

Putnam Congregational Church holds coat drive



Volunteers Liz Thompson and Michelle Lowell pose for a photo during the Putnam Congregational Church coat drive on Nov. 6.

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM – The Putnam Congregational Church did their part to help those in need during the upcoming winter months holding a coat drive on Saturday, Nov. 6.

Volunteers were stationed outside of the church on Main Street in Putnam accepting gently used or new coats that they later provided to a pair of local organizations. New coats were handed over to the Putnam Family Resource Center to be used as gifts for the holidays while gently used items were donated to Interfaith Human Services of Putnam who, coincidentally, were holding a coat giveaway that same day.

Liz Thompson, a church patron and volunteer, said the drive is part of the church’s longstanding tradition

of giving back to their community whenever possible.

“There are folks who are low income or have kids that have grown out of their coats fast and we like to share with the community and help them any way we can. Part of that is providing coats for anyone who feels like they need them,” Thompson said.

The drive also served as a community service project for young members of the church. Throughout the day, the drive was manned by not only adult volunteers, but younger church members as well which Thompson said was an important aspect of the event.

“We felt this was important for the youth group because this is a community service for them. We try to have projects for them throughout the year and so this gives them a chance to give back,” Thompson

Turn To **COAT DRIVE**, page **A10**

Republicans dominate in Quiet Corner elections

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

REGION – Election Day in the Quiet Corner saw the Republican Party dominate in major races especially when it came to the top positions on selectmen boards and the Killingly Town Council. The GOP also earned support dominating other major elected bodies including several boards of education.

In fact, the only town where Democrats seemed to have the advantage was Pomfret. Maureen Nicholson, an incumbent who ran unopposed, was reelected First Selectwoman while her fellow incumbent selectmen, Democrat Patrick

McCarthy and Republican Ellsworth Chase, also ran unopposed. Many races were either uncontested or had as many candidates as there were open positions. The only other contested elections on the ballot were for Library Trustees where all three Democrats, Virginia Lusa, Norine Sielawa Reingold, and Gary Sturni, defeated Republican challenger John Charest and for a Board of Education vacancy seat where Republican John Rauh defeated Democrat Amber Arnold. All other candidates were confirmed to have secured their respective seats after election night.

Turn To **ELECTIONS**, page **A10**



Photo Courtesy

Volunteers from Christmas on the Hill 2020. This year’s event features an online auction, as well as an indoor/outdoor bazaar on Nov. 20.

KILLINGLY FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS HONORED ON 40TH ANNIVERSARY



Photo Jason McKay

Members of Killingly High’s 1981 football team, the first state championship team in program history, were honored at halftime of Killingly’s game with Plainfield High on Friday, Nov. 5. Behind the former players are current players who got to witness the ceremony.

Local teen attains Scouting’s highest honor



BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Photo Jason Bleau

THOMPSON – For more than a decade, local Boy Scout Shane Yurkevicius has had his sights on one goal, to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. Only around 2 percent of all Scouts ever reach the highest rank in the organization, one that speaks to the individuals effort and commitment to his craft and the betterment of themselves and their community. On Saturday, Nov. 6, Shane Yurkevicius accomplished that dream becoming the 55th Eagle Scout of Troop

The Yurkevicius family stands together as Shane Yurkevicius becomes the 55th Eagle Scout of Troop 66.

66.

The Eagle Court of Honor ceremony lasted more than an hour as Yurkevicius was presented with numerous citations from state and local leaders and a variety of national businesses and agencies praising him for his success. These

Turn To **SCOUT**, page **A3**

Local church hosts Holiday Fair

WOODSTOCK — The First Congregational Church of Woodstock has been hosting the “Christmas on the Hill” fundraiser for well over fifty years. This year the tradition continues—but with a twist. The holiday bazaar on Nov. 20 will be preceded by a week-long online auction.

The Silent Auction opens on Friday, Nov. 12, and runs online for a full week until 9 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 18. The auction features over 125 lots—antiques, collectibles, sporting equipment, and handcrafted artwork, not to mention pies made by the baking pastor, Rev. Kevin Downer. Bidding is through Golden Gavel Auctioneers at www.goldengavel.com

Saturday, Nov. 20 is the Indoor/Outdoor Holiday Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The public is invited drive up and pick up pre-orders and auction items, as well as stop and shop for gifts. Greens decorations and balsam wreaths will be displayed on the church lawn.

There will be a walk-up window to purchase potpies and hot soup. The kitchen will be serving corn chowder, butter-nut bisque, and hot chili to go. More than 225 ready-to-bake chicken pot pies with homemade cranberry relish will be available for purchase. A variety of cookies and pumpkin rolls will round out the food offerings.

Inside, visitors will find heirloom and costume jewelry and an array of beautiful handmade goods. There are lots of items which make perfect stocking stuffers, including hand-sewn facemasks in holiday and sports themes.

Turn To **FAIR**, page **A4**

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Runaway cows, football, and tigers, oh my



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

Newly arrived at the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center: Copies of “Images of America Killingly” by Natalie L. Coolidge and Robert A. Spencer. This first book of Killingly photos has been out of print but is now available just in time for Christmas. Copies are \$20 if purchased at the Center; \$25 for postage and handling if the book must be mailed. Copies will be available during regular Center hours on Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Checks accepted, but not credit cards.

