



KILLINGLY VILLAGER

Friday, December 3, 2021

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Brooklyn launches educational series on affordable housing

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

BROOKLYN – As the town of Brooklyn prepares its housing plan, a document required for every community in Connecticut, the town has launched a new online series meant to educate citizens about affordable housing.

According to Brooklyn Town Planner Jana Roberson, a series of four modules is being made available focusing on the facts of affordable housing, what it

means, how to identify it and how the housing market has become what it is today. The Northeastern Connecticut Council of Government (NECCOG) served as consultants in the production of the series.

“Housing prices are an issue that impacts every socioeconomic class,” Roberson said. “Many people pay more than they should for the housing they have no matter what they’re income bracket it, so what we

are doing is we’re looking at the issues facing housing costs and looking at ways to try and address that.”

The first two parts of the series have been made available on the Brooklyn Town Website. The first module allows citizens to self-determine if their current living situation counts as “affordable housing.” The module provides an equation to help determine if someone’s housing expenses exceed thirty percent of their yearly income,

a definitive limit for affordable versus unaffordable housing. The second module, updated in October, examines why housing has become so expensive.

“The modules do a lot to explain in simple language the issues that we’re all facing,” said Roberson. “It’s not hard to believe that when there’s a lot of competition in the market it favors people who have more money at their disposal. When you have a very competitive housing market like there

is right now there are winners and losers and there’s a lot more losers than there ever were.”

The two modules still to be released as of this writing are “What Does Affordable Housing Look Like?” and “How Can Housing be More Sustainable and Affordable?” The modules are available by visiting the Planning & Zoning Commission page at www.brooklynct.org and clicking the “Affordable Housing Plan” on the top of the left side tabs.

POST #21 DONATES TO FOOD PANTRY



Photo Courtesy

Danielson American Legion Post #21 presented a \$500 donation to the Friends of Assisi Food Pantry on Nov. 20. Pictured (left to right): Post 21 Sr. Vice Commander Scott Waterman, Food Pantry Assistant Director Melinda French, Post 21 Chaplain Chuck Lalumiere, Food Pantry Coordinator Jen Litke, Food Pantry Director Jean Cyr.

Killingly featured in Business View Magazine

KILLINGLY — Business View Magazine is spotlighting Killingly, Conn. in an exclusive feature titled “A Quiet Town Making Noise,” as part of the magazine’s focus on economic and community development in American cities.

Killingly is a small town settled by Canadian immigrants, with a population of about 18,000, and it takes pride in its mighty drive for innovation in enterprise and education. There are seven villages with roots in milling, and Jill St. Clair, Director of Economic Development for Killingly, praised the town’s achievement in balancing support for local business relationships and nature resource conservation.

This support begins with the two technical high schools which gives practical expertise that leads to employment. Following this, the town’s community college immerses students in their desired careers, especially via its advanced manufacturing technology center. Students are learning alongside expert business professionals in the community and at Killingly’s Industrial Park.

These community college students have expressed their own dreams of joining these companies with their own entrepreneurial ventures, and the town encourages start-ups and small businesses with four beneficial initiatives.

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Killingly downs Centaurs on Thanksgiving Day



Photos Jason McKay

Killingly’s Ben Jax attempts to juke out a Woodstock Academy defender.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — Coming into the 2021 football season, the scouting report on defending the Killingly High offense could be boiled down to six words: Stop the run, win the game.

Not anymore.

With the Woodstock Academy defense slowing down Killingly’s running game, which features senior Jack Sharpe and sophomore Soren Rief, quarterback Thomas Dreibholz showed that Killingly also has a potent passing attack.

The junior completed 10-of-13 passes for 265 yards and five touchdowns, three to classmate Ben Jax. The duo led Killingly past visiting Woodstock Academy, 49-14, on Thanksgiving Day.

“I wasn’t really expecting this,” Dreibholz said of his five-touchdown game. “We threw the ball pretty good today. They stopped the run game, but that didn’t stop us from putting up points.”

With the win Killingly, the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Division III champion, not only completed its third undefeated regular season in school history (1952 and 2017 are the others), but also earned a sixth straight trip to the postseason.

Killingly (9-0), the No. 1 seed in the Connecticut Class M Tournament, hosted eighth-seeded Gilbert School/Northwestern Regional/Housatonic Valley co-op team, on Tuesday, Nov. 30.

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ACT student Madison Stevenson wins First Place in ‘Just Drive’ Video Competition

WILLIMANTIC — Madison Stevenson, a senior at EASTCONN’s Arts at the Capitol Theater (ACT) magnet school, won first place in the Fall 2021 “Just Drive” PSA Video Contest for her 30-second video “Missed Memories.”

Impact Teen Drivers (ITD), a California-based non-profit organization that educates teens about the dangers of reckless and distracted driving, hosts the video contest, which is sponsored by NJM Insurance Group. Individual students aged 14-22 are eligible to win an educational grant of up to

\$5,000 by creating a 30-second PSA with a strong empowerment message.

A representative from Impact Teen Drivers will present Stevenson with her award at ACT (896 Main St., Willimantic) on Thursday, Dec. 2 at 3 p.m.

“Missed Memories,” which features a montage of video clips of Stevenson’s sister and two-year-old niece, won First Place for Video in the Connecticut High School/Middle School Category. View Stevenson’s entry by visiting <https://justdrivepsa.com/fall-2021>.

Turn To **STEVENSON** page **A3**

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Christmas in Danielson



KILLINGLY
AT 300
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MARGARET
WEAVER

Newly arrived at the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center: Copies of “Images of America Killingly” by Natalie L. Coolidge and Robert A. Spencer. This first book of Killingly photos has been out of print but is now available just in time for Christmas. Copies are \$20 if purchased at the Center; \$25 for postage and handling if the book must be mailed. Copies will be available during regular Center hours on Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Checks accepted but not credit cards. Please send a letter with your name, address and a check for \$25 if you wish to have a copy mailed to you. No phone orders, please. The second volume, “Killingly Revisited,” by Natalie Coolidge, is also available for the same price.

Are you looking for an unusual Christmas gift for someone who grew up in Killingly or the vicinity? There are also a number of postcards from Northeastern Connecticut and many other places (\$1), reproductions of old maps from area towns including those dating back to 1855/6 and 1869 (\$3-\$5), and old journals with interesting short stories (\$1). Stop in during regular those and see those and many other items.

I’m beginning this column on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. My sisters are among the many who are shifting to Christmas and are busy putting up their trees and decorations. I collect small nativities so plan to begin putting those out but will wait to put up the main tree. Christmas is “in the air.” The papers have already been listing old favorite Christmas movies that you might want to see again. I know that I have watched Bing Crosby and

Rosemary Clooney in White Christmas many times. It’s hard to believe that the Irving Berlin musical first came out in 1954 (when I would have been too young to appreciate it) (Parade, Nov. 21, p.6). What is your favorite classic? “Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer?” “A Charlie Brown Christmas?” “Miracle on 34th Street?” “Home Alone?” “Elf?” “A Christmas Story?” Or the classic Dickens, “A Christmas Carol?” Whatever movies you choose, take the time to enjoy them with family and friends.

Did you come to downtown Danielson during the Christmas season while you were growing up? Do you recall any unusual displays or special activities? Lynn LaBerge remembered that Grants second floor was used for a huge toy display; she thought that was the only time of the year that floor was open. Bernie Mitchell remembered that the streets were decorated as were the telephone poles; there was a good-sized Christmas tree in Davis Park near the cannon.

My guess is that you have fond memories of Mervin Whipple’s Winter Wonderland and him as Mr. Christmas. Oh, I miss my yearly treks to see all his lights. A 1995 pamphlet for the display said that it started in 1967 with only 225 lights and by 1995 had grown to over 100,000 lights. Mervin first entered the Killingly-Brooklyn Chamber of Congress lighting contest. After winning 1st place several years, he was asked to be a judge instead of a participant. He soon began purchasing animated figures, but “received my first break when I was introduced to the owner of the company that makes these animations for great department stores in New York City...(He) has received national television coverage on Good Morning America and on the PM Magazine...For his 25th anniversary the U.S. Postal Department awarded me with a cancellation stamp.” His ended his displays in January 2003 (Killingly Historical Center family files).

Now for a couple December tidbits from years ago. “White Way Lighting Decided Upon by local Chamber of Commerce. The lighting arrangement is to consist of strings of white lights

across Main street at intervals of fifty feet from Academy street to Water street. The Chamber purchased the equipment several years ago so that the expense will include only installation and electricity. It was decided to assess the Main street merchants according to their front footage. The lights will be on from Dec. 11 to Jan. 1.” (Windham County Transcript, Dec. 7, 1933).

Unfortunately, there was evidently a glitch in the above plans. “Because of lack of financial support, the Chamber of Commerce has abandoned its plan to have the Main Street White Way in operation during the holiday season. Strings of lights owned by the Chamber will be available for use by merchants without charge to decorate store fronts. The only expense will be the installation and electricity.” (WCT, Dec. 14, 1933).

A national event of monumental proportional had just taken place that year; but apparently change was slower than might have been expected. “Liquors Return Quietly. Danielson people read in their daily papers Tuesday and Wednesday of the repeal of the prohibition amendment in the United States Constitution, but so far as any outward evidence here was concerned there was no change in the aspect of life. There was no public demonstration whatsoever. Perhaps one reason for the lack of enthusiasm was the scarcity of legal liquor. There are also very few package stores in this section of the state which have been licensed to sell spirituous beverages. Some of the package stores which have been selling beer will not handle the “hard stuff.” Others, while (they) will deal in bottled goods, have not yet secured their permits and still another group has experienced difficulty in obtaining the necessary \$1,000 bond required by the Connecticut statute. Yet another feature of the state liquor law is the prohibition of sales in containers of less than one-quart capacity. No spirituous liquors can be dispensed over the bar or at tables in taverns or restaurants.” (Ibid.).

“On Saturday George Pappajion opened to the public his new motion picture studio in the Evergates building

(in Danielson), where he will conduct experiments in motion photography. Many people inspected the handsomely decorated quarters over the weekend and congratulated Mr. Pappajion upon the completion of the new quarters, in which he hopes to develop apparatus which will prove highly valuable to the cinema industry. Entrance to the studio, which is on the second floor, is gained from Railroad Square. Passing through a sun parlor, the visitor enters a reception room and is immediately impressed by the attractiveness of the apartment. Warmly tinted walls, hung with velvet drapes and many pictures, together with unusual furnishings, greet the eye. Besides the reception hall, there are an operating room, where pictures will be taken; a projection room; a dressing room, dark rooms and laboratories.

Mr. Pappajion has much valuable equipment for the conducting of his experimental work, including cameras, projectors and expensive lenses. For the present he will take only silent pictures, but plans to add sound equipment at a later date. The project is not a commercial venture, being primarily for the purposes of research. The Pappajion studio in the Withington building will be continued as in the past.” (WCT December 1933).

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian November 2021. Special thanks to Lynn LaBerge and Bernie Mitchell for sharing memories. Newspaper extracts were originally compiled by Marilyn Labbe. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or contact the Killingly Historical Society at www.killinglyhistorical.org. Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 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.

Killingly High School, ACT receive grants to study local history

BY DONNA DUFRESNE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KILLINGLY — Tenth graders at Killingly High School and ACT (Arts at the Capitol Theater Magnet School, Willimantic) are participating in a year-long study of the soldiers from the CT 29th Colored Regiment in the Civil War through a grant funded by The Last Green Valley. The program, “Out of the Shadows: Shedding Light on the CT 29th Colored Regiment,” was designed by education specialist and historian Donna Dufresne.

During the year-long enrichment program, students will learn to read and interpret pri-

mary sources as they research the local 29th Regiment soldiers of Nipmuc and African descent. Students will try to locate the places where the veterans of the 29th Colored Regiment lived, worked, and prayed, and place memorial markers at their gravesites.

The program was kicked off with a retreat at the Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp in Pomfret, where students from both schools met and participated in collaborative team-building activities. The intent was for the students, who come from different learning communities, to get to know each other. Heather Logee, Director of the 4-H Center led the outdoor challenge activities.

One highlight of the student retreat was the dramatic interpretation of Private William Webb, a Civil War soldier in the CT. 29th Colored Regiment, performed by Mr. Kevin Johnson from the CT. State Library. Appearing in his Civil War Uniform, “Private Webb” captured the attention of the audience of teens and faculty as he told stories of the battles and the daily life of a soldier of African descent. He emphasized that he was fighting for the ideal of freedom and the hope of gaining citizen rights. After the performance, Mr. Johnson explained that he had found William Webb in the archives of the State Library, and pieced his story together based on primary sources such as military records, birth and marriage records, and other documents.

Since the retreat and performance, students have been learning how to analyze and interpret primary documents, photographs, and pictures. Recently, they were given the transcript of a letter written by a soldier from the 29th regiment. Joseph O. Cross’s letter to his “dear wife” lacks punctuation but is full of descriptive detail, including the long marches, and Rebel attacks. He describes one gruesome battle where his company was ordered to crouch behind a bank. From there, he witnessed men who were shot in the face, eyes, and arms being carried off the field



Photo Courtesy
Kevin Johnson performing as Private William Webb.

passing his station. He also sends his wife a cotton boll instructing her to plant it in the early spring in a box (hot house) to protect it from frost. He describes his first feed of black-eyed peas from a bean “seven inches long.” He is sending his wife the little money he has left from his last monthly pay and laments that they have not been paid for a while. From the letter, students were able to derive the character traits of Joseph Cross, and a snapshot of his familial networks and community in CT.

While reading primary sources, students learned about text evidence and reading between the lines to make inferences about individual characters and historical

events. After analyzing the letter of Joseph O Cross, students examined drawings and paintings of some of the battles and places mentioned in the letter to build context. They also examined photographs of the 29th Colored Regiment.

With the help of their teachers, Joe Lewerk and Dale Maxwell, Ms. Dufresne, and local historians, students will begin to identify, and write about local 29th Colored Regiment soldiers. Eventually, they will share what they learned through multimedia presentations and help to shed some light on the CT. 29th Colored Regiment and a wider lens of the Civil War.

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Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Nov. 22: Brown Creeper, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Harrier, Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Bluebird, Flicker, Junco, Song Sparrow, House Finch, Canada Geese, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture. Visit ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home.

DON'T MISS A THING!

