

THOMPSON VILLAGER

Friday, March 13, 2020

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Joy Road in Woodstock gets scenic nod

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Planning and Zoning Commission voted 9-1 on March 5 to approve as a town scenic road the portion of Joy Road from Route 169 to Dividend Road.

“The commission held a public hearing in February and in March, which was well attended by members of the public, including people who are lot owners on Joy Road”, said Jeffrey Gordon, Planning and Zoning Chair. “After a lot of input was received, the commission found that the owners of a majority of lot frontage on Joy Road supported designating the portion of Joy Road from Route 169 to Dividend Road, but not the remaining portion that goes to County Road. The application otherwise met the criteria detailed in the ordinance for designation.”

The Planning and Zoning Commission had received an application from a resident of the road, supported by others who live on the road. Town residents adopted Woodstock’s “Ordinance Concerning The Designation of Scenic Roads” in 1986.

Gordon said this would be the 15th town-designated scenic road in Woodstock. A scenic road designation applies only to the road itself and to the right of way along the road. Any activity outside of the right of way on private land is not covered by a scenic road designation.

“The commission spent much time in 2010-2011 working with the Town Highway Foreman to create a working document that spells out the types of road maintenance that can be done on scenic roads with commission approval and what is considered a road improvement per the ordinance that requires the commission to hold a public hearing for approval,” Gordon said.

Any activity within the road right of way, such as by the town or a private land owner, except for necessary public safety or emergency work by the town, must go to a public hearing for commission review and decision. The Joy Road scenic road designation is effective March 28.



Dauphinais reads with KMS fourth graders

KILLINGLY — In honor of Dr. Seuss’ birthday, State Representative Anne Dauphinais (R-44th District, Killingly) joined in the nationwide celebration by reading to students at Killingly Memorial School on March 2. During the event Dauphinais read “Bad Boys” by Margie Palatini to fourth grade students from Killingly Memorial School.

“Reading is an important skill that will be used in every facet of your life and encouraging a desire to read in children will benefit

them tremendously as they continue their education and transition into adulthood,” Dauphinais said.

Established in 1998 by the National Education Association (NEA), Read Across America’s aim is to raise literary awareness by motivating children and teens to read. The annual event now in its 23rd year has become the largest reading event in the country. For more about this event, visit <https://www.readacrossamerica.org/>.

LYONS NETS 1,000TH POINT

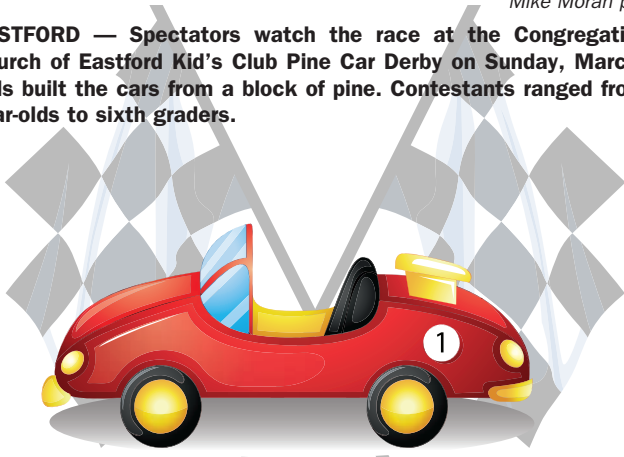


Charlie Lentz photo
PUTNAM — Putnam High’s Kayleigh Lyons goes up for a shot against Portland in the Class S state tournament on Friday, March 6. Lyons scored her 1,000th career point in Putnam’s win. High school sports coverage begins on page B-1 of The Villager sports section.

PINE CAR DERBY



Mike Moran photo
EASTFORD — Spectators watch the race at the Congregational Church of Eastford Kid’s Club Pine Car Derby on Sunday, March 8. Kids built the cars from a block of pine. Contestants ranged from 5 year-olds to sixth graders.



Putnam Elks serve up Lenten dinner

BY KAREN BUTERA
FOR THE VILLAGER

PUTNAM — The Putnam Lodge of Elks have started their Lenten annual tradition of their Friday Fish and Chips dinner. This year’s tradition started on Feb. 28 and will run for seven consecutive weeks- through the Friday before Easter. Catholics do not eat meat on Friday’s during Lent and the Putnam Elks help to make that a little easier for them.

“This is a French-Catholic Community. As far as I know, there is no other club in Putnam that does this,” ‘Uncle’ Dan Salvas, Elk Member for 44 years, Dinner is served at the Elks from 5 p.m. through 7 p.m. The dinner can be eaten there or take out. Cod is the fish of choice and it is delivered fresh every week. It is recommended that you call ahead for take-out or to order to eat in, 860-928-

3901 because they always sell out. For diners, Young Antlers wait on tables and and sell water or soda to raise money for their club.

“The Young Antlers are a group that is too young to be an Elk,” said Salvas. “It is a program that started about two years ago. They needed members in order to become a Charter.”

The Young Antlers also do charity work in the



Karen Butera photo
Front row, left, Ellen Hayes, Nancy Salvas and Jerry Beausoleil, back row left, Beth Salvas, Billy Salvas, Dan Salvas and Betsy Santerre

POLICE LOGS

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

TROOP D LOG

DAYVILLE

March 1
Matthew Albro, 46, of 21 PeepToad Road, Dayville, was charged with violation of a protective order.

KILLINGLY

March 5
Walter Malboeuf, 57, of 6 Mill Street, Apt. B, Killingly, was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence and failure to drive in a proper lane.
Christine Ann Kettle, 55, 6 Mill Street, Apt. B, Killingly, was charged with operating a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs/alcohol.

PUTNAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 5
Kara Racine, 27, of 52 School St. Putnam, was charged with Insufficient Insurance, Failure to Have Headlights on.
March 7
Jesse Dessert, 41, of 365a Bailey Hill Road, Killingly, was charged with Failure to Display Plate, Operating Unregistered Motor Vehicle, Insufficient Insurance, Misuse of Registration.
Derek Brooks, 35, of 60 Center St., Putnam, was charged with Threatening Second degree, Disorderly Conduct, Unlawful Restraint Second Degree, Interfering with an emergency call, Assault third degree.
Lindsey Worster, 17, of 321 Brandy Hill Rd., Thompson, was charged with Speeding
March 8
Jonathan Pease, 53, of 238 Black Point Road, Scarborough, Maine, was charged with Creating a Public Disturbance

FIREWORKS CO-SPONSOR



PUTNAM — Putnam Bank President and CEO Tom Borner presents a check to Putnam Mayor Barney Seney and Director of Putnam Parks and Recreation Willie Bousquet for the co-sponsorship of the Putnam Fireworks.

CODERRE JOINS PUTNAM ECONOMIC COMMISSION



PUTNAM — Putnam resident Ronald P. Coderre, left, was sworn in as a member of the Putnam Economic Development Commission on March 2 by Town Clerk Sara Seney (right) as Mayor Barney Seney looks on.

Food drive set for March 14

PUTNAM — There will be a “Scouting for Food” drive for the Daily Bread Food Pantry, to benefit local, needy people in the towns of Putnam, Pomfret, Woodstock and Eastford on Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Cargill Council 64 Knights of Columbus Hall, 64 Providence Street, Putnam. Please bring non-perishable food items and tax-deductible monetary donations, to help your neighbors in need. The Easter Bunny will be there for the children. Those wishing to donate may mail a check to Interfaith Human Services of Putnam, P. O. Box 281, Putnam, Ct., 06260. For information, please call (860) 928-7241 and leave a message.

ELKS continued from page A1

community, but on a smaller scale than the Elks, and they are out and about for town clean-up days. The Fish and Chips dinner was started by the Emblem Club over 20 years ago. Once their membership dropped off, they were having a hard time getting help for the dinners. A couple of years ago that the Elks offered to take over.
“We would like to thank the Emblem Club for the great job they have done over the years. We took it over and are trying to take it to the next level,” said Salvas.
The dinners are a fundraising event for the club.
“We paid for Putnam School Lunches that were in arrears. We have also donated to the Little League and will help out with the IHSP-Diaper Bank of NECT Celebrity Bartenders Night. We will also be doing an Easter Egg Hunt. Last year we handed out about 150 Food Baskets to the needy at Christmastime,” Salvas said.
Along with the Lenten Dinners some of their other fundraisers consisted of chicken barbecues, comedy nights and trivia nights.



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WOODSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Developmental Preschool Screenings
Woodstock Elementary Schools is seeking all Woodstock Children born in 2015 to participate in a developmental preschool screening.


Screenings will be held on the following Fridays from 9am-10:30am:

February 14, 2020	April 3, 2020
March 13, 2020	May 8, 2020

Please call the Woodstock Elementary School to schedule an appointment at: 860-928-0471
Preregistration is required.

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VILLAGER STAFF DIRECTORY

NEWS EDITOR, CHARLIE LENTZ 860-928-1818 x 323 charlie@villagernewspapers.com	ADVERTISING BRENDA PONTBRIAND ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE 860-928-1818, EXT. 313 brenda@villagernewspapers.com
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FOR ALL OTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT
KERRI PETERSON
860-928-1818 EXT. 303
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS ARE PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER FRANK G. CHILINSKI 860-928-1818 EXT. 103 frank@villagernewspapers.com	EDITOR CHARLIE LENTZ 860-928-1818 x 323 charlie@villagernewspapers.com
BUSINESS MANAGER RYAN CORNEAU 860-928-1818 EXT. 102 ryan@salmonpress.news	PRODUCTION MANAGER JULIE CLARKE 860-928-1818, EXT. 305 julie@villagernewspapers.com

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM NICOLA
508-764-6102
jdnicola@stonebridgepress.com

OFFICE HOURS:
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VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of March 2: Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Northern Harrier, Great-horned Owl, Bluebird, Song Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, American Tree Sparrow, Carolina Wren, House Finch, Goldfinch, Red-tailed Hawk. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home

READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

Day Kimball Healthcare announces fundraisers

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare announced the following fundraiser events scheduled for this year. For further information on all events, call the DKH Development Office at (860) 928-7141.

Thursday, March 26 | 5:00 p.m.”
Cruisin’ for Cancer Care Guest Bartender Night

The Black Dog Bar & Grille, Putnam
Join us at the Black Dog Bar & Grille as we kick off our FUNdraising efforts for the NECT Cancer Fund of Day Kimball Healthcare with a Guest Bartender Night. Special “Guest Bartenders” from the community will be working the bar and collecting tips. Admission is free and the night features local celebrity guest bartenders, drawings and more. For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/guest-bartender-night.

Thursday, April 23 | 6:00 p.m.: Beer & Wine Tasting

The Barns at Stonehurst, Hampton

Get a taste of the best that Connecticut and our region’s vineyards and breweries have to offer, along with hors d’oeuvres, and entertainment - all to benefit the NECT Cancer Fund of Day Kimball Healthcare, which provides critical support to those in Northeast Connecticut who are fighting cancer. Tickets are \$45 and must be purchased in advance. For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/tasting.

Sunday, May 31 | 11:00 a.m.: Canines for Cancer Care

Brooklyn Fairground, Brooklyn

Join us for a fun-filled day for pups and their families while supporting the NECT Cancer Fund of Day Kimball Healthcare. We will celebrate survivors, honor canine caregivers and those battling cancer, and memorialize loved ones lost to this disease. Activities include “Wag this Way” laps around the course, demonstrations, games and contests. Exhibits consist of crafters and vendors featuring pet products and services, food vendors, and more! For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/canines.

Sunday, June 14 | 10:00 a.m.: Paddle for a Cure, Kayaking Event

Greenway Drive, Brooklyn

A scenic and fun kayaking event held to benefit the Rose Bove LaRose Cancer Center at Day Kimball Hospital. No entry fee, just collect pledges. For more information about this event,



Charlie Lentz photo

Runners begin last year’s Walk and Race for NECT Cancer Fund of DKH. This year’s benefit walk and run is set for Aug. 8.

visit daykimball.org/paddle.

Sunday, June 14 | 8:00 a.m.: Cruisin’ for Cancer Care Motorcycle & Car Cruise
Thompson Speedway, Thompson

This event draws motorcyclists and classic car enthusiasts for a 90-minute ride through beautiful Northeast Connecticut followed by memorial laps on the 1.7 mile road course at the Thompson Speedway, a classic car competition, and a motorcycle rodeo. Registration is \$15 per person or \$25 per couple. The event benefits the NECT Cancer Fund of Day Kimball Healthcare. For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/cruisin.

Friday, July 10 | Two tee times: 7:45 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.: Day Kimball Hospital Putnam Bank Golf Classic

Connecticut National Country Club, Putnam

The Day Kimball Hospital Putnam Bank Golf Classic signature event benefiting DKH is the hospital’s most significant fundraiser and has helped to provide continued high-quality medical care, technologies, and facilities for those served across Northeast Connecticut. For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/golfclassic.

Thursday, July 30 | 6:00

p.m.: Day Kimball Healthcare Celebrity Scoops Night

Deary Bros. Mike’s Stand, Putnam: Enjoy a fun family evening filled with simple pleasures, including DJ, face painting, prizes, and of course, delicious food and ice cream served up by local celebrity scoopers - the Veterans and Local Heroes of the Mayotte Viens American Legion Post #13. Your generous tips will benefit the NECT Cancer Fund of Day Kimball Healthcare. For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/scoops.

Saturday, August 8, 8:30 a.m. Start Time 7:30 a.m. Registration: Walk and Race for NECT Cancer Fund of DKH
Black Dog Bar & Grille, Putnam

Race, run, jog or walk, and don’t miss this fun, family friendly event to benefit the NECT Cancer Fund of Day Kimball Healthcare, which provides critical support to those in Northeast Connecticut who are fighting cancer. This 5-mile walk and run is a wonderful way to remember, celebrate and honor those who have battled cancer, while supporting those fighting the battle now. For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/race.

Saturday, November 7 | 7:00 p.m.: Dueling Pianos at Raceway Restaurant,

Thompson

Join us at the Raceway Restaurant in Thompson for a high-energy dueling pianos show by Savage Pianos. Tickets are \$45 per person and include hors d’oeuvres, automatic entry in our raffle, and a fantastic show filled with great music, sing-alongs, and laughs all night long! Proceeds benefit the Day Kimball Healthcare At Home services of HomeCare, HomeMakers and Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut. For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/pianos.

Sunday, December 6 | 5:00 p.m.: Hospice Tree of Life Ceremonies

Simultaneous tree lighting ceremonies held in 11 towns throughout Northeast Connecticut

Each December, communities throughout Northeast Connecticut come together to remember and honor their loved ones through a symbol of light. The purchase of memorial lights on each community’s Tree of Life benefits the wonderful work done by Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut which enhances the lives of terminally ill patients and their families. For more information about this event, visit daykimball.org/treeoflife.

Villager Newspapers

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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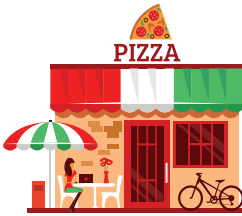
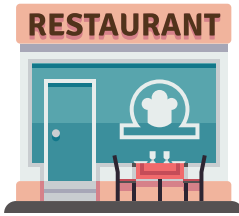


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Woodstock Community Kitchen celebrates fifth anniversary



Community Kitchen volunteers celebrate fifth anniversary after parading the dining hall.

Courtesy photo

The volunteers prepare to serve donated baked goods as dessert.