I discovered I had way too many newspaper extracts as I began writing last week’s Killingly at 300 column. Here are a few more interesting tidbits. Runaway cows probably wouldn’t make the news except these were on the lam for several months in 1909. “Runaway Cows. Rounded Up in Canterbury—Missing Since June, When They Followed Deer. Five cows belongs to Robert Lowrey of the town of Plainfield have been recaptured, after five months of wild life in the woods and fields in that town. The cows escaped last June from the pasture where they were kept, and it is presumed they were induced to answer the call of the wild by the deer that were frequent visitors in their vicinity. Since June the animals have been frequently seen in the company of deer, but until this week they have managed to avoid capture. They are now partly wild, so much so, in fact that it was necessary to bring them back Canterbury, where they finally rounded up, in a cattle

pen.” (Norwich Bulletin, Wednesday, Nov. 10, 1909, p. 2; newspapers.com).

The same paper had a small article about the Killingly football team, “The Danielson football team is practicing faithfully and making good progress for the time they have been engaged in the sport. The team has been using Davis Park for a practice field, and their work has been watched with interest.”

“A cement and iron bridge is being built by the town of Killingly over a small stream near the Little Rest schoolhouse, in the South Killingly district.” (Ibid.).

“Captain F. O. Armington announces that the national flag will be displayed daily from the armory. A new flag is to be supplied by the state, and as soon as it arrives it will be displayed every day.” (Ibid)

I thought you’d find this extract from a November 1933 Windham County Transcript rather amazing. “Edward Warner, the venerable sign painter, experienced the thrill of a lifetime while doing a little job for the circus at the State Armory one afternoon this week. According to Mr. Warner, he was working away on the floor of the drill shed when suddenly he looked up and found one of the ferocious tigers right beside him. Considering discretion the better part of valor, Teddy remained quiet. The tiger, like a great cat, placed his head upon Mr. Warner’s knee. Then a second jungle beast appeared, trotted over and placed his head upon that of the first. Finally, the big, old tiger ambled out of the open cage door. He looked around disgustedly and lay down, at which the other two joined him, while Teddy picked up his paints and brushes and hastily departed in search of a more quiet place to work” (Windham County Transcript Nov. 16, 1933).

Have you ever heard of Emma Curtis Hopkins of Killingly? Several weeks ago a gentleman from Maryland stopped at the Killingly Public Library and asked Kathleen Flaherty, the reference librar-

ian, if they had anything about her since this was her hometown. They had only a little. I didn’t recall Mrs. Hopkins, but according to the family files at the Killingly Historical Center I had researched her family in 1990 in response to a query. (Of course, this was long before I began using the internet). This past week I did a Google search to get a more little background on her. According to the website emmacurtishopkins.wwwhubs.com/ Emma was a Christian Scientist who then broke away and became a founder and leader in another spiritual movement. “Emma Curtis Hopkins, the author of “High Mysticism” and “Scientific Christian Mental Practice” was a student of Mary Baker Eddy and Christian Science, who started her own school, and some argue that she was the founder of the New Thought movement. Mrs. Hopkins’ gift for teaching showed itself early. Before she was fifteen years old, she entered Woodstock Academy (Connecticut) as a student and because of her genius was given a place on the faculty as a teacher.”

Wikipedia had this summary. “Emma Curtis Hopkins (September 2, 1849 – April 8, 1925 age 75) was an American spiritual teacher and leader. She was involved in organizing the New Thought movement and was a primary theologian, teacher, writer, feminist, mystic, and healer, who ordained hundreds of people, including women, at what she named (with no tie to the Christian Science church in Boston) the Christian Science Theological Seminary of Chicago. Emma Curtis Hopkins was called the ‘teacher of teachers’ because a number of her students went on to found their own churches or to become prominent in the New Thought Movement.” “Emma Curtis Hopkins was born Josephine Emma Curtis in 1849 in Killingly, Connecticut, to Rufus Curtis and Lydia Phillips Curtis. She worked as a secondary-school teacher, in math, science, and the languages,

and married George Irving Hopkins on July 19, 1874, which, by law ended her teaching career. Their son, John Carver, was born in 1875, graduated from the merchant marine academy and died in 1905. Her husband divorced her in 1901. She discovered Christian Science in 1883 when a neighbor healed a member of her family of a difficult respiratory illness’ and later broke away, teaching and healing patients a broader understanding of mental healing and mysticism until her death, in her family home, in 1925... Those who studied with Hopkins included the Fillmores, founders of Unity; Ernest Holmes, founder of Religious Science; Malinda Cramer and Nona L. Brooks, founders of Divine Science; and Harriet Emilie Cady, author of Unity’s cornerstone text Lessons in Truth.”

