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Friday, December 16, 2016

Long-lasting language

“Daddy, I think she is talking in Spanish.”
 My wife and I were watching a second season episode of “Fuller House,” on Netflix last weekend (don’t judge me, bad sitcoms are a guilty pleasure), and my son walked and noticed one of the characters speaking in a foreign language (it might have been Italian, but to a child, every foreign language is “Spanish”). With his limited experience learning Spanish at school and at home (I’ve tried to pass on what I know for basic conversation — now’s the time!), he’s been catching times in life when English is not being spoken.

Earlier that morning, he was not feeling too well, and was sick to his stomach, so he was in the process of recovery. I sat down at my computer to put in some work cleaning out e-mails, and chuckled when he asked me, “Daddy, what’s Spanish for ‘I’m not sick anymore?’”

Now, if you are a former high school Spanish teacher of mine, you might want to shield your eyes at this next part — but I had no idea how to translate for him. I took four years of Spanish in high school from four different awesome teachers. I learned quite a bit. I was even in the Spanish Honor Society as a senior. That year was also the last time I ever spent any time learning Spanish. I kind of regret that. Everything I learned in those four years essentially went down the drain as the years went on.

I mentioned a Netflix show earlier on, but another one I recently watched was a former CBS show called “Limitless,” based on the recent Bradley Cooper movie of the same name. In it, a special drug called NZT allows people to access every part of their brain. Every memory back as far as the brain functions is remembered with absolute clarity. Every word of a previously read book can be recalled with a thought. Skills can be virtually downloaded with one pass through. As you can tell, in this fictional world, such a powerful drug creates many problems for our protagonist.

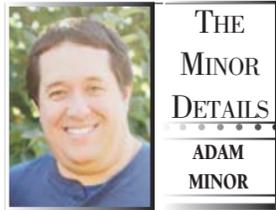
Anyway, all of that flashed through my head as I struggled to remember what “sick” translated to in Spanish. I tried my best to dust off the archives labeled “Spanish” in my brain, but the archives were buried too deeply beneath the avalanche created by 15 years of life. I had nothing. Even now, as I write this, I struggle to get anything more coherent than “Donde esta la biblioteca? (Where is the library?)” or “Me gusta las hamburguesas (I like hamburgers).”

There are many other random words that I have somehow remembered, like coche (car), casa (house), deportes (sports), pantalones (pants), the days of the week, most colors, and most all of the numbers. The more complex, sentence-building words, with verb conjugations and past, present and future tenses, are just completely gone. All of it would have come in handy when I was in El Salvador eight years ago, but unfortunately, even then I was so out of practice, I had to heavily lean on a translator to get anything done.

So flash forward back to last weekend. I can only hope that my son retains what he learns of whatever foreign language(s) he can absorb. He certainly is starting a lot earlier than I did!

By the way, the answer to “I’m not sick anymore” is: “Ya no estoy enfermo.” Thank you, Google Translate. And to my old Spanish teachers, I apologize. Lo siento.

Adam Minor may be reached at (508) 909-4130, or by e-mail at aminor@stonebridgepress.news.



THE MINOR DETAILS
 ADAM MINOR

Overdose scare leads to arrests in Danielson



Maya Almond-Lawson



Elijah Collins

BY JASON BLEAU
 NEWS STAFF WRITER

DANIELSON — An emergency situation in Danielson led to the arrest of two Windham County residents on child neglect charges after emergency responders found two individuals suffering from an overdose.

State Police out of the Troop D Barracks in Danielson released details on the incident on Dec. 2, noting that on Dec. 1, at about 7:30 p.m., troopers from the barracks were dispatched to a situation in the Danielson borough. Police determined there were two victims who had apparently overdosed and were in need of medical assistance. According

to the police report, the two victims, who were identified as Maya Almond-Lawson of Willimantic and Elijah Collins of Plainfield, both 23 years old, had allegedly smoked laced marijuana and were discovered unconscious.

Adding to the situation, police determined that a 5-year-old child was present at the time, being left unattended as a result of the two individuals being unconscious from the drug. First responders administered Narcan on the scene, an agent meant to counteract overdose symptoms in case of drug and opioid use. Police said this helped both victims recover from the situation. EMS personnel transported both victims to Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam for further treatment and added evaluations into their health hand conditions.

According to State Police report, the ensuing investigation determined that the five-year-old child was present at the residence in Danielson, the address of which was not revealed in the press release, during the time of the incident. The residents of the apart-

Please Read **ARRESTS**, page A14



Jason Bleau photos

Each ornament placed on the Christmas tree in Jewett City Savings Bank in Brooklyn was handled and made with love and care by the first graders of the town. Each student had a pretty good idea of where they wanted their decoration to hang on the tree throughout the holidays.

A 42-year tradition continues

BROOKLYN FIRST GRADERS DECORATE BANK’S CHRISTMAS TREE

BY JASON BLEAU
 NEWS STAFF WRITER

BROOKLYN — As one of the longest running seasonal traditions in the entire region, many local families look forward to the tree decorating at Jewett City Savings Bank each Christmas season.

For the 42nd year, first graders from Brooklyn Elementary School made the trip to the bank on Thursday, Dec. 8, to decorate a special Christmas tree inside the store with hand made ornaments and sing Christmas carols for parents and visitors alike as the bank opened for business. It’s a long running tradition that both the school and the bank take to heart as

it provides a fun activity for the children and their loved one, but also adds some Christmas cheer to the bank’s main lobby.

Melissa Waite, assistant vice president and regional branch manager of the Jewett City Savings Bank in Brooklyn, said that after 42 years she is pleasantly amazed that the tradition has continued as long as it has.

“It’s been a long time. It’s something they’ve been able to keep going, which is great. It’s great to have them here. It’s a nice community activity and we have adults who did it when they were in first grade and

Please Read **TRADITION**, page A14



THE YEAR THAT WAS

File photo

This issue of The Villager is the last regular edition of the calendar year, as next week’s paper (Dec. 23) will be a special “Sports Year in Photos” publication. The week after that (Dec. 30) will be our annual “Stonebridge Press Year in Photos.” We will return with our regular coverage in our Jan. 6, 2017 edition. From all of us here at Villager Newspapers — Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Welcome to ‘Our Father’s Table’

FAMILY ATMOSPHERE SHINES AT NEW THOMPSON CAFÉ

BY TERI STOHLBERG
 NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — Liz Benoit, manager and one of the owners of the new café, Our Father’s Table in Thompson, talks about the rehabbed old Riverside Drive building where they are located.

“Right before we were here, the place had been abandoned for a long time, but this place was a textile mill, J.H. Thomas and Sons, and right before that it was a milking barn. They used to milk the cows right here.”

Currently, the building also houses a



Teri Stohlberg photos

The staff at Our Father’s Table, includes, from left, Donna Rumrill, Brenna Baker, Liz Benoit and Sandy Lanasa (the little one is Natalya Rose Benoit).

Please Read **OUR FATHER’S TABLE**, page A14

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Funding approved for Community Fire Company equipment

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON—A small group of around 20 Thompson residents turned out for a town meeting on Dec. 12, where a universal vote of approval was cast to appropriate \$48,600 for equipment purchases by the Community Fire Company.

The appropriation total more than the single year appropriate for Community Fire Company in the town's budget, which in itself totals a \$47,500 expenditure in the town's established spending plan. The expenditure will

go towards the purchase of turnout gear, ladders, and air bottles for the departments to bring its equipment up to date and modern standards.

It only took around 15 minutes for voters to hear the arguments and cast their votes, but the meeting did shine some light on the expenses of the Community Fire Company through inquiries from Thompson taxpayer Paul Baer and Selectman Steven Herbert, who, while showing full support for the project, wanted a better understanding of where the money already budgeted to the department goes each year and why the department is unable to fund these improvements without a special appropriation. Community Fire Company Chief John Sharpe said the Community Fire Company has some of the highest expenses of any of the department in Thompson, which leaves little room for extra cash purchases any given year.

"Our fixed expenses are probably higher than anyone else," said Sharpe. "We have 24-hour coverage for ambulance. Our heating costs are higher. Our electricity costs are higher because we do have staff on duty 24/7. In 2008, we purchased a rescue truck for \$410,000. We have a USDA loan that's being paid at \$26,000 a year so that's a major chunk of what we get from the town and that's the last piece of equipment that we need to pay off."

Sharpe also pointed out that the department's most recent expense sheet for the current budget shows around \$17,000 being spent on pairs in maintenance, electrical expenses total over \$3,000, miscellaneous household supplies are over \$4,900, training is another \$3,000, and that's just part of the list. After the affirmative vote Sharpe told The Villager that he feels the investment is an important one to guarantee the fire

department can to serve that community to the best of the their ability with the safety of the firefighters fully intact.

"This is crucially important for the safety of the volunteers and our townspeople. The National Fire Protection Association puts a lot of mandates on not only volunteer, but professional services as well. We try to stay compliant to keep our volunteers safe and in doing so we need that extra funding through the town to make it come to fruition," said Sharpe.

While the chief added that he is grateful to the townspeople for their years contribution in the town's budget to help keep the Community Fire Company running, the normal funding amount is "very light" and makes it difficult for the department to keep the apartment's equipment fully up to date without impacting other expenses in the process.

"I appreciate everything the town does for us, but with the increase in costs and the sizable increase at that over the many years the funding just doesn't come to where it should be. That's why we had the need to really come here and express our concern that the volunteers are taken care of," Share concluded.

In an attempt to maybe offset the need for extra expenditures in the future, Sharpe also noted that the town and the fire department chiefs are working in collaboration to come up with a capital expenditure line item so that they don't have so they will have a pool of cash to look to for similar town meetings in the future. He called it more of a "maintenance program" so everybody has the ability to keep their people safe without creating unexpected financial commitment on the part of the townspeople as the money would already be set aside for such purposes.

Jason Bleau may be reached at 508-909-4129, or by e-mail at jason@stonebridgepress.com.



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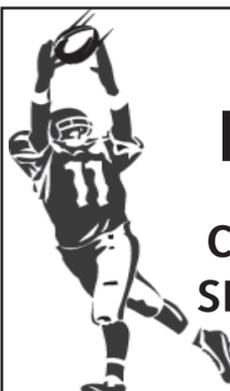
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VILLAGER ALMANAC
At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Dec. 5: American Kestrel, Bald Eagle, Great-horned Owl, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Mallard, American Tree Sparrow, Junco, Cooper's Hawk, Pileated Woodpecker, Goldfinch, Cardinal. Visit www.ctaudubon.org/center-at-pomfret.



TOUGH BACON!

CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

Remembering the old Times Square Restaurant building

On Dec. 4, the Times Square Restaurant building on the corner of Central and Academy streets in Danielson, one of the borough's oldest business blocks, was consumed by fire.

Keep in mind that this was a very desirable location at the time of its construction since the block was near the railroad depot. The building was originally constructed about 1860 by Silas Hyde, a leading businessman of the time. The Sept. 6, 1860 Windham County Transcript provided the following tidbit: "Mr. S. Hyde & Co. have removed their old store, and on the same site have erected a large wooden building... The building is three-stories high 30 by 80 feet. The first and second stories will be used by them, and on the third floor is a hall about 40 feet square, which it is supposed will be occupied by the 'brothers of the mystic tie.' Though the building has been erected more for room than show, yet when finished it will not be unattractive... The store removed by Messrs. Hyde & Co., has been placed on Academy Street, and so remodeled and improved as to make two convenient tenements."

A number of individuals owned this block during the 19th century. After Hyde came "Joseph D. Bates, Esq., of New York and Capt. O. M. Capron, of this village. These gentlemen have wisely made this purchase to place in business their sons — Charles M. Capron and George D. Bates. Mr. Silas Hyde, the senior member of the retiring firm, was the oldest trader in this village, save one or two, having been in business nearly twenty years." (WCT 9/7/1865)

"That splendid stock of stoves, tin ware, wooden ware, hardware, agricultural implements, etc. formerly owned by J.D. Bates, at the old stand of Bates & Capron, has passed into the hands of N.C. Bowen & Son. They will also continue the Undertaking business... corner of Mechanic St., & Railroad Square, Danielsonville." (WCT July 14, 1870)

T.C. Bugbee has sold his stock in trade and business, in the store on Railroad Square, to the Folsom Bros., two gentlemen from Boston." (WCT 5/10/1877)

At times only the stock was sold, not the building.

"O. P. Jacobs, agent for Jos. D. Bates,



Courtesy photo

The Times Square Restaurant building on the corner of Central and Academy streets in Danielson dates back to 1860. It is the first building on the left in the photo.



**KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER**

has sold the store on Railroad Square, now occupied by Folsom Bros. to Alanson James, for \$5000. The present occupants will remain." (WCT 6/7/1877)

"The Folsom Bros. have discontinued business here on account of the protracted illness of the senior member of the firm..." (WCT 10/25/1877)

"The James Bros., Newman W. & Rowland R., grocers, moved into their enlarged and improved new store in James' Block (in Railroad Square) that was last occupied by the Folsom Bros. on April 1, 1878." (WCT 10/4/1878) "The retirement of Mr. N. W. James from the James Bros. firm leaves his brother, Rowland R. James, the sole proprietor." (WCT 3/28/1883)

The block came to be known as the "James Block" although he sold the grocery business (not the building) to H.H. Hammell and Fred Brooks in 1890 (Killingly Business Encyclopedia). By 1911 the business had been transferred Austin & Conwell (BEnc). They remained in that location only a little over a year and moved to the Phoenix Building on Main Street.

By 1908, Charles H. Bacon, who owned a furniture store on Academy Street and in the former Methodist Church, located adjacent to the "Times Square" building, had purchased the James Block and planned to exhibit furniture on the upper floors of the building. (WCT 3/23/1908 in KBEnc)

William C. Bacon later associated with his father, and the family occupied the building until the 1930's.

By 1942 the "modern" life of the building had commenced. According to the Killingly Business Encyclopedia by

Natalie Coolidge, the "restaurant" has been operated under a variety of names including Times Square Grill, Times Square Restaurant, Times Square Café & Lounge, Flood's Lounge (1979), and Old Tymes Café (1998). Individuals associated with the establishment included Arthur Bussiere, Wilbrod Dion, Eugene Savoie, Joseph and Alice Comtois, James Flood, Michael Castagna, William Gebo, Joseph Larrow, St., and Norman Breton. I'm sure those of you who have lived here a long time remember some of them.

Marilyn Labbe has printed old photos of the Times Square building from the Killingly Historical Society's archives, and I've added accompanying write-ups. Do stop at the Center after the holidays and see if you can help date some of the pictures. We hope to put together a permanent signboard.

Note: The Killingly Historical Center will close for the Christmas-New Year holiday from Dec. 21, and will reopen on Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2017.

Margaret M. Weaver is the Killingly Municipal Historian. Special thanks to Marilyn Labbe for extracting Transcript articles on this building and for locating the photo. For additional information visit the Killingly Historical Center Wednesday or Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (or by appointment) or www.killingly-historical.org or call 860-779-7250. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329. Margaret Weaver may be reached at margaretmweaver@gmail.com.

Villager Newspapers

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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.

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Students invited to 'Meet a Vet Day' at Veterans Coffeehouse

DANIELSON — The RSVP Veterans Coffeehouse has designated Tuesday, Dec. 27, as "Meet a Vet Day" at the Veterans Coffeehouse, 185 Broad St., in Killingly.

Area schoolchildren, fifth grade and older and accompanied by a parent or guardian, are invited to visit the Coffeehouse and meet local veterans as part of a learning experience.

The program will include brief introductions by veterans who served in different military branches during different eras, followed by the opportunity for students to ask questions of these local heroes. The students can meet veterans who served in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

"We hope this will be a valuable learning experience for young people, especially those who have had little exposure to veterans and the history of our armed forces," retired Navy Chief Jim Montgomery of Brooklyn said. "Our children are this nation's future and it is important that we do this for them and with them."

The Coffeehouse will be open from 9-11 a.m. that morning.

Parents/guardians are requested to contact Greg Kline at the Veterans Coffeehouse (860-774-9286 or via email: gkline@tvcca.org) by Dec. 20 to reserve a spot at the "Meet a Vet Day" program. The Veterans Coffeehouse intends to make "Meet a Vet Day" an annual occurrence during the break between Christmas and New Year's Day when most children are not in school.

The RSVP Veterans Coffeehouse, primarily funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service, provides resourceful and entertaining programs for veterans. Since opening in 2015 as the first RSVP Veterans Coffeehouse in Connecticut, this TVCCA program has served more than 275 individual veterans among a total attendance that exceeds 1,500.

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Killingly Town Council approves constabulary ordinance

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

KILLINGLY — On Tuesday night, Dec. 13, The Killingly Town Council made its decision on a proposed constabulary that was proposed to replace the Killingly Resident State Troopers program.

Contrary to overwhelming recommendations and even tearful pleas by those present the Town Council itself cast a vote to approve an ordinance creating a constabulary with a supermajority of the council voting in favor of the measure and only Chairman David Griffith and councilor Adam Griffiths voting against the measure.

Responses from citizens to the proposal were mixed during a public hearing that began the Town Council's meeting on Tuesday. Much criticism was directed to the Town Council concerning their hesitation to put the proposal to a town vote or referendum rather than having the Town Council cast the deciding votes on whether or not to initiate the constabulary. Earlier this year the council had discussed putting the vote to a nonbinding referendum, but moved against it.

While thoughts on whether or not the constabulary itself was a good idea were mixed at best, the majority of citizens who spoke during the hearing stressed that the Town Council making the decision themselves could be a failure to abide by the will of the people, especially if the opinion of the public would contradict the will of the council. Both proponents and opponents of the proposal stood to make that point clear throughout the nearly half-hour public hearing on the matter.

Killingly resident Charlie Ferland was one who spoke against the decision being in the Town Council's hands and while he voiced support for the initiative he said there are still a lot of question marks remaining despite the

many presentations and figures that have been presented by officials leading up to the hearing.

"You're voting on a representation that was made by somebody or some group as to what the costs are. They have nothing to do with reality," Ferland told Town Council members noting overtime, equipment and other expenses are not considered in the numbers he had on hand. "I've been told by councilors that they've gone around and been told that the voters are in favor of this. I don't know why they are afraid of the voters."

Former Town Council member John Sarantopoulos was one of the first to speak during the hearing and he had a very different take on the situation and said he wanted the Town Council to make a decision at the hearing rather than putting the proposal to a town referendum vote.

"I want to hold somebody responsible for what the final analysis is. If you go to a referendum in all probability it's almost a certainty people vote their pocketbook regardless of what they think is necessary. I'd like to think in this particular case I would support what's right. There's no question in my mind that economically this makes sense compared to what we already have," Sarantopoulos said. "You have all kinds of people coming out of the woodwork and to a degree their antagonistic in both directions. I want to be able to say 'this is why we have a police force' and by the public voting on this through a referendum you are unable to do that because the day after when things go sour people have a tendency to say, 'Oh, I should have voted for that.'"

Taxpayer Stuart Rivers said he was "ashamed" of the Town Council and was one of many at the meeting who were under the impression that councilors had made previous promises to

what you've done is gone back on it. This seems to be the trend."

Tammy Wakefield, a leading member of the commission that put the proposal together over a two-year period, implored Town Council to vote on the matter at the meeting and said she feels many who are against it only recently decided to make their voices heard.

"It's the fourth quarter and last minute and people are showing up asking questions when this has been out for two years," Wakefield stated. "To be honest with you the crime is definitely here. It's not getting any better. People are applying for pistol permits even though it costs almost \$300 when it's all said and done just so they can defend themselves. Talk to the troopers. They won't go on record saying, 'Hey, we need help,' because that's a public safety nightmare."

In the end Town Council members took nearly 20 more minutes later on in the night to deliberate and make their decision. Many responded to the concerns presented during the meeting and stared threats of being voted out of office in the face noting that their decision was not about reelection, but about what they felt was good for the town. That was the case with council member Dennis Alemian, who said he has been behind the proposal from the beginning and said if voters didn't like the council's decision they have the chance to speak their mind in November.

"I've been in favor of this from the get go. I think it's a win-win situation for the town both towards protection and financially," Alemian said. "Those who want to send it to a referendum, I respect their opinions. Back when the referendum was first discussed it was to be sent out as a nonbinding referendum. A thousand people could have said no and one person could have said yes. It would be nonbinding. It would have still come back to the council to make that decision. It was meant to be a chance for people to give their opinions. The chairman came up with the idea to hold firehouse meetings to do that and get the word out to education the people and have them stand up and have their questions answered."

Town Council Chair David Griffiths also expressed his support for the proposal but was one of two, along with his son Adam Griffiths, who voted against establishing the ordinance on the grounds that they supported a referendum giving voters the chance to speak their peace.

"In May this council voted 8-1 to go to a nonbinding referendum. When I started running the question was posed to me, 'What do you think about establishing the constabulary?' And I said at that

point in time I would only go along with it if it went to a referendum," Griffiths said. "I don't want to see us go ahead and spend the \$166,000 and buy police cars, guns, and bullet proof vests and then the budget comes out and I don't want to see our budget fail because we haven't et the people have a clear vote on whether they want to have it or not."

"I think it's very important that items of this nature go and have a public vote," his son Adam Griffith stated. "One thing that was very apparent in the numbers that we got for everything about where the crime statistics were in this town is it didn't show yearly numbers of where the crime has been trending especially numbers trending up or down. There could have been much more transparency with that."

