



"Babies live in the moment. That's why they're always so young."
- Yogi Berra

KILLINGLY VILLAGER

Friday, March 11, 2022

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Cinderella Project preps students for prom



Photo Jason Bleau

Pomfret School students prepare for the first wave of customers at the 2022 Cinderella Project.

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

POMFRET – Prom season is fast approaching and once again the students of Pomfret School came together to offer young ladies a chance to pick out their special dress free of charge through the Cinderella Project.

The annual event is part of a weeks-long effort from the Project Pomfret Group where students work to give back to their local communities. The Cinderella Project has become an annual staple of the Group's programs where they give out lightly used dresses setting up racks of donated clothes and makeshift dressing rooms at TEEG in Thompson with the goal saving students money on an otherwise expensive dress they may only ever wear once.

Seniors Eleanor Ahn and Morgan Rice were co-leaders of the 2022 program, now in its fourth year, and said the Cinderella

Project began their freshman years when a student was inspired by the worldwide movement of the same name to reuse prom dresses by offering them to students in need. While the Pomfret program isn't directly affiliated with the international movement, it seeks to accomplish the same goals according to Ahn.

"The idea of a Cinderella Project is not a new thing. It's basically collecting old prom dresses or other formal wear and recycling it by passing it down to other people. Pomfret School has its own chapter of this movement, and we hold it these last two weeks of our winter trimester," Ahn said. "Prom is a really special moment. It's just one day in your high school career. Especially after COVID, I think everyone is really looking for that special event to socialize with their friends and to be able to feel really special

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Woodstock Memorial Day 10K returns

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WOODSTOCK – The town of Woodstock is bringing back a yearly tradition after a two-year pause due to the COVID-19 pandemic with the 40th annual Memorial Day 10K race.

Embracing the fitting theme of "On the Road Again," the May 30 event is sponsored by the Woodstock Recreation Commission and part of the proceeds from the race helps support the town's Fuel Assistance Program. Woodstock Recreation Director Erin Lucas said there is plenty of excitement around the return of the "beloved" community event.

"We're all really excited to bring it back because we're all kind of heading towards normalcy again. The slogan is fitting because we are all very excited to be 'on the road again' and be back together as a community to celebrate Memorial Day and to also just celebrate that we can be together once more. This is sort of a beautiful way for us to get back to that," said Lucas.

The race route will start on Academy Road and work its way to Route 169 through Plaine Hill Road, Route 171, Stone Bridge Road, Senexit Road No. 1, Roseland Park Road, Child Hill Road, and back to Academy Road. There will be awards for runners of different age and gender groups for their finish giving out more medals than many road races in the region. Divisions will

include children twelve and under; Juniors, which are 13 to 19 years old; Intermediate, which includes runners in their 20s; Senior, which is runners in their 30s; Master, which is runners in their 40s; Grand Master for runners in their 50s. Ultra Master for runners in their 60s and finally Super Maser for runners 70 and older. Men and women from each age group that cross the line 1st, 2nd or 3rd will receive medals at the end of the day.

"We work with a timing company so that the bibs that they wear have a chip in them and there's an app that will track their process so as they cross the line we will know exactly where everyone's standings are in their own categories which is pretty cool," said Lucas. "We have a DJ that will be making announcements and we work with the Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association who set up volunteers throughout the racecourse and radio back updates to the DJ. Anyone near the finish line will be able to hear what's going on throughout the race. We'll have volunteers setting up water stations throughout the course of the race as well. It will all be followed by the annual parade which is also coming back this year."

Registration for the Memorial Day 10K is open until May 10 although day-of registration is also available. For more information or to register runners can visit the Woodstock Recreation Department page on the town's Web site.

'Flawless' Markley helps Woodstock Academy gymnastics win State Open Championship

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

It's hard to say a team competing in the postseason is peaking after finishing the regular season undefeated, but that certainly seems to be the case for the Woodstock Academy girls' gymnastics team.

For the second time in seven days the Centaurs showed up at a state-wide meet and left the event with the most important piece of hardware available, winning the Connecticut State Open Championship.

Woodstock finished the meet, held at New Milford High School on Saturday, March 5, with a score of 141.525, which was 1.5 points higher than Madison's Daniel Hand

High School, which finished with a 139.575 total. It was the third time in five years WA has captured the State Open Championship.

"It was neck-and-neck with Hand and I knew it would be. I knew we weren't going to be winning by five or six points," Centaurs' coach Kasey Tocchio said. "It came down to staying on the beam and sticking our landings. It was well-deserved win. The girls worked really hard for it."

Woodstock Academy won the Connecticut Class M Meet on Saturday, Feb. 26, outdistancing their nearest competitor — second-place finisher Fairfield Warde High School — by almost seven points.

"We definitely feel like

we're in a groove right now," Tocchio said. "We were definitely excited to get to the middle of the season because we knew we'd be getting Taylor [Markley] and Liv [Aleman] back and we'd get a chance to see what this team was capable of accomplishing. I feel week after week we've just kept on getting better."

And now we know what the Centaurs are capable of accomplishing — Class M and State Open champions in successive weeks. Woodstock will try to make it three titles in three weeks when it heads to Fairfield Warde High School for the New England Championship on Saturday,

Please Read GYMNASTICS, page A11



Photos Courtesy

Woodstock Academy gymnasts on the all-around podium at the end of the State Open were junior Taylor Markley (center) and freshman Liv Aleman (second from right).

Putnam Congregational Church celebrates Fat Tuesday



Photo Jason Bleau

Volunteers pose for a photo at the Putnam Congregational Church's Fat Tuesday pancake dinner.

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM – The Putnam Congregational Church celebrated the traditional "Fat Tuesday" on March 1, ringing in the final night of eating rich and fatty foods before the sacrifices for Lent were to begin on Ash Wednesday.

The church hosted a special pancake meal for patrons and guests, an appropriate feast as Fat Tuesday also fell on National Pancake Day in 2022. While the annual tradition isn't commonly practiced in the Quiet Corner it has been a tradition at the Putnam Congregational Church for over fifty years according to longtime church member Audrey Lombardi who called it an enjoyable opportunity for fellowship and community as one of the holiest times of the year approaches.

"It's a very nice thing for us to do,"

said Lombardi. "We ask for donations, but we see it as a service to the community. Normally we serve 45 to 50 people so it's a good thing for us to do."

Another church member, Kathy Dunton, said that while Fat Tuesday may be an overlooked tradition for some, the Putnam Congregational Church likes to have fun with it and pancakes served as an enjoyable filling snack to prepare everyone for the fasting ahead.

"I've learned that a lot of churches don't do this, but this church has been doing this for a long time. They offer pancakes that are supposed to get you fattened up for the Lent holiday. We've got all the toppings and sausages and all that so it's a heavy breakfast dinner meal. It's supposed to fill you up and take you into the next 40 days," said Dunton.

Please Read FAT TUESDAY, page A3

Growing tobacco in Killingly

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



KILLINGLY AT 300
MARGARET WEAVER

First, I'll share some reflections that Gary Magrey sent on the fire at Eddie's Restaurant in Dayville, which I mentioned in the Feb. 25 Killingly at 300 column. "In regards to your article on Eddie's Restaurant fire in 1976: The current Dayville Fire Station was under construction at the time. The Fire Trucks were housed at the old Kirconnell Oil Garage on Pleasant Street and at the Killingly Town Garage. So this may have hampered Firefighter's ability to fight this fire. In addition, I recall this fire occurring during a very heavy snowstorm. Citizens Band radios were everywhere during this time as well as Police Scanners so many of us were monitoring the situation and conversing across the Citizens Bank. Gary continued, "You mentioned Mary Cliff Rest Home. I recall that well. That was in existence for a long time. Other things I thought about after reading your article: There was a bar across from the Xtramart at the railroad tracks in Dayville called 'Johnny's Grill.' I can recall the neon

sign on the facade of the building. Magao's Barber shop occupied some space on the right side of the building. "There was another Bar in town called 'Henry's Red Barn' which was located at the intersection of Soap St. and Rt 12. I can recall riding my bike in that area and seeing the building in ruins. There is a picture of a fire there on the wall at the Dayville Fire Station..." (email Feb. 26). (A search of my files revealed that the fire at Henry's Red Barn was April 4, 1964). In response to a query, I was searching a notebook of old Killingly newspaper tidbits from various papers in the 1700's and 1800's, compiled by Marilyn Labbe, and came across an interesting item about several mills in Killingly in 1831. I had seen our early mills listed with numbers of spindles in 1836 and 1838, but this is the first that I had seen number of employees and what cloth they were producing. "The Danielson Manufacturing Company have a mill of 1840 spindles, 44 looms, employ 65 hands, consume 90,000 lbs. of cotton, and make 350,000 yards of 4-4 sheeting--George Danielson, agent. Cundall & Woodworth have on the same fall, a small factory of broadcloths, connected with their dressing and fulling mill; they have 80 spindles, 2 looms, employ 10 hands, consume 9,000 lbs. of wool, and make 4,500 yards of broadcloths. They are on the fall at the

mouth of the Five Mile River. On the Quinebaug, about 100 yards below (the other mills), Comfort Tiffany has a cotton mill of 1000 spindles, 24 looms, employs 34 hands, consumes 40,000 lbs. of cotton, and makes 150,000 yards of 7-8 shirtings (on the Brooklyn side of the River). At Chestnut Hill (think near the old Acme factory) Hon. Ebenezer Young owns a stone mill, in which he runs 2,100 spindles, 36 looms, employs 75 hands, consumes 100,000 lbs. of cotton, and makes 300,000 yards of 4-4 sheetings, Willard Eddy, agent." (Norwich Courier, Norwich, CT. Dec. 14, 1831; correspondence of the N.Y. American Advocate, Windham, Nov. 27, 1831). By 1836 Killingly was the greatest cotton manufacturing town in all of Connecticut. Did you know that in early in the 20th century an attempt was made to grow tobacco in Killingly? "Grassmere Farm Raised 2,265 Pounds last season. The Grassmere farm, otherwise known as the Chicken farm, near Elmville, produced 2,265 pounds of high grade tobacco during the past season, and the product has just been harvested at a rate sufficient to make it net about \$1 a pound. The tobacco was of fine quality and much more of it could have been placed in the market without any trouble at all. The tobacco was grown as an experiment and represents the product of only three and one-half acres. The fine success achieved demonstrates what can be done in the way of cultivating tobacco on this fine farm, which has 267 acres. The farm is the property of W. A. Reist of York, PA, who conceived the idea of trying tobacco growing upon its soil after having had tests made to ascertain its fitness for such crops. The success has not been entirely a surprise to those of the experiment, but it has been very much of a one to

many landowners hereabouts who had no idea that such good tobacco land lay right under their noses, so to speak. What has been done at the Grassmere farm may be an incentive for farmers to try their luck with tobacco crops and perchance develop that line of agriculture in this part of the state as it has been developed along the valley of the Connecticut River in Hartford County." (Norwich Bulletin, Mon., March 1, 1915, p. 2). In honor of Women's History Month let's see if I jog any memories by mentioning a more recent woman from Killingly's history--Marion Baldwin later the wife of Frank Brunell. I think I wrote about her many years ago. Her Hillshire Farms on North Road not only offered goat's milk but also goat's milk products such as soaps, beauty creams, and lotions. In 2010 Helene LaBelle remarked that the products were sold at Pevner's in Putnam. The Nov. 6, 1941 Windham County Transcript reported that Marion Baldwin had imported a large herd of Toggenburg and Nubian goats from Switzerland. Scientists had "reported that their milk (would) help cure cases of ulcer and skin disorders." The farm operated a laboratory, and the 1964-1965 Telephone Book listed a honeymoon cottage at what was then called "Hillshire Downs"(Killingly Business Encyclopedia by Natalie Coolidge). Marion was also active in community affairs in Northeastern Connecticut being involved with organizations in both Killingly and Putnam. She served as "chairman of the Salvation Army in the ten town area. She was also the past present of the Byron Carroll VFW Post Auxiliary, East Killingly, a member of the Emblem Club 209 of Putnam and the club's Mother of the Year in 1971, past president and organizer of the World

War I barracks 771 Auxiliary, Danielson and a member of the Eastern Star; (and) the Grange. In World War I she served as a nurse with the 43rd division, and she was also a member of Harmony Court, O of A." She died August 5, 1972 in Phoenix, Arizona at the age of 74 and was buried in Westfield Cemetery, Danielson (Obituary, Windham County Transcript, Aug. 10, 1972). Please share any memories that you have by emailing me. Thank you. Support a Local National Register of Historic Places Property: Killingly Grange #112 (the former Killingly Center School) and the Danielson Lions Club will host a Fish Fry Friday March 4, 11, and 18 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the grange, located at 801 Hartford Turnpike (corner of Dog Hill Road), Dayville. Dine in or take out. Baked or fried fish, baked potato or French fries, coleslaw, roll, dessert. \$15. Limited meals so reserve your dinner. Call 860-230-7367 or go to www.facebook.com/KillinglyGrange/ to purchase tickets. At the door pay by cash, credit card or check payable to Killingly Grange. Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian March 2022. Special thanks to Gary Magrey for sharing his memories. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or contact the Killingly Historical Society at www.killinglyhistorical.org. Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

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Local Eastern students bring original production "Sweet Flag" to the stage

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University's Theatre Department reopened the stage for the spring 2022 semester with "Sweet Flag." Written and directed by Theatre Professor J.J. Cobb, the story follows the lives of women living in the Nebraska Territory in 1866. Students involved in the production include: Nikki Flynn of Danielson, a sophomore majoring in Communication. Flynn is a member of the wardrobe crew. Erin Raymond of Pomfret Center, a senior majoring in Theatre. Raymond is a member of the costume construction crew. "Sweet Flag" addresses the lives of women living on a homestead in Nebraska, as well as the perception of indigenous and native communities on whose land they inhabit. In addition to excellent acting by Eastern students, the show featured lighting and sound effects, interpretive dance, and voice-overs of poetry by Walt Whitman and the "Lost Notebooks of Loren Eiseley." As the show opens, music plays across the theatre and in the corner of the audience's eyes a door opens, and out walks

the character of "The Warrior." As eyes wander to the character, they walk stoically around the auditorium, wearing traditional indigenous clothing. As fast as they came, they left, leaving the audience waiting for what comes next and wondering about the significance of such a mysterious opening. As the story unfolds, it is revealed that there are many struggles on the homestead, including a lack of success with the land, acquiring and building homes, pregnancies and the arrival of a rogue Indigenous girl. Prudie and her close confidant and expectant mother Eugenie Sutton take the girl under their wing and nickname her "Shell." Shell's character, who is believed to be deaf, frightens Prudie and Eugenie at first, as they wonder where she comes from. They suspect she comes from a Sioux tribe, insinuating that their retrieval of her would be dangerous. However, Prudie houses her regardless, adding tension among the women, as some think she brings a curse, and are worried about her place on the homestead. Throughout the hour-long play

wind howls in the background, so intense that the characters comment on the noise. At one point, character Anne Gatz comments on the wind in relation to Shell, yelling, "She has raised the winds against us." The wind noises, as well as other sound effects such as birds and crickets, bring the audience into the scene, immersing them in the show as if they were really in the Nebraskan frontier. With only eight students performing roles in the play, the small cast allowed for intimacy within the scenes, as fights, vulnerable moments and pain are shared between only a few characters at a time. The play highlights the problematic views of indigenous and native communities, as they are thought of as dangerous and untrustworthy by many of the married women. As the play continues, tensions caused by money, theft and a miscarriage result in the leaving of Shell and Prudie, leaving audiences wondering what was to come of their future. Purchase tickets online at <https://easternct.showare.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=44>. For more information, visit <https://www.easternct.edu/theatre/productions/sweet-flag.html> or contact the FAIC Box Office at (860) 465-5123 or email theatreboxoffice@easternct.edu.

