

THOMPSON VILLAGER

Friday, June 11, 2021

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ECC Championship a first for Killingly baseball team



Courtesy Photos

The Killingly High baseball team captured the ECC Championship thanks to a 1-0 victory over Fitch.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — As far as coaching debuts go, accomplishing something for the first time in school history is a good way to start.

That's the distinction Killingly High baseball coach Ben Desaulnier achieved, thanks to a roster of really good players, on Thursday, May 27. That's the day Killingly traveled to Groton and defeated Fitch High, 1-0, in the championship game of the ECC Baseball Tournament.

With the win Killingly claimed its first ECC Baseball Tournament title ever, and first ECC baseball crown of any kind since winning ECC regular season championships in 1972 and 1973.

Desaulnier, officially, is in his second year as Killingly's varsity baseball coach. This was his first year in the dugout, however, after COVID-19 wiped out last year's high school baseball season. Desaulnier said winning the ECC Tournament was not one of the team's preseason goals.

"Coming into the season I knew we were going to be good, and winning the (ECC) tournament was a goal, but it wasn't a stated goal," Desaulnier said. "At the beginning of the year one of our main goals was to host a state playoff game and we got to do that. We also wanted to reach the highest level of our Division; compete at the top of our Division, and we did that, too; finishing second in our Division and third overall in the 19-team ECC.

"Those were the main goals," continued Desaulnier, a member of Killingly High's Class of 2016. "Winning the ECC Championship was just gravy."

After a first-round bye Killingly defeated Bacon Academy, 10-0, on Wednesday, May 26, in the quarterfinal round of the tournament, senior Bo Yaworski throwing his third no-hitter of the year. Killingly then had to play a pair of games the following day, the tournament schedule being moved up

Turn To **BASEBALL**, page **A12**

Creation Church unveils new Family Life Center

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON — Creation Church in Thompson celebrated a new addition to their facilities on Sunday, June 6 with the official grand opening of their Family Life Center, an expansion on a previous building providing more space for functions, fellowship and youth programs.

Following a morning service attended by around 150 church members and guests, Creation Church officially debuted their new two-story facility containing classrooms, a youth center area, and a function hall space in addition to the previously building's kitchen and facilities. The project was a true community effort as members of the church donated money, time, and equipment to see the project through.

Pete Giles, the project's general contractor, said the addition will play an important role in helping add to the church community's programs and was an initiative he was proud to help lead.

"We have classrooms on the second floor, our fellowship hall on the first floor and the youth center in the basement area," Giles said, noting that thanks to donations of all kinds the church saved around \$100,000 on the project. "This was just something I really wanted to do to help the church family out. This was really great to see the people who wanted to help out. It was exciting to see things go

up. We just kept plugging away and a lot of people joined in to help. It's pretty cool to see it here today."

Vince Laurens, who was credited with "digging the hole" that got the project underway, echoed Giles' comments while giving credit to the power of faith for helping the project become a reality.

"Really, what it is to me is how God provides because all the equipment that I used was donated. I didn't provide that, God did. When it came to people who helped, they just did and it's all just God bringing it together. I made it work, but he made it happen," Laurens said. "It just makes me feel really great to see it here today. We've built something that hopefully a lot of other people will get to use and get to know God and Christ."

For members of the Creation Church family, the new Family Life Center is more than a building, it's a symbol of the growth and unity of the community and everything they aspire to bring to the world around them. Mona Tremblay, who has been attending Creation Church for over two years and calls it her "forever church," said the new building is just the start of what she expects to be an even bigger and brighter future.

"For anyone that wants to have a relationship with Jesus Christ this is the place to come," Tremblay said. "These people are the real deal — This building is evidence of all of



Photo Jason Bleau

Creation Church held a grand opening for its new Family Life Center on June 6.

the hard work, the money, the people that donated time and resources, you name it. I feel like this church is just going to grow and grow. The leadership is really strong here."

Cathy Smith, who has helped lead the youth group at Creation Church, was excited to see the building finally open and provide a permanent home for the children of Creation Church and the community at large to gather and come together in faith and friendship.

"It's not just for our kids, but it's for all of the kids in the community," Smith said. "We think that it's important that we all share in what we love. The thing that a lot of us have in common is our love for Christ, and I think it's so important to just pass it on. That's what our society is about right now, being kind, being understanding,

Turn To **LIFE CENTER**, page **A3**

Woodstock budgets pass after delay

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WOODSTOCK — After a slight delay the town of Woodstock finally voted on the proposed 2022 fiscal year spending plans on June 3, approving the budget by a decisive 283 to 195 decision.

The budgets had been previously scheduled to head to the voters almost a month earlier, on May 11; however, the referendum was cancelled due to the discovery of a data error brought to the attention of the town's Tax Collector and Assessor. After a town meeting on May 27 to reaffirm the numbers, the budgets were finally sent to the polls.

Voters approved the \$5.4 million general government budget, a \$20,621, or 0.38 percent, increase over the current year, and the \$19.7 million education budget, an increase of nearly \$540,000 or 2.81 percent, for a total 2022 spending plan of \$25.2 million.

The impact to the mil rate brings the new rate to 25.5 with money from the general fund surplus expected to offset increases to the rate.

TEEG celebrates grand opening of Pomfret Community Market

POMFRET — The Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group (TEEG) and the town of Pomfret celebrated the grand reopening of the Pomfret Community Market on Tuesday, June 1 adding a new satellite location to TEEG's food security programs.

Plans for the Pomfret Community Market began in February of 2021 when long-time volunteer Garry Brown decided to retire after 13 years of operating a food pantry in the basement of the Pomfret Senior Center. Pomfret First Selectwoman Maureen Nicholson reached out to TEEG, a social service agency serving Pomfret, Thompson and Woodstock, to keep the pantry in operation. Over the

next few months TEEG remodeled the pantry into the new Community Market, a name that is also being adopted by TEEG's primary pantry at the agency's Thatcher Road campus in North Grosvenordale.

"We are moving to a community market because this is a place where our neighbors can get what they need, and we can share with our neighbors some of our additional items and resources," TEEG Executive Director Anne Miller said during the ribbon cutting for the Pomfret Community Market. "It's a place where we're going to care for one another. It's a new name, but we're going to serve all with care and continue to provide respect and a listening ear."



Courtesy Photos

The Pomfret Community Market will remain housed in the basement of the

Turn To **TEEG**, page **A2**

TEEG employees Cathy Smith, Haylee Olson, Jenni Fountain, Chelsea French, Executive Director Anne Miller, Allison Rich and Pomfret Community Market volunteers Marilyn Mancini and Jan St. Jean.

History on the printed page



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

I've been having a great time looking to see what local newspapers are online at genealogybank.com. Did you know that Brooklyn once had a newspaper titled the Independent Observer? In her "History of Windham County, Connecticut, Vol. II," Ellen D. Larned noted that the first issue of the Independent Observer and County Advertiser was issued Monday, July 1, 1820. "Henry Webb (was) printer and publisher. Samuel and Horatio Webb were also associated in this enterprise--the former having previously published newspapers in Norwich and Windham." (p. 472). The paper itself ran the following, "Independent Observer and County Advertiser, printed and Published every Monday, by Henry Webb, 2nd. Office in the Court House. The Observer is published every Monday and delivered to subscribers at One Dollar Fifty Cents per year; bundles of ten or more, sent to any town in the county at One Dollar Twenty-Five Cents; bundles taken at the Office, One Dollar, payable quarterly. If not paid till the end of the year, Twenty-Five Cents will be added to the above prices." (Monday, June 11, 1821, p. 1). I think the paper might have been short-lived since issues only are available at genealogybank.com from 1820-1822. Note the word "Advertiser" in the title of the Independent Observer. Rather than reporting local happenings, it seemed to carry legal notices and notices of upcoming meetings. Still, it provides a glimpse into the everyday lives of the people of the area.

One of the first articles I came across certainly mentioned an unexpected form of entertainment. "Grand Caravan of Living Animals, Will be exhibited at Mr. P. P. Tyler's Inn, Brooklyn, on Saturday and Monday, Sept. 15 and 17, 1821. This is the most extensive collection in the United States, consisting of 13 Living Animals. The Mammoth

LION of Asia, full-grown--the largest ever exhibited in America, weighing 600 pounds. A full grown CAMEL, from Western Tartary, The Llama of Peru. Ichneuman Ant Eater, Dandy Jack, Little Jack, etc. etc. Admittance 25 cents. Children under 12 years of age half price." (Ind. Ob., Monday, Sept. 17, 1821), p. 2).

Another entry in the same edition gave Tyler's first name. "Cattle Show of the Windham County Agricultural Society, The Society will meet at the Court House, in Brooklyn, on the 10th of October, at 10 o'clock A.M. and after transacting their ordinary business, will adjourn and go in procession, under direction of the Marshalls of the day, to the Meeting House, where an Oration will be delivered by Daniel Frost, jun. Esq. accompanied by suitable religious exercises. The Committee will then view the different articles that may be exhibited, and publish their awards of premiums at the meeting of the society in the afternoon. The animals intended for exhibition, must be put into pens, designed for them, near the house Mr. Pascal P. Tyler, and under his direction, and the Articles of Manufacture must be deposited and arranged on tables in the lower room of the Court House under the direction of Capt. Eleazer Malbone, to whom application must be made by 11 o'clock A.M. of the day of the Show. A dinner will be provided for the Society at the House of Mr. P. P. Tyler, of which it is desired all the members should partake. Those who attend as spectators will find excellent accommodations in the village, and may depend on every thing in our power being done to make the Exhibitions of the day both pleasant and profitable...Solomon Paine, Eleazer Mather, William Putnam Committee of Arrangements, Brooklyn, Sept. 12, 1821." Did you pick up on the fact that this was a very early Brooklyn Fair? Note that a religious aspect was included in the day's events.

In 1821, boys were still be apprenticed to trades. "Wanted. Two boys from 14--16 years of age, as Apprentices to the Hatting Business. George Webb. Windham, April 25, 1821. (May 21, 1821, p. 4). The Independent Observer was also seeking help. "Wanted, Immediately a smart active Lad of from 14 to 16 years

of age, as an Apprentice to the Printing Business--One of good education will meet with encouragement upon application at this Office." (Monday, June 11, 1821, p. 1).