WOODSTOCK ACADEMY HONOR ROLL

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock Academy has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year:

High Honors
Grade 12: Claire Anderson, Brian Antunes, Annarose Avery, Hamilton Barnes, Alison Benoit, Morgan Bentley, Alison Bessette, Aurissa Boardman, Elaina Borski, Zoe Botta, Angela Bradley, Neil Camara, Ethan Campbell, Paige Campbell, Leah Castle, Annabella Chaves, Hannah Clark, Ava Coutu, Nicholas Dahl, Nicole Davidson, Ella Davis, Paula De La Hoz Mendez, Marcella DiPierdomenico, Emmaline Ebbeling, Siera Fahey, Arimae Gagne, Nathan Gaug, Jackson Goetz, Olivia Grant, Madelyn Groves, Liam Hagan, Samuel Hagan, Ryan Hanlon, Morgan Hardacker, Sydney Haskins, Emma Hayden, Emma Heimgartner, Ashley Kasacek, Anna Kellermann, Hannah Kim, Summer Ko-Szych, Keenan LaMontagne, Kanxu Lin, Sarah Lucas, Megan Lucier, Adalyn Lukachie, Ricardo Mora, Mary Morin, Sofia Murray, Gianna Nichols, Marissa O'Sullivan, Ryan Odorski, Ian Palmerino, Chanek Park, Dhruvi Patel, Hans Rhynhart, Robert Saraidarian, Sydney Schuler, Kadin Shepherd, Jordan Sienna, Eliza Simpson, Adeline Smith, Conor Stewart, Jonathan Surowaniec, Amanda Tamaki, Vincent Tocci, Daniel Torres, Jacqueline Trudeau, Ainslie Tschamler, Ainsley Viano, Sandra Vujovic, Shawn Wallace, Tyler Warren, Jayden Webley, Zhixuan Zhang, Han Zheng
Grade 11: Charlotte Adase, Aaron Allard, Ella Anderson, Brooke Arpin, Ava Basak, Vicente Bastura, Morgan Bonin, Kayanna Bourassa, Tessa Brown, Lauren Brule, Sophia Bulan, Delaney Canty, Mitchell Child, Gabrielle Couture, Shannon Cuniff, James D'Alleva-Bochain, Alexis Danila, Taylor Danner, Carolina DaSilva, Grant DeParasis, Connor Dunkley, Braedon Emerson, Ella Favreau, Max Ferreira, Luella Flanagan, Katie Fortin, Zachary Gessner, Jaydon Gormley, Hadley Grether, Lucas Gustafson, Collin Hamilton, Jeong Hwang, Aleena Jafar-DeCesare, Brian Jameson, Olivia Jendrewski, Nathan Joseph, Hector Konig Dominici, Emma Korsu, Curtis Lefebvre, Peishi Liu, Kaden McCullough-Murphy, Kamden Meyer, Bryn Miller, Abigail Morin, Matthew Myslenski, Cormac Nielsen, Lindsay Nuttall, Paige Owens, Noah Page, Laia Pinol Olabegoya, Kylie Quercia, Jenna Robbie, Aubrey Rumrill, Pol Saiz Barbancho, Adele Schmidt, Lillian Sharpe, Isabel Sumner, Xin Sun, Allison Surprenant, Adam Thompson, Alexandra Thompson, Owen Tracy, Violet Young, Colin Zavorskas
Grade 10: Carleh Avery, David Bunning, Danielle Cabassa, Emily Cournoyer, Leah Danis, Aiden Finch, Campbell Fraser, Sean Gasperini, Alexander Gessner, Nicolas Goncalves, Gavin Grant, Kathryn Guillot, Hannah Hart, Angelos Haveles, Jada Hernandez, Sophia Hernandez, Halie Hoffman, Cade Jones, Emma Kerr, Madyson Knox, Joel Koleszar, Avery Kollbeck, James Koproski, Lukas Krupp, Aiden Kudla, Corinne LaMontagne, Taylor Lamothe, Kaitlyn Lanctot, Hunter Larson, Samuel Lescault, Kevin Lin, Maeve Lusignan, Brian Manon, Cristina Martin, Emma Massey, Madison McMahon, Kayleigh Murray, Cang Nguyen, Jared Nielsen, Dominic Pascale, Kyle Pazienza, Scarlett Pierce, Olivia Saraidarian, Ava Simoes, Arthur Soucy, Addison Tyimok, Beltran Camacho Velasco, Lilly Verraneault, Ryan Wallace, Madison Whitehouse, Henry Wotton, Christian Zellweger, Mathew Zheng
Grade 9: Ari Abrams, Olivia Aleman, Ayden Angel-Ouimette, Eli Apperson, Gunnar Basak, Addison Beausoleil, Mikayla Bessette, Liliana Bottone, Emma Brody, Katelyn Bruce, Samuel Clark, Josh Cuniff, Jacqueline Dearborn, Gabriel DiPierdomenico, Samantha Espeseth, Chandler Folkerts, Mila Ganas, Ella Gilchrist, Tanner Graham, Kira Greene, Sophie Gronski, Emilia Guzman Enchenique, Christian Ireland, Madeline Jezierski, Emily Jurnovoy, Jocelyn Kraus, Eunwon Lee, Matthew Letourneau, Kate Lewis, Gianna Materas,

Margaret McHugh, Sophia Milardo, Eva Monahan, Bailey Nordman, Grace Pokorny, Evan Quinn, Katherine Ritzau, Freya Robbie, Elizabeth Roberts, Austin Sebastian, Dylan Shinkiewicz, Elizabeth Short, Nina Silva, Emily Smock, Lauren Thomas, Wren Wiggin, Evelyn Young
Honors
Grade 12: Jai Abrams, Amber Ahearn, Bernardo Alves Fernandes, Parker Anderson, Linsey Arends, John Armstrong, Jenna Bankowski, Carleigh Boisvert, Kyle Brennan, Stella Brin, Murphy Chace, Dylan Chamberlin, William Chambers, Kaitlyn Dalbec, Walker Dalton, Alivia Dean, Henry Driscoll, Riley Driscoll, Margaret Ebbeling, Julia Ezzell, River Favreau, Scout Favreau, Alexa Fernandez, Atticus Finch, Edward Fisher, Huck Flanagan, Shannon Gagnon, Lindsey Gillies, Zachary Girard, Marrin Gorgone, Matthew Griffin, Justin Harper-Zulli, Evan Haskins, Grace Herindeen, Sergio Herrera Moreno De Acebedo, Ian Hoffman, Olivia Hull, Taewoo Kim, Caleb Koleszar, Mia Krzic, Ashton Lanning, Jonah Libby, Seamus Lippy, Stephanie Lizotte, Isabel Lotter, Jillian Marcotte, Ksenija Martinovic, Lauren Medeiros, Thomas Musumeci, Phu Nguyen, Madison Nichols, Bethany Noe, Michael Pelletier, Tegan Perry, Khoa Phan, John Pokorny, David Ramos, Logan Reynolds, Zachary Roethlein, Camila Roman, Mia Ruggeri, Aidan Russell, Julia Scandalito, Lily Schofield, Graham Scribner, McKenna Starr, John Stone, Silas Strandson, Yves Tercius, Jacob Thomas, Norman Warcholik, Grayson Webber, Zachary White, Emily Wyrostek, Haojun Xu, Damian Young, Wenhao Zheng, Zhi Zhou, Talia Zuidema
Grade 11: Nicholas Aguerrea Elorza, Austin Amlaw, Riley Balanovich, Zebulun Barlow, William Basiliere, Jayton Bergeron, Nicholas Betschmann, Noah Betzold Menendez, Emma Blanchette, Carah Bruce, Alyson Bunning, Ella Chabot, Summer Chaput, Tate Chavez, Daniel Chenail, Alexandra Cloutier, Brianna Connors, Gavin Driscoll, Ethan Ekman, Keenan Emmanuel, Lennon Favreau, Jackson Gallagher, Mikel Gonzalez Rodriguez, Chance Graley, Keira Hawkins, Cameron Heath, Carly Ignacio, Ricky Jessurun, Samuel Kim, Caitlin LaVallee, Khang Le, Annika LeBoeuf, Rain Lin, Xiaohan Lin, Sydney Lord, Rori Mackenzie, Leila MacKinnon, Carter MacNeil, Taylor Markley, Trinity Marrier, Olivia Mawson, Dylan Mayo, Nicholas Montanez, Carter Morissette, Abigail Morse, John Murray, Ella Musumeci, Murilo Nascimento, Chloe Nason, Elias Newall-Vuillemot, Angela Newell, Alyson Niemiec, Branden Nystrom, Maya Orbegozo, Nikolina Pandurevic, Ashley Payne, Sophia Quinn, Amelia Racicot, Carlota Riestra, Fiona Rigney, Wyatt Robbie, Alexa Rock, Adriana Rojas, Lillian Rossi, Aiyaana Sarabia, Nathaniel Sarette, Braiden Saucier, Jonathan Sebastian, Caza Slauenwhite, Gianna Smith, Grace Smith, Mackenzie Starr, Linzhuoran Sun, Angela Tellatin, Wyatt Thienel, Dominick Tocci, Adrianna Veloce, Xiaodan Wang, Lauren Weidele, Liam Wilcox, Cooper York
Grade 10: Nicole Apicelli, Claire Beck, Logan Bertram, Amari Blanco, Ryanne Bourbeau, Madison Brown, Anthony Buckner, Charles Caggiano, Julia Coyle, Benjamin DaSilva, Troy Daviau, Duy Do, Hunter Eddy, Jillian Edwards, Joaquin Fraga, Hailey Gagnon, Arianna Garnsey, Allison Griswold, Caroline Harris, Hunter Haynes, Tyler Hudson, Dayeon Kim, Christopher Kirkconnell, Lila Kirkland, Kayla Leite, Phoenix MacRae, Sarah McArthur, Aidan McNamara, Karley Medina, Rayne Norman, Mia Pannone, Kaylie Parmeter, Amber Pepper, Sophia Petrella, Xuemei Qu, Evan Rhault, Samantha Richmond, Piper Sabrowski, Noah Sampson, Deven Santa Cruz, Isabella Siwko, Megan Smith, Kaelin Soukaloun, Ethan Staples, Simon Steendam, Lucas Theriaque, Antonio Therrien, Madison Williams
Grade 9: Juliet Allard, Katelyn Austin, Brayden Bardan, Jai Barlow, Estela Becker Pombo, Kaitlyn Becker, John Bennett, Nathan Billings, Madison

Bloom, Aiden Brailsford, Hunter Brandriff, Alexander Brouillard, Om Brown, Cassidy Chabot, Tyler Chamberlin, Maya Chojnicki, Abigail Converse, Benjamin Cross, Olivia Dahl, Grace Delsanto, Mara Douglas, Jonathan Eddy, Abigail Elliott, Brady Ericson, Julian Escobar, Maizy Ferreira, Madelyn Frechette, Olivia Gadue, Livia Gerum, Brienna Gifford, Alyssa Gilbert, Ryley Gluck, Ava Golden, Brooke Goodell, Adyson Grether, Phoebe Griffin, Avery Hardacker, Abigale Houle, Thomas Johnson, Kason Kelly, Leo Larkin, Georgia Lukachie, Chyanne Machamer, Audrey MacPherson, Marie Mairson, Emma Manis, Margaret Marshall, Christian Menounos, Kira Mesick, Xandar Miller, Ryley Morin, Ty Nichols, Kelsey Pabon, Erik Proctor, Kaelyn Provost, Logan Rawson, Macy Rawson, Cameron Robida, Chimairan Rochette, Maya Rodriguez, Colton Sallum, Ava Salsich, Sophia Sarkis, Isabella Selmecki, Otto Shaw, Olivia Smith, Mia Sorrentino, Dante Sousa, Kaylee Spring, Juliana Stacy, Eli Susi, Michael Susi, Brock Swabby, Bailey Sweeney, Olivia Tappenden, Avery Thienel, Riley Titchen, Kaelyn Tremblay, Autumn Wade, William Wasko, Haley Whitehouse

Recognition
Grade 12: Anna Alvarez, Caleb Anderson, Brennon Blow, Gabrielle Boucher, Jacob Boynton, Victoria Checko, Junsong Chen, Grace Chouinard, Mia Dang, Milo Dlugosz, Nathan Drouin, Sage Eno, Ian Frankhouser, Cecile Glaude, Gwenith Hendrickson, Brendan Hill, Isabel Hull, Adela Karlsen, Cassandra Klingensmith, Benjamin Laisi, Thai Le, Elizabeth Lovrien, Layla Manis, Peyton Manis, Brigid McNerney, Isabella Miller, Jason Ofcarcik, Elsey Palmer, Shangyou Pan, Blin Rollins, Jonathan Smith, Jungmin Son, Christopher Thibault, Thao To, Kylie Wallace, Junchen Xu, Chase Young, Logan Zulli
Grade 11: Kristen Ash, Stella Atchinson, Cole Auker, Emilia Babbitt, Italia Burgio, Desiree Cabassa, Avery Collin, Mykela Cote, Ethan Craig, Amanda Currie, Jeter Darigan, Jesus De La Torre, Destiny Decelles, Curtis Desabre, Cory Dube, Alexandra Flint, Asher Gagnon, Yunlei Ge, Emily Goodell, Matthew Guin, Magnolia Hart, Olivia Haynes, Joshua Hernandez, Jacob Jurnovoy, Esmeralda Kasneci, Ava Lanoue, Madison Martinez, Elizabeth Morgis, Brandon Nagle, Mavin Palmerino, Carter Payne, Clara Pettini, Ethan Pokorny, Austin Quinney, Sarah Richards, Natalie Romano, Noelle Sallum, Quintavanh Sangasy, Jakub Sarzynski, Trevor Savoie, Davis Simpson, Isabella Sorrentino, Cooper Stewart, Concetta Sumner, Paige Veilleux-Catlin, Kylie Wakely, Bella Webb, Zimo Zheng
Grade 10: Elizabeth Adams, Jorge Angeles, Peyton Bentley, Thomas Blevins, Briana Botelho, Waylon Breault, Timothy Engstrume, Summer Espeseth, Hayden Fontaine, Jason Konsavich, Jacob Lizotte, Randi Lucido, Connor MacLeod, Eric Mathewson, Samantha McDowell, Brendon Molina, Margaux Reck, Elizabeth Reynolds, Summer Saine, Apphia Schley, Gracie Scott, Finn Scribner, Zachary Shead, Sawyer Stewart, Jack Sumner, Josiah Vadeboncoeur, Shaun Wall
Grade 9: Lillian Beausoleil, Bradley Blair, Austin Byer, Ryder Chaput, Thomas Coleman, Emma Costa, Marta Del Palacio, Richard Duncan, Ela Doudoury, Madison Goetz, Alyx Goff, Gabriella Guay, Matthew Hernandez, Aribella LaFleche, Celine Leffingwell, Christian Luperon-Flecha, Aurora Moore, Timothy Mozzi, Keira Notis, Dezo Novotny, Brady O'Brien, Max Ring, Gwendolyn White



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.

Pet Pals hosting pet food drive

DANIELSON — Pet Pals Northeast, a local animal welfare organization, will be collecting pet food at its annual holiday pet food drive at the Killingly Library, Westcott Road, Danielson, on Saturday, Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to noon. Dry and canned cat food most needed. Purina brands preferred. Cash donations welcome. For information, contact PET PALS at 860-317-1720.