The ordinance will allow the town to hire two trained officers with an eventual goal of making the town less dependent on the State Police, who have their Troop D office in Danielson, for patrolling the town. Residents approved \$166,000 in the budget earlier this year in anticipation of the ordinance for the first few hires. Currently the town pays about \$850,000 to utilize resident troopers out of Troop D.

Jason Bleau may be reached at 508-909-4129, or by e-mail at jason@stonebridgepress.com.

NEWS BRIEFS

Masonicare to offer free volunteer training

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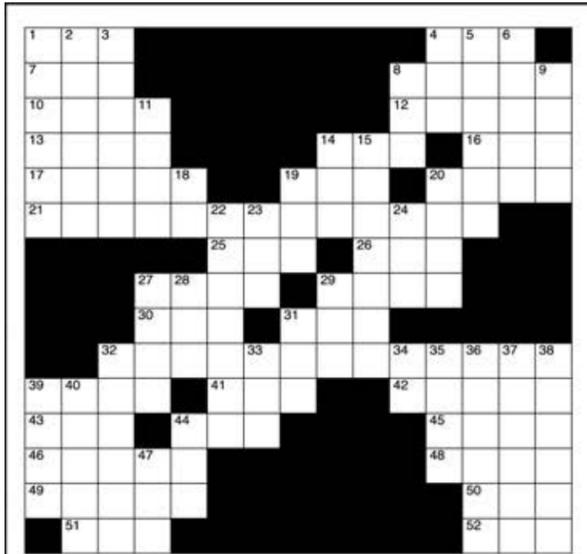
Call today to find out how you can join our team! We are in need of civilian and veteran hospice volunteers and pet volunteers in the Woodstock, Putnam and Pomfret areas.

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Large primate
- 4. Annualized percentage rate
- 7. Frictional horsepower
- 8. Alternate name
- 10. Incurion
- 12. Metrical feet
- 13. Musician Ingram
- 14. Swiss river
- 16. Text speak for annoying
- 17. Squelch
- 19. Will Ferrell played one
- 20. Close violently
- 21. Arrogant
- 25. Goddess of the dawn
- 26. Today (Spanish)
- 27. Ethiopian town
- 29. Speed
- 30. Kids take it to school
- 31. Bowling ball's adversary
- 32. 1988 NFL MVP
- 39. Volcanic crater
- 41. Curved shape
- 42. Discover by investigation
- 43. Up in the air (abbr.)
- 44. A son who shares his dad's name
- 45. Assist in wrongdoing
- 46. Actress Lathan
- 48. Nonsense (slang)
- 49. Sharp and forthright
- 50. Midway between northeast and east
- 51. NAACP cofounder Wells
- 52. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Again
- 2. Erectile organs
- 3. Concluding speech
- 4. Pie ___ mode
- 5. With pustules
- 6. Muslim calendar month
- 8. Need it to live
- 9. Thailand
- 11. Container to serve food
- 14. Boxing great
- 15. Woolen blankets
- 18. Expresses surprise
- 19. Emergency medical services
- 20. Inflamed swelling of the eyelid
- 22. Reporter
- 23. Arrived extinct
- 24. Ad ___
- 27. Academic bill of rights
- 28. A pair
- 29. Pumpkin and apple are examples
- 31. China
- 32. Made illegal
- 33. Be mistaken
- 34. Stephen King's "Pennywise"
- 35. Semite
- 36. Martens with short tails
- 37. Large bodies of water
- 38. Lower in position
- 39. Dough used in Latin American cuisine
- 40. Calculating tools
- 44. Boxers do this
- 47. Macaw

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Killingly celebrates Christmas, New England style



Jason Bleau photos

A staple of the New England Christmas event, local firefighters helped stoke a small fire in Davis Park so visitors could keep warm and enjoy a few treats as well.



As part of their Victorian Christmas celebration coinciding with the New England Christmas event, Westfield Congregational Church held a traditional Christmas feast with quite a spread for families who were able to snag tickets

DANIELSON — It may not have all the hustle, bustle and commotion of more active holiday affairs, but Killingly's annual New England Christmas celebration is still a highlight holiday event in the Quest Corner. Downtown Danielson was transformed into a traditional New England celebration for one night with luminaries lighting the streets, a fire warming spectators in Davis Park, and plenty of Christmas spirit to go around on Dec. 11. Westfield Congregational church also joined in the fun with its own Victorian Christmas celebrations at the same time, while businesses stayed open late to greet customers as they took a self-guided tour of downtown Danielson for the holidays.



The Killingly Historical Society Museum got into the spirit of the holidays by handing out candy canes to visitors to Killingly's New England Christmas affair.



A highlight feature of the New England Christmas event in Killingly, Main Street was completely lined with luminaries adding a magical touch to downtown.



Adding to the atmosphere, the Westfield Congregational Church set up a manger scene with live goats on hand for all to pet and interact with.



Virginia Egan and her great grandson Dante LaMarque engaged in some playful sword fighting while visiting Davis Park for Killingly's New England Christmas on Dec. 11.



Young visitors to Killingly could enjoy some craft activities in Davis Park, including making their own colorfully designed snowflakes.

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Jeremy and Kaydee Rojas pose for a photo with Megan Rojas. The Dayville natives took a walk down Main Street in Danielson to enjoy the New England Christmas festivities.



What kind of Christmas would it be without a visit from Santa himself?



The Isbell family take a walk down Main Street in Danielson during the New England Christmas event in their home town.



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LEARNING

SCHOOLS AND THE PUBLIC are encouraged to submit items for inclusion on the Learning Page.

The deadline is noon Monday.

Send all items to Editor Adam Minor at aminor@villagem newspapers.com.

Students recognized for excellence in and out of the classroom

KILLINGLY — Praised for their work in and out of the classroom, six Thompson students were recognized Tuesday night for their service and leadership in the community, actions that make them role models for other students.

Fourth grade students June Ferraro and Eric Levesque, eighth graders Emma Carpenter and Lance Groh, and Tourtellotte Memorial High School senior Sophia Prouty were presented certificates of excellence during the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents ceremony at Killingly High School. TMHS Senior Cody Trudeau, Thompson's sixth award recipient, was unable to attend the event.

"These students — whether they realize it or not — make an impact leading by example in both their school and in the community," said Thompson Superintendent Michael Jolin. "They're great students, but they're also great kids. These awards are based on community service and service to others; academic prowess, and leadership service to the school community."

The Superintendents Student Award Recognition Program is designed to allow superintendents to move beyond the academic achiever who routinely receives recognition, and to use their discretion and understanding of the students to recognize students who go beyond academic achievement.

June Ferraro takes after the two women she was named after who demonstrated all of the qualities and values of a role model and leader. Through her actions of kindness, thoughtfulness, generosity and hard work, June leads by example and is following in the footsteps of her namesake. She takes pride in her endeavors both in and outside of the classroom and always puts forth her best effort. She has a creative, artistic side as well as an athletic, competitive side. June has participated in community events such as the annual scarecrow contest and has qualified for the mile



Courtesy photos

Back row, from left, Thompson Middle School Principal Chris Scott, TMHS senior Sophia Prouty, TMS eighth graders Emma Carpenter and Lance Groh, Mary R. Fisher Principal Noveline Beltram, and in the first row are June Ferraro and Eric Levesque.

run representing her class in both third and fourth grade. She embodies the qualities of a true peer model — she is respectful, responsible and safe. She is an honest person who is honored to be recognized for this award.

Eric Levesque enjoys music and art but has a love for math and science. He is always eager to learn new things and strives to do his best. Along with his high academic performance, Eric is respectful and courteous to his elders and classmates. His willingness to help others makes him a great Peer Model and an influential teammate. Eric plays baseball in the spring and soccer in the fall for Thompson's recreational leagues. He enjoys watching football, baseball and hockey with his family. Eric's hobbies include playing chess, completing Seduko puzzles and playing video games. He also enjoys watching The Food Network as he aspires to become a Master Chef someday. Eric Levesque most certainly deserves to be recognized for the 2016 Superintendent's Award.

Lance Groh enjoys playing baseball and basketball and loves running on the cross-country and track teams. Lance loves

to play games in his free time. When Lance was six-years old he started playing baseball for the town of Thompson and is still playing to this day. Lance has been on the honor roll since the fifth grade and is a member of the National Junior Honor Society. After high school, Lance is hoping to become a police officer like his grandfather who was a police officer or maybe a mechanic as he loves cars and trucks and loves to work on them with his dad and older brother when he can. Lance plans to continue to do his best in everything he does and hopes to continue to succeed the rest of eighth grade as well as high school and beyond.

Emma Carpenter is an eighth grade student at Thompson Middle School who enjoys drawing, reading, soccer, and volunteering. Emma works very hard on her schoolwork. In sixth grade her NEWA testing for math rose over 30 points and over 18 points and reading. In the seventh grade some of her awards that she received was Remarkable Reader Award, an Excellence Award in chorus, and the Citizenship Medal. Over the summer of 2016, Emma attended the Wyndham-Tolland 4-H Camp and was able to ride horses and she received the Best Attitude Award in her knitting group. To attend camp she raised money by collecting bottles and cans and cleaning



Back row, from left, TMHS senior Sophia Prouty, TMS eighth graders Emma Carpenter and Lance Groh, Superintendent Michael Jolin, and in the first row are June Ferraro and Eric Levesque.

cars. Emma attends youth ministries at High Point Church every Tuesday evenings. Her newest adventure is joining the Putnam II Leo's where she was pinned as a member and will be actively volunteering in her community.

Cody Trudeau's passion for music has been nurtured here at school through his participation in the band. Cody serves as the Operations Manager for the band and is responsible for managing the instruments and organizing the inventory of all music-related equipment. Cody has worked as the sound booth intern in the district auditorium each of the last three years and is in the process of training new students in the same capacity. Cody has been faithfully involved with the boy scouts for many years, including a summer experience working at the June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation. Cody is an intern for WINY Radio and as a member of the UMASS Honors Band, which meets regularly in Amherst, Massachusetts. Whether in school or in the community, he is the kind of person that steps up to help.

Sophia Prouty is an honors student that always shows maximum effort. Along with her academic accolades, Sophia serves on our school Leadership Team representing the interests of her classmates and advocating for school improvement.

Sophia was selected as the Vice President of her senior class and Historian for the Future Business Leaders of America club. In each of these roles, she supports the interests of others and performs hours of community service as well. Outside of school, Sophia has been a volunteer at TEEG, the Read Across America event at the elementary school, and Relay for Life. In keeping with her passion for the care of others, Sophia works as a babysitter and as a childcare teacher at Child Watch in Putnam. Her teachers describe Sophia as bright, cheerful, and always willing to take a risk and try something if it will help others or support a good cause.

The Certificates of Excellence were presented to students by district superintendents at a regional program held during American Education Week, Tuesday, Dec. 6, at Killingly High School, as twelve participating school districts focused on students whose accomplishments and activities far exceeded academic success, and included service and leadership, making them role models for other students.

The Superintendent/Student Award Recognition Program was instituted in 1986 by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS).

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TMHS announces Student Spotlight for December

THOMPSON — This year, Tourtellotte Memorial High School has begun a new recognition program called the TMHS Student Spotlight of the month.

Each month, a TMHS student is recognized for outstanding achievement, character, leadership, attitude, and/or contributions to the school and community.

December's Student Spotlight honoree is sophomore Jolie Wilber. Jolie participates in many school activities including soccer, track, Student Council, and Drama Club. She is also a member of the school's Student Leadership Team.

Of being a member of the Student Leadership Team Jolie says, "The leadership team has really helped me. We volunteered at the Thompson Community Day, we are always down in the middle school preparing kids for high school, and I've managed not to burn down the school with my amazing cooking skills."

Jolie's sense of humor and her strong work ethic are recognized by staff and students alike.

Jolie was nominated for the Student Spotlight recognition by two other sophomores, Stephany Kolodziejczak and Halladay Glode.

Stephany says of Jolie, "She's on Leadership and is a great person to be around. She's always positive and gets her work done."

In her nomination of Jolie, Halladay noted that Jolie "constantly wants to do better for the school, her friends, and herself."

When thinking about what motivates her, Jolie says, "As cheesy as it sounds, my friends always make me want to try new things — like last year I joined indoor track and softball for the first time; and this year I've joined many new clubs like newspaper and video, and I made it onto the Leadership Team and Student Council."

Jolie hopes to become a director as she has always loved movies and been interested in the creative process required in making movies. She is also considering pursuing a career in the chemistry field.

Jolie's message to her school community is "to get involved as much as you can."

She says, "When I graduated eighth grade, I hoped high school would go by quickly, but now I don't want to graduate. I love looking forward to soccer, track, softball, drama, video, etc. I'm going to remember this forever."



Courtesy photo

December's Tourtellotte Memorial High School Student Spotlight honoree, sophomore Jolie Wilber.

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LEARNING

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QVCC SGA donates to Tommy Toy Drive

DANIELSON — The Quinebaug Valley Community College Student Government Association (SGA) organized a toy drive on campus to benefit the Tommy Toy Fund. The SGA collected \$80 in addition to donated toys. In total 50 gifts were donated. Heather Vogt, SGA representative to The QVCC Foundation stated, "As a Student Government Officer, volunteering is inevitable. I enjoy supporting the college and creating a difference in the community. We participated in the Putnam Holiday Dazzle Light Parade and know we brought joy to so many people in the area. It was so gratifying to be able to donate toys to the Tommy Toy Fund, so that children in the community have the opportunity to open toys on Christmas morning. These events, and many more, are what make SGA fun!" For additional information contact Amanda Giles, SGA advisor, 860-932-4217 or agiles@qvcc.edu.

Courtesy photo

From left, Michaela Grimaldi, Christina Small, SGA President Sondra Adams, Heather Vogt, Devon Harris and Alyssa Rainey.



POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Mac and cheese, green beans, roll, veggie cups/dip, raisins, 1 percent or fat free milk, cookie
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: Sliced roasted turkey breast, mashed potatoes/gravy, peas, roll, cranberry sauce, fresh fruit or fruit cup, 1 percent or fat free milk
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Hamburger or cheeseburger, whole grain roll, baked beans, Baked Doritos or chips, fresh fruit or fruit cup, 1 percent or fat free milk, cookie
 Thursday, Dec. 22: Personal round pizza, steamed broccoli, veggie cups/dip, fresh fruit or fruit cup, 1 percent or fat free milk
 Friday, Dec. 23: 12:30 dismissal — Crispy chicken nuggets, steam carrots, whole grain roll, veggie cups/dip, fresh fruit or fruit cup, 1 percent or fat free milk

TOURTELLOTTE MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Hamburger or cheese burger, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle, creamy Katsu sauce, French fries, baked

beans, Alt: BBQ pork rib/bun
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: Holiday Bowl — Turkey and gravy, mashed potato, carrots, cranberry sauce, dinner roll, banana bread, Alt: Pizza (plain or veggie)
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Popcorn chicken, Asian stir fried rice, garlic spinach sauté, broccoli, Alternate hot item: Orange zesty popcorn chicken
 Thursday, Dec. 22: Pasta with meat sauce, garlic breadstick, dill carrots, Alternate Hot Main Item: Pizza (plain or pepperoni)
 Friday, Dec. 23: Holiday Recess: No School

THOMPSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Hamburger or cheese burger, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickle, creamy Katsu sauce, French fries, baked beans, Alt: BBQ pork rib/bun
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: Holiday Bowl — Turkey and gravy, mashed potato, carrots, cranberry sauce, dinner roll, banana bread, Alt: Pizza (plain or veggie)
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Popcorn chicken, Asian stir fried rice, garlic spinach sauté, broccoli, Alternate hot item: Orange zesty popcorn chicken

Thursday, Dec. 22: Pasta with meat sauce, garlic breadstick, dill carrots, Alternate Hot Main Item: Pizza (plain or pepperoni)
 Friday, Dec. 23: Holiday Recess: No School

MARY R. FISHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Holiday chicken nuggets, mac 'n cheese, ketchup, broccoli, 100-percent fruit juice, milk choice
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: Double decker toasted cheese, tomato soup, tater tots, ketchup, fresh apple, milk choice
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Cheesy pizza (plain or pepperoni), garden salad with Italian dressing, cookie, orange smiles, milk choice
 Thursday, Dec. 22: Hot dog, roll, ketchup, Sticker Day, baked beans, tomato wedges, applesauce, milk choice
 Friday, Dec. 23: Holiday Recess: No School

PUTNAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Clipper Burger (plain or with cheese, lettuce and tomato, spicy curly fries, cole slaw, 100 percent fruit sherbet)
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: Crispy chicken sandwich (plain or spicy, served on a whole wheat roll with leaf lettuce and tomato), sweet potato fries
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Ms.

Ellen's Homestyle Meatloaf (savory meatloaf with gravy, creamy mashed potatoes, whole grain dinner roll, roasted fall squash)
 Thursday, Dec. 22: General Tso's chicken (breaded chicken tossed with tangy sweet and mild chili sauce over vegetable fried rice, steamed broccoli).
 Friday, Dec. 23: Pizza slice (cheese and tomato or vegetable, toppings on our homemade whole wheat pizza dough, side of mixed greens salad with grape tomatoes).

PUTNAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Crunchy chicken tenders, orange glazed carrot coins, whole grain dinner roll

Tuesday, Dec. 20: Baked shepherd's pie (layered casserole of seasoned ground beef, corn, topped with crust of garlic mashed potatoes)
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Hot Diggity Dog (hot dog with topping station on whole grain roll), baked beans, creamy coleslaw
 Thursday, Dec. 22: Wolf Meal (beef burger, plain or with cheese, lettuce and tomato on whole grain bun, topping station, seasoned curly French fries, fruit sherbet)
 Friday, Dec. 23: Putnam Special Pizza (assorted fresh toppings on homemade whole wheat pizza dough), fresh garden salad with cherry tomatoes and cucumbers

Turn To **MENUS** page **A15**

EDUCATION NOTEBOOK

EASTCONN Capitol Theater Arts Academy

WILLIMANTIC — Acting and dance students from EASTCONN's Capitol Theater Arts Academy (CTAA) will present Winter Wonderland: A Showcase of Acting & Dance at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 17, on the main stage at EASTCONN's Capitol Theater, 896 Main St., Willimantic.

This production features young dancers and actors, ages 3 to 17, from 26 northeastern Connecticut towns. Part of the program is run in cooperation with Windham Public School's After-School Program, which has added Ballet Folklorico and "street" Hip-Hop to CTAA's offerings.

CTAA's Winter Wonderland showcase is choreographed by CTAA dance instructors Alana Mahdalik, Ara Wilnas, Skylyn Jusino, and Aviell Rosado, and the acting students perform under the direction of Daniel Coyle. It will feature performances celebrating the multi-ethnic, multi-faith winter holiday season.

Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased by visiting <http://ae.registereastconn.org/performance-tickets.html>. The Capitol Theater box office is open one hour before the performance for walk-up ticket sales. Free parking is available on Main Street and on Walnut Street, adjacent to the theater.

CTAA is EASTCONN's regional community arts-outreach program for young people, ages 3 and up, with classes in dance, music, theater, creative writing, cartooning, and more. Classes take place at the Capitol Theater, located across from the Willimantic post office and library. Learn more at www.eastconn.org/ctaa.

Watch for CTAA's new spring 2017 catalog, which will be released soon. To learn more about CTAA programming, call CTAA Coordinator Dara Bowling at 860-933-5972 or e-mail her at dbowling@eastconn.org.

EASTCONN is a public, non-profit, Regional Educational Service Center that has been serving the education needs of northeastern Connecticut's schools and communities since 1980. Learn more at www.eastconn.org.

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 Our December 30 edition this year will be a combination newspaper of all our 12 newspapers in Connecticut and Massachusetts. This is our annual combination newspaper that we do only once a year. Check out all the photos from the entire region!

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ADAM MINOR
EDITOR

Sing along

As we stepped outside beautiful Clark Chapel after a program of Lessons & Carols, the snow coated the stonewalls and lights glistened in the darkness. The music, sung by a choir of high school students, included several familiar pieces that involved the audience. The program was uplifting, partially due to its familiarity, to the charming surroundings and to the excellent voice of the woman seated next to me.

There is nothing better than to ride along on the musical coattails of a good singer. I suspect a talented singer must recoil from the pitiful efforts of someone like me, who is off key, can't hit the high notes and yet plows on enthusiastically. At least she didn't wince.



NANCY WEISS

We are fortunate to have access to many excellent musical productions in our area. I attended a concert of Handel's Messiah by the Concert

Choir of Northeast Connecticut, where I watched friends celebrate their love of singing by tackling a complicated piece. My church brims with song year round, but in Advent, the music is remarkable. Members of the choir pour their hearts into the hymns. The organist plays brilliantly. Then I open my mouth to join in the general celebration. The sound from my lips is closer to a croaking frog than to a soprano. Even though I often know all the words, even the third verse, my voice doesn't add to the occasion.

There were chances to learn how to sing. In elementary school there was a part time music teacher. She was often tormented. I am not very tall, so I was always in the front row. I spent my time looking at her old-fashioned black tie shoes and not listening. In high school I joined the choir largely because my friend and I could slip out and smoke cigarettes, a risky, exciting activity. In college I was required to participate in a group singing competition. I tried to contribute, but I was moved to the back row, where my voice couldn't be heard. Fortunately, other people paid attention when it was their time to learn to sing.

Aimee-Rose Willett is a local rising star. She has a bright, strong soprano voice and the presence and personality to fill a space with elegant sound. She hits the high notes with ease and makes it look effortless.

