



THOMPSON VILLAGER

Friday, January 21, 2022

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Young, inexperienced Centaurs have 1-1 week as team continues to grow



Photos Jason McKay

Woodstock Academy players begin to box out down low while teammate Reagan Reynolds shoots a deep jump shot.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — Eva Monahan scored a team-high 14 points, and Kerry Blais and Sophia Sarkis added 10 points each as the Woodstock Academy girls' basketball team withstood a frantic fourth-quarter comeback by Amistad Academy of New Haven, defeating the Wolves, 54-40, on Monday, Jan. 10, at Alumni Field House.

Behind the play of juniors Leila MacKinnon and Alex Cloutier, Blais (a sophomore) and freshmen Monahan and Sarkis, the Centaurs led, 19-9, at halftime and by as many as 18 points in the third quarter before settling for a 35-23 advantage as play moved into the fourth quarter.

Amistad, however, opened the final period of play with a 9-2 run, cutting its deficit to five, 37-32.

Monahan stymied the comeback, however, with a pair of free throws and a short jumper to allow the Centaurs to regain control of the game, 41-32. The Wolves' Fatema Thomas answered Monahan's four points with two of her own, but Sarkis and Blais combined to score the game's next seven points and push the Woodstock lead to 14, 48-34, with less than three minutes remaining in the game.

Sophomore Reagan Reynolds added seven points to the Centaurs' winning effort.

"I thought we played pretty well against Amistad," seventh-year Centaurs' coach Will Fleeton said. "I thought the kids toughed it out. We hit a tough stretch at the start of the fourth quarter and I thought the team did a good job digging deep and fighting through that adversity."

Please Read **BASKETBALL**, page **A12**

Killingly eyeing new district, grants for continued economic growth

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KILLINGLY — The town of Killingly has experienced quite a bit of economic growth over the past few months with new companies moving into the Main Street area as well as existing businesses expanding into larger new locations during that time. In an effort to keep that growth moving the town is seeking grants to help with a pair of economic development initiatives while the Economic Development Commission explores a potential new district concept that would embrace Killingly's culture and heritage.

Details of these initiatives were shared during the Jan. 11 meeting of the Town Council where Town Manager Mary Calorio first discussed a recent presentation from Wendy Bury of the Southeastern Connecticut Cultural Coalition who provided input to the Economic Development Commission on the potential for a cultural district in town. According to Calorio, this is an initiative the EDC has shown interest in for some time and would designate a part of Killingly as its main cultural center.

"It does give an opportunity for the town to seek additional funding to really fold in additional arts and culture within the community. It's a more dynamic commission than just the Economic Development Commission. It really needs to be a subset and it goes through all the requirements. It was a really well-rounded

presentation. The Economic Development Commission is now going to have further discussions on where they would like to go with that," said Calorio.

Town Council member Tammy Wakefield, who attends EDC meetings as the council's representative, also commented on the potential for a cultural district noting that it has been a success in other communities and would serve as a way to help promote what she termed as "heritage tourism" in town.

"The reality is the pieces are all sitting there. We've got a beautiful historic town. We have historic buildings. It's a way to create a destination kind of like Putnam did with their antique district decades ago. It would create a place for people to want to come to Killingly and it would encourage economic development and growth," said Wakefield.

The potential for economic growth isn't limited to just businesses and the potential new district, however. Later in the meeting Calorio also detailed a pair of grants her office is working to bring to Killingly that will help with two more economic development initiatives: parking and the community center.

"We're submitting two applications under the Connecticut Communities Challenge Grant. One of them is a place making grant, really it dovetails with the project that Economic Development Commission

Please Read **KILLINGLY**, page **A4**

Quiet Corner towns earn CT Humanities funding

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

REGION — Several local towns and organizations were announced as recipients of CT Humanities Grants to start off the new year. The Board of Directors at CT Humanities (CTH) recently announced 624 non-profit organizations and entities receiving shares of \$16 million in CT Cultural Fund Operation Support Grants to assist organization in recovering from the pandemic and help maintain and increase these organizations' abilities to connect with local students and their community at large.

"These grants not only meet critical needs today, but they also provide us an unprecedented look into the state

of the cultural sector going forward. We have an opportunity to more fully understand and quantify the profound impact arts, humanities, and cultural nonprofits have on the individuals, local economies, and issues in Connecticut," explained Dr. Jason Mancini, Executive Director at CTH in an announcement of the grant winners.

Eleven towns and 23 organizations and agencies in Windham County were included on the list with a combined total of \$137,900 spread throughout the region. In the Quiet Corner Brooklyn, Eastford, Killingly, Pomfret, Thompson and Woodstock all received grants for different groups. In Brooklyn, the Col. Daniel Putnam Association, an orga-

nization that owns and preserves local houses in Brooklyn, was granted \$8,600, the largest of the grants presented to Quiet Corner towns. In neighboring Killingly, the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society earned \$5,300. The Eastford Historical Society was granted \$5,200 and the Thompson Historical Society earned \$5,700.

Pomfret and Woodstock each say multiple organizations and agencies earn grants from the program. In Pomfret The Community Cultural Committee of Northeast Connecticut, also known as the Three C's which provides access to performing arts for kids through their ARTS4YOU program, was granted \$5,500 while Performing Arts of

Northeast Connecticut, an organization that strives to provide access to professional arts events at affordable prices for the region, earned \$7,700. The Pomfret Historical Society was granted \$5,400.

In Woodstock four organizations earned funding. First was the Chamberlin Mill, a historic mill rooted in the history of the rural town, which was granted \$6,100. The Northeast Connecticut Community Orchestra was granted \$5,500 while the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities earned \$5,000. Finally, the Woodstock Historical

Please Read **GRANTS**, page **A2**

Slow start dooms Woodstock Academy in loss to Rockets



Photos Jason McKay

Woodstock Academy players begin to box out down low while teammate Reagan Reynolds shoots a deep jump shot.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

POMFRET — Woodstock Academy boys' ice hockey coach Kevin Bisson did not get the start he was looking for in the Centaurs' game with Auburn High of Mass. on Saturday, Jan. 15.

The Rockets scored two goals in a 22-second span in the first three minutes and added a third before the game was eight minutes old, eventually skating away with a 5-2 win over Woodstock in front of a packed house at Jahn Rink on the campus of the Pomfret School.

With freshman goalie Dante Sousa making the first home start of his career between the pipes for the Centaurs, Auburn jumped ahead, 1-0, two minutes, 19 seconds into the game on a goal by senior captain Dillon Winkelmann, off assists from fellow seniors Dom DiPadua and Joe Valone.

Twenty-two seconds later, at 2:41 of the first period, the Rockets doubled their lead

to 2-0, sophomore Owen Stattenfield scoring off of assists by junior Nolan White and freshman Landon Connor.

At 7:58 into the period, Valone extended Auburn's lead to 3-0, scoring off assists from junior Tommy Lutz and DiPadua.

"It's tough sometimes in the immediate moment after a goal to make a judgment on what happened and who was at fault. You can watch video after the game and break it down and say, 'OK, I see where certain things happened,'" Bisson said. "The bottom line is, however, the overall intensity of everybody on the ice for us needed to be more. I can't excuse away anything."

"You do have a freshman goalie who, yes, he's played some games, but we're talking about his first home start," Bisson continued. "His last game he had to come off the bench in relief. Now he's got his first varsity home start, and we don't show up in front

Please Read **HOCKEY**, page **A10**

The weather 100 years ago



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

Brr! I'm shivering in my shoes! Not literally, since my feet are cold enough that my toes are under a blanket while I write. Winter is truly upon us. But that's typical for January. I was in the 1922 Norwich Bulletins on newspapers.com and saw the following in a Jan. 24 paper: "The mercury touched 5 degrees below zero in Danielson Monday morning after a night during which a strong gale blew in out of the northwest" (p.6). (Sunday, Jan. 15, my phone read 0 degrees at 7 a.m.).

Apparently, the weather in January 1922, 100 years ago, had been messy, leaving much ice. "The fog that endured all day Thursday made considerable impression on the ice sheathing covering highways in this territory for ten days past, but did not greatly relieve the conditions that have made travel so difficult and dangerous. Nightfall Thursday much ice remained and extreme caution had to be exercised by pedestrians to avoid slips and falls." (Norwich Bulletin, Jan. 20, 1922, p. 6; newspapers.com).

People were still using iceboxes in the 1920's cold weather was excellent for an increased harvest of ice. "An additional harvest of ice has been made this week at Quinebaug lake, nearly 500 tons of heavy ice being taken from the lake and stored in sheds on the property. More ice is now stored at the lake by several hundred tons than has been here for many years." (Norwich Bulletin, Jan. 20, 1922, p. 6; newspapers.com).

In the central part of town, work was also underway to gather and store ice. "Preparations are being made to make necessary repairs to the runways at what has been known for years as the plant of the Consumers' Ice company, near East Killingly. As soon as these repairs are accomplished, it was stated Thursday, the work of filling the

houses will be undertaken." (Ibid). The Consumer's Ice Company was organized and incorporated in 1909, with T. E. Hopkins, president; George S. Brown, secretary and treasurer; and W. S. Brown, general manager. W. S. Brown severed his connection with the company several years ago and Mr. Ellis succeeded George Brown as secretary and treasurer. Mr. Hopkins has continued as president until the present time. The Company's plant consists of two houses, one of 2,000 and the other 3,000 tons capacity, modern machinery for the harvesting of the ice, engine and boiler house, tool houses, etc., all located at Hygea Reservoir near the center of the town, also store house and stables at the corner of Main and Hutchins streets and the office located at 141 Main St." (Windham County Transcript March 1, 1917, which announced the retirement of Hopkins as president).

Do you follow high school basketball? I had to chuckle at the score for the Killingly-Putnam game from that week in the same paper. "Killingly High students were very much elated Thursday over the success of the school team in capturing a league game, 15 to 18, from the Putnam High school team at Putnam Wednesday evening. This gives the Killingly team a splendid position from which to repeat as champions of the Quinebaug Valley Basketball league." Notice how the winning score is written last, not first as today. (Ibid)

Have you purchased eggs recently? I was surprised to see the price in 1922. "Fresh eggs local product, were being quoted in Danielson Thursday at 55 cents a dozen, a decline of 35 to 40 cents a dozen from the peak of the prices prevailing here during the late fall season. Storage eggs could be purchased here on Thursday for 40 cents per dozen. Another interesting item of shopping news picked up Thursday was that granulated sugar is selling here at 18 pounds for a dollar--at least at one store." (Ibid).

I have been reading New London County Trolleys so was delighted to find several mentions of the trolley situation in Northeastern Connecticut in January 1922 papers. "After a lapse that has extended from Feb. 4, 1920, a period of nearly two years, it is again possible to travel all the way from Danielson to Webster by trolley, as one may from New London to Worcester again...Long

drawn out negotiations have resulted in resumption of service between North Grosvenordale and Webster, a section over which cars have not run in regular passenger service since the date mentioned--a date when a terrific winter storm blocked the line, which has since that time been practically abandoned. The first morning car giving connection to Webster leaves Danielson at 6.10 am... Cars of the Worcester Consolidated Company are operating between North Grosvenordale and Webster. Cars of the Connecticut company go no farther than North Grosvenordale."