I always think of the Feast of St. de Baptiste in connection with the French-Canadians of the area so was most surprised to see the following ad, "Masonic Notice. Notice is hereby given that the Brethren of Moriah Lodge will celebrate the Festival of St. John the Baptist, at Brooklyn, on the 22nd day of June next. Brethren of the neighboring Lodges are requested to join in the celebration. A Sermon and an Oration suited to the occasion, are expected. The Brethren will convene at Brother Eleazer Mather's Inn, at 9 o'clock on said day. Luther Paine, Jared Fuller, William Putnam, James Aspenwall, Daniels Frost, Jun., Committee of Arrangement May 5, 1821" (Monday, June 18, 1821, p. 1).

Not all the ads were from Brooklyn. Since I knew nothing about an early store in Killingly run by John Sabin, I found the following most interesting.

"Will be sold at public VENUE, on Wednesday, the 13th of June, inst. At 10 o'clock in the forenoon, at the store lately occupied by Mr. John Sabin, in Killingly, the goods possessed by him at his decease. Among which is a considerable quantity of Molasses, Rum, Brandy, Gin, Tea, Sugar, Ginger, Pepper, and various other articles too numerous to be mentioned. Dry Goods of various kinds, Cotton Yarn, Cloths, and Broad Cloths, etc. Terms made known at the time and place of sale. " (June 11, 1821, p. 3).

I was unable to locate John Sabin in Killingly in the 1820 census. According to a death notice in the Providence Journal he died May 1, 1821. "Sabin, John, at Killingly, aged 45 years; an enterprising merchant and valuable citizen, died May 1, 1821." He was buried in the South Cemetery in Pomfret. (Will: Connecticut, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1609-1999; Ancestry.com; also findagrave). Some of the items from his extensive inventory (which included store inventory) include the following: "Pieces of silk, English gingham, calico, black "Sattin", blue and white vesting, vest patterns, ladies hose, cambric thread, skeins of coarse cotton thread,

121 skeins of American silk, gloves, mittens, ribbon, "21 bossom pins", 5 doz. gilt buttons, 2 doz. combs, 1 doz. pencils, (?) pocket books (listed with pencils), spectacle cases, pocket looking glasses, pins 1/3 box cigars, 1/2 doz. silver teaspoons...." The large number of notes due his estate makes me think he was taking the place of a bank, which did not exist in the area until 1822 when the Windham County Bank was incorporated (Inventory, Ancestry.com; bank, Larned, op. cit. , p. 472). I love playing detective so am hoping I have time this week to check the Killingly Land Records to see if I can gain an approximate location for Sabin's store. The names in the accounts and notes don't help, since they are from all parts of town. I shall enjoy the search, and will be sure to let you know what I discover.

Killingly Conservation Commission Walk: Hike the Quandoc.

Join Killingly Conservation Commission leaders on Sunday, June 13, at 1pm for a guided walk at our Quandoc Conservation area. Explore our expanded trail system, now totaling about 2 miles. Volunteers have blazed a new orange trail and are anxious to share their work with the public! Highlights include recreated wetlands along the Quandoc Brook, farm stone walls, huge white quartz, wildlife evidence, various forest areas, brook crossings, some steep rocky areas. We will hike rain or shine. Enjoy the company of conservation folks!

246 Brickhouse Road, Killingly, CT; Website: KillinglyConservationCommission.org

Facebook: Killingly Conservation Commission

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, June 2021. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 (when it reopens) or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250 (when the Historical Center reopens). Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, Connecticut 06239

TEEG

continued from page A1

Pomfret Senior Center 207 Mashamoquet Road, and is only the latest addition to TEEG's growing food security program. TEEG also began a mobile pantry at the Woodstock Town Hall during the pandemic serving clients on the first Tuesday and third Thursday of each month. Together these programs offer completely cost-free food security services in all three towns serviced by the agency including access to dairy, meat, protein, fresh and frozen produce, hygiene products and more. Chelsea

French, TEEG's Community Development Coordinator, also gave insight into a new format being adopted by TEEG called "S.W.A.P." which is geared towards increasing access to healthier food options.

"S.W.A.P. stands for 'Supporting Wellness at Pantries' and that is why we changed our name to a community market. We want to break the stigma behind the term 'food pantry.' We want to make healthy options available to everyone. S.W.A.P. focuses on healthier options and diet friendly foods. It bases things on saturated fats, sodium and sugars with items clearly labeled as green, which

you should choose often, yellow, which you should choose sometimes, and red, which you should choose rarely," said French.

This color-coded system will allow clients seeking a healthier lifestyle or with specific dietary requirements easier access to items that fit their needs and might not be as accessible or are too costly to purchase at a store.

The grand opening ceremony also included comments from Pomfret town

officials. Selectman Ellsworth Chase presented a donation to the community market from he and his wife and First Selectwoman Maureen Nicholson offered remarks thanking TEEG for their effort to bring new life to the market.

"When I got the call from Garry that he was ready to retire I was really concerned because it was a bad time not to have a food pantry in town," Nicholson said. "I'm so impressed with the vision that (TEEG) had to redo our base-

ment that we've been working out for years, to reintroduce the food pantry and to come up with the community market. It's a very exciting thing. The new options and better choices for our residents from Pomfret and other communities is really exciting."

Those seeking assistance at either of TEEG's community markets in Pomfret or Thompson can call 860-923-3458 to schedule an appointment.



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Jason Bleau of TEEG, Pomfret Selectmen Ellsworth Chase, Patrick McCarthy and Maureen Nicholson, TEEG Executive Director Anne Miller and Chelsea French and Cathy Smith also both of TEEG.

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Day Kimball names Evan Combs Employee of the Month

PUTNAM — Evan Combs, laboratory services specialist at Day Kimball Hospital, has been named employee of the month for May by Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH).

Combs began working at Day Kimball Hospital in June 2018. In his current role, Combs is responsible for patient registration in the laboratory, specimen collection, and processing provider orders.

According to Combs’ supervisor, Bill Wood, manager of laboratory services, Day Kimball Hospital, “Evan does an amazing job of interacting with the patients that visit the laboratory. His presence and the way that he speaks to patients has a calming influence on those that he serves. Evan keeps a close eye on the patients as they move through the laboratory and he goes above and beyond to help any who are in need. Not only are Evan’s people skills second to none, he is also a wealth of information and his extensive knowledge regarding laboratory tests and insurance procedures are invaluable to the lab.”

In response to being named employee of the month, Combs said, “It is very rewarding to know that all of my hard work does not go unnoticed. It’s amazing to hear positive feedback from my patients, but it just as refreshing to see that my fellow coworkers also recognize my dedication to the entire Day Kimball organization. Although we are a small community hospital, our entire staff always strives to go above and beyond the call of duty for our patients.”

When asked what he likes most about his job, he shared, “It is always rewarding to know that I have helped my patients to receive all of the testing necessary for their physicians to provide them with the best possible treatment for whatever troubles they are experiencing. It’s a refreshing feeling to know that I have helped every patient get one step closer to an accurate diagnosis – and hopefully a healthier and more fulfilling lifestyle.”

Combs credits his mother and col-



Photo Courtesy

Day Kimball Healthcare’s Employee of the Month for May 2021, Evan Combs, laboratory services specialist, Day Kimball Hospital.

league, Kathy Combs, director of professional revenue cycle and finance for Day Kimball Medical Group, who has taught him many valuable lessons about working in the medical field and helped him pursue his professional achievements.

“As a parent you hope that the values and work ethic you have tried to example and instill in your children will follow them into adulthood and their work life,” said Kathy Combs. “I have the distinct honor and pleasure of working with Evan and as a result I get to hear from his fellow employees and supervisors what a great job he is doing; advocating for the patients he serves and working to improve the experience they have in the lab. Evan’s

dad and I are so proud of him, and we look forward to his future endeavors at Day Kimball.”

Combs earned a Bachelor of science in allied health science from the University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut in 2017, graduating with high honors. He was a participant in the Connecticut Youth Symphony from 2010 through 2012, and is an active member of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church in North Grosvenordale.

A Northeast Connecticut native, Combs was born at Day Kimball Hospital in 1994. He currently resides in Danielson, Connecticut. In his spare time, Combs can be found on the Thompson Raceway Golf Course where he is an active member.

Day Kimball Healthcare’s employee of the month program is sponsored by Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut.

“The Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribal Nation and Foxwoods Resort Casino has been focused on taking care of the people that serve within our community, and we appreciate everything Day Kimball Healthcare does,” said Foxwood’s Director of Sponsorships and Partnerships Roy Colebut-Ingram. “Supporting meaningful employee recognition programs like that at DKH is just one way that we feel we can express our appreciation.”

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



ACCURACY WATCH

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

If you find a mistake call (860) 928-1818 or e-mail charlie@villager-newspapers.com.

LIFE CENTER

continued from page A1

respecting people. How can you do that if you only seclude yourself and your people? The bottom line is it’s not just your people per say, we’re all God’s people. We have room now here and we never had a youth group facility like this. Now that we have our own space the kids can make it their own.”

The evening was topped off by a Hot Dog Safari and a visit from an ice cream truck as visitors and members of the Creation Church community celebrated their new building and looked ahead to a bright future for the church.

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Quinebaug Middle College recruiting students for 2021-2022

DANIELSON — EASTCONN’s Quinebaug Middle College (QMC), a regional, public magnet high school, is currently recruiting academically motivated students for the 2021-2022 school year. Students who seek a more independent learning environment, tailored to their academic and career goals, are encouraged to apply.

QMC is located on the campus of Quinebaug Valley Community College (QVCC), 742 Upper Maple St., Danielson.

QMC offers high school students a middle college experience that enables them to earn a high school diploma while also earning free, transferable college credits from QVCC. Once enrolled at QMC, students have access to high-tech laboratories, career and vocational resources, public service options and other unique learning opportunities. Areas of study at QMC include STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), liberal arts, allied health and advanced manufacturing.

Housed in a \$24-million, state-of-the-art facility, QMC offers other advantages that include small classes; a personalized, competency-based approach; a rigorous curriculum; an embedded focus on public service projects; access to EASTCONN’s Mobile STEM Lab; and a collaborative school governance model.

QMC enrolls about 160 students, grades 9-12, from 18 towns across northeastern

Connecticut.