Moe Coderre, a friend who lives in Putnam, was tapped to sing the national anthem at Fenway Park. The national anthem is a difficult piece at best and he performed it in front of thousands of people. He has practiced in front of local audiences for years, but in Boston he had the chance to share his gift with a larger world. I wouldn't mind sitting next to Aimee or Moe the next time there is a chance to sing.

Years ago my husband took singing lessons. Betty taught him how to warm up his voice with exercises and urged him to sing show tunes. He had attended a high school that had a fine choir and wanted to learn as an adult what he had failed to learn as a teenager. He mastered a couple of songs. Perhaps anyone can learn to sing with a bit of effort.

On Christmas Eve I'll go to Christ Church with family and friends. The 19th century building will feel magical, wrapped in greenery and candlelight. Music will pour from the choir, the organ and the assembled crowd. As the opening notes to "Silent Night" fill the sanctuary, I'll take a deep breath and join in, having seated myself next to someone with a good strong voice.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A response to the Knights of Columbus

To the Editor:

In the Dec. 9 edition, the *Villager* published a glowing description of the Knights of Columbus' crusade against the legal rights of American women.

The Supreme Court has repeatedly ruled that Americans have a fundamental right to privacy, which includes the right to manage their own reproductive health. That is the law of the land. Yet at no point in the article did the writer note that fact, nor did the author challenge those interviewed with any meaningful questions. Worse yet, no women, no physicians, no advocates for reproductive choice were interviewed.

Advocating change to the Constitution is of course guaranteed, and I respect the right of the Knights to do so. But when some people want to take basic legal rights away from other

people, we rely on the press to examine the arguments on all sides and the consequences to all those affected. Please don't portray the K of C's campaign as if it were a holiday food drive or school bake sale.

(Editor's Note: Thanks for the letter, Robin! However, we should clarify that the piece referenced in the letter above was submitted to us directly from the Knights of Columbus, not authored by a staff writer at the *Villager*, as the letter writer implies. The article was submitted and published as a press release. As a matter of policy, the *Villager* does not take sides on social issues or advocate particular political beliefs of any kind.)

ROBIN LOFQUIST
DANIELSON

SOUND OFFS

What is really going on?

SOUND OFF:

Is it really about coal tar or something else? No one will deny, coal tar is a carcinogen found in many products in various amounts. It's in your medical cabinet and on many driveways. A question is, who created the hysteria of this chemical put on the roads in Long Meadow Estates?

The parties involved come from two sides. The present administration and the defeated administration. Just look at the players who are whipping up the citizen's. Anyone with common sense knows what is going on. Find an issue of controversy and turn it into a political issue for the next election. At the last election, everyone was totally surprised that the present party would be in charge.

The real issue. It was time to address the road conditions at Long Meadow Estates, a decision was made and the residents of Long Meadow were informed. A cost-effective measure to extend the life of the present road was implemented, with a guarantee to extend the roads life for three years, but when put down

the results did not satisfy some of the residents who were expecting a new road surface. Thus, the beginning of a controversy.

In any controversy, there are always two sides. Opposition fosters awareness, and is designed to bring something to our attention. It is interesting when you consider that in politics both sides usually provoke each other. It would be naïve to believe that either side views the other as a necessary counterbalance to its own extremism, but nevertheless this is precisely what each side becomes in terms of the decisions that are taken. In our culture, the opposition is usually viewed the bitter enemy which must be repressed at all costs.

As many a doubting observer may have noticed the more extreme the conflict, the more similar is the behavior of the both sides. This is exactly where the Long Meadow issues is now. It is time to stop the hysterical rhetoric and come to a common solution, working together, and not throwing stones as some are doing for their own agenda.

Pay homage to the quiet giver

This weekend, I shopped at several local stores. As I approached the entrance of a nearby supermarket, I caught a glimpse of a young boy in tow exiting the store a few steps behind his distracted parents. I watched in amazement as he reached into his pants pocket, pulled out a coin and turned back to drop it in the red bucket being attended by a Salvation Army (bell-ringing) volunteer.

As he turned away from the bucket, his eyes met mine and the biggest broad smile with an expression of pride came across his little face. Clearly that smile represented a personal level of satisfaction from an act of giving that gave him great meaning. As an adult, I found myself pondering how impressive it was to witness what this child had just done. He didn't need a challenge, game, form of enticement, trophy, certificate, award or reward to draw him into the act to give. It was a personal choice of a pure spirit wanting to do something good to help others, not because he wanted to be recognized but because it made "him" feel like he was contributing!

As I shopped throughout the store and watched the hustle and bustle around me, I couldn't help but think how that special act of kindness affected me. It is so easy to get wrapped up in things during the holidays, that we often lose touch with the messages of the season or recognize the truest of givers behind those messages! Groups, organizations, individuals and various charities are all out there vying for our time, talent and resources. Since radio, newspapers and social media serve as the catalyst to get the word out to promote most of these causes, one can't help but recognize the key players or feel the need to make contributions to the organizations, events or charities they are promoting or represent.

Since Northeastern Connecticut is notorious for being a collective giving community, there are many out there who do their part to contribute, serve others in various capacities and utilize talent to make things happen. As much as it may seem that those contributing the most are those who are highly visible, there are a

greater number of behind-the-scenes quiet givers who equally contribute, however since they possess a different level of benevolence, they choose to be void of promotion or recognition. These individuals equally connect to their community but do so by giving of themselves in the quietest of ways. Most feel a greater need for personal gratification that is held within the heart because it is more meaningful

and rewarding than being acknowledged publicly or receiving tokens for the good deeds that they do! The Quiet Giver is the uncommon hero in my book. Their levels of generosity and acts of kindness are consistent, steadfast and true. So many walk among us every day of our lives, yet few of us are cognizant to their levels of loyalty, dedication, commitment or service. Try taking a step back and reflectively give thought to The Givers that are in your life, not just the ones that contribute to you or your causes during the holidays but those who are constants: daily, weekly, monthly or yearly. It could be a family member, relative, friend, co-worker or casual acquaintance. Maybe it's the waitress that pours your coffee every Saturday at breakfast, the widow you volunteer with who prepares the weekly meal at your local Community Kitchen, the bank teller who always greets you with a smile, the Pastor who has a good listening ear for guiding you spiritually, the hospice volunteer who reads prayers to a dying patient or even the little boy who donates the only coin in his pocket because he wants to be part of something special. Whoever they are for you, know they are out there and are regularly present in your life. Whether they give dollar-by-dollar or hour-by-hour, they are contributing in the biggest of ways. They are humble. They are silent. They are special. They make a difference. Learn to recognize them, pay attention to who they are and be grateful for all the compassion, love, and humility they represent! Though finding ways to thank them may require some effort, know that your kind words or gestures of gratitude will always be welcomed and appreciated!

YOUR
TURN

VALENTINE
IAMARTINO
THOMPSON



BEYOND
THE PEWS

JOHN
HANSON

Do the math

I love math, because you can (pardon the pun) count on it. $2 + 2 = 4$. It always does. It does in every culture. It is a principle of life that mankind has discovered. Math works because it is made up of rules that have proven true. Although more math concepts have been discovered throughout history, we never change the basic rules. If we did so, we would only be fooling ourselves.

The basic moral laws of God are no different than the laws of Mathematics; they are truth. We have discovered much of that truth. These truths work in every generation and in every culture.

Oddly, mankind has a bizarre habit of "bending or stretching the truth" to fit his druthers. This has consistently proven to be foolish and yet it persists as the norm rather than the exception. Often, great civilizations of yesteryear were built on a few solid building blocks of truth, such as family, selflessness, honesty, personal responsibility, or faith. Such truths allowed those cultures to experience progress. Unfortunately, in spite of clear lessons from history, new generations rose up and "messed with the math." They tried to make $2+2=5$. This kind of behavior has caused the most "successful" world civilizations to collapse of their own weight.

The Ten Commandments are some great building blocks that are immovable. Societies can remove them from their public buildings, ban them from their schools and even imprison those who hold to them, but those truths will still be the rules to live by. They will also be the rules that all mankind will be judged by. Do the math.

One of the most important truths on which an individual can build their life is the truth about becoming a part of God's Kingdom. After Jesus died, rose again and ascended into heaven, His disciples went to Jerusalem to wait for the "power" he promised them. On the Day of Pentecost Jesus disciples and followers (including his mother) were all filled with that power and "spoke in tongues." Those who observed this amazing event heard Saint Peter preach a convicting sermon and asked him the all-important question: "What shall we do to be saved?"

Peter responded by succinctly expressing the path to salvation like this: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." (Acts 2:38 KJV)

It doesn't matter how many years mankind lives, or how many fads come and go, or how societies morph, Acts 2:38 is the truth about how we can be born again. To change that is to contaminate it, not to improve it. Do the math.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries, located at 1366 Riverside Dr., in Thompson. To listen to sermons or obtain materials that explore the eternal truths of Scripture, please visit www.ActsII.org.



THE
EVERYDAY
ECOLOGIST
LIZ
ELLSWORTH

There are many seasonal songs that offer strong, festive nature images. These melodies are significant as we celebrate the Christmas/holiday season. Descriptions include weather, flora, and fauna. Below are a few more memorable songs.

One of my favorite holiday carols is "The Holly and the Ivy," and the lyrics mention several attributes of the holly tree: "The holly and the ivy, / When they are both full grown / Of all the trees that are in the wood / The holly bears the crown / O the rising of the sun / And the running of the deer.... The holly bears a blossom / As white as lily flower The holly bears a berry / As red as any blood.... / The holly bears a bark / As bitter as any gall;...."

Seasonal nature songs

American Holly (*Ilex opaca*) is both an evergreen tree and an ornamental tree. As the song mentions, it has a bright, red berry which birds love. The berries are somewhat poisonous for humans. The tree has a white flower with a sweet smell. Holly has strong, tough leaves and can grow up to 50 feet. The National Arbor Day foundation notes that holly trees should "be planted in multiples of 4 or more to allow for cross-pollination to produce the red berries." It is the state tree of Delaware.

There's White Christmas which offers the following lines: "I'm dreaming of a white Christmas / Just like the ones I used to know / Where the treetops glisten and children listen / To hear sleigh bells in the snow...."

Snow is frozen crystalline water. Wikipedia points out that a snowflake is either a "single ice crystal or an aggregation of ice crystals which falls through the Earth's atmosphere as snow. Each flake nucleates around

a dust particle in supersaturated air masses by attracting supercooled cloud water droplets, which freeze and accrete in crystal form." Snowflakes come in complex patterns and no 2, like fingerprints, are the same. "Glistening treetops" refer to ice-covered tree limbs and branches.

"Winter Wonderland" talks about birds: "Gone stray is the bluebird / Here to stay is a new bird / He sings a love song / As we go along / Walking in a winter wonderland...."

Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*) eat insects, and sometimes fruit. They are considered a thrush and have long wings. However, their legs and tails are short. Males are rich-blue on their backs and have an orange-rust colored breast. Females have a more dull coloration scheme with their backs appearing gray. Do you have any bluebird boxes in your yard? These "box homes" encourage nesting in our region (All About Birds).

Everyone's favorite Frosty the Snowman celebrates the life of the magical snowman: "Frosty the snowman / Was a jolly happy soul, / With a corncob pipe and a button nose / And two eyes made out of coal." According to Guinness World Records, the most snowmen built in one hour were 2036 and was achieved on Feb. 28, 2015. The record holders were Drama 24 Unhandy Handyman (Japan) at Zuriyama Observation Field, in Akabira, Hokkaido, Japan. The first documented/illustrated snowman appeared in 1380 (NPR).

May you enjoy the holiday season and bright wishes for 2017! Enjoy singing and nature!

Liz Ellsworth grew up in Eastford, and holds a master's degree in Environmental Education from Antioch University New England and a B.A. in English from Bates College. She specializes in conservation and recycling initiatives.

Financial Planning: Helping you see the big picture

Do you picture yourself owning a new home, starting a business, or retiring comfortably? These are a few of the financial goals that may be important to you, and each comes with a price tag attached.

That's where financial planning comes in. Financial planning is a process that can help you target your goals by evaluating your whole financial picture, then outlining strategies that are tailored to your individual needs and available resources.

WHY IS FINANCIAL PLANNING IMPORTANT?
A comprehensive financial plan serves as a framework for organizing the pieces of your financial picture. With a financial plan in place, you'll be better able to focus on your goals and understand what it will take to reach them.

One of the main benefits of having a financial plan is that it can help you balance competing financial priorities. A financial plan will clearly show you how your financial goals are related—for example, how saving for your children's college education might impact your ability to save for retirement. Then you can use the information you've gleaned to decide how to prioritize your goals, implement specific strategies, and choose suitable products or services. Best of all, you'll know that your financial life is headed in the right direction.

THE FINANCIAL PLANNING PROCESS

Creating and implementing a comprehensive financial plan generally involves working with financial professionals to:

- Develop a clear picture of your current financial situation by reviewing your income, assets, and liabilities, and evaluating your insurance coverage, your investment portfolio, your tax exposure, and your estate plan
- Establish and prioritize financial goals and time frames for achieving these goals
- Implement strategies that address your current financial weaknesses and build on your financial strengths
- Choose specific products and services that are tailored to help meet your financial objectives*
- Monitor your plan, making adjustments as your goals, time frames, or circumstances change

SOME MEMBERS OF THE TEAM

The financial planning process can involve a number of professionals.

Financial planners typically play a central role in the process, focusing on your overall financial plan, and often coordinating the activities of other professionals who have expertise in specific areas.

Accountants or tax attorneys provide advice on federal and state tax issues.

Estate planning attorneys help you plan your estate and give advice on transferring and managing your assets before and after your death.



FINANCIAL FOCUS
• • • • •
JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT ADVISER

Insurance professionals evaluate insurance needs and recommend appropriate products and strategies.

Investment advisors provide advice about investment options and asset allocation, and can help you plan a strategy to manage your investment portfolio.

The most important member of the team, however, is you. Your needs and objectives drive the team, and once you've carefully considered any recommendations, all decisions lie in your hands.

WHY CAN'T I DO IT MYSELF?

You can, if you have enough time and knowledge, but developing a comprehensive financial plan may require expertise in several areas. A financial professional can give you objective information and help you weigh your alternatives, saving you time and ensuring that all angles of your financial picture are covered.

STAYING ON TRACK

The financial planning process doesn't end once your initial plan has been created. Your plan should generally be reviewed at least once a year to make sure that it's up-to-date. It's also possible that you'll need to modify your plan due to changes in your personal circumstances or the economy. Here are some of the events that might trigger a review of your financial plan:

- Your goals or time horizons change
 - You experience a life-changing event such as marriage, the birth of a child, health problems, or a job loss
 - You have a specific or immediate financial planning need (e.g., drafting a will, managing a distribution from a retirement account, paying long-term care expenses)
 - Your income or expenses substantially increase or decrease
 - Your portfolio hasn't performed as expected
 - You're affected by changes to the economy or tax laws
- Common questions about financial planning

WHAT IF I'M TOO BUSY?

Don't wait until you're in the midst of a financial crisis before beginning the planning process. The sooner you start, the more options you may have.

IS THE FINANCIAL PLANNING PROCESS COMPLICATED?

Each financial plan is tailored to the needs of the individual, so how complicated the process will be depends on your individual circumstances. But no matter what type of help you need, a financial professional will work hard to make the process as

easy as possible, and will gladly answer all of your questions.

WHAT IF MY SPOUSE AND I DISAGREE?

A financial professional is trained to listen to your concerns, identify any underlying issues, and help you find common ground.

Can I still control my own finances?

Financial planning professionals make recommendations, not decisions. You retain control over your finances. Recommendations will be based on your needs, values, goals, and time frames. You decide which recommendations to follow, then work with a financial professional to implement them.

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WHAT IS IT?



CONTEST ENTRY FORM Friday, Dec. 16, 2016
Deadline: Tuesday, Dec. 20, 2016

My guess is: _____

Last week's answer: A light fixture in the community room in Killingly Public Library.

Who wants \$25 cash in their pocket? Anyone?
The Villager has it to give.
Enter 'What is It?' now for your chance to win!

Name _____
Address _____
State _____ Zip _____ Telephone# _____

Please mail your entry form to the Villager Newspapers, PO Box 196, Woodstock, CT 06281, attn: Editor, or drop off to the office at Faire Place at 283 Route 169/171 in Woodstock, in front of the Woodstock Fairgrounds. You may also fax your entry to (860) 928-5946. All photos are of sights seen in and around Brooklyn, Killingly, Putnam, Thompson, Woodstock, Pomfret and Eastford. Responses must identify the subject and where it can be seen. Answers will be given the following week in the Putnam Villager, Thompson Villager and Woodstock Villager. At the end of each month, all entry forms with the correct answer will be included in a random drawing. One lucky winner will receive \$25! One entry per person, please. Good luck!

A crossroads in human history

In titling his letter "Climate change hysteria" Mr. Hill proves that he has a fundamental misunderstanding of science (Editor's Note: A clarification for Mr. Wesler: The editor titles letters to the editor, not the letter writer).

Hysteria is a visceral reaction while science is based on fact not emotion. Nor are scientists pagan or religious. They are simply drawn to where the evidence takes them. The college I attended for my science degree happened to be a Catholic institution (where I drank my share of coffee) and we would say a prayer before each class. But then we would sit down, open our books and delve into the information be it chemical, biological or earth science. Theories were left to conjecture and unknowns needed to be proven.

In the case of climate change, the theory that man-made carbon pollution could lead to environmental alterations was first proposed over a century ago. Yes there were different views but ultimately the evidence has supported the theory. As the measurements have shown there is no argument that the planet's temperature is rising and doing so at an unprecedented

YOUR TURN
• • • • •
LEE WESLER
WOODSTOCK

rate. Record highs are accelerating as anticipated. Record lows (as a result of displacement of polar air) are moving further south. Sea levels are going up, inland lake levels are going down, deserts are expanding, the poles are shrinking, and storms are becoming more violent (as a result of more moisture in the atmosphere) all as predicted. The only arguments at this point are just how noxious the future will be and how we can compensate.

Mr. Hill also shows a staggering naiveté in opining that global billionaires are driving this. The 3 percent of scientists who try to distort the evidence are funded by outfits like the Heritage Foundation which itself is funded by the Koch brothers and Exxon Mobil. Mr. Pruitt (a lawyer), the nominee to head of the EPA, has been a lackey for oil and gas as is the man who vetted him, Mr. Ebell (with a degree in Philosophy). Nor is there anything wrong with making money, as Mr. Hill seems to imply. In a capitalist society billionaires make billions for a reason. They see future opportunity and invest in it. In the case of Mr. Musk, with

Turn To **YOUR TURN** page **A12**

Appointment process does matter

I attended The Woodstock Republican Town Committee (WRTC) open meeting on Nov. 30 because the agenda included, among other things, the "new business" of considering appointments to four-year terms versus the current election for two-year terms for the positions of town clerk, tax collector and treasurer.

The discussion of appointments was not conceptual, as I had anticipated; in fact a petition based upon the Town of Sterling's ordinance providing for the same change in the structure of town government was introduced as ready to sign. It was correctly pointed out that a petition cannot be signed at a meeting of this political group nor initiated by it. An individual has to originate a petition, register it and proceed to collect signatures in support of it — information that the town clerk/RTC chair should have known.

Of more concern is how it came to be that this petition was written already and present at the WRTC meeting. There has been no communication to the WRTC membership about the subject of appointments, and minutes distributed last month show no discussion in September. The October minutes were not yet ready, but some of those present in October point out that this topic was not on the agenda.

There have been two meetings between the Woodstock Republican Town Committee (WRTC) and the Woodstock Democratic Town Committee (WDTC) executive committees to discuss appointments, agree on language and promote the concept; this without informing the general WRTC membership of the subject or meetings.

To establish a working agreement with the WDTC prior to obtaining the opinions of the WRTC, and to consider circulating a petition that purports to be a position endorsed by the WRTC when most members do not know of it is a

YOUR TURN
• • • • •
WAYNE DURST
WOODSTOCK

repeated very poor judgment.

It is important to note that the active WRTC is presently a very small group and that nearly all active members are town staff...those who would become the appointed and others who work side-by-side with them. This is an important fact — and it should be realized that the concerns of town staff/employees can be quite different from those of citizens.

There was no overview of the concept of appointments to explain the necessity of making these three key town positions. There were two key reasons given for making the change from elected to appointed.

1. The election cycle of every two years does not give banks etc. a favorable view of employment stability. This comment came from one of the affected individuals who has been re-elected and unopposed for many years.

2. There is a shortage of citizens willing to serve; this narrows the search. True for volunteer boards and commissions — much less true for positions that offer pay and benefits.

Some key information that would be beneficial to those who will make the decision to remain with elected positions or to convert to appointed (the voters at a town meeting will make the decision): One thing that appointment does not do is eliminate partisanship unless there is provision to prevent this from playing out. Appointments at the pleasure of individuals are volatile — to which I can attest. How many times per year do we hear of yet another insider or party member being allowed to jump over more qualified applicants? Appointment accountability for these three positions moves away from the voting public to the hands of three partisan selectmen (which I state as conditions how they obtain office — not as a prejudicial comment). Appointments without a process to curtail partisan-

ship and favoritism does not solve the weakest aspect of appointment.