The Putnam section of the same paper provided additional details. "It was on February 4, 1920 that the line between North Grosvenordale and Webster was abandoned following a heavy storm of snow and the later coming of rain followed in turn by a quick drop in temperature and a freeze up that encased all the rails in ice. All trolley traffic between Webster and Central Village was suspended for weeks, but when spring came service was not resumed between North Grosvenordale and Webster. There were various reasons for this, and chief among them was the fact that non-union crews were operating cars on the Connecticut side of the line, following a strike that was inaugurated in July, 1919, while union crew were running the cars on the Massachusetts end of the line. The strike had caused the introduction of bus competition by which much of the trolley company's former business seemed permanently lost. As the bus line continued in operation the trolley company made no move to reopen the abandoned part of the line, which has deteriorated materially in the nearly two years that has since elapsed. Eventually a ruling of the public utilities commission in this state made the operation of the buses unprofitable and drove most of them out of business though the buses have been allowed to operate from North Grosvenordale to Webster. This ruling was quickly followed by active work upon the part of the Webster-Dudley chamber of commerce for the reopening of the trolley line. The Connecticut Company was loath to resume the service until spring, desiring to improve the line and overhead before running cars on a regular schedule again, but further delay has been abandoned and the cars are now running again, a fact

that will be a convenience for many travelers."

(Norwich Bulletin, Tuesday, Jan. 24, 1922, p. 6; newspapers.com).

After reading about the trolley in last week's column, Al Borders stopped at the Killingly Historical Center on January 15 and spoke with Lynn LaBerge. Al said that his great grandfather Snow Borders was a trolley conductor on the route from Danielson to Providence. He was given his unusual name "Snow" because he was born during a snowstorm in South Carolina. Al commented that there are still trolley tracks in the woods at the State Line Campground.

New London County Trolleys, which contains a chapter entitled Putnam Lines and a map of the north-south trolley route through northeastern Connecticut including Killingly and North Grosvenordale, is now available for sale at the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center during regular hours Wednesdays and Saturdays 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost is \$20; \$25 if you wish to have it mailed. Checks accepted but not credit cards. Please send a letter with your name, address and a check for \$25 if you wish to have a copy mailed to you. No phone orders, please. Other Images of America volumes are still available.

Inclement Weather: If the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center is closed due to inclement weather, an announcement will be made on WINY. If you are not sure, call the Center at 860-779-7250 after 10:15 a.m. on a regularly scheduled day. If you get the answering machine, the Center is probably closed.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian January 2022. Special thanks to Al Borders. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or contact the Killingly Historical Society at www.killinglyhistorical.org. Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

Expectations



**BEYOND
THE PEWS
.....
BISHOP JOHN
W. HANSON**

My expectations were high. I had been hunting before, but hunting elk was a whole lot more challenging than hunting deer. Neither were my other hunting trips as high in the mountains, where it was bitterly cold and two feet of snow. This adventure was just outside the mile-high community of Philipsburg, Mont. A Montana tourism site describes the small town like this:

Philipsburg is situated between two national forests and surrounded by lofty mountains that were still snow-capped in early June. The two-lane

Highway 1 leaves Interstate 90 west of Butte, Montana, and passes through the mining town of Anaconda. The scarred earth gives way to lush valleys, crystal clear lakes, marshes that attract abundant wildlife, and exuberant creeks and fishing holes just waiting for anglers.

The town boomed in the late 1800s because of all the silver mines in the region. Some of these mines were worked by Asians immigrants, because they were typically short and could work in smaller shafts. But all of that changed. Today, the county has 24 ghost towns, and Philipsburg's population is around eight hundred. The region is more of a tourist destination now; a place where the rich go to get married and experience dude-ranching.

On the morning of our hunt, it was five below zero, in the valley where my buddy had arranged for us to sleep in a heated camper trailer. He served as my guide, providing guns, socks, boots and layers of clothing, hats, and

gloves. Several of us piled into a four-wheel drive and began the ascent up a rocky mountain road to an area where elk had been recently spotted. After a few minutes of travel, I had no idea where I was. If something had happened, I don't know what I would have done. It was an adventure at the very edge of my comfort zone.

They dropped me and my buddy off at one location, promising to go up the road and attempt to drive some elk our way. We then split up and positioned ourselves strategically so we could be ready when the game came our way. As mentioned, I had high expectations. An hour or so later, the day had not warmed up and my body heat was not keeping up. I consumed the snacks I had managed to bring along as I waited patiently for the prey. It was then that I realized I was experiencing one of the most amazing scenes of my life. The mountains loomed. In the meadow snow was untouched, except for where I had waded to the edge of the clearing. The evergreens were weighed down

with snow from the night before. The sky was blue. And, the snow seemed to absorb any sound, so that the quiet was more complete than anything I had ever experienced. It was beautiful.

We didn't see any elk on that trip. To be honest, I am not sure I would have wanted to dress, quarter and carry a five-to-seven-hundred-pound animal off the mountain. But I will always remember the hunting trip to Philipsburg as an adventure that I would have never enjoyed, had it not been for the guys who made it all happen. Sometimes I feel like God is taking me on similar excursions. I have expectations of one thing, but I experience other wonderful things along the way. My confidence is in my Guide. I trust He will get us where we are going, but sometimes I am living at the very edge of my comfort zone.

Bishop John W Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. For more information, please visit www.ActsII.org.

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GRANTS
continued from page A1

Society was granted \$6,100. Other Windham County towns that earned grant funding included Ashford, Canterbury, Coventry which earned the largest grant in the county, Scotland, and Windham which has the most organizations awarded of any town in the region.

VILLAGER ALMANAC
At CT Audubon
Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Jan. 10: Bald Eagle, Bluebird, American Tree Sparrow, American Kestrel, Mockingbird, Red-tailed Hawk, Flicker, Brown Creeper, Common Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird, Song Sparrow, Junco, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Great-horned Owl. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret.



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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Local Eastern students make Dean's List in fall 2021

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University recently released its Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester, in which nearly 1,300 students were recognized for maintaining high GPAs.

Among the students are:
 Katelin Briere of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Music.
 Mariah Hoard of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Accounting.
 Josephina Keith of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Psychology.
 Olivia Majek of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Psychology.
 Ryan Noll of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Business Administration.
 Rebekah Perez of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Social Work.
 Natalia Reali of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Social Work.
 Benjamin Torre of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Business Administration.
 Madalin Wilcox of Brooklyn, a full-time student who majors in Business Administration.
 Amirah Samuel of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Pre-Elementary Education and Art.
 Felicia Horne of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Early Childhood Education and English.
 Lucas Basilio of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Business Administration.
 Tyra Bergstrom of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Psychology.
 Maxwell Hayes of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Computer

Science.
 Candice Koolhaas of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Psychology.
 Lauren Mayotte of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in English.
 Jamie Shay of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Social Work.
 Vanessa Streb of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Biology.
 Emily Watling of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Environmental Earth Science.
 Larda Yottivong of Danielson, a full-time student who majors in Psychology.
 Carolyn Anderson of Dayville, a full-time student who majors in Art.
 Tamarin Kelley of Dayville, a full-time student who majors in Social Work.
 Jonathan Lepire of Dayville, a full-time student who majors in Environmental Earth Science.
 Jasmine Charland of Woodstock Valley, a full-time student who majors in Social Work.
 Emma Rudman of Putnam, a full-time student who majors in Criminology.
 Aislin Tracey of Putnam, a full-time student who majors in Social Work.
 Cecilia LeBlanc of North Grosvenordale, a full-time student who majors in Pre-Early Childhood Education and Art.
 Savannah Loisselle of North Grosvenordale, a full-time student who majors in Computer Science.
 Alex Rooney of North Grosvenordale, a full-time student who majors in Accounting.
 Noelle Ciccarelli of Thompson, a full-time student who majors in Psychology.
 Katey Kwasniewski of Thompson, a

full-time student who majors in Health Sciences.
 Paula Hernandez Aulet of Eastford, a full-time student who majors in Pre-Secondary Education and History and Social Science.
 Natalie Hovanec of Eastford, a full-time student who majors in Psychology.
 Elliot Lawrence of Eastford, a full-time student who majors in Liberal Studies.
 Emma Green of Pomfret Center, a full-time student who majors in Criminology.
 Erin Raymond of Pomfret Center, a full-time student who majors in Theatre.
 Adam Schimmelpfennig of Pomfret Center, a full-time student who majors in Criminology.
 Joshua Lavitt of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in Criminology and Sociology.
 Seth Benoit of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in Business Administration.
 Willard Brin of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in History.
 Stefan Chervenkov of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in Communication.
 Nathan Fontaine of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in History.
 Caleb Hall of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in Biology.
 Samantha Orłowski of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in Communication.
 Dante Poth of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in Business Administration.
 Aidan Stewart of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in Exploratory

STEM.
 Evan Wood of Woodstock, a full-time student who majors in Exploratory - Undecided.
 Jasmine Charland of Woodstock Valley, a full-time student who majors in Social Work.
 To qualify for Dean's List, full-time students must complete a minimum of 12 credits in letter-graded courses with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher in the semester. Part-time students are eligible if they've accumulated 15 or more credits of letter-graded course work with an average GPA of 3.5 or higher.
 To watch a video of highlights from the fall 2021 semester, visit <https://vimeo.com/665228420>
 Eastern Connecticut State University is the state of Connecticut's public liberal arts university, serving more than 4,300 students annually on its Willimantic campus. In addition to attracting students from 163 of Connecticut's 169 towns, Eastern also draws students from 32 other states and 10 countries. A residential campus offering 41 majors and 65 minors, Eastern offers students a strong liberal art foundation grounded in a variety of applied learning opportunities. Ranked as the #1 public regional university in New England by U.S. News & World Report in its 2020, 2021 and 2022 Best Colleges ratings, Eastern has also been awarded "Green Campus" status by the Princeton Review 11 years in a row. For more information, visit www.easternct.edu.

Pomfret Democrats elect new members

POMFRET — Pomfret's Democratic Town Committee elected members at the January Caucus.
 Candidates elected to the DTC are: Sandy Andersen, John Boland, Patrick Boyd, Sue Devokaitis, John A. Dilorio, Dayna Flath, John Folsom, Timothy Gillane, Leigh Grossman, Tamara Harris, Ayla Heald, Marlene Heald, Margie Huoppi, Daniel Kellaway, Patrick McCarthy, Tim McNally, Maureen Nicholson, Norine Reingold, Barry Reingold, Kristin Sapp, Leah Schad, Nicholas Stellitano, Joe Stoddard, Debra Thompson, Ted Tsanjoures, Julie Watt, Raymond Wishart, Jr.
 Officers are Ray Wishart Chair; Tamara Harris, Vice Chair; Margie Huoppi, Treasurer; Debi Thompson, Deputy Treasurer; and Patrick McCarthy, Secretary.
 The Town Committee meets monthly at the Pomfret Community Center (or on Zoom) on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. All registered Democrats are invited, encouraged and welcome to attend. Join us! Our next

meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Pomfret Community Center (207 Mashamoquet Rd.).
 In addition to recommending a slate of candidates for local offices, we select delegates to state nominating conventions, choose a representative to the Democratic State Central Committee, and conduct election activities and fundraising in support of local, state, and national Democratic candidates. Pomfret Democrats are available to talk about the boards, commissions, issues, and concerns in town. For more information, contact Ray Wishart at 860-928-4999 or Maureen Nicholson at 860-214-9755 or drop in at a meeting.
 We are always looking for new members who share our concern for quality education, clean environment, the health and safety of our residents, preserving open space, a thriving economy, fair and equitable taxation, and a desire to preserve Pomfret's quality of life.
 For more information, go to <https://www.facebook.com/PomfretDTC>.

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당수도

SNHU announces Fall 2021 Dean's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2021 Dean's List.
 Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in the fall or spring semester; and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 & EW2, EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6.
 Ariana Koivisto of Brooklyn
 Nicole Everton of Danielson
 Paul Johnson of Putnam
 Nicole Everton of Danielson
 Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, non-profit institution with an 89-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 160,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the «Most Innovative» regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.



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In the Studio

CYNTHIA SAARI



"In the Studio" features artists from the Quiet Corner—home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, handcraft, performing art, art education, and graphic art. In this semi-weekly series, we'll talk with our artist neighbors and learn about their careers, current projects, and connections to our towns. We'll also learn some "artspeak" terms in our conversations, demystifying some of those "artist words".