(en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Emma_Curtis_Hopkins). From the site findagrave I learned that she died April 8, 1925 and was buried in the High Street Cemetery in Dayville. There are a number of entries on the web if you care to see her picture and want more information about her life and writings.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian November 2021. Special thanks to Kathleen Flaherty for the heads up about Emma Curtis Hopkins and Marilyn Labbe for Transcript extracts. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or contact the Killingly Historical Society at www.killinglyhistorical.org. Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

ACT students respond to pandemic with collaborative visual art

WILLIMANTIC — While experiencing the isolation and anxiety brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, students at EASTCONN’s Arts at the Capitol Theater (ACT) collaborated on “The Lemon Tree,” a large mixed media artwork that can be viewed at East Brook Mall in Mansfield Center starting on Thursday, Nov. 11 as part of Windham Arts’ Abstract Art Exhibition.

The 19 artists – Mikey Aston, Kelly Avery, Tiara Azeez, Jay Barbeau, Calista Bochicchio, Olivia Briggs, Kayleigh Brousseau, Kyle DaRos, Savanna Dawson, Ella (Sal) Durkee, Mykailla Hills, Nessa Jacobs, Drihan Kimmel, Shawn McDaniel, Sarah Murrey, Morgan Potter, Sevy Redding, Jeylisha Velez and Denisse Zamudio-Reyes – are all students at ACT, a public, performing arts magnet high school with free enrollment for Connecticut students.

“We are all isolated in little pods, masked, headphoned, microphoned, connected, virtual, hybrid, distant, and thoroughly disconnected from what we loved,” the artists said. “Anxiety was high, motivation was low, and it seemed like the whole school year was destined for the garbage heap.”

The eight-by-four-foot artwork consists of pieces of recycled plastic, hot glue, cardboard, acrylic, found objects and tree branches affixed to plywood during the 2020-2021 school year.

The idea behind “The Lemon Tree,” the artists said, was to gather things that were “bound for the recycling bin – plastic bottle caps, forks, fast food toys, and other scraps of the disposable transience of everyday life” into something more permanent.

“The process of making ‘The Lemon Tree’ was both wonderful and revolting,” said ACT student Jay Barbeau.

“Washing trash from our own bins was gross, but gluing it together and painting it felt harmonious and natural... The fruits of our labor are definitely paying off and sharing them is very enthralling for an art student and my class of artists alike.”

Windham Arts’ Abstract Art Exhibition runs at the Coffee Break Gallery at the East Brook Mall (95 Storrs Rd., Mansfield Center) until Nov. 28. An opening reception will be held on Thursday, Nov. 11 from 6-7:30 p.m. Many of the pieces will be for sale.

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.

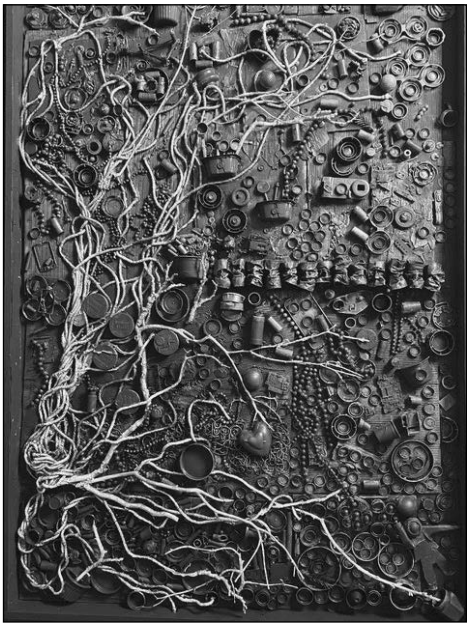


Photo Courtesy

“The Lemon Tree,” a mixed media artwork that can be viewed this week at East Brook Mall in Mansfield Center, was created by students at EASTCONN’s Arts at the Capitol Theater magnet school.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Nov. 1: Brown Creeper, American Woodcock, Barred Owl, Great Horned Owl, Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Raven, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Bluebird, Golden-crowned Kinglet. Visit ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home.

ACT students, Windham Theatre Guild collaborate on “All Together Now!”

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Celebrating Local Theatre,” joining more than 2,500 theatrical organizations from all 50 states and over 40 countries who will simultaneously perform their own local productions.

Performances will take place at Arts at the Capitol Theater (896 Main St., Willimantic) on Nov. 12 & 13 at 7 p.m. and on Nov. 14 at 2 p.m.

“All Together Now!” features songs from theatrical licensor Music Theatre International’s (MTI) catalogue of musicals including “American Idiot,” “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory,” “Come From Away,” “Company,” “Guys and Dolls,” “Into the Woods,” “Les Misérables,” “Little Women,” “Oliver,” “Once on This Island,” “Ragtime,” “Sister Act,” “Songs for a New World,” “Thoroughly Modern Millie” and “Waitress.”

The show will feature performers and a creative team comprised of individuals from both WTG and ACT. MTI created the revue for theaters worldwide to use as a local fundraising event performed over the same weekend.

“MTI’s ‘All Together Now!’ is about bringing people back to the theatre, whether as audience members or cast, crew and musicians,” said MTI President and CEO Drew Cohen. “The revue features songs from the world’s most iconic musicals, so there is definitely something for every-

one to enjoy. Our goal with this worldwide event is for organizations to provide hope, inspiration and excitement to their communities through the transformative power of musical theatre.”