To enroll, students can visit www.eastconn.org/qmc for an application. There is currently no deadline to apply for the fall 2021 semester.

To learn more before July 1, call QMC Interim Principal Sheldon Neal at QMC’s main number, 860-932-4137, or reach him at sneal@eastconn.org. After July 1, contact QMC’s newly appointed principal, David Brown, at QMC’s main number, or at dbrown@eastconn.org.

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.

Pet Pals to host low cost rabies clinic

DANIELSON — Pet Pals Northeast, a local animal welfare organization, is holding a low cost rabies clinic at the Quinebaug Valley Veterinary Hospital, Route 12, Danielson/Plainfield town line, on June 26 from 2 to 3 p.m. Cost is \$15 cash per animal. Pre-registration and appointment is required. No walk-ins.

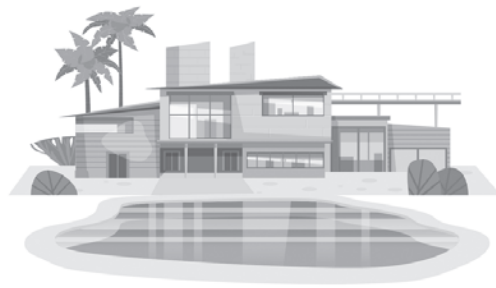
This is the last clinic until October. For information, registration and appointment contact Pet Pals at 860-317-1720.



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American Legion District #4 awards scholarships

REGION — As part of its commitment to youth, The American Legion District #4, which encompasses Tolland and Windham counties, recently announced its four scholarship recipients for 2021. The American Legion’s mission is based on four pillars – Care and Rehabilitation of Veterans; Defense of our Country; Americanism; and Service to Youth.

In awarding the scholarships, District #4 Commander Ronald P. Coderre noted, “These awards are part of our commitment to the youth of our area and to promoting Americanism in our young people. We’re honored and proud to support these worthy individuals.”

The 2021 scholarship awards were presented to Abraham Antonelli of Killingly High School, John Steglitz of Tourtellotte Memorial High School, Giovanna Gioscia of Somers High School and Abby St. Martin of Putnam High School, four area high school seniors, who are all members of the National Honor Society.

“The District scholarship committee received a larger than usual number of applications this year. Following much deliberation, the committee made its selections. All of these young people demonstrated wholesome American qualities. Their applications also indicated strength in the area of American citizenship. District #4 is very pleased to make these presentations,” said Commander Coderre.

Abraham Antonelli excelled in academics and extracurricular activities in his school and community. Abe is an Eagle Scout and participated in

tennis and the weight lifting club at Killingly. He will be attending Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts, where he will be enrolled in the Global Honors Scholars program. Abe is the son of Nathan and Leigh Antonelli of Danielson.

John Steglitz is a scholar/athlete, who has devoted his free time to community service assisting others in a variety of ways. John is a recipient of the school’s Integrity Plus Award, Class of 2021 and National Honor Society treasurer and has been a member of the TriTown American Legion Baseball team. He will be attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute, pursuing a degree in engineering. John is the son of William and Kimberly Steglitz of Thompson.

Abby St. Martin is President of the Putnam High School Student Council. Abby is a scholar/athlete, who was the captain of the volleyball and basketball teams. Abby is active in Girl Scouts, also a member of the Putnam Leo Club and Putnam Rotary Interact Club. Abby is the daughter of Michael and Amy Beth St. Martin of Putnam. Abby will be attending Worcester State University in September, where she will be enrolled in the Lt. Col. James F. Sheehan Honors Program.

Giovanna Gioscia, an elite musician looking to pursue an in-depth education in music, will be attending Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona. A noted saxophonist, Gioscia is an All-National Band selection and was selected to perform at the 2020 Navy Band International Sax symposium. Despite her crowded schedule, Giovanna has



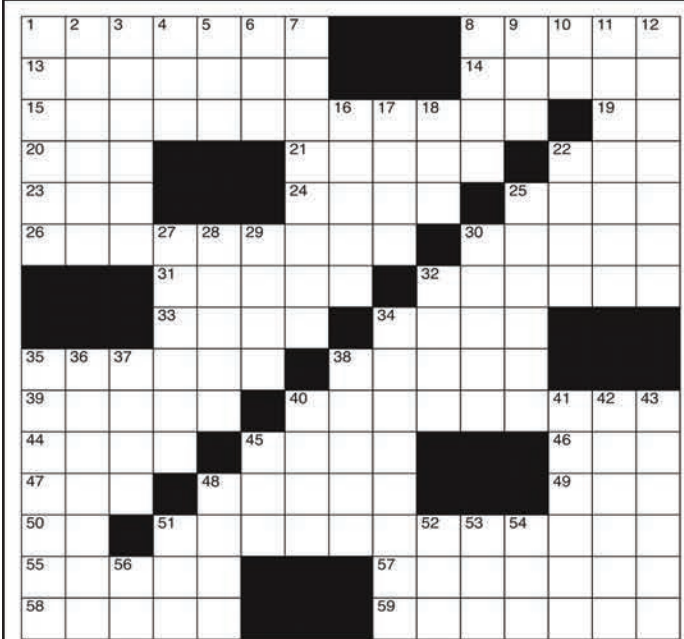
Photo Courtesy

The American Legion District #4 scholarship winners for 2021 were honored on Sunday, June 6, 2021 at Post #91 in Moosup during the District monthly meeting. Pictured are the winners with Scholarship Committee Chairman Al Cormier and District #4 Commander Ronald P. Coderre (l to r) Scholarship Chairman Cormier, Abby St. Martin, Putnam High School; Abraham Antonelli, Killingly High School; Giovanna Gioscia, Somers High School; John Steglitz, Tourtellotte Memorial High School; and Commander Coderre.

found time to volunteer in her church and community. Giovanna is the daughter of Anthony and Charlene Gioscia of Somers.

According to District #4 scholarship committee chairman Al Cormier of

Mayotte-Viens American Legion Post #13, the winners were honored on June 6 at the American Legion District #4 meeting, which was held at Post #91 in Moosup.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Most courageous
8. Insurance giant
13. Small trace left behind
14. In a way, signals
15. The same letter or sound at the beginning
19. The Great Lakes State
20. Engage in a contest
21. Drinks served to celebrate a birth (Spanish)
22. Manpower
23. Undivided
24. Strong, magnetic metal
25. People of Tanzania
26. Sorts
30. Cop car accessory
31. Trade
32. Sullen and ill-tempered
33. Distinctive practices
34. Motor vehicles
35. Electrodes
38. Polish river
39. Human feet
40. Make very hot
44. Toppin and Kenobi are two
45. Blackbird
46. One point west of due south
47. Large beer
48. Third stomachs
49. Rare Korean family name
50. Hectoliter
51. Aquatic invertebrate
55. Where we live
57. Poked holes in
58. Partner to ways
59. __ Ann

CLUES DOWN

1. Expressions of approval
2. Replace the interior of
3. Not awake
4. Roman numeral 7
5. Sun up in New York
6. Institute legal proceedings against
7. Bugs homeowners don’t want
8. Maltese-Italian composer
9. Very long period of time
10. Touchdown
11. Agents of downfall
12. Complacently or inanely foolish
16. Argentina capital Buenos __
17. County in New Mexico
18. An electrically charged atom
22. New Zealand conifer
25. Type of brandy
27. Comments to the audience
28. Tears down
29. Gifts for the poor
30. More painful
32. Good friend
34. Lying in the same plane
35. Line in a polygon
36. Clouds of gas and dust
37. Norse god
38. Health care pro
40. Close tightly
41. One’s holdings
42. Became less intense
43. Wilco frontman
45. Woman (French)
48. Expresses delight
51. TV channel (abbr.)
52. Beverage
53. Unit of work or energy
54. Cleaning accessory
56. Dorm worker

PUZZLE SOLUTION

A	D	E	G	G	V	R			S	N	V	E	M			
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V	N	J	E	V					J	S	E	A	V	R	B	

Killingly resident wins “Mae” Scholarship



KILLINGLY — This year’s “Mae” Scholarship winner is Abraham Antonelli.

The annual \$1,000 scholarship, given in honor of longtime Glocester Elementary School teacher Mae Martin, goes to a graduate who intends to pursue a career in education. It is funded by the sales from Dick Martin’s book “Mae,” which is based on his mother’s life. Mae grew up in on a farm in Scituate, R.I. during the Great Depression. A graduate of Rhode Island College with both a bach-

elor’s and master’s in education, she was the first and only one in her immediate family to attend college. The book is about her struggles and achievements during the course of her life. It is a tale of love, challenges, determination and faith. Mae is a shining example of family values and virtues for modern day readers. This is the ninth year the scholarship has been given.

Antonelli, a graduating senior at Killingly High School, Killingly, where Martin has taught for the last 21 years, intends to pursue a career as a high school social studies teacher.

“I had to be a history teacher,” he says in his scholarship application. “When events of our past are given life, field trips are taken, and more light is shed on the philosophy, rather than the facts, history becomes the most fascinating topic of all.”

Interestingly, Antonelli was home schooled until the 9th grade, but received quite an education from his grandmother Patricia Waterman’s teaching.

“I am very thankful for my grandmother’s influence on my life,” he adds. I plan to be a history teacher, not reminisce on times of glory and shame of the past, but to pave the way for a more hopeful future, with leaders who truly wish the best for their communities.”

Antonelli, a member of the National Honor Society and Spanish Honor Society, is also an Eagle Scout.

The critically acclaimed novel “Mae” is available in quality bookstores throughout New England and on Amazon.

VILLAGER ALMANAC At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of June 1: Sedge Wren, Bobolink, Savannah Sparrow, Blue-winged Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Veery, Wood Thrust, White-eyed Vireo, Ovenbird, Hooded Warbler, Prairie Warbler, American Redstart, Worm-eating Warbler, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Song Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Indigo Bunting. Visit ctaclub.org/pomfret-home.

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Cargill Council 64, Knights of Columbus, to host chicken parmesan dinner

PUTNAM — Cargill Council 64, Knights of Columbus, of Putnam, is having a chicken parmesan fundraising dinner at the Putnam Knights of Columbus Hall, 64 Providence St., on Saturday, June 19, from 5 to 6:30 p. m. Tickets are \$12 per person.

The menu includes chicken parmesan, penne pasta and salad.