STEVENSON

continued from page A1
“Whenever I drive, I always want to drive safely, just so I can be home with them and get to experience life with them and watch my niece grow up,” Stevenson said. “I’ve gotten a really good positive response, and I’m really grateful for that, because this is the first big project that I’ve done by myself.”
“Mad’s work and accomplishment displays what we hope for all ACT students; the ability to clearly communicate and to make a meaningful impact in the community,” said ACT principal Sarah Mallory. “The commitment to teen safe driving is something that we value as a community and Mads was able to execute this project at an exemplary level.”
Dan Boisvert, Stevenson’s Media Arts teacher at ACT, said that teen safe driving is an important element in the school’s audio-visual curriculum.
“Madison was able to showcase her independent learning style by creatively communicating an original and complex idea effectively with the hope of changing teen safe driving outcomes,” Boisvert said. “I’m really proud of her and her commitment to her community and the arts!”
Stevenson, who plans to attend college next year, said she will use the award to cover the cost of books, tuition and fees.
“I don’t want anyone to go through that loss of losing someone or being hurt from a car accident,” Stevenson said, “so it makes me feel good to know that my video will help people realize: you’ll miss these little things in life.”
ACT is a public, performing arts magnet high school administered by EASTCONN. ACT is currently recruiting academically motivated students who will enter grades 9-12 in the 2022-2023 school year. To learn more about ACT or to download an application, visit www.eastconn.org/act or call 860-465-5636.

Our Lady of La Salette hosting “cookies by the pound” event

BROOKLYN — Our Lady of La Salette Church is happy to announce holiday cookies sold by the pound, along with a basket raffle, on Saturday, Dec. 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the church basement.

Our set-up will be COVID compliant,

but you will still be able to choose the cookies you want!

The church is located at 25 Providence Rd. (Route 6), Brooklyn.





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Light in our Darkness – Wings of Song returns!

STURBRIDGE — After eighteen months of silence, Wings of Song, a premier community chorus in south-central Massachusetts and northeastern Connecticut, is singing once again. It's a smaller group, for the time being—just 23 singers out of the full chorus's 60, calling themselves the Wings of Song Chamber Chorale. These were the singers (all vaccinated) who were ready to don specially-constructed singer's masks and participate in socially-distanced rehearsals. Nevertheless, according to Music Director Nym Cooke, the singers' spirit is as strong as ever—and their sound is superb.

Cooke has chosen a program of twelve very special, soul-stirring pieces to mark the chorus's comeback, and to gladden the hearts of their hearers in this very difficult time.

He characterizes the program in this way: "These pieces dig deep, and touch wellsprings of beauty and spiritual rich-

ness that are sure to lift people's hearts. There's a line in Handel's Messiah: 'The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.' We've all been walking in darkness for some time now. May the beautifully-crafted classical works on this program—representing a mix of joyful animation and deep peace—bring at least some glimpses of that 'great light' to our hearers."

The music spans four centuries, the 17th through the 20th, with composers ranging from the German Johannes Eccard (1553-1611) to the American Morten Lauridsen (born 1943). Inbetween are luminaries such as Georg Frideric Handel, Felix Mendelssohn, and Hector Berlioz. Handel's "And the glory of the Lord" from "Messiah" and Berlioz's "Thou must leave thy lowly dwelling" from "The Childhood of Christ" keep company with John Rutter's "Christmas Lullaby" and Morten Lauridsen's "O

magnum mysterium." And there will be familiar carols for the season, of course: Randall Thompson's thrilling version of "Angels we have heard on high" and Felix Mendelssohn's "Hark! the herald angels sing."

Beyond the singers being vaccinated and masked, this will be an unusual concert in other respects. With COVID cases once again climbing in the U.S., special precautions must be taken to ensure the health and safety of both audience and singers. Audience members should be fully vaccinated, and masks are required throughout the concert. As far as possible, the audience will be seated with some distance between "pods" of family and friends. And the shorter-than-usual program (no more than an hour in length) will be sung through without intermission. Look for singalongs, and our traditional post-concert social gathering with refreshments, to return at our Spring

concerts!

As always, there will be two performances. On Saturday, Dec. 4 at 7:30 p.m., the chorus will sing at the St. Joachim Parish Center of St. Anne/St. Patrick Parish, 16 Church St. in Fiskdale, up from the corner of routes 20 and 148. On Sunday, Dec. 5 at 3 p.m., there will be a performance at the Evangelical Covenant Church in Woodstock, Conn., 24 Child Hill Rd. Admission to both concerts is free; a freewill offering will be collected. And both venues are handicap-accessible. Don't forget your mask—and come prepared for a beautiful and meaningful experience, rich in both music and spirit. For further information, contact Wings of Song President Carol Curtin at carol-curtin77@gmail.com, or Nym Cooke at nymcooke@gmail.com.

Putnam Congregational Church holds Small Business Saturday Breakfast

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM – While Black Friday may be the day big-box retailers look forward to the holiday shopping rush, Small Businesses Saturday is the day most smaller businesses look forward to customers buying local for the season.

On Saturday, Nov. 27, the Putnam Congregational Church helped prepare shop-

pers for their inevitable trips to the stores of Downtown Putnam with a special breakfast made and served by members of the fellowship. Kathy Dunton, a member of the church who organized the breakfast, said the idea was spawned by a meeting with Putnam Business Association members Sheila Frost of the Courthouse Bar & Grill and Gary "O." Osbrey on WINY

who asked the church to do an event in December. Dunton said they decided to hold an event before December just in time for the shopping rush on Main Street.

"We thought it would be great for people to have breakfast then go out and shop here in downtown Putnam so that's why we put this together," Dunton said. "It's very cool to get people out here, and this is very different for us too. We usually do dinners, so breakfast is a little different. We have

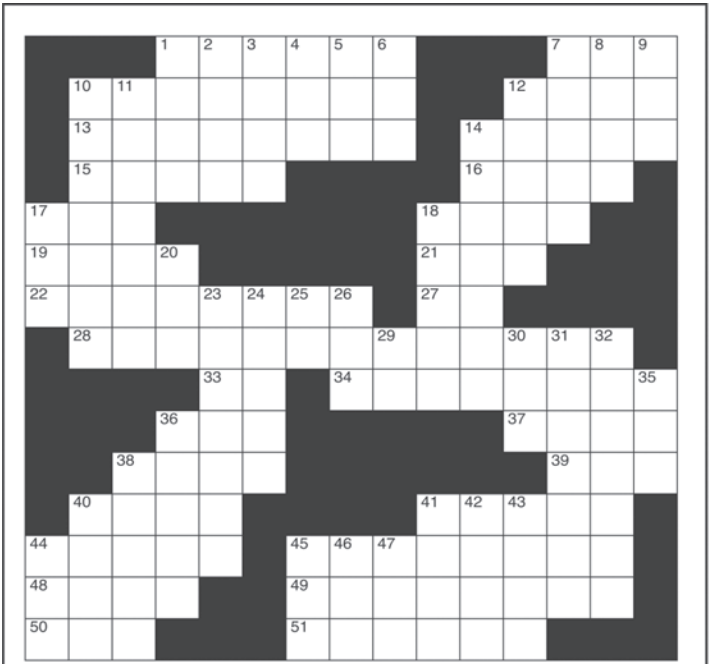
some fresh blood in the kitchen."

Dunton said the breakfast was not only a chance for people to learn about the church and prepare for the Small Business Saturday, but also a chance for members of the church to come together for a great cause to support each other and try something new.

"We have a really great group of people working with us. Everybody jumped in and pitched in, we just kept saying God has us and he's going

to take us through this," said Dunton. "We came out last night and we were here early this morning and had the music and the coffee on and went to work. It was awesome just to have that fellowship with friends and experience that closeness."

Dunton said the church is planning more breakfasts for the future possibly making the event a new tradition in downtown Putnam.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Topsides

7. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)

10. A Sultan's court

12. Maine city

13. Largest living land animal

14. Appetizer

15. Encounters

16. Leader

17. The source of bacon

18. Nuclear near reach weapon (abbr.)

19. Celery (Spanish)

21. Pie ___ mode

22. Eye disease

27. Hello (slang)

28. Those in their 80s
33. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)

34. Business organizations

36. Mimic

37. For indicating speed of rotation (abbr.)

38. Feeling

39. Visual way to interact with computers (abbr.)

40. "Let It Snow!" songwriter

41. Essential oil used as perfume

44. Norwegian composer

45. Coast

48. ___ lang syne, good old days

49. Gland behind the stomach

50. Tooth caregiver

51. King of Camelot

CLUES DOWN

1. N. American indigenous people

2. Fascinated by

3. Root of out

4. Patti Hearst's captors

5. Atomic #50

6. Habitual drunkard

7. Arabic for "peace"

8. Trickery

9. One's physique (slang)

10. Not quite there

11. Wistfully mournful

12. Popular dance

14. Cut of meat

17. A way to stand

18. "Gunga Din" screenwriter

20. 10th month of the year (abbr.)

23. A way of jumping

24. Utah town
25. Of I

26. Actress de Armas

29. Silver

30. Play a role

31. ___ Falls

32. Attaches to

35. Japanese title

36. Expressed pleasure

38. Buckets

40. Dirt

41. Hypnotists' group (abbr.)

42. Restaurant drive-___

43. Digs up

44. He voices "Olaf"

45. Relaxing place

46. Body part

47. Pesky house critter



Photos Jason Bleau

Members of the Putnam Congregational Church pose for a photo during their special breakfast on Small Business Saturday.

Loos donates to fight childhood cancer

POMFRET — Loos & Company recently donated to fight childhood cancer close to home.

This week Pomfret's Loos & Co. donated \$500 to benefit Adelaide Bay Coderre.

Adelaide is an eight-year-old girl living in northeastern Connecticut. She was recently diagnosed with a form of cancer known as Rhabdomyosarcoma.

According to the [GoFundMe](#)

organized by her grandmother, Kathi Dumaine-Savage, Adelaide is known for "having a kind spirit, her silly sense of humor, and the great joy she takes in her friendships."

"We were deeply impacted in learning about Adelaide's story, and touched by the efforts of fellow community members to aid in her journey," said Loos Director of Corporate Marketing Robert Davis. "We hope this

contribution can ease some burden in her and her parents' lives."

Davis said he was touched by the fundraiser organizer's response, as well.

"We cannot express how incredibly grateful we are for your generosity," wrote Dumaine-Savage in an email. "We hope that this act of kindness on your part comes back to you and those you love tenfold. You have given Adelaide precious time with her parents. She knows that they will be there to support her daily."

Loos has worked diligently in 2021 to donate to community members, organizations and services in need. Recent donations have included soup kitchens, the Northeast Connecticut Women & Girls Fund, and local senior centers.

"We encourage all to consider donating to Adelaide and her family, or sharing the fundraiser on social media," said Central Wire Industries Rope and Assemblies Division President Tom Dodds. "When communities come together it can be very powerful."

More information about our 2021 donations is available [online](#). For more information about our ongoing commitment to the community, visit our main [Community Commitment page](#).

Loos & Co., headquartered at 16B Mashamoquet Rd. in Pomfret Center, is the industry leader in wire and aircraft cable. Further inquiries can be directed Davis via email at robert.davis@centralwire.com or phone at 860-630-4303.

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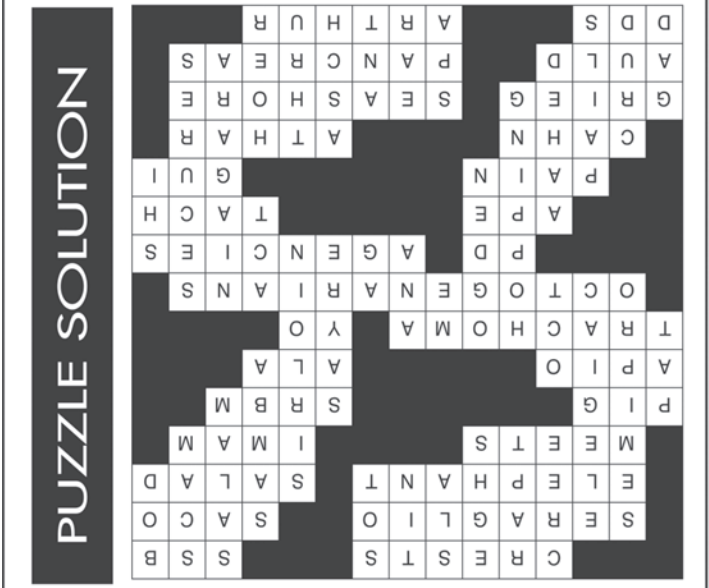
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FCC Woodstock kicks off the holiday season



Volunteers gather before the opening of Christmas on the Hill, the annual holiday bazaar sponsored by the First Congregational Church of Woodstock. Proceeds benefit church ministries and outreach to local non-profits.



Bake sale featured an assortment of cookies and pumpkin rolls.



Visitors could purchase balsam wreaths in various sizes.



Aunt Mimi's Attic Treasures included both heirloom and costume jewelry.



Our kitchen crew preparing to serve up chicken potpies, hot soup, and apple crisp at the take out window.



The "Forever Christmas" booth had hundreds of gently used holiday decorations.



We had a variety of handmade items: goat milk soap, hand sewn face masks, ornaments, jams and jellies and more.

FEATURED

continued from page A1

Killingly's most recent notable project was a \$1 million streetscape and façade improvement project on Main Street- the central business district. The town also plans to expand housing and build workforce housing within three miles of the industrial park, and the economic development team is actively seeking a developer to fulfill these workforce housing needs within the community.

The locals' appreciation for the outdoors translates into Killingly's several green initiatives. They have installed electric vehicle chargers across the community in the shopping center and at the Townhall. All these initiatives are notably spearheaded by Killingly's own Natural Resource Conservation Officer and there are future projects planned, as attracting people to the area and its central business district, is a town priority.

St. Clair highlights continued plans to create a desired community for education, raising a family and developing a great living surrounded by New England Mill-town history, arts and culture.

The full article can be found at: Website: <https://businessviewmagazine.com/killingly-connecticut-quiet-town-making-noise/>.



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Schiavetti scores six touchdowns in leading QVP past Thames River

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

PUTNAM — Lee Schiavetti, have a night for yourself young man, have a night.

The senior had a gridiron game he will never forget, scoring six touchdowns as the Quinebaug Valley Pride varsity football team shocked and demolished the Thames River Crusaders, 57-13, on Thanksgiving Eve at the St. Marie Greenhalgh Sports Complex.

The Quinebaug Valley Pride (QVP as they're often called) is a co-operative team made of student-athletes from Ellis Tech, Putnam and Tourtellotte high schools. Thames River is a co-op team consisting of student-athletes from Norwich and Grasso technical high schools and St. Bernard High, a private school in Uncasville.

Thames River entered the game ranked seventh in the Class L Playoff Point Rankings — the top eight teams earn a berth in the tournament. The Crusaders, who finished the season 8-2, slipped to 11th in the final Class L Rankings. Quinebaug Valley entered the contest 12th in the rankings. The Pride needed to win and get help to qualify for the post-season. Only one of those two things happened.

