreau
Russell Lavigne
Board of Assessment Appeals
September 3, 2021

TOWN OF KILLINGLY
Notice of Adoption of Ordinance

The Killingly Town Council adopted the following Ordinances at its meeting held on August 10, 2021:

ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE FROM RYAN DANDENEAU OF A DRAINAGE AND ACCESS EASEMENT FOR THE CHASE ROAD PAVING PROJECT

ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE FROM JAMES AND DEBORAH DANDENEAU OF A DRAINAGE AND ACCESS EASEMENT FOR THE CHASE ROAD PAVING PROJECT

ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE FROM BRAD AND DOMINIQUE RABITOR OF A DRAINAGE AND ACCESS EASEMENT FOR THE CHASE ROAD PAVING PROJECT

ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE CONVEYANCE OF A GAS DISTRIBUTION EASEMENT TO YANKEE GAS SERVICES COMPANY FOR THE KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL NATURAL GAS LINE CONNECTION

Copies of these ordinance are on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the Town Clerk and Town Manager, Killingly Town Hall, 172 Main Street, Killingly, CT, during normal business hours.

Chairman
September 3, 2021

Dated in Killingly, Connecticut, this 10th day of August 2021
September 3, 2021

TOWN OF THOMPSON
PLANNING AND ZONING
COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing on Monday, August 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Groves-nordale, CT on the following applications.

PZC Application #21-22 Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission, 815 Riverside Drive, requesting a zone change from the Town of Thompson Amended Zoning Regulations, effective September 15, 2020, Zoning District from Rural Residential Agricultural to Downtown Mill Rehabilitation District. Purpose of change to create development potential consistency with intent of Downtown Mill Rehabilitation District. Approved

PZC Application #21-23 Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission, 815 Riverside Drive, Amendments to the Town of Thompson Amended (effective date June 21, 2021) Zoning Regulations. The Commission approved PZC Application #21-23 with the exception of the proposed revisions to Article 5A, Section 9 Shooting Ranges and Article 7, Definitions which were not discussed for which the Public Hearing was continued to September 27, 2021. The revisions were approved with the effective date of September 30, 2021.

PZC Application #21-24 Strategic Commercial Realty, Inc. DBA Rawson Materials, 0 West Thompson Road, Map 65, Block 101, Lots 9 and 9A requesting a zone change from from RRAD to BDD. Approved

PZC #21-25 Application, Applicant and owner Ken Loiselle owner of 24 Quaddick Rd, Map 105, Block 32, Lot 36, Zone TVCD request a zoning permit with site plan review for a Country Inn, Article 4D. Section 7, for the purpose of renting the house as an "Airbnb". Approved with Waivers.

PZC #21-26 Application, Applicant and property owner Pat Rudzinski, 0 Labby Rd, Map 95, Block 27, Lot 17 Zone R40 Gravel Mining Operation Renewal Permit. Approved with Conditions.

PZC #21-27 Application, Applicant David Coman, owner for property at 0 Hagstrom Rd, Map 19, Block 85, Lot 6A, Zone R-80, Gravel Permit Operation Renewal. Approved with Condition. *File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting*

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman
September 3, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Lorraine T Adams (21-00266) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 24, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Lynn Magao, 34 Old Route 12 Apt 1, Thompson, CT 06277

Chairman
September 3, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Ernest J. O'Leary (21-00288) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 16, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Mary Ann Champney, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Nancy O'Leary, 62 O'Leary Road, Thompson, CT 06277
September 3, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Richard Gilbert Pellerin, SR (21-00272) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 3, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Mary Ann Champney, Clerk
Brenda Tupaj, 8 Snowbird Drive, Danielson, CT 06239, United States
Richard G. Pellerin,
476 East Thompson Road,
Thompson, CT 06277, United States
September 3, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Barbara Rice (21-00226) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 20, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
John Witter, 119 Jackson Road, Plainfield, CT 06374
Attorney: BRIAN S MEAD,
LAW OFFICE OF BRIAN S. MEAD,
148 OLD TURNPIKE ROAD,
PO BOX 508, QUINEBAUG, CT 06262
September 3, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Estelle L. Yakis (21-00240) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 24, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Mary Ann Champney, Chief Clerk
Kevin Lavallee, 29 Van Den Noort St., Apt #2, Putnam, CT 06260
September 3, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Dennis L Menghi (21-00300) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 20, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
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September 3, 2021

How to effectively freeze vegetables

To say that COVID-19 transformed daily life would be an understatement. Few, if any, aspects of life were untouched once the virus hit.