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Day Kimball Healthcare appoints Martin Durtschi, MD to VP of Medical Affairs and Quality



Martin Durtschi

PUTNAM — Martin Durtschi, MD, FACS, has been named Vice President of Medical Affairs and Quality at Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH), a nonprofit community hospital and healthcare system serving Northeast Connecticut and nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The appointment was made on Nov. 16.

Dr. Durtschi brings nearly 40 years of healthcare leadership and clinical experience to Day Kimball, including prior clinical and executive leadership positions at healthcare organizations throughout the country, most recently as Attending Surgeon and Director of Acute Care Surgery at Valley Medical

Center at the University of Washington, in Renton, Wash. Prior to that, he was a trauma surgeon at the University of Washington, spent three decades in private practice of general and thoracic surgery, and was among the first to perform major laparoscopic and thoracoscopic surgery in Seattle.

“Martin brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in clinical services and administrative leadership to Day Kimball, and he is a welcome addition to our executive leadership team,” said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. “His impressive credentials combined with his leadership skills make it easy for him to engage with team members at all levels of the organization. In the short time he has been with us, he is already making a tremendous impact on the strength of our organization.”

In this position as Vice President, Dr. Durtschi is responsible for serving as the liaison between the DKH medical staff and executive staff within the DKH system of care. He oversees the medical staff office, quality improvement/risk management department, and the medical staff directors of eleven areas of care.

“I am excited about the opportunity to support Day Kimball’s legacy of consistency in providing high-quality, compassionate, patient-centered care, with a focus on patient safety,” Dr. Durtschi said. “Day Kimball is an excellent community hospital with remarkable quality distinctions and a top notch medical staff and leadership team. I look forward to continuing to build on the

terrific success of this organization and meeting the healthcare needs of the people of Northeast Connecticut.”

Dr. Durtschi is a graduate of both the School of Medicine and the General Surgery Residency at the University of Washington, and completed his post-doctoral fellowship in Burns and Trauma at the University of Washington’s National Institute of Health. He has been a co-founder, partner, and board member in private medical enterprises including ambulatory surgical centers, multispecialty and single specialty clinical groups and medical office buildings. Dr. Durtschi is a fellow of the American College of Surgeon, and was formerly a board examiner for and certified by the American Board of Surgery.

Dr. Durtschi was named “America’s Top Surgeons” by Consumer’s Research Council of Washington, DC, five consecutive years, from 2007 through 2011. He was among the “Top Rated Physicians in America” by the Center for Study of Services of Washington, DC, in 1999, and was the recipient of the Henry Harkins Award by the American College of Surgeons in 1984. Additionally, he has authored a substantial number of abstracts, posters, and presentations.

Originally from Idaho, Dr. Durtschi now lives in Portsmouth, RI with his wife Kitty, and they have two grown sons. He enjoys fly fishing, photography, travel and sporting days shooting in his spare time.

A b o u t
Day Kimball Healthcare

Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) is a non-profit, community hospital and integrated medical services and healthcare system serving Northeast Connecticut and nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities for 127 years. Day Kimball Healthcare’s comprehensive network includes Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, four healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield and Putnam, Day Kimball HomeMakers, Day Kimball HomeCare, and Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut. Approximately 1,100 personnel including nearly 300 highly-skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists are employed by Day Kimball Healthcare. Its Web site is www.daykimball.org.

William Shevin, M.D., D.Ht. Retirement Notice

Dr. Shevin will be retiring on March 31st, 2022.

Patients wishing access to their medical records should call the office by mid-March 860 9284040

Community Kitchen celebrates seventh anniversary



Photo Courtesy

Cooks from the East Woodstock Congregational Church plate meals for distribution at the Community Kitchen in Woodstock.

WOODSTOCK — Monday, March 7 marked the seventh anniversary of the Community Kitchen at the First Congregational Church of Woodstock. During that time, the Monday site has served 32,219 free noontime meals, 7,380 meals in the past year alone.

Since the beginning of the coronavirus pandemic, the Community Kitchen in Woodstock has been operating as a drive-thru-only operation. Cars line up along Cemetery Road. At 11:15 a.m., volunteers begin distributing hot meals along with bags of assorted groceries, produce, and donated baked goods.

“The circle of gratitude is very wide, and it includes our guests, who continue to appreciate this ministry,” said site coordinator Bruce Lyman.

The FCCW is joined in this ministry by four local church-

es. The FCCW, East Woodstock Congregational Church, South Woodstock Baptist Church, and Christ Church in Pomfret each prepare a meal one Monday a month; Pomfret Congregational Church prepares a meal whenever there is fifth Monday in a month.

Food is purchased by these churches and individual members as well as provided by Connecticut Foodshare. Baked goods are donated by Soleil & Suns Bakery of Woodstock, Stop & Shop and Price Chopper of Putnam. Fresh produce is donated by Big Y of Danielson.

“In giving, we receive,” remarked fellow site coordinator Bob Kirk. “It’s funny how that works. I always leave our Community Kitchen Monday afternoon feeling good, tired but good.”

The Community Kitchen in

Woodstock is one of four sites currently organized under the nonprofit Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut, Inc. In addition to the meals and groceries distributed on Mondays at the FCCW, other sites include Central Village Congregational Church on Tuesdays, United Methodist Church of Danielson on Wednesdays, and United Methodist Church of Moosup on Fridays. All meals are free and everyone is welcome.

Donations to Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut, Inc. may be made by visiting their website at communitykitchensnect.org or sent to P.O. Box 502, Danielson, CT 06239.

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Woodstock • Public Schools

Pre-K Lottery Selection

Woodstock Elementary School is accepting applications for our PreK lottery selection for the 2022-2023 school year. Applications are open to all Woodstock children with birthdates between September 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018. Applications are due to the main office no later than April 29, 2022.

For an application please visit:

<https://www.woodstockschoools.net/o/elementary-school/page/pre-k>

Lottery selection to occur in June at a special Board of Education Academic Subcommittee meeting.

Woodstock • Public Schools

Child Find Developmental Preschool Screenings

Woodstock Elementary School is accepting appointments for Woodstock children ages three and four for developmental preschool screenings. These screenings are intended to screen age appropriate development skills, address questions/concerns about growth, development and speech, and identify children who may need further evaluation for special services.

Screenings are held on Friday mornings.

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

CINDERELLA

continued from page A1

and beautiful. It makes everyone feel good. I think this project really brings everyone together.”

Her co-leader Morgan Rice agreed noting that the event isn’t just a good way for students to gain access to the dresses, it also helps prevent those cloths from being wasted or thrown away when they are perfectly wearable.

“I think this is really important just to be able to see these dresses that people probably only wear once in their lives get reused and recycled,” said Rice. “I was here the first year that this started, and I remember going to this event and being able to get one of the dresses. It’s just really cool. We started from 25

or 30 dresses and now we have over a hundred and we have a whole closet that keeps getting dresses added to the collection. It’s a really amazing thing to witness.”

Each year, the support and resources for the Cinderella Project continue to increase, evident by the ever-growing number of dresses available at each showcase. Thanks to the efforts of Pomfret School’s students, countless young ladies will be ready to celebrate their proms in style later this year and for years to come.

FAT TUESDAY

continued from page A1

The church followed up Fat Tuesday with a new tradition on Ash Wednesday, March 2 distributing ashes to the public. The practice sees worshiper’s receive a cross made of ash on their foreheads signifying their belief in Jesus Christ and grief and mourning for a person’s sins as they enter the season of Lent, a time for reflection on Jesus’s sacrifice for their sins and his eventual resurrection signified by the Easter holiday.

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Please contact:
Julia Kneeland
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by Julia Kneeland
Illustrated by Rachael Budd

Thompson Together celebrates 20 years of cleaning roads

Thompson Together celebrates 20 years of cleaning roads

THOMPSON — It's a big year for Thompson with the celebration of the 20th anniversary of its April Roadside Clean-up. Organized by the citizen non-profit group Thompson Together and funded by The Last Green Valley, this popular event draws dozens of residents eager to show their pride in their town by helping to clean the town's 125 miles of paved and dirt roads of accumulated trash and beverage containers, as well as the larger items.

April has been chosen as the best time, since the snow has usually melted, and the spring undergrowth hasn't yet taken hold of the roadsides. Participants can work at their own pace throughout the month to get their designated roads or stretches of the longer roads picked clean. Thompson Together provides gloves and grabbers to help make the job easier on workers'

hands and backs. Of course, also provided are the eye-catching bright yellow plastic bags that signal to all residents that it's time to get out there again and get some exercise while cleaning the roadsides.

Thompson Together's coordinator of this popular event is Norma O'Leary, who makes sure that all roads get assigned to volunteers and that none are overlooked. Using lists of roads and volunteers that she has fine-tuned over the years, she regularly patrols the town to make sure that any large items get removed from the roadsides. Participants are notified that they may deposit the yellow bags in a dumpster designated specifically for the April roadside trash. At the end of the month, the dumpster is weighed to show the value of the participants' efforts. It is interesting to note that in the early years of this event the trash collected weighed in at more than 10

tons. In recent years, the weight has been closer to three or four tons, a difference that may be partially attributable to increased awareness on the part of people passing through about what they toss out of their vehicles' windows.

Over the years, most participants have become accustomed to cleaning their designated roads in their own neighborhoods even before they receive their reminder phone call in early April. Other volunteers or civic groups request some of the messier stretches of the busy roads. Some of these energetic and dedicated workers have been known to collect as many as 40 of the large yellow bags. Longtime volunteers have identified 'hot spots' where they know they'll regularly find an excess of food wrappers or beverage containers, including the much-hated nips. You may recall that an experiment last summer resulted in 48,244 nips being removed from Thompson roads, but the

State has yet to place a deposit on these and other beverage containers. In the meantime, Thompson volunteers continue to clean the roadsides, with their reward being not only a clean town, but also a coupon good for one free ice cream cone for each yellow bag filled, courtesy of Bogey's at the Thompson Raceway, a long-time supporter of this April Clean-up.

As Thompson Together prepares for its 20th year of roadside cleaning, a small commemoration is being planned for the first Saturday, April 2, at the Gazebo in Riverside Park. From 10 a.m. to noon, plastic bags will be available for volunteers to pick up, along with coffee and donuts. Anyone interested in joining this long-running volunteer event is invited to join in. Please call the Rec Department in the Town Hall at 860-923-9440 for more information or stop there to get more plastic bags or supplies throughout the month of April.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

WAYNE TUISKULA

Latest antique, collectables, and auction news

It's been several weeks since my last update on antique, collectibles and auctions news. Many historical items and a one-of-a-kind piece of sports memorabilia have recently been put up for auction.

The Daily News writes that a collection of NASA photos from the Apollo space program are being offered at a UK auction house. The collection, which features photos from the Apollo 11 moon-landing flight, belonged to the late journalist and author Tim Furniss. An original copy of Earthrise, the first photograph of earth taken by a person, has an esti-

mate of £1,200 (about \$1,588 USD). A photo of Buzz Aldrin on the lunar surface next to the American flag is also estimated at £1,200. A photo of Buzz Aldrin taken by Neil Armstrong, which may be the most famous photo from the mission, is projected to sell for £2,000 (\$2,647 USD). The entire collection is estimated to sell for £41,500 (\$54,927 USD).

Moving to news a bit closer to the ground, a leather helmet worn by American aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart recently sold at auction, according to CBS news. Earhart wore the helmet during the 1928 flight that made her the first woman to fly on a transatlantic flight. She wore that same helmet when she took part in the Women's National Air Derby from Santa Monica, Calif. to Cleveland, Ohio. Thousands greeted Earhart when she landed in Cleveland, and she lost her helmet in the crowd of people. A man named Anthony Twigg consigned the helmet to auction. His mother Ellie was in that crowd in Cleveland. CBS reported that "Ellie told her family that a boy who liked her said he had found Earhart's leather helmet on the ground and wanted to give it to her." The aviator cap sold for over 10 times the estimate of \$80,000, fetching \$825,000.

Today's final story comes from the sports world. Netflix's "The Last Dance" miniseries about Michael Jordan was partially responsible for a recent surge in collecting sports mem-



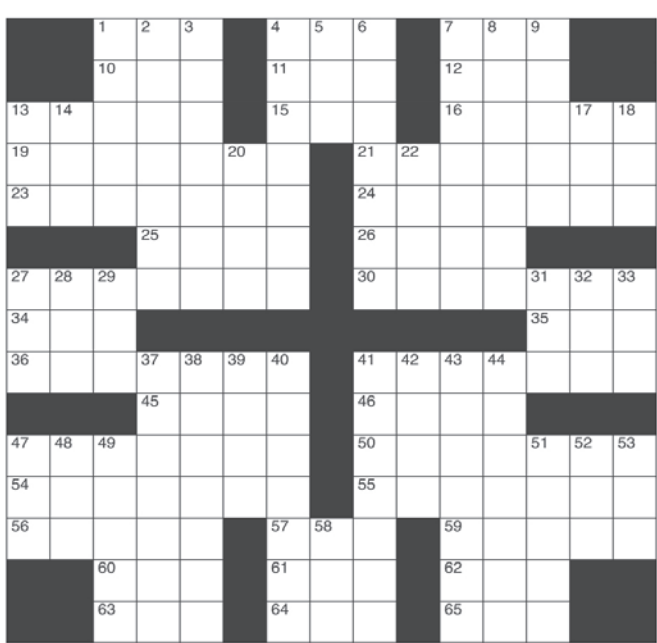
orabilia. Yahoo Sports reports that a Connecticut man named Mike Cole recently realized that he owned a ticket stub from Michael Jordan's debut game. A friend of Cole's originally gave him two tickets to a Bulls game when he was a student at Northwestern University in Chicago. None of Cole's friends on campus wanted to go to the game with him after the Bulls had three previous losing seasons. Yahoo reported that there wasn't "much buzz preceding the debut of a rookie guard from North Carolina drafted after Hakeem Olajuwon and Sam Bowie." Cole went by himself, picked up the tickets at the will call window and saved the unused ticket.

Cole said that he would have sold the ticket for \$500 before he learned what the game stub was worth. Some predicted the ticket might fetch up to \$1 million. It didn't reach that valuation, but Cole was more than

pleased with the \$468,000 it brought. He will use the money to pay off his mortgage, help pay for his children's education and travel. His decision to sell it proved to be a slam dunk.

There are only a few more days to consign items for our spring multi-estate auction. My "Evaluating your antiques" class will be held at Bay Path's adult evening school on Wednesday, March 23. More auctions and other events are also being planned. Please see our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, to join our email list or follow us on Facebook to keep up to date on auctions and other events.