This week we're meeting with stained glass artist, Josh Huck, of Woodstock. Josh discovered stained glass when exploring activities to do with his family. Stained Glass had been on his personal bucket list, and after taking class-



es, Josh became hooked. He and his daughter create pieces for their business "Stained Intentions Glass Studio."

Josh, you've mentioned that your interests and tastes are largely unconventional, or "alternative." What can you tell us about the images here, starting with your piece "Ace Ventura lamp?"

Our family enjoys watching silly and slapstick movies such as "Ace Ventura" or "Airplane" and wanted to make a lamp, so I took 4 scenes from the movies and turned it into a lamp. It was a huge success online and we'll be making more lamps from movies like "Monty Python", "Airplane" and "Austin Powers". The work we create is done only once so that it remains a unique creation for the owner; despite multiple requests, this will be the only "Ace Ventura" lamp we ever do.

Who doesn't love their dogs? Are these yours?

This was our first commission, to capture two hunting dogs that reside in Texas. They are for someone who teaches and raises specialty hunting dogs. We love our dogs and have three that are always at our sides.

We love doing pet portraits and have done them as memorials as well.

Was "Croc-o-Dile" here a commission?

No, this was a just a random idea in our heads. We love dad jokes, puns and plays on words so we thought this fit all three. While many glass artists are busy creating hummingbirds, dragon flies and Monstera leaves, this is the kind of thing we like to produce, more fun and less conventional work.

These sections from a transom window that you made—am I correct in saying that some features glow in the dark?

Correct. We applied glow-in-the-dark paint and powder to the stars and constellations so at night, while most of the other glass is dark, they stand out and shine, just like the night sky. This way you can enjoy the windows at all times of the day. The two alien heads have glow-in-the-dark with powder on them, and were then baked in an oven for durability.

You've lived in Hawaii and in Texas. The Quiet Corner is quite a change! What do you like about making your home here?

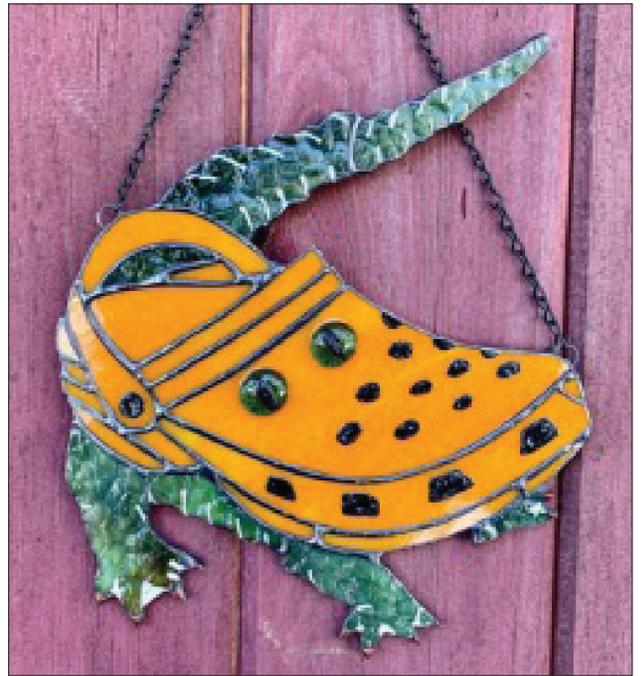
With the exception of the long winter, we love the pace, the friendliness of the people and the quiet freedom. We relish the open spaces, hikes that are not clogged with people, all of the small local shops, etc. Woodstock really has it all and everything you need is a 20-minute drive away. The perfect balance of seclusion and accessibility. It's so nice they filmed a Hallmark movie here!

You are doing some 3D stained glass work. What kind of things are you making?

We are currently making a large 3d ocean wave with a surfboard 'catching' the wave; this will be raffled off with proceeds going to an ocean cleanup charity. From here we have the following pieces on deck: 3d globe with all the continents being different colors of glass that will be lit from within and rotate on an axis. We will be recreating '80s items in 3D such as the Viewmaster and the Polaroid camera that will require some creative engineering. We will also be building a full bust of an '80s horror movie icon.

I've heard of people working remains (a being's cremated remains) into jewelry and other items. Until we spoke, I'd not heard of memorializing with cremains in stained glass. Tell us about this.

So, this is a tricky area, of course. Respect for the cremains takes precedence over all aspects. We learned that we are able to fuse cremains between two layers of glass in the kiln and they remain gray in color. From there, for a recent commis-



sion, we are taking them and making them into boulders that will sit in a glass stream, with the water flowing over them, sending the departed loved one's 'strength' downstream to a milk maid collecting pails of water. We worked back and forth with the person over a few weeks to solidify this particular design. We've tested this process to ensure that actual human cremains will not suffer any damage in our kiln.

I'd love to get a few words from your daughter here on why she likes making stained glass.

"I like creating stained glass because it brings me joy. It is a really creative hobby that's fun to learn and do. The whole process is fun to learn and create. After you are done with a project, you have a beautiful creation to look back on and be proud of." (Grace Berlied, age 12)

Lots of people think of church windows when they hear "stained glass." Do you have any interest in doing that sort of work?

We do. Our areas of focus are in two areas—unique sculptural pieces such as the 3D work and door/window panel work, which will include restoration work. Most church windows use 'dalle de verre' glass which is one-inch thick slab glass while most modern stained glass is much thinner and easier to work with. We do it all, from repairs to existing home and church windows, to new door and window panels in residential and commercial spaces. It's all time consuming and delicate work but we have found that in the tedious and details are where the fun lies. We are about to start on a new underwater reef scene window panel for a local residence and are super

excited about it!

Thank you for contacting me, and for your time in talking about "Stained Intentions Glass Studio." As a closing question, where can people see more of your work and contact you?

We can be reached through our website www.stainedintentionsglass.com and on social media @stainedintentionsglassstudio. We have samples of current and upcoming work there. It's also where we can be reached for custom work.

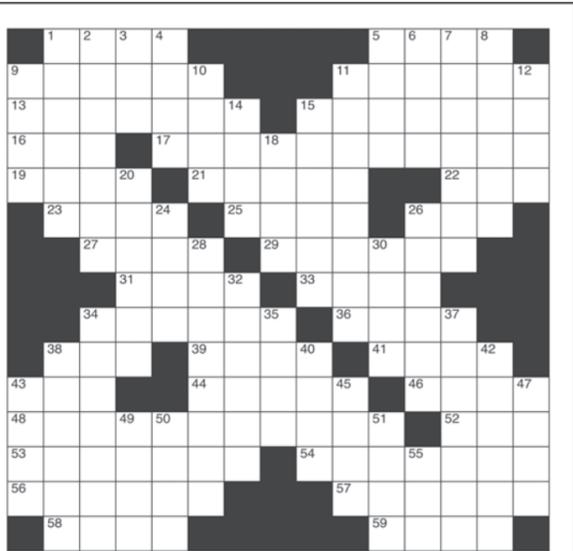
Word of the day

Stained Glass v. Leaded Glass: In general, leaded glass suggests no color is involved while stained glass implies color. If you have pieces of glass joined together, but the glass is plain/clear, that'd be leaded glass. (cumberlandstainedglass.com)

Also, leaded glass uses lead strips in between glass pieces to join them together whereas modern stained glass uses the Tiffany copper foil method combined with solder to join glass together. While both are time consuming, leaded is used more for doors and windows due to durability in the elements. (Josh Huck)

###

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

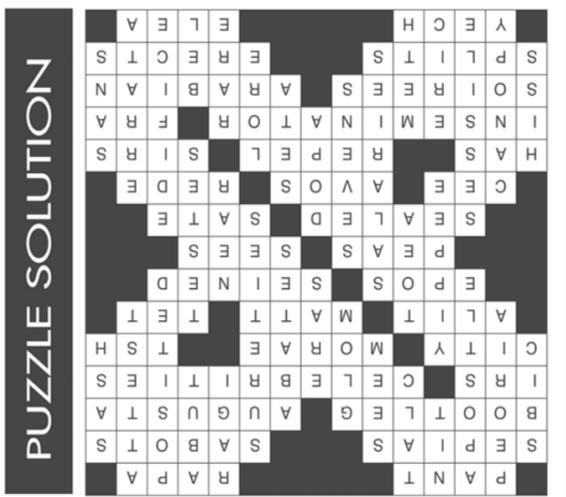


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Breathe noisily
- 5. ___ Nui, Easter Island
- 9. Reddish browns
- 11. Simple shoes
- 13. Produce alcohol illegally
- 15. Home to famed golf tournament
- 16. Tax collector
- 17. Famous people
- 19. Urban area
- 21. Units of syllable weight
- 22. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
- 23. Dismounted
- 25. Actor Damon
- 26. Vietnamese offensive
- 27. Retail term
- 29. Netted
- 31. Partner to carrots
- 33. Witnesses
- 34. Caulked
- 36. Satisfy
- 38. R&B performer ___ Lo
- 39. Monetary units of Macao
- 41. Give advice, explain
- 43. Possesses
- 44. Turn back
- 46. Gentlemen
- 48. One who fertilizes
- 52. Italian monk title (prefix)
- 53. Parties
- 54. Type of horse
- 56. Cuts in half
- 57. Raises
- 58. Expresses contempt or disgust
- 59. Ancient Italian-Greek colony

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Illinois city
- 2. One of the original disciples chosen by Christ
- 3. Young form of a louse
- 4. Type of powder
- 5. Finger millet
- 6. Share a common boundary
- 7. Assumed as a fact
- 8. Provide clear evidence of
- 9. Invests in little enterprises
- 10. A way to be
- 11. Monies given in support
- 12. Fashion accessory
- 14. Steal
- 15. Becomes less intense
- 18. Geological times
- 20. Hooray!
- 24. Monetary unit
- 26. Male reproductive organs
- 28. Earnings
- 30. Close by
- 32. Small integers
- 34. Fixed in place
- 35. Used to treat Parkinson's disease
- 37. Large, imposing building
- 38. A rooflike shelter
- 40. Stiff, hairlike structure
- 42. Print errors
- 43. To show disapproval
- 45. Body of traditions
- 47. Without
- 49. ___ Clapton, musician
- 50. Dangerous illegal drug
- 51. Infrequent
- 55. Sound unit



KILLINGLY

continued from page A1

is looking at on the municipal parking lot side at the School Street parking lots by the court-

house. They have a consultant working on reimagining some of those spaces to make place making spaces so we're looking at putting in a grant for that. That one's about a million dollars. The

other grant that I think fits well into the focus of this program is for the renovations at Westfield Avenue for the community center," said Calorio.

The Town Manager described the grant as "highly competitive," but she seems potential for the town even if Killingly is passed by on the first go-around. She feels there will be several rounds of funding and that Killingly has great potential to earn money from one round or another.

"I'm hoping that we will get at least a good look on this. The state could have already decided where they're going to spend the money, but they did indicate that there appears to be a round two. This is designated as round one so it may cue us up for a round two possibility. Even putting this in at this point in time with such high competition I think it's a good opportunity," said Calorio.

The Connecticut Communities Challenge Grant is administered through the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development with grant sizes ranging from \$1 million to as high as \$10 million. Calorio said they are applying for \$9.5 million for the community center and a million dollars for the place making initiative.



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Anne Douglas named Employee of the Month at Westview Health Care

DAYVILLE — Anne Douglas, LPN, earned the December 2021 Employee of the Month award at Westview Health Care Center. As a Licensed Practical Nurse, Douglas is responsible for considering the needs of her patients with precision and passion—and she chooses to include unwavering pleasantness in that pursuit as well. She is well-known among patients, colleagues, and in the community for her kindness at every turn. This expression takes a literal meaning at Westview, where she has worked on all of the nursing wings and on all three daily shifts since her hiring in 2006.