Quinebaug Valley moved up to 10th in the final rankings and finished its season 8-2.

Three of Schiavetti's touchdowns came on runs of 1, 4, and 87 yards; two came on a pair of touchdown tosses from QVP senior quarterback Mike



Photos Jason McKay

Quinebaug Valley Pride's Lee Schiavetti sprints down the field in hopes of finding an opening, which he didn't have a problem doing, as he scored six touchdowns in the Pride's 57-13 Thanksgiving Eve victory over Thames River.

Merrill — of 60 and 66 yards — and he had a 91-yard fumble return as well.

“When I woke up this morning I had a great feeling about today and it came true. I'm as excited as all hell about that,” Schiavetti said, a huge grin breaking out across his face. “We put in the hard work preparing for this game and then we came out and loved every minute of it. We worked hard every single day and we came out with the win.”

Schiavetti was asked by a reporter after the game to explain each of his six touchdowns. He thought for a moment before answering.

“I just run,” Schiavetti said,

channeling his inner Forrest Gump. “I saw the end zone, I saw the glory land, and I took it to the house.”

Schiavetti finished the game with 175 rushing yards on 14 carries. He entered the contest needing 30 yards to break QVP's single-season rushing mark of 1,480 yards, which he set in 2019. Schiavetti finished the season with 1,625 yards, giving him a two-year total (2019 and 2021, we all know what happened in 2020) of 3,105 yards.

“Lee's performance tonight didn't surprise me at all; I get to see it every week,” QVP coach Joe Asermelly said. “Lee is very humble, very hard working and very special.”



Mason Nicolosi of Quinebaug Valley Pride hunts down Thames River's ball carrier.

With his team trailing 7-0, Schiavetti pulled the Pride to within a point, 7-6, when he hauled in a 66-yard scoring strike from Merrill. Senior Sam Rebello followed Schiavetti's score with the first of his seven extra points, and just like that, with 6:35 led in the first quarter, the game was tied, 7-7.

“The pass by Merrill was beautiful,” Schiavetti said. “Merrill had a great game.”

Merrill finished the season passing for 964 yards and 19 touchdowns, and rushing for 475 yards and six scores. He also caught a touchdown pass during the season.

Thames River appeared poised to re-take the lead, marching from its own 20-yard line to the QVP 5, where the Crusaders were faced with a fourth-and-goal situation.

Junior Seth Cunningham picked up four of the five yards he needed to get into the end zone, but he was stopped cold at the 1-yard line by QVP's front four and the Pride offense took over from there.

Three plays later Schiavetti burst through a huge hole in the middle of his offensive line and raced 87 yards into the end zone, giving QVP a lead it would not relinquish.

“That big fourth-down, goal-line stop by our d-line was so huge,” said Schiavetti, who is a defensive back on defense. “That stop was so huge. It flipped the game. We scored quick after that and the rest is history.”

Asermelly also thought his team's goal-line stand late in

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KILLINGLY

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The Yellow Jackets entered the game with a 6-2 record.

“It's pretty special,” Killingly head coach Chad Neal said about finishing the regular season undefeated. “This is the third Killingly team to ever to go undefeated during the regular season, and we're going to the playoffs for the sixth straight season. It's just a tribute to the kids. They buy in, they listen, they practice hard, they prepare and we just have great support.”

Woodstock Academy completed its historic season — the Centaurs captured their first-ever ECC Division II championship this year — with a 7-3 mark.

“I'm happy. The kids had a great season,” Woodstock Academy head coach Sean Saucier said. “I enjoyed every minute of it and I think they did, too.”

Jax finished the game with five receptions for 184 yards and TD catches of 12, 17 and 86 yards.

“Ben had a big day,” Neal said. “He's been great all year. He's smart, he studies film like crazy and he makes the calls in the secondary. He's a great asset to this team.”

Despite the lopsided final score, the game was tied, 14-14, in the third quarter.

Killingly grabbed a 7-0 lead on a 10-yard pass from Dreiholz to Rief with seven minutes, 13 seconds left to play in the first half. The drive started after Jax's sideline interception of Centaurs' senior quarterback Ethan Davis.

On the ensuing possession WA tied the game, 7-7, Davis (13-for-21, 170 yards), finding Payton Barna with a 29-yard scoring strike on a fourth-and-

six play to tie the game, 7-7, with 3:19 remaining in the second quarter.

Killingly came right back to take a 14-7 lead with 48 seconds left in the first half. The seven-play, 67-yard drive was capped by a 17-yard touchdown toss from Dreiholz to Jax, on which Jax made a nice over-the-shoulder catch of a perfectly thrown ball after running a fade route.

“I think the plays work because Thomas is able to get air under the ball,” Jax said. “I think the success of the play is his being able to make the throw as much as it is the play design.”

Woodstock Academy tied the game, 14-14, on the first play of the second half, Carter Saracina stepping in front of a Dreiholz pass intended for tight end Nate Keefe. Saracina easily plucked the ball out of the air and returned it 53 yards for a touchdown. With Saracina's score the Centaurs had grabbed the momentum of the game from Killingly.

Killingly, however, grabbed it right back and then held on to it, scoring on their final five possessions of the game.

Two offensive plays after the Saracina interception, Dreiholz hooked up with Jax on an 86-yard scoring play that put Killingly ahead for good. When Dreiholz threw the ball, he was being pressured by Woodstock defensive linemen Huck Flanagan and Marcus McGregor. As a result, the pass was on target but a little underthrown.

Jax came back for the ball, caught it at about midfield and immediately spun to the outside. He ran down the sideline for 20 yards before cutting into the field to elude two would-be tacklers and then back outside again to avoid two more Centaurs, finally scoring to give Killingly a 21-7 lead.

“That was probably the turning point,” Saucier said. “Once they got some momentum, it was tough to slow

it down.”

Rief (11 carries, 38 yards) extended Killingly's lead to 28-14 on a six-yard touchdown run with 4:29 left in the third quarter. Dreiholz connected with Jax and Keefe on a pair of 12-yard touchdown passes in the fourth quarter and Rief added a 9-yard scoring run to account for the final.

“Woodstock Academy is the best team we've played so far this year. They were

well prepared and they're well coached; Sean does a great job,” said Neal, who was a teammate of Saucier's at Putnam High back in the day. “We knew they were going to be our toughest opponent. We just had to make plays. We knew the run game was going to be tight. We knew we were going to have to complete some passes.”



Woodstock Academy's Carter Saracina drives the ball past an opponent from Killingly.



Jackson Goetz of Woodstock Academy breaks the would-be tackle of Killingly's Trevin Russ.

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The Bradley hosts Tree Jubilee

PUTNAM – The Bradley Playhouse hosted a special holiday-themed event n Nov. 27 and 28, the Tree Jubilee and Wreath Extravaganza. Decorated Christmas trees and holiday wreaths filled the legendary playhouse in Putnam each designed and presented by either private citizens or local businesses and organizations and given away through a ticket raffle at the end of the

weekend. The event was created to help bring citizens and businesses together to celebrate the magic of the holidays in a unique way and allow participants to embrace the spirit of the season. The celebration also included photos with Santa Claus and collected food for local food banks.

Photos Jason Bleau



The Gates Automotive Group provided a tree display like no other. It was literally the only one of its kind titled “Automotive Christmas.”



TEEG put together this delightful gingerbread wreath with hand made gingerbread men and women adorning the creation.



Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, or NOW as it is most well-known, provided this festive creation complete with a Danielson Surplus gift card for the winner of the wreath.



Paws Cat Shelter in Woodstock named their tree “Cat Crazy” and decorated it with a variety of animal toys and other goodies for pet lovers.



One of several wreaths provide by The Arc this creation was based around the concept of “Christmas Crafts.”



It would be expected that the Relay for Life of Northeastern Connecticut would color its tree with purple decorations, the color most associated with the annual event.



Cub Scout Pack 44 put together this tree themed around the spirit of scouting and camping.



Golden Gate Florists designed this lovely piece fittingly titled “Festive.”



Kathy Borner provided this fun tree inspired by the growing trend of Christmas Gnomes.



Christopher Heights Assisted Living Community put together this tree covered in teddy bears fittingly titled “Teddies & Treasures.”



One of the most eye-catching trees was this beauty from August & March called “Natural & Neutral Christmas.”

QVP

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the first quarter completely changed the game.

“I give all the credit on that fourth-down play to our front seven. Our d-linemen in there at the time were Aiden DeFilippo, Jaylen Dipasquale, Aiden Johnson, Aiden Papuga. Our outside linebackers on that play were Chris Daly and Mason Nicolosi,” Asermelly said. “And then we were able to take the ball 99 yards the other way. We had fantastic execution on offense all night.”

Three plays into the second quarter QVP pushed its lead to 21-7, Daly scoring on a 22-yard interception return with 11:01 left to play in the first half. Schiavetti made it 28-7 on Thames River’s next series with his 91-yard fumble return. On the Pride’s next possession, they extended their lead to 35-7 on a two-yard scamper by Schiavetti.

On the Crusaders’ next possession Rebello intercepted a Thames River

pass attempt and returned it 27 yards to the Crusaders’ 33-yard line. On QVP’s first offensive play after the interception, Merrill hit Rebello with a 30-yard pass. Two plays later Schiavetti crashed in from the 1-yard line and the Pride went to halftime with a 42-7 lead.


The Pride won the turnover battle in the game with three interceptions (Daly, Rebello and Sean Shotts) and a fumble recovery (Schiavetti). Two of the four were turned into touchdowns and a third resulted in a touchdown on the ensuing drive.

“Credit coach [Daryl] Brown, our defensive coordinator, for coming up with an amazing game plan,” Asermelly said. “He emphasized the need for us to get turnovers. He came with a great scheme for the defense. I think Daryl Brown had a lot to do with this win tonight.”

In the second half Schiavetti turned a screen pass from Merrill into a 60-yard score and then Merrill closed out the Pride scoring on the night with a 1-yard touchdown run.



A teammate signals for a touchdown while Chris Daly of Quinebaug Valley Pride runs down the length of the field.



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PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

What's your story?

It's holiday party season, and for most of us that, is a good thing. We get together with friends and family, enjoy some eggnog and a plethora of our favorite appetizers. However, we do know that oftentimes, we are invited by our significant others to attend a work soiree or we are attending one ourselves. Being in a room where you only know one or a few people could seem like a daunting task for our introverted readers, but have no fear — we have ways for you to have memorable conversations that you may end up actually enjoying.

Instead of discussing the weather or asking the mundane questions such as ‘Where are you from?’ why not simply ask, ‘What’s your story?’ Other conversation starters include, ‘How do you know the host?’ ‘What was the highlight of your week?’ or ‘Are you working on anything exciting?’

If you’re shy or feeling a bit awkward, you can keep the conversation going by talking about the food being served or the venue where the event is taking place. Asking a person what they have tried so far, and how they liked it is an easy conversation starter. If you research the history of a place, you can always begin with the ‘Did you know?’ questions. We know everyone loves a good history story and bits of local trivia.

If the person you are speaking with is from the area, ask them what they do for entertainment in town, including where and what their favorite restaurants are. Looking up recent sports standings is never a bad idea, even if you don’t particularly care for sports. This way when you nod and smile, you can have some confidence in knowing that you are at least somewhat in the loop. If you’ve bumped into a fellow skier, discussing snow conditions and ski hills is an easy topic. Look up a recent odd news story that is interesting and humorous, that way during a lull, you can say, ‘So, I was reading about a man who appeared before a Dutch court and requested that he legally be made 20 years younger.’ (Yes, that actually happened; if we see you at a holiday bash, we will fill you in.)

Most conversations remain on the surface which is appropriate when you don’t really know someone. However, if you feel comfortable and are enjoying the conversation don’t be afraid to go a bit bolder. Generally, most people like to talk about themselves, not necessarily for selfish reasons, but who doesn’t want to be known and appreciated? We all have unique personalities that are worth sharing.

Such questions that go beneath the surface may include, ‘What is your biggest fear?’ ‘When you were growing up, what was your dream job?’ ‘Have you been to any interesting places lately?’ ‘Have you learned anything this week, that you weren’t aware of last week?’

The easiest thing to do while in conversation this month is to ask how a person celebrates the holidays. Asking about traditions and the best holiday a person has ever had brings up fond memories and positive energy.

These questions tend to snowball naturally and voila a solid, meaningful conversation has been had and you could even make a new comrade along the way.

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.



OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, Ed DeLuca

To the Editor:
Thank you, Ed DeLuca, for your letter last week, “A rallying cry for the dissatisfied.” You said in the written word what the majority of people that I know and respect feel and agree with, based on the facts.

The current administration of our great country couldn’t have divided us and destroyed our independence more quickly or effectively than any other. It is sad, embarrassing and dangerous to the values that we hold dear.

I would only add that it is incomprehensible that the massive influx of migrants during this pandemic (which latest statistics indicate that 25 percent test positive for

Covid) are being transported to every corner of our country in the dead of night, while American citizens are being mandated to be vaccinated, quarantined and threatened to, or have already lost, their jobs and businesses. It is truly mind-blowing that our freedoms have been so trampled on.

On a positive note, historically and spiritually, this is the age-old fight...the battle between good and evil. We are seeing evil first-hand. For believers, good will win. And, even according to polls...evil will not. Thank God.

TAMI JO WYKES
BROOKLYN

Social media — a good idea gone bad

To the Editor:
Donald Trump’s crazy rants, inaccurate information and wild conspiracy theories about Covid vaccines, extremist groups plotting and executing an attack on our nation’s capitol --- what’s the common denominator here? Social media. A classic example of a good idea gone bad. Not all bad — plenty of positive uses and good information — but it’s also become a playground for the darker elements of society. Freedom of speech boundaries get stretched to their limits while people like Mark Zuckerberg become billionaires.

What’s most amazing, is that folks who seem to be reasonably intelligent believe all the garbage they read without questioning the source. Anyone who can believe that Covid vaccines are being used by our government for mind control, needs to realize that the real “brain-washers” are the people (with

an agenda) who post that kind of nonsense. The saddest part is that our kids and grand-kids are most vulnerable to all the misinformation out there.

It’s time to get back to basics in this country. Too many Americans need to get their faces out of their phones, break the addiction to social media, and reconnect with the real world. Turn off Fox News and CNN. Read a book, take a walk, or have a face to face conversation with a real person. Our divided nation is on a path of self-destruction thanks to our polarizing politicians. We need to start the healing process among ourselves and reunite as citizens of this great country. Maybe the self-serving bureaucrats (from both parties) in Washington will get the message.

TODD PATRIE
POMFRET CENTER

Red flags

To the Editor:
I’d like to make a correction to Lee’s Wesler’s recent letter where he mentioned that Kyle Rittenhouse was carrying an “AK-47.” The gun Rittenhouse carried was a (Smith and Wesson) “MP-15” semi-automatic rifle, which is described as an AR-15 “style” of weapon.