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

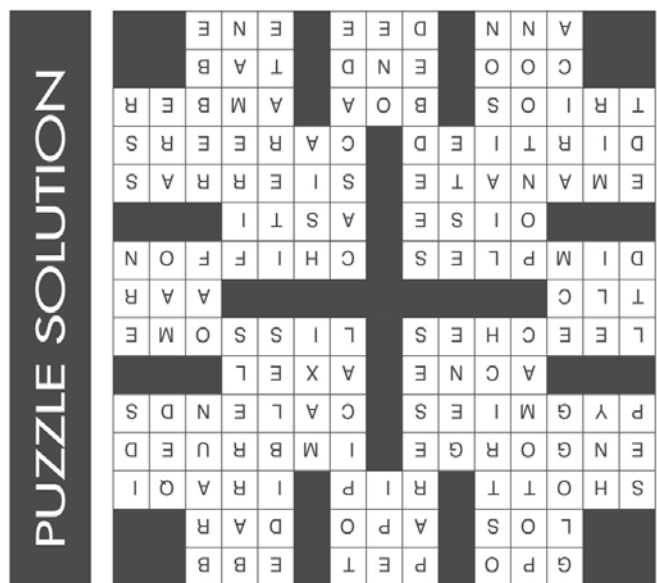


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Central mail bureau
- 4. Member of the family
- 7. Partner to flow
- 10. ___ Angeles
- 11. Military mailbox
- 12. Patriotic women
- 13. Shallow lake
- 15. Tear apart
- 16. Middle Easterner
- 19. Eat to excess
- 21. Stained
- 23. Certain peoples of equatorial Africa
- 24. 1st day of month
- 25. Skin disease
- 26. Skating figure
- 27. Annelids
- 30. Gracefully slender
- 34. Kids need it
- 35. Swiss river
- 36. Indents
- 41. A sheer fabric of silk or nylon
- 45. Belgian River
- 46. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 47. Originate from
- 50. Rugged mountain ranges
- 54. Made less clean
- 55. Professions
- 56. 3s
- 57. Scarf
- 59. Yellow light
- 60. Bird noise
- 61. Opposite of start
- 62. Bar bill
- 63. Northeastern Mass. cape
- 64. American rocker Snider
- 65. Midway between northeast and east

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Scandinavian drink
- 2. Washington river
- 3. Fast-running flightless bird
- 4. Nerve conditions
- 5. Indicates near
- 6. Immediate relevance
- 7. Things you can eat
- 8. Receptacles
- 9. Retired Brewers great
- 13. Month
- 14. Happy New Year!
- 17. Exclamation to convey truth
- 18. Passports and licenses are two
- 20. Ebert's partner Siskel
- 22. Long skirt
- 27. Part of company name
- 28. Drugmaker ___ Lilly
- 29. Electronic countermeasures
- 31. Klutz
- 32. Chinese statesman
- 33. Stir with emotion
- 37. Flat-bottomed boat
- 38. Go-between
- 39. This (Spanish)
- 40. A plot of ground where seedlings are grown before transplanting
- 41. Small waterfall
- 42. Modern tech necessity (abbr.)
- 43. Utter repeatedly
- 44. One of the bravest
- 47. Sun up in New York
- 48. Space station
- 49. Chilean seaport
- 51. Hasidic spiritual leader
- 52. They ___
- 53. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 58. Single unit



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 1: Common Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird, Bluebird, Red-tailed Hawk, Bald Eagle, Song Sparrow, American Tree Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Goldfinch, House Finch, Junco, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Robin, Mockingbird, Cedar Waxwing, Flicker. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret.



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VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

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The Putnam Villager (025-154), The Thompson Villager (024-998) The Killingly Villager (025-004) and The Woodstock Villager (024-999) are published weekly by Villager Newspapers, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Woodstock, CT and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: send address changes to the Villager Newspapers, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

NDDH distributing radon test kits

BROOKLYN — Cold weather season is the best time to test your home for radon.

Exposure to radon, a naturally occurring radioactive gas, is the leading cause of lung cancer in nonsmokers in the United States. You can't see it or smell it, but an elevated radon level in your home may be affecting the health of your family.

The Northeast District Department of Health still has a limited supply of radon test kits (about 20) to distribute to district residents. Recipients will receive one free radon test kit per home with instructions for use and a radon fact sheet. Participants will receive a follow-up call from NDDH within two weeks to assure that the kit was put to use and returned to the manufacturer according to instructions for analysis. NDDH is unable to reserve kits or mail them. Stop in to pick up a free radon test kit, while supplies last, at the NDDH office, 69 South Main St., Brooklyn.

Learn more at: <https://portal.ct.gov/dph/Environmental-Health/Radon/Radon-Program>.

Art at the Library spotlights Laura Moorehead, Sarah Zabka

THOMPSON — The Art @ the Library program at the Thompson Public Library presents "Take a Walk with me: Paintings by Laura Moorehead."

In the Display Case, "Cosmic Consciousness: Artwork by Sarah Zabka" will be on view through March 31

For more information, visit www.thompsonpubliclibrary.org or call 860-923-9779.

This program generously supported by the Friends of the Thompson Public Library.

Please note that the meeting room may be unavailable at times due to other functions.



GARDEN
MOMENTS
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MELINDA
MYERS

Take a color-themed approach for more attractive arrangements

Growing dahlias is a must for anyone who loves cutting and arranging flowers. But there are hundreds of beautiful dahlia varieties to choose from and that can be overwhelming. To make the selection process easier, choose compatible colors that will look good together in the garden and in arrangements.

The combination of peach and burgundy is both striking and sophisticated. Peach-colored flowers add a fresh and soothing feel to the garden. Dahlia American Dawn is a blend of peach, mango, and papaya with plum-purple highlights. Good partners include other varieties in the same warm, sunset tones, such as dinnerplate dahlia Belle of Barmera, decorative dahlia Great Silence and ball dahlia Maarn.

Planting dahlias in a perennial garden ensures non-stop color from July into October. The fluttering, melon-colored blooms of HS Date work particularly well, due to this variety's maroon foliage and open growth habit. Complete your peach and burgundy theme with the dark-hued flowers of Rip City. These large, velvety flowers are almost black in the center and soften to wine-red toward the petal edges. Add ball dahlia Jowey

Mirella for blooms that are smaller in size yet equally striking.

For another eye-catching color combination, narrow your selection to dahlias with purple and hot-pink flowers. Historically, purple was associated with royalty, spirituality, and knowledge. While pastel purple evokes a sense of calm and serenity, deeper tones add drama and excitement. Dinnerplate dahlia Lilac Time is an heirloom variety with fluffy, lavender blooms that can measure eight to ten inches across. Be sure to also include flowers in juicy grape and violet hues such as dahlias Thomas Edison, Cartouche and Purple Taiheijo.

Complement these moody purples with vivid pink dahlias. Burlesca is a cute little pompon dahlia with tightly rolled petals that reveal hints of peach, burgundy and violet. Fascination's rose-pink, semi-double flowers contrast beautifully with the plant's dark foliage and the blossoms are irresistible to bees and butterflies. Ball dahlia Rocco is an all-star variety that is long lasting in both garden and vase.

If you prefer pastels to brights, choose dahlias in shades of pale yellow, soft pink and cream. The enormous flowers of dinnerplate dahlia Café au Lait are a must.

Complement them with ball dahlias such as peachy Linda's Baby or buttery Boom Boom yellow. Decorative dahlia Fluffles has taffy-pink petals that fade to white, while Milena Fleur's are a mélange of pink, peach and pale butterscotch.

When you start with flowers in compatible colors, designing floral arrangements becomes so much easier. You'll have all you need to quickly create a centerpiece for any gathering, an impressive bouquet for your own home, or an informal handful of blooms to share with friends.

For more tips about cut flowers, read the Longfield Gardens article How to Design a Cutting Garden (www.longfield-gardens.com).

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series* and the *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Longfield Gardens for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



Photo Courtesy - Longfield-Gardens.com

This floral arrangement combines burgundy colored Tamburo dahlia with the peach hues of HS Date, Maarn, Linda's Baby and Belle of Barmera dahlias.

Day Kimball Healthcare receives \$158,000 gift from Gellert Estate

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) has announced it has received a gift for \$158,000 from the estate of Theodore "Ted" and Virginia "Ginny" Gellert of Abington. The gift will support the community hospital and health system's programs, and was bequeathed to the Woman's Board of Day Kimball Hospital, and to Hospice and Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut.

"It was well over 40 years ago when Ted and Ginny indicated their desire to make a planned gift that would benefit DKH and its programs," explains Kristen Willis, director of development, Day Kimball Healthcare. "As consistent annual donors, they wanted to create a legacy to support programs they felt focused on the health and welfare of their family, friends, and neighbors. Funds were set aside in the 1980's and invested into stocks that would ultimately realize over \$158,000 bequeathed to both the Woman's Board and DKH's hospice program, Hospice and Palliative Care of NECT."

Shortly after their marriage in 1960, the Gellerts moved to Abington and became actively engaged in the community. Ginny was a teacher at Eastford and Scotland Elementary Schools, and later became principal in Eastford until her retirement. She was active in her church, and was a member of the Day Kimball Hospital Woman's Board for over 30 years until her death in 2005.

Ted was both a WWII and Korean War Navy veteran, and served as a Seabee Naval Reservist. He worked as a lineman for SNET for 31 years, and was an active member of many organizations including the VFW, American Legion, and Connecticut State Rifle & Revolver Association. Ted passed away in 2017 at age 90.

Just before Ginny's passing, the

"Eye-Mind-Body" presents drawing in action

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University's Art Gallery has opened a new exhibit for the months of March and April. "Eye-Mind-Body: Drawing as Action Exhibition" is open to the public through April 22. Admission is free.

The new exhibition features Bruce Samuelson, Colleen Coleman, Gabriel Warren, Katie Fogg and Jerry Montoya.

"Each brings their own unique rationales and processes to the actions of drawing," said Mark Gerard McKee, curator of the exhibition.

"Far from simply a transcription of visual experience, drawing is a phenomenal and a physical act; it uniquely engages eye, mind and body," said McKee. "Whether epically large or intimately small, representational or abstract, intensely observational or kinetically performative, drawing is a choreography of observation, interpretation and movement."

On March 26, artist Katie Fogg will perform an installation of her work in the gallery at noon.

The Art Gallery is open Monday and Wednesday from noon-4 p.m.; Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: noon-7 p.m.; and Saturday: 11 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information, visit <https://www.easternct.edu/art-gallery/> or contact the gallery at (860) 465-4659.

Gellert's updated their estate plans to include the Woman's Board of DKH, which Ginny valued highly, and DKH's hospice program, which was an important part of her end-of-life care.

"Having had the pleasure and privilege of knowing Ginny and Ted, I know that they would be modestly humbled by any recognition of their generosity and this wonderful gift to Day Kimball," Willis added. "The impact of their thoughtful planning reaches far beyond our hospital, benefiting the entire community of Northeast Connecticut. It is a fitting tribute to two people with a lifelong and lasting legacy of caring, and to whom we're eternally grateful."

"Day Kimball is such a special place, and what makes it even more special is

the ongoing support of our generous community," said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer. "We are privileged to be the stewards of health in our community, taking care of our friends, neighbors, and families across the region. Through their planned gift, the Gellert's have recognized the good work we have done in Northeast Connecticut over the decades, and we are truly grateful to Ted and Ginny and their choice in honoring us as part of their legacy."

Planned and estate gifts through bequests and trusts are ways that support fund development at DKH. To learn more about these and other ways to support Day Kimball Healthcare, please visit daykimball.org/giving.

About Day Kimball Healthcare

Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) is a non-profit, community hospital and integrated medical services and healthcare system serving Northeast Connecticut and nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities for 127 years. Day Kimball Healthcare's comprehensive network includes Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, four healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield and Putnam, Day Kimball HomeMakers, Day Kimball HomeCare, and Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut. Approximately 1,100 personnel including nearly 300 highly-skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists are employed by Day Kimball Healthcare. Its Web site is www.daykimball.org.



Vanessa Brown, MD
Medical Director
Day Kimball Hospital
Emergency Department

Steven Wexler, MD
Chairman of Day Kimball Hospital
Emergency Department,
Chief Medical Officer for NES Health

We treat safety as seriously as we treat you.

The past two years have been a challenge for all of us. At Day Kimball Healthcare, we've seen tremendous resilience from our staff and our patients.

Our caregivers continue their tireless efforts to treat all patients with skill and compassion. And our emergency department team stands at the ready - 24/7 - to ensure emergency care is available for anyone who needs it.

For everyone's safety, we continue to limit visitors, we're wearing masks, and our environment adheres to the strictest standards in cleanliness.

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In the Studio



CYNTHIA SAARI

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

This week, we're meeting with painter Karen Reid, whose oils were recently exhibited at the Silver Circle Gallery in downtown Putnam. Karen's abstract landscapes and figure works are explorations in color and form. She has exhibited extensively in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and offers classes in oil, watercolor, and expressive art. Karen's art education has included study at The Art Institute of Boston, The South Shore Art Center, The Fuller Museum, Danforth Museum, and School of the Museum of Fine Arts (Boston). She describes her work as colorful, gestural, and hovering between abstraction and reality.

Hi Karen, thanks for joining us at "In the Studio." Your Web site has so many luscious images. I'm going to ask you to tell us about few of them. Let's start with this landscape I found on kltreidart.com.

"Waterbury Reservoir" 24x30" oil on canvas

This painting was done after a visit to my sister in Vermont. We spent the day at this location where I taught a landscape class on site. I did some rough sketches for myself which I then took back to my studio to work from. I tend not to work directly from a photo. I like working from memory and intuition.

What can you tell us about this figure painting?

Untitled. 16x20", oil on panel

This painting was done when I met with a group of artists called The Tuesday Night Painters Club. We met one or two times a month. It was painted in 1 session with a wonderful model named Neil. I love the freshness of the paint so I did not go back into it to refine. I love the quality of paint and the energy the work gets when I work from a live model. This was sold to a collector whose husband passed away and it reminded her of him as a young man. That made the sale extra special for me and for her.

And this watercolor?
"Fold" 24x18" watercolor and pencil on paper

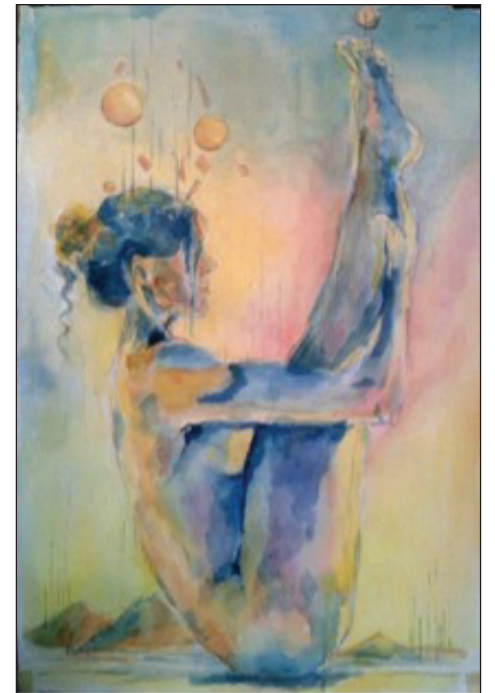
This painting was part of a series of 6 paintings for a figure show. I used some photos for reference and then took it to another level of energy and space adding intuitive marks, shapes and colors. The landscape behind the figure comes



Waterbury Reservoir



Untitled



Fold

from a dream I had.

I understand that you are working on a show of work ("Barns & Buildings") by Donald Munson, your mentor, which will be featured at the Storrs Library in Longmeadow, MA during the month of March. (https://www.eventkeeper.com/mars/xpages/s/storrs/ekp.cfm)

What decisions are made when "hanging a show"? There's a lot more to it than hanging pictures on a wall!

I installed his show this week with EKD Gallery (which is a virtual gallery I created with Don Munson and Erin Reid). Decisions for installing a show include curating work that creates a dialogue between [the viewer and] each piece, and looking at how each piece feels next to another. Decisions could be about color, imagery, theme or just some form of connection that instinctively feels right. There really is a lot of decision making to create an environment and a story for the viewer to experience.

Gallery shows are great opportunities for people to learn about artwork and speak to artists. What words of encouragement can you give anyone unsure about whether or not visiting a gallery or show opening is for them?

Words of encouragement for people who are interested in visiting a gallery or opening reception would be "don't be intimidated!" I encourage anyone to go in to a gallery and look at the art. From my experience as an artist, gallery manager, and director, that is the goal. We want to expose the public to culture and have conversations about art. The artist is showing a part of themselves to the world and would like the world to see it. I have had great times answering questions and incredible, stimulating conversations about art with visitors. I feel that having that experience of looking at artwork can activate imagination, emotions, memories and connection.

In your opinion, what are the main features of a "good" art gallery?

I feel a good gallery will be welcoming to people in all walks of life. A good gallery shows work that has range, and is both challenging and accessible to the public. Good galleries have loyalty, respect, and are committed to the success of the artists they show.

What motivates you to paint?

It could be a walk in nature, looking at another artist's work, memories, dreams, basic life experiences. It's more of an urge I get when something strikes me and I want to explore it. It can really come out of nowhere.