Tickets are available at the K of C Hall and at Joseph’s Jewelers, 153 School St.

You may also call for tickets at (860) 928-7241. Please leave a message when you call.

You may also order tickets in advance by sending a check to:
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Knights of Columbus
64 Providence Street
Putnam, CT 06260
Please make your check out to “Council 64, K of C.”

Eastern professor authors “Nuclear Suburbs”

WILLIMANTIC — Manchester resident Patrick Vitale, assistant professor of geography at Eastern Connecticut State University, recently authored “Nuclear Suburbs: Cold War Technoscience and the Pittsburgh Renaissance.” The book examines the suburbanization of the Greater Pittsburgh area during the Cold War, and how city officials worked with corporate executives to remake the city for a new class of workers—a phenomenon in post-industrial cities across the United States.

Pittsburgh emerged as the hub of the nuclear industry in the 1950s and 1960s, hosting more privately employed nuclear engineers and scientists than anywhere else in the country. This period of intensifying relations between the United States and the Soviet Union coincided with the “Pittsburgh renaissance,” a time of rebranding for a city with a reputation of being gritty and working-class.

Vitale, a Pittsburgh native, says city officials used this era of technological momentum to “project an image of a modern city for the middle class . . . unpolluted and post-industrial.” The only problem? Pittsburgh’s largest populations were left out of the business and city leaders’ vision of the future.

“This was not a renaissance for people of color and the working class,” said Vitale, noting that the city’s neighborhoods of color were the areas targeted for “urban renewal.”

The Lower Hill District, for example, known as the “Harlem of Pittsburgh,” was targeted for the construction of a cultural center.

Yet, as the city changed shape to attract a wealthier - and whiter - class of scientists and professionals, their workplaces and residences sprouted up not in the center city, but in the surrounding suburbs.

Vitale explained that incentives from the federal government encouraged the move to the suburbs to decentralize the industry: “They were worried about having an easy target for the Soviets during the Cold War.”

Vitale finds, however, that the major companies of the time - such as Westinghouse Electric Corporation - were looking to leave the city either way in order “to appeal to scientists and engineers who didn’t want to live in Pittsburgh.”

The story of the Pittsburgh renaissance can be applied to industrial regions across the country, and “Nuclear Suburbs” explains how post-industrial renewal is often rooted in injustice.

“Nuclear Suburbs’ offers a new and important insight into the complex relationship between the Cold War, suburbanization and post-industrial capitalism,” wrote Lily Geismer, author and history professor at Claremont McKenna College, in a book review. “Patrick Vitale expertly reveals how deeply enmeshed scientists’ lives and work were in the economic and spatial restructuring of cities like Pittsburgh. It provides a powerful, important retort to anyone suggesting that science and knowledge workers are the solution to urban problems.”

“Nuclear Suburbs” was published by University of Minnesota Press in February 2021.

Loos & Co. donates \$500 to Community Center

POMFRET — Pomfret’s Loos & Company employees have a proven track record in their commitment to the safety and wellbeing of their fellow employees and community members. This week, Loos & Company presented a \$500 check donation to the Pomfret Community/Senior Center.

The donation was powered by Loos & Co. employees choosing to receive a coronavirus vaccination. Once an employee received their vaccine, they only needed to show their vaccination card to the Human Resources Department for the company to make the donation. A \$50 donation was made for every employee who showed their proof of vaccine.

The Pomfret Community/Senior Center, located at 207 Mashamoquet Road, is one program offered by the Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group (TEEG). TEEG Executive Director Anne Miller said this is the first donation from Loos & Co. in recent years. “It’s wonderful,” Miller said. “It’s great to receive this support from our neighbors.”

Loos Director of Corporate Marketing Robert Davis said the company is

working hard to be an active organization within the community. “We try to be very involved with the community,” he said. “These community partnerships are central to our mission here at Loos.”

Miller said she was currently unsure how the senior center will use the donation. “We are opening up fully in July, although we never truly stopped meeting during COVID-19,” Miller said. “It’s possible we will use the funds to aid in that process.”

Miller said one main focus at the center is the Food Pantry, now known as the Pomfret Market. Loos Director of Manufacturing Jason Kumnick said staff were encouraged to receive the coronavirus vaccine. Efforts were made easier by an on-site vaccination clinic in May. Loos & Co., headquartered at 16B Mashamoquet Road in Pomfret Center, is the industry leader in the wire and cable industry. More information about Loos is available at loosco.com.

Jacques Bergeron, of Woodstock named to Assumption University’s Dean’s List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Assumption University has announced that Jacques Bergeron, of Woodstock, Class of 2021, has been named to the University’s Dean’s List for the spring 2021 semester. Students named to the Dean’s List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters.

“Jacques is one of the many students who demonstrated incredible resiliency amid the challenges posed by COVID-19 during the previous academic year and remained committed to their programs of study,” said Assumption University President Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D. “Assumption is proud of these students for excelling in the classroom as they immersed themselves in the University’s liberal arts curriculum, steeped in the Catholic intellectual tradition, and their majors preparing them for meaningful lives and careers after graduation.”

Assumption University provides students with a comprehensive, Catholic liberal arts experience through curricular and co-curricular programs, including internship opportunities,

recreational activities, and more than 60 on-campus clubs and organizations. An Assumption education forms graduates both intellectually and spiritually, inspiring wonder and purpose as they discover their vocation.

For more information, visit assumption.edu.

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is New England’s premier university for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, seeks to provide students with a transformative education that forms graduates who possess critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service. The University offers 34 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing and professional studies; as well as master’s and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.



Photo Courtesy

Loos Director of Manufacturing Jason Kumnick and Loos Director of Corporate Marketing Robert Davis present Anne Miller of the Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group and Pomfret Community/Senior Center with a \$500 donation check.

Michael Andronic named to Dean’s List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Michael Andronic of Danielson has been named to the Plymouth State University Dean’s List for the Spring 2021 semester. To be named to the Dean’s List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 during the spring semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Andronic is a Environmental Science & Policy major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

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Patrick Wood Memorial Prize
awarded to Brody Zabansky

Naija Lewis named
to Curry College
Dean's List

POMFRET — Ninth-grader Brody Zabansky from Pomfret became the second member of his family to win the Patrick Wood Memorial Prize at the recent Rectory School graduation. His brother, Blake Zabansky, won in 2017.

The prize is awarded to high-achieving students admitted to Pomfret School, where Patrick was the valedictorian in 2001. Pat went on to graduate from Stanford University with honors but died a year later in 2006.

The prize was presented by Patrick's mother Lisette Rimer, a former Rectory faculty member, and her son Colin Wood, Patrick's older brother.

"Brody is a special Rectory citizen," Rimer said. "He has attended Rectory since kindergarten—his entire ten years of school life. Three of those years, he had his mother for a teacher. School and family were one and the same for most of his life, and they set the stage for Brody's hard-working and personable approach to learning. He brings a fun-loving energy to class."

Brody is the fifth student from Rectory to win the award since it was established in 2007. The first was Daniel Kellaway in 2010, then Greg Rice in 2014, Blake Zabansky in 2017, and most recently Brennan Holmes in 2018.

Rimer told the graduation assembly that, "Patrick died while I was teaching at Rectory, and I can tell you first-hand, there is no better place to rebuild your life than Rectory School."

The Patrick Wood Prize is a merit-based scholarship which helps students attend Pomfret School. It was established from donations after Patrick's death.

"Our fund-raising goal is to re-establish the full-tuition scholarship to Pomfret School that Patrick won in 1997," Rimer said. "We want to see more



Ninth-grader Brody Zabansky from Pomfret receiving the Patrick Wood '01 Memorial Prize at Rectory School graduation. From the left: Colin Wood (Patrick's brother), Brody, and Lisette Rimer (Patrick's mother).

Photo Courtesy

local young people get the same learning experience that helped Pat succeed at Stanford."

More information is available at: www.patrickwoodprize.org.

Loos & Co. donates \$500 to veterans

POMFRET — Having spent years manufacturing products that support the military's mission, Loos & Co. and its employees are taking on a new role to help veterans in their community.

This week, Loos & Company proudly presented a \$500 check to the support the mission of the Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse. The Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse offers local veterans the opportunity to meet, socialize and receive support or information regarding veterans benefits and services.

"We help connect veterans with whatever services they might need," said President Fred Ruhlemann. "It's more than just offering coffee."

Ruhlemann said the operation is strictly volunteer-run. No one who "works" at the coffeehouse receives pay.

The donation was powered by Loos & Co. employees choosing to receive

a coronavirus vaccination. Once an employee receives their vaccine, a \$50 contribution is made to the general donation fund.

Loos Director of Corporate Marketing Robert Davis said staff were encouraged to receive the coronavirus vaccine. Efforts were made easier by an on-site vaccination clinic in May.

Loos Director of Manufacturing Jason Kumnick said he is proud the company supports active and retired military.

"I come from a military family," Kumnick said. "You and your volunteers do good work and we're happy to help," he told Ruhlemann.

Davis and Kumnick Presented Ruhlemann the check Tuesday afternoon. The Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse operates every Tuesday morning at 9 a.m., at the Putnam Elks Lodge 574 at 64 Edmond St.



Photo Courtesy

Loos Director of Manufacturing Jason Kumnick and Loos Director of Corporate Marketing Robert Davis present Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse President Fred Ruhlemann with a \$500 donation check.

Loos & Co., headquartered at 16B Mashamoquet Rd. in Pomfret Center, is the industry leader in the wire and cable industry. More information about Loos is available at loosco.com.



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Jewett City Savings Bank secures grant funding for QVCC Foundation

DANIELSON — The Jobs for New England Recovery Grant Program, offered by the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston to member financial institutions, is intended to assist small businesses and non-profit organizations that have experienced significant losses due to the pandemic. As a member, Jewett City Savings Bank was able to reserve grant funds for eligible organizations in the Bank’s service area. Jewett City Savings Bank focused its support to those organizations that had limited opportunities to participate in other funding sources that became available through the CARES Act and other government programs. One of those organizations was the QVCC Foundation.

“On behalf of the students who will benefit from this generous grant, I want to extend my appreciation to Jewett City Savings Bank. The bank demonstrates time and again their dedication to the communities they serve. QVCC is fortunate to be part of the JCSB community!” said Peter Deary, President of the QVCC Foundation.