Douglas is a resident of Thompson, and a graduate of the Windham Vocational Technical Licensed Practical Nurse Program. Among her favorite recreational activities are cooking, baking and taking long hikes. She, her significant other Todd, and her family love to spend time together whenever possible. She is very proud of her “four beautiful, talented children”: Elizabeth Douglas, Rebecca Douglas, Riley Douglas, and Sarah Rich. She takes further pride and appreciation for the ways that Westview Health Care Center has played a role in the development of her son’s and daughters’ lives. Particularly, how they learned to work well with others, how to care for individuals receiving skilled nursing care, and what they have learned about food and nutrition.

Douglas’ daughter Sarah and her son-



Anne Douglas

in-law Matthew worked as Certified Nursing Assistants at Westview during their college years. Matthew is now a genetics counselor at Bay State Medical Center and Sarah currently works at Westview as an Occupational Therapist. Her son Riley and daughter Rebecca have worked in Westview’s dietary department as well. Rebecca continues this work in the form of pursuing

a degree as a dietician and currently has an internship at Westview. Anne Douglas’ praise towards Westview is profound. She reiterated this point in her remarks when she received this recognition. “I feel humbled and honored to be selected as December’s Employee of the Month. I am fortunate to work with a whole team of dedicated and compassionate people. It is a privilege

to be a caregiver and be a part of our patients lives. I am thankful to be able to work side-by-side with all of Westview’s staff,” Anne stated.

The leadership at Westview in turn values Anne’s contributions to the facility though the years. Administrator, David T. Panteleakos is grateful for the way she brings great nursing skills to their patients and residents; always carrying extra doses of kindness to deliver as needed. “Anne, her compassionate expertise, and her family have contributed considerably to Westview’s delivery of quality care,” stated Mr. Panteleakos. “We are so fortunate to have Anne on our team of amazing caregivers. To see the net effect she has on others is inspiring and truly a benefit to those entrusted to her care. Congratulations to Anne!”

Westview Health Care Center is a 103-bed inpatient skilled nursing facility, which includes a distinct and self-contained 28-bed sub-acute short term rehabilitation unit and outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapies including: Sports Medicine, Adolescent/Pediatric, Adult, and Aquatic Outpatient Centers, all dedicated to providing outstanding quality health care services. The Dayville, Connecticut facility is consistently ranked among the top nursing facilities in the nation, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as well as U.S. News and World Report, consecutively for the past 14 years.

Attack of the snow fleas

TRAVEL

DENNIS BLANCHETTE
NORTH
GROSVENDALE

“The great affair is to move” - Robert Louis Stevenson

Maine Huts & Trails (www.maine-huts.org) is a series of four eco lodges and 80 miles of trails in western Maine near Sugarloaf ski area. None of the lodges (a.k.a. huts) are accessible by car. You park at a trailhead and hike, bike, ski or snowshoe in from there. Janet decided she wanted to do a three-day hut to hut ski trip. In February. I was less enthused. It seemed like hiking, but with twice the effort, while freezing to death.

The first year, our reservation was canceled due to lack of snow. The following year I parked the car against a snowbank at Big Eddy trailhead and unloaded two duffel bags of gear. Two guys arrived on snowmobiles, picked it up and drove away. We clipped into our skis and set off down the trail to Flagstaff Hut, hoping the gear would be there. The trail was rated as green (easiest), which ordinarily would have been fine, but it was solid ice and ungroomed. We had track skis without metal edges and began wiping out.

Getting up from a fall, I pondered Schopenhauer’s philosophy that the two foes of human happiness are pain and boredom. Trying to prevent boredom in this manner put me in danger of inducing great pain in myself. I wondered if this was a viable road to happiness.

Three hours and five miles later we arrived at the Flagstaff Hut and met up with our gear. The hut is located on a peninsula jutting into Flagstaff Lake. We checked in and walked down to look at the lake. It was frozen and white, like everything else around us. Dinner was served in the lodge, family style, and then it was off to the bunkhouse for the night.

The next day, Flagstaff to Grand Falls, was the longest leg of the trip and we were underway by 8:45 a.m. The trail follows the Dead River due north for about 14 miles to the Grand Falls Hut. The snow was softer and much more skiable. We passed a skier going the other way and he told us we were getting close to the toothbrush bridge. For the next several miles, I tried to visualize a bridge shaped like a toothbrush. No images appeared in my brain, but least it was distracted from

the cold. Suddenly it hove into view - The Tom and Kate Chappell Dead River Foot Bridge. It was extremely attractive but looked nothing like a toothbrush. Maybe the skier guy had meant to say toothpaste bridge.

Across the bridge the Falls Trail lead us past Grand Falls and by 4:30 p.m., we were at the Grand Falls Hut. There were only a few people at this hut, the staff was friendly and the food was excellent. The next morning began brilliant sunshine. I read in an Adirondack chair outside the hut while Janet went for a short ski trip to reconnoiter the

area. When she returned, we decided to take advantage of the free snowshoes and went for a hike on the Fisherman’s Trail. A flat spot near the river called out, so we spread a blanket on the snow and sat down to enjoy the sunshine. Suddenly a swarm of tiny bugs emerged from the snow and began hopping on us. They looked like fleas, and knowing the biting propensity of fleas, it seemed appropriate to depart. We later found out that although they are called snow fleas, they are not fleas at all and do not bite.

The next day was a short seven-mile

jaunt back to the car. At the outset of the trip, the thought of skiing 14 miles in the middle of winter, with no shelter along the way if you got tired or cold, was daunting. Arriving back at the car five hours later, unhurt and unbored, happiness was mine at last. Until I realized I needed better skis to access more remote places.

Dennis R. Blanchette is a semi-retired civil engineer and travel writer. Pictures and clickable links can be found at his travel blog: <https://dennisblanchette.com>.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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Remembering the man behind the holiday

Offices were closed nationwide this past Monday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. King was the chief spokesperson for nonviolent activism in the Civil Rights Movement from 1954 until his assassination in 1968. The federal holiday falls around the birthday of King on Jan. 15.

Republican President Ronald Reagan made the holiday official in 1983. In 1986, the first observation of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day took place. In the year 2000 the holiday was observed by all 50 states for the first time since 1986.

Labor unions in contract negotiations brought the idea of celebrating King via national holiday. Republican Senator Edward Brooke of Massachusetts and Democrat John Conyers of Michigan brought forth the legislation in 1979 where it was five votes shy of passing in the house.

Those in opposition of the day cited costs in that paying federal employees would be too expensive. Others stated that honoring a private citizen would go against tradition in that King never held a public office.

In 1980, Stevie Wonder released the single "Happy Birthday" to shed light on the campaign. The largest petition in favor of an issue in the history of the United States gathered six million signatures.

Two Republican senators from North Carolina (Jesse Helms and John Porter) opposed the bill because of King's opposition to the Vietnam War, and also accused King of being a Communist. An FBI investigation dating back to 1963 turned up no evidence that King had been influenced by communists.

The bill passed the House of Representatives 338-90. Within the bill was language establishing the Martin Luther King, Jr. Federal Holiday Commission. King's wife, Coretta Scott King was made a life long member of this commission by President George H.W. Bush in May of 1989.

Martin Luther King Day is seen as a day to promote equal rights for all Americans. While there are few traditions surrounding the holiday, many educators use the day to teach their students about the struggle against racial segregation and racism. In New Hampshire and Arizona, the day is combined with Civil Rights Day. In Idaho the day is referred to as Human Rights Day, and in Wyoming, Equality Day.

King, who was born in 1929, was an American Baptist minister from Atlanta, Ga. In 1963, during the March on Washington, he delivered his famous "I have a Dream" speech. In 1964, King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in promoting nonviolent resistance and for advocating for Civil Rights.

King was assassinated at the age of 39 in Memphis, Tenn. by James Earl Ray. Ray, 41, was sentenced to 99 years in prison. The assassin died in prison in 1998 from hepatitis.

An excerpt from King's famous speech:

"So let freedom ring from the prodigious hilltops of New Hampshire; let freedom ring from the mighty mountains of New York; let freedom ring from the heightening Alleghenies of Pennsylvania; let freedom ring from the snow-capped Rockies of Colorado; let freedom ring from the curvaceous slopes of California. But not only that. Let freedom ring from Stone Mountain of Georgia; let freedom ring from Lookout Mountain of Tennessee; let freedom ring from every hill and mole hill of Mississippi. From every mountainside, let freedom ring.

"And when this happens, and when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: 'Free at last. Free at last. Thank God Almighty, we are free at last.'



OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Questions that need an answer

To the Editor:
 Just a fast couple of questions that need answers by those who might know it and would like to share it with me and America.
 If, according to the trust fund baby or the cult leader, the 2020 election outcome was full of fraud and should not be taken seriously or should be voided, and he should be the duly elected president, my question is: if the fraud was prevalent and Biden was elected because of election abnormality, why was only the top of the ticket affected by the fraud? The rest of the ballots were, and are, not in question — then how was this done? Since the Republicans made gains in state legislatures and House seats, why didn't those who

changed the votes for Trump to Biden just complete the middle or bottom of the ballot for more Democrats? You only get one ballot; did these mystery machines/people/and all other conspiracies that have been thrown out there explain this?

There Must be some serious technology involved. Hmmm...please inform me and others how this happened. Or did it really not happen. Open for ideas. Another name for Trust Fund Baby could be the 'Lord of the Lies.'

DAVID CASSETTARI
 KILLINGLY

We need to stay focused on the threat to our democracy

To the Editor:
 The United States of America is now either a backsliding democracy or an anocracy, according to international organizations that monitor the health of the world's democracies and many historians, political scientists and pundits. Retired generals warn of a possible coup. Some even discuss the possibility of civil war in the not-too-distant future.

It's easy to see why. The warning signs have been mounting for years, and have become particularly acute since 2015. Witness the rise of violent, right-wing groups coddled by a former president and the Republican Party. Consider the disillusionment of the electorate because of ineffective government and its thwarting of the will of the majority. Or the Jan. 6 domestic terrorist seditious conspiracy to overturn a fair presidential election. The proliferation of guns. Also, the weakening of the press and judiciary, institutions critical to a healthy democracy. We have largely devolved into two camps based more on racial identity rather than differences in policy. Whites fear their once dominate position in American society is slipping away.

But most damaging is the Big Lie, the completely unfounded assertion by a former president and adopted as a litmus test by the GOP,

that the last presidential election was "stolen." As a result, it's becoming a self-fulfilling prophecy because it's being used by GOP controlled legislatures to put in place partisan officials and procedures that could allow the results of future elections to be rigged or overturned. This can enable the kind of "free and fair" elections held in places like Russia, Hungary, Iran and many others. It will also result in less and less confidence in our elections. Confidence in election results is a hallmark of democracy.

This is an existential threat to what's left of our republican democracy. As important as global warning, inflation, Covid-19, poverty, etc. are, right now they are distractions. I don't write that lightly. I know that millions labor to overcome the effects of inflation, poverty and illness. But if we are to survive as a self-governing democratic country, voters need to temporarily set aside their unhappiness over the pandemic, inflation and supply chain problems and vote to preserve and enhance democracy and reject the party of lies, racial and religious hatred, and authoritarianism.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
 KILLINGLY

More spending in Woodstock

To the Editor:
 In May of 2019, Woodstock voters approved a "one time capital spending" proposal put forward by the Woodstock BOE and Woodstock BOF for over \$400,000 to be spent over two years to offset Woodstock Academy tuition costs for specific Academy projects – roof repairs and tank removal(s). The BOF and selectmen, along with the town attorney, assured this would be a one time event, and therefore, these expenses qualified to be charged as "nonrecurring capital expenses" despite no real physical assets belonging to the town. It was rather obvious that this was, in fact, a blatant workaround of Prop 46, as these kinds of expenses had been part of the standard tuition from the Academy for at least two decades; but the voters approved, and so it was.