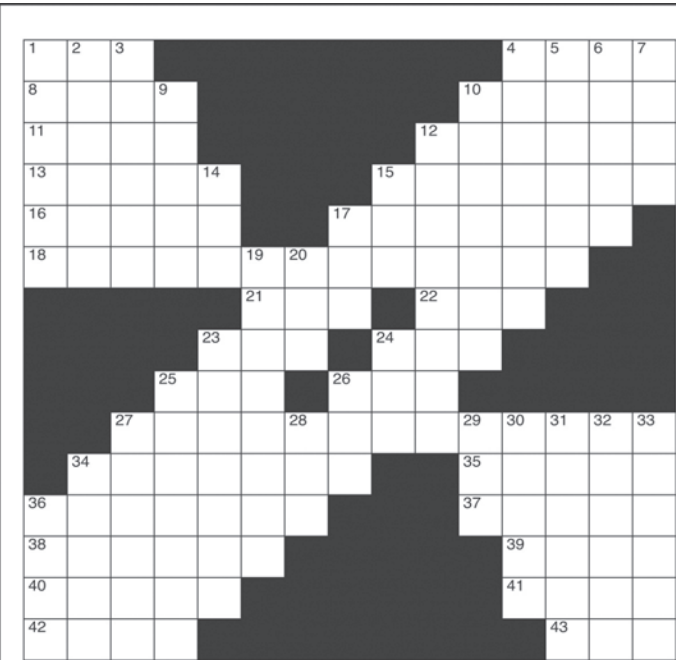
WOODSTOCK — The Community Kitchen at the First Congregational Church of Woodstock celebrated its fifth anniversary on March 2 with a crowd of over 80 guests and a dozen volunteers plus cooks from East Woodstock Congregational Church, who prepared and served a meal of baked ziti with meatballs in tomato sauce, garlic bread, green beans, and tossed salad. Desserts donated by local bakeries were also served. Over the past five years the Community Kitchen at the “Hill Church” has served free noontime

meals on 241 Mondays to over 17,000 guests. “The spirit is alive and well in our dining hall on Mondays from morning to early afternoon,” said site coordinator Bob Kirk. “Our guests visit with our volunteers and with one another. We play bingo and tell jokes and sing songs, celebrate birthdays and grieve together and pray for one another. Our guests enjoy fabulous meals and go home with donated baked goods and fresh produce.” “I come every Monday. It makes me feel like I was at a

party!” said nonagenarian and regular guest Josephine Bottieri. “Everyone who comes through our door is welcome. Everyone receives a smile and a greeting, a hug or a handshake. We have become a loving and supportive community,” said site coordinator Bruce Lyman. “My wife and I very much look forward to the meal every Monday. The combination of jokes, music, laughter, and good food are truly enjoyable! We’ve made some good friends here, also,” said guest Earl Talbot. Collaboration is the secret to their success, according to Kirk and Lyman. “So many groups and individuals have joined us over the years,” said Lyman. “We are part of Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut, and receive some food and supplies

from the Connecticut Food Bank. We also receive donated baked goods from Soleil & Suns Bakery, Stop & Shop in Putnam, and Price Chopper in Putnam, produce from Big Y in Danielson, and fresh eggs from Woodstock Sustainable Farms.” “We partner with East Woodstock Congregational Church, South Woodstock Baptist Church, Christ Church in Pomfret, and Pomfret Congregational Church in preparing and serving meals,” Lyman said. “Each Monday we are joined by a dozen or more absolutely wonderful volunteers from our congregation and other local churches and synagogues as well as a half dozen clients and a job coach from Center of Hope in Southbridge. A case worker from TEEG visits once a month to meet individually with our guests.” Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut also

provides free noontime meals on Tuesdays at Living Faith United Methodist Church in Putnam, on Wednesdays at United Methodist Church of Danielson, and on Fridays at Moosup United Methodist Church. Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut receives financial support in the form of donations from towns and local businesses, churches and service organizations and individuals. Groups and individuals interested in making a donation can get information through Facebook or by emailing communitykitchensnect@gmail.com. “Folks can support Community Kitchens—and have a great time —by coming to the Seeger Singalong at the Hill Church on Saturday, April 4 at 7 p.m.,” said Kirk. “Join in the fun, and then drop a few bills in the collection basket on the way out!”



CLUES ACROSS

1. A team’s best pitcher
4. Designer Jacobs
8. Hip joint
10. A dialect of English
11. Portrays
12. Panic
13. The head of a team
15. High priest
16. League of Legends locale
17. Protective folds
18. Treats allergies
21. Voodoo spirits
22. Single unit
23. Unit of measurement
24. Brew
25. Burundian franc
26. Self
27. Bengals great
34. Making letters overlap
35. Piece of pizza
36. Illegal drug
37. Card game
38. The highest point in the development
39. Oh, God!
40. Wives (law)
41. Monetary unit of Samoa
42. Supplements with difficulty
43. Valentine’s Day color

CLUES DOWN

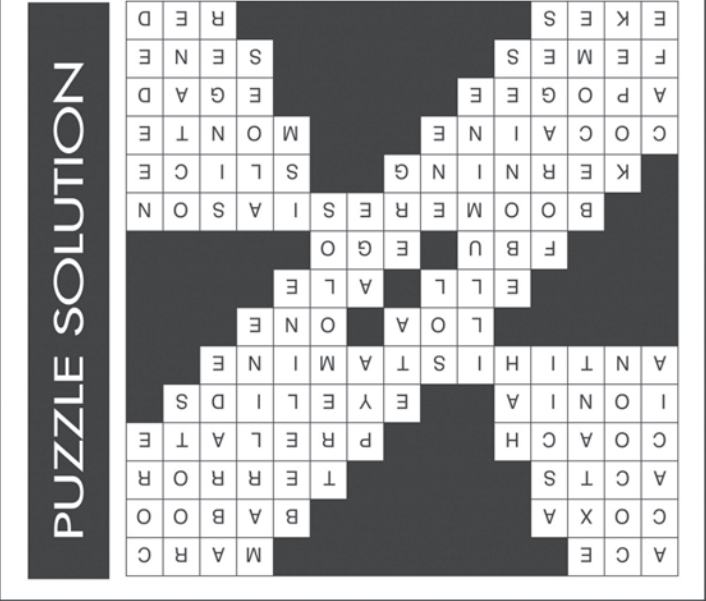
1. Warm climate tree or shrub
2. Silky case spun by larvae
3. Still in existence
4. Light, two-stranded rope
5. Wear away
6. Beginnings
7. Essence
9. American Standard Code for Information Interchange
10. Path
12. Repeated tones
14. Expresses surprise
15. Monetary unit of Burma
17. When you hope to get there
19. Brighten
20. Fifth note of a major scale
23. Dark brown timbers of tropical trees
24. We all do it
25. Scrounges
26. Unit of energy
27. Begin to be
28. Midway between northeast and east
29. Distinctive practice
30. Succulent plants
31. Performer
32. Gas station term
33. Required
34. Soviet monetary unit
36. Eating house



The Community Kitchen Skillet band entertains guests.



Cooks from East Woodstock Congregational Church take a bow before serving the meal.





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St. Joseph students receive awards

NORTH GROSVENORDALE — During the past several days at St. Joseph School there have been multiple awards given to a number of middle school students both in academic and athletic competitions. On March 4th, SJS competed in the annual Knights of Columbus Eastern Regional Spelling Bee in Willimantic at St. Mary/St. Joseph School. James McHugh took home second place honors in the Grade 4 level, while Samantha Smyth finished in 1st Place at the Grade 6 division. For Smyth, it is the third consecutive year of taking 1st place honors at the Eastern Regional; she previously won the Grade 4 division in 2018 as well as Grade 5 in 2019.

“I feel really good about winning the Eastern Regional for the third year in a row,” said Smyth. “Many people do not realize that for me to be competitive, I need to practice spelling words at least one hour a day. Studying is everything when it comes to the spelling bee. I also like participating in the spelling bee because everyone in the competition shows great sportsmanship. Finally, I love to read so that also is a big help to me in competition.”

The next spelling bee for Smyth will be the Knights of Columbus statewide competition which will be held on Sunday afternoon, March 22 in New Haven in the St. Mary’s Church Hall. This location is significant because it is the exact spot where the Knights of Columbus was founded in 1882, the same year in which SJS began. The national headquarters for the Knights of Columbus is also located in New Haven.

In addition to the success of the recent spelling bee, SJS also took home several awards at the conclusion of the annual 395 basketball league tournament this past weekend. Four student-athletes earned All-Star Awards including Kylie Cummings, Justin Griffiths-Lam, Clayton Lehmann, and Kiera MacKenzie. The biggest award, however, went to the SJS basketball program as the school received the annual Sportsmanship Award. All of the other 395 school programs voted unanimously for SJS to be this year’s recipient. Andrew MacKenzie, Head Coach of the SJS Co-Educational Basketball Program, offered his sentiments about winning the Sportsmanship Award:

“At SJS, we pride ourselves on how the students represent our school community. In athletics, a focus is always placed on fulfilling the ideals of good



Samantha Smyth and James McHugh

Courtesy photos

sportsmanship. In addition to playing the game of basketball to its fullest, our players demonstrate good behavior and fair play on and off the court. These are important building blocks for all young men and women of today and we could not be more proud of our entire basketball program,” said MacKenzie.

“I am extremely proud of our SJS Basketball Program in winning the Sportsmanship Award,” said Sarah Healey, Assistant Basketball Coach. “Our players work hard on the court, but showing respect and earning the respect of their opposing peers is even more important, not just in sports but in life!”

“It’s not how you win or lose, but how you play the game.” said Athletic Director Lindsay Lehmann in quoting famous sportswriter Grantland Rice in announcing on the school’s Facebook page that the SJS Basketball program received the Sportsmanship Award. In her post, Lehmann went on to express her gratitude to all of the basketball players that made this season a great success.

“At SJS, it is always my hope that the values we teach on a daily basis to our young people are not limited to only when we gather here at 26 Main Street,” said Principal David Sizemore. “Our mission statement emphasizes “establishing a strong foundation of Catholic faith in a caring, respectful, and nurturing environment,” so winning the Sportsmanship Award for the 395 league validates what we do here on a daily basis.”

Sizemore went on to laud Smyth’s accomplishments as a three-time spelling bee champion with the following prose.

“As for Samantha, her efforts reflect another portion of our mission statement which states that “we encourage academic success, instill discipline, and infuse lifetime learning skills in each student.” “Samantha is not just a great student; she works hard at her craft and I have no doubt that she has a very bright future ahead of her,” Sizemore said.

The next Open House that SJS will host for families will be Sunday, March



SJS Sportsmanship Trophy

29 from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 am. The Open House will be paired with a Sunday Breakfast that will run simultaneously where guided tours will be offered by current SJS families as well as faculty members. Breakfast is complementary for all prospective families. Finally, the Easter Bunny will also be “coming to town” on March 29 for special photo opportunities!




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GOOD



NEWS




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LEARNING

Eastford hosts Pine Car Derby

BY MIKE MORAN
FOR THE VILLAGER

EASTFORD — Pine cars “roared” down the track on Sunday, March 8, at the Congregational Church of Eastford Kid’s Club annual Pine Car Derby. The colorful and creative cars were built by the children from simple kits that included a block of pine, wheels and axels. Contestants in the Kid’s Club class were ages 5 through grade 6.

"This year they really put a lot of work into building their cars," said club leader James Barlow.

A digital timing system precisely measured each car's time to run down the slick aluminum track as a cheering

crowd of friends and family looked on. Winners (for speed) in the Kid's Club class were Robert Renshaw first place, Bina Barlow in second place and David Budd in third place. Best design prizes finished in a tie and went to Meadow Bulan for her car "American Popsicle" and Zoe Labonte for "Super Mario". The most creative car was Natalia Kneeland's "Cheese Mouse." There was also an Open Class for speed for racers of all ages. Winners were Robert Renshaw (first place), Mia Ciovacco (second place) and Porter Barlow (third place). The Kids Club meets Sunday evenings from 6 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. from September through May. For information: <https://cceaastford.org/for-you/children/>



Mike Moran photos



*Putnam student
in ACT Dancefest*

PUTNAM — Putnam's Sara Ramos is one of the performers in EASTCONN's Arts at the Capitol Theater (ACT) magnet high school's presentation of *DanceFest 2020: PROOF* on March 27 and 28, 2020, at 7 p.m., on the Capitol Theater's main stage, 896 Main St., Willimantic. This family-friendly, annual dance showcase is open to the public.

Dancefest 2020: PROOF is a collaboration among students and faculty from ACT's Dance, Audio/Visual, Lighting Design and Costume departments.

Under the direction of ACT dance teacher Tiana Mancuso, PROOF will feature seven original choreographed dances by Mancuso, ACT dance teacher Nichola Johnson, and ACT alumni and spe-

cial professional guest artists Kelsie Rivera (2011) and Jorrel Morales (2017).

The works performed in PROOF are inspired by Aristotle's Three Artistic Proofs: Logos, Pathos, and Ethos. The full-length concert will be presented in three sections with each focusing on logic, emotion, or ethics. Mixed

Turn To **ACT** page **A7**

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The application deadline is April 10, 2020.

Notification will be made in June following lottery selection.

**“Every Town Deserves a
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Dog day afternoon

PUTNAM — Dogs brought their guardians to Putnam Lions Memorial Dog Park to take advantage of the 60-degree weather on Monday, March 9.

Charlie Lentz photos

David Gazzola with Willow (German Shorthaired Pointer)



BELOW: Alison Schroeer with, from left, Dori-Anne (Pomeranian), Sionnach (American Eskimo) and Pearlle (Pomeranian)



David and Melissa Stebbins with Nala (Chihuahua/Pug)



Renee Welch with, from left, Kuza (Miniature Australian Shepherd), Rocky (Boxer), and Mookie (American Lab)



David Kopas with Lucky, Patches, Bruin, and Biscuit



Charles Elkins with his daughter, Kali, and son, Grayson, along with Mylie, their three-month old Goldendoodle



Shayne Stedman with Brody (German Shorthaired Pointer)



Megan Murphy with Lady (Parti Poodle)

ACT

continued from page A6

genres and multi-media collaboration create an evening of movement, animation, music and poetry. From Mozart to the Beatles, the production will reach any audience.

ACT students performing in PROOF include seniors Madison Nelson (Windsor), Lia Casadei (Windham), India Harper (New London), Vanessa Delgado (Willimantic) and Tiani Gardner (Norwich). Juniors include Sara Ramos (Putnam), Joseph Volkerts (New London), Arina Hagist (Stafford Springs), Emily Hannaford (Stafford

Springs), Lea Duval (Plainfield), Alexa Chapman (Marlborough) and Cheneli Rodriguez De Los Santos (Willimantic) and Sophomore Taegan Praytor (Hampton).

Tickets are \$5 for ACT students and military, \$8 for seniors and students and \$10 for adults. Tickets may be reserved in advance by calling the Capitol Theater's Main Office at 860-465-5636. The Capitol Theater Box Office is also open one hour before show time for walk-up ticket sales (cash or check only).

ACT is a public, performing arts magnet high school administered by EASTCONN. ACT is currently recruiting academ-

ically motivated students who will enter grades 9-12 in the 2020-2021 school year. Any student in Northeast Connecticut is eligible. To learn more about ACT or to download an application, visit www.eastconn.org/act or call (860) 465-5636.

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Learn more at www.eastconn.org.

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Coronavirus blues

Suddenly I have more open spaces in my calendar. As we deal with global health challenges, many events are being cancelled. My husband claims I have three fears — one, snakes, two, running out of potato chips and three — empty spaces on my calendar. For as long as I can remember, I have kept an appointment book which fills up with things I plan to do. Most items involve me participating in something, going somewhere, meeting someone, getting something fixed or maintained (including myself), having people over or buying and then returning a purchase. What hasn’t stopped has certainly slowed. What to do?

There’s the obvious stuff that will fill a few days until I tire of it. I can clean closets, sort out the basement, sweep out the garage and face the items that pile up from unidentified sources in the barn.

A friend told me that he and his wife were doing something called Swedish Death Cleaning. He looks pretty healthy to me, so I didn’t understand what he meant. They are following ideas promoted by Margaret Magnusson in her book, “The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning”. She suggests

we declutter and sort things so our loved ones won’t have to when we are gone. I know how it feels to be the one left to do such jobs and I don’t want to leave a mess. I’m quite sentimental about certain possessions. My children are not. I have to get to work.

We are fortunate to live in wide open spaces so we can go outside and enjoy the fresh air and early spring. I work in my garden while plugged into ear phones. I’ve found wonderful apps and books from Audible that fill my head with poems, science, stories and novels. If we are becoming pawns of the media, this is the plus side. I don’t listen to news. I listen to beautiful voices relating interesting tales. Try Krista Tippett’s “On Being”, for creative conversations. I may just park myself outside every day for hours.

My husband and I took a hike on an unfinished portion of the Airline Trail. It was just muddy enough to ruin our shoes, which I think is the sign of a good walk. The Airline Trail is an amazing asset and one where it I easy to stay more than six feet away from anyone else. There are guided walks coming up soon at the Bull Hill preserve and I want to go. With hours to fill, I plan to walk often and far.

Cooking is a fine way to pass the time. I have a box of recipes I have clipped out magazine and newspapers. Time to try them. It may give me a use for an odd assortment of herbs or merely add to my pleasure in making soup. During blizzards we liked to host impromptu dinners with our neighbors. Perhaps it is time to create a new tradition of dining when isolated.