A number of your paintings contain the words "oil and wax on canvas" in the descriptions. (www.kltreid.com) Is that one material?

In some of my work I use oil paint and cold wax medium. I mix the cold wax into the paint and apply it to the canvas in smooth strokes to create transparent layers. It's like butter.

You've mentioned that painting is a rather physical process for you. How so?

I always stand when I'm working. I like the act of going back and forth, turning things upside down and sideways. Letting the painting tell me what to do. I love the sounds the brush or tools make on the canvas.

How about describing your work-space to us in one sentence?

I would describe my studio as a sacred space full of things that I can't throw away because I might need them for something.

Both of your daughters are artists. What do you think is the most important piece of career advice you could have given them?

My advice is to always explore any opportunities and desires to create. Find what you love to do and be fearless. Failures are just as important as successes.

Thank you so much for your time, Karen—I look forward to seeing more of your work!

Word of the day

Gestural painting; also known as "gesturalism", is used to describe a method of fine art painting characterized by energetic, expressive brushstrokes deliberately emphasizing the sweep of the painter's arm or movement of the hand. In other words, the brushwork in a gesturalist painting expresses the artist's emotions and personality just like a person's gestures reflect their feelings in everyday life. (www.visual-arts-cork.com)

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

Killingly Conservation Commission recognizes two for 2021 Environmental Awards

KILLINGLY — Killingly Conservation Commission is awarding its 2021 Environmental Awards to two strong candidates each making a difference in Killingly's environment.

Killingly Conservation Commission for 20 years has been recognizing an individual, organization, school or business who contributes to the awareness, care, enhancement or protection of Killingly open spaces and natural resources.

At the March 8 Town Council meeting awards are presented

to: Byron Martin and Earl McWilliams.

Earl McWilliams was nominated for his dedication and vigilant actions in protecting Killingly's air quality by researching and educating the public on the negative effects of air pollution.

His long haul commitment to Killingly deserve our Environmental Award.

His plaque reads: 'Earl McWilliams for his vigilance in educating and organizing citizens in protecting the air

quality in Killingly.'

Byron Martin has served on the Agriculture Commission since 2012, where he served as Chairperson for a couple of years before recently becoming Vice Chair. He is very supportive of the Killingly Community Garden and donates supplies to them. He spends a lot of time working to educate the public on agricultural practices, including offering annual beekeeping classes for beginning beekeepers. He also grows pollinator plants around town to help sustain the local bee

population.

Byron Martin is also the owner of Logee's, which helps bring gardening and rare, unusual plants to the community and around the country.

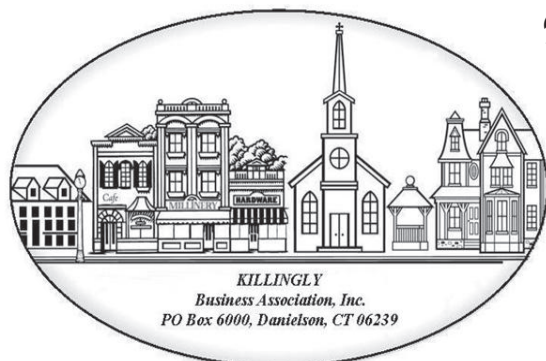
His plaque reads: 'Byron Martin for 10 years as Agriculture Commissioner, educating the public and bringing gardening to the community.'

Killingly Conservation Commission needs more resident environmentalists in serving our town. You don't need to be an expert, just love Killingly,

and are concerned about protecting its rural character and open spaces. The commission meets on the third Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the town hall, and always welcomes everyone. Step up and make a difference!

Contact Allison Brady, Planning Assistant/Natural Resource Officer, abrady@killinglyct.gov 860-779-5310 or Donna Bronwell, Chair KCC bronwelldonnam@gmail.com 860 779-1164.

Check out our updated website killinglyconservation.org.



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Skip Bates named Employee of the Month at Country Living at Westview Commons



Skip Bates

highlighted among Bates' trips. Bates is a graduate of the Putnam High School class of 1973. He went on to earn his Bachelor's degree in Accounting from American International College in 1977. After college, Skip worked for 40 and a half years in accounting at Colt's Plastics Company in Dayville, retiring in 2019 as their Chief Financial Officer. He speaks fondly about working in the family organization there, and he is proud to fulfill his current role at Westview Commons as a part of another family legacy.

Family holds a prominent place in Skip's world. His mother and his father-in-law are both residents at Westview Commons and they all appreciate being able to see each other frequently. Skip's two brothers and their wives—Mike and his wife Denise, and Alan and his wife Janet—are also near to his heart. Skip and his wife Tori have 5 children, they and their spouses being: Ryan, Lindsey, Brittany and her husband Chris, Glenn and his wife Wendy, and Ross and his wife Caitlyn. They continue to grow the family with 13 grandchildren: Elizabeth, Rylee, Alexia, Makense, Daniel, Christopher, Noreen, Nathan, William, Mason, Benjamin, Ella, and Jacob. Skip appreciates that he always has something to do

in his role as "Poppy Skip!" Recreationally, he enjoys outside work in the forms of gardening, lawn care, and the important task of cutting, splitting, and stacking wood for his wood-fired stove. One of his biggest extracurricular passions is his membership in the Christian Motorcyclists Association along with his wife Tori. Some of their favorite events on two wheels include riding to New Hampshire for Laconia Motorcycle Week, the Christian Motorcyclist Association's "Run for the Son," and more locally in support of the Plainfield VFW's "Reason to Ride." If it isn't obvious yet, he is at home on the road and he loves connecting with people. He gave a full-throated and full-throttled response in regard to earning the Westview Commons Employee of the Month award:

"I am so humbled, grateful, and truly blessed to have been selected for this award. It is a daily joy to be able to provide transportation needs to the residents here. I consider them extended family members and I enjoy doing anything I can to make their days brighter." Bates said. "My fellow team members here at Westview Commons inspire me to always do more. They are a blast to work with!"

Transporting these residents

is surely important, but it is in the noble way that Bates performs his duties that garners the appreciation of Executive Vice President David T. Panteleakos.

"Skip is an asset to Westview Commons in both transporting our residents as well as showing his devoted support to them in so many ways. His kind and warm demeanor towards each and every resident, family member, and guest that visits Westview Commons keeps the good will going around our community. Congratulations to Skip!" Panteleakos said.

Country Living at Westview Commons is a 75-unit independent and assisted living community conveniently located in picturesque Northeastern Connecticut. Affiliated with Westview Health Care Center, a nationally-ranked nursing facility according to CMS and U.S. News and World Report for the past 14 years consecutively, Westview Commons is a catered living facility dedicated to a genuine 5-star experience including outstanding service, culinary expertise, and professional in-house entertainment. Located in Dayville, Westview Commons combines convenience, tranquility and comfort; providing a lifestyle that seniors deserve.

DAYVILLE — Marc "Skip" Bates arrived as Country Living at Westview Commons' February 2022 Employee of the Month.

Bates is one of the Westview Commons transportation specialists, driving the facility's grand, 12-passenger van to assist residents with all their conveyance needs. These destinations can be near and necessary, in examples such as

providing carriage to shop at Killingly Commons or offering passage across the street to therapy and massage appointments at Westview Health Care Center. But it is also in the further and broader cultural destinations where Skip finds joy in his job. Ventures to The Bradley Playhouse in Putnam, the Bowen house in Woodstock, and the Tower Hill Botanical Gardens in Boylston, Mass. are

Colette Emery Currier hired as Executive Director at Creamery Brook Village



Colette Currier

BROOKLYN — PierceCare, a not-for-profit provider of elder care services

and continuing care retirement community, is pleased to announce Colette Currier as the new Executive Director of Creamery Brook Village. Located in Brooklyn, Creamery Brook Village provides care for nearly 100 residents.

Currier, of Waterford, brings more than 25 years of experience in senior living services to Creamery Brook Village's continuing care retirement community. Most recently, she served as Director of Sales and Marketing for Benchmark Senior Living in Niantic. She also was charged with sales and marketing at Masonicare at Mystic, where she helped fuel the growth of the new facility. Currier also spent more than a decade in administration and business development at Utopia Home Care, Inc. Her career began at UCONN Health's Geriatric Assessment Center.

"We are thrilled to have Colette join our team and to lead our Creamery Brook Village community," said

PierceCare President and CEO Patty Morse. "Her experience, dedication, and advocacy for the communities we serve are highlighted by her passion for providing exemplary care services for our residents. It was clear to us that Colette was the perfect fit for this role."

Currier is a graduate of Montville High School and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Health Science from University of Hartford. She also is certified in Geriatric Health by University of Hartford.

"I have always loved working with the senior population as well as in the business side of healthcare," said Currier. "I have more than 20 years of experience working with seniors in all different avenues, from setting up geriatric assessments for their cognitive ability at UCONN Health Center to setting them up safely in their homes — and even moving out of their homes to be social in a safe environment. This new

role as Executive Director allows me to draw from those experiences to provide the best care possible for the residents at Creamery Brook Village."

Colette lives in Waterford with her husband Robert, their five children, and two Bernese mountain dogs. They also own wood fired pizza restaurants, mobile restaurants as well as bar carts for catering.

Quinebaug Middle College releases Honor Roll

DANIELSON — EASTCONN's Quinebaug Middle College has released its Semester 1 Honor Roll.

High Honor Roll
Grace Benoit, Claire Bonafine, Matthew Bradley, Gabrielle Breault, Gabriel Brisson, Deondre Brown, Meadow Bulan, Sophie Caron, Madison Chaplin, Marisa Chappell, Alannah Coutu, Kaleb Dansereau, Rachel Gagliardo, Sierra Girard, Kailey Hamel, Justice Henderson, Katrina Imre, Nakari Madison, Yareni Mendez-Hernandez, Janette Morales-Monzo, Joseph Muscara, CJ Orthman, David Palmisciano, Elsie Peterson, Ella Poppleton, Julia Revellese, Cassandra Reynolds, Lianna Rivera, Ninoshka Robles Solano, Lourdes Sanchez Rodriguez, Tristian Sweet, Nicholas Sykes, Michaella Tetrault, Rheilley Vegiard, Marylann Whitfield

Honor Roll
Jason Adjei, Avis Andrews, Cameron Barber, Autumn Campbell, Karina Clavell, Carissa Frantz, Darren Gravel, Peter Kozlowski, Emily Leclerc, Melany Mendoza, Kairi Moore, Mercer Neff, Hailey Royer, Ramaya Talabert, Zachary

Underwood, Kyla Vezina, Lauren Wajer, Abbey Washburn

For more information about QMC and to enroll, students can visit www.eastconn.org/qmc for an application.

QMC is administered by EASTCONN through a partnership that includes EASTCONN, QVCC and seven northeastern Connecticut towns. Enrollment

is not limited to students in northeastern Connecticut.

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

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March 19th 2022 4pm WMS Gymnasium

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
 PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

Approaching wellness through service

At a time when our country seems more divided than ever, and tempers are quick to flare over such hotbed issues as border wars, gun control, human rights violations and climate change, it's become increasingly common to hear our peers speak of strange times and an undefined feeling of malaise. Interpersonal violence has been on the rise, and an overall sense of disconnectedness has led many to feel isolated and fearful. The international playing field seems full of land mines, and each day brings unpredictable media headlines. As the national stage normalizes disrespect of others and that behavior seeps into everyday interactions, it becomes more necessary than ever for all of us to practice goodwill toward others. The opioid epidemic touches a growing number of families. Many people hide behind their social media personas; quick to fire volatile opinions they would otherwise be unable to say in face-to-face interactions. We hear that climate change isn't real, while also being told that a mass extinction is underway and life as we know it will end in thirty years. Every day, we send our children to school, secretly questioning whether they will be safe. Some days, the problems of the world feel insurmountable. While there is no simple one-solution approach to the issues swirling around us, sometimes the best way to make sense of the world is simply by helping others. Rosalynn Carter summed it up best when she said, "Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place."

Volunteering provides countless benefits to both the giver and the recipient. Uplifting others, even something as simple as making another person smile, can change the path of an entire day, if not a life. We are well aware of the gift of service and how it benefits others who may be less fortunate. But we do not often consider the impact volunteering can have on our well-being. As we each consider our path to wellness, we would be wise to include community engagement alongside cardio and strength training. Research has shown that volunteering not only increases self-confidence and combats depression; it also helps us stay physically healthy and lowers mortality rates. Through community service, we form tangible bonds with others, and our social and relationship skills improve. And just maybe, each charitable act we perform will help offset that malaise that hangs in the air.

As the civil rights leader, Dorothy Height, once said, "Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop."

LETTERS POLICY

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

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



www.860Local.com

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Negotiate or starve

To the Editor:
 If the conflict in Ukraine escalates to a nuclear war, probably the worst effect will be a nuclear winter, which could starve much life on earth. There would be firestorms in cities throwing up soot very high in the atmosphere, where it would blanket the globe for years, block sun, plunge temperatures, kill most plants and animals, including the majority of human beings.

Modern computer simulations vary in

details, but all confirm that the climate would be severely affected. We could starve to death. Not an experiment worth testing.

So, please ask the White House (202-456-1111) and your representatives (844-USA-0234) to negotiate an end to the current conflict and new treaties to decrease the chance of nuclear annihilation.

JOCK McCLELLAN
 WOODSTOCK

Killingly's Board of Education must take action to protect students' mental health

To the Editor:
 I am a parent of a student at Killingly High School. I am writing to urge the Killingly BOE to take action and vote for the Behavioral Health Clinic at KHS. In a time when our state and federal governments are looking for ways to expand mental health services in our communities and schools, we have the chance to be a leader by offering a no cost Behavioral Health Clinic through Generations. There have been several meetings with an in-depth Q&A session in February, and the board still voted to table it.

Our students and staff have asked for it, citing different occurrences as to why it's

needed. Students shared very personal stories and sadly left feeling ignored. They had adults whose role is to make their school environment a safe place disregard all their concerns and tried to place blame on Covid-19 (when they shared stories from pre-Covid). These are students who are asking for a place to be able to get the help they and their classmates need.

I would love to see Killingly Public Schools be a model for other districts to follow by offering these services in the school.

MARGARET MORRISSETTE
 PARENT

Energy independence is within our grasp

To the Editor:
 It's déjà vu all over again. The price of gas is going up. Fossil fuel companies are making a killing at the expense of consumers. There is another way: electrify!

Over the past eight years, we have converted our home to run on the electricity produced by the solar panels on our roof. In the fall of 2018, we installed air source heat pumps (otherwise known as mini-splits) to supplement the heat from the oil-fired boiler. We were trying to use the boiler as little as possible, to reduce our carbon footprint. When the boiler failed in the spring of 2019, we had a replacement for it already in place. How often in life do things work out that well?

The heat pumps that we installed are called "hyper heat," meaning that they are efficient down to five degrees. Thus, they work well even during the extremely cold nights like

those we've had this winter. Some of the home heating oil companies are now starting to install these mini-splits. It was from our own boiler serviceman that we first learned that heat pumps are the wave of the future.

Last year, we bought an electric car. Talk about fun to drive! We generate enough power from our solar array to charge it. So, we aren't buying heating oil and we aren't buying gasoline.

We have made the choice to replace our old home heat and automobile with machines that run on renewable energy. The price of fossil fuels always goes up. With wind and solar, the fuel is free. We have energy independence. Try it. You'll be glad you did.

SANDY TOSI
 POMFRET

Killingly Board of Education needs to make the right decision for our children

To the Editor:
 My name is Amanda, a senior at the University of Connecticut and a Killingly High School 2018 graduate.

I am reaching out to you today to advocate for the school-based mental/behavioral health center (SBHC) and share with you why I think it is so important for a program like this to be implemented into Killingly High School.

When I was just 16 years old, the rest of the Killingly community and I experienced the unimaginable when we lost multiple members of our student body tragically. I happened to be very close with one of the students we lost, and I and those closest to me were affected so heavily by this loss. It wasn't until then that I felt a sense of (brief) support within the high school.