Slipping this by the voters went so well, the BOE, with an assist from the BOS, decided to do it again. By the time you read this, a Special Town Meeting will have been held and the questions of transferring funds from the General Fund to the Capital Non-recurring account and approval for \$222,343 for "non-recurring capital expense – tuition" will have held and the issues moved to referendum to be held on Jan. 25. If approved \$300,000 will be transferred and \$222,343 will be approved to be spent on Woodstock Academy Tuition again – another blatant workaround Prop 46. When a citizen requested the specific details of the project(s) for which these funds are being appropriated, he was told it would take 60 to 90 days to get him the information. Use of these funds requires, by state statute, that

they be used only for specific one time projects, but I am sure the town attorney will have an explanation/work around to assure the public this is another one-time event.

What these funds actually do is augment the already bloated BOE budget and create another floor for spending going forward. But hey, it's for the kids, right? Guess again – since 2014, test scores for WPS have been on the decline. In 2019, nearly 40 percent of students couldn't read at grade level and more than 54 percent couldn't do math at grade level; remember this was before the pandemic! During that time while enrollment dropped to under 800 students staffing increased – this year, staffing for WPS is at 141, for comparison staffing for Woodstock Academy is at 150 serving nearly 1200 students, including residential students requiring 24 hour staff. A study done by the BOF in 2019 showed spending per student at WPS exceeded per student spending at Woodstock Academy – so it cost more to educate a second grader than a senior in high school. And it only keeps getting worse. The document was never made included with BOF minutes but you can request a copy of the Lessig report from the town finance director.

It is time to say no to uncontrolled spending, and for the sake of education, maybe time to consider asking Woodstock Academy to take over the entire school system. Say no on the 25th to both proposals.

DAVE RICHARDSON
 WOODSTOCK

'Tis the treason of our folly

To the Editor:
 The Christmas season limped into late November in a fatal attempt to reclaim life as we knew it before Covid. Amidst crowded stores and airports, family gatherings that included the unvaccinated and the unmasked, blue-blooded Americans flaunted that good old American patriotic spirit: "Omicron be damned!"

But this pony is not yet broke, and we cannot expect to ride it out on the coattails of American grit and exceptionalism. Although 62.8 percent of Americans have been vaccinated, the other 37.2 percent have thrown caution to the wind and given up the fight in a feeble-minded spate of libertarianism. A few may have legitimate health reasons for not getting vaccinated, but there is no excuse for the "unmask our kids" crowd, egged on by disruptive politics, Foxy disinformation, and social media. Many of the newbie civil libertarians appear to shop at Killingly Commons, where the sentiment at large is no longer "America First," but "Me First." Duped by the political ruse that civil liberties are at stake by wearing a mask, they have put the rest of us at risk, not only for the virus, but democracy itself. Anti-vax and anti-mandate protests have led to disruption and chaos in the health system, schools, the economy,

and caused governmental impotency. We are quickly spiraling downward into a dumbocracy opening the door to autocracy and fascism. Another Trump.

Liberty without a covenant, Liberty without a social contract, becomes the design of its own undoing. A few weeks ago, I started an editorial essay titled Time for an Anti-vax Tax. But Quebec beat me to it. The Canadian spirit evokes the kind of brotherly love that democracy was supposed to uphold. Doing the right thing, looking out for your neighbor and your community, and governance for the greater good. It is the antithesis of the current American zeitgeist: ME! ME! ME! AND ME TOO! Americans have lost their moral compass, and with it their true liberty.

Lady Liberty was already gasping for air by the time Jan. 6, 2021, rolled into the United States Capitol and continues to wheeze in 2022. In a blatant act of treason and hypocrisy, Trump and his henchmen cheered the crowd to attack the Capitol building. Whereas he threatened to turn the armed forces against a peaceful Black Lives Matter protest, Trump encouraged pseudo patriots like the Oath Keepers to join him in a ragtag militia and an attempted coup – an assault on democracy.

Turn To **DUFRESNE** page **A8**

Journey to other worlds without leaving home

Other worlds await you. Take back memories or move to a nice warm place, perhaps the South of France. Wrestle with a whale, travel with George Washington or have an unforgettable affair with... why whomever you wish! Merge your mind with that of someone living or dead, whom you will never meet or who is an old friend. Do it all in your bedroom, or from a kitchen chair at three in the morning or over breakfast coffee. How can such feats happen? With a book, just a book, perhaps a pile of books in a radical act of recouping your unique self.

Books and reading are food to me, almost drugs. I require both to function and even think. Without them I have trouble operating in the world. I was often alone growing up and books and animals were my companions. I read anything in arm's reach, whether it was my father's "Field and Stream" or my mother's "Born Free."

Reading James Michener's "Hawaii" one summer when I was about 12 nearly scarred me for life; "The Yearling," perhaps read

at the same time, yanked me back into childhood. That's part of the beauty of reading. It allows us to go wherever we wish.

I've just read "The Lost Art of Reading: Why Books Matter in a Distracted Time," by David L. Ulin. The slim volume might have caught my eye, but is a fine example of what one can find on a dreary pandemic afternoon in a library, because it says something important: "Books enlarge us by giving direct access to experiences not our own..."

Of course, there are many avenues of access to worlds beyond ourselves. Just watch a video game for a few moments and feel your heart thump at the drama of blowing up monsters and exploring imagined galaxies. I can't watch the movie, "Psycho," because it scares me witless. Movies certainly transport us. I've always loved radio and now find podcasts wonderfully informative and amusing. I enjoy "On Being" with Krista Tippett. A friend suggested "Wise Crone Cottage" by Kathy Shimpock if you want something really different.

When we moved from our farm, I promised myself that we would avoid accumulating mounds of books again. There are bookshelves in our home, but we didn't buy additional cases to line the hall near my writing desk. I set up one small bookcase designed to hold books on writing, nature, local history and poetry. The idea seemed reasonable but I must stop placing one row in front of another. The shelves are sagging beneath the weight of twice their load and who can recall what is hidden? Sometimes looking for a book I find a treasure I forgot. I'm as pleased as if I just bought it.

Our bookshelves are maps of our inner lives, our past lives and our aspirations. Books received as gifts silently show how much other people know us and our taste. Well-thumbed pages may as well be molecules from our brain.

My Librarian, Laurie Bell, reads two books a week. I've taken her practice as a challenge and upped my game. It is January, and my commitment may flag, but I'm trying to stand up for something I truly believe. I fight distraction by reading. I grab time by the throat by slowing down to read.

I will read "real" books and eBooks, paperbacks and hardcovers, old friends from long ago and new, edgy tomes. I'll be anyone, go anywhere and think any thought as long as I have a book in my hand.



NANCY WEISS

Retirement savings & budget alert: 2022 changes to IRAs, Social Security and Medicare



Whether you're still saving for retirement or you're already retired, there are some key financial changes you'll want to know about and adjust for in 2022. Here's a rundown of the good, the bad and the bottom line actions you'll want to take to make sure you can still meet your goals and stay on-budget.

THE GOOD:

Retirement contribution limits and Social Security payments are increasing in 2022.

If you're not yet retired, then preparing for retirement just got a little more financial wiggle room. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has set some new contribution limits for 2022. For workplace retirement accounts such as a 401(k) or 403(b) the contribution limit rises \$1,000 to \$20,500. (Catch-up contributions remain at \$6,500.) The limit for SIMPLE IRAs has been increased by \$500, to \$14,000.

If you have a traditional Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA), you're not so lucky; the limit remains at \$6,000 (and the catch-up contribution remaining \$1,000 as well). However, eligibility for Roth IRA contributions has increased, to between \$129,000 and \$144,000 for single filers and heads of households, and \$204,000 to \$214,000 for married couples filing jointly.

If you're already retired and are a recipient of Social Security, you'll receive a 5.9 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for 2022, the largest increase in four decades. This adjustment will begin with benefits payable in January 2022. You should have been notified about your new benefit amount by mail, but if you've set up your SSA online account, you can also view your COLA notice there.

THE BAD:

Inflation and Medicare costs are also rising in 2022.

With inflation currently running at more than 5 percent (about 2 percent higher than average), it's possible that rising consumer prices may dilute the impact of the increased Social Security payments. As the cost of goods rises, the value and buying power of many retirement accounts diminish. And for some retirees, maintaining their savings and lifestyle becomes a challenge. It's important to know if it will present a challenge to you as soon as possible so you can make adjustments.

If the inflation rate is at 5 percent, one might assume that a retiree would need to withdraw an additional five percent from their savings each year in order to adjust for inflation. But inflation affects each of us differently, depending on lifestyle factors and purchasing needs.

One of the better ways to measure this difference is through the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E), which shows inflation rates for households with individuals age 62 and above. However, this is still a generalization. The best way to determine the impact of inflation on your own household is to examine your personal lifestyle and make adjustments for the specific rising

costs that will affect you.

The other rising cost to plan for is Medicare premiums, deductibles and copays, which will all be higher in 2022.

Most Medicare beneficiaries don't pay a premium for Medicare Part A, but those who do will see an increase of between \$15 and \$28 per month. Part A coinsurance is also rising and the inpatient deductible is increasing by \$72.

The Medicare Part B premium is rising by \$21.60 per month, to \$170.10. Those with a modified adjusted gross income above \$91,000 for single filers or \$182,000 for joint filers will pay an additional \$68 to \$408.20 on top of the standard premium. The Part B deductible is also increasing by \$30, to \$233.

Medicare Part D premiums will see only a small increase in 2022 of about \$1.53, for a total cost of \$33 per month. As with Part B, those with the higher modified adjusted gross income limits noted above will pay more – between an additional \$12.40 to \$77.90 per month.

THE BOTTOM LINE:

Make any necessary adjustments now – to your retirement savings rate if you're still saving, or to your budget if you're already retired.

If you're still saving for retirement and have a 401(k), 403(b), SIMPLE IRA, or Roth IRA, you should consider increasing your contributions to take advantage of the new, higher limits. Doing so as soon as possible will allow you to maximize your savings and returns down the road.

If you're already retired, you should update your budget to take into account the increased social security payment, but also the increased costs of inflation and Medicare. Depending on your particular situation, you may come

out ahead, flat or at a deficit. Knowing where you net out and making any necessary adjustments to your lifestyle or retirement fund withdrawals will help to avoid any unpleasant or potentially disastrous surprises later.

Regardless of your situation, it's always a good idea to seek guidance from a financial professional about changes to any of your sources of retirement income. Any changes should be made within the context of a larger strategy that takes into account both your short-term needs and long-term goals.

Our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well strategic process can help you to do just that, and we're proactive in guiding our clients through changes in policy and financial forces to ensure they're always set up for the best possible outcome. Learn more at our website, www.whzwealth.com, and contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com to get started.

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Grow herbs indoors for year-round enjoyment

Add garden fresh flavor to your meals year-round. Grow a few of your favorite herbs indoors, harvest and enjoy.

Select a variety of herbs you and your family enjoy and use for cooking, decoration, or fragrance. Basil, chives, cilantro, oregano, marjoram, mint, parsley, sage and thyme are some of the easier herbs to grow indoors. Purchase plants or seeds from your local garden center, favorite garden catalog or produce section of the grocery store.

Most herbs need six to eight hours of bright light each day. A south-facing window in winter is best but an east- or west-facing window may be sufficient. Increase success with artificial lights. Set the timer for 14 to 16 hours a day and keep lights six to 12 inches above the plants.

You will find lots of energy efficient and stylish options for just about any space. Sleeker designs like Gardener's Supply Micro Grow Light Garden can be placed on the kitchen counter or a small table. Furniture grade options like Bamboo LED Grow Light Garden (gardeners.com) make it easy to grow herbs in just about any room in the house.