I plan to finish and edit a number of short stories, poems, and profiles that I’ve never quite completed. I love to write, but I hate to rewrite. If I have time on my hands, there is no excuse. Once I get going, it will be fun.

There is no sense in ever being bored. There is no sense in being depressed. We suddenly have a gift of time that can be spent at home. If we aren’t sick, we can do all the things we imagined we’d get to in some distant future. Open spaces on the calendar and in nature are unexpected gifts.

Am I supposed to be buying toilet paper?

I spent a fun week with my daughter and her family and was oblivious to what was happening in the news. I caught bits and pieces on the net but was enjoyably disconnected. I was surprised at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) how many people I saw walking around wearing face masks. I was aware of the corona virus but really missed out on the last eight days of developments.

We landed in Chicago, grabbed our luggage and headed for home when my sister called from North Carolina and asked, “Do you have enough toilet paper?”

I don’t think anyone had ever asked such a random question of me before. “Enough for what?” I asked.



POSITIVELY SPEAKING

GARY W. MOORE

“To be quarantined for three to four weeks!” I immediately began scrolling through the newsfeed on my phone, frantically trying to figure out what was causing the TP emergency. I laughed aloud as I thought, “Bernie Sanders with his push for socialism hasn’t been elected yet and the stores are already out of TP?” I ran across a posting that said, “Almost all the major grocery chains are out of bread, milk and toilet paper.” I saw another that said, “Someone is on eBay selling cases of TP for \$2000 each and has more buyers than inventory.”

Arlene and I decided we better rush to the store before we got home and see if we could get some TP. We parked, ran

into our local grocery store and headed to what we were convinced would be empty shelves. Imagine our shock when the shelves were full of every brand of toilet paper. We checked milk and bread to only find the same.

What’s going on? I’d call this something between an over reaction to mass hysteria. As for me, I found it to be funny. Don’t get me wrong, there is nothing funny about a communicable illness that is spreading around the world. We all must be vigilant and take the advice from healthcare professionals. Wash your hands often. Don’t touch your body above your shoulders. Use hand sanitizer and carry a few sanitizing wipes wherever you go. On our flight home we used wipes to sanitize our seats and trays on our airplane seats. It also never hurts to have a supply of essentials

on hand at home, but to rush out and buy a years supply of canned goods and to lock yourselves behind the doors of your homes at this point, may be giving into mass hysteria.

Be vigilant. Listen to government officials but avoid unsubstantiated rumors on the internet or you may end up spending two grand for a few rolls of toilet paper. When you see that Abraham Lincoln is assuring you that if it’s found on the internet it must be true ... think about it first!

Relax. Be prudent about the sources of information you use to make your decisions. Then act wisely.

Thank you! Thank you all for your prayers, emails and cards. I am grateful. I shared with you that I had been diagnosed with

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Killingly reader wants answers from Flexer

It has now been over a week since it was reported that State Senator Mae Flexer is alleged to have used campaign loopholes to obtain lobbyist funds through a nonprofit organization. Is this true? Your constituents deserve an answer.

Some questions that should be answered by Mae: 1. Why did you ask for an Ethics ruling about obtaining lobbyist funds through a loophole to become a Senate Leadership position? What was the concern? 2. What companies were you concerned about to make this inquiry? 3. Do you agree with the State Ethics decision that it should be unallowable? 4l Do you believe it’s okay to get lobbyist monies through a loophole even if you are not in a Senate Leadership position such as yourself? 5. Do you believe the lobbyist loophole that you use today should be closed to ensure dark money is not allowed into Connecticut lawmaking? 6. When did you start working for Emerge Connecticut/America and what is your compensation and duties? 7. What

donations to Emerge Connecticut/America have had business before the state over the past 10 years? 8. Have you solicited any organizations to donate to your nonprofit Emerge Connecticut/America with business before the state in the past 10 years? 9.What is your relationship to lobbyist Anita Shepker for the pharmaceutical industry who is a member of the Emerge Connecticut’s board and have you discussed vaccine laws with her? 10. What is your relationship to lobbyist Karen Jarmoc who is also a member of the Emerge Connecticut’s board?

Mae, you pledge transparency. Now is your time to deliver. Your constituents deserve an explanation. Mae needs to come clean, did you receive lobbyist funding through a third party nonprofit organization? If not, why such a request for an ethics ruling?

DALE DAUPHINAIS
KILLINGLY

Trump lax on coronavirus

As I sit down to read the Villager and get to the Opinion page I see and a piece from Mr. Deluca, as I read it, it sounds encouraging.

Talks about people getting together and settling their issues like people use to do.

Then in about 40 words the Trump effect comes out in full view. The hatred and demeaning comes back at you all over again. The Opinion piece was written prior to Super Tuesdays’ primaries. The biggest take away is citizens looking for some Normalcy in their lives again. Biden took a big step in securing the nomination of the Democratic Party in 2020.

Yes there is along way to go but people seem to want to take a deep breath and feel some hope to get to the end of the constant political attacks put up by one Mr. Trump and followers. As the title of the Billy G. Taylor opinion piece written very well that ‘Trump is Name Caller in Chief’. As I would imagine that a certain person is preparing an anti-Biden rant about this and that none it will be any good or truthful. The cult and their powers of hate, bullying and putting people down is being written as we speak.

On another point and this is more dangerous than anything else Trump has done, if that is possible, is the emerging public health concerns over Covid 19. In Trumps’ view if you do not test for the virus there will be no cases right? To listen to him say there is no problem everything is “Perfect,

Stay positive

I received a message from a good friend and her husband after reading my opinion letter last week. Reading the Villager over their morning coffee, they were encouraged to read about something besides politics and I so appreciated them reaching out to tell me. It also perpetuated my opinion that a smile is a powerful thing and inspired me to continue sharing this magical human asset every chance I get.

Nearly everything reported these days is political. No matter the facts or logic, so many of us want to justify and prove our points on why we feel the way we do. Much is motivated by purposeful media misinformation which leads to confusion, emotion and frustration, but thankfully, the eternal quest in the human battle between right and wrong remains strong. This is the human condition and no matter our argument for or against certain political decisions, political tactics and self-centered interests, these negative objectives eventually come to light.

All sides have their opinions, but it is the hatefulness, name-calling and downright nasty attacks on those who disagree with us

Women and money: taking financial control



FINANCIAL FOCUS
LEISL L. CORDING

As we continue to recognize Women’s History Month, we’re going to explore some specific strategies you can consider to take

control of

your finances. As a woman, you have financial needs that are unique to your situation in life. Perhaps you would like to buy your first home. Maybe you need to start saving for your child’s college education. Or you might be concerned about planning for retirement. Whatever your circumstances may be, it’s important to have a clear understanding of your overall financial position.

That means constructing and implementing a plan. With a financial plan in place, you’ll be better able to focus on your financial goals and understand what it will take to reach them. The three main steps in creating and implementing an effective financial plan involve: Developing a clear picture of your current financial situation; Setting and prioritizing financial goals and time frames; Implementing appropriate saving and investment strategies.

Developing a clear picture of your current financial situation: The first step to creating and implementing a financial plan is to develop a clear picture of your current financial situation. If you don’t already have one, consider establishing a budget or a spending plan. Creating a budget requires you to: Identify your current monthly income and expenses; Evaluate your spending habits; Monitor your overall spending.

To develop a budget, you’ll need to identify your current monthly income and expenses. Start out by adding up all of your income. In addition to your regular salary and wages, be sure to include other types of income, such as dividends, interest, and child support.

Next, add up all of your expenses. If it makes it easier, you can divide your expenses into two categories: fixed and discretionary. Fixed expenses include things that are necessities, such as housing, food, transportation, and clothing. Discretionary expenses include things like entertainment, vacations, and hobbies. You’ll want to be sure to include out-of-pattern expenses (e.g., holiday gifts, car maintenance) in your budget as well.

To help you stay on track with your budget: Get in the habit of saving-try to make budgeting a part of your daily routine; Build occasional rewards into your budget; Examine your budget regularly and adjust/make changes as needed.

Setting and prioritizing financial goals: The second step to creating and implementing a financial plan is to set and prioritize financial goals. Start out by making a list of things that you would like to achieve. It may help to separate the list into two parts: short-term financial goals and long-term financial goals.

Short-term goals may include making sure that your cash reserve is adequately funded or paying off outstanding credit card debt. As for long-term goals, you can ask yourself: Would you like to purchase a new home? Do you want to retire early? Would you like to start saving for your child’s college education?

Once you have established your financial goals, you’ll want to prioritize them. Setting priorities is important, since it may not

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Redmen moniker OK with Dakota Sioux

As I read her letter to the editor from the March 6th edition of the Killingly Villager, I was struck by the realization that to Ms. Pezzarossi, the phrase E Pluribus Unum is only to be considered a symbol of white privilege and nothing more. She is obviously a product of an ideological indoctrination policy that began around 1973 when the American Psychological Association moved from a standard of scientific research and data into a world of ideological pursuit.

The ability to employ rational thinking was removed from her through this one-sided educational indoctrination system. I believe that she is sincere in her beliefs but lacks the ability to view historical events without the bias of a contemporary lens. She now wishes to sit in judgment over one race and one race only. This roadblock makes it impossible for her to think for herself, she instead merely reinforces the biased beliefs of others.

I have no doubt that she is a member of the progressive movement which claims to believe in progress, but progress without forethought brings unintended consequences, and, in most cases, undesirable consequences. I ask what will become of the American Indian once you have removed us from the view, thoughts, and voices of mankind. Will we not cease to exist as a unique entity and is that what you desire?

Let us put things in perspective. Before the founding of the United States, regardless of where you lived in the world, the masses had no voice or power whatsoever. The birth of the United States became the beacon of hope for the people that is slowly but surely changing the world for the better. The early settlers were not seeking domination over others, but merely

some freedom from oppressive governments, not just in Western Europe but throughout the Old World. The unintended consequences became overpopulated where the natural resources could not keep up with the new demands. For Native American tribes, their former way of life and culture was now unsustainable, and they were left with a choice of either melting into the new society or moving west to keep their culture alive.

The adoption of the U.S. Constitution made the Civil War inevitable as it recognized the African slaves as human beings (All men are created equal), otherwise, there would be no need for the 3/5th clause. That clause came about because, as stated, “if you are going to count them for members of the House of Representatives but not allow them to vote, then they cannot be counted as whole,” a response to southern slave state demands.

To the final argument, Ms. Pezzarossi does not speak for me, I am a full-blood enrolled member of the Great Sioux Nation and I can think for myself and I am not a victim. I am tired of elitists pretending that they know more than myself or other American Indians. I believe that you use only select American Indian voices to further your distorted desires. You reject the voices of the majority of American Indians who disagree with you as if they are nothing. The word Redmen does not belong to any one tribe but to all American Indians and was never a racial slur.

EUNICE DAVIDSON
DAKOTA SIOUX INDIAN AND PROUD
REDMEN DESCENDANT
DEVILS LAKE, NORTH DAKOTA

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to charlie@villagernewspapers.com
Please include your place of residence and phone number for verification, not publication. Letters must be received by noon on Tuesdays.

No fan of Christian Nationalism

There is a movement in America that is dedicated to destroying our Republic. It has been called Christian Nationalism. While it is not mainstream, it has a base of rabid supporters who would establish a theocracy controlled by white males.

Fortunately, the Founding Fathers established our government as a republic, not a democracy. In a democracy, it is rule by majority. An individual or minority group has no protection from the power of the majority. In contrast, a republic has a constitution that establishes inalienable rights that protect the minority from being unrepresented or abused by the majority. It is the law of the land and necessarily to be adhered to.

Christian Nationalism would do away with the Constitution and the Republic in order to set up a democratic government presumably based on Christian principles. As Katherine Steward puts forth in her book The Power Worshipers: Inside the Dangerous Rise of Religious Nationalism, “It is not a social or cultural movement. It is a political movement, and its ultimate goal is power. It does not seek to add another voice to America’s pluralistic democracy but to replace our foundational democratic principles and institutions with a state grounded on a particular version of Christianity answering to what some adherents call a “biblical worldview”. This is not a “culture war.” It is a political war over the future of democracy.”

Steward notes this movement includes among other things: opposing public assistance to the poor unless it comes from religious sources, opposes environmentalism, opposes gun controls, advocates gender hierarchy with women being submissive to men, and favors deregulation and minimal worker rights.

After the 2016 election, Clemson University sociologist Andrew Whitehead, Samuel Perry of the University of Oklahoma and Joseph Baker of East Tennessee State

University conducted the Baylor Religion Survey. They concluded that “the more someone believed the United States is—and should be—a Christian nation, the more likely they were to vote for Trump.” In fact, they found that it was the single greatest religious predictor that a voter would support Trump in 2016. They found that the Christian Nationalism movement advocated that: the federal government should declare the United States a Christian nation, the federal government should advocate Christian values, the federal government should enforce strict separation of church and state, the success of the United States is part of God’s plan.

The frightening thing here is that the Christian Nationalists would essentially do away with our basic democratic ideals of one person/one vote and freedom of speech. It is basically Fascism in the guise of religious purity.

Trump did not create this movement but it is also frightening that he has latched onto it and it has latched onto him. Trump’s drive to become a dictator and his authoritarian statements fit perfectly with the Christian Nationalism ideals.

The fact that Trump is essentially non-religious, an adulterer, sexual predator, liar and cheat makes no difference to these “Christians” because they are after power and revolution by any means. Look at what they espouse. They have completely denied the Sermon on the Mount and Jesus’ basic teachings of kindness, aid to the poor and non-violence. These are not Christians but people using the term Christianity as a mere ad campaign euphemism. Such blind and misdirected dogma must be exposed and fought against.

On a lighter note, would it not be a delicious irony if Mar-A-Lago and the Trump Tower were quarantined because of the Corona virus?

STEPHEN ETZEL
PUTNAM

St. Patrick’s Day in Killingly over the years



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

March! March Madness in basketball! Spring training baseball! Crocus and daffodils poking through the ground! I even have a few crocus beginning to open. Of course one of the biggest reasons for March celebrations is St. Patrick’s Day! I think on that day many people claim a little bit of Irish ancestry whether it can be proven or not! I thought I’d check old newspapers to see what interesting happenings were going on to commemorate the day.

In the mid 20th century Irish residents of the area really knew how to celebrate in grand fashion. “The Irishmen of Killingly more than outdid themselves Monday in their observance of the 5th annual St. James Irish night. Packing the basement of the Danielson Catholic church to capacity, the ‘Wearers o’ the Green’ forgot all worldly troubles for the brief span of the evening. ‘Faith and begorrah’ what an evening it was. Irish movies. Irish singing. Irish dances. Irish refreshments. Irish jokes. Irish decorations, even an Irish cowboy band (from Central Village)” (Windham County Transcript 3/18/61).

A 1954 Transcript referred to the Gaelic League of Eastern Connecticut whose committees had met at St. James. “Gaelic Leaguers Prepared for St. Pat Feast; Hugh Gorman Named 1955 Chairman. The last official gathering of all the members of the Gaelic League of Eastern Connecticut was held last

Monday night in St. James. Henceforth all meetings will be conducted by the separate committees, and a final conference of all committee chairmen will be held Sunday afternoon, March 14... In 1930 on St. Patrick’s night in the upper hall over Grant’s store, Hugh Gorman, Sr. staged a public and unrehearsed debate with the Rev. Francis X. Baldwin, M.S. who was speaking on his ‘Trip to the Old Sod’. Mr. Gorman maintained energetically and most vociferously that the ‘Boys of Limerick’ could outclass in every fighting way the ‘Battle-stoppers of County Cork’ and the ‘Stone-throwers of Tipperary.’ The applause meter gave every indication that Hugh Gorman, Sr. was the winner by a technical knock-out. ‘Up Limerick’ became the toast of the evening. Words of appreciation by Father Baldwin were extended to retiring General Chairman George T. McKeone for the splendid work performed by him during the past five years. It was mainly through his untiring efforts that this annual celebration in honor of St. Patrick was inaugurated...All preparations have been made for the night of March 15 when the annual celebration of St. Patrick’s Feast will be held. The speaker for the occasion will be Dr. Charles E. Murphy, superintendent of Killingly and Brooklyn schools” (WCT 3/11/54). If any readers attended a St. Patrick’s Day Feast sponsored by the Gaelic League, I’d loved to hear from you, and I’m sure others would love to hear your memories.