Moving from the faulty way that this petition came to be and the problems of rushing into this, the idea of appointments may be a good thing for the town. One of the most important points that I heard at the meeting (and that I have heard before) is that Woodstock under-pays its staff. As in all employment everywhere, this affects morale and longevity, and as a consequence — continuity and experience particular to Woodstock. These three positions are presently occupied by people who should be at the height of their earning life within the environment they are in. But saying that a person is underpaid does not make it so nor does it say to what degree it is true. An impartial and formal administrative salary review should be used as it takes into account all the factors of deciding what a pay amount should be and "fits" the individual by worth into the whole of the organization. A small group of reasonable Woodstock citizens with partisan balance can interview and recommend applicants to selectmen and satisfy the requirement for best applicants first. No need for NEECOG or outside assistance. But keep in mind what was said — "underpaid staff." Can the WRTC see the problems presented when creating "fairness" for three of a larger group? There is presently "equilibrium" with the town hall that would be completely upset if, in the interest of insuring compensation fairness for three, all the rest were forgotten. One of the measures that we all use to judge whether we have fair work conditions is where we stack up in relationship to each other. It is not possible to have a little pool of fairness in a sea of inequity.

Let's say that it becomes proven that staff is underpaid — which I hope will be true for the opportunities that it provides to straighten out another town inequity and also provides a very good start on the money to provide for

increases — money that is already in the budget. We already pay a \$14K stipend to compensate each qualified person who elects not to take the town insurance. This present policy precedent makes a strange club of people who clamor to get into the town insurance so that they can receive the highest benefit by getting out-guaranteeing that there will never be the slightest economy of scale.

The present cost to the taxpayers for town employee health insurance is \$24,000 per enrollee and is an expensive conventional plan. The Self Insurance Institute of America gives 150 as the number of members needed to have a stable plan. At last count the school had 95 enrolled. The school plan needs more participation, is a better plan and less expensive. Turn the money presently expended upon unfair, expensive and unsustainable stipends into pay increases and eliminate the one thing preventing combination of school and town insurance (actually, two things — the other is that there has been no serious consideration by the town to at least fact-find).

This would also be the time to develop written job descriptions and quarterly formal reviews. These provide the means to provide mandatory evaluation of job performance both positive and negative, and to measure effectiveness against a written standard.

The focus of appointments needs to go beyond the point of transition of incumbents to a process that also works fairly and provides the best future performance results for Woodstock. Before rushing to vote this in at a town meeting or referendum, detail the process of hiring/appointing individuals to these 3 Town offices in writing. Draft the language of a possible Ordinance, as provided in CGS 9-185, 9-187, 9-189. Present all of this information to the voters so they can make an informed decision — much before a town meeting or referendum.



Holiday Church Guide

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Saturday, December 24th
HOWARD VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
 182 Windham Rd., Hampton, CT
 ❖Country Candlelight Service at 4:00 PM

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH
 247 Broad St., Danielson, CT
 ❖Candlelight Service at 7:00 PM



Merry Christmas

From
Open Bible Baptist Church

Everyone is invited to join us for:
 Christmas Eve service – 6:00 PM
 Christmas Morning – 11:00 AM



198 Prince Hill Rd, Brooklyn, CT • 860-779-7595

Faith Bible Evangelical Free Church

Join us Christmas Eve for a service of Scripture, Carols and Candles at 11pm.

Pastor Mitch Santelli
 587 Route 171
 Woodstock, CT. 06281
 860.974.2528

MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS BE TRULY BRIGHT

YOU are invited to celebrate the
BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST!

Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist
 11 PM Dec. 24



Christmas Day Holy Eucharist
 10 AM Dec. 25
TRINITY CHURCH
 7 Providence Rd., Brooklyn



Come worship with us...
Christmas Eve

St John Lutheran Church
 190 Wauregan Road
 Danieslon CT • Route. 12

Christmas and Caroling Celebration
 Sunday, December 18 • 4pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
 Saturday, December 24 • 9pm

Christmas Day - Service of Lessons and Christmas Carols
 Sunday, December 25 • 10am

All are welcome! Come as you are!

Check us out on Facebook – St. John Lutheran Church of Killingly, CT.



You are invited to a
Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 24 • 7:00 pm
 Christmas Morning Worship • 11:00 am

North Woodstock Church
 Intersection of Routes 169 and 197



CHRIST CHURCH POMFRET

Pageant Sunday Advent 3 December 18th 10:15am Tang Center at the Rectory School Pomfret	Christmas Eve 10:30pm Candlelit Festival Eucharist with Choir
Christmas Day 9:15 Eucharist	New Year's Day 8am & 10:15 services

Christmas Eve
 4:30pm Lessons & Carols
 with Eucharist

521 Pomfret St. • Pomfret, CT ~ 860.315.7780



Family Christmas Eve Service

5:00pm ~ All Are Welcome!
 with special Christmas music

St. Alban's Episcopal Church
 254 Broad Street, Danielson
 860-774-8833

The Rev. Gary K. Sturni



The Congregational Church of Putnam United Church of Christ

Sunday, December 18, 2016
 10:30am
 Worship Service & Children's Pageant

Saturday, December 24, 2016
 7:00pm & 11:00pm
 Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, Christmas Day
 10:30am • Worship Service

ALL ARE WELCOME

Rev. Thomas H. Meyer, Pastor
 175 Main St., PO Box 463 • Putnam, CT 06260
 ph: 860-928-4405 f: 860-963-7677
 Parsonage: 860-928-5558

Join us in celebrating the true meaning of Christmas
at South Woodstock Baptist Church

Live Nativity
 on the lawn Sunday, December 18 at 6 pm
 a night of music, live animals, refreshments, and fellowship

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve 5:30 pm & 11 pm	Christmas Day 10:30 am
---	----------------------------------

ALL ARE WELCOME!

southwoodstockbaptist.org
 23 Roseland Park Road, South Woodstock, CT



Congregational Church of Eastford

8 Church Road
 Eastford, CT 06242
 www.cceastford.org
 (860) 974-0294

Christmas Sunday Worship
 10:30 am

O Come Let Us Adore Him

candlelight
Christmas eve service

Saturday, December 24
 7:00 pm



Join us for
Christmas Eve services
 at the
East Woodstock Congregational Church!

5:00 pm service:
 Features the Christmas story & songs
 Children are especially welcome!

11:00 pm service:
 Candlelight Communion service.

220 Woodstock Road
 East Woodstock, CT
 (860) 928-7449
 www.eastwoodstockchurch.org



Holiday Church Guide

**GLORY TO
GOD
IN THE
HEAVENS**

Sunday, December 18 at 10 am
Acts II Ministries -1366 Riverside Dr. Thompson, CT

EMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 18 at 9:30 AM
SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

Christmas Eve at 9:00 PM
CANDLELIGHT & CAROLS
WITH HOLY COMMUNION

85 Main Street, North Grosvenordale, CT
www.emanuellutheranthompsonct.org

Christmas Services

Join us for these
Upcoming Events!

Live Nativity Presentation
Saturday, Dec. 17, 6 p.m.
Eastford Elementary School

**Traditional Candlelight
Christmas Eve Service**
Saturday, Dec. 24, 4 p.m.

Christmas Day Worship Service
Sunday, Dec. 25, 10 a.m.

Eastford Baptist Church
133 Union Road, Eastford, CT
860-974-1414
www.eastfordbaptist.com
Pastor Tim Howard

**CHRISTMAS MASS
SCHEDULE**

CHRISTMAS EVE - DECEMBER 24TH
4:00 - ST. JOSEPH'S - NORTH GROSVENORDALE, CT
4:00 - ST. MARY'S - PUTNAM, CT
6:00 - ST. STEPHEN'S - QUINEBAUG, CT
10:00 - MOST HOLY TRINITY - POMFRET, CT
MIDNIGHT - ST. JOSEPH - NORTH GROSVENORDALE, CT

CHRISTMAS DAY - DECEMBER 25TH
8:00 - ST. MARY'S - PUTNAM, CT
9:00 - ST. STEPHEN'S - QUINEBAUG, CT
10:00 - MOST HOLY TRINITY - POMFRET, CT

**CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE**

December 24, Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

Experience the Christmas Story through scripture and song
in a family service complete with candlelight
(and glow sticks for our little ones!)

All are welcome! COME LET US ADORE HIM!

First Congregational Church, UCC • 543 Rt. 169, Woodstock 860-928-7405
An Open & Affirming Church • www.firstchurchwoodstock.org

**Thompson Congregational
Church, UCC**

347 Thompson Rd., Thompson, CT 06277
(860) 923-2431

10 a.m. Service on December 18, 2016
4th Sunday in Advent, Special Christmas Music!
Service will be followed by a Christmas Luncheon
5 p.m. - Light Supper followed by a "Longest Night
Service"

Candlelight Family Christmas Eve Service, 7 p.m.
Special music by Ted Reynolds, Tenor

**The Christmas Eve Service will be followed
by a Reception in Fellowship Hall
Join Us!**

Creation Church

"an unplugged christmas"

Children's Christmas Play
Friday, December 16th at 6:00pm

Christmas Eve Service - 5:00pm
Christmas Day Service - 10:00am
The Gifts of Christmas

47 W. Thompson Road, Thompson, CT 06277
Bernie Norman, pastor. 860-923-9979
www.creationchurch.org

Abington Congregational Church

Est. 1749 Abington, Conn.
550 Hampton Road, Pomfret

The Abington Congregational Church will hold a
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of "Lessons and
Carols" on Saturday, December 24, 2016 at 7pm. This is a
family service in which we sing our favorite Christmas carols

The Abington Church boasts the oldest meetinghouse in
Connecticut, and is located a quarter mile south of the
junction of routes 97 and 44 in Pomfret Center.

For more information phone
Pastor Hedman at 860-377-6190.

One year later, family's legacy has become a community's mission

In 1989, cancer claimed the life of 23-year old Cathy Deary, the youngest of 13 children in the Deary family of Putnam.

The response of this grief-stricken family was a deeply personal and heartfelt call for action among themselves and the greater community to improve the odds for others faced with the same diagnosis that Cathy faced. The Dearys set out on a fundraising crusade, setting a course to raise awareness of the need for early detection and cancer screenings, and helping to provide the means by which others could access such services. Partnering with Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH), the first "Cathy Deary Memorial Race and Walk" marked the beginning of the DKH Deary Memorial Cancer Fund, ensuring that funds would be put to good use for the local community and that no one in Northeast Connecticut would forgo cancer screening because of cost.

A year ago this December, and after a quarter-century in the making, the founders of the DKH Deary Memorial Cancer Fund passed the torch to DKH and changed the name of the fund to reflect the broader community that it serves. The fund, now known as the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH, has raised over \$1 million and continues to operate in the same way as intended, providing financial assistance for cancer-related screening and treatment services to individuals living in Northeast Connecticut who otherwise may not have the financial resources to obtain medical attention. But more importantly, when DKH took over the reins it was much more than a matter of accepting responsibility to manage and administer these funds: DKH was entrusted with, and has committed to, protecting and perpetuating a family legacy spanning three decades and four generations of hard work, dedication, care, and commitment to the community.

That legacy began in 1946, when Tom and Therese "Teddy" Deary moved to Putnam and found it an ideal place to plant their roots and raise a family of thirteen children. Firmly entrenched in the community and epitomizing the spirit of friendship and family values

at home, through business, and in faith, the entire family became woven into the fabric of the community. As the challenges of raising a large family included frequent attention to the health and well-being due to numerous accidents, illness, and injury, the Deary's reliance on local physicians and Day Kimball Hospital grew as did a relationship of mutual trust, friendship, and support. This relationship would be put further to the test when both Tom and Teddy faced life-threatening challenges of their own later in life, including heart surgery for Tom and Teddy's diagnosis of terminal lung cancer which she succumbed to in 1998. Tom's access to a trusted and capable cardiologist, as well as a lung specialist at DKH, and the compassionate care and treatment Teddy received through DKH's Rose Bove LaRose Cancer Center, Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern CT, and HomeCare, would all prove invaluable to Tom, Teddy and family in their most critical time of need. As a tribute to Teddy "Grammie" Deary, family and community members donated more than \$11,000 to Hospice in support of its programs.

Beginning years ago with Tom Deary's annual donation of newspaper subscriptions for patients in the hospital, one would be hard pressed to find a year when a Deary was not associated with DKH by virtue of their time, talent, or treasure. In addition to annual and capital campaign honor rolls, the names of Tom and Teddy Deary, their children, and extended family members can be found on numerous board, campaign, and event committee lists, not the least of which includes son Peter's tenure in a leadership role on the Board of Directors where he also served as Chairman. And while the Dearys' relationship with DKH spans as many as 70 years of mutual care and support, it was daughter Cathy's passing in 1989 that became the impetus behind the family's undivided attention



PHILANTHROPY MATTERS
 • KRISTEN WILLIS •
 DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT,
 DAY KIMBALL HEALTHCARE

toward raising funds for cancer awareness and treatment. With all thirteen children and their parents involved, the race and walk dedicated to Cathy was just the beginning and would soon evolve into a popular, community tradition attracting hundreds of athletes and families to Putnam each August.

As the family and community participation increased with each generation, so did the involvement and partnership with DKH. Additional fundraising efforts for the fund grew over time to a year-long cycle which would include a spring gala and auction, wine tasting, and guest bartender night. In 2009, a cycling component was added and the event was renamed the DKH Deary Memorial Race, Walk & Ride. All monies would remain local, providing cancer treatment and preventative services such as mammograms, colonoscopies, diagnostics, medications and surgical procedures for DKH patients needing financial assistance. By the end of 2015, the fund had raised over \$1 million and was providing assistance to more than 200 Northeast Connecticut residents in need each year.

There is no doubt that the Deary name will forever be synonymous with the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH. But what is also remarkable and bodes well for the long-term growth of this fund is the outpouring of the community that has evolved, joining DKH in its mission of the fund's development and stewardship. Major business partners have continually come forward to sponsor annual events, and numerous business owners, hospital employees, school and youth groups, and civic and religious organizations have historically organized and sponsored fundraisers, large and small, contributing proceeds to the fund. It has not been unusual for individuals to visit the DKH Development office with money that they personally raised by participating in walkathon, running a bake sale, or even growing a

beard. These, and other efforts continue to this day.

New event committees have also formulated over the past several years. In 2004, motorcycle enthusiasts Dave and Rita Conrad inspired what has now become an annual classic car and motorcycle ride, "Cruisin for Cancer Care" which will be held again this coming June; employees of Putnam Bank recently partnered with Deary Bros. Mike's Stand to organize an annual "Scoops Night" in the month of August; and this past September, Missy Bonsall of Generations and Marcy Dawley of The Last Green Valley organized the first, and potentially annual, "Hike for Hope" in honor of Missy's fiancée who lost his battle with cancer. The 2017 schedule of events in support of the NE Connecticut Cancer Fund will include all of these events, along with a Guest Bartender Night in March, the Wine Tasting in May, and the focal point of the year - the annual Race and Walk, which is scheduled for June 17. In addition, the Deary Memorial Garden, an integral part of the annual tradition and planted at the original site of the race, will be moved to the Schneider Center grounds on the DKH campus and rededicated on May 18.

DKH is extremely grateful for the legacy of the Deary family and their tireless efforts to bring the Northeast Connecticut community together in the fight against cancer and to remember, celebrate and honor those who have battled the disease. We are proud to report that with the passing of the torch, and the wholehearted commitment of the community, an additional \$60,000 has been raised this past year through memorial donations and events. The Deary legacy does indeed burn bright, and will continue to do so in perpetuity through the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH.

Do you have questions, concerns, stories to share, or topics related to philanthropy and Day Kimball Healthcare that you'd like to learn more about? Please feel free to reach out to Kristen at 860-928-7141 or email kewillis@daykimball.org.

Antiques and the holidays



Courtesy photo

A few of the many coins in our Jan. 26 auction.

I hope that all of you are enjoying the holiday season! There are some great buying opportunities to those of you choosing to purchase vintage items as gifts. There are many local antique shops offering discounts and special events where you can find a unique gift for the people on your list.

You can find information and websites for local antique shops on the website antiquecommon.com.

There are also a number of events where you can take part in an old fashioned Christmas. Hopefully, some of you were able to attend the event at Denholm's department store in Worcester. The store was opened in 1870 selling dry goods. It closed in 1974 but a night at the store was recreated by Preservation Worcester on Saturday, Dec. 10.

Old Sturbridge Village is celebrating "Christmas by Candlelight." It is described as "an evening filled with New England holiday traditions, live musical performances, storytelling, sleigh rides, festive foods, a roaring bonfire, and strolls around the decorated Village Common." There will also be holiday craft workshop, model train display, nightly tree lighting and a gingerbread house contest. See osvchristmas.org for more details.

If you are willing to travel a little there are other holiday events taking place. Mystic Seaport's Lantern Light Tours are billed as "A New England Holiday Tradition." This

year's performance is a 70 minute set on Christmas Eve in 1876 that is inspired by "The Nutcracker." The performance takes place as the audience walks through the "cobblestone, wood plank-ing, grass, gravel, and stairs" at the popular attraction. Details can be found at www.mysticseaport.org.

The Fall River Historical Museum celebrates the holidays by decorating with "award-winning Christmas trees," one of which hangs upside down from the ceiling. Their display has been featured in Victorian Homes magazine and on television. Other events including "Victorian High Tea in Easton Tea Room" are also scheduled. See lizzieborden.org for details.

If you'd like to ring in the New Year with something old, the 3rd Annual Sturbridge Antique Show is offering a New Year's Eve reception and early viewing. The New Year's Eve event offers early viewing from 6 to 8 p.m., along with entertainment



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
 •••••
 WAYNE TUISKULA

and a cash bar. The New Year's Day show runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Up to 75 dealers and exhibitors are expected. See sturbridgeantiqueshow.com for details.

We have many events already scheduled for the winter and spring. We have been picking up quality items for our Jan. 26 auction which will take place in Worcester. I will be appraising items at a fundraiser for the Athol American Legion on Jan. 14. I will also be lecturing on antiques for the Greendale Retired Men's Club at the Greendale YMCA in Worcester on March 1. My "Evaluating your antiques" night class will be held at Bay Path in Charlton on March 6. See www.centralmassauctions.com for more information on these and other upcoming events.

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.

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Bring out the best in a person with the gift of Martial Arts. Build confidence and self-esteem as well as self-discipline, respect, fitness, concentration & courtesy.

One Month of Classes and a Uniform-\$75.00
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YOUR TURN

continued from page A9

the entire rest of the world moving towards clean energy, he wants a company to lead not to follow. And for America not to take part in this means

we will ultimately be buyers, not sellers of cutting edge cheap and clean energy. Mr. Hill also believes that taxpayer's funding drives the industry. Well, the fossil fuel industry benefits from many huge tax breaks. In 2004, for example, the American Jobs Creation act included a tax deduction for domestic oil and gas producers of 6 percent.

Unfortunately, we have a future president who believes in groundless hearsay and not datum. Not only has he labeled global warming a hoax, he has come out with baseless accusations such as the only reason he lost the popular vote is because our election system is rigged and millions of illegal residents voted. His transition team has sent out questionnaires to find out which Department of Energy employees and contractors were involved in the Paris accord and in cutting domestic carbon output in a blatant effort to eliminate any dissenters. And now Trump wants to run a TV show in his spare time. Really! He is poised to become the 21st century's version of Emperor Nero, Joseph McCarthy, and PT Barnum all rolled into one. But I digress.

Yes, we are at a crossroads in not only human history but in that of our planet. But just when the Earth needs our help the most we are succumbing to false news and false science. It is no exaggeration to say that the fate of the future falls on this generation's shoulders.

And yes, God may have created us millennia (or just 6,000 years) ago but He also wiped us out when we failed to heed his doctrine. We live in an age where we can potentially destroy this planet. And just as He did before, if we ignore His warnings, we once again will be condemned to a great flood. But this time all the arks in the world will not save us.

Sunny-Croft Equestrian Center

Sunny-Croft also offers boarding!
Call us to tour our beautiful facility.

RIDING LESSONS AT SUNNY-CROFT

We offer lessons from beginner to advanced. We teach private and group lessons. Every lesson consists of grooming, tacking, riding and un-tacking your horse. Always learning, no matter what level rider you are.

Lessons are offered in hunt-seat, western, and jumping. Karol is extremely good at breaking down your lessons, working on equitation, pleasure, exercises and pattern. Karol also teaches showmanship, trail, and gymkhana.

**415 East Thompson Rd.
 Thompson, CT 06277
 860.923.3060
sunnycroftequestriancenter.com**

Raceway Golf Club Acquires Melody Hill Country Club

The Raceway Golf Club is proud to announce the recent acquisition of Melody Hill Country Club in Gloucester, Rhode Island, representing a partnership of two of the tri-state area's oldest and most popular courses!

Over the next year we will be executing upgrades to the clubhouse, pro shop, food and beverage operation, website, irrigation systems and turf management program at Melody Hill.

The new Tri-State Golf Membership

For the same great value of a full Raceway Golf Club membership, play two great courses both within 25 minutes of one another!

The Tri-State Membership is being offered to our current members and new members as well! The full Tri-State membership is only \$1325 (including all taxes and fees). Until January 1, we are offering an additional 10% discount (\$1192.50). This price gives you unlimited golf at both properties for the 2017 season! **10% off Raceway Golf Club Gift Cards until 12/25**

We hope to see you all in the 2017 season!
860-923-9591 www.racewaygolf.com

The Christmas Truce of 1914

Once upon a time, there was a magical moment in history called the 1960's.

Why was this so magical? This was my era, my youth, and my special time to grow up in Bozrah. A time when neighbors loved each other more like family and watched over every child like their own.