Jewett City Savings Bank President and CEO Kevin Merchant and Diana Rose, Senior Vice President, Corporate Secretary and Chief Operations Officer present check to Monique Wolanin, Director of Institutional Advancement and Peter Deary, President of the Quinebaug Valley Community College Foundation.

Halladay Glode named to President’s List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Halladay Glode of North Grosvenordale has been named to the Plymouth State University President’s List for the Spring 2021 semester. To be named to the President’s List, a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Spring 2021 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Glode is a Elementary Education major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University
Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

Taylor Kent of Brooklyn named to Assumption University’s Dean’s List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Assumption University has announced that Taylor Kent, of Brooklyn, Class of 2022, has been named to the University’s Dean’s List for the spring 2021 semester. Students named to the Dean’s List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters.

“Taylor is one of the many students who demonstrated incredible resiliency amid the challenges posed by COVID-19 during the previous academic year and remained committed to their programs of study,” said Assumption University President Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D. “Assumption is proud of these students for excelling in the classroom as they immersed themselves

in the University’s liberal arts curriculum, steeped in the Catholic intellectual tradition, and their majors preparing them for meaningful lives and careers after graduation.”

Assumption University provides students with a comprehensive, Catholic liberal arts experience through curricular and co-curricular programs, including internship opportunities, recreational activities, and more than 60 on-campus clubs and organizations. An Assumption education forms graduates both intellectually and spiritually, inspiring wonder and purpose as they discover their vocation.

For more information, visit assumption.edu.

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sity for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, seeks to provide students with a transformative education that forms graduates who possess critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service. The University offers 34 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing and professional studies; as well as master’s and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.

Samuel Roy of Thompson named to Assumption University’s Dean’s List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Assumption University has announced that Samuel Roy, of Thompson, Class of 2023, has been named to the University’s Dean’s List for the spring 2021 semester. Students named to the Dean’s List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters.

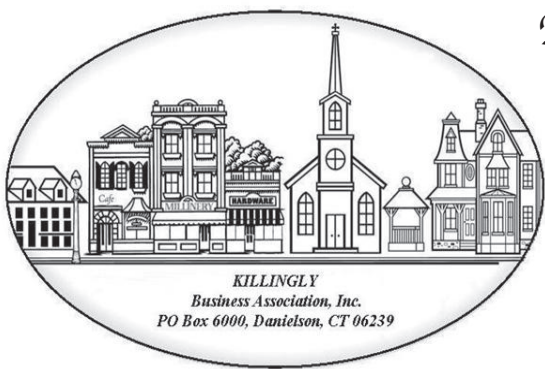
“Samuel is one of the many students who demonstrated incredible resiliency amid the challenges posed by COVID-19 during the previous academic year and remained committed to their programs of study,” said Assumption University President Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D. “Assumption is proud of these students for excelling in the classroom as they immersed themselves in the University’s liberal arts curriculum, steeped in the Catholic intellectual tradition, and their majors preparing them for meaningful lives and careers after graduation.”

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

United we stand, divided we fall

In the 6th century B.C., Aesop shared a fable about the Lion and The Four Oxen. The story, if you have not heard it, goes like this:

A lion used to prowl around a field where four oxen dwelled. Several times he would try to eat them but whenever he approached the four oxen would back their tales up to each other with their bodies pointed outward in different directions. No matter what direction the lion approached, he was met by the horns of one of them and could do nothing. Finally, the oxen began quarreling amongst themselves and so each went off to a pasture of their own in a separate corner of the field. Then the lion attacked them one by one and soon made an end to all four.

The moral to Aesop's tale has become one of the most well known sayings of our time — United we stand, divided we fall. President Abraham Lincoln parroted the sentiment in his acceptance speech, during this same month in the year 1858: "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

As of late, it seems the division amongst the country and even in our small communities has grown deeper. What this Editor noticed, however, is that most well minded, kind, compassionate, intelligent people all want the same things. To be happy and successful. The arguments ensue, when people have different ideas on how to reach such a state of success in our government, and even in our own lives. When one person thinks we should reach A by doing x and y, and another thinks we should reach A by doing z, tempers flare. We want to remind you, that there is no reason to get heated when talking to a friend or colleague. Getting heated at a stranger is even more inappropriate. It's ok if someone disagrees with you. Remain calm.

What needs to unfold, is the ability to hear each other out with a listening ear. Where one person's experience ends, another's begins. Solutions always appear in that middle area, where compromises are made.

To be steadfast in your beliefs is important, but it's even more important to exercise some flexibility, that is where growth takes place. This is where we can learn from someone who doesn't think the same way we do. It does not make a person weak, when there is a mind shift. It makes them smart.

We're seeing a lot of arguing on social media, people publicly going back and forth, and the thread never ends with any real change being made. If you want to have a meaningful, productive conversation with someone online, take it to a private message, where the world isn't watching. In the public eye, we all can be defensive.

Now, there are extremists on both sides of any argument, in those cases, there's not much you can do. There are people who want to see things through one lens and one lens only. Fine, let them. You will also see ignorance and evil come flying out of the mouths of those you never thought capable, fine let them. Remember that the majority of the people in this country want to unify. It comes down to common sense. United we stand, divided we fall. That statement could not ring truer.

Be strong enough in character, where you are a leader, whether that be in your own community, at work or in your own family. Unity should always be the end goal. Therefore, if you see someone that disagrees with you, and you want to unify, have a conversation that will do just that.

Sometimes, try simply saying, "Hey the country is really divided right now, how can we start to unify on a small scale?" That question puts both people in a position to come up with a solution that works for everyone. Then the domino effect takes hold. Then unity happens, then change, then success.

"None of us is as smart, as all of us."
Ken Blanchard

READING
NEWSPAPERS
IS A QUEST
LIKE NO OTHER

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Yes and no

To the Editor:

Just a little piece to think about what is right and/or what is wrong. Enjoy, and hope it makes us all think that in this time our democracy of the United States is flux and we need to think and stay vigilant about the future and the truth.

Yes, we are a strong country and believes in the constitution. No, our last president does not believe the same. No, he did not win the last election. Yes, Joe Biden is our president no matter what the pillow guy says. No, Trump will not be reinstated in August. No, there will be no coup and any other way of him inhabiting the White House. Yes, he is more likely to be under indictment by that time. Yes, Trump is doing this so he can continue to spew lies and do a money grab. Yes, the QAnon are crazy and pushing this idea so they can raise money.

Yes-Yes, most of the GOP is standing for this due to a very simple fact that they have little to bring to the table to help the country move on to more pressing needs. No, is the answer to anything that the Democrats bring up and they counter with nothing. Yes, they just want power and have no agenda other than wanting of power. Yes, this is why they follow Trump like lost puppies. No, the Democrats do not have all the answers, but

When affluence leads to sloth

To the Editor:

There seems to come a time whence best to withdraw from the cacophony and minimize reflection on the affairs of man. This stems from a fatigue, numbness, and bafflement driven by incomprehension of sensory input. Why be baffled? Why, it appears that a general emerging consensus is:

A majority of Americans believe their representatives can just print (metaphorically) money without resulting in eventual (and not too eventual) catastrophic inflation.

Three hundred-plus-million people are generally able to ignore a million deaths a year in our country alone through abortion. What type of society has a sustained market demand for that number of "procedures" annually? Paradoxically, the law requires (and correctly so) infants and small children must be transported in an approved car seat lest the tykes risk injury or worse. Jesus weeps.

The general population simply ignores the endemic plague of sexually transmitted diseases in our country.

The general population ignores the incredible prescription drug addiction in the USA.

Despite endless evidence, a growing number of Americans are coming to believe that socialism (masquerading as progressivism) actually will work (this time).

So many believe open borders are even remotely possible.

Society may survive without restrictions imposed by moral boundaries historically provided by religion.

Society will survive concurrently with the breakdown of the national family unit.

Exponential world population growth may be ignored without consequence.

Environmental collapse is not becoming inevitable.

Gun control laws, or any laws whose purpose is control, will ever effectively replace self control produced by culturally imposed personal responsibility.

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.

Valuable philosophy of an old coal miner

On May 31, 1975 at 1:15 p.m., I was sitting with my friend Rob at the Sunshine Tap in Traer, Iowa, eating a hamburger, fries and washing it down with a Pepsi. I was wearing cut off blue jeans, an old white t-shirt with Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps emblazoned across my chest, and sandals.

Around the corner and across the street in Taylor Park, there was a hundred or so people beginning to gather for a wedding that was set to begin at two o'clock ... a mere 45 minutes later.

The bride's father was nervous and pacing in his tux. With each passing moment he'd check his watch, look out across the park, and mumble something inaudible.

I asked for the check, paid the tab, then Rob and I began our short walk to the park.

As we crossed the street, I saw the father of the bride rushing towards us. "I can't believe this!" He growled as he approached. "I didn't think you were going to show."

I looked at Rob. "Doesn't it begin at two o'clock?" I asked.

"Where's your tux?" He demanded with



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

increasing anger.

"In the car. I'll get dressed now." I quickly walked away to my 1972 green Pinto and dressed outside the car. I was half amused and half intimidated, but at two o'clock sharp, I was there as promised and waiting at the alter for Arlene.

That was over 46 years ago, and we are still married. Her dad grew to forgive my casual approach to the beginning of my life with his daughter, thankfully. Fast forward forty-six years ...

Three grown children, two grand kids, and a life together has passed before the blink of our eyes. How can this be? Where does the time go?

Aging and a bad health diagnosis has me pondering what this life is all about. I keep coming up with this ...

"Life is about who we love, who loves us in return, and what we build together."

What else is there? An accumulation of stuff? Accomplishments? Money? It all seems

Turn To **MOORE** page **A9**

We must cultivate our gardens

There is a fullness to June that creeps up on me every year. At first, it seems that spring is too slow, too hot or too cold, too wet or too dry. At the post office, a place where I still get to share observations about the weather with friends and strangers, small talk is the coin of the realm and one thing that brings us together. After a year of dashing in and out with barely a friendly nod, we are back exchanging comments about the weather that our New England heritage requires. Regardless of what divides us, we happily join in shaking our heads over too much rain or too few bees.