I turned to my newspapers.com subscription to see what local tidbits I could find from earlier in the century. The following was from a Putnam column. “St. Patrick Party... Misses Mary Wheaton, Ruth Murfey and Gladys Murfey gave a St. Patrick party at the home of Miss Wheaton on

Prospect Street Friday afternoon from 3 to 6 o’clock in honor of Miss Addie Gascoigne. Soon after the seventeen guests arrived a St. Patrick word contest was held, in which Miss Wallen won the first prize. The St. Patrick cobweb shower was the feature of the afternoon, being arranged in the most clever manner. Each guest was presented a shamrock leaf and instructed to untangle the web at the end of which an Irish potato was found wrapped in green paper. Miss Gascoigne was greatly surprised when her line ended in the music cabinet and upon opening it a perfect shower of linen and fancy work instead of the potato were for her. This was a complete surprise for Miss Gascoigne, as she had not anticipated that she was to be the favored guest of the afternoon. (A program of reading and music followed)...A potato contest and a shamrock hunt were greatly enjoyed. The color scheme of green was carried out in place cards, favors and table decorations. Supper was served in the dining room, many dishes being suggestive of St. Patrick’s land” (Norwich Bulletin, Monday, March 22, 1909; newspapers.com).

I came across a most timely ad in my new Spring 2020 issue of Connecticut Explored. If you are of Irish descent, you might be interested in the Connecticut Irish-American Heritage Trail. “Learn more about the Irish Diaspora in Connecticut and explore over 100 historic sites, events, ad organizations celebrating the state’s rich Irish history.” Connecticut Irish-American Historical Society. P.O. Box 185833, Hamden, Ct. ctiahs@gmail.com. New website: ctirishheritage.org.

The Last Green Valley’s Spring Outdoors Kick-off Hike. 10 a.m. to Noon, March 19
Old Furnace State Park, Killingly,

welcome the first day of spring and the Vernal Equinox with The Last Green Valley’s Chief Ranger Bill Reid on a hike at Old Furnace State Park in Killingly. The park has excellent hiking trails and exceptional views from the top of Half Hill (locally known as Ross Cliffs). We’ll hike the loop orange trail to the top of the cliffs for a brief rest to enjoy the spectacular views to the east, then follow the trail down the hill and around Furnace Pond. Along the way we’ll look for animal signs, learn more about the trees and habitat of the park, and welcome in the first day of spring. RSVP is required as space is limited. Please contact Bill Reid at bill@tlgv.org to sign-up or call (860) 774-3300 for more information.

The Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society will be sponsoring a Mayflower trip on June 19, 2020 to Plymouth Plantation, the Gristmill, and the Mayflower II replica. Tickets for bus and entrance fees are \$75 for adults and \$60 for children under 12. Meals are on your own. The tour bus (not school bus) will depart from the Brooklyn Walmart at 7:15 a.m. and return at 5:30 p.m. Free parking. For additional information contact (860) 779-7250 or director@killinglyhistorical.org for tickets by May 1.

Margaret M. Weaver is the Killingly Municipal Historian. For additional information email her at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call (860) 779-7250. Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, Ct., 06329.

MOORE
continued from page A8

a rare affliction called Neuroendocrine Tumors. I travelled to one of the world’s leading clinics for this disease at the University of Iowa Hospital. While there I received the surprising news that I had been misdiagnosed and did not have Neuroendocrine Tumors. Instead, I learned I have Stage IV Stomach Cancer. It’s not the news I expected nor wanted to hear but I am positively fighting this cancer with everything I have. I am optimistic of my outcome.

Don’t misunderstand. I do not believe

by being positive and optimistic alone can magically heal you. There are some medical realities that attitude will not overcome. But I know my chances of beating this illness are greatly enhanced by being positive.

There is a great blog I would encourage you to read. It’s entitled, “At a Cellular Level, Every Single Human Depends on Positivity to Survive.” It is authored by Jenn Maronek and can be found at www.blog.sivanaspirit.com I think you will find a few moments reading this useful and encouraging.

Gary W. Moore is at www.garywmoore.com

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Ouellette is Westview Employee of the Month

DAYVILLE —Tara Ouellette, form Woodstock, is Westview Health Care Center’s Employee of the Month for February. Her role is to process payroll across their entire workforce of full-time, part time, and per-diem employees. Additionally, Ouellette tracks all of the accounts payable, whether that’s for a new piece of sophisticated rehabilitation equipment or an order of 10,000 paperclips.

Even more calculations flow from her desktop as she also serves as Westview’s Resident Trust Coordinator. This duty is every bit as important as her other responsibilities because she serves as the central bank for residents of the skilled nursing facility; providing them with the management of their personal funds.

She has fully integrated herself into Westview’s financial systems in less than two years since her hiring in October of 2018. Her quick immersion and mastery of these systems was the only way forward because of the dozens of daily transactions and weekly wages that watershed from the Dayville health care facility. She credits more than 20 years of experience in accounting and finance with the swift assimilation into her current role.

Many of the staff members at Westview have developed highly amicable rapport with Tara. Her distinctive laugh is often heard around the building.

“It’s an honor to be selected as

Employee of the Month at Westview Health Care Center. The Westview family welcomed me in from the moment I started. I am fortunate to work with some of the most compassionate, talented, and hard-working individuals in the Northeast region. I am grateful for my coworkers who make me smile and make work fun while getting the job done. I look forward to having a long and prosperous career at Westview,” Ouellette said.

Tara is married to Joseph Ouellette and collectively, they have six children (Miguel, Adam, Jennifer, Angela, Kaitlyn, and Samantha) and five grandchildren (Kamren, Mitchell, Lily, Maeve, and Christiana). Their whole group loves to vacation together whenever possible. In their travels, they emphasize the desire to see as many different beaches along the Eastern seaboard and upon Caribbean islands.

A particularly proud occasion in Tara’s family occurs each Friday night at Stafford Speedway where they root for Tara’s nephew and 2019 Street-Stock Champion: Zack Robinson. During warmer weekends you can usually find her somewhere along the southern New England coast on a beach or a motorcycle. She gains as much enjoyment in joyrides as she does charitable cruises; her and Joseph represent various causes through motorcycle initiatives.

Ouellette’s role at Westview requires her to interact with every employee in every department at Westview, most



Tara Ouellette
Courtesy photo

of the inpatient residents of the skilled nursing facility and their families, and the highest levels of Westview’s Administration. This necessitates the extreme range of communication skills which Tara possesses.

“Tara is a perfect fit here at Westview,” said David T. Panteleakos,

WestviewAdministrator. “She has done an amazing job with adjusting to our environment and handling the complexities of our business systems with ease. She is very deserving of this acknowledgment.”

CORDING

continued from page A8

be possible for you to pursue all of your goals at once. You will have to decide which of your financial goals are most important to you (e.g., sending your child to college) and which goals you may have to place on the back burner (e.g., the beachfront vacation home you’ve always wanted).

Implementing saving and investment strategies: After you have determined your financial goals, you’ll want to know how much it will take to fund each goal. And if you’ve already started saving towards a goal, you’ll want to know how much further you’ll need to go.

Next, you can focus on implementing appropriate investment strategies. To help determine which investments are suitable for your financial goals, you should ask yourself the following questions: What is my time horizon? What is my emotional and financial tolerance for investment risk? What are my liquidity needs? Once you’ve answered these questions, you’ll be able to tailor your investments to help you target specific financial goals, such as retirement, education, a large purchase (e.g., home or car), starting a busi-

ness, or increasing your net worth.

Managing your debt and credit: Whether it is debt from student loans, a mortgage, or credit cards, it is important to avoid the financial pitfalls that can sometimes go hand in hand with borrowing. Any sound financial plan should effectively manage both debt and credit. The following are some tips to help you manage your debt/credit: Make sure that you know exactly how much you owe by keeping track of balances and interest rates; Develop a short-term plan to manage your payments and avoid late fees; Optimize your repayments by paying off high-interest debt first or take advantage of debt consolidation/refinancing; Understanding what’s on your credit report.

An important part of managing debt and credit is to understand the information contained in your credit report. Not only does a credit report contain information about past and present credit transactions, but it is also used by potential lenders to evaluate your creditworthiness.

What information are lenders typically looking for in a credit report? For the most part, a lender will assume that you can be trusted to make timely monthly pay-

ments against your debts in the future if you have always done so in the past. As a result, a history of late payments or bad debts will hurt your credit. Based on your track record, if your credit report indicates that you are a poor risk, a new lender is likely to turn you down for credit or extend it to you at a higher interest rate. In addition, too many inquiries on your credit report in a short time period can make lenders suspicious.

Today, good credit is even sometimes viewed by potential employers as a prerequisite for employment—something to think about if you’re in the market for a new job or plan on changing jobs in the near future.

Because a credit report affects so many different aspects of one’s financial situation, it’s important to establish and maintain a good credit history in your own name. You should review your credit report regularly and be sure to correct any errors on it. You’re entitled to a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months. You can go to www.annualcreditreport.com for more information.

Working with a financial professional: Although you

can certainly do it alone, you may find it helpful to work with a financial professional to assist you in creating and implementing a financial plan.

A financial professional can help you accomplish the following: Determine the state of your current affairs by reviewing income, assets, and liabilities; Develop a plan and help you identify your financial goals; Make recommendations about specific products/services; Monitor your plan

Adjust your plan as needed.

Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well: You may be wondering how this is relevant to Women’s History Month. Well, as we discussed in last week’s article, despite the major empowerment women have seen since acquiring the right to vote, there are still areas where access to equality are thwarted. However, at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we recognize that women should be in control of their finances and have the resources available to do so. Understanding these unique strategies for taking control of your finances can help you achieve your financial life goals. Check back next week as we discuss the importance for women to plan for healthcare in retirement. You can access weekly

market highlights, along with additional information, on our website at www.whzwealth.com/resources. If you are not already, we encourage you to follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn for timely information, just search Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors!

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New ambulance for Woodstock first responders

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock community is invited to tour the town's brand-new emergency ambulance at a fire department open house on Saturday, April 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Woodstock Volunteer Fire Association, Station 76, 399 Route 169, Woodstock.

The event is hosted by volunteers of the Woodstock Emergency Medical Service branch of WVFA and by member/volunteers of WVFA.

The first 100 children in attendance will receive special Woodstock firefighter helmets, plastic replicas of the authentic helmets worn by the men and women of WVFA at fires and other emergencies. Fun and games for kids and families will be provided along with refreshments.

The new ambulance is a Trauma Hawk model manufactured by AEV (American Emergency Vehicles) in North Carolina on a Ford F-550 XLT chassis. It was purchased for \$230,000 through Eastford Fire & Rescue Sales using town funding (WVFA reserves) and with proceeds of a \$100,000 business loan secured by WVFA from bankHometown in Woodstock.

"The EMS and WVFA volunteers are extremely proud of the new ambulance and are excited to introduce this acquisition to the community," WVFA Chief Eric Young said.

The new unit has the most advanced features of any ambulance in the history of Woodstock, Young said. It has a drop-down door on one side to help EMTs better access to



Courtesy photo

The new 2019 AEV Trauma Hawk ambulance housed and maintained by WVFA that serves the Town of Woodstock.

patients being transported, keyless entry for safety, tinted glass for privacy, and 360 degree cameras on the outside including an aerial look down at the ambulance and an accident scene.

"We'd really like citizens to see up-close how town fund-

ing serves the fire and public safety needs of our community," Young added. "The need to continually update personal protective gear (boots, jackets, helmets and turnout gear for our volunteer firefighters) is paramount and the costs are considerable. But when you

consider the protection of life and property we provide for our neighbors we hope they understand the need to support the annual fire and public safety budget requests," he said.

The town's water safety rescue team will also be present to provide demonstrations at the

open house.

The Woodstock Volunteer Fire Association (WVFA) is a nonprofit volunteer organization whose purpose is to provide emergency services and community service to the Town of Woodstock as Firefighters, Rescue Team Members and Medical Technicians. WVFA provides fire protection services for the WVFA Fire District, primarily the South and Southeastern sections of Woodstock including Woodstock Hill, and provides ambulance service for the entire Town of Woodstock.

WVFA includes: The WVFA Firefighters—the largest group within the organization. The firefighters respond to all types of fires, to automobile accidents, to searches as well as assisting in water rescues and assisting in medical calls. The WVFA Firefighters also have their own Fire Police who provide traffic control at emergency scenes.

The WVFA Search and Rescue Team—primarily responsible for carrying out water rescues. It is staffed by firefighters and scuba divers from all three fire departments in townThe Woodstock Emergency Medical Service—provides response to medical emergencies. "First Responder" medical technicians respond directly to the scene of illnesses and accidents, rendering assistance until an ambulance arrives. WVFA's medical personnel then continue providing aid in the ambulance until it reaches the hospital.

Villager SELFIES

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Rachael Johnston

Occupation: Broker/Owner of Johnston & Associates Real Estate in Thompson

Lives In: Killingly

Family: Husband, Shawn; sons/daughters-in-laws: Ryan and Amanda, Jeff and Danielle; grandson, Rhett

Pets: Goldendoodle, Sophie Doodle Johnston - the best fur baby ever!

How long have you lived in the area?
Just moved to Killingly last year but lived in Thompson my entire life

Do you have a favorite food?
I am a self-diagnosed "ice cream-aholic"!

What is currently your favorite TV Show?
Frankie & Grace on Netflix. The combination of Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda makes for a lot of laughs.

What is your favorite travel destination? Any place that offers me the ocean and a sandy beach.

What's the best part about your town?

I feel blessed to live in a community where neighbors care about neighbors and giving back is a normal part of life.

Who has been the greatest influence in your life?
My husband Shawn. He is honest, has an incredibly strong moral character and is so very giving of himself.

Who is your favorite musical artist?
Journey, BonJovi, Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin

What is the greatest piece of advice you have ever been given?
Navy Admiral McGravin once said: "If you make your bed every morning, you will have accomplished the first task of the day. It will give you a small sense of pride, and it will encourage you to do another task, and another, and another. And by the end of the day that one task completed will have turned into many tasks completed." So, I make my bed every morning.

Favorite Sports Team: Red Sox, Patriots, UCONN Huskies

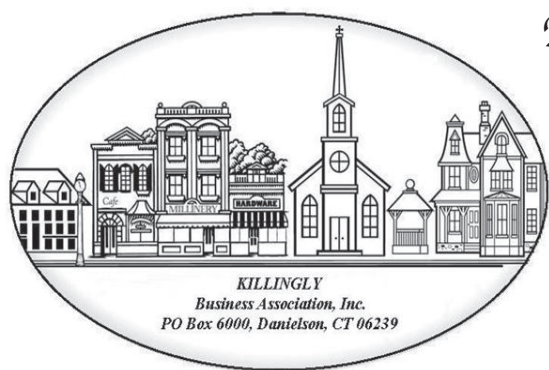
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Day Kimball Healthcare Corporators Meeting

PUTNAM — More than 130 Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) Corporators and community leaders attended the organization's 125th annual Corporators Meeting at the Mansion at Bald Hill on Feb. 5. Each year's meeting invites DKH's corporators together to reflect on organizational achievements from the past fiscal year.

This year's meeting culminated a yearlong celebration of DKH's 125th anniversary of providing high quality, compassionate care to the residents of Northeast Connecticut.

"When the Windham County Infirmary, predecessor to Day Kimball Hospital, opened its doors in 1894, it quickly became a landmark in the local community, rooted in strong service and dedicated to health care excellence," said Joseph Adiletta, Interim President, Day Kimball Healthcare. "Without a doubt, Day Kimball is the hometown health care provider for this proud region. We're honored to be such an integral part of this community's history, and we keep moving forward to meet evolving needs, today, and for years to come."

At the meeting, DKH Medical Staff President Michael Baum, MD, reflected on the growth of DKH's physician network over the course of the health system's history. "In its origins, Day Kimball Hospital's medical staff consisted of only 3 consulting physicians, Dr. George Bowen, Dr. Lowell Holbrook, and Dr. Seldom B. Overlock. Today, our medical staff consists of approximately 80 active physicians, 40 allied health providers, 20 community medicine practitioners, and 150 associated staff," said Dr. Baum.