Use a variety of plants to create an attractive display in a large windowsill planter. Combine plants that have the same growing requirements to ensure success.

Or place each herb plant in its own container. A four- to seven-inch pot is a good size when starting with smaller



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

plants. Growing individual plants in their own container allows you to provide the specific watering, care and transplanting they need.

Select containers with drainage holes or reduce maintenance and increase success

with self-watering containers like Viva self-watering planters. Just fill the water reservoir that gradually releases water into the soil for the plants to use. You will need to water less often.

Fill the container with a well-drained quality potting mix. Many contain a slow-release fertilizer, providing weeks or even several months of nutrients for your plants. Just check the label for details and adjust fertilization as needed.

Water the containers thoroughly whenever the top inch of soil is dry. Pour off excess water so the plant does not sit in the excess and succumb to root rot. Or place pebbles in the tray to elevate the pot above any water that collects in the saucer or tray. This means less work for you and better growing conditions for the plant.

Incorporate a slow-release fertilizer or use a dilute solution of any indoor houseplant fertilizer once the nutrients in the potting mix are spent. Follow label directions and do not overdo as too much fertilizer can harm your plants.

Begin harvesting most herbs when they reach six to eight inches in height and as needed. Use a sharp pair of garden scissors, snips, or hand pruners. Make cuts above a set of healthy leaves so the remaining plant is neater



Photo Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company

Artificial lights ensure herbs receive enough bright light to successfully grow indoors.

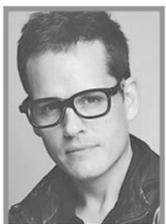
and tidier in appearance. As the plant grows, you will be able to harvest larger quantities and more often.

Start with a few of your favorite herbs and expand your collection as you gain experience. Soon you will be confident and eager to try more challenging favorites.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, includ-

ing Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Gardener's Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

The Gateway Process Part 1



POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY MOORE

How powerful is human consciousness? Can we influence matter and reality with our thoughts?

A couple of years ago, I read a document from the US Army and released by the CIA. It's a very complex document steeped in scientific language.

It delves deep into the powers of the human mind in a way that most books about positive thinking never do.

In 2003, this document was declassified by the CIA. It's named Analysis and Assessment of Gateway Process. The paper attempts to break down the nature of the reality that we live in. The PDF can be found at CIA.gov by googling, "The Gateway Process PDF."

It was written in 1983 by Lt. Col. Wayne M. McDonnell, whom we will refer to as Wayne. He was tasked with reporting back to the Commander of the US Army Operational Group at Fort Meade, Maryland, with all of his experiences learning the techniques of The Gateway Process.

During this period in time, the Military was interested in all sorts of psychic research in an attempt to keep pace and outdo the arch-enemy of the day, The Soviet Union.

A little history on The Gateway Process reveals that in the 1950s, a radio executive named Robert Monroe began to produce evidence that specific sound patterns affect the mind, including alertness, sleepiness, and expanded states of consciousness.

Robert Monroe formed a division inside his company to further study this phenomenon. The research continued for many years until, in 1962, he renamed his company to The Monroe Institute. The Gateway Process is a technique developed by The Monroe Institute,

which recorded a series of audiotapes on practicing this technique.

According to this document, "The Gateway Experience is a training system designed to bring enhanced strength, focus, and coherence to ... brainwave output between the right and left hemispheres, moving it outside the physical sphere... to ultimately escape even the restrictions of time and space."

Wayne partnered with several different people to produce the report, including Itzhak Bentov, an American-Israeli scientist who helped pioneer the biomedical engineering industry.

From the outset, Wayne felt it was important to tell his Commander that it is his opinion that after having completed the analysis to point out that his conclusions "do not do violence to the fundamental eastern or western belief systems."

The document describes, in detail, matter and energy. Most of us think that everything around us is composed of ener-

gy and matter and that energy and matter are two different things. We think of matter as a physical substance like a rock or a piece of wood, and energy as some force, like electricity or fire.

Wayne writes, "matter and energy tend to be misleading if taken to indicate two distinctly different states of existence in the physical world... solid matter ... simply does not exist. Rather, atomic structure is composed of oscillating energy grids surrounded by other oscillating energy grids..."

Again, it says, "Solid matter... simply does not exist." Starting to sound a little like the hit film The Matrix?

The scientific genius Nikola Tesla said, "If you wish to understand the universe, think of energy, frequency, and vibration."

Matter is just energy vibrating at incredibly high speeds. What we call matter is just variances in states of energy. Our body, and everything around us, in the entire physical universe, is an incredibly complex system of energy

fields. Everything down to the smallest molecule is vibrational energy.

Albert Einstein said, "Everything in life is vibration."

Wayne goes on to describe that the entire universe is "one gigantic hologram of unbelievable complexity."

If that doesn't make your head spin, then read further. In extreme scientific language, Wayne describes that the only thing in the universe that isn't made of energy... is human consciousness.

He quotes psychologist Keith Floyd, "it may not be the brain that produces consciousness—but rather, consciousness that creates the appearance of the brain..."

If consciousness is the only thing in our universe that is not energy, what is consciousness? Can we use our consciousness to change our reality and manifest our dreams? Find out next week in Part 2 of The Gateway Process.

OBITUARIES

Doris C Bury, 89

Danielson - Doris (Durocher) Bury, 89, of Danielson, CT, passed away Friday, January 7, 2022, at Day Kimball Hospital. Born at home in Brooklyn-West Wauregan on April 3, 1932. She was the daughter of the late Patrick and late Rose (Millette) Durocher.

Doris is survived by three daughters, Cheryl and Michael Bryer of Dayville, CT, Bonnie Bury and David Randhan of Hartford, TN, Jo Ann Rogers and Peter Hogan of Raymond, ME; one sister, Gloria Berthiaume of Brooklyn; three grandchildren, Robert, Joshua, and Victoria; and several nieces, nephews, and many special cousins.

She was predeceased by her former husband, Joseph Bury, two brothers, Roger Durocher and Wilfred Durocher; one sister, Patricia Fishkin, and one granddaughter, Krystyna Giebultowski. Joshua States:

My Meme, Doris Bury, passed at age 89 this morning. She was a formidable woman.

Meme always said "If you didn't celebrate me in life, you don't get to cry when I'm dead." So, I choose to celebrate her in life and death.

Family, education, and service were core to her being. She grew up on a farm in rural CT. They lived a hard life, but one full of wonder and adventure. Stories of her youth could make me laugh and cry at the same time, in part because of the situation and in part for her being a skilled story teller. Lessons she taught me play a large part in who I am and what I do. Unfortunately, she and her siblings lost both their parents before she was 16. Nevertheless, her eldest brother and his new wife raised her, and their two younger sisters. She was among the first in her family to graduate high school, the same one I'd graduate from 60 years later. She raised my mom, who was much younger than her two older sisters, as a single mother after she divorced her husband (they were Catholic and this was in the 70s...). Later, she helped raise my sister and me like a second mother while my parents worked multiple jobs for us to have the best life possible. She was one of the first to teach me that family isn't in names or in blood but rather in the love that is

shared and fostered.

She donated immense quantities of time to her community. As her children grew up, she was a 4H leader and taught home economics. For most of her adult life, she organized Catholic and interfaith gatherings of women across New England to share in faith and charity, most famously for knitting scores of the most precious blankets, hats, and crocheted animals for newborns at our local hospital (and for dear friends, too). Recently, my mom told me how she administered communion to those on hospice and held space with the sickest in their final moments. She was among the richest in spirit I have been lucky to know.

Over the years, she took business administration classes at local community colleges and even one of the first computer programming courses offered at UConn, "just to stay sharp." She was a voracious reader, so as I grew up, books were a popular gift and always welcomed. When I was accepted to the University of Pennsylvania, the first in my family, she was just as proud and excited as my parents, if not more, even though she knew I'd be going away. She gladly spent her pension to help get me situated in Philadelphia but also on every Amtrak ride home she could, and would spend more money in shipping than in baking just to make sure my friends and I had her cookies in time for finals. Meme was also famous in my dorm for sending me funny newspaper articles from "The Quiet Corner" including variations of "cow roams road, blocks traffic." You just can't make this stuff up.

Everywhere I go, I carry her and a large part of home. Everyone says this, but call and write your loved ones more often. I wish I had. May she rest in peace and that I always carry her legacy.

Remembrance. Donations may be made in her memory to D. K. H. Hospice, PetPals of NE CT, or charity of your choice.

Services and burial will be private. Celebration of life to be scheduled this Spring.

For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Phillis D. Jaeger, 77

Phillis D. Jaeger, 77, of Quinebaug, CT, died January 8, 2022 at ST Mary Hospital in Waterbury, CT. She was born September 7, 1944 in Hartford, CT, daughter of the late Phillip and Vera (Matthews) Jaeger.

Phillis worked for Putnam Bank for twenty five years, she retired in 2013 as an Administrative Vice

President, a position she held for several years. She volunteered for twenty years with the Community Kitchens of NECT, Inc. She was a member of the Calvary Community Church in Dudley, MA. Phillis was predeceased by her son Christopher J. Darnowski in 2015.

She leaves her companion Rachel Blomberg of Quinebaug, CT, son Michael Darnowski, III and his fiancée Maryann of Webster, MA, her grandson Michael Darnowski, IV, of Dayville, CT.

Donations may be made in her memory to the Calvary Community Church, 105 Southbridge Street, Dudley, MA 01571 or Community Kitchens of NECT, Inc, PO Box 502, Danielson, CT 06239

A Graveside Service will be held in West Thompson Cemetery, in the spring.

Arrangements by the Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam. Share a memory with her family at www.smithandwalkerfh.com



Pomfret Democrats elect new members

POMFRET — Pomfret's Democratic Town Committee elected members at the January Caucus.

Candidates elected to the DTC are: Sandy Andersen, John Boland, Patrick Boyd, Sue Devokaitis, John A. Dilorio, Dayna Flath, John Folsom, Timothy Gillane, Leigh Grossman, Tamara Harris, Ayla Heald, Marlene Heald, Margie Huoppi, Daniel Kellaway, Patrick McCarthy, Tim McNally, Maureen Nicholson, Norine Reingold, Barry Reingold, Kristin Sapp, Leah Schad, Nicholas Stellitano, Joe Stoddard, Debra Thompson, Ted Tsanjoures, Julie Watt, Raymond Wishart, Jr. Officers are Ray Wishart Chair; Tamara

Harris, Vice Chair; Margie Huoppi, Treasurer; Debi Thompson, Deputy Treasurer; and Patrick McCarthy, Secretary.

The Town Committee meets monthly at the Pomfret Community Center (or on Zoom) on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. All registered Democrats are invited, encouraged and welcome to attend. Join us! Our next meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. at the Pomfret Community Center (207 Mashamoquet Rd.).

In addition to recommending a slate of candidates for local offices, we select delegates to state nominating conventions, choose a representative to the Democratic State Central Committee, and conduct election activ-

ities and fundraising in support of local, state, and national Democratic candidates. Pomfret Democrats are available to talk about the boards, commissions, issues, and concerns in town. For more information, contact Ray Wishart at 860-928-4999 or Maureen Nicholson at 860-214-9755 or drop in at a meeting.

We are always looking for new members who share our concern for quality education, clean environment, the health and safety of our residents, preserving open space, a thriving economy, fair and equitable taxation, and a desire to preserve Pomfret's quality of life.

For more information, go to <https://www.facebook.com/PomfretDTC>.

SNHU announces Fall 2021 President's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2021 Presidents List.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in the fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 & EW2, EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6.