Smell is a powerful emotional trigger. For years after my mother died, I avoided the scent of roses as well as the flowers. She had been an ardent rosarian. As a teenager, my friends and I delighted in visiting the cosmetic section of Pevner's Drug Store in Putnam. Polly, a remarkably patient clerk, stood by as we squirted one bottle after another on our narrow wrists and behind our ears, as if we thought s o m e o n e might kiss us. Lily-of-the-Valley was a great favorite, but many rose based flacons graced the finger smudged counter. The mixture made me feel light-headed, but the rose essence brought down my mood.

Today, the soft scent from a David Austin pink rose-bush wafts through our bedroom window and fills the kitchen from a small arrangement. It is uplifting and natural, linking me to my childhood in a positive way once more. June is the month of roses and from the multi-floral roses running wild in abandoned pastures to the knock-out roses found at every nursery and big box store, the flower is in its well-deserved glory.

While happily sniffing my way through a variety of local gardens, I am shocked at the near total absence of bees. From our daughter's towering Rhodendrons in West Hartford to my iris and alliums, there are very few bees. We've heard that there may be a collapse of the insect world and it seems to be happening with bees. Something must be done to reverse what could be a calamity.

It is wonderful to visit local nurseries again. I noticed that the UConn Master Gardener Program is continuing to have an impact at retail establishments. Erin, who works at Loew's at Killingly Commons, has taken an operation that was hit or miss and made it shine. She knows plants and how to keep them healthy. Chris at Sunset Nurseries in Thompson, also a Master Gardener, can advise on plants, shrubs, and trees. He and Erin earned their stripes by taking 96 hours of classroom work and donating 60 hours of volunteer service. The program is full for now, and rigorous, but a worthwhile experience.

It's a joy to see high school graduation ceremonies and proms back to nearly normal traditions. These rights of passage frame our lives and offer life long memories. My husband's high school class held an on-line reunion this year and despite a few technical glitches, the group of aging boomers enjoyed seeing each other again. I imagine our current grads will stay connected to each other through the years by whatever means the future holds.

I read Voltaire's "Candide" in college. The final line is: "We must cultivate our garden." It is a response to the Pangloss, who tries to prove we live in the best of all possible worlds. Candide has been through plenty, and gives us wisdom for June. We must cultivate our gardens and enjoy life.



NANCY WEISS

How to close a retirement income gap



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JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT
ADVISER

When you determine how much income you'll need in retirement, you may base your projection on the type of lifestyle you plan to have and when you want to retire. However, as you grow closer to retirement, you may discover that your income won't be enough to meet your needs. Traditionally, the advice has been to invest more conservatively as you near the typical retirement age of 65. But with people living longer today, and wanting to do more with their retirement years, the usual advice of investing more conservatively as you near the traditional retirement age isn't always the best course of action in every case.

If you find yourself facing a gap between how you'd like to live in retirement and how much savings you have available to do so, there are steps you can take to help build bridge the gap.

Delay retirement: 65 is just a number

One way of dealing with a projected income shortfall is to stay in the workforce longer than you had planned. This will allow you to continue supporting yourself with a salary rather than dipping into your retirement savings. Depending on your income, this could also increase your Social Security retirement benefit. You'll also be able to delay taking your Social Security benefit or distributions from retirement accounts.

At normal retirement age (which varies, depending on the year you were born), you will receive your full Social Security retirement benefit. You can elect to receive your Social Security retirement

benefit as early as age 62, but if you begin receiving your benefit before your normal retirement age, your benefit will be reduced. Conversely, if you delay retirement, you can increase your Social Security benefit.

Remember, too, that income from a job may affect the amount of Social Security retirement benefit you receive if you are under normal retirement age. Your benefit will be reduced by \$1 for every \$2 you earn over a certain earnings limit (\$18,960 in 2021, up from \$18,240 in 2020). But once you reach normal retirement age, you can earn as much as you want without affecting your Social Security retirement benefit.

Another advantage of delaying retirement is that you can continue to build tax-deferred (or in the case of Roth accounts, tax-free) funds in your IRA or employer-sponsored retirement plan. Keep in mind, though, that you may be required to start taking minimum distributions from your qualified retirement plan or traditional IRA once you reach age 72, if you want to avoid harsh penalties.

And if you're covered by a pension plan at work, you could also consider retiring and then seeking employment elsewhere. This way you can receive a salary and your pension benefit at the same time. Some employers, to avoid losing talented employees this way, are beginning to offer "phased retirement" programs that allow you to receive all or part of your pension benefit while you're still working. Make sure you understand your pension plan options.

Spend less, save more
You may be able to deal with an income shortfall by adjusting your spending habits. If you're still years away from retirement, you may be able to get by with a few minor changes. However, if retirement is just around the corner, you may need to drastically change your spending and saving hab-

its. Saving even a little money can really add up if you do it consistently and earn a reasonable rate of return. Make permanent changes to your spending habits and you'll find that your savings will last even longer. Start by preparing a budget to see where your money is going.

Here are some suggested ways to stretch your retirement dollars:

Refinance your home mortgage if interest rates have dropped since you took the loan. You could also consider using the proceeds from a second mortgage or home equity line of credit to pay off higher-interest-rate debts.

Reduce your housing expenses by moving to a less expensive home or apartment.

Sell one of your cars if you have two. When your remaining car needs to be replaced, consider buying a used one.

Transfer credit card balances from higher-interest cards to a low- or no-interest card, and then cancel the old accounts.

Ask about insurance discounts and review your insurance needs (your need for life insurance may have lessened, for example).

Reduce discretionary expenses such as lunches and dinners out.

Earmark the money you save for retirement and invest it immediately. If you can take advantage of an IRA, 401(k), or other tax-deferred retirement plan, you should do so. Funds invested in a tax-deferred account may grow more rapidly than funds invested in a non-tax-deferred account.

Reallocate your assets: consider investing more aggressively

Some people make the mistake of investing too conservatively to achieve their retirement goals. That's not surprising, because as you take on more risk, your potential for loss grows as well. But greater risk also generally entails potentially greater reward. And with life expectancies rising and people retiring earlier,

retirement funds need to last a long time.

That's why if you are facing a projected income shortfall, you may want to consider shifting some of your assets to investments that have the potential to substantially outpace inflation. The amount of investment dollars you might consider keeping in growth-oriented investments depends on your time horizon (how long you have to save) and your tolerance for risk. In general, the longer you have until retirement, the more aggressive you can typically afford to be. Still, if you are at or near retirement, you may want to keep some of your funds in growth-oriented investments, even if you decide to keep the bulk of your funds in more conservative, fixed-income investments.

And remember, no matter how you decide to allocate your money, rebalance your portfolio periodically. Your needs will change over time, and so should your investment strategy. But, note that rebalancing may carry tax consequences. Asset allocation and diversification cannot guarantee a profit or insure against a loss. There is no guarantee that any investment strategy will be successful; all investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal.

Accept reality: lower your standard of living

If your projected income shortfall is severe enough or if you're already close to retirement, you may realize that no matter what measures you take, you will not be able to afford the retirement lifestyle you've dreamed of. In other words, you will have to lower your expectations and accept a lower standard of living.

Fortunately, this may be easier to do than when you were younger. Although some expenses, like health care, generally increase in retirement, other expenses, like housing costs and automobile expenses, tend to decrease. And it's likely that your days of paying college bills and growing-family

expenses are over.

Once you are within a few years of retirement, you can prepare a realistic budget that will help you manage your money in retirement. Think long term: Retirees frequently get into budget trouble in the early years of retirement, when they are adjusting to their new lifestyles. Remember that when you are retired, every day is Saturday, so it's easy to start overspending.

Building the right strategy for your particular situation and goals can be a daunting task, and the outcome – your ability to live well in retirement – is priceless. So get advice from a financial professional on how your assets should be allocated. We guide our clients through a personalized Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process to build the investment strategy that's right for them, so they can move fearlessly into retirement and enjoy all that lies ahead. Contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com to see how we can help you to do the same, and visit our Web site at www.whzwealth.com to find out more.

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Manage mosquitoes to better enjoy your outdoor space

Dine, play, and enjoy your outdoor spaces more than ever this year by managing annoying and disease-spreading mosquitoes. Use a multifaceted approach to boost your enjoyment and help keep mosquitoes away.

Plan your outdoor activities when mosquitoes are less active. Females are the ones looking for a blood meal and are most active at dusk and dawn when looking for warmth and food.

Screened-in porches add a layer of protection but only when they are intact and properly sealed. The same applies to your home. Check screens and seals around doors and windows to help keep these pests from entering your home.

Use bug lights in light fixtures by entryways and in outdoor entertainment spaces. These emit yellow light that is not as attractive to mosquitoes and other insects. Bug lights will not eliminate every unwanted insect but will reduce the number visiting your lights at night and finding their way into your home.

Enhance the ambience and reduce mosquito issues when entertaining outdoors. Use a fan to create a cooler space and keep these weak flyers away. Provide fragrant subtle lighting with citronella oil and scented candles. Scatter them throughout the area and within a few feet of the guests for short-term relief.

Reduce the overall mosquito population in your yard by eliminating their breeding grounds. Empty water that



GARDEN
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vive.

Toss an organic mosquito control like Mosquito Dunks and Bits (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com) in your rain barrel, pond, or other water feature. Mosquito Bits quickly knock down the mosquito larval population, while the Mosquito Dunks provide 30 days of control. The active ingredient is *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*, a naturally occurring soil bacterium that kills the mosquito larvae but is safe for children, fish, pets, beneficial insects, and wildlife.

Keep your landscape looking its best by managing weeds and grooming neglected gardens. This eliminates some of the resting spaces for hungry adult mosquitoes.

Always protect yourself whenever outdoors. Cover as much of your skin as possible with loose fitting, light colored clothing. Mosquitoes are less attracted to the lighter colors and cannot readily reach your skin through loose clothing.

Further protect yourself by using a personal repellent approved by the EPA. For those looking for DEET-free options, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has approved products with the active ingredient picaridin, IR3535, and the synthetic oil of lemon

collects in items left outside. Change the water in your bird-bath at least weekly or whenever you water your container gardens. Add a bubbler or pump to keep water moving in fountains and ponds so mosquito larvae cannot survive.