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for students (plus a \$1 processing fee for each ticket) and can be purchased by calling 860-423-2245 or visiting www.windhamtheatreguild.org.

Seating will be on a first come, first served basis and at least one seat will be required between each party. Per the Town of Windham’s mask mandate, all audience members will be required to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.

ACT is a public, performing arts magnet high school administered by EASTCONN. ACT is currently recruiting academically motivated students who will enter grades nine through 12 in the 2022-2023 school year. To learn more about ACT or to download an application, visit www.eastconn.org/act or call 860-465-5636.

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.

www.ConnecticutsQuietCorner.com

Loos & Company employees now 100 percent vaccinated

POMFRET — At aerospace and medical manufacturer Loos & Company, we understand that employees are the most valuable assets to our company. As a committed employer of more than 240 employees from many Eastern Connecticut communities, we are dedicated to the health and safety of our employees.

Based on this, Loos & Company, along with parent company Central Wire Industries, announced last summer the requirement that all employees to be vaccinated against the coronavirus by Oct. 29.

We are happy to announce that as of that date, all Loos & Company employees have been vaccinated against COVID-19. Our employees

join the more than 500 additional CWI team members at 11 North American Facilities that are 100 percent vaccinated.

“Like many employers, we have had to make tough decisions related to the ongoing threat of COVID-19 and its variants”, says Paul From, President and CEO of Central Wire Industries. “Over the last 18+ months, we have attempted to stay ahead of the virus and mitigate its impact on our workforce, their families, and friends.”

The vaccine mandate decision was made through the Central Wire Industries’ Board of Directors and top leadership teams based on the guidance of healthcare professionals and industry leaders. The result has been

a success.

“We want a workforce that can feel safe and valued in their careers,” continues From. “We’re a manufacturer standing up for our staff’s health and wellness. From the beginning, we encouraged all local and global businesses to follow our lead and put their employees’ health first.”

According to From, “Unlike many other companies, we truly care about our employees. We offered accommodations to receive their coronavirus vaccinations, like paid time off and an on-site COVID-19 vaccine clinic. We don’t just say the right things, we follow through. We made the tough decision, and the result is that Loos & Company only

lost eight of roughly 240 workers.”

Mr. From feels that this successful program is another example of what makes Central Wire, and Loos & Company, the best employer in Eastern Connecticut. “My message is simple: do you want to work for a company that cares about your health and safety? I don’t blame you. Loos & Company is that company.”

Loos & Co., headquartered at 16B Mashamoquet Rd. in Pomfret Center, is the industry leader in Made in the USA wire and aircraft cable. Further inquiries can be directed to Paul From, President and CEO, Central Wire Industries via email at paul.from@centralwire.com or phone at 613-326-3001.



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.

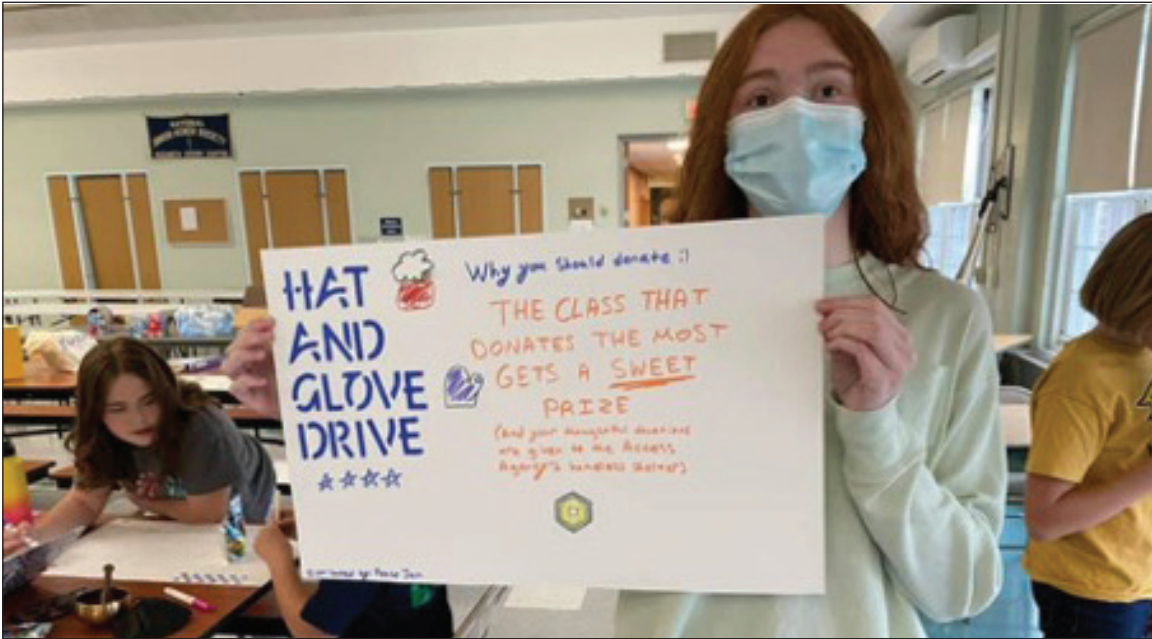
Greater Putnam Interfaith Council to hold virtual Thanksgiving service

PUTNAM — The Greater Putnam Interfaith Council Thanksgiving service will be held Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. on Zoom again this year. The service will feature music and prayers of thanksgiving by members of nine faiths, followed by time for those in attendance to offer their own prayers. There will be a short presentation on the hosting of an Afghan family in the area.