It was during this time I was lucky enough to live next door to a certain twinkle-eyed gentleman named Gustave O. Lorentz and his lovely wife Anna. Gus was the ultimate World War I soldier, loved and revered by all who knew. Gus was a true soldier in every sense of the word. My mother and father used to joke, "Gus Lorentz ain't never learned how to tell a lie."

Gus came home from the war and filled his bottom desk drawer with medals — and never spoke of them again. In 1964, right before Gus died, he gave me his WWI helmet. I can remember his words as if yesterday.

"Connie Mary, when your a fancy college girl, maybe you can remember me and write a story about a broken-down

WWI soldier and his helmet." (I still have his helmet and treasure it to this very day)

Gus never bragged or boasted, and shared his pond and walking paths with every neighbor — and the truth is — my greatest lessons about life came from this honorable man.

And so my friends as the story goes, it was during my childhood years when I first came to understand the true meaning of The Christmas Truce of World War I. Every Christmas Eve, I looked forward to Gus telling me the story, gesturing with excitement and awe. There is some scholarly dispute regarding the Christmas Truce of 1914 and whether it actually took place. However, despite the criticism, it is a legend and the story continues to be told — and no one told it better than Gus Lorentz.

"Don't let anyone tell you any different Connie Mary," Gus would say, his brown

GUEST COMMENTARY
CONCETTA FALCONE-CODDING

eyes glistening like chocolate melting in the sun. "This story is a miracle that happened when the British and German soldiers were fighting in the bloody trenches on the Western Front. Those trenches weren't called "No Man's Land" for nothing. No siree, as the war progressed, those trenches became littered with bodies and rats. We literally had mud up to our knees. I'll tell you the truth about them trenches Connie Mary. You might come in an Atheist, but if you were lucky enough to survive, you never forgot about the one above who brought you out."

When Gus spoke of that Christmas day in 1914, his face became the light leading his soldiers out of the darkness. "It was at the break of day when the first German soldiers allegedly ran from the trenches straight into the open field yelling Merry Christmas! Merry Christmas! One of the German soldiers boldly sang

"Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht" (Silent Night, Holy Night) with a haunting baritone voice. Before long, everyone was singing in his native tongue. What happened next was remarkable. At first, the allied soldiers feared it was a trick, but seeing the Germans unarmed, they too slowly emerged from trenches and joined them. The men began exchanging presents — photographs, cigarettes and small amounts of food. Part of the story is that some men made a ball out of rags and began kicking it around the field."

Every Christmas Eve, I would ask Gus same question: did the men stop fighting after that?

He would answer sadly. "No, Connie Mary. The men shook hands and each one went back to fight for their country. The same men who just hours before were singing and playing together, went back to killing."

When I was young, I longed to hear this story. Today, when I think of Aleppo and the wars between nations, I wish we

could remember that no matter what color, race or religion, we are not so different from our brothers and sisters. Gus taught me that it takes more courage to put down a gun, than to kill with it. His words still ring true. "Connie Mary, at the end of the day, when two soldiers from different battlefields put down their guns, all that's left is two brothers standing side by side."

There are few documents to support the Christmas Truce, and the major players in the event have left this world, yet there is a lesson in this story. Not even a world war could destroy the Christmas spirit. This story is in memory of Gustave O. Lorentz (1901-1964) and all the soldiers from every war. Merry Christmas, peace on earth, and goodwill to all!

Excerpts from this article were taken from The Lonely Nest written by Concetta Falcone-Coddling. Falcone-Coddling can be reached at concettafalconecoddling1@gmail.com.

Holiday helps and hints

Decking your halls for the yuletide? With the hustle and bustle of the season, it can be a challenge to find the time to get everything done — never mind having to deal with some common holiday nuisances. Read on for some hints to halt the hassles and keep merry!

If you're using old-fashioned silver tinsel icicles on your tree, prevent the static cling by putting the box in the freezer for half an hour before hanging them ~ no more clumps!

Organize your spools of gift-wrapping ribbon by stacking them on an upright paper towel holder. Tangles are gone and you can see what you have at a glance!

And if you use your festive candles year after year, here's how to revive their color and luster: Just wipe them down with a little dab of olive oil and buff to a nice sheen.

Or simply spray the dull candles with furniture polish and wipe well.

To prevent candles that are stored in off-season from warping, store them flat in a dark, dry place.

When using candles on a dining room or kitchen table, make sure the candles are unscented. This way the scent won't interfere with the food you're serving.

Here's an oldie but goodie: Freeze candles for one hour to make them burn longer, drip less.

Clump-free Tinsel: Keep tinsel icicles from clinging together by sticking them in the freezer for half an hour before you hang them.

Organized Wrapping: Keep holiday ribbon on an upright paper towel holder for easy access. It's a great way to sort your ribbon, even out of season.

Did you know? Smell is the most

potent of our senses. If your house smells like Christmas, your visitors will feel doubly welcomed. For a quick pine fragrance, simply sprinkle your carpets with a pine scented carpet freshener before vacuuming.

Recycle Tree Trims: No matter how carefully you choose your fresh tree, branches often have to be trimmed. The good news is, the fragrant needles from pruned branches can be recycled into festive favors:

Scented Sachets: Balsam pine needles are the stuff pricey pine pillows are made of. String tied muslin bags of pine needles are top sellers at gift shops. To whip up a festive balsam "pouch," cut two rectangles of fabric from wool or flannel (old flannel shirt material is ideal). Depending upon how many needles you have, you can stuff small sachet pillows nice and tight with ground up needles, adding a drop of balsam essential oil for good measure. For finely ground needles, you will need a net or double flannel lining to prevent the grindings from escaping. To finish it off, use an elastic band to tie off the top. Wrap a festive ribbon around it and glue on a tiny pinecone or two.

Pine Pillows: If you don't have an abundance of fallen needles, you can still capture the scent of balsam. Fill a cheesecloth or net pouch with the tips of Christmas tree branches. Add some polyfill stuffing, and sprinkle in a few drops of pine or balsam essential oil. Secure open end shut. Stuff the cheesecloth filled pouch into a travel size zippered pillowcase. Add polyfill as well as a few more drops of essential oil. Be sure to use enough stuffing so pillow is stuffed solid, yet still soft.

Note: Balsam pillows and sachets have long been given as a gesture of friendship so they make the ideal holiday hostess gift.

Pine Potpourri: Wish you could retain that delightful pine scent of your Christmas tree? This homemade Pine Potpourri offers a fresh, evergreen



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

scent any time of year!

Mix together: 1/2 cup bayberry leaves; 1/2 cup snipped balsam needles; 1/2 cup miniature pine cones; 1/2 cup rose hips; 2 tsp. orrisroot; 2 drops pine-scented fixative or oil.

Combine the bayberry, balsam, pine cones and rose hips in a large bowl. Add the orrisroot and fixative and stir gently. Store in a jar with a tight fitting lid.

Note: To rejuvenate and extend your pine potpourri, try this economical trick: Put some ground corncob material (sold as cellulose or litter material at the pet store) in a jar. Add several drops of essential oil, place lid on jar and shake. Shake the jar every day for about a week or so. Add it to your potpourri, to give it body and hold the scent.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick

House — Your tips can win you a fabulous dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. Hints are entered into a drawing for a three-course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn! One winner per month will win a fabulous three-course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out thee to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press publications? Send questions and/or hint to: Take the Hint!, c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or e-mail kdr@aol.com.

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Day Kimball Hospital Birth Announcements

Oct. 11
A son was born to Matthew Sawinski and wife Kandace Michelle Campos, of Danielson

Nov. 3
A son was born to Paul Proulx Jr. and wife Kristen Marie Hewey, of North Grosvenordale

Nov. 4
A son was born to Christopher Sweetland and Kendra Bonnette, of Putnam

Nov. 7
A daughter was born to Aaron McCrory and Lauren Ashley Collins, of Griswold

Nov. 8
A son was born to Andrew Ladzinski and wife Autumn Kelly Marie Bowers, of Central Village

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Locals arrested on child neglect charges after overdose scare

ARRESTS

continued from page A1

ment in question were reposted as stating to police that they had left for approximately twenty minutes, finding Collins and Almond-Lawson unconscious and breathing erratically upon their return at which point they placed the call to 911.

As a result of the incident both Collins and Almond-Lawson are fac-

ing charges. Both victims did admit to having smoked marijuana prior to going unconscious, and police reported that it is suspected that the marijuana may have been tainted with another substance, possibly an opiate, which resulted in the overdose and ensuing medical situation.

Collins and Almond-Lawson were released from Day Kimball Hospital after receiving examinations and treatment, but they were not off the hook.

Both Almond-Lawson and Collins were arrested for risk of injury to a minor and both were held on separate \$2,500 cash/surety bonds. State Police confirmed that the Department of Children and Families was notified of the situation due to the involvement of the five-year-old child and responded to the scene to perform their own investigation into the situation.

This situation comes at the end of a busy year for State Police in Killingly

in 2016. The Troop D Quality of Life Task Force has made much progress over the year tackling local drug and opioid dealings and use, especially in the Danielson area, with this situation being one of very few actual reported cases of an overdose in the town this year.

Jason Bleau may be reached at 508-909-4129, or by e-mail at jason@stonebridgepress.com.

Local bank continues popular tree decoration tradition

TRADITION

continued from page A1

now they come here and watch their children do it," Waite said. "It is great that it's been able to be an ongoing thing year after year and to have the relationship with the school it's great for us."

As part of the celebration children hang their own hand-made ornaments on a tree provided by the bank, one classroom at a time, with the help of their teachers. The children also sing prepared Christmas carols and patriotic tunes as their families sing along, take photos, and enjoy a memory or two for the Christmas season.

Adding to it all is a \$300 donation to the Brooklyn Elementary School's literacy program, another part of the yearly tradition that Waite says emphasizes not only the great partnership the bank has with the school each holiday

season, but the bank's determination to give back to its community in whatever way they can.

"We're definitely very community minded and we want to support the schools, the students, and the families. Customers or not it is important for the bank to just give back whenever we can and they're nice enough to give back to us and have the kids come in and decorate the tree for us," said Waite. "You know what's so neat too, every year they manage to come up with something different. The decorations aren't just the same thing every year. The kids and teachers are always very creative and the ornaments are personalized. They also make the cutest 'thank you' cards after the fact. They're all adorable."

The first grade teachers at Brooklyn Elementary School issued a joint statement to be

included in this story. In the statement they note just how exciting it is for them to carry on a tradition that has become a staple of the Quiet Corner.

"We, the first grade teachers and students at the Brooklyn Elementary School, are thrilled to carry on this holiday tradition that brings together our community and our students," they said. "We believe this message of togetherness and peace is as important today as it was when it began 42 years ago."

Jason Bleau may be reached at 508-909-4129, or by e-mail at jason@stonebridgepress.com.

Jason Bleau photos

A Brooklyn first grader reaches to hang her hand-made ornament on a Christmas tree at Jewett City Savings bank. The 42-year tradition brings students and families together with employees of the bank for a morning of holiday magic.



New café opens for business in Thompson

OUR FATHER'S TABLE

continued from page A1

dance studio and a hair salon.

Frank and Charlene Langlois own the building and are also part owners of the café.

Liz explains how Our Father's Table came to be: "Frank and Charlene's daughter owns a dance studio, Turning Pointe. When Frank and Charlene saw that this old mill was for sale, they bought it for the dance studio. ... They called me one day, and asked 'Do you know how to set up a kitchen, do you know what we need?' I said yes. From the time that they approached me about starting a café to the time that we opened it was about eight months."

Our Father's Table opened their doors in September.

Liz is the primary cook at Our Father's Table and has extensive experience in food service.

"I worked in kitchens at schools like Marianapolis and Hyde [School] for 10 years. I started out as a dishwasher at Marianapolis, and I kind of moved up to cooking," Liz said. Liz also ran her own catering business before starting Our Father's Table.

Liz is in charge of the menus and the cooking, and her husband David helps with staffing, and other management tasks, even though he also has another full-time job.

"I came up with all the menu items. I did a lot of research and looked at what other cafés were doing, and I kind of took a spin off of that," Liz said.

David came up with the name of the café, Our Father's Table, to indicate that they want their guests to feel welcomed like family when they come in, and to also indicate their belief in the heavenly Father.

The café does employ one other cook, for the breakfast shift. The café



Teri Stohlberg photos

Our Father's Table, a new café on Riverside Drive in Thompson, opened for business in September.

employs a total of nine people.

The spacious café features wood floors, a fireplace and a rustic décor, using many of the items from the old mill, such as a large old wooden wagon repurposed as a table. The old mill had to undergo a complete remodel before it could be opened, which involved knocking down

some walls and redoing the ceilings.

Our Father's Table can seat up to 55 people, so it can be rented out for special events such as anniversary parties, holidays parties, and meetings. They are not open on Sundays, but Liz said that they would rent the café on a Sunday if someone wants to reserve it

for an event. In the spring and summer, outdoor seating will also be available on their large deck.

The café offers hot breakfast along with a pastry case full of muffins, scones, and Danish pastries. Gluten-free options are also available. They serve coffee, lattes, frappes, espresso, and cappuccino.

Lunch offerings include hot sandwiches, salads and soups. Liz explains that she has been experimenting with different food suppliers.

"I try to use local suppliers on as much of the food as possible, and there are no antibiotics in any of the meat," she said, adding that the café also sells locally produced honey and maple syrup.

"Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we do dinner specials. So you can order a full pan to take home to your family, and you can have a meal at home, or you can come in order a plate here," Liz

commented.

Chicken broccoli Alfredo is one of the popular specials they offer from time to time. The specials can usually be found on their Facebook page. Pick up orders can also be placed on their Facebook page to have it ready to eat when you arrive. For dessert, they have homemade ice cream.

Our Father's Table is located at 1020 Riverside Drive, in the North Grosvenordale section of Thompson (right across the street from the Knights of Columbus hall). The hours are Monday through Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. They are closed on Sundays. Their phone number is 860-315-1015 and their e-mail address is ourfatherstable2016@gmail.com. They can also be found on Facebook (Our Father's Table).

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Woodstock Academy welcomes Winter Craft Fair

Charlie Lentz photos



WOODSTOCK — Woodstock Academy held a Winter Craft Fair in Alumni Fieldhouse last Sunday, Dec. 11. Proceeds from the event benefitted Relay for Life of NECT.

Brandon LeBreque and Virginia Chase



From left, Elizabeth Roy, Griffin Edwards, and Jake Webber



Missy Davis, left, and Karen Kist



Kristen Donovan



Alice Kelly, left, and Nancy Kelly



Mary Mello



Lisa Sharpe



Gail Renaud, left, and Tracey Dunn



Jon Correia



Becky Hopps, left, and Melanie Carr

MENU

continued from page A7

PUTNAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Crunchy chicken tenders, orange glazed carrot coins, whole grain dinner roll
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: Baked shepherd's pie (layered casserole of seasoned ground beef, corn, topped with crust of garlic mashed potatoes)
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Hot Diggity Dog (hot dog with topping station on whole grain roll), baked beans, creamy coleslaw
 Thursday, Dec. 22: Wolf Meal (beef burger, plain or with cheese, lettuce and tomato on whole grain bun, topping station, seasoned curly French fries, fruit sherbet)

Friday, Dec. 23: Half Day — Putnam Special Pizza (assorted fresh toppings on homemade whole wheat pizza dough), fresh garden salad with cherry tomatoes and cucumbers

WOODSTOCK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Pork rib sandwich, oven fries, baked beans, fruit/milk
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: French toast stix, roasted red potato, turkey sausage, fruit/milk
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Chicken nuggets, mashed potato, broccoli, fruit/milk
 Thursday, Dec. 22: Rigatoni and meatball, green beans, wheat roll, fruit/milk
 Friday, Dec. 23: Pizza, carrots, fruit, milk

BROOKLYN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Meatless Monday: Fresh baked pretzel with cheese sauce, cucumbers and dip, blueberry parfait, milk
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: Chicken patty on a bun, chips, baked beans, blushing pears, milk
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Bacon, egg and cheese on a croissant, potato wedges, 100-percent juice, apple sauce, milk
 Thursday, Dec. 22: Holiday Luncheon — Turkey and gravy, mashed potatoes, steamed broccoli, cranberry sauce, warm roll and Promise cup, 100 percent frozen juice kiwi, strawberry juice, milk
 Friday, Dec. 23: Fresh baked pizza, fresh veggies and dip, fresh fruit, milk

BROOKLYN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monday, Dec. 19: Meatless Monday: Fresh baked pretzel with cheese sauce, cucumbers and dip, blueberry parfait, milk
 Tuesday, Dec. 20: Chicken patty on a bun, chips, baked beans, blushing pears, milk
 Wednesday, Dec. 21: Bacon, egg and cheese on a croissant, potato wedges, 100-percent juice, apple sauce, milk
 Thursday, Dec. 22: Holiday Luncheon — Turkey and gravy, mashed potatoes, steamed broccoli, cranberry sauce, warm roll and Promise cup, 100 percent frozen juice kiwi, strawberry juice, milk
 Friday, Dec. 23: Fresh baked pizza, fresh veggies and dip, fresh fruit, milk



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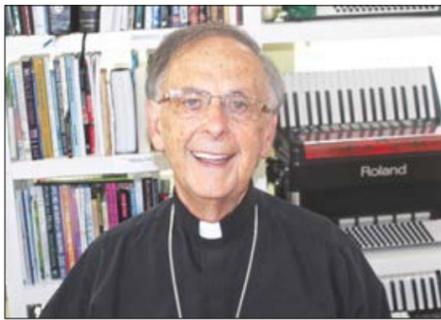
Shop local and share your love for The Last Green Valley, where your dollars will have a big impact on the region's future!



Courtesy photo

QUEST ANNOUNCES PROMOTIONS

PUTNAM — Quest Martial Arts in Putnam announce the promotions of new black belts. The students were awarded their advanced ranks by Grandmaster Mike Bogdanski and Master Kristin Duethorn. Front row (first degree black belts), Abby Card, Mathew Card, Nicholas Boligan, Colby Johndrow. Second row, Grandmaster Mike Bogdanski, Annie Griffin (first degree), Sophie Griffin (first degree), Maddy Hopkin (first degree), Lydia Smith (first degree), David May (second degree), Stacey Pazienza (second degree), Master Duethorn. Third row, Chris Desmond (first degree black belt), Gerry LaMontagne (second degree black belt).



Courtesy photo

St. Philip's Episcopal Church's new pastor, The Rev. Don Parker.

St. Philip's Episcopal Church welcomes new pastor

PUTNAM — The people of St. Philip's Episcopal Church, 63 Grove St., are

happy to announce they have a new pastor.

The Rev. Don Parker assumed his duties in November. A graduate of Berkeley Divinity School at Yale, Fr. Don is married to Carol and has two adult children. The new pastor likes to say he "does the stuff" that Jesus did and teaches others to do the same. Fr. Don also wears the hat of New England Director of The Order of St. Luke Ecumenical Healing Fellowship.

St. Philip's is a small congregation blessed with folks who have big hearts and an enormous desire to minister to all, including the lost and left out. Especially important to them is touching lives through healing ministries.

The parish offers a support group for anyone needing the prayers and support of caring folks at 7 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. Healing prayers are offered during Sunday worship at 9 a.m. For information call 860-928-3510. The congregation invites you to come and meet their new pastor and to encounter the healing touch of Jesus!

Westview announces employee of the month for December



Courtesy photo

DAYVILLE — Sonya Newman, from Sterling, was named Westview Health Care Center's Employee of the Month for December. Newman is a 2008 graduate of Quinebaug Valley Community College's Certified Nursing Assistant program and has been employed at Westview as a CNA since January 2008.

"I am honored to have been nominated by my co-workers for Employee of the Month," Newman stated. "When I was a little girl, I knew that I wanted to help people. As an adult, it humbles me to know that I put a smile on the faces of my residents and patients."

"Being chosen as Employee of the Month is an outstanding achievement," said Administrator David T. Panteleakos. "Therefore, for the folks that work alongside Sonya on a daily basis, it comes as no surprise that she has received this distinction for her second time since being employed at Westview. Her indomitable spirit and level of professionalism is an asset to our dedicated staff."

In her spare time, Mrs. Newman enjoys working out, kayaking, reading and spending time with her husband, Tom, her niece, Olivia, and their family dog, Tyson.

IT'S GOIN' DOWN!
CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!



Courtesy photo

Lions Club inducts three new members

THOMPSON — Members of the Thompson Lions Club welcomed three new members at its November 15 meeting held at the Thompson Raceway Restaurant in Thompson.

Under the direction of President Ryan Lajoie, a formal induction ceremony was conducted by long time member David Babbitt and attended by more than 30 active members of the club.

The newest members of the Club are Jane Provost, Jean Grenier and Ralph Cofske. This brings the membership of the Thompson Lions Club up to 47 active members. Club members meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month during the months of September to June each year. Meetings are held at the Thompson Raceway Restaurant. The Club raises money for many local charitable organizations, with special interest in the TEEG program, and children's groups and organizations.

Pictured, from left, are newest members Jane Provost sponsored by her husband Mark, new member Ralph Cofske, sponsor Danielle Danielson, new member Jean Grenier, long time member David Babbitt conducting the ceremony and Club President Ryan Lajoie.

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POLICE LOGS

Editor's Note: The information contained in these police logs was obtained through either press releases or other public documents kept by each police department, and is considered to be the account of police. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. If a case is dismissed in court or the party is found to be innocent, The Villager, with proper documentation, will update the log at the request of the arrested party.