Terren Allen of Dayville
Hannah Reid of Brooklyn
Everlyn Moore of Danielson
Michelle Smith of Brooklyn
Tiana Terre of Danielson
Christine Moran of Danielson
Brittany Ostiguy of Woodstock Valley
Hayley Schnatter of Danielson
Rebecca Okeefe of Putnam
Mary Jane Maszta-Verrette of Putnam

Gina Montemagni of Putnam
Matthew McCarthy of North Grosvenordale

Amanda Bogoslofski of Thompson
Courtney Rice of Thompson
Spencer Kalafus of Pomfret Center
Pasco DelFarno of Pomfret
Lillian Mandeville of Woodstock
Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 160,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

Dialogue and a movie?

POMFRET — The Pomfret Green Team will be hosting its Winter 2022 series of thought-provoking movies starting later this month. This year, all movies will be shown via a Zoom meeting starting at 7 p.m., and a short dialogue will follow. To register for the Zoom meeting, visit the Green Team Web site at <https://www.pomfretct.gov/green-team/pages/winter-film-series> and click on the Zoom Meeting registration link. Co-sponsors include the Pomfret Library and the Connecticut Audubon Center at Pomfret.

Jan. 24 - "Extinction: The Facts" With a million species at risk of extinction, Sir David Attenborough explores how this crisis of biodiversity has consequences for us all, threatening food and water security, undermining our ability to control our climate and even putting us at greater risk of pan-

demic diseases.

Feb. 28 - "The Nature Makers" In a world increasingly dominated by humans, three teams of wildlife conservationists go to extraordinary and seemingly unnatural lengths to try to save threatened species and habitat in the American heartland.

March 28 - "2040" 2040 is a hybrid feature documentary that looks to the future, but is vitally important NOW! Award-winning director Damon Gameau ("That Sugar Film") embarks on journey to explore what the future could look like by the year 2040 if we simply embraced the best solutions already available to us to improve our planet and shifted them rapidly into the mainstream.

Join us and members of our community for the entertainment, for the discussion and inspiration to take action!

DUFRESNE

continued from page A6

It was an act of terrorism yielding the violent symbols of white supremacy — the hangman's noose, the confederate flag. Justice may have prevailed when President Biden was sworn in, but she has been severely wounded, because of Trump's seditious patterns of speech, lies, propaganda and actions. In the spirit of a true megalomaniac, Trump has demagnetized the needle in our moral compass and pointed the arrow toward himself. Unfortunately, he remains the pied piper of disenfranchised whites, nationalists, and wannabe patriots leading us all down the path to ruin.

The phrase "Give me liberty or give

me death" has taken on new meaning for those who refused to get vaccinated or wear a mask and found themselves in the ICU. But it has also distorted the meaning of our civil liberties. Without a covenant, and a moral compass our "liberties" have become an anachronistic exercise in hypocrisy. The right to bear arms was not intended as a green light for a child to access a gun and shoot up a school or murder protestors of police violence. The right to petition the government was not intended as a free pass for sedition, violence, and destruction. The right to the pursuit of happiness was not intended to give free range for the destruction of the planet for the sake of personal greed. The right to vote in the 21st century was not intended to revert to the time when vigilantes had free reign over the gov-

ernment to block African Americans from the ballot box.

Although he tipped the scales away from long-standing democratic principles, Trump is not the only one who has led the nation away from reason and toward treason. Unfortunately, we lost several generations of active citizens when public education bought into the corporate, data-driven model of high-stakes testing. History, civics, science, and critical thinking were taken out of the elementary education curriculum. We've created our own undoing reverting back to a classist education where only the students in elite private schools or those tracked for college, learn about American history and the function of government. Generations have had their inalienable right to a good public education ripped off by a conservative

movement driven by racism and the "moral majority," whose intent was to dismantle public schools and implement school choice. Because of civic illiteracy, Americans can't tell the difference between communism and fascism, and they surely don't understand a democratic republic. More important, they have forgotten the role of citizenship in the collective WE. Participatory democracy has been reduced to errant children stomping their feet, refusing to follow science and protocols during a pandemic. It has also led them into the waiting arms of treason and sedition, the folly of our ignorance.

DONNA DUFRESNE
POMFRET CENTER

Gilman & Valade 100th Anniversary
Funeral Homes and Crematory

"Living Up to a Tradition Started 100 Years Ago"
~ Bob Fournier

1919 Alexander & Senora Gilman Eva & Leonard Gilman Lawrence & Arlene Belterose Robert & Adrienne Fournier 2019

"A century of dedication, compassion and guidance."

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104 Church Street, Putnam, CT 06260 • 860-928-7723 • GilmanAndValade.com

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Say it in living color!

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So, why is your ad?

Putnam's Helping Hands Transition Program ventures into dog treat business

In 2021, students in Putnam's Helping Hands Transition program began their business venture by offering their hand-made dog treats to Putnam school staff. Customer feedback indicated that the treats were an immediate hit! With a viable product that was ready for market, these students presented their business plan proposal to Putnam Schools Superintendent Daniel Sullivan and Director of Student Services Becky Lopes. The well prepared and detailed presentation included their Barkin'

Biscuits business name, estimated revenues and expenditures, and outlined their business goals. Additionally, a sample of the delicious treats were offered. With their success, students have reinvested their hard-earned revenues to practice their social and leisure skills out in the community. Be on the lookout for Barkin' Biscuits Treats to support Putnam's Helping Hands program and to give your pets the treats they deserve!

Photos Courtesy



SNOWMAN CHALLENGE



Photo Courtesy

When challenged by his stepdaughter, Niki Curry of Concord, Mass., to build a "bigger snowman," Mickey Morgan, 73, of Woodstock met the challenge and created his 11-foot Snow Grinch.

Eli Werstler named to College of the Holy Cross' Dean's List

Eli Werstler named to College of the Holy Cross' Dean's List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Eli Werstler of Woodstock, was named to the College of the Holy Cross Fall 2021 Dean's List. A member of the Class of 2025, Werstler is majoring in Undeclared.

Werstler was among more than 1,375 students named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2021-22 academic year.

To qualify, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and

earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

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

Nichols College students named to Fall 2021 Honors List

DUDLEY, Mass. — Many hard-working students at Nichols College in Dudley, Mass., have achieved Dean's List or President's List honors during the fall 2021 semester.

The Dean's List and President's List give recognition to those students who achieve high grades during a single semester. In order to be included on the Dean's List, a student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.5 for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and must have received no grades below B- during the semester. Students whose semester grade point average is 3.85 or higher for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours and no grades below B- will receive President's List honors.

The following students have received academic honors.

Keeley Cerbo of Dayville received President's List honors.
Ethan Gosper of Danielson received Dean's List honors.
Brianna Hogan of Danielson received President's List honors.
Lauren Hyatt of Dayville received President's List honors.
Dylan McMerriman of Brooklyn received President's List honors.
Taylor Charron of Brooklyn received President's List honors.
Ian Daviau of Putnam achieved Dean's List status.

Kendra Annis of North Grosvenordale received Dean's List honors.

Olivia Antonson of North Grosvenordale received President's List honors.

Kayla Beckler of Thompson received President's List honors.

Nicholas Kolodziejczak of North Grosvenordale received President's List honors.

Prince Patel of North Grosvenordale received Dean's List honors.

Nick Skaradowski of Thompson received Dean's List honors.

Skyla Wesolowski of North Grosvenordale received Dean's List honors.

Anthony Ferraro of Thompson received President's List honors.

Lucas Couture of Woodstock received Dean's List honors.

Nicholas Elliott of Woodstock received Dean's List honors.

Caleb Budd of Eastford received Dean's List honors.

Dominick Kollbeck of Woodstock received Dean's List honors.

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KAULMAN LENGYEL GRADUATES FROM THE CONNECTICUT FIRE ACADEMY RECRUIT FIREFIGHTER PROGRAM



Photo Courtesy

Kaulman Lengyel, son of Kevin and Michelle Lengyel from Pomfret Center, graduated from the Connecticut Fire Academy Recruit Firefighter program on Dec. 10. Kaulman is a 2014 graduate from Woodstock Academy. In 2012, at the age of 16, he started his career in public service by volunteering with the Pomfret Fire Department

as a junior volunteer and worked his way up to Firefighter 1 and EMT. In 2014, he was awarded Firefighter of the Year by the Pomfret Fire Department. Kaulman graduated from Manchester Community College in 2016 with an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice. From there he worked with Ambulance Services of Manchester as an EMT. In January of 2021, Kaulman graduated from Capital Community College as a

licensed paramedic. In August of 2021, he started 15 weeks of training at the Connecticut Fire Academy where he earned many certifications such as Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2 and Hazmat. The rigorous Recruit Firefighter program is a 70 day, 14 week, resident course that focuses on developing the knowledge, skills and abilities needed for the newly hired career firefighter. The training consists of theory and practical skills

development as well as physical fitness training. The recruits are expected to satisfactorily perform both academically and physically to established standards while strictly adhering to and maintaining decorum of conduct, discipline and mutual respect. Kaulman is currently employed with the Town of Manchester and the Manchester Fire Department as a Firefighter/Paramedic.

HOCKEY

continued from page A1

of him. We're asking a lot of a freshman goalie to take on that challenge."

Facing a first-period deficit is not new for the 2-3 Centaurs.

"The very frustrating thing for me is that we put as a point of emphasis before the game not getting scored on in the first period, especially on the very first shift," said Bisson, whose team entered the game having allowed goals on the first shift of the game in three of its first four games. "And then it happened again today, making it four out of five games this season that we've been scored on within the first three minutes."

Woodstock cut Auburn's lead to 3-1 at the 9:32 mark of the second period, senior Christ Thibault scoring past Nate Brown, the Rockets' senior goalie, off of assists from junior Max Larkin and senior Kyle Brennan. Thibault's goal was the only scoring in the second period.

"The positive takeaway from this game for us was the second period," Bisson said. "From start to finish we had the strongest period we've had all season. Every single guy was all-out intense from start to finish. But, when you've put yourself in a 3-0 hole, it's pretty hard to dig out of it, especially against a strong team like Auburn."

The Rockets improved to 7-2 overall with the win.

Auburn regained its three-goal lead 35 seconds into the third period, Valone scoring a power-play goal off assists from DiPadua and senior captain Shawn Bradway, to give the Rockets a 4-1 lead.

Woodstock again cut its deficit to two goals, 4-2, on a goal by freshman Maxx Corradi, who scored after assists from

sophomores Ryan Wallace and Noah Sampson.

"Corradi and Sampson are actually in the same birth year, so they've all played together pretty much their whole lives before coming to high school," Bisson said. "Corradi and Sampson have been line-mates, not just teammates, since they were mites. They have a chemistry that's existed for many, many years. Sophomore Don Sousa has played with them off and on over the years; they all have a wonderful team mentality."

"They use each other, they make each other better," Bisson said. "They know where each other are going to be on the ice. At the end of the day trust is the big word for them. They trust each other; they know that each one is going to work their butt off for the other two. It didn't matter who scored. They were all going to be happy for each other and cheer for each other and support each other."

Stattenfield closed out the scoring with an empty-net goal with 42 seconds to play to account for the 5-2 final.



Jared Nielsen of Woodstock Academy pushes the puck down the ice in front of Auburn's bench.



Woodstock Academy's Eva Monahan leaps into the air during the tip-off with Amistad Academy.



Madison Brown of Woodstock Academy scans the court for an open teammate to pass the ball to.

LEGALS

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, January 24, 2022 at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT on the following application.

PZC Application 21-47, Applicant Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission – Amendment to Article 5A, Section 5, Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Array Systems, B. Table of Permitted Uses, amend to add 7., Lake District, Residential – Roof Mounted, Zoning Permit*, (*Residential roof mounted, Zoning Permit) Residential Ground Mounted, Site Plan, Medium and Large-Scale Special Permit.