The Zoom link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85288424084>.

For more information and the link, visit the Greater Putnam Interfaith Council Web site.

POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL HOLDS PEACE JAM HAT AND GLOVE DRIVE FOR HOMELESS SHELTER



Peace Jam’s service learning project for Fall 2021 will help keep residents warm at the Access Agency Shelter in Danielson. For two weeks, donation boxes are located in PCS classrooms and the class that donates the most gets a sweet prize! Peace Jam members will offer “Peace Jam Knowledge Shares” on daily announcements about homelessness statistics and other facts to educate their peers and teachers on this issue in Connecticut.

SCOUT

continued from page A1

included presentations from the Thompson Board of Selectmen, State Rep. Rick Hayes, State Sen. Mae Flexer, Congressman Joe Courtney, Sen. Chris Murphy, and President Joe Biden, just to name a few. The ceremony also saw Yurkevicius presented to the public by his own father, John Yurkevicius, who happens to be an assistant scout master for Troop 66 helping see his son through to that very moment.

“Shane has worked hard in achieving his goal. The years have flown by which brings us to this day. I am so proud as a father and as a scout leader,” John Yurkevicius said of his son.

Shane Yurkevicius earned his Scout rank in March of 2015, and quickly worked his way up the ranks, achieving Life rank in December of 2019. Almost two years later, he reached the pinnacle of all Scouting honors. Throughout his scouting career Shane Yurkevicius amassed 35 merit badges and completed his In November of 2020, he began his Eagle Scout project, building and erecting a little library at TEEG, a non-profit social service agency in Thompson, which was official erected in February of 2021. Anne Miller, Executive Director of TEEG, shared her thanks with Shane as she spoke during his ceremony.

“What you accomplished and what you brought to us was far beyond our wildest dreams. It’s the fanciest and most beautiful little library,” Miller said. “You have a real talent, and I’m grateful to be here today and witness this. I’m grateful that scouting is still so alive and well.”

Hayes, of the 51st District, was the only legislator who was able to attend the ceremony in person. A former scout himself, although he did not reach the Eagle Scout rank, Rep. Hayes said it was a true honor to be part of something so special.

“I never achieved the 2 percent that make Eagle Scout. My brother did. I see and recognize a lot of the patches here today,” Hayes said as Shane Yurkevicius stood proudly nearby. “Coming to one of these never gets old to me – What you achieved today is something that’s going to mean more to you as life progresses than it does right now, and I

know it means a lot to you right now. What you wear right now and the title that you carry as an Eagle Scout is something that is going to open doors and will be highlighted on your resume for the rest of your life.”

After the ceremony, Shane Yurkevicius was humble and proud in his accomplishments acknowledging that while it was a proud day, he now has a big responsibility to live up to the expectations that come with being an Eagle Scout.

“It’s something else to see my family and relatives here and then to see the people who have helped me through the journey be there and support me. It’s a really nice feeling to know that they are there and all supportive of me,” Yurkevicius said. “I just need to keep doing what I’m doing. Obviously, I’ve done something right to get here. I need to keep going and make sure to live it up.”



DON'T MISS A THING!

Greek Pastry Sale and Christmas Boutique



Saturday, November 20, 2021
9AM to 4PM

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Sweet Sassafras!

Successful Cabin Capital Campaign



POMFRET — We did it! On Sept. 20, a pledge to complete the renewal of Scarlett Oak with new siding, shutters, screens and vents was made at the 4-H Foundation Board Meeting in Pomfret. This initiative started in early 2018 and this is the last of the fifteen 65 year old overnight cabin renovations to be funded.

The first one completed was Sassafras in girls area sponsored by 4H campers and Jewett City Savings Bank Foundation. To keep costs down, Foundation Board members and volunteers from Archambault Insurance Group, Eversource, The Hartford Insurance Group, Savings Institute Bank, Otherworld LARP Group, and SPIROL International did the staining work when the cabins were completed, managing to have fun while still working hard.

White Spruce is being resided now

and with pledges in hand for Eastern Hemlock and Scarlett Oak, they are on the schedule to be completed in the Spring of 2022. We cannot thank all the solicitors, donors and volunteers enough for making this such a success story.