For DKH, 2019 was a year of challenges, change and through it all, achievement. Adiletta summarized highlights from DKH's fiscal year, including the recruitment of new experts to better meet the region's needs while building a critical mass of services across the full continuum of care including a new urologist, OB/GYNs, oncologists, pediatricians, and primary care doctors; expansion of access to services including the establishment of a new walk-in clinic in DKH's Plainfield Healthcare Center; and investments in next generation technologies from Stryker's Mako Robotic Arm Assisted Surgical System to an advanced pharmacy including a new sterile compounding cleanroom.

Financial Review: Despite sustained financial pressure on health care providers across the country, and especially in Connecticut, DKH recorded another year of solid financial results for fiscal year 2019. The health system posted total revenue exceeding \$136

million, ending the year in the black by \$564,000. This marked the third out of the last four years that DKH has generated positive operating results.

"This is no small feat for a community hospital in the face of challenging reimbursement levels from third party payers, such as Medicare and Medicaid, increasing wages and drug cost, and flat or declining patient volumes in several key service lines due to increasing competition and insurance companies steering patients away from hospital-based services," said Paul Beaudoin, Chief Financial Officer and Interim Chief Executive Officer, Day Kimball Healthcare.

Beaudoin also expressed gratitude to the Lamont Administration and House and Senate members for supporting a seven year agreement reached between the Administration and CT Hospital Association. The agreement provides more predictability and sustainability for hospitals in terms of Medicaid payments and the hospital tax.

For Day Kimball, this historic settlement agreement provides over \$3 million in one-time payments related to prior year underpayments expected to be made in fiscal year 2020, and addresses the uncertainty related to the amounts of the supplemental payments and revenue tax moving forward. It also provides for annual increases in Medicaid payment rates of roughly 2% through the life of the agreement.

Quality of Care: In his remarks, Adiletta highlighted a number of distinctions and designations for quality care earned during the last fiscal year, including:

Day Kimball Hospital received the Mammography Quality Standards Act Accreditation by the Food and Drug Administration for its mammography facilities meeting uniform quality standards that focus on equipment performance, personnel qualification, and quality control.

Day Kimball Hospital earned the CNOR Strong Designation from the Competency & Credentialing Institute, which is given to facilities having at least 50% of its operating room nursing staff CNOR certified.

The Townsend Emergency Medical Center achieved Always Ready for Children Pediatric Status in the Connecticut Emergency Medical Services for Children facility recognition program.

The CT Department of Public Health's latest Adverse Events Report showed Day Kimball Hospital was the only acute care hospital in the state to achieve zero adverse events in 2018, marking the second consecutive year that DKH has attained this achieve-



Courtesy photos

Day Kimball Healthcare Board of Directors pictured at the annual Corporators Meeting.

ment.

And, Day Kimball Hospital had the 5th lowest hospital-wide, 30-day readmission rate among Connecticut Hospitals, based on the most recent CHIME data.

Looking ahead: DKH leadership also underscored that while the need to partner with a larger healthcare system remains, they will ensure that any future partnerships continue to honor DKH's local mission and are taking the steps necessary to ensure the organization can remain independent until the right fit is found.

"We are committed to taking the appropriate amount of time necessary to find the right affiliation that will ensure Day Kimball can continue to provide world-class care to Northeast Connecticut and beyond as we deliver on our community mission that began 125 years ago," said Beaudoin.

"We are poised to become a new breed of community hospital by using our technology and clinical partnerships to bring 21st century healthcare to Northeast Connecticut," said Janice Thurlow, interim board chairman, Day Kimball Healthcare. "We have worked hard to improve our quality rankings, stabilize our financial position, and invest in technology. These efforts are tangible proof that we are advancing, and our achievements make us an attractive partner for a strategic affiliation."

Leadership: Other business conducted at the meeting included approving the election of new board members Dr. Krista Matsen and Dr. Steven Wexler, and the renewal of board members Jeffrey Paul, Shawn Mc Nerney, Dr. Anthony Chieffalo, Attorney Edwin Higgins, and Dr. Paul Matty.

The corporators also approved the slate of board officers: Chairman Janice Thurlow, Vice Chairman Peter Deary, Secretary Kathy Rocha, Treasurer Jeffrey Paul, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer



Day Kimball Healthcare's longest-serving employees honored at the 125th annual Corporators Meeting.



Day Kimball Healthcare's 2019 employees of the month honored at the Annual Corporators Meeting.

Attorney Edwin Higgins.

Recognition: As testament to the dedication of DKH's staff, the evening concluded with the naming of DKH's 2019 Employee of the Year recipient, Wilbert Harris, housekeeper.

The following employee of the month recipients were recognized at the meeting: Wendy Blackmar, pre-certification clerk; Katrina Lambert, project manager, Information Technology; Gyuiljan Tahirova, RN, Intensive Care Unit; Darlene Sheldon, lead unit receptionist and patient care technician; Wilbert Harris, housekeeper; Vanmaly Sangasy, RN, Oncology; John Ruggieri, technical analyst, Information Technology; Allison Clancy, RN, Inpatient

Behavioral Health Unit; Ryan Cowles, electrician; and Cindy Rondini, lead patient services representative, Outpatient Behavioral Health.

At the meeting, DKH also celebrated and recognized 21 of its longest-serving employees who have dedicated 40 years or more to the organization. And, to carry on a new tradition of recognizing corporators who have dedicated 25 years or more to the organization, 12 corporators were recognized for their long-standing commitment and passion to DKH's vision of community care for over a quarter century.

For other highlights and achievements from DKH's 2019 fiscal year, view Day Kimball Healthcare's annual

report at daykimball.org/annualreport.

About Day Kimball Healthcare: Day Kimball Healthcare is a nonprofit community healthcare system comprised of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare At Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Healthcare's comprehensive network offers more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its website is www.daykimball.org.

Day Kimball Healthcare responds to coronavirus

PUTNAM — In a press release on March 10 Day Kimball Healthcare said it is closely monitoring the rapidly evolving coronavirus outbreak and following the procedures outlined by federal, state, and local public health agencies.

The spread of the 2019 novel coronavirus (Covid-19) internationally and within the United States has prompted concern about the risk of transmission in the Northeast Connecticut community. DKH has been following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Connecticut Department of Public Health and is ready to respond to any cases in the area.

"Our primary concern is the health and safety of our patients, families, and staff," said John Graham, DKH's Chief Medical Officer and Vice President of Quality and Medical Affairs. "With cases of coronavirus now confirmed in our state, we are preparing for and responding to the risk of the disease spreading into our community. We are employing proactive measures to slow

and contain transmissions of COVID-19, to keep our patients, visitors, and staff safe."

DKH is screening all patients with upcoming appointments with basic questions about travel and symptoms. Symptoms including fever, cough and shortness of breath may appear 2-14 days after exposure.

DKH urges individuals to call their healthcare provider before going to the office if they believe they may have coronavirus, or if they have been in close contact with a person known to have coronavirus, especially if they are experiencing moderate-to-severe respiratory symptoms and have traveled recently.

DKH requests that individuals not come to Day Kimball Hospital Emergency Department, Day Kimball Medical Group outpatient clinics, the Day Kimball Walk-In Clinic in Plainfield, or other medical clinics in the community to have those particular symptoms evaluated, unless they have been instructed to do so by their doctor.

"DKH is not currently treating any patients with confirmed 2019 novel coronavirus. However, we have seen an exceptionally high number of patients with influenza this winter. Each patient presenting with flu-like symptoms is evaluated thoroughly to prescribe a care plan. If you have traveled in an area with widespread community COVID-19 during the past month and are now ill with a possibly respiratory tract infection, please call your doctor, or the clinic, first before proceeding there so you can be cared for in a safe manner," said Dr. Graham.

Assessment of these potential patients is first being performed over the phone. Potential patients are being evaluated remotely or outside of DKH's facilities in protected areas to ensure that staff can provide instructions to help keep patients and others safe from possible exposure.

"Potential patients who require hospitalization will be directed to enter the Hospital through the decontamination entrance at the Emergency Department. They will be placed in

a negative pressure isolation room and treated by healthcare professionals wearing a higher level of protective equipment. Doctors will evaluate and examine the patient and possibly refer the individual to DPH, which will determine whether to administer a test for coronavirus," said Dr. Graham.

DKH recommends that everyone follow safe hygiene practices to stay healthy and prevent illness including: frequent hand washing; refraining from touching the eyes, nose and mouth; coughing and sneezing into the elbow; and staying home if sick.

As with any new infection, information and recommendations are changing frequently. For the latest information, read more on the CDC website, www.cdc.gov, and the Connecticut DPH website, www.ct.gov/coronavirus.

Learn more about measures Day Kimball Healthcare is taking to address the spread of coronavirus at www.daykimball.org/coronavirus or call 2-1-1, the CT State Hotline for information.

House passes Courtney’s baseball bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. House of Representatives voted on March 10 to pass H.R. 6020, legislation introduced by Congressman Joe Courtney (CT-02) and members of the bipartisan Save Minor League Baseball Task Force that reaffirms the cultural importance of Minor League Baseball (MiLB) teams across the United States. H.R. 6020 also instructs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to study the social, economic, and historic contributions that MiLB has made to American life and culture.

In his remarks, Courtney stated: “I’m here next to the logo of the Norwich Sea Unicorns, a franchise that provides an affordable, family venue for people to actually go to professional baseball games and see the stars of the future. That’s something that with the price of tickets for Major League baseball – whether it’s Fenway Park, Yankee Stadium, or Citi Field in New York City – are just far beyond what a working family can afford to do.

“The logic of this in terms of economics makes absolutely no sense. Over the last four years, Minor League Baseball has averaged consistently 40 million

fans. The cost to Major League Baseball per [MiLB] franchise is about \$400,000 for the entire team for a season. When you look at the average value of a Major League Baseball team, it’s about \$1.78 billion. Even the smallest is worth over a billion dollars. The notion that MLB is in desperate financial straits really doesn’t add up. And that’s why having GAO called upon – which this bill does, this isn’t just a feel-good bill. It calls on the gold-standard, the neutral analyst in our country, to drill down and look at what the economic impact would be.

“On February third we had rally in Norwich. Hundreds of people showed up – vendors, folks who benefit from the economic ripple-effect of a Minor League Baseball team, but also the families and kids, and the high school baseball teams that use the field. We need to rise up and stop this development, which really goes to the heart of our country in terms of its national pastime. I strongly urge all of us to come together and pass this resolution.”

Following reports that Major League Baseball (MLB) had proposed to disband short-season leagues like the New York-Penn League – which would elim-


inate 42 affiliated teams in total, including the Connecticut Sea Unicorns – Rep. Courtney and the House Save Minor League Baseball Task Force led the charge to protect these local teams. On November 19, 2019, they wrote to MLB Commissioner Manfred to urge the MLB to abandon its plan to eliminate 42 MiLB teams.

In January of this year, Rep. Courtney – a founding member of the bipartisan Save Minor League Baseball Task Force – helped lead the introduction of a resolution (H.R. 6020) expressing the sense of Congress that the MLB should maintain the current MiLB structure.

In February, Rep. Courtney led a stakeholders meeting at the Sea Unicorns’ Dodd Stadium to discuss efforts to push back against the MLB’s proposal – immediately following the meeting, a community gathering of fans, supporters, and public officials was held to support the Sea Unicorns.

On March 4, Rep. Courtney helped introduce H.R. 6020, which instructs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to study the social, economic, and historic contributions that MiLB has made to American life and culture. Last

week, Courtney applauded the House Oversight and Reform Committee for voting to advance H.R. 6020, which set the bill up for today’s vote.




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B

Section

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KILLINGLY, PUTNAM COMPETE IN STATES

Charlie Lentz photo

DAYVILLE — Killingly High’s Trinity Angel gets off a shot between Sacred Heart’s Paige Carroll, left, and Ally Daniels, right, in a Class MM state tournament game on Friday, March 6. Killingly and Putnam both played tourney games on March 6, stories on page B-2 and B-3.

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³ As published in the 2019 Banker and Tradesman's Massachusetts Banking Choice Awards.

Lyons nets 1,000th point in state win



Putnam High's Abby St. Martin works in the paint against Portland's Morgan Lasky.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

PUTNAM — A packed gymnasium, a vocal crowd, a must-win state tournament game with a trip to the quarterfinals on the line — Putnam High's gymnasium provided a raucous setting for senior point guard Kayleigh Lyons last Friday night. It was only fitting that the Clippers four-year starter answered with her 1,000th career point in the midst of a 20-point effort that helped defeat Portland High 43-32 and propel Putnam to the Class S state quarterfinals.

"It was really special with that big of a crowd, it being a home game, a state game — being able to get the win as well," said Lyons of reaching the milestone on a three-pointer at the end of the third quar-

ter. "At first I didn't know what was going on. I had my whole team hugging me and then I realized I really did it. It was just very special having my coach and my mom (Danielle Preston) run up to me and give me a huge hug."

Putnam coach Mandi Hogan said it was a moment to remember.

"It's amazing. I'm so glad that she was able to do it at home in front of a crowd. In a state game — even better — the gym was packed," Hogan said. "So many people were part of that moment. She'll have that moment for the rest of her life. Turning around and looking at that gym — all her family there, her friends, her community — it was a special moment for her."

And special for the Clippers as well — but unfortunately

dampened by the Coronavirus scare. The win would have advanced second-seeded Putnam (21-4) to the Class S quarterfinals. The Clippers were scheduled to play host to seventh-seeded Thomaston (15-7) on March 12 — but on Tuesday, March 10, the CIAC cancelled the remainder of all state tournaments due to concerns about the outbreak of Coronavirus. Thomaston defeated 23rd-seeded Westbrook 56-18 in second-round action. The loss ended 15th-seeded Portland's record at 11-10. The stakes would have gotten higher for Putnam — but unfortunately the Coronavirus meant no tomorrow.

"Nothing's given now. This is one and done for them," said coach Hogan last Friday, days before the CIAC cancelled the rest of the state tourney. "There's no tomorrow. You're playing for today. If you want to play tomorrow you've got to go out there and play your best basketball."

Coach Hogan said Lyons had to be versatile over her long career to reach her milestone.

"Kayleigh's been a four-year starter, the first two as a wing guard and the last two taking over as the point guard. We all know that the point guard is the leader, they're the one with the assists and they make the plays happen. So for Kayleigh to score 1,000 points she really had to work for her 1,000 points. No plays are really set for the 1, so she had to work hard and create," Hogan said.

Lyons never stopped working on her game.

"Basketball has been her love and her life," Hogan said. "She has put the time in, from the time she was young until this year, always trying to improve — playing AAU or in a clinic, summer league, fall ball — this kid has put in hours and hours in the gym. It paid off."

Lyons scored eight points in the first half in a tight battle with the Highlanders last Friday night. Portland sank a trio of three-pointers and broke to a 9-2 lead to open the contest, displaying a deft touch from beyond the arc in the first half. The Highlanders sank five three-pointers in the first half.

Putnam rallied and took its first lead of the half on a pair of free throws from Lyons with 48 seconds left in the first half to put the Clippers up 16-15. Lyons sank a layup off the fast break to push the margin to 18-15



Putnam High's Kayleigh Lyons drives to the bucket with Portland's Morgan Lasky defending on Friday, March 6. Lyons scored her 1,000th career point on Friday night.

CIAC cancels state tourneys

CHESHIRE — Due to continuing concerns regarding the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) — the CIAC made the decision on Tuesday, March 10, to cancel the remainder of its winter season state championship tournaments. The decision means there will be no state champions in girls or boys basketball, boys hockey, or swimming. The decision meant the cancellation of Putnam High's game vs. Thomaston in the third round of the Class S girls basketball state tournament, which was scheduled for March 12. Also cancelled was the first-round game between Killingly High and Lyman Memorial in the Division IV boys basketball state tournament, which was scheduled for March 10.

In a press release the CIAC said the decision was made in light of discussions with numerous agencies and considering the circumstances of its member schools, championship venues, and weighing the health and safety of student-athletes, parents, and fans given the uncertainty that surrounds the spread of this virus. The announcement was made by CAS-CIAC Executive Director Glenn Lungarini on Tuesday, March 10.

with :11 left in the half — but Portland's Ava Hurley sank a three-pointer at the first-half buzzer to knot things at 18-18 at the intermission. Hurley connected on three three-pointers in the first half.

"We were in a good place at halftime. We just went over the game plan at halftime, made some adjustments. The kids, they buy in, they knew what they needed to do — they had to talk a little bit more — just get out on Ava Hurley faster and close her out and in the second half and we did that," Hogan said. "They just settled in. I'm just really proud of them."