As Mr. Wesler aptly stated, Rittenhouse could have “turned and walked away,” but then, if those victims had done the same, they wouldn’t have gotten shot, now would they? There is a saying that goes, “If you put yourself in harm’s way - harm may just come your way.” One thing for sure is that “two wrongs don’t make a right,” but if all involved in the incident had abided by that rule and had either “turned and walked away” or not had been there in the first place, this wouldn’t have happened. For whatever gun problem there is in our country today, I’d say it’s not being caused by the millions of legal, responsible and law-abiding gun owners that follow the rules of ownership, and these people certainly aren’t carrying machine guns in the streets. I will say, however, that Rittenhouse’s actions do reflect negatively on “responsible” gun ownership.

I’d like to know what kind of a society sits idly by while riots raged, cities burned, businesses were looted, lives were disrupted and people were murdered? (But I repeat myself.) What kind of society would allow our politi-

cians (like Kamala Harris and AOC) to help raise money to bail rioters out of jail? What we have is a society that thinks defunding the police is a smart move, one that goes way too lightly on criminals by either not prosecuting them or giving them low bail, and also considers just releasing them into the streets. No red flags about potential future “nut jobs” with any of that, right?

You now know that one of those nut jobs is Darrell Brooks, who is now in custody after he drove his SUV into a Christmas parade crowd, killing six people. Brooks, who has a lengthy criminal record and is a registered sex offender, was out on the streets free to commit crimes because of the George Soros-backed Milwaukee County District Attorney, John Chisholm. Chisholm’s office turned Brooks loose on the streets just days before the Waukesha incident on a bail of \$1,000 after police arrested Brooks on charges of running a woman over with his car at a gas station. Chisholm and other Soros-backed DA’s across the country support “no cash bail” reforms that allow criminals to walk right out of prison before they go to trial. As far as red flags go, I’d say that’s a pretty big one.

Yes, Mr. Wesler: “God help us!”
Respectfully submitted,

ED DELUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Practical applications of Thompson’s 2020 zoning regulations

To the Editor:
In my profession as a licensed civil engineer and resident of Thompson I have been working with zoning regulations in Northeast Connecticut for over 35 years. Part of my job is to understand how the regulations are applied and to advise clients on what they can build on their land and how to get their projects permitted. Thompson’s previous zoning regulations had been in use with only minor modifications since the 1980’s and needed modernizing. The Thompson P & Z Commission and their staff spent at least two years making a sweeping overhaul of the zoning regulations which resulted in a new set of regulations being adopted in 2020. They requested input from residents, NECCOG and other land use professionals such as surveyors, engineers, planners, real estate agents, and attorneys.

The following examples illustrate how permitting was made more user friendly and how property owners gained flexibility with development options on their properties.

The previous regulations required special permits for any proposed uses (church, school, day care, business, etc.) with more than 12 parking spaces even if the use was permitted by right in the zone. Special permits involve a costly two-month public hearing process. Now many of these projects only require a site plan review which is faster and cheaper. When public hearings are still required for uses under the new regulations, the P & Z Commission reduced the mailing costs for owners by only requiring certificates of mailing.

The previous regulations dictated the number of parking spaces required for nearly all uses. This often resulted in oversized lots and underutilized pavement. The current regula-

tions permit the owner to construct and pave only the number of spaces needed to operate their establishment which is cheaper and results in much less impervious area which is better for the environment.

Previously, applications for home occupations permits were typically brought before the whole P & Z commission and had many provisions that were difficult to enforce and only allowed 2 employees who did not live in the dwelling. The new regulations allow the ZEO to issue home occupation permits as long the business is compatible for residential use.

The new zoning regulations created a lake district with reduced lot sizes and setbacks making it easier and cheaper for the many existing residents living near Quaddick Lake and other ponds to construct out-buildings and building additions. Previously, most of these activities required variances from ZBA with significant costs for surveys, public hearings, etc. Front, side, and rear yard setbacks were also reduced in other residential zones which allows for shorter driveways and more opportunities for home additions and construction of out-buildings.

The new regulations expanded opportunities for residents to add accessory apartments and second dwelling units to their properties.

The Riverside Drive corridor in the heart of Thompson used to be zoned with a patchwork of commercial and residential zones. This resulted in the situation where one property could only be developed commercially and the adjacent property could only be developed residentially. The new regulations, with some limitations, would permit both properties to be developed either commercially or resi-

Turn To **BLANCHETTE** page **A9**

Forgiveness

Forgiveness, she said. I was surprised. I often ask my family and close friends for ideas to write about in my column. I’ve written over 800 of them, and I am always looking for new thoughts or interesting points of view. While I marvel at the erudition of the nationally syndicated columnists, many have staff who suggest topics and make edits. I have neither, but a close and lively band of people who share their thoughts with me. When my daughter suggested forgiveness as a topic, I stopped to consider.

The poet David Whyte published a book, “Consolations,” a few years ago. He took everyday words and with a lyrical eye, wrote about meaning. Forgiveness, he wrote, “is a heartache and difficult to achieve because strangely, it not only refuses to eliminate the original wound, but actually draws us closer to the source”. By forgiving, we experience personal growth. Instead of just forgetting what happened, we can engage in an act of compassion.

It is mind boggling to read stories of people who forgive on a grand scale. When I hear about the families who meet with the person who killed their child or reach out to a person who was a cruel jailer, I am in awe of something remarkable in them. Perhaps they are deeply religious or they believe that by forgiving the perpetrator they will be freed from more bad feelings. I don’t know, but I find it amazing.

Forgiveness is at the heart of most religions. In Christianity one is urged to forgive others as part of the process of being divinely forgiven. In Judaism “the essence of forgiveness is that the forgiver allows for his relationship with the forgiven to be healed” (The Conversation, Jan. 26, 2017). In Islam, human beings are urged to be forgiving to the person who wronged them and they will then be forgiven as well. (The Premium Times, Feb. 12, 2021). Forgiveness is also central in Buddhism and concepts of karma as it transforms pain and suffering.

It may be harder to forgive earlier in life than later on. The slights, the hurts, the misunderstandings cut much deeper the first time they are felt, but think of the stories we’ve heard about parents who disown their own children because of who they married or siblings who never speak again over a spat about a tea set or worse, a piece of land. Children are told to say they are sorry even when they are not and perhaps that cheapens the meaning of forgiveness or contrition.

No matter how we slice it, forgiveness is really hard. If one can’t truly forgive, then there is the chance to hold a grudge and hold it close. A grudge can make a person feel important, empowered by victimhood and as a reason to believe they should be treated with more kindness. Grudges are heavy to carry around, but people seem to bear up under them. Being the object of a grudge holder is not pleasant either and is hard to resolve.

A friend, a retired judge, said that in the courtroom he rarely saw forgiveness, but in cases of marital conflict, the couples who forgave each other had a much better outcome for their families and themselves.

During this holiday season we can revel in gratitude that a brighter future is in reach. We can also embrace the idea of forgiveness, as complicated, elusive and life affirming as any emotion or action we might take. We can rehash the memories, feel the stings and disappointments. Then we can consider forgiveness of others and ourselves.



NANCY WEISS

Eight ways to improve your finances by the New Year



FINANCIAL
FOCUS
.....
JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT
ADVISER

From the hope that came with reopening to the disappointment of another COVID-19 resurgence, 2021 has panned out to be another roller-coaster year. But at least in terms of your finances, there are things you can do during this last month to help position yourself to go out on an upswing – and set yourself up for a better start to 2022 as well. New rules related to the pandemic, coupled with tax and retirement changes that carried over from last year, means there’s a lot to consider. This checklist highlights some key points to help guide you as you get started.

1) Boost your retirement contributions

If you have an employer-sponsored retirement account that offers an employer match, make sure you’re maximizing contributions to take full advantage of that match. If you have a traditional IRA, you should also check to make sure you’re maximizing your contributions – recent changes may mean you can contribute more than before. The SECURE Act repealed the maximum age for contributions, so individuals ages 70 and a half and older

who earned income in 2021 can contribute to a traditional IRA. The Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) limits for contributions to traditional and Roth IRAs increased in 2021, so be sure to review MAGI eligibility thresholds.

2) Use FSA dollars and make HSA contributions

In 2020, the IRS relaxed certain “use-or-lose” restrictions for Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) that remain in effect this year, meaning that employers can extend the grace period for unused FSAs up to 12 months in 2021; and if you have a dependent care FSA, you can save as much as \$10,500 this year. If you have a high deductible health plan (HDHP), think about maximizing your Health Savings Account (HSA) contributions. In 2021, the maximum contribution is \$3,600 for an individual and \$7,200 for a family. (If you’re age 50 or older you can contribute an additional \$1,000.)

3) Manage your income tax and capital gains tax brackets

There are various tax brackets for regular income as well as capital gains. If you’re on the threshold of a tax bracket, you may be able to put yourself in the lower one by deferring some income to 2022. You can see which tax bracket you fall into and the detailed thresholds for these rates in the “Key 2021 Numbers” document on our website at whzwealth.com/resources.

4) Pay attention to American Rescue Plan (ARP) details

This statute made several changes that could affect your taxes this year. If you had federal or private student loans that were canceled or forgiven, you won’t owe taxes on those this year, or through 2025. If you were unemployed this year, take note – in 2020, \$10,500 of unemployment benefits were exempt from income tax. This exemption does not apply this year, so if you received benefits but didn’t have taxes withheld, it’s possible you may owe at tax time.

If you have children, there are two ARP changes you should know about. In July, the IRS began issuing 50 percent of the child tax credit in six monthly advanced payments. Payments are based on 2020 income, so be sure to review your eligibility for the credit and note that you may need to reconcile the advanced payments if your income increased in 2021. Second, the Child and Dependent Care Credit is fully refundable in 2021. If your family earns less than \$125,000 annually, you may claim a 50 percent refundable credit on care expenses of \$8,000 for one child or dependent or expenses of \$16,000 for two or more children or dependents.

5) Rebalance your portfolio

Reviewing your capital gains and losses may reveal tax planning opportunities, such as harvesting losses to offset capital gains.

6) Prepare for retirement plan RMDs

Under the SECURE Act,

if you reached age 70 and a half after January 1, 2020, you can wait until you turn 72 to start taking RMDs. (RMDs are required in 2021.) If you took coronavirus-related distributions (CRDs) from your retirement plan, review the repayment option you chose in 2020. Remember, the choice not to repay all of a CRD in 2020 is irrevocable. If you took a 401(k) loan after March 27, 2020, you’ll also need to establish a repayment plan and confirm the amount of accrued interest.

7) Adjust withholding and prepare for student loan repayment

If you think you may be subject to an estimated tax penalty, consider asking your employers (via Form W-4) to adjust your withholding to cover shortfalls. The IRS tax withholding calculator can help you with your estimates. In addition, student loan payments, which the CARES Act paused in March 2020, are scheduled to resume in February 2022. If you reduced other debt during this period, you’ll need to adjust your monthly cash flow to include upcoming student loan payments.

8) Assess your estate plans

Review and update your estate plan to make sure it’s still in line with your goals and accounts for any change in circumstances. Depending on your net worth, establishing a defective grantor trust, spousal lifetime access trust, or irrevocable life insurance trust may be an effective strategy to reduce your estate tax expo-

sure. In addition, take the time to update your beneficiary designations and review trustee appointments, power of attorney provisions, and health care directives.

Rely on us as a resource

It’s not too early to get a jump on planning—and even though your situation is unique to you, this high-level checklist can be a great starting point. Please feel free to contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com to talk through the issues and deadlines that affect you. We can help to ensure you’re prepared for the coming year, and use our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process to create a plan to help you reach the financial goals you have for yourself and your loved ones in the years to come as well.

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GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

Add a small-scale living evergreen to your holiday celebrations. Consider one that is suitable for growing indoors so you can enjoy it throughout the year.

The Lemon Cypress makes a great miniature holiday tree, centerpiece, or gift for a friend. The fragrant chartreuse foliage of this dwarf evergreen continues to brighten your winter décor long after the holidays are over. You can find them as topiaries or in their more natural pyramidal form.

Grow them in a sunny window and turn the plants occasionally to ensure all parts receive equal sunlight and grow evenly. You’ll have the best results if you keep your plant in a cool location free of cold and hot air drafts.

Water your mini holiday tree whenever the top few inches of soil are dry. Wait until spring when plants begin to actively grow and need a nutrient boost before applying fertilizer.

The Norfolk Island pine has long been a favorite of indoor gardeners. Its pine-like appearance makes it a great holi-

day tree. Add a bit of garland and a few small ornaments for a festive effect.

Grow this plant in a cool, well-lit location free of drafts of hot and cold air. Avoid dry air and soil to keep the needles and branches green, flexible, and healthy. Water thoroughly whenever the soil is just slightly moist. Boost the humidity around this and other plants with a gravel tray. Place pebbles and water in the saucer. Set the pot on the pebbles above the water. As the water evaporates, it increases the humidity around the plant.

Switch out the ornaments when celebrating other holidays. Use hearts for Valentine’s Day, eggs for Easter and orange lights for Halloween.

Rosemary wreath and tree topiaries are festive as well as fragrant and edible. Give the leaves a pet to enjoy the fragrance and lift your spirits. Or pluck a sprig to add welcome flavor to your winter meals and beverages.

Rosemary was as popular a Christmas plant as mistletoe and holly until the 20th Century. It’s not clear why this plant fell out of favor, but it is growing in popularity as a holiday plant. You can find it in many garden centers and

Three indoor trees for the holidays

Photo Courtesy

Norfolk Island pine makes a great indoor holiday tree especially when combined with holiday plants or decorated with garland and small ornaments.

florists this time of year.

Rosemary represents love and remembrance, a great sentiment to share during the holidays. Growing Rosemary indoors can be challenging. Don’t let past failures stop you from trying. Just keep experimenting until you find the location and maintenance routine that keeps your Rosemary thriving. If the plant turns brown, move it out of sight to the back of your indoor garden. It still smells good when you give it a pet and no one, but you will know.

Change things up this season with the addition of one or more of these indoor evergreen trees. They are sure to brighten your spirits and holiday décor.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener’s Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses “How to Grow Anything” DVD series and the nationally-syndi-



cated Melinda’s Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www.melindamyers.com.

Latest antique and collectibles news

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving and is enjoying the start of the holiday season. There have been many antiques, collectibles and auction related news reports since my last recap over a month ago, so it’s time to get caught up.

In local news, our recent Webster auction of Corvettes, boats, car parts and estate items was very successful. A 1962 Corvette brought the highest amount at \$30,000.

In global news, Reuters reports that a rare manuscript by Albert Einstein recently sold at auction. The 54-page manual was written by Einstein and Swiss physicist Michele Besso, who was Einstein’s close friend and academic partner. According to Reuters, the manuscript offered insights on Einstein’s theory of relativity “that laid the groundwork for modern cosmology and technology such as GPS navigation.” The document was created by the pair between 1913 and 1914 and Einstein’s theory of relativity was published in 1915. Documents by Einstein from before 1919 are considered very rare. The pre-auction estimate was 2 to

3 million euros. It sold for 11.7 million euros (\$13.17 million U.S.).