Here is the list of cabin completions and their sponsors:

2018 Sassafras – Thanks to 4H Campers and Jewett City Savings Bank

American Chestnut – Thanks to the Cutler sisters, Louise Pempek, Sanda Ames, Carol Cutler

2019 Sycamore – Thanks to Debra Halbach

Ranch House – Thanks to 4H Campers, Families and Alumni

Paper Birch – Thanks to SPIROL International

2020 Red Cedar – Thanks to Savings Institute, Putnam Savings Bank,

Rebecca and Cyrus Harvey Fund, Judy Bousquet Memorial Fund

White Pine – Thanks to SPIROL International

Douglas Fir – Thanks to the Nelson Family, Honor of Claus, Freeman and Donald Nelson

Sugar Maple – Archambault Insurance Group

2021 Shagbark Hickory – Louise Pempek, Honor of Joe Pempek

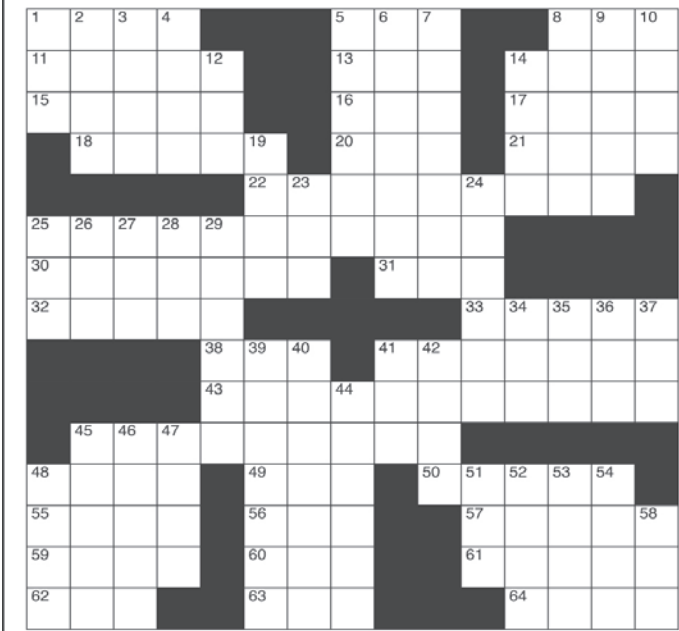
Balsam Poplar – Thanks to the Gallagher Family in Honor of 4-H Service Club

Linden – Thanks to SPIROL International

White Spruce – Thanks to the Newell Hale Foundation

2022 Eastern Hemlock – Thanks to Joyce Burdick in honor of the Herr sisters

Scarlett Oak – Thanks to Jimi Gothreau



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Taxis
- 5. Mega energy unit (abbr.)
- 8. Single-strand break
- 11. Combinations of countries
- 13. Cutting tool
- 14. Small bay in Gulf of Maine
- 15. Actress Lathan
- 16. Chatter incessantly
- 17. Energy, style and enthusiasm
- 18. Simple shoe
- 20. Woman (French)
- 21. Abnormal rattling sound
- 22. Able to change
- 25. Future butterfly
- 30. Used in cooking and medicine
- 31. A street for nightmares
- 32. French modernist painter
- 33. Dishonors
- 38. Integrated data processing
- 41. Frameworks
- 43. Apply new materials
- 45. Where merch is displayed
- 48. American figure skater Lipinski
- 49. Cycles per second
- 50. Oohed and ____
- 55. Dark olive black
- 56. Peyton's little brother
- 57. Plant in the bean family
- 59. A wife: ____ covert
- 60. Born of
- 61. Arranges balls on the pool table
- 62. Title of Italian monk
- 63. Tooth caregiver
- 64. American feminist poet

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Dan Rather's old network
- 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 3. ____ fide (Latin)
- 4. Sign of healing
- 5. Warm-blooded vertebrate
- 6. Model
- 7. Of or relating to plants
- 8. Plant of the heath family
- 9. Where to weigh something
- 10. Internal structure
- 12. ____ Paulo, city
- 14. South Slavic person
- 19. A way to record
- 23. Have already done
- 24. As much as one can hold
- 25. Auburn legend Newton
- 26. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 27. Beloved dog Rin Tin ____
- 28. Midway between east and southeast
- 29. Call it a career
- 34. Former CIA
- 35. American time
- 36. Confederate general
- 37. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 39. Travel downward
- 40. Made red-blue
- 41. Vietnamese revolutionary Le Duc
- 42. Capital of Italy
- 44. Small bunches of flowers
- 45. Calvary sword
- 46. A distinctive, pleasant odor
- 47. A well-defined track or path
- 48. Cereal used to make flour
- 51. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
- 52. Grayish white
- 53. Engrave
- 54. Famed men's basketball program
- 58. Midway between south and southeast



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KILLINGLY MEMORIAL SCHOOL CELEBRATES "SOCKTOBER"



Photo Courtesy

Throughout the month of October, students from the Killingly Memorial School came together in a time of need and donated more than 500 socks to our local homeless shelter, ACCESS. Each night in the United States, an estimated 600,000 adults and children sleep on our streets. Students from Mrs. Lisee's fourth grade class were inspired by this message from a YouTube video influencer, KidPresident, and felt the need to help and give back to our community. After collecting adult and children's socks during the month of October, which we called "Socktober," the fourth graders took a walking field trip to deliver their collections. Students learned more about the history and mission of the shelter and more ways families can help.

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FAIR

continued from page A1

"Shoppers can find gifts in all price ranges. There is something for everyone," said Debby Kirk, fair coordinator. "The Finders/Keepers table will feature gently used toys, games, and puzzles. There will also be bargains on hundreds of holiday decorations at the Forever Christmas table. We ask that all visitors wear masks indoors."