It should never take someone dying or another tragedy for students to feel supported within their school or for resources to be available for students who need help. Even the brightest students can hide feelings inside of them, leading them down a challenging road if not addressed.

Luckily, now that I am in college and have gained a sense of self-advocacy, I have received some of the help that would have been so crucial to me in those earlier years if those services were available to me within the high school.

These students are just kids, so many of them unaware of who to go to in times of

need, many of them allowing their feelings to bottle up as they do not have an outlet to express these feelings. Having the SBHC with access to Licensed therapists who are trained to help students navigate through their issues, is critical now more than ever!

To the board of education (BOE) members that are opposing this mental health program, I ask you this:

How are students supposed to grow up and enter the world with the ability to advocate for themselves when you are invalidating and dismissing their feelings at such a young age?

How are these students supposed to feel comfortable asking for help if you deny them this SBHC at such a critical time in their development?

Today, I am asking the members of the BOE to do better for all the students at Killingly high school, to do better for those who feel like they have no one. Do better for those who feel like they don't have a purpose in this world and vote yes to this SBHC.

Please set aside your personal beliefs and do what is right for the Killingly community, students of KHS, and for the future of all Killingly's children. Please make the right decision and allow for this incredible and completely necessary SBHC to be implemented into KHS.

Thank you,

AMANDA CICCETTI
 KILLINGLY

Creating problems to solve

To the Editor:
 Imagine that; it took only one sentence (from my Feb. 25 letter) to again trigger Mr. Taylor. So now I'm a threat to our democracy, huh? It's odd that you refer to my letters as being boorish and perhaps repetitive, seeing that yours always contain the same old, same old, again and again mentioned, DDS "diatribe," with the usual dose of TDS thrown in. I could even make a "top 10 list" of the same words that appear in every one of your belly-aching letters. But hey, I'll give you credit by admitting that being labeled a threat to our democracy and boring, are at least a couple of new ones. You've also accused me of "lashing out at the people I disagree with," however, don't you do the same? But your immense ego won't ever allow you to admit it to any of it.

I also read the Claudia Allen piece, and yes, there was a contrast (striking difference when compared) between her letter and mine - and with yours as well. And if you're suggesting that I practice what she preaches, I'll suggest that you do the same.

I didn't watch President Bidens State of

the Union speech, but I did see some clips that I found interesting. Yes, the President made a few gaffes - and so what. Did anybody notice the look of disgust on ole' Maxie's face when Biden said that he wanted to do more for the police? Good move, Mr. President! And now that idiot squad member Rashida Talib has chastised him for taking that stance.

Pelosi recently avoided answering a reporter's question about high gasoline prices and used the war in Ukraine as a diversion. As she turned and fled, she barked out: "There are people dying over there and all you're worried about is high gasoline prices." I feel bad about what's going on over there, but I would have gained a little respect for Pelosi had she just admitted that they don't have a solution at this time. And it's no doubt fair to say that high prices aren't affecting her like they are the American people.

Mr. Taylor feels that inflation and high prices are just temporary, and though that would be nice, I remain skeptical. USA Today

Turn To **DELUCA** page **A9**

Discovering a new perspective on chocolate

She stood beneath a small umbrella in the rain, dressed in her best blouse and black skirt. Her tiny feet were shod in sandals with two straps and an open back. I felt a twinge of anxiety. Our guide told us there were snakes in the undergrowth, fer-de-lance, whose venom is so deadly, victims have two hours after an attack before it is over. I was really lost in my fears, but an indigenous elderly woman was leading us on a tour of her cacao farm. Pay attention, I muttered.

After years of lockdown, my husband and I went on a cacao tour of Costa Rica. He is a chocolatier by training and inclination, and has taken courses from the



NANCY WEISS

organization running this one, Ecole Chocolat, based in Canada. I tagged along out of a desperate desire to travel and in hopes of seeing howler monkeys,

sloths, toucans and hummingbirds. I wasn't looking for snakes. I was after new experiences and a taste of diversity. I got some of both.

We left Bradley Airport in a swirl of chaos. As airlines (American) have cut back on staff and added machines for check in, confusion has risen exponentially. Most people in line were over 25, but a few were computer professionals and had no idea what was going on. Once on the plane, masked, warned not to sip on contraband alcohol or insult the staff, all was well. They must spray something on planes that makes passengers forget how they got there. Nothing beats the amnesia of takeoff.

I read a couple of books preparing for the trip. I looked at maps. I know people who go to Costa Rica to surf or retire. We were not going to see tourist attractions, but farms and businesses growing, processing and marketing cacao around the world. One place, CATIE resembled our Agricultural Experiment Station. Plant scientists work to develop cacao trees that produce abundantly and resist disease. Sounds familiar. Then they get farmers to plant or graft their material and manage it appropriately. It seems to work.

We visited small family farms, saw their trees and ate delicious meals prepared in outdoor kitchens. The chicken on my plate was related to those walking nearby and it was delicious, especially with a bit of spice. I don't speak Spanish, but I could guess what the aging farmer was saying about his crop and the future. Not good. But why do it? Because they are farmers. Because that is what his family does.

We met the son of wealthy landowners, who was bringing modern techniques to his patrimony. I'd put my money on him for making an impact. We talked with a factory owner, who applied modern methods to processing cacao. Anyone in the business was crazy but his son was joining the company. We met a couple, who'd fallen in love and decided to grow cacao and welcome tourists. Everyone was trying their darndest. It reminded me of dairy farmers, wine growers and distillers in my own backyard.

The indigenous woman, who fermented her beans in a plastic bag, roasted them on an open fire, winnowed them by tossing them on a wooden platter and pressed her unsweetened chocolate in banana leaves was the most memorable. She wasn't concerned with profitability or snakes. She was preserving her slice of the world.

I will never think of chocolate in the same way. I ate so much, I feel like a hollow shell Easter bunny. From dark, bitter confections to sophisticated bon bons, chocolate requires attention, perseverance and a little risk.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Take a deep breath before mudslinging

To the Editor:

Greetings, Quiet Corner, from the left coast, or what might better be known as the "People's Republic of California." As former 60-year residents of Brooklyn, my wife and I moved to sunny San Diego two and a half years ago to retire.

I still enjoy reading the Villager, and especially the opinion section because the Quiet Corner will always be home for me. I am still a big fan of this weekly, as it has always been a wonderful addition to the community.

It is sad to see that the Villager still gives too much leeway to its "Letters to the Editor" section with its obvious hateful and degrading speech from the back benchers from both political parties. I also often got caught up in the mudslinging in this weekly, as I felt it was my duty to defend my team from those that were obvious America haters, in my previous life. (Tongue in cheek, of course).

Yes, I am a Trump supporter, but not a loyalist. I will vote for anyone that I believe will do the things that he did and accomplished as President. I will do here and now what no democrat will ever do to their own team Captains, I will criticize him. Yes, he has an ego that is too big for 10 peo-

ple, he is bombastic and doesn't know when to shut his mouth long enough to let others help fight his battles in the press and in Congress from those who hate American success. He has also led a much-flawed personal life that has been well documented. I would love to hear any democrat for once, speak some evil about their beloved Biden, Obama and both Clintons. God knows there is more than enough ammo to use for the honest person.

I didn't support Trump because of his many personal flaws, but rather for his Reagan-esque vision of greatness for America, such as fighting for those things that were always considered true American values. Things like inducing prosperity rather than poverty and lowering taxes to control government waste. Sound principals like freedom of speech, that is currently being denied to Conservatives by the oligarchs in big tech, with encouragement from democrats, both in the media and Congress. Yes, we are losing our democracy and for many reasons. The main one though, is the media's overt hatred toward the GOP while at the same time laying down cover fire for their beloved democrat cronies. A corrupt lying and bias press is the antithesis of a successful nation.

This may sound partisan, but hopefully not taken personally. Trump was criticized for always promising to make America first in all his decision making, and in my opinion, he did just that, despite his enemies in D.C. He did a great job at closing the southern border. He negotiated the USMCA, which was excellent for the workers in this country. He made America energy independent after 75 years of being held hostage to hostile nations. He forced NATO countries to honor their commitments to fund their own defense, and in hindsight was very fortunate for the current events in Europe. He rescued millions from poverty by creating real jobs for all, especially for minorities. Among other things, he also penalized China with sanctions for all their violations of law and international trade agreements. He raised the standard of living for all that chose to work, rather than milking off the government largesse.

It is finally being proven beyond any argument that the deep state created "Russia-gate," was nothing but a hoax that all honest people long knew. It was a scam perpetrated by Hillary, pushed through the media, and enforced through the corrupt FBI, the no-Justice department, and the highly secre-

tive and no less corrupt intel agencies. These are not my opinions but rather the real facts from Special Counsel John Durham's last report. This Putinesque cabal of criminals actually hacked into Trump tower prior to the 2016 election and then the White House servers once he was in office, to spy on his administration. Even Nixon could not have fathomed such an audacious crime against America. Once again, maybe partisan, but not personal to a fellow citizen.

Partisans like to accuse the other "team" of being liars without the integrity to acknowledge that "all" politicians are liars and get into politics to enrich themselves through bribes and by skimming off the top from the American people. If you cannot face these two facts, then you might as well call yourself a liar as well. The truth, as I see it, our country is doomed. Not from any external adversary but solely from the enemy within that we call politicians, a corrupt media and the very wealthy. These true America hating nefarious groups fight for their own agenda at the expense of "we the people." The civil people who just want to earn a living and raise a family in a safe place, with little to no interference from the government. But no, we can't have that because it would be too simple and profitable to the average Joe.

Friends back home ask me, how can you tolerate southern California, with the extreme high cost of living and worse, the out-of-control liberalism? The expenses were mitigated by buying a home with family and splitting all the costs. It is not always easy, but it can work with much patience, love, and forgiveness. The second is easy! The average person out here tends to be so laid back that politics is never really discussed and never argued about. People in southern California don't choose to ruin their day with negative driven, opinionated people.

As a man that is much closer to the end of his runway rather than the beginning, I would like to ask that those who live and breathe the contact sport of politics, please take a deep breath before you write. Try to see your opponent's point of view if it comes from a place of civility, and do not bother with the personal mudslinging toward fellow commoners. Save that for the truly despicable in D.C. The enemy is in the camp, but it should not be each other. The powers that be in this once great country feed off our division and hate for one another, much like the devil himself does. I am certain that this will be looked upon as partisan, but I hope that it was seen as civil and not personal toward any good citizen. I found that leaving the fight for a while has helped me to focus on more important things. I wish all readers back home happiness and prosperity and most of all civility.

Please remember this adage: Live life happy, for you will be a long time dead!

GERRY RENAUD
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

DONNA DUFRESNE
POMFRET CENTER

The oligarch in his bathroom — Trump's obsession with Putin

To the Editor:

Some of you might remember that poster about "Bolsheviks in the Bathroom" which was used in anti-communist propaganda during the McCarthy era. Interestingly, the original poster was designed in the 1930's by Madison Avenue "Madmen." It was nothing more than a clever ad for Scott Paper Towels. The irony captured the growing tension between industrialists and labor, implying that better towels in the bathroom would keep the workers happy and prevent a strike (or revolution) wink, wink. Sadly, America's long obsession with communism has prevented us from noticing that untethered wealth and power have eroded democracy.

Last week, the entire world watched in stunned disbelief as Vladimir Putin invaded Ukraine, bombed civilian targets, killed women and children, and committed war crimes unseen in Europe since World War II. The Bolsheviks and their communist party of the early 20th century seem almost quaint compared to the autocratic dictatorship of Putin and his oligarchy. Those old-fashioned Marxists must be rolling in their graves. Putin is the antithesis of the Russian Revolution which dethroned the Tzars and promised Peace, Bread, and Land to the masses.

Wealth disparity has deepened during Putin's reign while he sits on tens of billions of dollars attained by dubious means. The Russian electoral process is nothing more than a sham to appease citizens who believe they live in a democracy. Meanwhile Putin and his oligarchs have infiltrated the gov-

ernment and filched money from the people to line their own pockets. Yet we don't hear much dissent from Russians. That's because Putin's chessboard has been carefully constructed with strategic moves from the dictator's playbook - the same one used by China, North Korea, and a former American President. Anyone to the left of comatose will recognize the familiar tactics used by Putin to snuff out democracy in Russia and recently applied by a not-so-genius wannabe dictator to divide and conquer America.

Erode confidence in a free press by discrediting independent news agencies, calling them fake news. Install a Foxy State news for your own propaganda guarded by the Rooks.

Erode voting rights by discrediting the electoral process and cultivate distrust in the system. Whip the pawns into a frenzy to do your bidding, then declare martial law so you can appoint family members and sycophants to government positions. Fire scientists and experts from government agencies.

Erode freedom of speech by discrediting dissent, making protests illegal. Move your knights forward, applying martial law to clamp down on dissidents and protesters except for the State appointed Knights who will do your bidding with an attempted coup.

Appoint Bishops to the Superior Court to discredit and overturn the laws that protect women's rights and racial equity in the name of God, Amen.

Discredit first amendment rights while arming ordinary people with military weapons. Install Bishops to remind them they have the right to kill

in the name of God and country Amen.

Discredit universities and public schools, the enemy of tyranny. Cultivate hatred, mistrust, and division by engaging working class pawns in domestic terrorism against those you wish to silence - the ones who stand up for democracy and justice.

While the rest of the world responded with outrage, and stood up to Putin's bullying tactics, another member of the Putin chess team sat on his throne of shredded classified documents in Mara Lago, egging him on. Like a schoolgirl with a crush on a bully, Trump gushed about Putin's genius tactics showing military might, and how he would like to do the same on the border of Mexico.

While America lay sleeping, drugged by the anti this and that propaganda of Fox News, we allowed the American oligarchy to slip out of the boardrooms and into the republican party. Oil, gas, and coal tycoons with a personal stake in debunking climate change, media conglomerates who have destroyed independent news agencies and stolen home-town newspapers, and white supremacists who have dominated social media with hate speech, have somehow slithered into the GOP. Sadly, few Republicans have stood up to Trump and his Putin Envy.

I can't believe I'm quoting Reagan here, but Putin really does represent the "axis of evil," and Trump is obviously a spoke in his wheelhouse. It's about time we break up this bromance and put them both in prison where they belong.

DONNA DUFRESNE
POMFRET CENTER

Preparing for a single retirement? Four tips for women

Women in the United States generally retire around the age of 66.1 For women who retire without a partner or spouse to share the financial responsibilities, there can be significant planning challenges involved. Preparedness is always a key component of securing financial stability and independence, and it's especially true in this case. Whether you're single now or not, it pays to create a strong financial strategy so you'll be prepared for whatever may come in the future.

Here are five tips that all women can use to plan and prepare for a peaceful, financially sound retirement.

Tip #1: Have a Plan

A 2020 study found that around 51 percent of unmarried women have not saved for retirement. By comparison, that number drops to 24 percent for married women.2 The problem is, it's likely you'll be spending 10, 20, 30+ years in retirement, so having substantial savings is instrumental. The Department of Labor recommends that retirees prepare to live on 70 to 90 percent of their pre-retirement income in order to maintain their usual standard of living.

If you're living on a single income, saving for retirement may be extra challenging. Developing a plan with plenty of time to prepare can help improve your retirement savings. To see if you're currently saving enough, use the Retirement Savings Calculators on our website at whzwealth.com/financial-calculators.

Tip #2: Prepare For Long-Term Care

Someone that is turning 65 today will have almost a 70 percent chance of needing some type of long-term care services and support in the coming years.3

With that being said, it may be beneficial to consider a long-term care insur-



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ance policy to help cover such costs. Even if you have family or friends who can help, long-term sickness or injury may require care beyond what your family can help with physically and financially. How will you be cared for and who will pay for the care? Assisted living and long-term assistance can be incredibly expensive. Having a plan should you need care can provide piece of mind.