Elsewhere, the holidays just got a little brighter for a fan of the movie “Elf.” The outfit Will Ferrell wore while playing Buddy the Elf just sold at an auction along with over 1,000 additional pieces of Hollywood memorabilia. The Buddy costume had an auction estimate of between \$27,600 and \$41,000. An unidentified buyer paid almost ten times that estimate when it sold for nearly \$300,000. The volleyball from the Tom Hanks movie “Cast Away” sold for even more at \$388,750.

Another recent article tells the story of a London-based dealer who spotted a rare jade figure in a New York auction, as reported by England’s Daily Mail. In his 2005 book, Geoffrey Munn wrote about Fabergé dealers Wartski. One of the objects he discussed was a jade T-Rex dinosaur created by Carl Fabergé. The piece is believed to have been created for Russian Emperor Nicholas II. Munn and other experts believed that the carving was lost forever until Munn recently spotted it for sale at a New York auction house. Prior to going to auction, the piece had been



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
.....
WAYNE TUISKULA



on display in a local family’s cabinet for 40 years. It’s believed that a child who played with it broke and lost two arms on the dinosaur. Despite the damage, the T-Rex surged past the \$800 to \$1,200 estimate to sell for over \$81,000. Experts think that without damaged arms it could have brought over \$300,000. I’m happy to learn that the dinosaur that went missing for all of this time wasn’t extinct.

We are currently cataloging the next model railroad, die-cast cars and models auction which go live this month. We are also currently accepting consign-

ments of higher value antiques and collectibles for our next multi-estate auction. Sterling silver, gold jewelry, coins, antique paintings, old comic books, baseball cards and advertising items are just some of the items we are accepting on consignment for that sale.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com

BLANCHETTE

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entially providing more flexibility to property owners.

The uses listed as “permitted by right” in the old regulations required similar or more stringent permitting

requirements than the new 2020 zoning regulations. There are exceptions, but from my experience the new zoning regulations generally make it easier, quicker and cheaper for property owners to get permits for the most common types of residential and commercial projects. The new zoning regulations adopted in 2020 aren’t perfect. No zoning reg-

ulations are. Zoning regulations are always works in progress with towns continually adopting text amendments over time with input from residents and as unforeseen new uses, such as solar farms or cannabis dispensaries, are considered.

JANET J. BLANCHETTE
NORTH GROSVENORDALE



OBITUARIES

Gary E. Roy, 61

Gary E. Roy, 61 of Thompson, CT passed away at home on November 21, 2021 after a more than two year battle with lung cancer. His loving wife and best friend of 28 years, Lori (LeBeau) Roy, son, Nickolas Roy, daughters, Maegan Roy & Kristi Langevin, and grandson Brayden Roy, surrounded him with unending love and support up to his final moments here on earth. Gary was born on January 27, 1960 in Putnam, CT to Lucille (Basinet) Daniels. His father, Eugene Roy, predeceased him in 2014. He is also survived by his sister Debbie (Roy) Barrette, half-sister Karen Roy, in-laws Richard & June LeBeau, and aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family.

Gary attended Putnam High School, class of 1978. After high school, he worked several different jobs until starting his 31 year career in the supermarket industry. Gary worked at First National, Park n Shop and ended his career at Price Chopper as an Assistant Meat Manager. He developed great friendships with many coworkers.

Gary was a huge sports fan and enjoyed watching the Boston Red Sox and the NY Giants. More importantly, he loved watching his children play

sports and did everything he could to attend all their games to cheer them on. Gary was an avid Fantasy Football player, playing in multiple leagues. He also played softball for numerous teams in the local area in his younger years.

Gary's friendships are a testament to who he was and what he meant to all who loved him. He is survived and will be forever missed by many cherished friends, including Bob, Sherry, Joe, Dennis, Jimmy, Donny, Cliff, & Larry to name a few.

Nothing in life made Gary happier than laying by the pool with a Coors Light in his hand, vacations on OOB, and long motorcycle rides with his wife. He will forever live on in our hearts as a hard-working, caring, selfless, organized, & energetic social butterfly with a great sense of humor. He was a dedicated family man, cherishing time with his children and grandchild.

A funeral service will be held Saturday, December 4, 2021 at 10:30am at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam, CT, followed by a burial ceremony at St. Mary's Cemetery, Providence Street, Putnam, CT. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the family's Go Fund Me page at <https://gofund.me/6e1af33c>.

Share a memory at [Smithandwalkerfh.com](https://www.smithandwalkerfh.com)

Donald "Donnie" A. Hess, 80

Eastford- Donald "Donnie" A. Hess 80 of Eastford died Friday, November 19, 2021 at Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam after a brief illness. He was born in Putnam on March 26, 1941, the son of the late Arthur and Helen (Bosworth) Hess. Donald worked for the Town of Eastford's road crew for a number of years.

He was an avid fisherman and hunter. He took great pride in maintaining his property. Donald was meticulous when

it came to mowing his lawn and he was especially proud of his backyard pond. Donald leaves his brother Arthur "Sonny" Hess of Eastford, and numerous cousins. He also leaves his caregivers Kevin Shead, Audrey Carabeau and Shawn Marie Lengel of Eastford. He had a special bond with his Aunt June Staveski of Eastford. Donald's family would like to thank the staff at Matulaitis Nursing Home for the excellent care they provided. A graveside service will be Saturday December 11 at 11:00 AM at the Eastford Grove Cemetery, Route 198 in Eastford. Share a memory at [Smithandwalkerfh.com](https://www.smithandwalkerfh.com)

Elizabeth E. Shalvey, 69

N. Grosvenordale, CT- Elizabeth E. (Connolly) Shalvey age 69 passed away Thursday, November 25, 2021 at Backus Hospital Palliative Care, Norwich, CT. She leaves her loving husband of 24 years, Liam J. Shalvey of N. Grosvenordale, CT and her daughter Catriona Shalvey of Thompson, CT. Betty also leaves a brother

Francis Connolly of Boston, two sisters, Mary Crowley of Woburn, MA and Kathy Dee of Framingham, MA. She had a sister and a brother who predeceased her, William Connolly and Jean Connolly both of Boston, MA. She

was born in Boston, MA, daughter of the late Francis Connolly and Albina (Murphy) Connolly. Betty was a quality insurance specialist at the Putnam Bank. There are no calling hours. A Celebration of Life will be held 1 PM on Saturday, December 4, 2021 at the Valley Springs Sportsmen Club, Valley Rd., N. Grosvenordale, CT. Please omit flowers, donations in her memory may be made in her memory to the Alzheimer's Association. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or a memory.

Change yourself to change your situation



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
TOBY MOORE

We've all experienced times when things were going well, we were moving towards a goal, and suddenly things began to sour. A new manager may be putting negative pressure on you, and maybe a family member is constantly angry with you - no matter what you say or do, it's wrong. Situations like this are most challenging. It's hard to move forward. We lose the spring in our step; we let our heads droop down, we wonder why everything has to be so bad. We go home

at night, and we dread the next day. We wonder how it will be possible to make it through.

You say your prayers and beg for a change; you confide in your loved ones; They try to help, but nothing they say seems to make a difference.

The positive thoughts become few and far between. You try to be positive, but with a bad attitude, you think to yourself, "I just have to keep putting one foot in front of the other."

The fact is, things don't always go the way we plan. We plan for great things, and then not-so-great things can happen. We have great expectations, but sometimes those expectations are crushed.

When life becomes

like this, it's easy to get negative; It's easy to get stuck; it's easy to think things will always be like this.

I used to believe that when life gives you lemons, you should squirt your enemies in the eye, but is that the best way?

Years ago, I had a job where everything was running smoothly; it was all under control. Suddenly a new manager was hired, and life became very different. Initially, I was ok with the pressure, but it became too much. I couldn't stand to be at work, and I was distraught. It was a good job, and I didn't want to leave, but I didn't feel like I could deal with it any longer. I prayed, and I read, seeking a solution. I tried to change my

manager, but nothing seemed to work; I lost my cool.

After some time, I realized I wasn't going to change the situation, nor was I going to change my manager, but instead, I was the one who needed changing.

Sometimes to overcome a problem, it isn't about changing the other person; it's about changing yourself. Often our reaction to what's happening is the problem. We have a choice.

I've had family members get angry at me, and my reaction only made things worse. I'd try to show them the error of their ways, I'd complain to other family members, I'd think of ways to change them, but it never worked. The only time things became

peaceful again was when I changed myself when I changed my reaction.

The other person may change, but it usually won't happen according to our time frame. When you can't change the situation, it might be because it's time to change your attitude and feel about it.

They say everything in life is only for a season; is that true?

Oddly enough, when I finally adjusted my attitude and gave up trying to change my manager and the situation, when I accepted that I was the one that needed changing and I took steps to let go and become flexible, my manager was fired.

After reading that, I know some of you are going to change real fast! Don't get your hopes up!

Ha-ha!

When he was gone, I missed him. I realized how much he had changed me and what valuable life lessons I learned in the process.

Everything in life is only for a season; whatever you're going through won't last forever; soon, you'll be in a new season with new challenges. Make the most of each season. Allow the season to change you; it will prepare you for the next season.

Gandhi said, "...as a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him...." Is that true?

Try it and see.

CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD HOLDS THANKSGIVING SERVICE



Photo Courtesy

Lots of great things are happening at The Church of the Good Shepherd in West Woodstock! Thanksgiving Worship was held on Nov. 21 to the spirited sound of Bluegrass Gospel music, followed by a potluck Thanksgiving feast. Edward Bradley, Church Organist, formed the bluegrass band from church members and friends, and it is believed to be the first one in the church's history. Those present at the service enjoyed the performance. Tim Dodge, a lifelong member, said, "I thought the gospel band exhibited strong power and presence, something dearly needed. I found myself tapping and moving along with their music. I hope this can become more common and a routine rather than an exception." Edward Bradley says, "As part of our commitment to having our music program appeal to all of our diverse congregation, we are offering a wide variety of musical styles, so watch for the return of the bluegrass gospel band in the new year, as well as our new brass quartet and traditional choir on Christmas eve!"



Photo Courtesy

DROPPING OFF ORNAMENTS

The month of November has been a very busy time for the Putnam Rotary Club's Interact Club. Students from Putnam High, Woodstock Academy and Quinebaug Middle College created more than 75 handmade beautiful ornaments. Roberta Rocchetti, Putnam Rotary Interact advisor, dropped off the ornaments to Daily Bread to be distributed to senior and medically compromised families. From left: Roberta Rocchetti, Janet Watson and Ann Phillips.

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OBITUARIES

Dennis Patrick Dougherty

Dennis Patrick Dougherty, best known as “Doc”, of Brooklyn, CT passed away peacefully with family at his side on November 22, 2021.



Doc was born on May 5, 1942 in Queens, New York to William Francis Dougherty and Virginia Frances Dougherty (Melville). He was a 1960 graduate of Seton Hall High School and served in both the United States Marine Corps and Navy. He was a proud Force Reconnaissance Marine who is remembered for his three tours in the Vietnam War, serving two with the Marines and one with the Navy. Doc was the recipient of the Purple Heart, National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal (Bronze Star), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and the Navy Unit Commendation Ribbon.

Anyone who knew Doc will remember his Irish wit, impressive dance skills, and love of the “doo wops”. He loved to regale his family and friends with stories of sports and dance hall memories, as well as his fair share of mischief. It only took one look at Doc’s nose to know that he followed in his father’s, “Willie the Whip” footsteps as a boxer. In 1961 he was named the Marine Corps First Runner up in the Light Heavyweight division, and returned in 1962 to take the Championship in the same weight class.

Despite his ability to excel in his trade as an HVAC technician, his tool of choice for most other repairs was

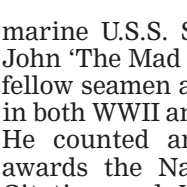
duct tape. Traditionally on birthdays and Christmases he was showered with two items of which he could not get enough: books and socks. Doc was an avid reader of history in particular, and wore through socks as if he was being paid to do so. His dream of owning land became a reality when he purchased 15 beautiful acres in Brooklyn CT, moving from Sound Beach, Long Island to Brooklyn, CT in 1988. One of his favorite pastimes was to ride his tractor to care for the property in which he took so much pride.

Doc was predeceased by his parents William and Virginia Dougherty, as well as two sisters Maureen Dougherty and Virginia Lehoe (Dougherty). He is survived by his children Deborah Flaherty (Dougherty), William Dougherty and James Dougherty. He also leaves behind siblings William Dougherty and Anne Quartararo (Dougherty); his grandchildren Joseph Flaherty, Emma Flaherty and Aidan Scesny; his ex-wife Pamela Sullo (Moorman) and her children Donna Scesny (McMahon) and Cynthia McMahon. He is also survived by his dog, Max, who he tenderly referred to as “the love hound.”

At Doc’s request, there will be no funeral or memorial services. An “In Memory Of” headstone will be placed at the State Veterans Cemetery in Middletown to commemorate his service. Doc’s cremated remains will be spread by family at his favorite spots on the property he loved. Per his wishes some will also be scattered at the burial sites of the many loyal dogs that roamed the land with him throughout the years including Foo, Pepper, Buster, and Mitzzy. Another portion will be saved in the home to watch over his disabled and dependent son, William, where upon his death their ashes will be combined to be together in eternity.

John Manuilow, 99

John Manuilow, 99, of Brooklyn passed away on Sunday November 21, 2021, at Westview Healthcare Center in Dayville. Today we lost our hero, John Manuilow. Heaven gained an angel as he joined his beloved wife of over 50 years, Ida Manuilow (Williams). Born in Dilles Bottom, OH, to the late Andy and Harpina, John was a proud torpedoman who served in the U.S. Navy for 20 years.



John’s fondest memories and most spirited stories centered around his time serving on the submarine U.S.S. Silversides. Known as John ‘The Mad Russian’ Manuilow by fellow seamen and in print, he toured in both WWII and the Korean Conflict. He counted among his significant awards the Navy Presidential Unit Citation and WWII Victory Medal. After John’s retirement from the Navy, he was employed by Glass Containers in Dayville, CT. John loved his trips to the New London Submarine Base and later the Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse where he and his buddies recounted their glory days.

The only part of John’s life that rivaled his love for the Navy was his family. His marriage to Ida was one for the ages; you would never find one without the other. Proud husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfa-

ther, he spent his days grilling, swimming, day-tripping in the Astro van and tending his gardens. John shared a very special bond with each of his children that endured to the end. To his grandchildren, John was larger than life: stronger and braver than any other man in the world. You could always count on John no matter how arduous the task or large the bowl of ice cream. Never one to say no to his grandchildren, he and Ida would brave the elements, no matter how hot, cold or mosquito-y.