One aspect of daily life that changed considerably is the way people shop for food. As recommendations to remain home and out of crowded places spread, many people felt that shopping in bulk, or at the very least, meal-planning and buying necessities for a few weeks at a time, would reduce the number of trips they needed to make to supermarkets or small food stores. In addition, due to shortages on popular foods, many people have purchased items they did not necessarily need in anticipation that such foods may not be available in

the coming weeks or months.

Large packages of meat and poultry can be broken down and frozen easily. But what about the fresh produce that many people rely on for important nutrients? Fresh vegetables only last so long, so people need to learn how to safely freeze fresh vegetables to avoid throwing them out. To freeze vegetables properly so they retain their flavor and texture, it is important to freeze them within a few hours of picking them from a garden or taking them home. Certain vegetables can be frozen in their raw state. The texture might change slightly upon thawing, but they will remain flavorful. Other vegetables may require blanching before freezing.

Blanching requires scalding vegetables

in boiling water or steam for a brief time. Blanching helps stop the enzymes that cause vegetables to decay, a process that can occur even in frozen storage. Items that do well with blanching include spinach, kale, winter squash, and broccoli, according to HGTV.com.

Another way to freeze produce is to remove the air that can compromise the food. You can do so by filling containers or bags and pushing out the extra air. Vacuum sealers can work to remove the air and help preserve items in the freezer longer; otherwise, use a tray pack method to freeze items. Place chilled and drained blanched vegetables in shallow trays or pans. Freeze them until the vegetables are firm and then quickly fill freezer bags or containers, says the National Center for Home Food Preservation.

Remember to label and date containers so items can be used in the order in which they were packed.



Most vegetables maintain high quality for eight to 12 months at 0 F or lower, according to the University of Georgia.

Freezing fresh vegetables is

an option when stocking up on essentials. Flavor and texture can be retained and items will not need to be discarded before they can be eaten.

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continued from page A9

tional pension that will pay you monthly benefits? Do you have a 401(k), IRA or other retirement plan, annuities, or other investments? Getting a firm understanding of what you have (or don't have) now will help you to identify how you can strengthen your retirement planning so you're more likely to have what you need when the time comes.

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Presented by Principal/Managing Partner Laurence Hale, AAMS, CRPS®. Prepared by Broadridge Investor Communication

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1 Calculated from Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, January 2021




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Electronics may have surprising effects on health

According to the latest annual visual networking index forecast from Cisco, there will be four networked devices and connections per person across the globe by 2021. While there is no denying the many positive attributes of electronics and global connectivity, research indicates that some health concerns may be tied to our devices.

Cancer from phones
Smartphones, flip phones and their predecessors give off a form of energy known as radiofrequency, or RF. As the amount of time spent on phones has increased, concerns have been raised as to the possible health ramifications of RF exposure on the body. The American Cancer Society says RF waves are a form of non-ionizing radiation. They are different from the stronger, ionizing types of radiation that can affect the chemical structure of DNA in the body. But there is some concern that RF may contribute to the formation of cancer in the body. A large

study by the US National Toxicology Program (NTP) exposed large groups of lab rats and mice to RF energy over their entire bodies for about nine hours a day, starting before birth and continuing for up to two years. Results indicated an increased risk of tumors called malignant schwannomas of the heart in male rats exposed to RF radiation. The International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified RF fields as “possibly carcinogenic to humans.” Although cancer risk is very low and not undeniably linked to phone use, it is something for people to keep in the back of their minds, and limiting phone use may help reduce risk.