File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman
January 14, 2022
January 21, 2022

TOWN OF THOMPSON

On December 6, 2021 the following wetlands agent approvals were issued: Application # WAA21032 approved with conditions, Cheryl Popiak, 1267

Thompson Rd. (Assessor's Map 116, Block 24, Lot 16A) - Replacement and 25% expansion of a 37' X 14' storage building in the 100-foot upland review area; Application # WAA21033 approved with conditions, Thomas Shippee, 9 Logee Rd. (Assessor's Map 141, Block 17, Lot 184BB) - Construction of a concrete support for a ground mounted solar photovoltaic system located in the 100-foot upland review area for Quaddick Reservoir; Application # WAA21034 approved with conditions, Thomas Shippee, 450 Quaddick Rd. (Assessor's Map 146, Block 16, Lot 10A) - Construction of a concrete support for a ground mounted solar photovoltaic system located in the 100-foot upland review area for Quaddick Reservoir
Marla Butts, Wetlands Agent
January 21, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On January 11, 2022, Woodstock Inland Wetlands Agent granted wetlands approval for 01-22-01- Robert Mott-19 Kathleen Drive- realignment of driveway; 01-22-02- Erin Yasgar-33 Hiawatha heights- asphalt milling driveway for additional parking; 01-22-03- Timber Harvest Notification- Chris Mokrzecki (Chris's Loggin LLC)- multiple properties on New Sweden Rd. Mark Parker, Chairman.
January 21, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

LEGAL NOTICE

A certified list of 20 Democrat Party Endorsed Candidates for the Town of Woodstock for election as members of the Town Committee At-Large is on file in my office at 415 Route 169, Woodstock, CT and copies are available for public distribution. The number of Town Committee Members to be elected, under party rules, is 25. A primary will be held March 1, 2022 if 7 candidacies (which is at least 25% of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party is the municipality) are filed in accordance with CGS 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes, by persons other than party-endorsed candidates, not later than 4:00pm of January 26, 2022, provided the number of such candidacies plus the number of endorsed candidates, exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than 25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies, may be obtained from Kaitlyn Gugliotti, Democrat Registrar of Voters, 415 Route 169, Woodstock Town Hall, 928-6596 ext. 339.
Attest: Judy E. Walberg, Town Clerk of Woodstock
January 21, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK LEGAL NOTICE

A certified list of 25 Republican Party Endorsed Candidates for the Town of Woodstock for election as members of the Town Committee At-Large is on file in my office at 415 Route 169, Woodstock, CT and copies are available for public distribution. The number of Town Committee Members to be elected, under party rules, is 25. A primary will be held March 1, 2022 if 7 candidacies (which is at least 25% of the number of town committee members to be elected by such party is the municipality) are filed in accordance with CGS 9-382 to 9-450, inclusive, of the General Statutes, by persons other than party-endorsed candidates, not later than 4:00pm of January 26, 2022, provided the number of such candidacies plus the number of endorsed candidates, exceeds the number of town committee members to be elected. (If the number of opposing candidacies filed is reduced to less than 25%, no primary will be held.) Petition forms, instructions and information concerning the procedure for filing opposing candidacies, may be obtained from Jessica McComisky, Republican Registrar of Voters, 415 Route 169, Woodstock Town Hall, 928-6596 ext. 339.
Attest: Judy E. Walberg, Town Clerk of Woodstock
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HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Baribeau, 'a beast,' puts up huge numbers for winning Killingly boys' basketball team

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY – Yianni Baribeau scored 23 points and grabbed 17 rebounds, both game highs, to help lead the Killingly High boys' basketball team past Windham High, 58-49, on Friday, Jan. 14.

Baribeau, a 6-foot-3 junior, is averaging 22 points, 20 rebounds and 6 blocks per game for 6-2 Killingly.

"Yianni's a beast. He gives us a big night every night," Killingly coach Jim Crabtree said. "Even tonight when the whistle wasn't in his favor, he picked up two quick fouls early. After that happened, as a team, we settled down and did what we had to do. But, when it was time to go back to our bread and butter, Yianni was there."

For Killingly, which led at all the stops — 14-10 after the first quarter, 24-23 at halftime, and 37-30 after three periods — senior Jay Grzysiewicz contributed 9 points and 9 assists to the win, junior Thomas Dreiholz chipped in 9 points, and freshman Johnny Kazantzis added 8.

The win over the Whippets was the final game in a 2-1 week for Killingly. On Wednesday, Jan. 12 the team defeated visiting Griswold, 45-36, Baribeau leading the way with a 20-point, 23-rebound effort. Killingly began the week with a 91-59 road loss to undefeated Norwich Free Academy (NFA), on Monday Jan. 10.

Crabtree is pleased with the way the regular season, which is nearing the halfway point, is progressing.

"I feel like the season is going phenomenal," Crabtree said enthusiastically. "We lost to NFA, 91-59, and I thought we played pretty well. That team is

superior; they've got college players. Our other loss came in our first game of the season, at Ledyard. We played pretty well in that game, too, but we weren't ready. We got a late start because some of our players were on the football team, which won the state title.

"We lost to Ledyard by six points (45-39) and it was a little bit of an eye-opener for us," Crabtree added. "We believe we're going to do good things this season and I think that first game loss wasn't a bad thing. It got our attention."

Crabtree very much likes the makeup of his team.

"I like everything about this team. We've got defensive players, we've got scorers, we got a good point guard; we got guys who come off the bench with energy; and we've got bigs besides Yianni," Crabtree said. "Tommy Dreiholz is having a great season for us so far, and I think we'll be really happy when Justin Baker gets his confidence back. Justin gives us what he can give us. He's a big body though, and we love to have those big bodies."

Elsewhere:
A trio of juniors — Kellen Smith, Caleb Evans and Devin Cornell — combined to score 39 points for Ellis Tech in the Golden Eagles' 57-52 home win over Grasso Tech on Tuesday, Jan. 11.

Smith scored a team-high 16 points while Evans added 12 points and Cornell 11, which included a 7-for-8 effort from the free throw line. Ellis Tech (2-5) led 12-9 after the first quarter, 31-29 at halftime, and 45-36 after three periods.

Girls' Basketball

Ellis Tech improved to 6-2 with a pair of wins last week. The Golden Eagles defeated visiting Norwich Tech, 29-13,

on Friday, Jan. 14, after beating Grasso Tech, 37-25, on the road on Tuesday, Jan. 11.

Kylie Damble led the way in both victories. The sophomore scored 9 points, pulled down 12 rebounds and blocked 5 shots in the win over Norwich Tech. In the game against Grasso Tech, she turned in a 15-point, 12-rebound, 5-block performance. Senior Jordan Daoust had 6 points and 10 rebounds against Norwich and 6 points, 10 rebounds and 5 blocks against Grasso.

Elsewhere:
Killingly High School improved to 5-6 with a pair of wins, 41-31 at home against Griswold on Thursday, Jan. 13, and 62-21 on the road against Capital Preparatory High of Hartford on Monday, Jan. 10.

In the win over Griswold, senior Emma Carpenter, junior Ella Lach and sophomore Hannah Grudzien all led the team in scoring with 6 points each. Sophomore Sydney Crabtree added 5 points, 6 rebounds and 5 steals to the win, while her twin sister Molly Crabtree and fellow sophomore Grave Summer added 7 rebounds each to the victory.

Indoor Track & Field

The Woodstock Academy boys' and girls' indoor track teams participated in the Bethel Invitational on Friday, Jan. 14, the Centaurs performing on Bethel High's new multi-million dollar indoor track facility.

On the boys' side, junior Vince Bastura placed first in the 3200-meter run (10 minutes, 54 seconds) and second in the mile (4:48.40) while senior Keenan LaMontagne was first in the shot put (47-feet, 1.25 inches).

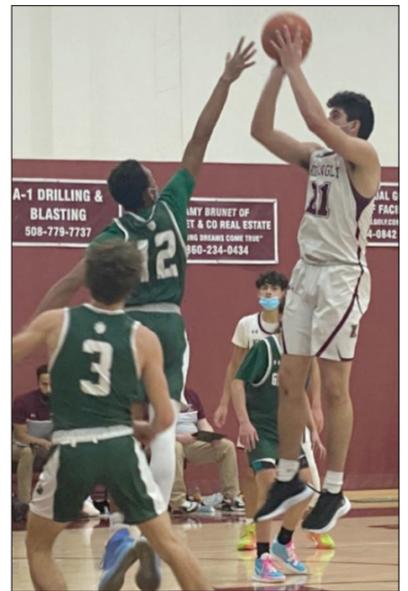


Photo Courtesy

Junior Yianni Baribeau is averaging 22 points, 20 rebounds, and 6 blocks a game for the 6-2 Killingly High boys' basketball team.

On the girls' side, senior Linsey Arends finished first in the mile (5:44.97) while junior Bella Sorrentino won the shot put competition (31-feet, 9.25 inches). Senior Magdalena Myslenski was second in the pole vault, qualifying for state competition in the event, while junior Julia Coyle was second in the 3200 and third in the mile.

BASKETBALL

continued from page A1

Fleeton said the digging deep and toughing it out was a team-wide accomplishment.

"We had some foul trouble and the kids, limited by being in foul trouble, played their roles well, doing the best they could not to commit another foul," Fleeton said. "I got good play off the bench from Kerry Blais during that stretch, but I truly believe everyone had a part in helping us win that game."

Three nights later, however, Woodstock hosted Eastern Connecticut Conference

(ECC) Division II rival Bacon Academy and came out on the wrong end of a 67-28 score. Monahan led the Centaurs, scoring eight points. It was a case of a young, inexperienced team facing off against a veteran, established team.

"I believe that was exactly the case; a super-experienced group versus a much less experienced group," Fleeton said. "Bacon Academy is a quality team."

Through nine games Woodstock Academy is 3-6 overall and 0-3 in divisional play. With the win over the Centaurs, Bacon Academy improved to 8-1 overall and 4-0 in the division.

The Centaurs are indeed a young

team, with no seniors, four juniors (MacKinnon, the team captain, Cloutier, Avery Collin, and Lennon Favreau), five sophomores (Blais, Reynolds, Madison Brown, Kayla Leite, and Leah Danis), and two freshmen (Monahan and Sarkis).

"Leila and Alex have some previous playing experience from last year, but not very much," Fleeton said. "The whole group is new. It's truly a brand new group in the area of experience."

Fleeton's regular starting five consists of MacKinnon, Cloutier, Reynolds, Monahan and Sarkis.

"I mix it up a little bit based on the players I have available on any given game day," Fleeton said. "I don't think we've been fully together this season for more than a week so far. We're still at the stage where we're searching for the right rotations and who is going to play the bulk of the minutes. We're still trying to figure that out. We've had some injuries early and a lot of stuff has happened to make it tough for us to have any consistency regarding who plays when."

Fleeton said the goal is to win games to be sure, but player and team development is the bigger picture for the Centaurs this season.

"That's basically been the message of the season so far. They're working hard, they're learning the game every day, and learning how to be a high school athlete at the same time," Fleeton said. "Obviously we want to compete to win, that's the prize of the whole deal, but at the same time the bigger picture is growth, and I think we're doing that. All the players will return, so the future looks solid. This group should stay together. So, we're trying to find our way, while at the same time trying to compete."

Fleeton said that despite the sub-.500 record, all his players are still fully invested in his message.

"I think we're picking up something new and learning it every day, now it's just a matter of applying it," Fleeton said. "I have a bunch of high character, smart kids. They're tied in and they now seem to be starting to mesh together. I don't see any of those negatives that you could see in tough situations. I don't really see anything close to that with this group. I think that's a bonus. If we stay that way, we can keep going and continue to improve."



Kerry Blais of Woodstock Academy attempts to go in for a layup while being defended by an Amistad Academy player.



Woodstock Academy's Eva Monahan leaps into the air during the tip-off with Amistad Academy.

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Moderna	18+	2 (28 days apart)	Ages 18+ At least 5 months after a 2nd dose of Moderna
Johnson & Johnson	18+	1	Ages 18+ At least 2 months after a J & J vaccine

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