STATE POLICE TROOP D LOGS

DAYVILLE
 Wednesday, Nov. 30
 Jason M. Link, 37, of 20 Kenneth Drive, Dayville, was charged with first degree criminal trespass; public disturbance; no fight/no threat/no obstructing; fifth degree larceny.

DANIELSON
 Thursday, Dec. 1
 Jonathan Richard Coderre, 34, of 14 Robertson Ave., Danielson, was charged with operating/towing an unregistered motor vehicle; failure to carry certificate of insurance; driving under the influence of drugs/alcohol; failure to drive in proper lane of multiple lane highway; operating a motor vehicle without a license.

Corey T. Crandall, 24, of 887 Providence Pike Apt. B, Danielson, was charged with failure to appear second degree.

BROOKLYN
 Thursday, Dec. 1
 Mabelle I. Bousquet, 56, of 1 Robert St., Brooklyn, was charged with conspiracy to commit first degree criminal trespass.

PUTNAM POLICE DEPARTMENT LOGS

Sunday, Dec. 11
 Robert Contois, 42, of 197 Providence St., Putnam, was charged with third-degree assault, disorderly conduct, second-degree reckless endangerment



Photo courtesy John D. Ryan

St. James Council 2883, Knights of Columbus, of Danielson, recently welcomed (front row, from left) John Ross, of Brooklyn and Scott Bugbee, of Central Village, as new members. Ross and Bugbee are shown here with members of Putnam's Cargill Council 64 ceremonial team, dressed in their colorful robes (back row), moments after they were inducted by the team into the Catholic, family, fraternal group during a private ceremony held at the Cargill Council Hall on Providence St. in Putnam.

Knights of Columbus welcomes new members

CATHOLIC, FAMILY FRATERNAL GROUP SUPPORTS COMMUNITY, FAITH AND ITS MEMBERS

PUTNAM — Two area Catholic men from will soon be putting their faith into action, with an assist from their new friends from St. James Council 2883, Knights of Columbus, in Danielson.

John Ross, of Brooklyn, and Scott Bugbee, of Central Village, was inducted into the Catholic, family fraternal group during a private ceremony held recently in Putnam. The ceremony was conducted by an experienced team of Knights from Putnam's Cargill Council 64, headquartered at the council's hall on Providence Street. The team usually conducts four or five such ceremonies there annually.

"We're really grateful to John and Scott for joining us," said Council 2883's elected leader, Grand Knight

Kyle Napierata. "St. James Council does plenty of things year round and it's always great to have new guys becoming part of what we do."

St. James Council 2883 has been headquartered at St. James Church in Danielson since the council was founded in 1944. Made up of over 100 local Catholic men and their families, the council supports St. James Parish, its school and the surrounding community.

Among many activities, St. James Council sponsors or assists year-round with many positive, local programs, including regular prayer services, support for Catholic religious vocations, a strong commitment to area Special Olympics programs for people with intellectual disabilities, providing winter coats for needy local children, work for local food pantries, an annual council picnic and golf tournament and sponsoring athletic programs for local young people. Council 2883 is also deeply committed to the work to end abortion, euthanasia and assisted suicide and to otherwise support the "Culture of Life."

Led by Grand Knight Napierata, he and the council's other elected officers run the council. The organization does its own fund-raising, using all of the net proceeds to pay for its programs.

Since it began in New Haven in 1882, the worldwide Knights of Columbus has grown to become the world's largest Catholic lay organization, a fraternal benefit society made up of Catholic men and their families. It was founded by a parish priest, Father Michael J. McGivney. Looking at the problems being suffered by Catholics in and around New Haven in the last quarter of the Nineteenth Century, he founded the society so that members could support each other religiously, morally, socially and financially.

Since then, the organization has grown to more than 1.9 million members and their families in more than 15,000 active, local councils in thirteen countries worldwide, including the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Philippines, among others. Since 2005, the Knights of Columbus have opened new councils in Poland, Cuba, Ukraine, Lithuania and South Korea.

St. James Council 2883 and the world's other K of C councils provide members and their families with volunteer opportunities to serve the Catholic Church, their communities, families and young people. Worldwide, annually the Knights of Columbus donates more than \$170 million and 70 million hours of service to charitable causes. Please visit www.kofc.org for more information.

McGivney, a Waterbury, Conn. native who died in 1890, is a candidate for sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church. If he is canonized, McGivney would become Connecticut's first Catholic saint and the first American parish priest to be so honored.

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Pomfret Community School hosts Holiday Craft and Gift Fair

Charlie Lentz photos

POMFRET CENTER — Pomfret Community School held a Holiday Craft and Gift Fair last Sunday, Dec. 11.



From left, Sage and Heidi Blackmar



Deb Ginter



From left, Melanie and Maizy Ferreira



Cheryl Albee



Sharon George



Tom Santo Christo and Catherine Sampson



Maryanne Brunnett



Sharilyn Mathews



Tara Savoie



Dominic Preble and Jessica Lefevre

Chamber of Commerce announces annual awards

DANIELSON — The Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the 2017 recipients of the Chamber's annual awards.

• Civic Achievement Award — An award given to an individual or group for their broad-based involvement with clubs, civic groups, charities etc. over a long period of time. The Committee's selection

is Willie Bousquet, Recreation director for the Town of Putnam.

While it is Willie's job to provide for the Town of Putnam's parks and recreation, most people will acknowledge that Willie has gone far beyond the duties expected of his position. He has truly dedicated countless hours to numerous activities that we all enjoy in Putnam today.

Just a few examples of how Willie has made a significant difference to the community include:

- Chairing the Putnam High School Athletic Alumni Association when no one else stepped forward even though he is not a Putnam High graduate;
- Spearheading much of the work that ensures a magnificent fireworks event each summer in Rotary Park;

- Willie was the moving force behind the Al Fresco Series in Putnam. Thousands have benefited from the free performances that have included opera, a Beatles program and evenings with Disco, Motown, Rat Pack, Elvis and Neil Diamond;

- He has provided key assistance to the Putnam Rotary Club and their Senior Shoot Out program which provides a fun night for high school seniors who are ending their high school basketball careers;

- Willie has collaborated with Gary and Karen Osbrey of WINY Radio in the production of the very popular summer River Fire program;

- He has been instrumental in the production of the Trick or Treat night, the Great Pumpkin Festival, the Holiday Dazzle Light Parade and First Fridays in downtown Putnam.

In addition, Willie is a 30-year member, past president and Paul Harris Fellow of the Putnam Rotary Club. He is an active member of the Knights of Columbus and the Elks Club. For all of his efforts to promote the many activities that bring so much joy to the residents of northeastern Connecticut, we are pleased to name Willie Bousquet as the recipient of the Civic Achievement Award.

• Business Leader of The Year Award: An award presented to an individual for outstanding business leadership and active participation in community organizations.

The Committee's selection is Marc Archambault of Archambault Insurance Associates.

From a business standpoint, Marc Archambault is well known in northeastern Connecticut for the long-term successful operation of Archambault Insurance Associates, which was established in 1928 by Marc's grandfather, Joseph Archambault and which Marc joined in 1991. Together, with his brother, Tom, Marc employs a staff of 18 insurance specialists that serve the insurance

impact on many aspects of our northeastern Connecticut community. He is a past president of the Quinebaug Valley Community College (QVCC) Foundation and has the dubious distinction of serving the most terms of any president. He continues to advocate for QVCC students and for the College, by leading by example and being a valued member of numerous committees, including the Tackle the Trail event, which raised over \$40,000 in support of the Foundation's mission. He is the current president, a Paul Harris Fellow and past golf chairman of the Putnam Rotary Club. In the award nomination, Marc was described as a "diplomatic leader and a true statesman, exemplified by his ability to negotiate and lead discussions in a thoughtful manner, always ensuring that everyone's opinion is heard and respected."

Individual beneficiaries of Marc's "broad-based" involvement range in age from five to eighty-five. They include coaching children playing Pomfret Little League baseball and Frog Rock Basketball, two organizations Marc has been involved with both before and after his children participated. Parishioners of Most Holy Trinity church now enjoy a beautiful church thanks to his chairmanship of the Church Building Committee.

In summary, Marc has worked tirelessly to better northeastern Connecticut embodying the qualities of honesty, integrity and service and for those reasons, he was the committee's selection for Business Leader of the Year award.

• Gold Key Award: An award presented to an individual or business for their outstanding service to the Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce.

The Committee's selection is Rachael Johnston of Johnston & Associates Real Estate.

Rachael has been an enormous supporter of the Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce since first joining the organization in 2003. After joining the Board of Directors, she served in pivotal roles on numerous committees including Tastefully New England, Building Committee, Advertising & Marketing, Legislative Affairs and Health & Wellness. In a relatively short period of time, Rachael's leadership skills found her in the officer's chairs and in 2016 she served as president of the organization. In the nomination it was noted that, "she is one of the most dedicated, conscientious and respected leaders that has served the NCCC and its members. Her enthusiasm, dedicated service and welcoming spirit have made her an outstanding leader."

Despite all that she does with the Chamber, she still finds time to volunteer at the Daily Bread food pantry in Putnam, the Tourtellotte Memorial High School Alumni Association, the Putnam Rotary Club and her church. She is also a member of the Professional Standards Committee of the Eastern CT Association of Realtors and is well known for her work with elected officials to establish relationships that ultimately protect homeownership rights. Rachael Johnston exemplifies the definition of the Gold Key Award.

The award recipients will be formally recognized at the Chamber's Annual Dinner & Awards Gala scheduled for Friday, Jan. 20, 2017 at Connecticut National Golf Course in Putnam.

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The VILLAGER SPORTS

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Tourtellotte Tigers hopes to rebound

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER SPORTS EDITOR

THOMPSON — High school basketball is a constant game of loss and renewal. Graduation day sends players into the real world and runs out the clock on their scholastic careers. No one knows better than the Tourtellotte Tigers. Tourtellotte missed qualifying for the Class S Tournament last season. It was steep fall from the 33-11 cumulative record they posted over the two seasons prior to last year — including an 18-5 mark in the 2014-2015 campaign.

The Tigers are well aware that every play counts over the course of a basketball season. The Tigers went 7-13 and finished one game short of qualifying for the state tourney last season. A pair of one-point losses helped dash their hopes for the postseason.

“The girls were talking about that and how we’re not going to let that happen again. The returning players, they remember those feelings,” said coach Carla Faucher, in her 19th season overall. “Hopefully they’re going to help with the younger players.”

While the Tigers are guard-oriented this season and don’t have much size, they return several key players and have added a couple of freshmen to the varsity roster who should contribute to a balanced lineup.

“I’m relying on points for everybody,” Faucher said. “I’m looking for very well-balanced scoring from all my players. I’m hopeful that because of that it’s going to be very hard to defend against us.”

Tourtellotte’s lack of height will perhaps dictate its style of play.

“We have a lot of athleticism so we’re hopeful to be able to run the fast break and press and create some offense off some steals,” Faucher said. “If we’re running the fast break, layups are pretty easy to score on. We have some speed so I’m really hoping that they get confidence. We hit those first few shots, and that’s just going to drive them and make them believe in themselves.”

Senior guard/forward Emily Vincent is the lone senior on the roster and has been on the varsity since her freshman year. Vincent will be counted on to provide leadership to a youthful roster.

“(Vincent) has had varsity experience for four years. She really seemed to step it up last

year,” Faucher said. “Despite her size she wasn’t afraid to go in down low and really work hard. I’m hoping she can lead the team in that respect, showing them that this is the way it can be done, not to be afraid but be aggressive and lead by example.”

Junior guard Katey Kwasniewski will see plenty of time at point guard. This will be Kwasniewski’s first season running the show but coach Faucher said she’s accepted the challenge.

“I didn’t really have a true point guard coming back. I told everyone they had to step up and play point and work the game and Kwasniewski just stepped up and said ‘I’ll do it.’ That gives me a good feeling knowing I can count on her,” Faucher said. “That really shows true leadership on her part.”

Sophomore guard Lauren Ramos saw plenty of minutes last season and will be among the starting five this year. Junior guards Rebecca Torres and Skyla Wesolowski will likely round out the starting five but coach Faucher said several other players will be in the mix. A trio of freshmen guards figure to make an impact including Emily Angelo, Ashley Morin and Stephanie Daly.

“Rebecca Torres and Skyla Wesolowski, they’re going to contribute some key varsity minutes. This will be their first year really seeing true varsity, they got in a few games last year, but I’m also looking at (Emily) Angelo and (Ashley) Morin to step up and (Amanda) Bogoslofski to have some key varsity minutes also,” Faucher said. “I kind of want Angelo and Morin to get their feet wet on jayvee, get a feel for the speed of the basketball game up at this level, and then I think they’ll be coming off the bench and contributing.”

Sophomore guard Amanda Bogoslofski returns to the varsity lineup and should provide much value when the Tigers press defensively.

“Bogoslofski, she’s a great defender so she’ll be a big key with playing defense for us,” Faucher said.

The varsity roster also includes sophomore forward Mary Steglitz and sophomore guard Brianna Loffredo. Sophomore guard Elizabeth Denaris is rehabbing an injury and is expected to be back on the court in January. Many of Faucher’s players will float



Charlie Lentz photo

Tourtellotte’s Emily Vincent

between the varsity and junior varsity lineups.

“We only have 13 kids in the whole program for both jayvee and varsity so they’re going to have to really work hard,” Faucher said. “Some kids who aren’t starting varsity are going to play jayvee just to get some confidence building.”

Faucher is hoping her lineup stays healthy because the junior varsity could be derailed easily.

“If we get any injuries or any illnesses that’s going to probably deter the jayvee program and they’ll only have varsity games,” Faucher said. “Hopefully my five varsity starters stay healthy because then we go down to a very inexperienced bench.”

Faucher likes to employ pressure defense and create offense from defense so it’s imperative for the team to stay healthy and be in top condition.

“We’ve told them from

day one this is the way we’re going to be playing so there aren’t going to be any surprises for them,” Faucher said. “Hopefully we stay healthy, we don’t get the flu but we also don’t have stupid injuries either. We’re going to have really watch everyone’s minutes and control how much we do in practice. The first month of games we’re pretty much back to back. Hopefully they can stay rested appropriately, take care of themselves physically and we don’t have to worry about illnesses or injuries.”

Faucher’s assistant coaches will be Sydney Padula and Paul Faucher, Carla’s husband. The Tigers missed qualifying for the Class S Tournament last season by one game, eight victories are required to gain a tourney berth. It was steep drop from the 33-11 record they posted over the two years prior to last season — the renewal process begins once more at Tourtellotte Memorial — that’s high school basketball.

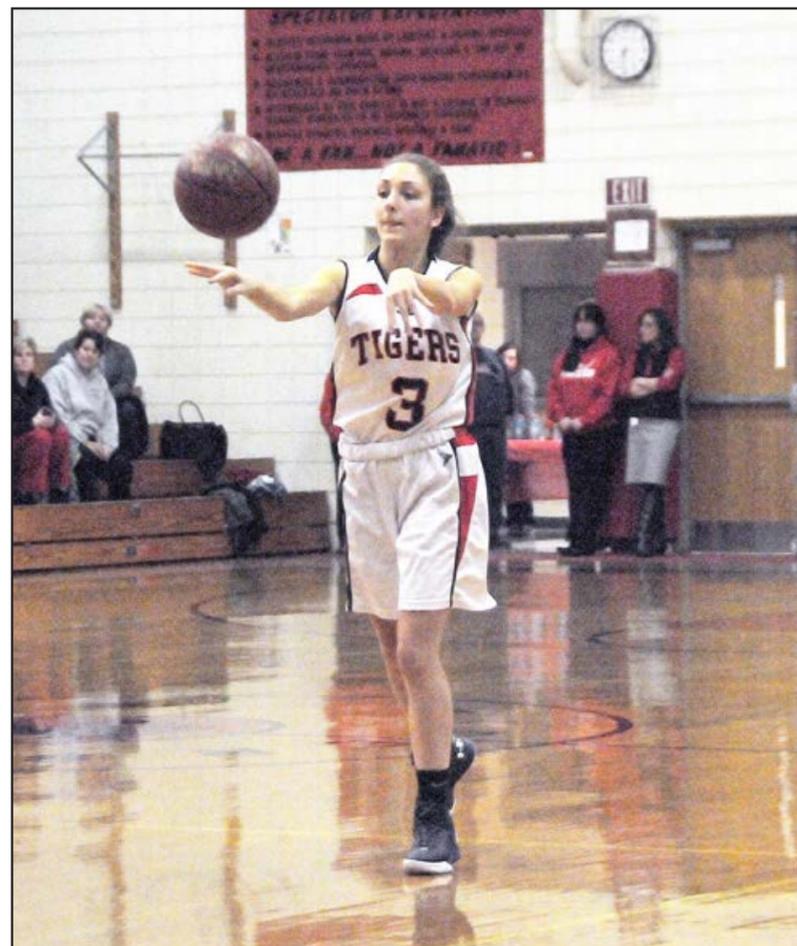
“Hey, we want to get those eight wins — last year those one-point games, unfortunately we were on the wrong side of it,” Faucher said. “I’m hope-

ful that we can change that around, get a few of those wins, and then that momentum gets us going and they believe in themselves a lot more to be able to make it to the tournament.”

The Tigers began the season with three straight road games at Griswold (Dec. 13), Montville (Dec. 17), and Ellis Tech (Dec. 19). Tourtellotte’s home opener is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 22, against Wheeler with tipoff set for 7 p.m. at Canty Gymnasium.

“I think we have to take each game one game at a time. From what we see we’ll probably have a revolving starting lineup. Vincent, Kwasniewski, and Ramos — they’re my solid three. If anyone can really step in, depending on how they play in games or in practices, it’s anybody’s spot so to speak. If you work hard, you can earn it,” Faucher said. “We’re trying to challenge them and give them that opportunity.”

Charlie Lentz may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 110, or by e-mail at charlie@villagernews-papers.com.



Charlie Lentz photo

Tourtellotte’s Katey Kwasniewski

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Becher named All-New England Region

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University's Emily Becher, a Woodstock Academy alumna, was recently named as a second team selection to the NSCAA Division III All-New England Region Team. Becher, a junior forward from Brooklyn, became only the second player in the 31-year history of the Eastern's women's soccer program to be named to the all-region team as many as three times and has been joined this season as a second-team selection by junior defender Maggie Bodington (Stratford) and junior midfielder McKenzie Reimondo (Portland).



Courtesy photo

Emily Becher

Becher repeated as a second-team pick after earning fourth-team recognition as a freshman in 2014. Bodington was a first-team all-region and third-team NSCAA All-America as a sophomore last year. Reimondo was named to the all-region team for the first time in her career.

A total of seven players from the Little East Conference were named to the all-region team, which consisted of 17 first-teamers, 16 second-teamers and 15 third-teamers. Eastern was the only LEC institution with as many as three selections and Bodington was the only LEC defender named to any of the three teams.

It marked the 12th time in 17 seasons under current head coach Chris D'Ambrosio that Eastern was represented with at least one pick. The three selections equal the most in a season, matching 2006 when defenders Nicole Gaudette, Melissa Lambert and Michelle Read were all named. Gaudette was a second-team pick and Lambert and Read third-teamers.

Last month, Becher and Bodington became the first players from the program to earn first-team All-LEC laurels as many as three times. They were joined on the first team by Reimondo, who repeated first-team recognition after being named to the second team as a freshman.

Lisa Matukaitis '93, Eastern's all-time leading scorer, is the program's only other three-time all-region pick.

The forward was voted to the second team twice and to the first team as a senior in 1992, when she went on to become the program's first All-America (third team).

After leading the conference in goals and points as a sophomore, Becher finished second in goals for the second time in three years when she totaled 12 goals and was tied for third with 28 points. She shared the conference lead with six game-winning goals. Heading into her senior season, Becher is ranked third all-time at Eastern in goals (45) and fourth place all-time with 98 points, and tied for second with 19 game-winning goals.

Eastern did not lose in the conference regular season for the second straight year, advancing to its ninth playoff title match following a 2-1 semifinal win over Plymouth State University. The Warriors were 6-0-1 in the LEC, finished with an overall record of 13-4-2 and were ranked tenth in New England in the final poll. They bring an 18-match (17-0-1) LEC regular-season unbeaten streak into 2017.

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Woodstock shooting for winning season

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER SPORTS EDITOR

DATELINE — After a couple of losing seasons and a two-year drought reaching the state tournament Woodstock Academy qualified for the Class L playoffs last season and finished the regular season with a record of 10-10 in coach Will Fleton's first year at the helm. The Centaurs reached the second round of the state tourney last season but finishing with another .500 record won't be good enough for Fleton.

"We came a little short of our goals last season," Fleton said. "We almost reached our win-loss goal. So now we can raise the bar and set that measuring stick high and we can go after it now. It's great to go .500 your first year but obviously I have a bunch of kids that want a little bit more than that. So we're going to try to get more than that."

The Centaurs defeated Crosby High of

Waterbury in the first round of the Class L Tournament before falling to East Haven in the second round of States.

"I think the progress is still ongoing, seeing how I have such a young group," Fleton said. "But I think we're definitely taking a step in the right direction."

Woodstock will play in the Eastern Connecticut Conference's Division II this season. The Centaurs roster is filled with underclassmen but most of them got a year of valuable experience last season and the team should be improved. Junior forward Jamie Woods is just 5-foot-7 but returns with an all-around game and will be counted on to be a workhorse in the lane.

"She actually has a full facet of action to her game. She faces up. She can score well from outside. She can handle the ball," said Fleton of Woods. "We need her to rebound and play big around the basket and

she can do those things as well so that doesn't hurt her, it only helps the team."