In addition to his parents and wife, John was predeceased by his siblings Mary, Pete, Andrew, Alexander and Pauline and his son, Dennis. He leaves his children Karen (Raymond) Brendlinger, Joanne (Timothy) Lantry and John (Christine) Manuilow all of Brooklyn, CT. His grandchildren, Jennifer Manuilow, Dennis (Christina) Manuilow, Jr., Rene (Jon) Muller, Nicole (Conor) Clifford, Kyle Manuilow and Wade Manuilow.

John was blessed with great grandsons Collin Manuilow and Merrick and Hudson Clifford, who brought him great joy. He leaves behind extended family in Ohio and West Virginia who played an important role in his life. A calling hour was held on Wednesday November 24, 2021, from 10:00-11:00AM followed by a funeral service at 11:00AM in Tillinghast Funeral Home 433 Main Street Danielson. Burial followed in Dayville Cemetery, with full military honors. John is already missed beyond measure. tillinghastfh.com

Please support winter boot drive in Woodstock

WOODSTOCK — Because warm, winter boots are a basic need of children here in New England and something every child deserves, the Woodstock Democratic Town Committee will partner with TEEG for the second straight year to help fill this special need.

WDTC invites residents to participate in our Holiday Winter Boot Drive to benefit children from Woodstock and neighboring towns. The event takes place Saturday, Dec. 4, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the

Woodstock Volunteer Fire Station #76, 399 Route 169 (next to the Town Hall), in South Woodstock.

Please bring new, unwrapped winter boots in children’s sizes for either gender and in original packaging to the boot drive. Volunteers will direct you and accept your donations.

The Democratic Town Committee will present all donations to TEEG. In its role as a youth services bureau, TEEG will distribute the donated boots to deserving families in Woodstock and neighboring communi-

ties it serves.

Donors who prefer to contribute cash can bring donations to the boot drive or mail checks, payable to TEEG, to WDTC, attn: Holiday Winter Boot Drive, P.O. Box 813, Woodstock, CT 06281. Cash donations will be used to purchase additional boots for area children.

In 2020, TEEG served 160 households (representing 387 individuals) in Woodstock. The goal this year is to collect 100 pairs of donated boots. Please help make that happen, for the kids!

PUTNAM — The Putnam Business Association has this knack — coming up with fun, creative ways to tickle shoppers’ taste buds. This Holiday Season is no different. What’s better than cookies and special drinks? The first annual Cookie Crawl is set for Saturday, Dec. 4. After you’ve signed up, you can stop by any three participating businesses and sample their Cookie Crawl specials. If that sounds like fun, sign up online at coordinator@putnambusiness.org (\$25) and you can go to three of the places listed below for a special cookie and drink.

And go to the Putnam Business Association’s FB page for updates right up until Dec. 4.

Chubby Dog Coffee Co. 9 a.m. to noon. Classic Chocolate Chip Cookie. “Chubby Santa” Christmas Blend Coffee. (164 Main St.)

Bill’s Bread and Breakfast 8 a.m. to noon. Mint Chocolate Chip Cookie. Large coffee. (149 Providence St.)

Bear Hands Brewery noon to 5 p.m. Chocolate Peanut Butter Stout and Peanut Butter Cookies. 85 Main

“We’re working on something very special.” (85 Main St.)

Courthouse Bar and Grille Noon to 5 p.m. Gingerbread Cookie. Gingerbread Martini (121 Main St.)

Renee’s Bistro & Catering Service 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Caramel Cookie Bar. Zero Proof Hot Buttered “Rum” (142 School St.)

Little Falls Nutrition 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. A Small Cookie Dough Shake, A Winger Hydration Tea. (6 Pomfret St.)

LEGALS

TOWN OF THOMPSON

On November 22, 2021 the following wetlands agent approval was issued: Application # WAA21025 approved with conditions, RTE193, LLC, 49 Thompson Rd (Assessor’s Map 87, Block 53, Lot 8) - Construction of an event barn with associated parking & drainage, portions of which are located in the 100-foot upland review area. Marla Butts, Wetlands Agent December 3, 2021

TOWN OF BROOKLYN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF ACTION

The Zoning Board of Appeals held a public hearing and special meeting, on Monday, November 22, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. held at the Clifford B. Green Conference Room, 69 South Main Street Brooklyn, CT and via WebEx. The following action was taken:

1. ZBA-21-006 Sean and Lisa Donovan, 3 Bailey Woods Road, Map-32, Lot-12, Acres 1.14, RA Zone. 24’ above ground pool and 10’x 12’ deck. Swimming Pool is approximately 15’ from rear property line. Deck is approximately 15’ from the side property line. Requesting variance from sections 3.C.5.2.2 and 3.C.5.2.3 from the minimum side and rear yard setbacks on this corner lot, from 50 feet to 15 feet for both the side and rear yard setbacks. APPROVED.

2. ZBA-21-007 Joshua Moyer, 14 Kara Road, Map-32, Lot 10, Acres 0.55, RA Zone. Construct a 12’x 24’ wooden fabricated shed on gravel base. Requesting variance from section 3.C.5.2.2 for the minimum side yard setback, from 20 feet for an accessory building, to 15 feet. APPROVED.

Dated this 23rd day of November 2021 Any appeals are to be with the Supreme Court within 15 days from the legal notice appearing in the paper. Bruce Parsons Chairman December 3, 2021

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission held meeting on Monday, November 22, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT and made the following decisions:

PZC Application #21-28 Applicant Kristina Thorne, property owner Cody McCall, at 24 Border Trail, Map 164, Block 11, Map 26E, Zone RRD, Requesting a Permit with Site Plan Review for an in-home family daycare, Zoning Regulation Article 4A, Section 2-6. Continued from October 25, 2021

Regular Meeting. Withdrawn **PZC Application #21-33** Applicant Ken Loiselle (Rte 193 LLC) and property owner of 49 Thompson Road, Map 87, Block 53, Lot 8, ZONE Thompson Commercial Development District, TCDD requesting a Permit with Site Plan Review for construction of an additional food and beverage service establishment, Event Barn, Zoning Regulations Article 4E, Section 2-12. Continued from October 25, 2021 Regular Meeting. Approved **PZC Application #21-33** Applicant Ken Loiselle (Rte 193 LLC) and property owner of 49 Thompson Road, Map 87, Block 53, Lot 8, ZONE Thompson Commercial Development District, TCDD requesting a Permit with Site Plan Review for construction of an additional food and beverage service establishment, Event Barn, Zoning Regulations Article 4E, Section 2-12. Continued from October 25, 2021 Regular Meeting. Approved **PZC Application 21-43** – Applicant Sara E. Alers, property owner John Madelenakis of 142 Old Turnpike, Map 3, Block 78, Lot 2/1 Zone /TCDD) Thompson Corridor Development District, to opening existing Restaurant and Bar, according to Zoning Regulations, Article 4E, Section 2Table of Permitted Uses, #13, Food and Beverage Estab-

lishment, Including Out Door Seating – Existing, Zoning Permit with Site Plan Review by the Commission. Approved with Conditions.

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 December 3, 2021

Town of Eastford Connecticut Planning Commission Notice of Decision

On November 16, 2021 the Planning Commission made the following decision:

File # 21-002 Lori Robert, Kennerson Reservoir Road, Eastford, CT. Change Unbuildable lot to Buildable lot for future sale. APPROVED Unanimously with conditions.

Details can be found in the minutes filed at the Town Clerk’s Office, Town Office Building, 16 Westford Road, Eastford, CT.

Dated at Eastford, CT this 23rd day of November 2021.

Susan Welshman Recording Secretary December 3, 2021

“Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper”

www.ConnecticutQuietCorner.com

Thompson Middle School honor roll

THOMPSON — Thompson Middle School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.	Recognition: Daniel Brinkley, Braeden Carlson, Amilia Fraser, Christopher Herlihy, Brendalis Labonte, Madison Mayer, Danika Minarik, Kellan Mrozinski, Kaylynn Proulx, Kaylee Reiner, Parker Smith, Sophie Sweeney, Nathan Tabor	Recognition: Ryleigh Asquith, Jacob Brosnihan, Sophia Lepino, Ayden Perry, Jaydin Sevigne	Mariya West
Grade 5 High Honors: Shyla Beckett, Deegan Bryniarski, Hazel Clavette, Emma Fournier, Sydney Jacobson, Sophia Kus, Paris Lowe, Andrew Marquette, Colin Mead, Jacob Saad, Shawn Sinni, Adylin Stewart Honors: Renji Bailey, Logan Bigness, Payton Bolte, Seth Breault, Ari-lynn Brunelle, Timothy Charbonneau, Abriana Cogoli, Bryce Davidson, Lucy Davies, Jeylia Denham, Isabellah Giacomuzzi, Deken Labby, Alexis Light, Jacob McHugh, Gia Reynolds-Rankin, Gracie Rybacki, Cameron Snow, Emmalyn Soullier, Jayden Watkins, Mason Wolf	Grade 6 High Honors: Lily Bogoslofski, Ashley Boudreau, Evelynnn Dos Santos, Camdyn Foster, Jeremi Helwig, Madison Perry, Gabriella Santos, Brody Vincent Honors: Graciella Baublitz, Danika Beliveau, Adam Boss, Payton Butler, Max Kinsella, Chloe McDonald, Rafaelle Mondarte, Jon Palmer, Brookelynn Pearson, Landon Perry, Aiden Rafferty, Parker Ring, Noelle Smith, Shane Somers, Joey Sweeney, Ryan Szarkowicz, Stanley Ten Eyck, Aleck Thurber, Ryan Walsh	Grade 7 High Honors: Julyanna Barrows, Maddison Carlson, Ella Davies, Andrew DiCicco, Estela Freitas, Samuel Hachigian, Brighton Keegan, Calleigh Levesque, Kennedy McCooley, Madison McHugh, Riley Nolin, Mabel Perreault, Samantha Podgorni, Jordyn Poplawski, Ella Sousa, Sophia St. Germain Honors: Aubri Bonin, Gabriel Bourget, Sarah Melnick, Luke Olszta, Kaydyn Racca, Chyanne Rock Recognition: Alexis Andrews, Dylan Axtell, Christopher Boss, Nicko Casto, Kaeden Mayo, Ellah Monahan, Alexia Munsch, Nina Poplawski, Matthew Rybacki, Amaya Sagastivelza-Muniz, Tessa Sheldon, Tristchion Speight,	Grade 8 High Honors: Dylan Bryniarski, Alex Davis, Conner Dawe, Amelia Duquette, Kaydence Foster, Katherine Gates, Lacie Keegan, Briana Martin, Ember Merrill, Lily Peckham, Elizabeth Poplawski Honors: Darcy Billings, Logan Boss, Hailey Collins, Sam Giroux, Vivanna Hill, Ava McClure, Sahara Moore, Tianna Ortiz, Alexis Phav, Nathan Plaza, Tyler Shead, Gaige Smith, Isabella Stewart, Joshua Tackson, Ellah Therrien Recognition: Anna Bell, Nicholas Cunningham-Ingram, Christian DeJesus, Gia DiPasquale, Sophia Tomany, Kevin Vescera

Tourtellotte Memorial High School honor roll

NORTH GROSVENORDALE — Tourtellotte Memorial High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.	Recognition: Avianna Blair, Aiden Bourget, Bailee Carlson, Nicholas Helwig, Christopher Holton, isabelle McGlynn, Hannah Mead, Serena Smith	Patricia Peterson, Peyton Richard, Joesiah Roman Recognition: Aidan DeFilippo, Darryel Duquesnay, Maxine Hazard, Brad Herlihy, Madyson Koziak, Koby Rock	Reese Gendreau, Deidrea Hanshaw Recognition: Mateo Alvarez, Daniel Boutin, Michael Carrion, Jaycee Castano, Colin McAllister, Aidan Zimmer	Honors: Alysha Bugbee, Trinity Davis, Katelyn Forcier, Nizayah Hedge, Ariel Kopas, Lemell Marshall, Mackenzie Minarik, Keira O'Brien, Zaria Pokropowicz, Joseph Poplawski, Ysabella Rocca, Cheyann Tiffany, Michaela Vandi Recognition: Mason Barber, Hayden Demers, Jonathan Ferraro, Olivia Lubomirski, Andrew McGlynn, Shane Yurkevcius
Grade 9 High Honors: Aaron Bickelhaupt, June Ferraro, Paige Kelley, Olivia Martocci, Megan Nachtigall, Pavanny Phav, Jackson Santos, Luke Senosk, Sofia Thurber Honors: Grace Akana, Gianna Brinson, Kali Carita, Lindsey Sturtevant	Grade 10 High Honors: Kaylee Beck, Avery Butler, Jordyn Butler, Audrey Defilippo, James Julian, Eric Levesque, Melanie Noonan Honors: Landon Corriveau, Elizabeth Davis, Alex Harris, Tara Heffernan, Isabelle Nieves, Connor Pederson,	Grade 11 High Honors: Evan Antonson, Kayla Botelho, Hanna LeClaire, Alexander Nachtigall, Chloe Manzo, Allison Thebeau Honors: Taylor Annis, Madelynn Copley, Javier DeJesus, Shawn Gauthier,	Grade 12 High Honors: Zeynep Acun, Kyle Busha, Kyle Cournoyer, Alivia Dalpe, Leah Demers, Brooke Fettig, Alexander Grauer, Kaylin Griggs, Kaylin Kochinskas, Deanna LaPerle, Lucas Perreault, Kylee Smith, Jadyn Tretheway	

In the Studio

CYNTHIA SAARI

“In the Studio” is a newer feature for the Villager Newspapers. The Quiet Corner is home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, handcraft, performing art, art education, and graphic art. In this semi-weekly series, we’ll talk with our artist neighbors and learn about their careers, current projects, and connections to our towns. We’ll also learn some “art-speak” terms in our conversations, demystifying some of those “artist words”.

This week the spotlight is on emerging artist, Lydia Tourtellotte. Growing up in Putnam and later moving to Woodstock, Lydia earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Suffolk College in Boston, with a dual major in Entrepreneurship. She uses oils, charcoal, pastels, marker, watercolor, and photography in her work. Her passion for and experimentation in fine art is expressed in images on her website lydiatourtellotte.com. I learned a lot in our interview!

Lydia is currently teaching art and photography at Marianapolis Preparatory High School in Thompson, balancing work with students, dorm duty and coaching volleyball with travels and commissions.

You are truly inspiring and I’m sure that you pass this on to your students. Tell me, who inspired you as a young artist?

There are two people who come to mind right away. First, my dad (Jim Tourtellotte), who is a graphic designer. I was always making art as a child, and my father was a great guide and role model—not only as an artist, but also as a small business owner. Second, would be my predecessor as art teacher at Marianapolis, Rebecca Patenaude. She taught me so much about teaching art to young adults and fully utilizing resources in the classroom as well as sharing experience to develop creativity in others.

I chose some images from your Web site, and would love to get some details.

You recently travelled to Florence, Italy. How did that impact you as an artist?