Photo Melinda Myers

Scatter citronella oil and candles throughout outdoor entertainment areas and within a few feet of guests for short-term relief from mosquitoes.

and eucalyptus. Check the label for a list of active ingredients and safety recommendations when shopping for mosquito repellents. Avoid products that contain both sunscreen and insect repellent since you need to apply sunscreen more often than the repellent.

Spending more time outdoors is good for our mind, body, and spirit. Using a combination of mosquito-managing tactics will allow you to enjoy and benefit from your time outdoors.

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

MOORE

continued from page A8

so important at the time but as time passes and we look back on it all, it's meaningless. Who we love, who loves us in return and the life we build together is everything.

I believe too many marriages begin without commitment. "If it doesn't work out, there's always divorce," I heard a bride say a few years ago. Yes, it's easy to give up and move on. It's harder to stick with it, push through the problems and make it work. And yes, I understand there are some relationships that cannot be fixed and it's necessary to move on from violence and abuse, along with a few other reasons,

but I believe most divorces are premature and often unnecessary.

My grandfather was a coal miner. He had a saying, "Stick and stay and make it pay." I asked him what it meant, and he said, "Young men often quit after their first day or two in the mine. Fear of a shaft collapse or just the sickening experience of breathing the thick black dust often cause them to quit. Stick and stay was the advice the old timers would give."

I realize that advice is applicable to almost everything in life, including marriage. If you loved each other enough to get married, love each other enough to stick with it and make it work. Don't give up.

Our marriage has been far from per-

fect, but we stuck with each other. We committed to building a life and family together. We smoothed out the rough edges over time. Mistakes were made, worked out and we learned from them and here we are forty-six years later, married, and happy.

Maybe life really is only about who we love, who loves us in return and what we build together. And you know what? I think it's more than enough.

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @ GaryW Moore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.

“Every Town
Deserves
a Good
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High School Roundup

Local teams see respective seasons end in state play

By Ken Powers
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT
WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Academy baseball team’s suddenly silent bats prevented the Centaurs from advancing past the second round of the Connecticut Class L Tournament.

Woodstock Academy, the No. 4 seed, defeated 29th-seeded Bristol Eastern High School, 3-1, on Tuesday, June 1, in the opening round of the tournament, but the Centaurs were defeated the following day by Wilton High, the No. 20 seed, 4-1, in the second round. Both games were played in Woodstock.

In the loss to Wilton the Centaurs managed just three hits. It’s only run came in the first inning on an RBI ground out off the bat of Jon Smith.

In the win over Bristol Eastern Smith twirled a seven-hitter and struck out three to pick up the win on the mound. All three WA runs came in the fourth inning with Smith, who was hit by a pitch, scoring the tying run on a ground out by Kaden Murphy. Zach Roethlein scored what proved to be the game-winning run on an error and Ed Niejadlik singled home the third run.

Woodstock Academy finished its sea-

son with a 17-6 record.

SOFTBALL

After defeating 24th-seed Platt High, 4-3 in eight innings in the first round of the Connecticut Class L Tournament, On Tuesday, June 1, ninth-seeded Woodstock Academy was eliminated from the postseason by offensive-minded Foran High, the No. 25 seed, 19-9, a day later in the second round.

The Centaurs defeated Platt in the bottom of the eighth inning on a single by Lexi Thompson, a fielder’s choice by Delaney Anderson and another fielder’s choice by Mia Pannone. Marissa Mayhew won the game when she drew a bases-loaded walk.

In defeating Woodstock, Foran not only scored 19 runs but it racked up 20 hits. The Centaurs’ Lexi Thompson (three RBI) and Mackenzie Leveille both finished the game with three hits.

Woodstock Academy, which hosted both tournament games, finished its season with an 18-5 record.

BOYS’ LACROSSE

Woodstock Academy, the No. 12 seed, was four seconds away from pulling off

a major upset in the first round of the Connecticut Class M Tournament on Wednesday, June 2, but host Watertown High tied the game, 7-7, and then won the contest, 8-7, with 2 minutes, 44 seconds remaining in overtime.

Jonah Libby finished with the hat trick for the Centaurs who finished with a 10-8 record.

Senior Guerin Favreau scored two goals and had two assists, giving him 71 goals, 35 assists and 106 points this season.

BOYS’ TRACK

Woodstock Academy got a pair of first-place finishes at the Connecticut Class MM state championship at New Britain’s Willowbrook Park to finish with 46 points and a fourth-place finish, behind Weston (84), Daniel Hand (68) and Berlin (62.5). The meet was held on Wednesday, June 2.

Senior Adam Schimmelpfennig won the 110-meter hurdles narrowly missed out on a hurdles sweep, finishing second in the 300-meter hurdles. Keenan Lamontagne added a first-place finish in the discus for the Centaurs while Ethan Aspiras finished third in the

3200-meter run, and Eric Phongsas was fifth in the 100m dash.

GIRLS’ TRACK

Woodstock Academy’s Magdalena Myslenski finished fourth in the discus at the Connecticut Class MM state championship at New Britain’s Willowbrook Park on Wednesday, June 2. The Centaurs’ 3200-meter relay team finished sixth; Linsey Arends placed seventh in the 800-meter run and Carah Bruce eighth in the 3200-meter run.

BOYS’ GOLF

Kyle Brennan (3-over-par 39) recorded the only point for Woodstock Academy in a 6-1 loss to Killingly High in a match played on Tuesday, June 1 at the Connecticut National Golf Course in Putnam. The Centaurs’ Davis Simpson, Adam Thompson, and Don Sousa all finished with 47s for WA. Harrison Giambattista was medalist for Killingly with a 1-over-par 37 while Ethan Lackner finished two strokes behind. Killingly (19-1) finished with a 10-0 record in ECC Division 2 play. Woodstock Academy finished its season 7-7.

Rawson Materials announces main office relocation

PUTNAM — Rawson Materials will move its main office location from 6 Kennedy Dr. in Putnam to Cargill Falls Mill on 58 Pomfret Street, Suite 4101, Putnam, in the fall of 2021.

Plans to relocate were catalyzed by Rawson Materials’ unprecedented growth over the years and will enable Rawson Materials to both consolidate and increase its office footprint. During the pandemic, when other corporations were embracing telecommuting for its employees, Rawson was planning for a shared space in which its entire leadership team could collaborate. Rawson will continue to operate plant locations in Canterbury, Plainfield, Putnam, Thompson and Westerly, R.I.

Rawson Materials has contracted with RCA Construction for this interior buildout project.

Jeffrey Rawson, President of Rawson Materials, states “We are beyond excited to work with RCA Construction to expand our presence in the heart of downtown Putnam. This new office space will complement our goal of continued growth and development and will allow our team members to be even more accessible to one another, our customers, and our community.”

The building permit for this project was approved on June 1, and the project has commenced.

Rawson Materials is a quality aggregate producer that has proudly served Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island for more than 70 years. For more information, contact Crystal Simonson, Director of Communications, at (860) 963-6584, ext. 1304 or visit www.rawsonmaterials.com.

Year of challenges culminates in a celebration of achievement for local Bryant graduates

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — At Bryant University’s 158th Commencement ceremonies on Saturday, May 22, 840 graduates of the Class of 2021 and their families and guests gathered on campus to celebrate earning a Bryant degree.

Audrey Chase of Pomfret Center, graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Mathematics and Statistics.

Brody Hopkins of Danielson, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree in Accounting.

“There has probably never been a graduating class more deserving of a Commencement and celebration than the Class of 2021,” said Bryant President Ross Gittell, Ph.D. “You have earned your degree under extraordinary circumstances. You successfully responded to unprecedented challenges.”

About Bryant University

For 158 years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that antici-

pates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing world. Bryant delivers an innovative and uniquely integrated business and liberal arts education that inspires students to excel. With approximately 3,800 graduate and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries, Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes, and Barron’s. Visit www.Bryant.edu.

Eastern student Allen Horn of Pomfret Center wins Library Research Award

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University’s J. Eugene Smith Library recently announced the winners of its 9th annual Library Research Awards. This year’s awards recognize four exemplary undergraduate research projects from the last two years that utilized library resources.

Among the awardees was Allen Horn, a senior from Pomfret Center, who majors in

History. Horn’s project is titled “Maggie’s Ride: The Life and Legacy of a Civil War Horse” and was mentored by History Professor Thomas Balcerski.

“Why recognize library research when much of today’s knowledge is at our fingertips?” asked President Elsa Nunez. “Library resources are credible and the time taken to find citation is an investment . . . There has never been more information available, yet the task of locating and synthesizing information continues to be a skill unto itself.”

Awardees’ submissions were evaluated by a committee of faculty and library staff and demonstrate the ability to locate, select, evaluate and apply information from print, microform and online databases and collections.

The Library Research Award Committee includes Professors Courtney Broschious (political science), Bradley Davis (history), Jonathan Hulvey (biology), Manuel Otero (English), and library staff Hope-Marie Cook, Kellie O’Donnell-Bobadilla and Angela Walker.

For more information the awards and this year’s projects, visit <http://easternct.libguides.com/c.php?g=674823&p=8069097&preview=2ded51cb75fc21b98ac-6c2981564d90a>.

BASEBALL

continued from page A1

because of the threat of heavy rain on both Friday and Saturday.

Killingly first traveled to Waterford on Thursday, May 27, for a semifinal round game against Lancers. Behind the pitching of junior Jay Grzysiewicz (complete-game win, six strikeouts, zero earned runs allowed), Killingly defeated Waterford, 13-2. It was Killingly’s first win over Waterford in baseball, the 23-year-old Desaulnier said, in at least 25 years.

After that it was on to Groton and the tournament final.

Cole Lavigne got the start on the bump for Killingly and the senior was immense, going the distance while allowing four hits and a walk while striking out four.

“Cole pitched the best game of his life against Fitch; that was pretty special,” Desaulnier said of getting to watch Lavigne’s effort. “It was a great moment for Cole and a great moment for the team.”

Killingly got all the offense it needed in the top of the fourth inning. Junior Brady Waterman reached base by singling to right field. He then stole second base and then scored the lone run of the game on an RBI double by Yaworski, who, after the Killingly victory, was named Tournament MVP.

Befitting a championship game, the contest was not without seventh-inning drama.

In the bottom of the frame Lavigne coerced Fitch batters into two quick outs before the Falcons’ leadoff hitter, Alex Delcampo, singled to center and then stole second and third base. Fitch’s next batter, however, hit a comebacker to Lavigne who cleanly fielded the ball.