Fifteen of Portland's 18 first-half points came on three-pointers and Putnam tightened up its perimeter defense in the second half. The Clippers outscored Portland 25-14 in the second half to cruise to the win. Hurley led Portland with 15 points, coming on five three-pointers. Junior forward Abby St. Martin tallied 16 points and had 10 rebounds for Putnam. Senior guard Molly McKeon added five points, two rebounds and two assists. Senior wing Jillian Gray grabbed seven rebounds for the Clippers.

Putnam's senior starters — Lyons, Gray, and McKeon — were focused on defeating Portland in the second round and reaching the Class S quarterfinals. Putnam had been ousted in the second round of states the past two seasons — falling to Bloomfield last season and losing to Lyman Memorial in the second round of the tourney in 2018.

"They don't want to go home," said Hogan of her senior leaders. "They just work really hard. If they're not having high-scoring nights they're doing all the other little things — boxing out, playing defense, just playmaking — and that helps everybody out there be successful. They don't want

their season to end. They came out focused, with a lot of energy, and motivating everybody else."

Putnam had a record of 69-23 over Lyons four-year career. The 21 wins this season were the most in a single season in Hogan's 13 seasons on the bench, the last seven as head coach after serving as an assistant coach for six seasons.

"This has just been a great, great season — a lot of special memories, these kids have created a lot of special moments. It's just exciting. I'm just so proud of them," Hogan said. "This has just been a fun year for me with these girls and I just want the very best for them."

Hogan said the support from Putnam's fans has been welcome during this landmark campaign.

"It's a special season. I feel the community sees it — all their family and their friends and they're bringing more and more people into the gym. It's a great feeling. It's something to be proud of," Hogan said. "It doesn't happen all the time. These girls have worked really hard. So to turn around and look in the stands and see that they have the support and love — it's the energy and the girls really appreciate it. They love it."

Lyons' scoring total was 1,012 points and counting after the win over Portland. She gave credit to her teammates and her coach for helping her reach the 1,000-point plateau — with a big assist from Putnam's fans.

"I think our crowd, everyone who comes out to support us, it definitely fueled me to reach that goal," Lyons said.

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



Putnam High coach Mandi Hogan presented Kayleigh Lyons with a souvenir for scoring her 1,000th point.

Killingly falls to Sacred Heart in state tourney



Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly High's Sophia Moore shoots while defended by Sacred Heart's Aamyra Rivera on Friday, March 6, at Killingly High School.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

DAYVILLE — Killingly High sophomore guard Sophia Moore will remember that layup for a long, long time — perhaps forever. Forever seemed like the amount of time her shot hung on the basket after it made a full loop around the rim against Sacred Heart in the second round of the Class MM state tournament last Friday night.

“I heard the crowd cheering so I thought it went in,” Moore said.

With Killingly trailing by one point with 27 seconds left — Moore burst down the court on a fast break in traffic and lofted a layup that circled the rim, then hung for a tantalizing second before cruelly sliding off — and with it slid one of Killingly’s last chances to top Sacred Heart in a 58-57 loss at Killingly High on March 6.

“I looked up and saw it bounce out,” Moore said.

Killingly coach Gina Derosier had a better view.

“Oh my gosh it sat up there for a second and kind of just tipped off,” Derosier said.

Following Moore’s miss Killingly still had two more chances on its final possession with 4.2 seconds left — with sophomore guard Emma Carpenter inbound — inbounding the ball from under Killingly’s basket. Carpenter passed it to junior forward Maddie Sumner in the left corner. Sumner released a three-point attempt that spun out and was rebounded by senior forward Trinity Angel. Angel attempted a putback with one second left but it would not fall — and Killingly’s season fell along with it.

“The last three shots were that way: Soph’s layup, Maddie’s three

kind of rattled around the rim. Trin got a rebound and had a little five- or six-footer — tonight wasn’t our night,” Derosier said.

“The ball wasn’t going to bounce the right way for us.”

Angel appeared to draw contact on her last putback attempt but the refs seemingly swallowed their whistles.

“I thought I got fouled but the refs didn’t call it,” Angel said. “We came back stronger than ever but our shots just didn’t fall.”

The loss ended seventh-seeded Killingly’s season with a record of 19-6. The win lifted 10th-seeded Sacred Heart of Waterbury’s record to 16-6.

With Killingly leading 33-27 with 7:17 left in the third quarter, Moore picked up her third foul and went to the bench. She returned with two minutes left in the third

frame but quickly picked up her fourth foul with 1:28 remaining and went back to the pine. Moore is perhaps Killingly’s top perimeter defender and she missed most of the third frame. In her absence Sacred Heart outscored Killingly 24-16 in the third quarter and turned a 30-25 halftime deficit into a 49-46 lead heading into the fourth quarter. Sacred Heart senior guard Aamyra Rivera scored seven of her team-high 18 points in the third quarter.

With Moore on the bench, Rivera was able to penetrate the lane and cause havoc.

“I hate sitting and watching because I know I could be out there helping my teammates,” Moore said.

Angel said Moore’s time on the bench was key.

“It definitely hurt our team. She kind of lifts

us up. She controls the ball,” Angel said. “It really damaged our team.”

Coach Gina Derosier said Moore’s foul trouble hurt on both ends of the floor, she finished with five points.

“Soph’s our rock on defense so it’s like a missing piece of the puzzle. It’s very hard to fill that void,” Derosier said.

Killingly’s Angel scored a team-high 18 points. Freshman guard Ella Lach tallied 10 points. Carpenter finished with eight points and Sumner added seven points for Killingly. The loss to Sacred Heart was disappointing for Moore and her teammates — a tough exclamation point on a turnaround season. Killingly finished 6-14 in the regular season last year, a sharp contrast to this season’s 19-6 final record.

“That is a testimony to these girls, coming to play hard every single day — girls that want to learn, girls that want to get better, girls that feed off of each other, girls that like and genuinely love each other,” Derosier said. “Our team’s a family. These girls have played hard from December 2 when basketball started.

I’m so incredibly proud to be these girls’ coach. They’ve put Redgals basketball back on the map.”

Moore was a big part of that road map after missing all of last season while rehabbing a torn anterior cruciate ligament in her left knee.

“I’m extremely proud of our team. We put Killingly basketball back on the map,” Moore said. “I think this year the crowd support from the community has been crazy. It was just a great season and you can’t take anything away from that.”

Moore will remember this season and the last layup she took against Sacred Heart for a long, long time — perhaps forever — just about the amount the time that shot seemed to hang on the rim.

“It’s very frustrating but I’m proud of everyone because we worked hard to the end,” Moore said. “That’s all I can ask for.”

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



Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly High's Ella Lach fires a jumper against Sacred Heart.



Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly High's Trinity Angel gets off a shot between Sacred Heart's Paige Carroll, left, and Ally Daniels, right.

Courthouse O'Putnam 5K set for Sunday



Charlie Lentz photo

Runners begin last year's Courthouse O'Putnam 5K.



Charlie Lentz photo

Men's division winner Scott Bushey crosses the finish en route to setting a course record last year in 16 minutes, 28 seconds.

PUTNAM — The Courthouse O'Putnam 5K is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Sunday, March 15. St. Patrick's Day-themed costumes are encouraged. This family-friendly, fun 5K event starts and finishes in downtown Putnam. The 3.1-mile loop course takes participants through the heart of Putnam, along the Quinebaug River and down quiet neighborhood roads. A post-race party at the Courthouse Bar and Grille tops off the Irish celebration. Eight hundred and one runners crossed the finish line last year.

All participants will receive Irish-green sunglasses and a complimentary photo to mark participation in the event. After the finish participants ages 21 and over (with identification) will receive a complimentary ice cold beer.

Children are encouraged to compete in the Wee Mile, a quarter-mile or half-mile race for children aged 2-11, set to begin at 12:30 p.m. Donations of nonperishable food will be collected on race day, through the HMF Can drive and are earmarked to benefit Putnam's Daily Bread Food Pantry. Registration is open online at hartfordmarathon.com. Race-day registration will also be available on the morning of the race.

Limited road closures will affect the area from 10:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. for the Courthouse

O'Putnam 5K on Sunday, March 15. With approximately 1,500 participants expected at the event, please be aware of traffic impact. The following areas and streets will be used for the race. Roads will reopen as runners pass. Expect minor delays and detours on the following roads:

Main Street (Bundy – Front Street) 10:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Main Street (Massicotte Circle – Bundy Street) 11:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Canal Street 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Kennedy Drive (Canal Street – Sunset Avenue) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Sunset Avenue (Kennedy Drive – Park Street) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Park Street 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Arch Street (Park Street – S. Main Street) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
S. Main Street (Arch Street – Front Street) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Front Street (S. Main Street – School Street) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
School Street (Front Street – Providence Street) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Providence Street (School Street – Kennedy Drive) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Kennedy Drive (Providence Street – Massicotte Circle) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Massicotte Circle (Kennedy Drive – Main Street) 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m..



Charlie Lentz photo

Stella DiPippo, now a junior at Woodstock Academy, captured first place in the women's division last year.

Tracy Lis honored at Killingly High School

DAYVILLE — Killingly High School retired the number of basketball standout Tracy Lis in a ceremony at halftime of Killingly's second-round state tournament game vs. Sacred Heart on Friday, March 6. Kevin Marcoux, Killingly High's athletic director, said the retirement of Lis's No.

22, was in honor of one of the all-time great athletes in Connecticut history. Lis, Killingly High Class of 1988, was celebrated along with her long list of accomplishments. She was also named to the CIAC All-Century Team this year, as part of that orga-

nization's celebration of its 100 years of existence. Lis easily made the CIAC top 25 Girls Basketball Players of all-time list. Some of her accomplishments include but are not limited to:

Eastern Connecticut Conference scoring leader 1985-

88; All-State CT 1986-88; 3,681 career points – Connecticut record; 64 points scored in one game; New Haven Register Miss Basketball CT 1987, 1988; USA Today Basketball Player of the Year 1988; Scored 54 points in leading team to the 1988 Class L State Championship; Big East Rookie of the Year from Providence College 1989; All-Time leader scorer in

Providence College History with 2,534 points; Inducted into first Hall of Fame class at Killingly 2014

Inducted into Providence College Hall of Fame 2003; Inducted into the Connecticut Women's Basketball Hall of Fame; Played professionally with New England Blizzard and Harlem Wizards.



Tracy Lis stands with Killingly High Athletic Director Kevin Marcoux and the No. 22 jersey number that was retired on Friday, March 6.



Courtesy photos

On Friday, March 6, at Killingly High School, Tracy Lis stands with the basketball inscribed with the number 3,681 — the points she scored for Killingly High School.

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

WOODSTOCK GYMNASTICS

NEW MILFORD — Woodstock Academy finished second to Southington at the State Open gymnastics championships at New Milford High on March 7. Southington captured first place with a score of 136.625. Woodstock placed second with a tally of 136.1. Woodstock senior Jenna Davidson won the individual all-around title with a 36.575 including a 9.55 in floor exercise. Lindsey Gillies placed 13th for the Centaurs with a 34.050 in the all-around performance. Killingly/Putnam/Tourtellotte co-op's Kiera O'Brien finished 11th in the all-around.

LYMAN HALL 5, WOODSTOCK 0

POMFRET — Lyman Hall/HK/Coginchaug co-op defeat Woodstock Academy in the opening round of the Division II boys hockey state tournament on March 9 at Pomfret School's Jahn Rink. Centaurs goalie Colin Liscomb made 24 saves. The win lifted 11th-seeded Lyman Hall's record to 11-9-1. The loss ended sixth-seeded Woodstock's season at 15-7.

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

Open House

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/RR/Art Guild/
Boy Scouts)
108 School Street FREE 1:00-3:00

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

3RD ANNUAL JOHN PAIRE "BE BETTER"
BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



Shepherd Hill Regional High School
64 Dudley-Oxford Rd. Dudley, MA
01571 Registration starts at 8:30am.
Games begin at 9am. \$150 per team
and \$40 for additional players. For
more information contact us at john-
paire3on3@gmail.com. Visit our
facebook page: Friends of John Paire

Student Support Fund. All proceeds benefit the
John Paire Student Support Fund
Register by March 1 Grades 5 to 8 (Co-Ed),
High School. Women, Men, Adult Co-Ed. *
This tournament is open to anyone who would
like to participate

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

RE-ENACTMENT of signing of town bill and
unveiling of Anniversary Quilt
Senior Center, Pleasant Street. 6:30pm FREE

SATURDAY, APRIL 4,

ROARIN' TWENTIES DANCE
at Sturbridge Host Hotel \$35, 5:00pm
Tickets @EventBrite.com
or at the library

SATURDAY, APRIL 11,

OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR)
108 School Street, East Brookfield 1:00-3:00.
FREE

SATURDAY, APRIL 18,

HISTORICAL TALK - Ed Londergan -
The First and Second Settlements
East Brookfield Town Hall 9:30 FREE

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

TOWN WIDE CLEAN-UP DAY
Meet at East Brookfield Town Hall 9:00

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

APRIL 25 & 26

2020 SPENCER FISH & GAME
ANNUAL SPRING DERBY
Large trout up to 11 pounds and Tagged &
Golden Trout stocked for the event. Starts at
8 am. Registration starts at 6 am. Purchase
breakfast and lunch. Cash prizes and trophies
Free to members. Fee for non-members or join
the club. 155 Mechanic Street, Spencer, MA
01562

SATURDAY, MAY 2,

EAST BROOKFIELD NATURE WALKS
at Pelletier Woods
Howe Street, East Brookfield 2:00. FREE

SATURDAY, MAY 9,

OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR).
108 School Street, East Brookfield. 1-2:00
FREE

SATURDAY, MAY 16,

7K RUN AND FUN WALK
Timberyard Brewery, East Brookfield
10:0am. \$30.00 adults, \$15.00 kids

SATURDAY, MAY 30

HISTORICAL TALK -
Ed Londergan - Murder in the Brookfields
(Spooner / Newton Murders)
East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

HISTORY & DESSERT
at Podunk Chapel, East Brookfield
2:00 & 3:30 seatings. \$5.00 pp

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

COAST GUARD BAND
East Brookfield Elementary School, 7:00
FREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR)
108 School Street, East Brookfield 1:00-3:00.
FREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 20,

OPEN HOUSE
at Camp Frank A. Day (archery, boating, bas-
ketball, mini golf, lunch) Rain Date: June 21.
125 South Pond Road, East Brookfield. 11:00-
3:00. FREE

MONDAY, JULY 6



SUMMER READING KICK OFF -
EB Library - continues for five
weeks.
East Brookfield Town Hall. FREE

SATURDAY JULY 25

HISTORICAL TALK - Heather Gablaski -
East Brookfield: 100 Years a Town
East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

SATURDAY, JULY 11

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION
Parade & Fireworks
Connie Mack Field East Brookfield

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR)
108 School Street, East Brookfield,
1:00-3:00. FREE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

PARADE AND FAMILY FUN EVENT!
Route 9, East Brookfield,
9:30 -7:00. FREE. Rain date Sept 13

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR)
108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.
FREE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 3:30

BUS AND CEMETERY TOUR,
ending in dinner at Podunk Chapel.
Meet at East Brookfield Town Hall.
\$15-\$20.00 pp

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

HISTORICAL TALK - Guy Morin- Central
Massachusetts during the Revolution
East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30 FREE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR)
108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.
FREE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

HISTORICAL TALK -
Ken and Tina Ethier - "Trolley Talk"
East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

OPEN HOUSE
at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR)
108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.
FREE

ONGOING



MARIACHI BAND
First Thursday of the month
5-8 p.m.
MEXICALI MEXICAN
GRILL
Webster location
41 Worcester Rd., Webster,
MA

508-461-5070



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

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



THE CENTRAL
MA CHAPTER OF
TROUT UNLIMITED
meets the first Monday
of every month from
September through
May. We discuss a
variety of conservation
programs to improve
the local cold water

fisheries, local fishing opportunities. Our
annual High School Fly Fishing Championship
(open to all MA high school students) And our
annual fund raising banquet.
Auburn Sportsman's Club
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
July/August every Thursday 6:00-8:00
Connie Mack Field East Brookfield. FREE -
Food and Drinks for sale.

VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

"SHINING A LIGHT ON COMMUNITY EVENTS"

March 13, Fri., 5-7pm

Please join us at the Lenten Fish Fry spon-
sored by Scout Troop 44 at the Trinity Church
located at 7 Providence Pike, Brooklyn, CT.
This fundraiser will held every Friday during
Lent. The meal consists of fish, fries and cole-
slaw. The meal is take-out only and cost \$12.
Please feel free to donate a canned good for
the can drive to benefit our local food pan-
try. All proceeds benefit the Boy Scout troop
outdoor activities and their chartered organi-
zation, Trinity church.

March 13, Fri., 9:30-1130am

Stoncroft Women's Connection at The Inn
at Woodstock Hill, 94 Plaine Hill Rd. Ceil
Vardar, \$10,00 Winner on Food Network's
"Chopped". Speaker Jeanne Kjelliman,
Lakeville, MA., "My Mother's Arms". Reser-
vations for Brunch \$13 required by March
8; cancellations essential. Call 860-774-
5092, 860-455-7671 or email:wccwc81@
hotmail.com. Bring a friend

March 14, Sat., 7-8:30am

The Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund
(SSMF) assistance is available this Saturday
and every Saturday morning, at the Pomfret
Senior Center, 207 Mashamouquet Road
(Rt.44) in Pomfret. Always free and confi-
dential; call 860-928-2309 for questions.
(The SSMF is administered by the Ameri-
can Legion to provide temporary financial
assistance to qualified veterans.

March 14, Sat., 7pm

Mass Production Reunion Concert at
Plainfield High School. Local singers and
musicians will perform a variety of new
songs as well as favorite oldies in order to
raise money for the Phil Janetatos music
scholarship. Tickets are: adults \$15.00, Se-
niors \$13.00, children \$10.00.



COMMUNITY COFFEE HOUR

Every 1st Friday morning from 8 to 11 am
Every 3rd Wednesday afternoon from 2-4:30 pm

Free Coffee/Tea and Snacks
Games, puzzles & Conversation
Senexet Grange, 628 Route 169, Woodstock, CT

March 14, Sat., 5-7pm

TMHS Class of 2021 Spaghetti Dinner at
American Legion Post 67, North Grosve-
nordale, Tickets \$10. Children under five
years of age are free.

March 14, Sat., 9am-Noon

Food drive in Putnam for local needy. There
will be a "Scouting for Food" drive for the
Daily Bread Food Pantry, to benefit local,
needy people in the towns of Putnam, Pom-
fret, Woodstock and Eastford at the Cargill
Council 64 Knights of Columbus Hall, 64
Providence Street, Putnam. Please bring
your non-perishable food items and tax-de-
ductible monetary donations, to help your
neighbors in need. The Easter Bunny will be
there for the children! If you can't get there
in person, then please mail your check to
Interfaith Human Services of Putnam. P. O.
Box 281, Putnam, CT 06260. For informa-
tion, please call (860) 928-7241 and leave a
message.

March 15, Sun., Noon

Benefit Bingo for TEEG. Enjoy a game of
Bingo while supporting a good cause. Game
takes place at St. Joseph's Hall (12 Main St.

No. Grosvenordale, CT). Doors open at
12:00pm, hot food items for sale beginning
at 1:00pm, Bingo begins at 2:00pm. There
will be lottery balloon door prizes. Games
begin for as low as \$7.00

March 15, Sun., 11am

VFW Albert J Breault Post 1523 207b Prov-
idence St. Putnam, CT. Post meeting and
House Committee meeting at 11am. Coffee
and donuts will be served. All members are
urged to attend. Thank You, Brian Lemay
(Commander) Al Heath (Adjunct).

March 19, Thurs., 7:30 p.m.

In honor of Women's History Month, the
Brooklyn Historical Society will spon-
sor Follow the Cannon: Clara Barton's
Civil War Letters, a one-woman show
featuring award-winning actress Lynne
McKenney Lydick who will portray the
brave, empathetic Civil War nurse called
the "Angel of the Battlefield" at Brook-
lyn's Trinity Episcopal Church Parish
Hall, 7 Providence Road (Route 6). For
info: 860-774-7728.

March 20, Thurs., 7-11pm

A "Dam" Fun Time Benefit Concert @

Stonehurst at Hampton Valley, Hampton,
CT. Silent auction, 50/50 Raffle, Hors d'oeu-
vres, cash bar. Dancing with music pro-
vided by the Great Garage Band Reunion.
Sponsored by Stonehurst and Black Dog
Bar & Grill to benefit the repair fund for the
dam at the Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp
in Pomfret. Tickets are \$40 per person and
must be purchased in advance. Call 860-
974-1122 to purchase tickets.

March 20, Fri., Noon-7pm

Club 2087 will hold a Lenten Fish Fry, in
the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1017 Riv-
erside Drive, North Grosvenordale. The
menu: fish & chips (\$11); baked haddock
(\$12); fried bay scallops or shrimp (\$13);
fried clams (\$16); seafood platter (\$18).
860-923-2967, council2087@gmail.com.

March 20, Fri., 5-7pm

Please join us at the Lenten Fish Fry spon-
sored by Scout Troop 44 at the Trinity
Church located at 7 Providence Pike,
Brooklyn, CT. This fundraiser will held
every Friday during Lent. The meal con-
sists of fish, fries and coleslaw. The meal is
take-out only and cost \$12. Please feel free
to donate a canned good for the can drive
to benefit our local food pantry. All pro-
ceeds benefit the Boy Scout troop outdoor
activities and their chartered organization,
Trinity church.

March 20, Fri., 10-3pm

Job Fair Hosted by Masis Staffing. Stop
by the TEEG office (15 Thatcher Rd. No.
Grosvenordale, CT) between 10:00-3:00 to
speak with staff members from Masis staff-
ing to see what job opportunities are avail-
able in the area. Free event with no registra-
tion required.

This page is designed to shine a light on upcoming local nonprofit, educational and community events.

Submissions are limited to 50 words or less and are FREE to qualifying organizations, schools, churches and town offices.

To submit your event contact: Paula at paula@stonebridgepress.news

Deadline for submission is Friday at Noon

www.ConnecticutsQuietCorner.com

OBITUARIES are published at no charge.
E-mail notices to charlie@villagernewspapers.com
or fax them to (860) 928-5946.
Photos are welcome in JPEG format.

OBITUARIES

Don Vachon



Don Vachon passed away February 29, 2020 in Chandler, AZ. Born and raised in Berlin, NH, he graduated in 1947 from Berlin High School. He went on to a two year college. He also served one year in the Navy and six years in the Reserves. He married his high school sweetheart, Barbara on January 15, 1951. They relocated many times and settled in Danielson, CT. Together they opened The Trink-et Shoppe in 1970. Barbara passed away on December 26, 2010. He is survived by his children Deborah Vachon, Susan Gatineau and her husband Gerard, Cindy Parsons

and her husband Alan, Laurie Vachon, and Roni Carli and her husband Ron. He was a cherished grandfather to Stacy Williams, David Parsons, Leslie Ckonjevic, Karin Hughes, Lisa Woznicki, and Sandra Woznicki. He was a great-grandfather to Logan, Delaney, Mary-Kate, Maxwell, Evan, Carter, Sawyer, Zach, Bella, Felix, Aurelia, Emily, Adelyn, Hannah, Megan, and Beckett. A memorial mass will be held at St. James at a later date. Burial will be at Holy Cross Cemetery in Danielson.



Leo W. Caouette, 85



SOUTHBRIDGE- Leo W. Caouette, 85, of Charlton St., peacefully passed away in his home on Sunday, Feb. 23rd, after a long illness. His lifelong companion and loving wife, Maria (Selig) Caouette, passed away in 2017. He leaves five step daughters, Elizabeth Conlon of Thompson, CT, Iris Conlon-Arsenault and her husband Jeff of Woodstock, CT, Sylvia Forcier and her husband Russell of Florida, Ursula Conlon-Towers and her husband David of Charlton and Monika Conlon-Simpson and her husband Stephen of Sturbridge; his sister Lorraine Gendron of Clearwater, FL; 2 Grandsons, Michael Lee Jarvis and Paul Beaupre. He was predeceased by his brother, Theodore Caouette

who passed away in 2012. He was born in Southbridge the son of Theodore W. and Norma P. (Girard) Caouette. Leo served many years in the National Guard. Leo was a longtime self-employed carpenter, retiring many years ago. Leo loved airplanes and was a licensed pilot since he was 16 years old. He also loved restoring vehicles. A Mass will be offered in his name on Saturday, April 25th, at 4:00pm at St. Anne's Church, 16 Church St., Sturbridge. Burial will be private. There are no calling hours. The Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, is directing arrangements. www.morrillfuneralhome.com



Juli-Anne T. Stachelek, 70



DUDLEY - Juli-Anne T. (Cournoyer) Stachelek, 70, peacefully passed away Thursday, March 5, 2020 in Harrington Healthcare at Hubbard after struggling with health issues. She leaves the love of her life and husband of 50 years, Ronald J. Stachelek; 2 sons, Adam J. Stachelek and his wife Jynell Cross of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and Anders J. "AJ" Stachelek of New York, NY; 2 beloved grandchildren, Varenna and Ari Stachelek; a brother, Richard Cournoyer and his wife Millie of Wethersfield, CT; 3 sisters, Annette Hamilton and her husband Kenneth of Woodstock, CT, Virginia "Ginger" Gatzke and her husband Ernest of Webster, and Yvette Alexander of N. Grosvenordale, CT; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her daughter Rhonda who died at birth, her brother Ovide "Cookie" Cournoyer and sister Dorothy Thibodeau. She was born and raised in Webster, a daughter of Ovide and Annabelle (Robbins) Cournoyer and lived in Webster and Dudley all her life. She graduated from Bartlett High School with a business diploma in 1967. To develop skills for a career in the insurance industry, she undertook several certification classes with the Insurance Institute of American where she achieved a Certificate in General Insurance which prepared her to be a rater and later an underwriter for Commerce Insurance, now Mapfre, Inc., for many years before retiring in 2008.

She devoted many years to her two sons, providing them with every opportunity to pursue their interests and grow as individuals. This quality time she shared with them also instilled a strong commitment to caring for others, which now extends to her grandchildren. Juli-Anne, better known as "Grammy" or "Mémé", absolutely adored her grandchildren and would shower Varenna and Ari with gifts at every visit. Fond of French language children's songs she would sing them to her grandchildren. She had a beautiful singing voice and was a powerful soloist when she sang in church choir earlier in her life. As an avid reader, she would often read her grandchildren stories while they sat listening intently next to her. She enjoyed coloring and painting to pass the time and would do so often with Varenna and Ari, spending silent and peaceful time together coloring their favorite things. She loved to laugh heartily and often had a "Julie Joke" at the ready for any occasion. She looked forward to Christmas every year having a respectable collection of Santa Claus figurines that grew each year. More recently she and her husband became RV campers and went on many camping adventures, including cross-country treks to Yellowstone and to visit her family living in Canada. Her funeral was held Monday, March 9, from Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster, with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Saint Louis Church, 14 Lake Street, Webster. Burial will be private. A time of visitation was held from 9:00 to 10:30 AM Monday, March 9, in the funeral home prior to the Mass.

Richard John Demars, Sr., 63



"Huggy" Richard John Demars, Sr., 63, of Dayville CT passed away on March 2, 2020 at Backus Memorial Hospital after a long illness. He was born on October 3, 1956, in Putnam CT to John and Minnie (Dupont) Demars of Dayville CT, who pre-deceased him. Richard leaves two children, Roxanne E. Demars and Richard J. Demars Jr. both of Danielson, a sister Cheryl Chatelle and her husband Alan of Danielson, his nephew Jonathan Chatelle of Plainfield and his Niece Ailise Chatelle of Danielson. He was also predeceased by his nephew and God son, Nicholas Chatelle. Huggy had a love of pets, especially Luke the German Sheppard, and Bubba, the cat. He enjoyed camping with his children, hunting and fishing. He also enjoyed his first responder

family. He lived in Killingly his whole life and was very active in the local fire protection service. He was a member of the Attawaugan Fire District for many years serving as Firefighter, Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain and Chief. He was a member of the South Killingly fire District as a Firefighter Driver and a member of East Brooklyn Fire Association, cooking at the steak suppers. Also known as Butch, he enjoyed being a part of the race car pit crew for Ray Hoag at the Thompson Speedway, and looked forward to plowing snow in the winter. He worked for several years at Hale Mfg in Ballouville and Dalmik Well Drilling of Putnam. A Funeral mass for Richard will be held on March 14, 2020, at 10:00 am at St. James church in Danielson and then a celebration of life will take place at the Attawaugan Fire Station following the church mass.

Ronald R. Paul, 68



Ronald R. Paul, age 68 of Danielson, died February 27, 2020. He was the devoted husband of Carol J. (Kudzal) Paul, they were married for 40 years, she died February 25, 2013. He was born October 28, 1951 in Worcester, MA, son of the late Clarence L. and Viola (Trudeau) Paul. He was employed at American Optical Corporation in Southbridge for over ten years, Ron was a Training Specialist for several departments and Senior Development Technician in Research and Development in Sturbridge. He also was employed at Loos & Company in Pomfret, OFS Technologies in Avon, Nypro in Clinton, MA. Ron was a former member of the Gertrude Chandler

Warner Museum and was a member of the Executive Committee of the Boxcar Museum and was a docent at the museum. Ron also worked on the photo archives of Aspinock Historical Society of Putnam. He also volunteered at Passages & Pourings in Danielson. Ron designed the first website for St. Mary Church in Putnam. He was a Music Radio announcer on a radio station in Worcester, MA. He is survived by his sister, Jeanne Poirier and her husband Armand of Florida and two nephews. A Graveside service will be held Thursday, April 2, 2020 at 11:00 AM in the Sacred Heart Cemetery, in Webster, MA. There are no Calling Hours. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Aspinock Historical Society of Putnam, 206 School St., Putnam CT 06260. www.smithand-walkerfh.com

Catherine Hair, 76

NORTH GROSVENORDALE- Catherine (Mooth) Hair, 76, of Green Acres, passed away on Monday, March 2, 2020 at Beaumont Rehabilitation and Skilled Nursing Center. She was the loving wife of the late Howard Emerson Hair who passed away in 1996. Born in North

Grosvenordale, she was the daughter of the late Edward and Mary (Kacavich) Mooth. Mrs. Hair worked as a secretary for Dr. Dupont. When her late husband was still alive, they helped to raise money for the old Methodist Church which was in North Grosvenordale. She enjoyed playing bingo and was a volunteer for the VFW Post #654 and at the Brookside Rehabilitation Center,

helping Veterans, both in Webster. She was especially proud that her sons served in the United States Navy. Catherine is survived by her sons, Michael Hair of Bunell, FL, and Charles H. Hair of Wiggins, MS; her companion, Johann "John" Bisselle of N. Grosvenordale; her brother, Ed Mooth of Orange City, FL; her grandchildren, Violet Hillanbrand, and Ruben Hair; and many great-grandchildren. Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Catherine's family from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20, 2020. With a Memorial Service to take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, CT. Memorial donations may be made to the Salmon VNA & Hospice, 37 Birch St. Milford, MA. 01757. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.



To place an In-Memoriam, Card of Thanks, Birthday or Anniversary Greeting, in the Villager Newspapers

the deadline is Monday at noon for that week.

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OBITUARIES

Bernice Baxter



WINDHAM - It is with great sadness that the family of Bernice Baxter announces her passing on Sunday, March 8, 2020, at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam, Connecticut. She is survived by her loving husband of 69 years, Prescott Baxter; as well as their four children, Bruce Baxter and his wife Cheryl, Sharon Turkia and her husband Michael, Beverly Huber and her companion Joseph Clark, Barbara Bohonowicz and her companion Mark Linskens. In addition, she will be forever remembered by her ten grandchildren, Christian, Jennifer, Brett, Lee Ann, Brittany, Joel, Cameron, Nicole, Kyle, Kayla and eight great-grandchildren, Carissa, Courtney, Catherine, Caroline, Kane, Emily, Jace and Julia. Bernice was predeceased by her mother and father, Frederick and Sarah Evelyn Beeney; as well as, her sister Rosalie Martone and brother Roland Beeney.