I went on many trips visiting sites where the most renowned artists worked such as Michelangelo, DaVinci, Giotto, Botticelli, Donatello, and many more. I saw the small studio spaces where they once worked, the churches not only decorated but built by many of the same artists; I visited the tombs they carved and were buried beneath, along with masterpieces from their careers such as the David and the Sistine Chapel.

Most of my time was spent exploring the city and bringing along paints or drawing supplies. After classes, I would sit on street corners or down by the Arno River, in an attempt to capture the experience of the Renaissance and



Urban Blues (2019) charcoal, pastel, and acrylic on canvas

bask in its magnificent history. I am more than ever inspired by art history. To dive into processes and learn how people navigated the world at that time is something I hold a great respect for.

We talked a little bit about your interest in pursuing “film” photography. Tell us a bit more about that.

I first took film photography in high school at Marianapolis [class of 2016] with my former teacher, Caitlin Sundby. My first days in a dark room were surreal. I had never witnessed art in such a scientific and experimental-like fashion. It showed me that there are extensive ways to be creative. The film aspect allowed me to manually alter and control every part of a photograph, similar to painting and drawing which I was used to. After high school, I tried my best to keep this aspect of my creative style with me. I continued taking film photos, but had to pay for the film development. I then began using these photographs in my artwork as a collage element.

How important is art history to being a studio artist? Any thoughts on why it is important in general?

My initial thoughts on studio artists in relation to history are on the development of a proper studio practice. History has shown much of what is safe, what is not, and how to best prepare your own practice in responsible ways. As a fine artist, I have taken away the most understanding from contemporary art history.

Learning about contemporary art is essential for any practicing artist. It opens doors to an entire newly transformational society. The term contemporary is truly a beginning to new artistic movement. What I learned to appreciate is Dadaism or the movement of the “avant-garde” which challenges societies’ acceptance of what art can really mean. These artists are sometimes more business-oriented and have a deep understanding of the psychology of art essential to their successes.

Do you have art supplies with you at any given moment?

I try to have something on me. In Boston, I would carry a pad of paper and a pouch of pencils, charcoal, and pens. I still have those drawing mate-



Running Wild on Winter Farms, Peoa, Utah (2020) oil on linen



Wisdom is Better Than Silver or Gold (2014) pen and watercolor on paper

rials on me all the time, but not paper always.

If you could ask ANY artist a question, who and what would that be?

I would ask Albert Bierstadt (German-American landscape painter) “how did you paint from real life every day and learn how to continue to finish the painting as the light changed or as the days got dark?” He lived before cameras and modern technology, and across the country during the mid to late 1800s. His artwork portrays insanely detailed scenes of American landscapes...how he did that, traveling with constant change, I can hardly comprehend.

Thank you so much Lydia. It’s been a pleasure getting to know you and see your work!

Word of the day

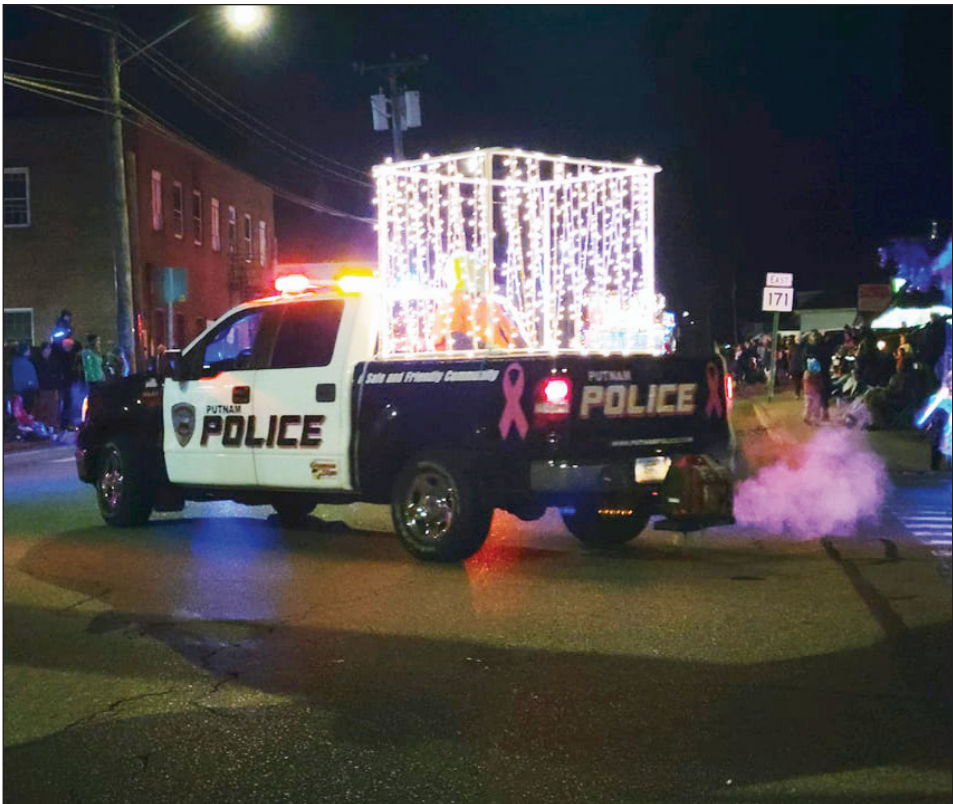
Raw canvas: Canvas is a plain-woven fabric typically made out of cotton and, to a lesser extent, linen. Raw canvas has not been primed with a material such as gesso. Priming is the process of creating a barrier between the canvas and the paint of a paint-

ing. Typically, this is done by applying layers of acrylic gesso, clear acrylic medium, or traditional Hyde glue [a type of glue commonly used in furniture making] and oil priming white. ... Gesso serves as a waterproof surface that allows your paint to spread evenly across the canvas. Gesso (Italian: “gypsum” or “chalk”) [is a] fluid white coating, composed of plaster of Paris, chalk, gypsum, or other whiting mixed with glue. (Britannica.com)

Dadaism: a movement in art and literature based on deliberate irrationality and negation of traditional artistic values (Merriam-Webster.com)

About the writer: Cynthia Saari (Woodstock) is a nationally recognized framework glass artist. She has exhibited her work & taught for over 20 years; her glass beads have been included in numerous publications & invitations. Significant projects include costume work for the Santa Fe Opera, and framework demonstrator at the Peabody Essex Museum. Cynthia offers talks & workshops in the Quiet Corner; she is an adjunct professor of art at a local college.

Parade of lights



Photos Courtesy Mandy Orlowski
The town of Putnam welcomed the holiday season with its 20th Annual Dazzle Light Parade this past weekend.



News, really close to home



Patio Door Special!

Window Special!

Special ends on
December 31st

SAVE 20%
on patio doors¹

SAVE 20%
on windows¹

SAVE 20%
on installation¹

WITH

NO NO NO
Money Down Payments Interest
FOR 1 YEAR²



- Our patio doors will continue to slide smoothly for years using **Andersen’s dual ball-bearing engineering**
- Our composite Fibrex® material is **twice as strong as vinyl**, so our weather-tight seals stay weather-tight
- We handle the entire process—from **selling to installation to the warranty**—on our windows and patio doors, so if you ever have an issue, you’re covered
- Our **5-point locking system** on our patio doors provides top-of-the-line security and peace of mind

We handle every part of
the replacement process

- ✓ **Sell**
- ✓ **Custom-Build**
- ✓ **Install**
- ✓ **Warrant**



“ My wife and I could not be happier with the product and installation of our Renewal by Andersen windows. We own a home that was built in 1839 and had the windows replaced in the first floor of the oldest section of the home. We are so pleased with the outcome, we are now planning on replacing the remaining windows ahead of other remodeling options. ”

- Jeff S., Mystic, CT

Connecticut: 4.9 ★★★★★ 1,457 Google reviews



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by ANDERSEN
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

CERTIFIED
MASTER
INSTALLER

Call for your FREE
Window and Patio
Door Diagnosis

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¹Subject to availability, on a total purchase of 3 or more. Initial contact for a free Window and Patio Door Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 12/31/21, with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. ²No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available from third-party lenders to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Products are marketed, sold and installed (but not manufactured) by Renewal by Andersen retailers, which are independently owned and operated under CT HIC.0634555. MA 173245. RI 36079. Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. Southern New England Windows LLC is the authorized representative of Renewal by Andersen and the registered Home Improvement Contractor. Renewal by Andersen does not hold this HIC number. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard will be subject to an island surcharge. See complete information and entity identification at www.rbaguidelines.com. ©2021 Andersen Corporation. ©2021 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

‘Ringing’ in the donations



Lynn and Morgan Fontaine.

PUTNAM — The Putnam Rotary Club’s Interact Club and friends braved the rain, wind and cold on Thanksgiving weekend to kick off its annual Salvation Army bell ringing campaign.

The first weekend raised more than \$3,000, which included a \$500 donation from the Putnam Rotary Club. The bell ringing fund-raiser campaign continues from 9 a.m.

to 5 p.m. Dec. 4, 11 and 18 at Putnam Stop & Shop, Putnam Walmart, Putnam Supermarket and Price Chopper. Volunteers included: Pastor Bernie Norman and members of Creation Church; teachers from Ashford school -- Melissa McDonough, Mandi Courtois, Lynn Fontaine, The Brown Family, the Horn Family and the Burnham Family, Haley and Jeff Olsen (Rotaract), Mike and Leo Rocchetti, Christine Denaker and Dawn Rivers. Student bell ringers included: Woodstock Academy -- Carleigh Boisvert, Marissa O’Sullivan, Ethan Craig, Sydney Schuler, Elizabeth Lovrien, Zack White, Grayson Webber, Claire Anderson, Stella Brin, Emma Blanchette, Delaney Canty, Curtis Lefebvre, Lauren Brule, Leila Mackinnon, Alexandra & Alyssa Thompson, Owen Tracy, Hector Konig (Spain), Abby Smith, Page Owens, Abby Morin, Curtis Desabre, Ava Hovestadt, Alexandra Mattioli, Amber Ahearn, Ava Coutu, Livia and Max Gerum; From Putnam High-- Jenny Boriboun, Amy Vongvirath, Vincent Young, Abigail Fitts, Bailey Touchette, Emily St. Martin, Allyson diNola, Elysse and Sawyer Britt; From Pomfret School -- Maya Gerum; From EO Smith -- Isabell McDonough, Morgan Fontaine; From Plainfield High -- Austin Smith; From QMC -- Madie Briquier, Navaeh Ivory. Rotarians who helped set up included: Club President Scott Pempek, Joseph Adiletta, Fred Chmura, Charlie Puffer, Mike Rocchetti, Doug Porter, Jack and Sophie Archambault.

Photo Courtesy

PUTNAM LIONS SHOW SUPPORT FOR LEGION



Photo Courtesy

Putnam Lions Club members Steve and Leia Faucher present Mayotte-Viens American Legion Post #13 Commander Michael Vassar (right) a check for \$480 in support of the Post’s charitable programs. The donation is the result of the monthly Lions Club trivia night that was held at the Crossings Restaurant on Thursday, Nov. 18. According to Commander Vassar, the funds will be used to support two veteran families during the Christmas season.



QUEST MARTIAL ARTS STUDENTS EARN PROMOTION

Photo Courtesy

Grandmaster Mike Bogdanski and Master Kristin Duethorn of Quest Martial Arts in Thompson announce the promotion of the following students. Orange Dragon — Cody Lenihan, Noel Leon, Gnan Patel, Isabella Reyes; Yellow belt — Evan Ekman, Frederick Zangerl, Grant Donaldson, Aidan Powell, Evoleht Powell, Charlot Rochette; Orange

black belt — Nathaniel Franklin; Blue-White Belt — Mahalia Winsey, Joshua Osborne; Blue Belt — Layla Benoit; Blue-Green Belt — Salem Lambert; Green-Red Belt — Huxley DeSouza; Blue belt — Wyatt Campbell, Douglas George, Ron Olivieri, Jr.; Apprentice black belt — Olivia Bedard, Georgia Cross, Vincenzo DiMeglio, Anthony Mills, Olivia (CJ) Orthmann, Brynn Perry, Gary Powell.

grat·i·tude

/ˈgrɑːt(y)oʊd/ noun

1. the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.

The Northeast District Department of Health is grateful for the opportunity and support to prevent illness, promote wellness and protect public health during these extraordinary days...and every day.

NDDH COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Schedule for Unvaccinated Ages 5+ and Boosters

Tuesdays 10 am – 2 pm & Thursdays 2 – 6 pm
NDDH Office, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn

Walk-ins welcome • FREE • No insurance needed • No appointment needed for Tues/Thurs clinics

Vaccines Available	For Ages	# of shots needed to be fully vaccinated	WHO can get a COVID-19 booster and when you can get it
Pfizer	5+	2 (21 days apart) Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian	Ages 18+ At least 6 months after a second dose of Pfizer or Moderna
Moderna	18+	2 (28 days apart)	
Johnson & Johnson	18+	1	Ages 18+ At least 2 months after a J & J vaccine

You may have a preference, but you can receive **any** authorized COVID-19 vaccine as a booster.

In addition, “BOOSTER-Only” Clinics being held BY APPOINTMENT:

Wednesdays 12/1 and 12/8 2:00- 6:00pm

Quinebaug Valley Senior Citizens Center

69 South Main Street, Brooklyn (front of building)

CALL 860-774-1243 for an appointment for these booster-only clinics.

Vaccination offers protection *and* peace of mind. Find a COVID-19 vaccination site near you:



<https://www.vaccines.gov/>
<https://www.nddh.org/>

This message is grant-funded by the CT Department of Public Health



Nominations sought for Putnam High School Wall of Honor

PUTNAM — Nominations are being accepted for the 2022 honorees to the Putnam High School Wall of Honor.

Established in 2016, the wall commemorates the achievements of Putnam High School graduates who used their educational careers at the school to distinguish themselves in their chosen careers. It also recognizes staff members who have made significant contributions to the school and community.

In addition to recognizing outstanding alumni, the wall provides a reminder to present students that a Putnam High School diploma can be used as a springboard to bring honor to themselves, their school and their community.

Only five honorees are recognized each year, and the class of 2022 will be

the fifth. Past inductees include medical professionals, educators, military personnel, government officials and successful business entrepreneurs.

An honoree must be five years removed from Putnam High to be considered for nomination. Following the initial submission of a nomination form, a candidate will remain eligible for induction for five additional years.

Application forms are available at the office of the Superintendent located at Putnam High School, WINY Radio, the Putnam Public Library, on-line at Putnam Public Schools or Wall of Honor Web sites, or calling 860-377-4631.

Deadline for submitting completed forms is Saturday, Jan. 15.

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(508) 909-4051

Stonebridge Press is looking for press helpers, and also a lead press operator for our Southbridge newspaper printing headquarters.

Previous pressroom experience is a big plus, but we will train the right person for this rewarding job. Positions are year-round Monday-Friday printing our 22 community newspapers that are distributed in three New England states.

You can also email your resume to
Jim@StonebridgePress.news