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The First Congregational Church of Woodstock is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. The church is located at 543 Route 169, Woodstock, CT 06281, just south of the Woodstock Common. For more information, go to www.first-churchwoodstock.org or call the church office at 860-928-7405.

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Serve up some spice

Indian cuisine is known for being spicy. While not all regions of India prepare meals that make diners sweat, those that do tend to inspire devotion among foodies who want to test the limits of their spicy food tolerance.

Vindaloo is one dish that fans of Indian cuisine know can be very spicy. Those who want to try their hands at this popular dish at home can prepare the following recipe for “Pork or Lamb Vindaloo” courtesy of Madhur Jaffrey’s “Quick & Easy Indian Cooking” (Chronicle Books).

- Pork or Lamb Vindaloo
Serves 3 to 4
- 1 1/2

tablespoons grainy mustard
(Pommery Moutarde de Meaux)
- 1 1/2

teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 1/2

teaspoons grounder turmeric
- 1/2

to 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1

teaspoon salt
- 1

teaspoon red wine vinegar
- 3

tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1

small onion (about 4 ounces),
peeled and cut into fine half rings
- 6

large cloves garlic, peeled and
crushed to a pulp
- 1 1/4


pounds boned shoulder of pork
or lamb, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2/3

cup canned coconut milk, well
stirred

Combine the mustard, cumin, turmeric, cayenne, salt, and vinegar in a

cup. Mix well.
Put the oil in a large, nonstick frying pan and set over medium-high heat. When the oil is hot, put in the onion. Stir and fry until it is medium brown. Put in the garlic. Stir and fry for 30 seconds. Put in the spice paste. Stir and fry for a minute. Put in the meat. Stir and fry for about 3 minutes. Then add the coconut milk and 2/3 cup water if you are cooking continuously in a pressure cooker, or 1 cup water if you are cooking in the frying pan. (Transfer to a pressure cooker at this stage if that is your intention.) Cover and either bring up to pressure, or bring to a boil if you are using the frying pan. Lower the heat to a simmer and cook for 20 minutes in the pressure cooker and 60 to 70 minutes in the frying pan. PC183825





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– Benjamin Franklin
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November 5, 2021
November 12, 2021

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DATE: Nov. 16, 2021
INSPECTION TIMES: 10:00AM & 3:00PM
Sale of all goods stored in delinquency at AMERICAN SELF STORAGE UNITS. The following named people have until the morning of sale to settle their account, including all subsequent fees pertaining to sale, and to vacate their unit or the unit will be sold to cover debts, Unit# sorted by contents, A33 Paige M. Johnston
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F18 Robert G. Newton
Cash or certified check only. All sales final, Merchan.dise must be removed within five (5) working days of bid acceptance.
Highest bidder must pay a \$100.00 deposit on unit and will be returned when said unit is vacant.
Highest bidder will be notified by telephone the following business day.
November 5, 2021
November 12, 2021

**TOWN OF BROOKLYN
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**
The Brooklyn Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing and Meeting on Monday, November 22, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. held at the Clifford B Green Meeting Center 69 South Main Street Brooklyn, CT and via Web Ex on the following applications:
1. ZBA-21-006 Sean and Lisa Donovan, 3 Bailey Woods Road, Map-32, Lot-12, Acres 1.14, RA Zone. 24' above ground pool and 10' x 12' deck. Swimming Pool is approximately 15' from rear property line. Deck is approximately 15' from the side property line. Requesting variance of section 3.C.5.2.2 and 3.C.5.2.3 from the minimum front and rear yard setback.
2. ZBA-21-007 Joshua Moyer, 14 Kara Road, Map-32, Lot 10, Acres 0.55, RA Zone. Construct a 12' x 24' wooden fabricated shed on gravel base. Requesting variance of section 3.C.5.2.2 from the minimum side yard

setback 15' from side yard property line.
Interested persons may appear and be heard. Written communications will be accepted. A copy of the application is available on the Town of Brooklyn Website. Web Ex meeting information will be included on the November 22, 2021 Zoning Board of Appeals Commission Agenda.
Bruce Parsons, Vice Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
November 12, 2021
November 19, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF bonald H Gelinas (21-00388) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated October 26, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.
Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Donna Kettle, 273 Christian Hill Rd, Brooklyn, CT 06234
Hosea Lefebvre, 273 Christian Hill Rd, Brooklyn, CT 06234 Attorney: ANDREA L TRUPP A, LAW OFFICE OF ANDREA L. TRUPPA, LLC, 880 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281
November 12, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Ruth C Perry (21-00361) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated October 26, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.
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The fiduciary is:
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NOTICE TO CREDITORS
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Alysia Casiano, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
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c/o KATHLEEN ANDREA MC-NAMARA (attorney for Yannoula Ballassi), PROVATAS & MCNAMARA LLC, 16 VAUXHALL ST - STE 203, NEW LONDON, CT 06320, (860)447-1968
November 12, 2021

SPORTS

The pummeling of Plainfield — Killingly football remains unbeaten



Photos Jason McKay
Nate Keefe of Killingly looks back while crossing into the end zone for a defensive touchdown.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The pummeling of Plainfield.