Bernice resided in Windham, Connecticut, with her husband,

Prescott. In 1977 they purchased Tennett Tree Service, a small company with only two trucks, and with hard work and dedication turned it into the thriving much larger company that it is today. Bernice was a kind, generous and loving soul. She devoted much of her life to the well-being of others, most importantly her husband and family. She was very artistic and loved to read, travel and cook amazing food for her family and friends. Her devotion and unconditional love will forever live on in the hearts of all that had the joy of knowing her.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Westfield Congregational Church, 210 Main Street, Danielson, CT. Burial to follow at Westfield Cemetery, Danielson. There are no calling hours. A reception will be held at 12:00 p.m. at Black Dog Grille, 146 Park Road, Putnam, CT. In lieu of flowers, donations in Bernice's memory may be made to one of her favorite charities, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at stjude.org. Tillinghast Funeral Home, 433 Main St., Danielson is in charge of arrangements. tillinghastfh.com

Henry Francis Misiaszek, 95



DANIELSON - Henry Francis Misiaszek, 95, died Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at The Pierce Memorial Baptist Home in Brooklyn surrounded by his loving family. He was born in Danielson, CT December 6, 1924 son of the late Matthew and Agatha (Siwicki) Misiaszek. He was the husband of the late Lucienne (Bousquet) Misiaszek. During World War II, he proudly served in the United States

Army Air Corps. Henry owned and operated Misiaszek Studios, a professional photography studio on Maple Street in Danielson for 51 years. Henry is survived by his daughters, Nancy St. Jean of Pomfret and Kathy Misiaszek of Crawfordville, FL; grandchildren, Sarah Schoppe of Putnam, Sadie and her husband Brandon Dutremble of Plainfield, Seth St. Jean and his wife Andi of Pomfret, and great granddaughter Ella Schoppe. Funeral Services will be private. There are no calling hours. tillinghastfh.com

Avis Madelene Barr, 102



STERLING - Avis Madelene Barr, 102, a lifelong resident of Sterling passed away February 29, 2020 at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam. Avis was born in Sterling on April 9, 1917 daughter of the late Ralph and Bertha (Bennett) Barr. She worked at U.S. Finishing Company for many years. Avis graduated from Plainfield High School. She was a long-

time member of the Moosup Methodist Church, Ekonk Grange #87, Order of the Easter Star and the Sterling Senior Center. Avis is survived by Melissa and Fred Nordstrom and family of Sterling, Florence Nowicki of FL, several cousins and many friends.

A graveside service will be held on Thursday, April 9, 2020 at 11:00 A.M. at Evergreen Cemetery, Central Village. There are no calling hours. Tillinghast Funeral Home, 25 Main Street, Central Village is in charge of arrangements. tillinghastfh.com

*OBITUARIES are published at no charge.
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Photos are welcome in JPEG format.*



Making Learning More Fun



(NAPS)—If any of the nearly 57 million elementary and high school students in America is someone you care about, there could be good news for you.

Schools today have discovered some wonderful new ways to make learning something kids want to do and school a place they want to be.

These engaging, 21st century classrooms are powered by modern, digital curriculum and content that helps create

real-world learning experiences.

What It Does

As a result, studies show that students with access to high-quality digital curriculum resources from Discovery Education, one of the world's leading education companies, outpace their peers on state assessments in reading, mathematics and social studies, and have higher school attendance rates than those that don't

have access to these resources. In particular:

- Hispanic students attended an average of three more days per year
- Students affected by poverty attended an average of six more days per year
- Students with disabilities attended an average of 12 more days per year.

How It Works

The new Discovery Education Experience coming

to classrooms nationwide this fall showcases curated, standards-aligned, multimodal content in a personalized setting that's specifically designed to help busy teachers save time and more easily differentiate instruction. The content is assignable and can be bookmarked and saved for later use and remixed to meet the varying needs of diverse student populations in a safe and secure environment. In addition,

the service's up-to-date, high-quality and ever-growing digital content collections, as well as a library of immersive virtual field trips, are drawn from trusted partners.

Meanwhile, teacher-tested instructional strategies help educators dive deeper into the intentional and effective integration of the digital content. These strategies foster skill development and complement different types of content.

Educators using the system can be connected across school systems and around the world to foster valuable networking, idea sharing, and inspiration.

What One Teacher Learned
"The Discovery Education Experience is now my go-to resource for the unique and engaging digital assets I need to create real-world learning environments for my students," explained Laura Mitchley, an Elementary Instructional Coach in the Ephrata Area School District. "With the accompanying instructional supports and access to a thriving professional learning community, Discovery Education Experience is an indispensable tool for teaching and learning."

Learn More

To find further facts about how Discovery Education is supporting the creation of modern classrooms, visit www.discoveryeducation.com/Experience.

Classroom teachers can now access time-saving tools that will support them as they balance the art and science of learning and master their craft.

LEGALS

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, March 26, 2020 at the Woodstock Town Hall, 415 Route 169, 7:45 p.m., lower level, meeting room 1, for the following: #SP638-02-22 Stephen G. and Lorraine E. Gabriele, Crystal Pond Rd (Map 6385, Block 39, Lot 39F) - Multi-family residential development. Jeffrey Gordon, MD Chair. March 13, 2020

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

At the March 5, 2020 Special Meeting, the Planning & Zoning Commission took the following action: Approved Scenic Road Application #SP636-01-20 Desiree Kocis - Proposal to Designate a portion of Joy Road, from Dividend Road to Route 169, as a Scenic Road. Effective date is March 28, 2020. Chair Jeffrey Gordon, M.D. March 13, 2020

TOWN OF THOMPSON

On August 6, 2019 the following wetlands agent approval was issued: Application # WAA19015 approved with conditions, Ashley Chapman, 230 Sand Dam Rd. (Assessor's Map 135, Block 23, Lot 8) - construction of a 32' x 60' outbuilding on a concrete foundation in the 200-foot upland review area. Marla Butts, Wetlands Agent March 13, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE

Town of Thompson NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING March 24, 2020

The Electors and Citizens qualified to vote in Town meetings of the Town of Thompson, Connecticut are hereby notified and warned that a Special Town Meeting of said Town will be held at the Thompson Public Library/Louis P. Faucher Community Center, 934 Riverside Drive, North Grovenordale, Connecticut, on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the evening for the following purposes:

1. To choose a moderator for said

meeting:

2. To consider and act upon the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the town appropriate up to \$200,000 to defend and settle the litigation regarding the Marianapolis Sewer Project; such funds to be taken from fund balance.

Dated at Thompson, Connecticut this 3rd day of March 2020

Amy St. Onge, First Selectman
Suzanne Witkowski, Selectwoman
ATTEST:

Renee Waldron, Town Clerk
March 13, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Kenneth Norman Foskett (20-00068)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated March 3, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Sheryl Ann Fitzgerald,
1099 Route 169, Woodstock CT
06281

March 13, 2020

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Marilyn J. Winkler (20-00046)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast probate Court, by decree dated February 14, 2020, ordered that all claims must be pretested to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Mary Ann Champney, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:

Carl Winkler, III, PO Box 904,
Eastford, CT 06242

March 13, 2020

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Call 774-452-0166

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POWER HOSPITAL BED FOR SALE asking \$500. Call 8604812324

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New Poll Shows Parents (and Teachers) Want More from Public Education



(NAPS)—Americans’ satisfaction with K–12 education reached a 15-year high this year, according to a Gallup poll, but the majority of people still think it’s on the wrong track. The 2019 Schooling in America Survey by EdChoice and Braun Research digs deeper to find out why that might be.

It found most parents say they are satisfied with their kids’ current schools:

- 79% of parents are satisfied with a private school
- 77% of parents are satisfied with a public charter school

- 76% of parents are satisfied with home schooling
- 67% of parents are satisfied with a public district school.

Although 82% of students today attend public district schools, 69% of parents and 53% of public district school teachers said they would prefer to send their own kids somewhere else. So, though parents generally say they are satisfied with their assigned district schools, their preferences (if money and transportation weren’t barriers) tell a different story.

That may be one reason support for school choice options, such as charter schools, school vouchers, tax-credit scholarships—remains strong. When families learn how education savings accounts (ESAs) can help them not just to afford private school but to customize an education for their kids—nearly everyone supports them.

- 85% of current school parents support ESAs
- 78% of current public school teachers support ESAs
- 77% of the general population supports ESAs.

The top most important reasons people support ESAs: access to a better academic environment and more freedom and flexibility for parents.

There’s little love for more standardized testing among parents and teachers. In fact, 71% of the general population, 72% of parents and 88% of teachers think how we currently test kids is “too much” or “about right.”

People don’t know what schooling costs—public or private—but most still think public schools need more money. The majority of Americans, including public school teachers, grossly underestimate how much public schools spend per student: \$12,201 on average.

At the same time, they tend to overestimate how much private school tuition costs: \$10,676 on average.

Learn More

To learn more findings from this poll, visit EdChoice, a non-partisan, nonprofit organization that serves as the clearing-house of information related to school choice research and policy in the United States, at www.edchoice.org.

Half of K-12 school parents support providing busing across school district lines a recent study found.

Meeting The High Cost Of Higher Education



(NAPS)—If you or someone you care about is—or hopes to be—a college student soon, a few facts and stats may prove educational:

- As of February of 2019, the U.S. had \$1.56 trillion in total student loan debt
- This exceeds U.S. credit card debt by about \$521 billion
- Of the college students from the class of 2018, 69 percent took out student loans.

Fortunately for the many current and former college students struggling with this financial burden—and the large number who simply can’t attend college because of finances—there are organizations that offer a solution: scholarships.

Some scholarships for college are merit-based. You earn them by meeting or exceeding certain standards set by the scholarship-giver. Merit scholarships might be awarded based on academic achievement or on a combination of academics and a special talent, trait or interest. Other scholarships are based on financial need.

Many are geared toward particular groups of people; for instance, there are scholarships for women or graduate students. Some are available because of where you or your parent works, or because you come from a certain background (for instance, there are scholarships for military families).

A scholarship might cover the entire cost of your tuition or it might be a one-time award of a few hundred dollars. Either way, it’s worth applying for, because it’ll help reduce the cost of your education.

The experts at the U.S. Department of Education suggest you try these free sources of information about scholarships:

- The financial aid office at the college or career school you’re considering
- A high school or TRIO counselor or

- Federal agencies
- The state grant agency
- The library’s reference section
- Foundations, religious or community organizations, businesses and civic groups
- Organizations (including professional associations) related to your field of interest
- Ethnicity-based organizations
- The U.S. Department of Labor’s free scholarship search tool.

One organization, Scholarship America, has been committed to giving as many students as possible access to higher education. Since 1958, the organization has distributed \$4.2 billion to more than 2.5 million students.

To further help with the financial burdens college students may face—such as overdue rent and child care—the organization created initiatives such as Dreamkeepers, which offers emergency financial aid, and Collegiate Partners, which gets educational institutions to promise not to take away student aid because of private scholarships.

Currently, Scholarship America is accepting applications for the 2020 Scholarship America Dream Award. It provides financial stability to those who have overcome significant obstacles in their lives and gotten off to a strong start at college. Applicants must be in their second year or higher of postsecondary education to be eligible for the award.

Learn More

To apply for a scholarship, to learn more or to donate to the education of scholarship recipients, visit <https://scholarshipamerica.org>.

Student loan debt has reached astronomical levels in the United States but special scholarships can help.



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<p>2020 Toyota RAV4 LE STOCK# 274969 MODEL# 4432 MSRP \$28,858</p>  <p>LEASE FOR \$197 /MO* 36 MOS.</p> <p>CAP COST: \$27,371. \$3,999 + TAX + FEES = 5,412 TOTAL DUE AT SIGNING</p>	<p>2020 Toyota Tacoma SR5 Double Cab V6 STOCK# 275062 MODEL# 7540 MSRP \$36,767</p>  <p>LEASE FOR \$217 /MO* 36 MOS.</p> <p>CAP COST: \$34,572. \$3,999 + TAX + FEES = 5,554 TOTAL DUE AT SIGNING</p>	<p>2020 Toyota Highlander L STOCK# 275206 MODEL# 6937 MSRP \$37,638</p>  <p>LEASE FOR \$297 /MO* 36 MOS.</p> <p>Cap Cost: \$34,908. \$3,999 + Tax + Fees = 5,671 Total Due at Signing</p>
<p>2020 Toyota Sienna XLE 8 Passenger STOCK# 274783 MODEL# 5348 MSRP \$40,633</p>  <p>LEASE FOR \$417 /MO* 36 MOS.</p> <p>CAP COST: \$37,924. \$3,999 + TAX + FEES = 5,879 TOTAL DUE AT SIGNING</p>	<p>2020 Toyota Prius Prime LE Stock# 273608 MSRP \$28,789</p>  <p>BUY FROM \$24,535</p> <p><small>*disclaimer</small></p>	<p>2020 Toyota GR Supra 3.0 Premium Launch Edition STOCK# 274950 MSRP \$58,380</p>  <p>BUY FROM \$58,380</p> <p><small>*disclaimer</small></p>




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<p>2016 Hyundai Sonata 2.4L Sport</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, FWD, Shale Gray Metallic, 36K mi., A5824XX \$16,398</p>	<p>2017 Toyota Camry LE</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, FWD, Super White, 36K mi., A5852 \$16,998</p>	<p>2018 Toyota Corolla LE</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, FWD, Super White, 27K mi., A275247A \$16,998</p>	<p>2018 Toyota Corolla LE</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, FWD, Classic Silver Metallic, 31K mi., A275210A \$16,998</p>	<p>2017 Toyota Corolla LE</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, FWD, Slate Metallic, 39K mi., A5928 \$16,998</p>	<p>2018 Toyota Corolla SE</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, FWD, Super White, 25K mi., A5889ZZ \$16,998</p>
<p>2017 Hyundai Elantra Value Edition</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, FWD, Lakeside Blue, 43K miles, A275136A \$16,998</p>	<p>2016 Nissan Rogue SV</p>  <p>SUV AWD, 4 cyl, auto, Brilliant Silver, 18K mi., A5858XX \$17,998</p>	<p>2017 Toyota Camry LE</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, FWD, Parisian Night Pearl, A5844B \$18,998</p>	<p>2014 Honda CR-V EX-L</p>  <p>SUV AWD, 4 cyl, auto, Basque Red Pearl II, 62K mi., A274898A \$18,998</p>	<p>2016 Toyota RAV4 XLE</p>  <p>SUV AWD, 4 cyl, auto, Electric Storm Blue, 48K mi., A274853A \$19,998</p>	<p>2019 Jeep Grand Cherokee Latitude Plus</p>  <p>4 cyl, auto 4WD, Bright White Clearcoat, 38K mi., A5902A \$19,998</p>
<p>2017 MINI Hardtop Cooper S</p>  <p>Coupe, 4 cyl, auto, White Silver Metallic, 20K mi., A5945XX \$20,998</p>	<p>2017 Toyota RAV4 LE</p>  <p>SUV AWD, 4 cyl, auto, Super White, 5K mi., A5937 \$21,598</p>	<p>2017 Toyota RAV4 XLE</p>  <p>SUV AWD, 4 cyl, auto, Silver SKY Metallic, 24K mi., A5907 \$21,598</p>	<p>2016 Toyota Tacoma SR5</p>  <p>Truck 4WD, 6 cyl, auto, Super White, 50K mi., 50K mi., A5918XX \$24,998</p>	<p>2017 Toyota RAV4 XLE</p>  <p>SUV AWD, 4 cyl, auto, Magnetic Gray Metallic, 25K mi., A5920 \$25,998</p>	<p>2017 Toyota Sienna LE</p>  <p>Van AWD, 6 cyl, auto, Midnight Black Metallic, 26K mi., A275110A \$26,998</p>
<p>2018 Mercedes-Benz CLA 250</p>  <p>Sedan, 4 cyl, auto, Jupiter Red, 17K miles, A275188A \$26,998</p>	<p>2016 Toyota Tundra LTD</p>  <p>Truck 4WD, 8 cyl, auto, Midnight Black Metallic, 79K mi., A274863A \$28,998</p>	<p>2017 Toyota Tacoma Ltd</p>  <p>Truck 4WD, 6 cyl, auto, Black, 48K mi., A275091A \$33,598</p>	<p>2019 Toyota Tacoma SR5</p>  <p>Truck 4WD, 6 cyl, auto, Magnetic Gray Metallic, 5K mi., A274490B \$33,598</p>	<p>2019 Toyota Highlander Hybrid XLE</p>  <p>AWD., 6 cyl, auto, Midnight Black Metallic, 24K mi., A273589A \$37,998</p>	<p>2020 Toyota Tundra SR5</p>  <p>Truck, 8 cyl, auto 4WD, Super White, 74K miles, 274941 \$42,213</p>

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