Tip #3: Consider Delaying Social Security Benefits

Social Security provides benefits and financial protection for women with almost 55 percent of the people receiving Social Security benefits being women.4 And it provides an inflation-protected benefit that will last as long as you live. When it comes to drawing from Social Security, it is advisable to delay this for as long as you can without going past the age of 70.

If you can delay until that age, your income will increase significantly each year. Even though your Social Security benefits can become accessible at 62, your full retirement benefits will only be available once an individual reaches their full retirement age, which is determined by their birth date. Any benefits that are received before reaching your full retirement age are reduced by a percentage, which is also determined by birth date. This ranges between 25 and 30 percent.5

According to the Social Security Administration, the reduction in benefits is typically permanent. If you were to access your benefits at 62, the percentage removed would remain even after you have reached your full retirement age.6

However, if you were to wait longer than the full retirement age to access

your benefits, you can receive a retirement credit, which is a percentage based on how long you waited, up to the age of 70.6 Any Social Security strategy should be considered in the context of your overall financial plan.

Tip #4: Build a Network of Friends and Acquaintances

You may find yourself bored or lonely once you retire, so establishing friendships and acquaintances is a great way to find new activities and friendships. In fact, studies have shown that strong friendships can actually improve your health and prolong your life.7

Some ways to build new friends and acquaintances could include:

- Attending local events
- Starting a new hobby or interest
- Volunteering
- Joining a walking or exercising group

Retirement planning can be difficult enough as it is, but this can substantially escalate for single women. But by planning well and investing well, you can create a stronger future for yourself so that you can live well in retirement. Working with a financial professional can be invaluable to ensuring you've got the best possible strategy for you.

At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we use our strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process to help our clients do exactly that. If you'd like to get started on building your own tailored strategy to Live Well, contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com and learn more about our team, our client-centric approach, and our services at www.whzwealth.com.

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https://www.health.harvard.edu/newsletter_article/the-health-benefits-of-strong-relationships

DELUCA

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reported that the national average price for gasoline reached its highest point in over a decade and a new record high could come by the end of the week. So what's the solution to these (and to the other) "social ills," and when is something actually going to be done about it? There is a saying that goes: "Politicians create the problems, then tell you they're the ones to solve it." And therein lies more the problem than the solution.

ED DELUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

SPORTS

Centaur's upset in final of Nutmeg Conference Tournament



Photos Jason McKay



Woodstock Academy's Troy Daviau shoots the puck toward the goal.

Woodstock Academy's Noah Sampson sends the puck down the ice to keep it away from the opposition.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Editor's Note: The accompanying photos are from Woodstock Academy's game versus Suffield-Granby-Windsor Locks on Thursday, March 3, in the semifinal round of the Nutmeg Conference Tournament.

POMFRET — During its 10-game winning streak the Woodstock Academy boys' ice hockey team has put together seemingly every conceivable shots-and-goals combination. The Centaurs have taken a lot of shots and scored a lot of goals, and they've taken few shots and scored enough goals to win. They have even taken a few shots and scored a lot of goals.

Woodstock Academy, however, did not notch any wins in the streak by taking a lot of shots but only scoring two goals. That anomaly, however, is what happened in the Nutmeg Conference Tournament championship game at the Pomfret School's Jahn Ice Rink against the Eastern Connecticut Eagles.

The Centaurs peppered the Eagles' net and junior Cam McCollum to the tune of 44 shots, but Woodstock Academy's goal-scorers could only get two shots past the talented goaltender and, as a result, lost the tournament final, 3-2.

Top-seeded Woodstock Academy (14-6) had a chance to tie the game at the end after a tripping call against Eastern Connecticut left the Centaurs with the man advantage for the final 84 seconds of regu-

lation. During the power play Woodstock appeared to improve the likelihood they would send the game into overtime by pulling goalie Dante Sousa in favor of a sixth attacker.

The Centaurs got several opportunities to score the tying goal in the final 1:24, the best being a shot by sophomore forward Noah Sampson. Sampson's right-to-left shot with about a minute to play hit the post nearest Sampson and skittered away.

"We got the pole there at the end," Woodstock Academy coach Kevin Bisson said. "We wanted the puck on Noah's stick and it just hit the post which was, honestly, just unbelievable."

The second-seeded Eagles (9-12-1) started their successful upset bid quickly, scoring a pair of goals in the first six minutes of the game. Eastern Connecticut sophomore Drew Sager put his team ahead, 1-0, sliding the puck under Sousa's blocker 64 seconds into the game. Less than five minutes later they doubled their lead to 2-0 when senior captain Dylan Relaz got the puck past Sousa.

"They caught us flat-footed," Woodstock Academy assistant coach Bob Donahue said to Centaurs' sports information director Marc Allard during post-game interviews on the live feed broadcast of the game. "We didn't come out with the intensity that we were looking for and they did."

The Centaurs did not go down without a fight, however. Sampson pulled Woodstock Academy to within a goal, 2-1,

20 seconds into the second period, his 18th goal of the season somehow getting past McCollum. The Eagles, unfortunately, answered the challenge, taking a 3-1 lead with five minutes left in the period on a goal by senior captain Anthony Gesino.

"We seem to be fighting ourselves in a way," Bisson said between the second and third period on the live feed. "We had some opportunities; we hit the post twice at the end of the period. If those shots go in it's a very different game at this moment."

"Before the game we talked about the fact that what we did against this team during the season doesn't really matter," said Bisson, whose team defeated the Eagles twice during the regular season — 8-3 on the road and 6-4 at home. "When the stakes are higher, teams find a way to ramp it up. That's what they've done and that's what we need to do."

Woodstock Academy cut the Eagles' lead to 3-2 midway through the period when sophomore Donnie Sousa scored his 19th goal of the season, while the Centaurs were skating with the man advantage. Senior Chris Thibault recorded an assist on the goal. He also assisted on Sampson's goal in the second period.

Woodstock Academy kept the pressure on McCollum for the remainder of the period, but they just couldn't find a way to tie the game and force overtime.

"We waited too long. We kind of gave them the first period. But we fought and we battled, and we gave everything we had right until the final second,"



Maxx Corradi of Woodstock Academy scans the ice while stick handling the puck.

Bisson said. "It's unfortunate to have the record we had and everything we've done to this point and that's the way the conference championship played out."

"We thought we had a chance all the way through. We have a lot of good players up and down the lineup and never for a second thought we were out of it," Bisson added. "It was a little shocking and we're going to have to do a little reset because they have to have their mindset right now to go into a true make-or-break game."

Woodstock Academy entered the Connecticut Division II Boys' Hockey Tournament as

the No. 10 seed and played a first-round game against seventh-seeded Trumbull at the Rinks at Shelton on Tuesday, March 8, after press time.

The Centaurs advanced to the final to the Nutmeg Conference title by beating fourth-seeded Suffield-Granby-Windsor Locks (SGWL), 4-1, in a semifinal-round game Thursday, March 3, at Jahn Rink.

Sampson scored two goals for Woodstock Academy while freshman Maxx Corradi had a goal and two assists and senior defenseman Shawn Wallace also added two assists. Donnie Sousa scored the Centaurs' fourth goal.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

KILLINGLY GIRLS BASKETBALL CURRENTLY THE CINDERELLA STORY OF THE QUIET CORNER

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Killingly High and Ellis Tech girls' basketball teams made their presence felt in CIAC state tournament's first week of games.

Killingly, the No. 22 seed in the Class MM tournament, enjoyed a pair of road wins against higher-seeded teams — No. 11 seed Sheehan High (45-44, Monday, Feb. 28) and No. 6 seed Regional Hebron, Andover, and Marlborough (RHAM) high school (40-17 on Thursday, March 4).

Killingly, 10-10 entering the postseason, was back out on the road for its quarterfinal game on Monday, March 7, traveling to Madison to take on third-seeded Daniel Hand High School (18-3). Killingly's victory over Sheehan was its first tournament win since 2005, and the win over RHAM put the team in the quarterfinal round of the tournament for the first time since 2000.

Ellis Tech, the No. 20 seed, had a first-round tournament game to remember also, upsetting the Academy of Aerospace and Engineering (the No. 13 seed), 39-36, in the Class S tournament, in Windsor on Tuesday, March 1. The win was the Golden Eagles' first victory in a state tournament game in school history.

For Killingly, pulling off a pair of upsets — away from the friendly confines of its home court — has caused high school aficionados near and far to label the team the "Cinderella Story" of the postseason.

"Yesterday in practice we had to explain to the girls what being called the Cinderella team meant," Killingly coach Gina (Derossier) Lindberg said with a laugh. "Now they know."

Killingly's tournament wins were

achieved quite differently. The victory over Sheehan was a pulsating, come-from-behind win while a lock-down defensive effort — that led to a 27-4 halftime advantage — keyed the team's victory over RHAM.

In its game with Sheehan, Killingly was behind by eight points with four minutes remaining. Sophomore Hannah Grudzien, making her state tournament debut, started her team's comeback with a basket from the low post.

Later in the rally she cut through the lane, received an on-point feed from senior Emma Carpenter and convert the layup opportunity, giving Killingly a 43-42 lead with 1:13 left to play in the game. After Sheehan missed on a chance to re-take the lead, the 6-foot-1 Grudzien (12 points, 10 in the second half) hit a pair of free throws with 35 seconds to push the Killingly lead to 45-42.

Eight seconds later Grudzien preserved the Killingly lead with a timely block of a shot by Darla Jagrosse, Sheehan's senior center. With a 45-42 lead, Grudzien then made a big block on a low-post attempt with 27 seconds remaining from Sheehan senior center Darla Jagrosse, who had a game-high 18 points. "Hannah is a special player," Lindberg said. "This was huge for her, and the experience she received by playing in the game is going to go over into the next game, never mind next year. She's picking up steam as we go along and it's a tribute to how hard she works every day and how much she wants it. Nobody wants it more than her."

Junior Ella Lach paced the Killingly offense, scoring a team-high 13 points while senior Sophia Moore added 11 points. In addition to the dozen points

she scored, Grudzien found time to grab 10 rebounds.

Killingly planted the seeds to its upset of Sheehan all season, having voluntarily moved up to Division II in the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) and loading its non-league schedule with tougher teams from bigger schools.

"We had better competition this season and games that were tougher. The girls learned how to stay calm in certain situations. I had faith the struggles we went through would make us better and stronger," said Lindberg, whose team played at Sheehan in December. "We came here during Christmas break and played [Sheehan]. We had a five-point lead in the fourth quarter [and ended up losing 49-41]. It was a little different ball game this time around."

Grudzien scored 14 points and pulled down 14 rebounds in Killingly's win over RHAM, while senior Emma Carpenter added 10 points and classmate Sophia Moore chipped in with six points and five assists. The lopsided victory, however, was a result of the team defense Killingly played.

"We knew going in that they were an outside shooting team," Lindberg said about RHAM's offensive tendencies. "So, our last two practices we worked on having a hand in the shooter's face. We didn't want them getting uncontested outside shots. I think we did a very good job of limiting their shots. Our defense got the job done."

"I was pleasantly surprised by the first half we played on both ends of the floor," Lindberg continued. "If you had told me before the game it was going to be 27-4 at halftime, I wouldn't have believed you. My girls played a hell of a game today."

Ellis Tech's win over Aerospace was keyed by sophomore Kylie Damble, who

scored a game-high 20 points, grabbed four rebounds, made three steals and blocked three shots. Classmate Brooke Montecalvo made a clutch pair of fourth quarter free throws to help hold off Aerospace's frantic comeback and she finished the game with three steals.

Freshman forward Sadie Murray scored five points, grabbed 11 rebounds and contributed five assists to the winning effort while senior forward Jordan Daoust, like Murray, pulled down 11 rebounds to go along with four points and two blocks. The Golden Eagles were ousted from the tournament in the second round, losing at Somers High, 59-26, on Friday March 4. Montecalvo led the way with nine points, all coming on 3-pointers, while freshman Kiara Cartier scored six points, and Daoust five.

Wrestling
A week after winning the Connecticut Class S title the Killingly High wrestling team finished seventh in the Connecticut 2022 State Open Tournament, held at FloArena in New Haven Friday and Saturday, Feb. 26-27.

Xavier (204 points) won the State Open title. The Falcons were followed by Danbury (second, 145 points), Simsbury (third, 135 points), East Hartford (fourth, 134-1/2 points), and Fairfield Warde (fifth, 109 points). Killingly finished with 71-1/2 points.

For Killingly, Kaden Ware and Jack Richardson both wrestled their way to second-place finishes, Ware in the 126-pound weight class, Richardson in the 145-pound weight class. A third Killingly wrestler, Soren Reif, also placed in the top six at the State Open, finishing fourth in the 195-pound weight class. Ware, Richardson and Reif are all juniors.

Eastern to present Humperdinck's "Hansel and Gretel"

WILLIMANTIC — The opera studio at Eastern Connecticut State University will present Engelbert Humperdinck's classic fairytale opera "Hansel and Gretel" on April 1-3 in the Fine Arts Instructional Center (FAIC) Concert Hall. The production is directed by Music Professor Emily Riggs with musical direction by David Ballena. Showtimes are April 1 at 7:30 p.m. and April 2 and 3 at 4 p.m.

Based on the 19th century German fairytale by the Grimm Brothers, the opera follows siblings Hansel and Gretel

as they travel through an enchanted forest. Soon they get lost and are forced to stay in the woods overnight. When they wake the next morning, they discover a magical house made of sweets and candy. Their curiosity gets the best of them, and they soon find themselves trapped in the spell of a nasty witch. Hansel and Gretel must use all their wit to outsmart the witch before they are baked into gingerbread.

The cast includes Samantha Warshauer (West Hartford) as Hansel; Emily Gillespie (Lebanon) as Gretel;

Christiana Montalbano as The Witch; Mya Millbauer as the Mother; Callie Sullivan as the Sandman; and Sarah Potter as the Dew Fairy. Scenic design is by Kristen P.E. Zarabozo; lighting design is by Megan O'Brien; and the scenic artist is Anna Brewster.

This production will be performed in English with original narration. The run time is one hour and 20 minutes, with no intermission.

Tickets are free for all children and youth (under 18); \$10 for senior citizens (62+); free for Eastern students; \$12 for

Eastern faculty, staff and alumni; and \$20 for the general public. Free youth tickets are possible due to a generous grant from the Jeffrey P. Ossen Family Foundation. To purchase tickets, please visit <http://easternct.showare.com/hanselandgretel>

For more information, visit: <https://www.easternct.edu/music/event/hansel-and-gretel.html> or contact the FAIC Box Office at (860) 465-5123 or email atreboxoffice@easternct.edu.

Academy Building restoration set to begin in April

WOODSTOCK — On March 1, the contract for the Academy Building restoration project, in partnership with Kronenberger & Sons Restoration, Inc., was officially signed and executed. The project will be underway on April 1.

"As an institution, we would like to thank our alumni, donors, and the greater community for their support of this project. The Academy Building is an iconic structure that is both a community and historic asset," Head of School Christopher Sandford said. "It is a crucial component in providing our future students with the best possible education-

al experiences at The Woodstock Academy."

The renovation is expected to be completed in the fall of 2023, just in time for the 150th anniversary of the building's construction in 1873. The planned upgrades include a combination of new and restored windows, accessibility throughout the building, restroom upgrades, restoration of the central auditorium and stage, new electrical and heating systems, new AV systems, stabilization of the existing wood framing at the base of the building, interior painting, and a new metal batten seam roofing to match the original roof from 1873.

"Kronenberger & Sons Restoration, Inc. is honored to work on the Academy Building; the crown jewel of this amazing campus. This classic example of Italianate architecture which is listed on the National Register of Historic Structures is a great addition to our firm's commitment to preserving the very best of American architecture," said Brian Kronenberger, President of Kronenberger & Sons Restoration.