“It was a hard ground ball right back to Cole. It could have easily gone into center field and the game would have been tied,” Desaulnier said. “But Cole

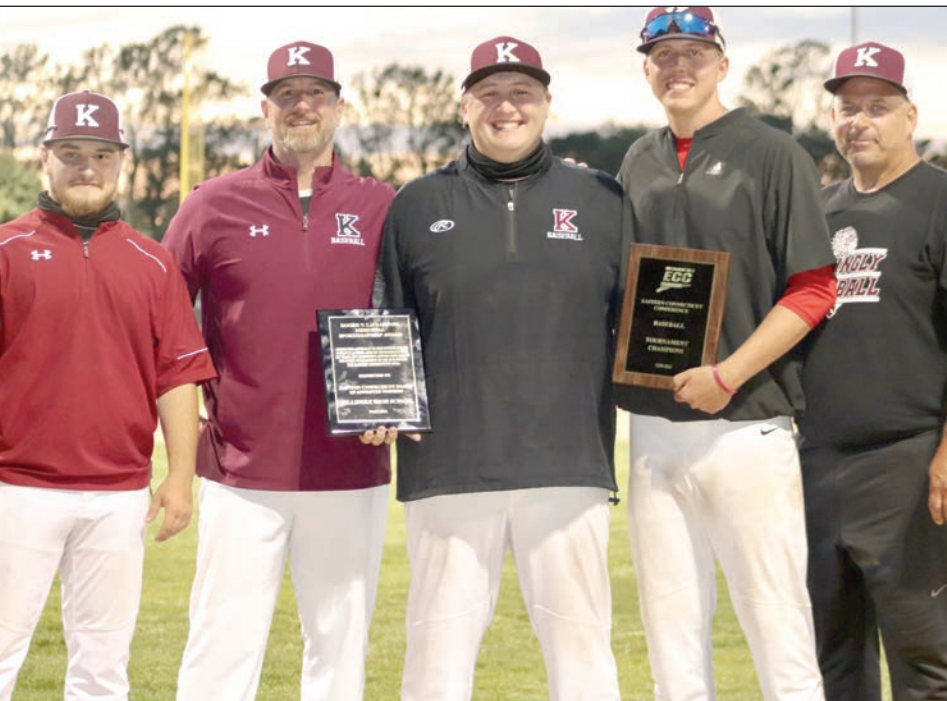


Head coach Ben Desaulnier hugs junior Jay Grzysiewicz after Killingly High defeated Fitch, 1-0, in the ECC Championship game.

stuck his glove out, snagged it, and threw to first base to end the game.”

Cue the celebration.

“It was massive; the kids went crazy. All I really remember is hugging my coaches,” said Desaulnier, who accomplished something that no former player or coach (he’s in both categories) before him had achieved. “From a personal standpoint it was extremely meaningful. We had some good teams in the 80s and 90s and they were never able to get it done. So yes, that made it



Killingly High’s coaching staff of (left-to-right) Tyler Cournoyer, Trevor Larrow, Ben Desaulnier, Drew Daley, and Joe Cacciapuoti pose with the ECC Championship hardware.

extra special.”

“I was really happy for the kids. All year long everyone had been telling them that they weren’t that good; that their record was only good because they played bad teams. That’s the noise that followed us throughout the season,” Desaulnier continued. “I think beating Waterford at Waterford in the semis and Fitch at Fitch in the final – on the same day – really validated the kids as players, validated them as a team, and validated their success all season.”

Killingly’s baseball season came to an unhappy end on Tuesday, June 1, when the team was defeated at Owen Bell Park, 8-6, in 12 innings, by Tolland High.

Killingly led, 6-2 heading into the seventh inning, but Tolland scored four

runs to the tie the game, 6-6, and send it into extra innings. They won the game by scoring two runs in the top of the 12th inning. Killingly was unable to tie or win the game in the bottom of the frame.

Yaworski, who started the game on the mound for Killingly, was relieved by Grzysiewicz in the seventh when his pitch count reached 110. Killingly finished its season 20-3.

“It wasn’t our pitching or our defense or errors; Tolland just hit the ball in the seventh. Give the credit to them; it was the first time all season that we had given up more than two runs in one inning,” Desaulnier said. “The loss to Tolland takes nothing away from what the kids accomplished this year and the great season they had.”



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How to help and support the world’s oceans

The ocean produces more than half of the world’s oxygen. That means oceans are not just fun places to spend summer afternoons, but also vital to life on planet Earth.

It’s easy to recognize the role that healthy oceans play in preserving and promoting marine life. But many people may be unaware of just how much humans rely on the ocean, and not just as a supplier of the air we breathe or even the foods we eat. For example, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration notes that many medicinal products come from the ocean. Such products include ingredients that help in the fight against an assortment of diseases, including cancer, Alzheimer’s and heart disease.

Despite their importance to human life, the world’s oceans are facing strong threats. Greenpeace notes that plastic pollution and overfishing may be contributing to irreversible damage to the world’s oceans. Confronting the challenges posed to the world’s oceans

may seem like a daunting task, but the NOAA notes that the following are some of the many ways ordinary citizens can do their part to help the oceans.

- Conserve water. Consuming less water results in less runoff. Less runoff leads to less wastewater eventually finding its way into the oceans. Conserving water also has the added benefit of saving people money on their monthly water bills.

- Become a more conscientious consumer. When purchasing products with chemicals in them, such as household cleaners, choose items with nontoxic chemicals and always dispose of chemicals properly. Purchase fewer plastics and bring reusable bags to the grocery store instead of relying on single-use, disposable plastic bags. When shopping for seafood, choose sustainable seafood.

- Reduce waste. Be mindful of what you throw away, making a concerted effort to reduce what you discard.

- Reduce vehicle pollution. Reduce vehicle waste and pollution by choosing a fuel-efficient car or truck when purchasing your next vehicle. In addition, make a concerted effort to drive less, as exhaust fumes are not the only ways vehicles are harming the world’s oceans. A 2020 study published in the journal Nature Communications found that microplastics released from car tires and brake systems are a significant source of marine plastic pollution. Reducing reliance on vehicles like cars and trucks can help reduce the amount of microplastics, which can be deposited in oceans thousands of miles away from where they were originated, that find their way into the world’s oceans.

- Consume less energy. Another way to save money and help the world’s oceans is to make energy efficiency a greater priority. Choose energy efficient products when shopping for everything from light bulbs to refrigerators.



Fossil fuels are burned to help create electricity, and the burning of fossil fuels produces greenhouse gases that hurt the world’s oceans. Energy efficient products consume less electricity, helping people save money on their utility bills and

ensuring fewer greenhouse gases are entering the planet’s atmosphere.

Oceans are vital to life on earth. Anyone, regardless of where they live, can take steps to protect the world’s oceans.

How to care for perennials



Perennials can add color and vibrancy to any garden. One of the more desirable components of perennials is that they come back year after year, meaning homeowners do not have to invest in a gardenful of new flowers

every year. That can add up to considerable savings. Perennials often form the foundation of beautiful gardens.

Annuals only grow for one season, produce seeds and then die. However, perennials die back to the ground every autumn and their roots survive the winter. So the plants reemerge in the spring, according to The Farmer’s Almanac. Some perennials are short-lived, meaning they will come back a few consecutive years; others will last for decades.

Though planted perennials require less maintenance than annuals, they are not completely maintenance-free. Certain care is needed to help perennials thrive, and that starts with the soil. In fact, soil is the single most important factor for growing healthy plants. Penn State Extension says most perennials grow ideally in well drained, fertile soil with a pH of 6.0 to 7.0. In addition,

organic matter can improve soil texture and water-holding ability.

When including perennials in the garden, make sure you wait for the right time to plant them. The ideal time is during the spring or fall. Perennials come as container-grown perennials, which already have been established in the soil. Bare-root perennials are just roots that are often packed in peat moss. In order to plant bare-root perennials, soak the roots in water for several minutes before gently planting in the ground, indicates the how-to resource Tip Bulletin.

Perennials should be watered deeply, especially during the first growing season. However, the soil should never be overly dry or wet. Most perennials do not need to be fertilized heavily. A single application in the spring typically is all that’s needed.

Care along the way can include dead-

heading spent flowers so that plants can use their energy on seed production and reblooming. Perennials should be divided when they grow large, every three to four years when the plants are not in bloom. Perennials produce fewer flowers or may look sickly when the time has passed to divide them. Early spring often is a good time to divide perennials, advises The Farmer’s Almanac.

A thick layer of mulch can help perennials to overwinter successfully. Perennials planted in containers will need to be transplanted into the garden before it gets cold because most containers cannot thoroughly insulate perennial roots.

Apart from these strategies, perennials pretty much take care of themselves. As long as sunlight requirements match plant needs, the perennials should thrive.

COVID-19 VACCINES
& WOMEN’S HEALTH

Yes, they DO!

Yes! They protect you from severe illness. If you are pregnant, you can receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Yes! COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.

Yes! If you are trying to become pregnant now or want to get pregnant in the future, you can receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Talk to your doctor about your plans.

Yes! Fully vaccinated individuals can undertake more activities than unvaccinated people.

No, they DON’T...

No! There is no evidence that they cause any problems with pregnancy, including development of the placenta.

No! There is no evidence that fertility problems are a side effect of COVID-19 vaccination.

No! The vaccine will not make you test positive on a viral test.

No! Your menstrual cycle cannot be affected by being near someone who received a COVID-19 vaccine.

Face the facts. Don’t be misled by misinformation.

Trusted for the truth.
Learn more at nddh.org
and let us help you get vaccinated.

COVID-19 VACCINES

Yes, they DO!

Yes! They prevent the risk of hospitalization and death from COVID-19.

Yes! They are safe and effective.

Yes! They may cause side effects such as low-grade fever, slight headache, a heavy arm, and body aches. These are normal and should go away in a few days.

Yes! You still need to be vaccinated even if you had COVID-19.

No, they DON’T...

No! They do not contain digital chips and tracking devices.

No! They do not change or interact with your DNA in any way.

No! They do not contain live virus and they do not cause COVID-19.

No! The federal government does not *require* you to be vaccinated and they don’t maintain or monitor your vaccination record.

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