Sophomore guard Ari Koivisto returns to the backcourt. Koivisto is 5-foot-11 but can handle the ball and will bring size to the backcourt. Junior guard Mackenzie Cayer also returns.

"(Koivisto) will share the point guard responsibility with Mackenzie Cayer," Fleton said. "I've ingrained in their heads that they're combo guards. If one is playing the point the other is probably playing the shooting guard or vice versa."

While Woods at 5-foot-7 would normally be expected to play in the backcourt and Koivisto at 5-foot-11 guard would typically be suited to the frontcourt — Fleton has reversed expectations.

"It is ironic but I definitely believe in my players playing to their strengths," Fleton said. "So Koivisto is more of a wing-player guard type — and Woods can do those things also but she seems to be a little more comfortable around the basket even those she's undersized."

Sophomore power forward Heather Converse, at 5-foot-10, also returns.

"She'll be the rim protector," said Fleton of Converse. "She'll play the big role because obviously Woods is the smaller of the two (forwards)."

Junior Kali Dingui missed most of last season with an injured knee but is back and healthy and should see playing time. Junior guard-forward Madison Brennan and junior forward Olivia Perry also return. Junior forward Ciri Miller and sophomore guard Mackenzie Eaton are also back.

The Centaurs game

revolves around pressure defense and an uptempo offense.

"We try to spark some offense from the defense," Fleton said. "Let the defense create some offense. We try to play at a high tempo at times. But defense is definitely the staple of this program."

Fleton expects his

players to be in top condition in order to press for much of the game.

"I think the girls came in in pretty good shape," Fleton said. "A lot of them are three-sport athletes so they come off their fall season and were good shape when they started but I still don't think we're in basketball shape yet."

Woodstock's home opener is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 20, against Killingly High in an ECC-Division II matchup with tipoff set for 7 p.m. at Alumni Fieldhouse.

Charlie Lentz may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 110, or by e-mail at charlie@villagernewspapers.com.



Charlie Lentz photo

Woodstock's Ari Koivisto



Charlie Lentz photo

Woodstock's Jamie Woods

Putnam primed for winning season



Charlie Lentz photo

Putnam High's Maria Fredette

the freshmen in, so they come in with a lot of experience," Hogan said.

The Clippers belong to the Constitution State Conference, which will disband after this season. Hogan would like Putnam High to finish up its affiliation with the league by winning the CSC-East title.

"Our biggest goal this year is to finish in first place in our division. Last year we finished up second place," Hogan said. "One game at a time. We don't want to concentrate too far ahead. We just look ahead to the game we have to play. Let's just come out hard and give me everything you have that night."

Putnam's guards include Espinosa, junior point guard Ashley Burke, junior Kira Clinkscale, freshman Kayleigh Lyons, and sophomore Victoria Dias. Burke has been starting since her freshman season. Espinosa, a shooting guard, has been starting since her sophomore season. Clinkscale was contributor off the bench last season and Lyons will start this season. Lyons will complement a Clippers team that has a deep backcourt.

"(Lyons) comes with a lot of energy, a lot of speed, a lot of knowledge of basketball. She can run the floor as a point guard. She has a great shot from the wings," Hogan said.

Burke brings experience to the point guard position and perhaps the strength of the team is its backcourt.

"(Burke) actually started the point as freshman, with the kids around her with experience, especially the seniors — they know how to play together, the chemistry is all there, and then they bring in the freshman (Lyons) into the lineup," Hogan said.

Brathwaite and Fredette both bring experience and grit to the frontcourt.

"Maria (Fredette) is a great rebounder. She has a decent shot. She can shoot from outside. She can shoot from inside. She sees the floor on defense. She works really hard for me," Hogan said. "Olivia



Charlie Lentz photo

Putnam High's Ashley Burke

(Brathwaite) is just a scrappy basketball player. She'll take it to the rim. She'll dive on the floor. She is my workhorse. She works so hard for me in that paint and she sets the other players up."

Frederick should be a strong defender and rebounder in the low post.

"Alyssa Frederick is the sixth man. She's tall. She boxes out and rebounds, she has a good shot from in the paint. She's an experienced player," Hogan said.

The roster also includes sophomore forwards Julia Loomis and Lauren Blackmar. Ashley Espinosa will serve as Hogan's assistant coach. The Clippers intend to play an uptempo game.

"Last year we tried to run the floor more. We're a very quick basketball team. I like to run the floor as much as possible, just push the ball," Hogan said.

Led by a core of upperclassmen, the Clippers seem primed for another winning season. Four seniors have been with Hogan since the beginning of her head coaching tenure three years ago and the coach intends to see them through to a successful conclusion.

"They're working hard. They're talking up the team. They're trying to bring all the younger kids in, all the new freshmen — just letting them know how we represent the Putnam Clippers and how we represent each other," Hogan said. "Just build that bond, that bond is going to help them in the years to come, to see the closeness and see what these kids will do for one another."

Charlie Lentz may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 110, or by e-mail at charlie@villagernewspapers.com.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER SPORTS EDITOR

PUTNAM — Three years ago Mandi Hogan took over as head coach of Putnam High's girls basketball team and a group of freshmen joined the varsity along with her. Those freshmen are seniors now and Hogan has watched them blossom under her system. They've established a special bond over their high school careers and are focused on another winning campaign.

"They're close with each other. They have a great on- and off-the-court chemistry. Most of their families are

close," Hogan said. "I have a lot of respect for these four seniors and their families. We've been here from the beginning and I'm seeing them through to the end. I'm just very proud of the players and the young women that they've turned into."

The senior cadre includes Maria Fredette, Alyssa Espinosa, Olivia Brathwaite, and Alyssa Frederick. The Clippers finished 14-10 last season and reached the second round of the Class S State Tournament. Hogan expects another strong effort.

"Basically the whole lineup is back, and then we have

Derosier takes the reins at Killingly

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER SPORTS EDITOR

DAYVILLE — Gina Derosier returned to her roots when she accepted the girls basketball coaching job at Killingly High. Derosier donned a Redgals uniform back in the day and now she'll lead the school she once played in the backcourt for.

"It really feels like coming home," Derosier said. "This is where I'm meant to be. The way everything has fallen into place it couldn't be more perfect for me."

Derosier is the daughter of former Killingly High boys basketball coach Scott Derosier and she grew up as a student of the game. Her father will assist Gina on the bench this season.

"I think it's in my blood. My father and I share the same passion," Derosier said. "I was a gym rat my whole life. I couldn't imagine it being any other way."

Derosier graduated from Killingly High in 2002. In her freshman season at Killingly the Redgals made it all the way to the state championship game, falling to Daniel Hand. She went on to play for Mitchell College in New London. She spent one season as an assistant coach at Killingly High in her first year out of college. Derosier also has previous experience as a varsity field hockey coach at Windham High and as an assistant basketball coach at Woodstock Academy. She wasted little time implementing an uptempo offense and the learning curve has been steep but steady.

"They're getting used to running a new offense, a new style of play, and I've thrown a lot at them really fast," Derosier said. "So the way they absorb it and the way

they take it and run with it is very encouraging. The way I've always played basketball, every team that I've been been a part of, it's always been uptempo. It's fast paced so they have to be quick learners."

The team has adopted Derosier's hard-nosed mindset.

"They're hard workers. They don't take a possession off, which is nice but that's what I asked from them," Derosier said. "From day one I asked them — every day we practice two hours, just give me two hours — work hard for two hours. I don't want to see anybody not working hard because you have to give it your all. I know what it takes to get to the next level. I know what it takes to play in a state championship game. It takes a lot of hard work to get there. This is what the girls want so they've got to put in that effort."

Last season Killingly finished the regular season 9-11 and the Redgals return a veteran lineup. Senior Morgan Harriot and sophomore Kylee Mazzarella both will see time at point guard. Derosier expects her guards to be versatile. Senior Payton Fitzgerald will likely see time running the offense as well.

"I have a mix, Morgan and Kylee will be splitting time at (the point), maybe throw a little bit of Payton in there too," Derosier said. "You have to depend on your guards to take care of the basketball. We've all got a lot of trust in each other, which is really nice right off the bat."

Mazzarella and Harriot will also be expected to put the ball in the hoop.

"(Mazzarella's) a scorer. She has a scorer's mentality. She attacks the lane really well and she has a nice little jump



Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly's Ally Conde

shot too," Derosier said. "(Harriot) has a nice little jumper from the outside too and she's starting to attack the basket."

Junior center Ally Conde returns and brings a lengthy frame to the lane.

"(Conde) jumps through the roof. She

attacks the glass like I haven't seen before," Derosier said. "She's steady in there. You can trust her inside."

Junior forwards Reagan Morin and Julia Trifaconda also expected to work the boards.

"Reagan and Julia, they box out on every possession, obviously that brings another dynamic to the table there," Derosier said.

Freshman guard/forward Trinity Angel has impressed Derosier in practice and is expected to see plenty of playing time.

"(Angel's) potential is through the roof. She's raw but she has a beautiful jumpshot. She can defend. She can run the floor. She has a little handle too," Derosier said.

The varsity also includes senior guard Megan Dion, senior guard Morgan LeSage, sophomore guard Prachi Patel, and sophomore Kera Crossman.

Derosier hopes to improve on last season's 9-11 regular-season record and make a run in the Class M State Tournament. The coach has returned to her roots — now she wants to return the Redgals to a

winning tradition.

"I think the sky is the limit. They had a successful season last year so we're looking to build off of that," Derosier said. "We know we want to have the first winning season in a long time too. Certainly looking to make the States and certainly looking to make a dent in States too."

Killingly's home opener is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 16, against

Plainfield with tipoff set for 7 p.m. at Killingly High. Killingly travels to Woodstock Academy for an Eastern Connecticut Conference Division II matchup on Tuesday, Dec. 20.

Charlie Lentz may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 110, or by e-mail at charlie@villagernewspapers.com.



Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly's Kylee Mazzarella



Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly first-year coach Gina Derosier

Danielson Martial Arts promotes black belts



DANIELSON — Danielson Martial Arts Academy recent promoted six of its students to 1st Degree Black Belt, and one of its 2nd Dans to 3rd Degree Black Belt.

Members traveled to Cheezic Tang Soo Do Headquarters in Wolcott where Grandmaster Robert Cheezic held a Federation wide black belt promotion. Members demonstrated proficiency in the skills required for the level they would be promoted to.

Felicia Baker began her karate training in 2006. In 2011 she became a 1st Dan, and in 2013 was promoted to 2nd Dan. She was recently promoted to 3rd Dan. She was awarded DMAA's Black Belt of the year in 2014, and is the instructor of the weapons class. She is 19 years old, and an Army Reservist.

Six Apprentice Black Belts were promoted to 1st Dan. Veronica Hussey, 12 years old; Serenity Evans, 10; Shana Evans, 29; Isabella Gonzales, 13; Eric Nocera, 13; Natalia Reali, 14.

Courtesy photo

From left, Eric Nocera, Isabella Gonzales, Natalia Reali, Felicia Baker, Daryl Laperle, Veronica Hussey, Shana Evans, and Serenity Evans



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OBITUARIES

Madelaine A. (Benoit) Palardy, 92



N O R T H GROSVENORDALE -- Madelaine A. (Benoit) Palardy, 92, passed in the early morning hours of November 26, of natural causes.

Born January 24, 1924 she was the daughter of Clement Benoit and Mary Louise Bernard Benoit. Raised in the North Grosvenordale section of Thompson Connecticut she attended St. Joseph grammar school under the tutelage of the Sisters of Holy Cross. Regrettably she could not attend high school since in those days work was the next step in life.

Her first job was in the local Cluett Peabody Mill like so many in this French-Canadian mill town. In 1944, through a relative, she met a returning WWII army sergeant, Ephreme Joseph Palardy from Rogers, CT. They were married in June 8, 1946 at St. Joseph Church in North Grosvenordale.

Madelaine and Joe made their home in Grosvenordale and Quinebaug and had spent nearly 20 years on Cape Cod after Joe retired from the Prudential Insurance Company. With memory failing, Joe lived to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a home mass at the home of their granddaughter Becky West on the Cape presided by Fr. Ed Healey. Joe passed on December 16, 1997 two weeks after they returned from their retirement home due to complications of Alzheimer's disease.

Mom and dad hosted many a summer picnic and nights at the Drive-in from their porch in Quinebaug for the Sisters of Holy Cross and her aunt and cousins of the same order. Joe and Madelaine were both involved in fund raising for all the parishes they had lived in. Madelaine worked in both the Grosvenordale and Quinebaug post

offices, sold Avon for many years and volunteered at Day Kimball Hospital after Joe passed. As a housewife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and great great grandmother Madelaine was a talented self-taught seamstress and pianist—but loved playing the organ most of all.

Her proudest accomplishments were the 25 years she devoted to being a CCD instructor at St. Stephen Catholic Church in Quinebaug, and in Pius X Parish on Cape Cod.

Madelaine and Joe leave one daughter Susan (Patrick) Collins of Griswold where she lived her final years up to two months before she died in the loving care of the Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam. Her three grandchildren provided her with great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren; Rebecca (Brian West) and their sons, Joshua and Benjamin and their wives Sheena and Kayla all of Cape Cod; David (Lynn) of Brooklyn; Daniel (Charleen) and their sons Joseph and Michael of Colchester. Three great-great grandchildren, Jacob West (Ben); Evelyn and Levi West (Joshua) of Cape Cod as well as two step grandsons, Ryan and Nickolas Perreault.

Our thanks to the staff of Matulaitis for their kindness and concern during her short stay and especially for the loving concern the night she passed.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a Mass of Christian Burial on Friday December 16, at 11:00AM at St. Joseph Church, 18 Main St., N. Grosvenordale. Burial to follow in St. Joseph Cemetery.

Donations in her name to may be made to Sisters of Holy Cross Development Office 377 Island Pond Road Manchester, NH 03109-4811.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman-Valade Funeral Homes & Crematory. For memorial guest book please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Stephen R. League, 42



WOODSTOCK -- Stephen R. League, we don't fear death. We fear that no one will notice and that we will disappear without a trace. No one will ever forget the impact on their lives. There is not

enough sparkle to fill the hole he has left in our hearts. The universe has lost one of its brightest stars.

On December 6, Stephen passed away peacefully in his sleep. Stephen was born in New Kensington, Pennsylvania to Josephine League of Danielson, and Roger League of Richmond, Virginia. He was a wanderer at heart, never known to be in one spot for too long. He split his time later in life between Fort Lauderdale, Florida and Woodstock.

Stephen enjoyed life to the fullest. Music, dance, landscaping and traveling with his beloved dog Portia are

just a few of the many things he was known for. Those who knew him, will never forget his kindness, ability to make you laugh, or just make you feel better no matter the situation. He was never afraid to be himself, no matter what anyone thought. He was one of a kind and will truly be missed.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his step-father Robert Blanchette of Danielson, his sister Maria Gandy-Winslow and husband Scott of Brooklyn, his sister Diana Gandy of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and his brother Joseph League and wife Melissa of Canterbury. Also, survived by five nieces, two nephews, two great-nieces, and two great-nephews.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home in Danielson. There will be a private funeral for family and close friends. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Janice D. Warrender, 73



DANIELSON -- Janice D. Warrender, 73, of Danielson, died unexpectedly on December 7, at her home. She was born May 12, 1943 in Brunswick, Maine, daughter of Walter and Lois Duplisea of

Solon, Maine. She was a 31 year resident of Danielson. Janice was well known for her award winning quilts which brought warmth and comfort to so many. She had a lifelong love for country music. Janice will be sorely missed and long remembered by all

who knew her.

She leaves her longtime companion D. Linda Fitzgerald, her two daughters Mrs. John (Laure) Boucher of Leicester, Massachusetts and Luann Morgan of Danielson, her two sons Ross Morgan of Hebron, and Scott Morgan of New Hampshire, eleven grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

A Celebration of Janice's life will be on Saturday, January 7, 2017 from 6:00 to 10:00 PM at the Danielson, Elks Lodge, 13 Center Street, Danielson. In lieu of flowers please bring a dish and happy memories. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Kathleen E. (Mooney) Snow, 69

WOODSTOCK -- Kathleen E. (Mooney) Snow, age 69, of Woodstock, CT died Monday, December 5, 2016, at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam.

She leaves her husband of 49 years, Walter A. Snow of Woodstock; two sons, Scott T. Snow and his wife Jean of Dudley, Jason A. Snow of Woodstock; a daughter, Kelly M. Phar and her companion, Michael McIntosh of Pomfret; two brothers, Robert Mooney of Putnam and George Mooney of Thompson; one sister, Lillian Rondeau of Putnam; four grandchildren, Kieley,

Nicholas, Trinity and Robert.

She was born in Putnam, daughter of the late Thomas and Emma (Mese) Mooney and lived in Putnam and Woodstock most of her life. She was a Special Education teacher, working for the Woodstock School Department. She enjoyed spending quality time with her family.

There are no calling hours. Funeral services are private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Woodstock Little League. Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street, Webster has been entrusted with arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may light a candle or post a message of condolence.

Kevin Curran Kroeger, 33



BROOKLYN -- Kevin Kroeger, of Brooklyn, passed away unexpectedly on November 19. He was born in West Lebanon, New Hampshire on May 30, 1983 to Marjorie & Brien Kroeger. He

attended grammar school in Eastford, and Middle School, in Brooklyn. He played soccer and was particularly noted in Eastford for his outstanding skills as "goalie" for the Eastford Grammar School Soccer Team. He attended Brooklyn Middle School with the Class of 1997 and went on to attend Killingly High School in the class of 2001.

Kevin worked various jobs during his 20's and very much enjoyed working in his father's business, Standard Transportation & Distribution. He was well loved by all of their business customers and will be well remembered for his "funky" and "individual" sense of humor.

Kevin earned his State of Connecticut Certificate of Personal Watercraft Safety in August 2007 and was his father's "first mate." He was always there when ever he was called upon for duty. This was true in boating as well as in his entire life style.

Kevin loved and revered his mother and was always proud to be there for her; to help, to honor, and to always protect her. He always made time with her to go hiking to observe nature in the northeast area of Connecticut. He, and his Mom were keen to observe the beavers in the numerous ponds in Eastford and Hampton, Connecticut. He also enjoyed working out in an intense body building program with a select group of friends.

Kevin recently worked with the ground crew for the Asplundh Tree Company during 2015. He also found time to research and advise his father in picking winning stocks on the NYSE. It was in this research he found great pleasure. He was proud to know he increased his joint portfolio with his father by over 40% during the year of 2016. Kevin was a master in research. He loved history, religions of the world, and was keenly interested in self introspect, leading to a greater satisfaction in life on earth and beyond.

He loved the game of Basketball and was "good friends" with Coach Dave Hopla, former Assistant Shooting

Coach for the Washington Wizards and the New York Knicks. Dave nicknamed Kevin "mumbles" when they first met at the Pomfret School during a "shooting class," and it stuck with Kevin throughout their relationship.

Kevin leaves his mother Marjorie "Mudge" Kroeger, his father, Brien Francis Kroeger, his most beloved sister, Brianne Frances Kroeger, and Brianne's daughter, Madeline Frances Kroeger. He will be sorely missed by his special aunt "Suzanne" Baker of Bracknell England. He leaves his aunt Claudia Mahon and his Uncle Roger Louis Kroeger, of Ft Lauderdale, Florida.

He leaves his cousins Erin Beatrice Wright, and her family, and Sean Tracy Mahon, both children of Claudia and William J. Mahon, whom reside in Hong Kong, China. He also leaves a first cousin by his Uncle Henry John Kroeger III, his daughter, Danielle Kroeger, and her several children of Glastonbury.

He leaves his Aunt, Pamela Trott, of La Grange Maine, and her daughter, Holly Trott, and her son, Daniel and his son, Daniel Roger. Also, Daniel's wife Rene and their children, of Bradford, Maine. He also leaves his Aunt Elizabeth Fleury, and her husband Gerald Fleury, and their daughters Daishia Bragen, and Chrissy Smith, along with their families.

He is predeceased by his Paternal Grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Henry John Kroeger Jr of Southbury Connecticut, and his Uncle, Henry John Kroeger III, of Glastonbury. Also, his Uncle Roger Trott of Bradford, Maine, and his Maternal Grandmother, Pauline Chase Small, of Hallowell, Maine and his Maternal Grandfather John Hann, originally from London, England.

Kevin, for all who knew him, was loved and cherished by all. He made us laugh, enjoy life, and most importantly, made us want to be a better person in our lives, for not only ourselves, but more importantly, for others with whom we touch in our own lives. May God bless his soul, and guide him toward special place for him, with his grandfather and uncle, who have since passed into eternity. We will all miss him here; Kevin, you left us too soon.

Services will be announced at a later date and a future celebration of Kevin's life and will be private by invitation only. Interment will be in the Spring at St. Rose of Lima Cemetery, Sandy Hook, Connecticut.

George P. Tetreault, 74

DANIELSON — George P. Tetreault, 74, passed away on Dec. 7, at the Davis Place in Danielson, Conn.

He was born June 21, 1942, on the family farm, Green Hollow Road, Moosup, Conn., son of George and Jeanne (Desjardin) Tetreault

George leaves behind his daughters, Christine Neal and Sarah Hirst; grandchildren, Emily and Mary Neal, Kacee, Frank, and Kaegan Hirst; his sister, Claire Gaudreau of Rogers, Conn.; a brother, Gene Barriere of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was predeceased by four sisters, Theresa, Frances (Fran), Constance and Arlene, also three brothers, Theodore, Roger and Lucien (Jim).