To explore giving options or learn more about InSpire 150, the ongoing Campaign for the Academy Building, visit woodstockacademy.org/inspire150.

PUTNAM ROTARY WELCOMES NEW MEMBER



Photo Courtesy

On March 8, the Putnam Rotary Club welcomed its newest member, Wayne "Woody" Durst, left. Club President J. Scott Pempek, right, joked that he'd been holding Durst's badge, pin and plaque for quite a while — waiting for the club to meet in person. Zoomland is not conducive to a new member installation. Kind of hard to pin someone on a computer screen.

Dish up a classic comfort food this St. Patrick's Day

Everyone has "corned beef and cabbage" on the brain come St. Patrick's Day. But another flavorful dish might appeal to a greater number of people with Irish roots.

Shepherd's Pie is a savory dish made of minced lamb that originated in England but also made the jump to Ireland, where it became a popular comfort food. While Shepherd's Pie can be made with freshly cooked ground meat, it also is a fine way to use leftovers from a previous meal. Shepherd's Pie is commonly mistaken for Cottage Pie, which is very similar, yet tends to use beef as the meat of choice.

Many families have their own ancestral recipes for Shepherd's Pie, but for those looking to cook the dish for the first time, try "Shepherd's Pie," courtesy of Alton Brown, which appeared in Season 12 of his hit show "Good Eats."

Shepherd's Pie Yield: 8 servings

- 112 pounds russet potatoes
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 carrots, peeled and finely diced

- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 112 pounds ground lamb
- 134 teaspoons kosher salt
- 34 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 teaspoons tomato paste
- 2 teaspoons chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 teaspoon chopped fresh thyme
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 14 cup half-and-half
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 1 large egg yolk
- 12 cup corn kernels, fresh or frozen
- 12 cup English peas, fresh or frozen

1. Heat oven to 400 F.
2. Peel the potatoes and cut them into 1/2-inch dice. Put them in a medium saucepan and cover with cold water. Set said pan over high heat, cover and bring to a boil. Uncover, drop the heat to maintain a simmer, and cook until tender, 10 to 15 minutes.
3. Heat the oil in an 11-inch saute pan over medium-high heat until shimmering. Add the onion and carrots and saute just until they begin to take on

color, 3 to 4 minutes. Add the garlic and stir to combine. Add the meat, salt and pepper, and cook until browned and cooked through, approximately 3 minutes.

4. Sprinkle the meat with the flour, toss to coat, and continue to cook for another minute. Add the tomato paste, broth, Worcestershire sauce, rosemary, and thyme and stir to combine. Bring to a boil, then decrease the heat to low, cover, and simmer slowly until the sauce is thickened slightly, 10 to 12 minutes.

5. Meanwhile, combine the half-and-half and butter in a microwave-safe container and nuke until warmed through, about 35 seconds.

6. Drain the potatoes and return them to the saucepan. Mash the potatoes (a masher is an excellent tool for this, though a hand mixer will do), then add the hot half-and-half mixture, as well as the salt and pepper. Mash to smoothness, then stir in the egg yolk.

7. Add the corn and peas to the meat mixture and spread evenly in a 7-by-11-inch glass baking dish. Top with the mashed potatoes, starting around the edges to create a seal to prevent the mix-



ture from bubbling over, and smooth the top with a rubber spatula. Place on a half sheet pan lined with parchment paper on the middle rack of the oven and bake for 25 minutes, or just until the potatoes begin to brown. Remove to a cooking rack and let rest for at least 15 minutes before serving.

GYMNASTICS

continued from page A1

March 12.

Markley, a junior, more than lived up to the hype one receives when entering a tournament as prestigious as the Connecticut State Open as the top-seeded gymnast, winning all four events and finishing with a season-best all-around score of 38.775. Markley scored a 9.75 on bars, a 9.65 on beam, a 9.575 on her floor routine and a 9.8 on vault, winning the state individual title in the process.

"I had some confidence built up from our previous meets and that definitely helped," Markley said about her State Open performance. "I wasn't very nervous [in the State Open]. I didn't feel shaky at all. I was just out there having fun."

Markley said she never looks ahead during a competition, choosing instead to focus only on the discipline she's performing at the time.

"I felt like I was having a good meet, but in my head I just take it one event at a time," Markley said. "If I'm on bars that's all I'm thinking about. I try to remain focused on just the event I'm performing at all times. If I fall on one event, the fall is completely forgotten by the time I get to the next event. I believe having that singleness of focus really helps me out a lot."

Winning the all-around at the State Open was especially gratifying for Markley because the start of her season

was delayed by back and ankle injuries as well as bouts of COVID-19 and mononucleosis.

"It felt really good to be able to compete at the ECC [Eastern Connecticut Conference] tournament as well as states and the state open and hit everything," Markley said. "It showed me all my hard work coming back from everything I went through was worth it."

Tocchio said she could be happier for or prouder of Markley than she was watching her perform at the State Open.

"Taylor was just flawless. Her true confidence and leadership really shined through [at the State Open]," Tocchio said. "Taylor has gained confidence within herself each week she's been back competing. It's been really cool to watch her these last few weeks. Her performances in the last month have been awesome to see."

Aleman, a freshman who also missed significant time this season due to injury, finished third in the all-around competition with a score of 36.375. She scored 9.275 on vault, 9.2 on floor, 9.1 on bars and 8.8 on beam.

"Liv had a great meet. She was just so solid on all four events for us. That was huge," Tocchio said. "She's still coming back from an injury so we're being very smart with her training and what events she's actually competing in. She's capable of a lot more than we're letting her do right now."

Lindsey Gillies also had a strong meet



Another week, another trophy. At the end of the State Open the Centaurs (left-to-right) Livia Gerum, Liv Aleman, Allie Boyd, Taylor Markley, Lindsey Gilles, Maddie Martinez and Angelina Auger posed for photos.

for the Centaurs, tying for third in vault with a 9.3. The senior scored an 8.675 on bars; 8.5 on beam and 8.1 on the floor.

"She had an amazing meet; one of her best ever for us. Her vault score was her highest ever," Tocchio said. "She just really pulled it together and her scores were tremendous. Lindsey has been a

solid performer for us all season."

Down the stretch of the regular season and into the postseason Tocchio has rotated seven gymnasts into the six available competing spots — Markley, Aleman, Gilles, junior Missy Martinez, and freshmen Angelina Auger, Allie Boyd and Livia Gerum.

OBITUARIES

Lucille J. Salisbury, 88

Woodstock, CT: Lucille J. (Vallee) Salisbury, 88, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 4th, in her home after a brief illness.



Her husband, Donald K. Salisbury, passed away in 2003. She leaves her two sons, Donald K. Salisbury, Jr. and his partner Paula Roy of Southbridge and Jamie M. Salisbury and his husband Alex Salisbury of Charlton; her daughter LouAnn Manthorne and her husband Bob of Woodstock, CT; her 8 grandchildren, Heidi Pollone and her husband Anthony, Robbie Salisbury and his wife Rae-Lynn, Jena Wilkes and her husband Grant, Jordan Manthorne and his partner Jill Converse, Christie Salisbury, DJ Salisbury, Jacob Salisbury and Jack Salisbury and his wife Sam; 11 great grandchildren, Troy Pollone, Laci Pollone, Rachel Salisbury, Reanna Salisbury, Charlie Wilkes, Preston Salisbury, Payton Salisbury, Cassidee Calito, Quinton Asquith, Luna Salisbury and Logan Salisbury; and several nieces and nephews. She also leaves her best friend, Nancy Capistrand. She was predeceased by her two sisters, Jeannine Morin and Gloria Vallee. Lucille was born in Southbridge the daughter of

Alphonse and Blanche (Bergeron) Vallee.

Lucille worked as a secretary at the former Marianhill High School in Southbridge for many years. She later worked as a secretary for St. Paul's Parish in Warren, retiring many years ago. Lucille was a longtime active member of the former Sacred Heart Parish in Southbridge. While at Sacred Heart Parish; she served as a lector; she was a devoted member of the Ladies of St. Anne Sodality, ran the parish bingo with her husband Don for 32 years, and helped to run the parish flea market. She later became a member of the St. John Paul II Parish in Southbridge and was a member of its Ladies of St. Anne Sodality. Lucille enjoyed bowling, Friday night movies with the girls and Sunday meals with her family. She also enjoyed traveling with her husband and traveling across the country with their trailer. Most of all she loved her grandchildren and treasured her time spent with them.

Her funeral was held on Thursday, March 10th, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 11:00am in St. Mary's Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 247 Hamilton St., Southbridge. Burial was in New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Wednesday, March 9th, from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Jean M. Miller, 93

Jean M. Miller passed away peacefully on February 12, 2022 at Westview Nursing Home in Dayville, CT, at the age of 93. Jean was born on June 24, 1928 in New London, CT to Albert and Emma Sandlin.



She grew up in new London CT and graduated from Williams Memorial Institute High School with Honors. In 1946 she met a young marine, married him and moved to Fabyan, CT where they raised a family. Jean was full of life and energy, and deeply devoted to her faith. She was always ready to confront any challenge or cause she took. She was a former member of Zion Lutheran church in Webster MA. as well as Thompson PTA. She was also elected to the Thompson CT board of education. In 1962 Jean obtained her real estate license and ran for Connecticut State representative. In 1972 Jean started another chapter in her life, moving to Fort Lauderdale Florida. She absolutely loved living in Florida and was active in the church, serving on several boards of leadership at Faith Lutheran in Fort Lauderdale. She retired in 1993 from

Eller and company as assistant to the controller. She enjoyed traveling with her family and close friends by land, air, and sea to many parts of the world, including river rafting in Alaska, cruising the Panama Canal and riding to Key West on her husband Chuck's BMW motorcycle. She truly embraced life with everything she did. Jean is survived by her son, Kevin Beno, and daughter-in-law, Jane Beno of North Grosvenordale, CT grandchildren, Kristin Ackerson of Boston, MA and Nicole Beno of North Grosvenordale, CT and many more grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents: son David Costa Beno, Brothers David and Ronald Sandlin; ex-husbands, Christopher G. Beno, Joseph Lavallee; husband Charles Miller. We will all miss her free spirit, positive attitude, good humor; and good will. She made the world a better place while she was here. She requested cremation and her ashes to be scattered in the ocean. Burial services provided by Robert J. Miller Funeral Home, and are private to the family. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you continue her good will and help a neighbor or friend in need.



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
TOBY MOORE

The Maharishi Effect

Are we merely floating through space on a rock in which powerful forces dominate us and leave us powerless to pursue our destiny? Do our thoughts matter? Do our actions matter? Do our words matter? Do our intentions matter? Are we just a number? Do we have any responsibility for the events that happen all around us? Do we affect people around us and the decisions they make? Do we affect the decisions of people in our proximity with whom we've never had any interaction at all, people we've never met?

Have you ever heard of The Maharishi Effect? The Maharishi Effect was first observed scientifically in the early 1970s. Since then, hundreds of scientific studies have been conducted in over 200 universities in more than 30 countries worldwide. The results from dozens of these studies

are published in many peer-reviewed scientific journals.

The Maharishi Effect got its name from the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, who developed a popularized form of meditation called Transcendental Meditation, known today as TM. TM has been described as religious by some and non-religious by others. The Maharishi became famous in the west for hanging out with The Beatles and other celebrities.

Before we get too deep, although I have practiced a couple of different meditation forms, I have never practiced TM, nor am I promoting it. My chief interest is in the power of human consciousness, and my studies have led me to this topic which I must admit; I find it fascinating.

Simply put, The Maharishi Effect happens when a group of people comes together to practice group meditation; during the window of time the meditation transpires, crime, violence, and hospitalization rates

decline by 16-25 percent.

One well-known scientific study on The Maharishi Effect took place in Washington, D.C. from June 7 to July 31, 1993, with up to 4,000 TM practitioners. In a city with about 1.5 million, this was far less than 1 percent of the population of D.C.

A 27-member Project Review Board comprising independent scientists and leading citizens approved the research protocol and monitored the research process.

The head of the study Dr. John Hagelin, who I must credit for providing much of the information in this article, hypothesized that there would be a 20 percent reduction in crime due to meditation.

Before the study began, the Chief of Police reportedly said, "It would take a foot of snow in June to reduce the crime rate by 20 percent." but he allowed his department to participate in the experiment by collecting and analyzing the data.

The crime dropped by an

astonishing 23.3 percent. The study was published in Social Indicators Research in June of 1999.

There were similar experiments conducted during the Israel-Lebanon war in the 1980s. The study found that when the number of meditators was largest, violence between both sides reduced by about 80 percent. The study was published in the Journal of Conflict Resolution in December 1988.

The study was so groundbreaking that researchers performed seven more experiments to examine the effects of group meditation on the Israel-Lebanon war over the next two years.

The studies revealed that when the size of the group reached a certain threshold, there was a significant reduction in violence. They also found that people in the vicinity of such a meditating group experienced physiological changes, increased coherence, reduced plasma cortisol, increased blood

levels of serotonin, biochemical changes, and neurophysiological changes, almost as if they were meditating themselves.

When taken together, the likelihood that reductions in violence were coincidental was less than one part in 10 million³.

What did the Maharishi say about this? "We know, if we drop a stone in a pond, the ripples begin to move, and they move over the whole pond, reaching all the extremities. One slight stir in any part of the pond stirs the entire pond. It influences the entire field of water and its surroundings. Similarly, by every thought, word, and action, every individual sets forth influence in their surroundings, and that influence is not restricted to any boundaries. It goes on and reaches every level of creation."

Next time you feel helpless and insignificant, I hope this helps you understand that you have great power over your surroundings, maybe more than any of us can even comprehend.

BLUMENTHAL VISITS NORTHEASTERN CT CHAMBER



Photo Courtesy

The Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce organized a meeting last week with United States Sen. Richard Blumenthal and several restaurant owners to discuss labor issues and the replenishment of the Restaurant Revitalization Fund. Pictured from l-r: Brian Jessurun, 85 Main; Lyn LaCharite, Hank's Restaurant; Sheila Frost, The Courthouse Bar & Grille; United States Senator Richard Blumenthal; Renee Berube of Renee's Bistro & Catering; Ian Farquhar, Grill 37 and Barry Jessurun, The Vanilla Bean Cafe.

PUTNAM HIGH SCHOOL CERTIFIED NURSING PROGRAM A SUCCESS FOR STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY



Photo Courtesy

A group of well-deserving young women were recently honored by the Putnam Board of Education during the "Pride of Putnam" segment of their February meeting. These young women were the first in Putnam High School history to participate in, and successfully complete the school's new Certified Nursing Assistant Program. The development of this program was led by Putnam High School Assistant Principal Suzanne Sansoucy, in partnership with Quinebaug Valley Community College, and launched earlier this school year. Students completed a rigorous combination of classroom and clinical hours at Matulaitis Nursing Home in advance of passing the formal certification assessment in January. Congratulations to DeAnn Pringle, Kayla Morrison, Ewa Sekula, Issabella Toni Campion, Bailey Touchette, lasmin Neves, Rylee Houle, and Samantha Bennett on this wonderful accomplishment!

DeAnn Pringle, Kayla Morrison, Ewa Sekula, Issabella Toni Campion, Bailey Touchette, lasmin Neves, Rylee Houle, and Samantha Bennett on this wonderful accomplishment!

Gilman & Valade 100th Anniversary

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~ Bob Fournier



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Funeral Directors
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OBITUARIES

Monica C. Savolis, 98

THOMPSON, CT/WORCESTER-Monica C. (Kunsaitis) Savolis, 98, of Thompson, CT, and a former long-time Worcester resident passed away Wednesday March 2, 2022 in Day Kimball Hospital, Putnam. Her husband of 52 years, Alphonse C. Savolis died in 2001.