Mobile device use and social media addiction
Increased use of technology may be linked to decreases in attention and increases in behavior and self-regulation problems for adolescents already at risk for mental health problems, says a study from Duke University. One hun-

dred fifty-one adolescents were studied using digital technologies for an average of 2.3 hours a day. The researchers found that, on days when adolescents used their devices more, both when they exceeded their own normal use and when they exceeded average use by their peers, they were more likely to exhibit conduct problems such as lying and fighting. Also, as published in Psychiatric News, time spent on multiple social media outlets is considered a risk factor for mental health problems. Researchers found people who reported using the greatest number of social media sites (seven to 11) had more than three times the risk of depression and anxiety.

Other health concerns
Neck pain, wrist and elbow strain, eye strain, and other fatigue factors have been linked to computer use. A study published in the U.S. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences showed that people using



tablets for at least four hours before bedtime took longer to fall asleep than people who hadn’t used them. And recently, popular exercise tracker FitBit® came under fire when people were shocked while wearing the devices, and these types of trackers may cause people to micromanage their fitness, detracting from the psychological benefits of exercise. Electronics are important components of daily life. But devices may contribute to serious health problems.



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A closer look at the autumnal equinox

Each September, the Northern Hemisphere experiences the autumnal equinox, which marks the official beginning of fall. In the Southern Hemisphere, spring is arriving at this time. Each year there are two equinoxes, the vernal and the autumnal (March and September, respectively). Shortly after the autumnal equinox, days begin getting shorter and the nights get longer. The autumnal equinox always occurs between September 21 and September 24. In 2021, the autumnal equinox takes place on September 22.

The word equinox is from the Latin “aequi,” meaning “equal,” and “nox” or “night.” That means that during each equinox the hours of day and night are nearly equal in length across the planet. During the equinox, the part of the Earth that is closest to the sun



is the equator, explains History.com. That helps make night and day equal in length. According to the Farmer’s Almanac, the Autumnal Equinox on September 22, 2021, arrives at 3:21 p.m. EDT, 2:21 p.m. CDT, 1:21 p.m. MDT, and 12:21 p.m. PDT.



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Carnival Opens 11am-11pm

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| | |
|--------|--|
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| 1pm | Giant Pumpkin Weigh Off (Cattle Show Tent) |
| 10-4pm | Farmer's Market at Agricultural Center |
| 3pm | Lawn & Garden Tractor Pull (Pulling Area) |
| 6:30pm | Chicken Flop/Poop Bingo (Agricultural Center) |
| 7pm | JM Motorsports Productions, Inc. (Grandstand) "World's Largest Demolition Derby" |

MAIN STAGE

| | |
|--------|------------------------------|
| NOON | National Anthem |
| 1-4 | Brookfield Rythm |
| 5:30-7 | Kevin Herchen |
| 8pm | Rose Porter & The Neon Moons |

SAT., SEPT. 4TH

ON THE GROUNDS

| | |
|--------|---|
| 7:30am | Tractor Pull on Concrete (Pulling Area) |
| 10-4pm | Farmer's Market at Agricultural Center |
| 10am | Beef Cattle Show (Cattle Show Tent) |
| 1pm | Open Poultry Show (Agricultural Center) |
| 6pm | Tractor Pull (Grandstand) |

MAIN STAGE

| | |
|------|-------------------|
| NOON | National Anthem |
| 1-3 | Holdin' Back Band |
| 8pm | Vyntye Skynyrd |

SUN., SEPT. 5TH

ON THE GROUNDS

| | |
|--------|---|
| 10am | Draft Horse Pull (Pulling Area) |
| 10am | Dairy Cattle Show (Cattle Show Tent) |
| 10-4pm | Farmer's Market at Agricultural Center |
| 1pm | Youth Poultry Showmanship (Agricultural Center) |
| 1pm | Youth Rabbit Showmanship (Agricultural Center) |
| 5pm | Demolition Derby (Grandstand) |
| 6:30pm | Chicken Flop/Poop Bingo (Agricultural Center) |

MAIN STAGE

| | |
|-------|------------------------|
| NOON | National Anthem |
| 3-4 | April Cushman |
| 5-8pm | Crossing Kelley |
| 8pm | Alia Brown & Rob Riley |



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