He served in the U.S. Army, based in Louisville, Kentucky from 1970 to

1972. Throughout the years, he worked for Windham Pepsi Cola Co., Jolley Precast, Field Concrete, Jolley Concrete and Wal-Mart.

A celebration of George's life will be held on Jan. 8, 2017, at 2 p.m., at Davis Place, 111 Westcott Road, Danielson. Private burial will take place at a later date.

Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street, Webster has been entrusted with final arrangements.

A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may light a candle or post a message of condolence.

Robert J. Herlihy, 84



PUTNAM -- Robert J. Herlihy, 84, of Putnam died, December 4, at Day Kimball Hospital, after a brief illness, surrounded by his loving family. He was the beloved husband of Charlotte

(Rovero) Herlihy for 61 years. He was born November 6, 1932 in Putnam, son of the late Lester and Laura (Miour) Herlihy.

He was a veteran of the Korean War serving with the US Navy on the USS Tripoli. Robert was a life member of the Putnam Lodge of Elks 574. He worked in the Research and Development department at Rogers Corp, for many years before his retirement. He was a Devoted Patriots and Red Sox fan.

Besides his wife Charlotte, he leaves his children: Daniel Herlihy (Liz Medvets) of Hoosick, New York, Michael Herlihy (Deb) of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Joan Woodis of

Putnam, Doreen Herlihy of Thompson, Dorothy Herlihy, Marla Allard (Jim) of Putnam, grandchildren, Mike Woodis (Julie), Madori Armenio (Dan), Tamreh Herlihy, Kat Woodis, Abby Allard,

Joshua Allard, a sister Anne Auger (Benny) of Glastonbury, many nieces and nephews. He was pre-deceased by, parents Lester and Laura Herlihy, brother John Herlihy (June), and sister Jean Criscione (Ange).

Calling hours were on December 9, followed by a memorial service at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam, burial following in St. Mary Cemetery with Military Honors. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his memory to Westview Recreation Department, 150 Ware Road, Dayville, CT 06241. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Philip L. Parent, 90

DANIELSON -- Philip L. Parent, 90, of Shawnee Dr., died Sunday, December 11, in his home. He was the loving husband of the late Concorde C. (Nolet) Parent. Born in Fall River, Massachusetts, he was the son of the late Oliver and Antoinette (Charest) Parent.

Mr. Parent was a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Navy (Chief Yoman.) He was present at the Normandy Invasion, presided as a court reporter for the sinking of the U.S.S. Thresher.

Philip was survived by his son, Richard A. Parent and his wife Bonnie

of Danielson; his sisters Doris Souza of Fall River, Massachusetts, and Rita Thibeault of Fall River, Massachusetts.

All services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guest-book visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Gilman Funeral Home
104 Church Street, Putnam, CT 06260

Valade Funeral Home
23 Main Street, North Grosvenordale, CT 06260

860-928-7723

Robert R. Fournier Jr. - Funeral Director
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OBITUARIES

Toni Marie Anna Bourque, 27

BOZRAH – Toni Marie Anna Bourque, 27, died unexpectedly on December 5 at her home in Bozrah. She was born on November 28, 1989 in Putnam, daughter of John Bourque and the late Denise (Langway) Ratelle who died on April 7, 2009.

Toni was a Hair Stylist and worked at Cutting Crew. She loved what she did. She would spend much of her free

time studying the latest trends and always strived to be the best at her job, and she was.

She leaves her father and stepmother John and Lori Bourque, her brothers Mitchell Bourque and Andrew Bourque, her grandmothers Shirley Langway and Betty Waskiewicz, and significant other Corey Tondreau.

Toni was loved by so many and

looked up to by her seven nieces and nephews and adored by her Aunts and Uncles. She loved her family very much and loved going to family gatherings. Gardening, boating, and caring for her animals were her favorite hobbies. She touched so many lives. Toni is now at peace with her Mother.

Calling hours were held on December 12 at the Gagnon and Costello Funeral

Home in Danielson. A graveside service was held on December 13 in Holy Cross Cemetery in Danielson. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellooffh.com



NEWS BRIEF

CAP supports EllisCon

DANIELSON — EllisCon is a gaming conference held at H.H. Ellis Technical High School and is hosted by the Ellis Tech. Simulation Club. The event is a tabletop game conference featuring war games, role playing games (RPGs), collector card games (CCGs) and miniature figures (minis). Game conventions are events that bring together several gamers to participate in various types of gaming. EllisCon has its roots in historical mini games. A miniature figure is a small-scale representation of a historical or mythological entity used in miniature war games, role-playing games, and dioramas. They are used to augment the visual aspects of a game and track position, facing, and line of sight characters. The 12-hour event offers some of the best gaming and pop culture in North East Connecticut and continues to grow each year. It offers all day gaming, food, vendors, a game auction and door prizes.

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) – Danielson Cadet Squadron has helped support EllisCon over the last three years. Several of the cadets are students at Ellis Tech and it is a good way for the squadron to support the school and its programs. Cadets earn community service hours towards a community service ribbon when they volunteer. CAP squadrons and cadets are encouraged to support their local communities. The DCS meets every Thursday at the Danielson Airport from 6-9 p.m. For more information visit www.CTWG.CAP.gov.



Courtesy photo

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF GARY S. RATHBONE
(16-00346)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 6, 2016, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Janis E. Beltis, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Sandra L. Hamilton
c/o Jamie C. Davis, Esq.,
Borner, Aleman & Davis, LLC,
155 Providence Street, PO Box 166,
Putnam, CT 06260-0166
December 16, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ELIZABETH A.
SIMMONS (16-00345)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 6, 2016, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Janis E. Beltis, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Roy J. Simmons
c/o Edwin C. Higgins, III, Esq.,
Bachand, Longo & Higgins,
168 Main Street, PO Box 528
Putnam, CT 06260
December 16, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DIANA L. NIELSEN,

AKA Diana Nielsen,

AKA Diana Louise Nielsen (16-00359)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 6, 2016, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Janis E. Beltis, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Boyd Nielsen
c/o Frank G. Herzog, Esq.,
Borner, Aleman & Davis, LLC,
155 Providence Street, PO Box 166,
Putnam, CT 06260-0166
December 16, 2016

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Doris L Boutin (16-00368)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 6, 2016, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Dolores B Devine
c/o Nicholas A. Longo, Esq.,
Bachand, Longo & Higgins,
168 Main Street, PO Box 528,
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Villager Newspapers COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

"Shining a light on community events"

December 16, Fri., 6-8pm
Creation Church presents "An Uplugged Christmas," a story of a group of youngsters finding the real meaning of Christmas when the power goes out. Creation Church, 47 W. Thompson Rd., Thompson.

December 17 & 18, 10am-4pm
Woodstock Historical Society Annual Holiday Sale. WHS books, holiday decorations, collectible dolls. 523 Rt. 169, Woodstock.

December 18, Tues., 10:45
Advent Cantata at Living Faith United Methodist Church, 53 Grove Street, Putnam. All are welcome!

December 18, Tues.
The Killingly Historical Center 196 Main St., Danielson will be closed from Sunday, December 18 to Tuesday January 3. It will reopen on Wednesday, January 4 at 10AM. Happy holidays.

December 18, Sun., 7pm
VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS, Experience a candlelit Christmas straight from the 1800s. Enjoy the classic decorations, seasonal music, reading of the Christmas story, costumed church members and warm cider to end the evening!



December 24, 9am-1pm
Senexet Grange Christmas Pie Sale!
Apple, Pumpkin, Pecan, Blueberry, Strawberry-Rhubarb, Mince, and Pork.

To pre-order call 860-928-4229 or 860-928-8258. Leave name and number and we will get back to you.

Westfield Congregational Church, 210 Main St, Danielson, A Victorian Christmas Eve is at 9 p.m. in the sanctuary

December 18, Sun., 7-10:30am
The American Legion Post 67, North Grosvenordale, All You Can Eat Breakfast, Includes scrambled eggs, homefries, bacon, sausage, ham, hash, sausage & gravy, beans & kielbasa, french toast, pancakes, belgian waffles & omelets.

December 20, Tues., 10:30am-11:15am
The Pomfret Senior Center is offering Tai Chi for core strength and balance. Open to all area seniors. This is a free program, however donations are welcome. 860-928-7459 The Center

is located at 207 Mashamoquet Road (Route 44) in Pomfret.

December 21, Wed., 10:30am
Guided Meditation- Join Barbara Marston, MDiv for a session of relaxation and focus using guided meditation and breathing techniques. Open to all area seniors. 860-928-7459 The Center is located at 207 Mashamoquet Road (Route 44) in Pomfret.

December 21, Wed., 3-5pm.
Wyndham Land Trust's Winter Solstice Gathering at Lyon Preserve, Wrights Crossing Rd, (just off Route 101 and over the bridge on the right, look for land trust signs) in Pomfret, CT. Watch the sun set on the shortest day of the year at

this preserve. Snacks! Info: info@wyndhamlandtrust.org

December 22, Thurs., 12:15pm
Cookie Swap- Get ready for the Holidays by bringing in your favorite cookies, brownies or other delicious treat to share! Seniors who bring in goods will be able to swap with fellow seniors. Open to all area seniors. 860-928-7459. The Center is located at 207 Mashamoquet Road (Route 44) in Pomfret.

December 22, Thurs., 1pm
Yoga at the Senior Center. Open to all area seniors. 860-928-7459 The Center is located at 207 Mashamoquet Road (Route 44) in Pomfret.

December 24, Sat., 7pm
Christmas Eve, Service of Lessons and Carols, Living Faith United Methodist Church, 53 Grove Street, Putnam. All Are welcome!

December 25, Sun., 10am
Christmas Day Celebration Worship, Living Faith United Methodist Church, 53 Grove Street, Putnam. All Are welcome!

This page is designed to shine a light on upcoming local nonprofit, educational and community events. Submissions are limited to 50 words or less and are FREE to qualifying organizations, schools, churches and town offices. To submit your event contact: Teri Stohlberg at 860-928-1818 ext. 105, or teri@villagernewspapers.com. Deadline for submission is Friday at Noon

HERE & THERE → Local Events, Arts, and Entertainment Listings



THURSDAY, JANUARY 12
308 LAKESIDE
HOLIDAY PARTY NIGHT
Enjoy a holiday dinner buffet and live music with a group of friends or business associates 6-10 p.m.
\$24.95 pp, reservations required
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333



50 Elm St., Auburn, MA
508-832-6492
HUGE MEAT RAFFLE
First Friday of the month
Early Bird 6:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
1st table: 7:00 p.m.
Auburn Sportsman Club
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA
508-832-6496

WEBSTER LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE SALE
on South Main Street at Bubba's Cafe
Trees arrive December 2
Hours of sale:
Thursday and Friday
6 PM to 8 PM
Saturday 11 AM to 7 PM
and Sunday from 11 AM to 6 PM



ONGOING

ROADHOUSE BLUES JAM
Every Sunday, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
CADY'S TAVERN
2168 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI
401-568-4102

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT
HEXMARK TAVERN AT SALEM CROSS INN
260 West Main St., West Brookfield, MA
508-867-2345



TriviaNight

www.salemcrossinn.com

BREAST FEEDING SUPPORT GROUP
at Strong Body/Strong Mind
Yoga Studio
112 Main St., Putnam, CT
Third Friday of each month
at 6:00 p.m.
860-634-0099
www.strongbodystrongmind.us



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17
9:00 P.M.

HIT THE BUS
Debut at 308 for this duo playing an eclectic mix from 50's to today
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main Street
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333



TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS
7:00 p.m. register
7:30 p.m. start up
HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB
325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA
508-892-9822

WISE GUYS TEAM TRIVIA
Every Tuesday, 8:00 - 10:00 p.m.
CADY'S TAVERN
2168 Putnam Pike (Rt. 44)
Chepachet, RI
401-568-4102

TRIVIA NIGHT AT THE STOMPING GROUND
Every Wednesday, 6:00 p.m.
132 Main St., Putnam, CT
860-928-7900
Also, live music five nights a week (Wed.-Sun.)

TRAP SHOOTING
Every Sunday at 11:00 a.m.
Open to the public
\$12.00 per round includes clays and ammo
NRA certified range officer on site every shoot
AUBURN SPORTSMAN CLUB



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18
Visit with Santa during Sunday Brunch
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333



NEW YEAR'S EVE MISSY'S MUSIC MIX
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333



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129 East Main St. Webster, MA or Rte 9 Shrewsbury, MA

KIDS' CORNER

Necktie Word Find

Just in time for a cheese-filled meal, find the hidden words in the puzzle.

APPAREL	CLOTHING	HANDSOME
ARRANGE	DRESS	MAN
BOWTIE	ETIQUETTE	NECKTIE
BUSINESS	FORMAL	SUIT

G N I H T O L C S Z J E
 A Y G E B M L S Z M T L
 R B V M N I E A G S K D
 R E U O N R E C M C Z B
 A I B S D O T R O R U U
 N T A D N K I A M S O C
 G W E N G M Q G I A K F
 E O R A Y P U N G S N L
 T B D H C L E R A P P A
 I D G J Y S T G U H Q W
 R E O P S C T H L P O W
 N E C K T I E D S U I T

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

* **1778:** BRITISH AND FRENCH FLEETS CLASH IN THE BATTLE OF ST. LUCIA DURING THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

* **1939:** "GONE WITH THE WIND" PREMIERES IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA.

* **1967:** THE SILVER BRIDGE CONNECTING WEST VIRGINIA AND OHIO COLLAPSES DURING RUSH HOUR.

New word

FORMAL

prim or stiff

GET THE PICTURE?



CAN YOU GUESS WHAT THE BIGGER PICTURE IS?

ANSWER: NECKTIE

Did you know?

THE RECOMMENDED SAFE WEIGHT A CHILD SHOULD CARRY IN A BACKPACK IS 10 PERCENT OF HIS/HER



BODY WEIGHT. STILL, MANY KIDS CARRY AROUND ROUGHLY 15 TO 20 PERCENT.

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase

N O H E T B O J

Answer: On the job

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Winter

SPANISH: Invierno

ITALIAN: Inverno

FRENCH: Hiver

GERMAN: Winter

Holiday Shopping on Us!



Joe McCassie
"and his sleigh"
General Manager



Brian Roberts
General Sales Manager

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SUNDAY.....11AM - 4PM

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STK# LAW692

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STK# LAW656

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2013 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5 SV
STK# MB042

BUY FOR **\$49** / PER WK*

2015 VW JETTA 1.8 T
STK# LAW652

BUY FOR **\$49** / PER WK*

2013 FORD FUSION SE
STK# LAW532

BUY FOR **\$49** / PER WK*

2013 FORD ESCAPE SE TURBO
STK# LAW593

BUY FOR **\$59** / PER WK*

2013 CHEVROLET EQUINOX LS
STK# LAW602

BUY FOR **\$59** / PER WK*

2008 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE1
STK# LAW487A

BUY FOR **\$59** / PER WK*

2014 MAZDA 3 I
STK# LAW637B

BUY FOR **\$59** / PER WK*

2010 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT
STK# LAW690

BUY FOR **\$69** / PER WK*

2012 NISSAN XTERRA S
STK# LAW630

BUY FOR **\$69** / PER WK*

2012 JEEP CHEROKEE LAREDO 4X
STK# LAW497

BUY FOR **\$69** / PER WK*

2008 BMW 135I TWIN TURBO
STK# LAW492

BUY FOR **\$69** / PER WK*

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2017 CHEVY EQUINOX LS

ALL WHEEL DRIVE



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ALL WHEEL DRIVE, 8 PASSENGER

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SPORT TOURING SEDAN

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STK. #S116218



NEW GMC SIERRA 1500 4X4

ALL TERRAIN CREW CAB

YOU SAVE \$12,000

STK. #S116102



NEW GMC SIERRA 1500 4X4

DOUBLE CAB, ELEVATION EDITION

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\$1,995 CASH OR TRADE DOWN

STK. #LA17587



NEW 2017 BUICK LACROSSE

ESSENCE SEDAN, ALL NEW REDESIGN

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STK. #EV17426



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<p>2004 CHEVY COLORADO LS EXT. CAB</p> <p>ONLY 60,000 MILES, ONE OWNER, ALLOY WHEELS, FULL POWER, LIKE NEW #CA16784A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$9,988</p>	<p>2012 BUICK REGAL CXL PREMIUM SEDAN</p> <p>TURBOCHARGED ENGINE, LEATHER, HEATED SEATS, ONE OWNER, #P198A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$12,988</p>	<p>2012 CHEVY EQUINOX LS</p> <p>ALL WHEEL DRIVE, TRIPLE BLACK, ALLOY WHEELS, ONE OWNER, #TK16590A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$12,988</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY SONIC LT</p> <p>SEDAN, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, AUTOMATIC, #TK16256A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$12,988</p>	<p>2011 CHEVY CAMARO 2LT</p> <p>COUPE, RS PACKAGE, AUTOMATIC, 20" WHEELS, HID HEADLAMPS, #EQ16128A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$15,988</p>
<p>2016 CHEVY SPARK 2LT</p> <p>AUTOMATIC, ONLY 7,000 MILES, ONE OWNER, MOONROOF, REMOTE START, #MB16778A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$13,988</p>	<p>2016 FORD ESCAPE S</p> <p>SPORT UTILITY, FULL POWER, LOW MILES, #TK16826A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$16,988</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY IMPALA LT</p> <p>ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, FULL POWER, REMOTE SEAT, #S116482A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$18,988</p>	<p>2014 GMC TERRAIN SLE</p> <p>ALL WHEEL DRIVE, FULL POWER, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, #TE17255A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$19,988</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY EQUINOX LT</p> <p>ALL WHEEL DRIVE, LOW MILES, ALLOY WHEELS, #EQ17176A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$20,988</p>
<p>2011 CHEVY SILVERADO 4X4</p> <p>1500 LT, DOUBLE CAB, TINTED GLASS, ALLOY WHEELS, #TC16408A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$20,988</p>	<p>2016 DODGE CARAVAN VAN</p> <p>7 PASSENGER, LEATHER, REAR DVD, REAR HEAT/AC, RS PKG., NAVIGATION, #TK16718A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$22,988</p>	<p>2014 FORD MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE</p> <p>S.O. V8, AUTOMATIC, TRIPLE BLACK, LEATHER, ONLY 11,000 MILES, ONE OWNER, HEATED SEATS P330A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$25,988</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY TRAVERSE LS</p> <p>ALL WHEEL DRIVE, 8 PASSENGER, ONE OWNER, #TR17501A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$22,988</p>	<p>2015 CHEVY MALIBU LTZ SEDAN</p> <p>2.0 TURBO ENGINE, AUTOMATIC, MOONROOF, LEATHER, NAVIGATION, HEATED SEATS, #P304</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$24,988</p>
<p>2013 CHEVY TRAVERSE 2 LT</p> <p>ALL WHEEL DRIVE, LEATHER, HEATED SEATS, ALLOY WHEELS, 5 2013-2014'S TO CHOOSE FROM, STARTING AT #P161</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$25,988</p>	<p>2011 BMW 535i</p> <p>X DRIVE, ALL WHEEL DRIVE, NAVIGATION, MOONROOF, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, #C717206A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$25,988</p>	<p>2015 DODGE RAM 1500 SPORT EDITION</p> <p>DOUBLE CAB, 4X4, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, BLACKOUT PACKAGE, #TK16706A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$27,988</p>	<p>2014 GMC ACADIA SLE-2</p> <p>ALL WHEEL DRIVE, 7 PASSENGER, ONE OWNER, HEATED SEATS, REAR CAMERA, BUCKET SEATS, LOW MILES, #TB16720A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$28,988</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY EQUINOX LT</p> <p>1500 LT, Z71 PACKAGE, LOW MILES, ONE OWNER, #TK16051A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$28,988</p>
<p>2014 BUICK ENCLAVE PREMIUM</p> <p>AWD, ONE OWNER, NAVIGATION, MOONROOF, REAR DVD, HEATED/COOLED SEATS, #AC17394A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$28,988</p>	<p>2014 FORD F150 4X4 XLT</p> <p>SUPER CAB, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, CHROME WHEELS, SIDE STEPS, REAR CAMERA, #CA16256A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$28,988</p>	<p>2016 MERCEDES C300 4MATIC SPORT SEDAN</p> <p>AWD, LEATHER, MOONROOF, NAV, AMG APPEARANCE PACKAGE, AUTOMATIC, HEATED SEATS, ONE OWNER, P355A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$33,988</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY SILVERADO CREW CAB 4X4</p> <p>1500 LT, ONLY 26,000 MILES, ONE OWNER, NAVIGATION, HEATED SEATS, Z71 PACKAGE, #TK16670A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$32,988</p>	<p>2015 GMC SIERRA 4X4</p> <p>1500 SLT, DOUBLE CAB, ALL TERRAIN, LEATHER, NAVIGATION, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, #MB16445A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$35,988</p>
				<p>2014 GMC SIERRA 1500 SLE DOUBLE CAB</p> <p>4X4, ALL TERRAIN OFF ROAD PACKAGE, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, HEATED SEATS, P296</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$31,988</p>
				<p>2015 CHEVY SUBURBAN LTZ 4X4</p> <p>7 PASSENGER, HEATED/COOLED SEATS, NAVIGATION, ONE OWNER, #AC17106A</p> <p>YOUR PRICE \$44,988</p>

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