Monica leaves her son, Mark W. Savolis and his wife Ramona of Thompson, two granddaughters, Sarah Turner and her husband John Turner; and Stephanie Orlovski and her husband Cory Orlovski and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by two sisters, Anne Matukaitis and Ruth Gadilauskas, and an infant son. Monica was born and raised in Worcester a daughter of the late William and Domicella (Anusauskas) Kunsaitis. Monica graduated from Commerce High School.

Mrs. Savolis was a payroll clerk for Norton Company, Worcester, several years before retiring. Before then she was the bookstore manager at Worcester Academy. Mrs. Savolis was a member of the former St. Casimir Church, Worcester. Monica enjoyed cooking, traveling, bowling, playing cards with friends & spending time with family. She had a wonderful sense of humor. She cherished her conversations over coffee and chocolate with her extended family, friends, and the Matulaitis community.

The funeral was held on Monday March 7, 2022 from DIRSA – MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 298 Grafton St, Worcester with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 1290 Grafton St, Worcester. Burial will follow in St. John's Cemetery, Worcester. A calling hour was held in the funeral home prior to the Mass. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Matulaitis Nursing Home, 10 Thurber Rd., Putnam, Ct 06260.

ELLIS TECH STUDENT SELECTED AS FINALIST IN LEGION ORATORICAL CONTEST



Photo Courtesy

Lucas Johnson, a student at Ellis Tech, was one of six finalists in The American Legion Department of Connecticut Constitutional Oratorical Contest held on Saturday, March 5 at the State Police Academy in Meriden. Johnson spoke on his topic, "Is Our Constitution Living or Dead?" He was sponsored by American Legion Post #21 of Danielson and represented the 4th District of Connecticut. Johnson, (center) is flanked by Charles Crowley (l) Commander of Post #21 and John Barry, District #4 Sr. Vice Commander.

Quiet Corner Garden Club accepting scholarship applications

REGION – The 2022 Quiet Corner Garden Club Annual Scholarships are to be awarded to local high school seniors accepted to college or current college students who intend to major or are currently majoring in a horticulture-related field, such as: Agronomy, Arboriculture, Botany, City Planning, Conservation, Environmental Studies, Floriculture, Forestry, Horticulture, Land Management, Landscape

Design, Plant Pathology, Aquaponics, Natural Resources and/or related subject.

Applicants should reside within the Quiet Corner Garden Club's service areas of Northeastern Connecticut's Quiet Corner and South Central Massachusetts (Dudley, Southbridge, Sturbridge, Webster). Please visit the website for a list of towns.

The scholarships are awarded

based on a combination of academic achievements, leadership qualities, community service, letters of recommendation and personal statements. Applications are available at high school guidance offices or via QCGC's website: www.quietcornergardenclub.com. Applications must be received no later than May 15. Please email the completed application and required attachments to: QCGardenclub@gmail.com, Subject: Scholarship

Application. Or submit by mail to: Quiet Corner Garden Club, c/o Scholarship Application, P.O. Box 1004, Woodstock, CT 06281.

The Quiet Corner Garden Club (QCGC) will have its huge annual Plant Sale the day before Mother's Day on Saturday, May 7 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Agricultural Building on the Woodstock Fairgrounds, Routes 169/171, Woodstock. QCGC is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All proceeds from the Plant Sale

support annual scholarships, community projects and educational programs.

Get more information about the Quiet Corner Garden Club by going to: www.quietcornergardenclub.com.

For more information or questions, please email QCGardenclub@gmail.com with Scholarship Application in the email subject line or text Ann Bastien (Scholarship Chair) at 860-942-6692.

LEGALS

TOWN OF KILLINGLY METERED USE LEGAL NOTICE

Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-4:30PM Tuesday 8-5:30PM Friday 8-11:30AM. By Mail, online, or in our drop box.

Second installment metered use is due March 1, 2022 If payment is not received on or before March 31, 2021 the installment becomes delinquent and subject to interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent of such tax for each month or fraction thereof which elapses from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until the same is paid. A minimum of \$2.00 interest will be charged for each delinquent bill and installment.

Please visit our website for full details and online payments www.killingly.org Dated at Killingly this 22nd day of February 2022

Patricia Monahan CCMC
REVENUE COLLECTOR FOR THE
TOWN OF KILLINGLY
March 4, 2022
March 11, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for **Thursday, March 17, 2022**, at 7:45 p.m. to be held at the Woodstock Town office, 415 Route 169, Lower level, Meeting Room 1, for application #653-02-22- MBLU: 7278-32-8B-2-Joy Rd-Daniel Flynn- construction of a driveway, activity on a scenic road. The meeting is hybrid and the agenda will be available on the website prior to the meeting.

Dr. Jeffrey Gordon, Chairman
March 4, 2022
March 11, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On February 28, 2022, Woodstock Inland Wetlands Agent granted wetlands approval for applications: 02-22-06-Joy Rd (MBLU 7278-32-8B-2)- Daniel Flynn- new house construction; 02-22-07-Rt 169 (MBLU- 5130-29-48C)- Chandler Paquette- new house construction. Chair Mark Parker
March 11, 2022

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing on Monday, February 28, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT and made the following decision:

PZC #22-02 applicant Danielle J. Robbins, property owner 0 Thompson Rd, Map 87, Block 37, Lot 2C, Zone RRAD, re-subdivision. Amend Application to 1

Lot Subdivision. Approved with condition.

File may be reviewed online, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman
March 11, 2022

TOWN OF THOMPSON

On March 3, 2022 the following wetlands agent approval was issued: Application # WAA22004 approved with conditions, David J. Held, 0 New Road (Assessor's Map 154, Block 5, Lot 14A) - Construction of a new single family home, well septic system and driveway all within the 100-foot upland review.

Marla Butts, Wetlands Agent
March 11, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Dennis P Dougherty (22-00045) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated March 1, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Deborah Flaherty
c/o CHRISTIAN GEORGE SARANTOPOULOS, SARANTOPOULOS &, SARANTOPOULOS, LLC,
143 SCHOOL STREET, DANIELSON, CT 06239
March 11, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Henry S. Woodbridge, JR. (22-00063) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 28, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Henry Woodbridge III and Kimberly McCann
c/o KATHLEEN MARY CERRONE, BORNER, SMITH, ALEMAN, HERZOG & CERRONE, 155 PROVIDENCE STREET, PUTNAM, CT 06260
March 11, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Gertrude Hasson (22-00012) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 12, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Tammy Shippee, 159 Sand Dam Rd., Thompson, CT 06277, United States
March 11, 2022

PROPERTY AUCTION

The tax collector of the Town of Thompson has levied upon the following properties in Thompson and slated them for public auction to satisfy delinquent taxes and charges under C.G.S. § 12-157 Volume and page numbers refer to the Town's land records Unless paid, these properties will be auctioned in "as is" condition at 10:00 a.m. on May 26, 2022 at the Thompson Town Hall at 815 Riverside Drive in North Grosvenordale.

630 Riverside Drive and ±3.60 acres on Riverside Drive ("First Piece" at Volume 705 Page 85) owned by 630 Riverside Drive LLC, owing \$39,237.41 Metrix Capital Group LLC and Frederick B. Nelson may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

1157 Riverside Drive (Volume 544 Page 223) owned by Robert Austin and Marie Austin, owing \$14,546.77.

77 Linehouse Road (Volume 267 Page 270) owned by Elton C. Bates, Jr. or his Estate, owing \$30,912.03 Maggie Rodriguez Bates; Brenda Bates; Brenda Baumgartner; Priscilla Bates; Charles Bates; Sheila Bates; the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; the United States Internal Revenue Service; and the surviving spouse and heirs of Elton C. Bates, Jr. may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

65 Linehouse Road (Volume 752 Page 4) owned by Shara Bates, owing \$31,635.92.

134 Azud Road (Volume 836 Page 37) owned by George E. Becker or his Estate, owing \$14,050.25. Frances G. Becker; Michael Becker; Paula Freeman; the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; the United States Internal Revenue Service; and the surviving spouse and heirs of George E. Becker may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

52 Fernwood Avenue (Volume 837 Page 133) owned by David B. Belleville, owing \$11,169.64.

±0.53 acres on Quinebaug Road (Volume 244 Page 318 less any portion in Massachusetts) owned by Charles E. Bessette or his Estate and Deborah J. Bessette, owing \$1,672.39 Shawn Bessette; Lisa Bessette; Deutsche Bank National Trust Company as Trustee for IXIS Real Estate Capital Trust 2006-HE-1 Mortgage Pass Through Certificates, Series 2006-HE-1; the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; the United States Internal Revenue Service; and the surviving

spouse and heirs of Charles E. Bessette may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

369 Thompson Road (Volume 865 Page 7) owned by Michael C. Carrigan, owing \$11,061.22.

Two parcels on West Thompson Road totaling ±8.50 acres (Volume 85 Page 275 less any portion in the Town of Woodstock) owned by Evelyn I. Cotnoir a/k/a Evelyn V. Cotnoir or her Estate, owing \$2,892.31 Harvey Cotnoir; the Connecticut Department of Revenue Services; the United States Internal Revenue Service; and the surviving spouse and heirs of Evelyn I. Cotnoir a/k/a Evelyn V. Cotnoir may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

751 Quinebaug Road (Volume 77 Page 260) owned by John S. Deviow, owing \$11,702.64.

147 Old Turnpike (Volume 919 Page 175) owned by Tracy K. Donovan, owing \$9,061.83 Schem Capital Corp. may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

28 Marshall Street (Volume 896 Page 148) owned by Norma Elmaola, owing \$9,225.21.

327 Riverside Drive (Volume 203 Page 243 and Volume 788 Page 153) owned by Joseph W. Janeczek, owing \$52,611.29.

25 Watson Road and ±1.01 acres on Watson Road (354 Page 56) owned by Alicia J. LeClair, owing \$28,334.36.

Mobile home at 26 Breezy Lane (Volume 197 Page 14) owned by Judith A. Maclaren, owing \$20,759.62 Capital One Bank (USA), N.A. as successor to Capital One Bank and Connecticut Light; Power Company d/b/a Eversource; Quinebaug Park, LLC; and Quinebaug Park, Inc. may have interests which will be extinguished by the sale.

The dollar amounts listed are through the end of last month Additional taxes, interest, fees, and other charges authorized by law accruing after the last day of the month immediately preceding this notice are owed in addition to the amount indicated as due and owing in this notice.

Bidders must present \$5,000 per property in certified funds payable to "Pullman & Comley, Trustee" on the day of the sale, and the winning bidder must pay the balance of the sale price within 5 days or forfeit that deposit. Absent a redemption, the purchaser will take title "free and clear" six months after the auction except for certain encumbrances. Details at www.cttaxsales.com.

March 11, 2022



31-DAY SALE

windows & doors

When we say this sale ends on March 31st, we mean it! **You only have 31 days to get this discount, along with special financing or an extra 3% off!**¹

There are limited appointments available. Please call today to book your visit.

Less than a month left!

Sale ends March 31st!

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on every window¹

SAVE \$825
on every patio door¹

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★ **Discount** ★
when you pay for your whole project with cash or check¹

OR

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Money Down Payments Interest
for 1 year²



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- Because our windows are custom built, we **don't have to modify your home to fit our windows**. That means the installation goes smoother, too!



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¹Subject to availability, on a total purchase of 3 or more. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for an appointment must be made and documented on or before 3/31/22 with the purchase then occurring on or before 4/10/22. 3% cash discount for payment in full by cash or check applied at time of sale. ²No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available from third-party lenders to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Products are marketed, sold and installed (but not manufactured) by Renewal by Andersen retailers, which are independently owned and operated under CT HIC.0634555, MA 173245, RI 36079. Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. Southern New England Windows LLC is the authorized representative of Renewal by Andersen and the registered Home Improvement Contractor. Renewal by Andersen does not hold this HIC number. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard will be subject to an island surcharge. See complete information and entity identification at www.rbaguidelines.com. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *Using U.S. and imported parts.

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ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

☼ ☾ ☽ ☿ ♀ ♁ ♂ ♃ ♄ ♅ ♆ ♇ ♈ ♉ ♊ ♋ ♌ ♍ ♎ ♏ ♐ ♑ ♒ ♓

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to hearing impairment.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 5 = E)

A. 5 13 23
Clue: Listening body part

B. 8 5 13 23 3 6 17
Clue: Ability to process sound

C. 15 3 26 14 5 6
Clue: Give attention to sound

D. 26 21 2 6 12
Clue: Noise

Answers: A. ear B. hearing C. listen D. sound

SUDOKU

6	9							
	5						1	4
8		1			3	2		
1								9
			7				5	
	6			8	9			1
	4						3	
			4		5			2
		2	1		8			

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

7	4	9	8	6	1	2	3	5
2	8	5	7	4	3	6	1	9
6	3	1	5	2	9	8	4	7
1	2	4	9	8	7	5	6	3
3	6	7	5	8	9	4	2	1
4	8	9	2	7	1	6	5	3
1	2	5	6	3	4	7	9	8
8	7	1	4	5	3	2	6	9
9	6	2	3	4	5	7	8	1
1	4	8	6	9	7	3	5	2
6	9	4	8	1	2	3	7	5

ANSWER:

Northeast District Department of Health

COVID-19 Walk-In Vaccine Clinics for Unvaccinated Ages 5+ and Boosters

Tuesdays 10 am – 2 pm, NDDH / Thursdays 2 – 6 pm, QV Senior Center
69 South Main Street, Brooklyn (NDDH at back of building; QVSCC at front of building)

Additional Community Clinics

Wed 3/9/22	2-4 pm	Eastford Public Library, 179 Eastford Road, Eastford
Wed 3/16/22	1-3 pm	Sterling Senior Center, 1183 Plainfield Pike, Oneco
Wed 3/23/22	1-3 pm	Danielson Lodge of Elks #1706, 13 Center Street, Danielson
Wed 3/30/22	1-3 pm	Town of Putnam Municipal Complex, Room 109, 200 School Street

Walk-ins welcome • FREE • No insurance needed • No appointment needed

- Minors must be accompanied by a legal guardian
- Please bring your vaccination card for 2nd dose and booster appointments
- Masks required at all NDDH vaccination clinics

Note new guidelines for time recommended between doses:

Vaccines Available	For Ages	# of shots in primary series and time between 1 st and 2 nd dose	WHO can get a COVID-19 BOOSTER and when you can get it
Pfizer-BioNTech	5-11	Two (2) shots 3 weeks apart	Not available for ages 5-11
Pfizer-BioNTech	12+	Two (2) shots 3-8 weeks apart**	Ages 12+ At least 5 months after a 2 nd dose of Pfizer
Moderna	18+	Two (2) shots 4-8 weeks apart**	Ages 18+ At least 5 months after a 2 nd dose of Moderna
Johnson & Johnson	18+	1	Ages 18+ At least 2 months after a J & J vaccine

**A shorter interval (3 weeks for Pfizer-BioNTech; 4 weeks for Moderna) between the first and second doses remains the recommended interval for: people who are moderately to severely immunocompromised; adults ages 65 years and older; and others who need rapid protection due to increased concern about community transmission or risk of severe disease.

Reduce your risk of hospitalization or death from COVID-19. Get vaccinated.

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

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



TAX RELIEF

Weekend

SATURDAY, MARCH 12 & SUNDAY, MARCH 13

We can't pay your sales tax, but we can help! Receive an INSTANT DISCOUNT equal to the sales tax paid on your in-store purchase!

TERMS & CONDITIONS: Whatever the total amount of tax paid on your purchase on March 12 & 13, 2022, Runnings will issue you a discount equal to the amount paid for sales tax. Current state & local tax rates will be applied to in-store purchases made in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Connecticut & New York. Discount applies only to taxable items within each state. Not applicable to previous purchases or special orders. Offer limited to stock on hand & no rainchecks. Offer valid in-store only. All required sales taxes are collected & paid by Runnings to the appropriate taxing bodies. NOT VALID IN MONTANA OR NEW HAMPSHIRE.



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John Downs

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE | TOP 7%



Jennifer Jackson

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