If a movie were ever to be made about the undefeated Killingly High football team's 46-0 victory over Plainfield High on Friday, Nov. 5, that would surely be the title. The big red machine dominated the toothless Panthers in every way possible.

Killingly (7-0) scored on all five of its first half possessions — and on one of Plainfield's — and led, 40-0, at intermission, during which the school's 1981 state championship football team was honored. Killingly scored four touchdowns on the first 11 offensive plays it ran. Killingly had two one-play scoring drives and a two-play scoring possession. Its other two offensive touchdowns in the first 24 minutes came on a pair of seven-play drives.

The second half of the game began with a running clock.

Junior quarterback Thomas Dreibholz threw three touchdown passes for the first time in his career. His first scoring strike of the night went to classmate Ben Jax from 40 yards out on a play where Jax ran a slant-in, got behind the defense, caught Dreibholz's pass and danced into the end zone. Later in the first half Dreibholz connected with senior Jack Sharpe on a 32-yard TD toss, and then hit sophomore Soren Rief with a 5-yard touchdown pass.

Dreibholz was flushed from the pocket on the scoring play to Sharpe and he was being pulled down as he threw the pass. Sharpe alertly came back

for the ball, caught it at the 4-yard line and then backedpedaled into the end zone.

"That's definitely the first time in my career I've scored a touchdown backwards," said Sharpe, who finished the game with 90 rushing yards, which included a 20-yard touchdown run, on 11 carries. "I had no idea where I was on the field when I caught the ball."

Dreibholz confirmed that he is as comfortable dropping back to pass as he looks.

"My confidence passing the ball is through the roof," said Dreibholz, who was 4-of-7 for 82 yards and the three scores. "Coach is always telling me to stay calm and put the ball in the right spot and I feel like I'm doing that."

Killingly coach Chad Neal said he is pleased with Dreibholz's play in the passing game.

"Thomas is playing well, but he's going to have to keep improving. The defensive backs he faces are going to get a lot faster next week and as we move forward," Neal said. "He's also going to see some different looks in the secondaries we're going to see down the road."

Neal confirmed that passing the ball has become a legitimate part of the Killingly offense.

"When teams play man on us and stack the box, we've got to take advantage of it with our play-action pass game," Neal said. "Teams are putting eight and nine guys in the box on us, which means are receivers are facing one-on-one coverage. That makes our play-action



Killingly's Terrance Allen takes down Plainfield's Brayden Riezr with an open-field tackle.



Quarterback Thomas Dreibholz of Killingly scans the field for an opening while his teammates successfully block Plainfield defenders.

pass game much better because they can't get help over the top."

Rief turned in another solid performance against the Panthers, rushing for 66 yards on five carries and scoring on runs of 6 and 35 yards. Senior captain Nate Keefe scored, too, scooping up a Plainfield fumble and racing 30 yards into the end zone late in the first half.

Possibly overlooked because of Killingly's high-octane offense, which is averaging 43 points per game, is the play of the defense, which recoded its second straight shutout in the win over Plainfield and is allowing an anemic eight points per game.

"Our defense is tremendous," said Neal, who acknowledged that a big part of that defense has been the play of junior nose tackle Terrance Allen.

Allen had another big night against the Panthers, finishing with 11 tackles, six unassisted. Four of his unassisted tackles resulted in lost yardage for Plainfield's offense.

"It was a team effort. I just did my job," Allen said of Killingly's defensive effort in the win, a defensive effort which held Plainfield to 80 total yards, 43 coming on the Panthers' opening drive. "I just did what coach told me to do and it worked out. I felt like I had a couple of good hits. This

was a good statement win for us. I feel like we played well as a team and as a defensive unit."

Neal smiled when Allen's name was mentioned.

"Terrance can really move and he's a big, strong kid. It takes two or three guys to block him, which allows our linebackers to run free," Neal said. "And, because he can move, he makes a lot of plays for us. Opposing offenses have to at least have the center and guard blocking him all the time. Terrance's athleticism is unbelievable for a guy his size."

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Woodstock Academy makes history in girls' cross-country

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Woodstock Academy girls' cross-country team went where none of its predecessors had gone before — a second-place finish in the Class MM state championship race, held Monday, Nov. 1 at Wickham Park in Manchester.

Guilford High won the girls' Class MM meet.

Linsey Arends led the way, finishing seventh in a time of 20 minutes, 49 seconds. The senior, who earned All-State honors by finishing in the top 10, was followed across the finish line by teammates Lauren Brule (junior, 14th), Julia Coyle (sophomore, 21st), Carah Bruce (junior, 24th), and Leah Castle (senior, 30th).

Because the top two teams in each of the class meets qualify for the State Open championship, Woodstock Academy — the entire team, not just a couple of run-

ners — was back at Wickham Park on Friday, Nov. 5 competing again. It is the first time in the history of the Centaurs' girls cross-country program that the team competed as a whole in the State Open meet.

Arends, who entered the State Open race eyeing a top-25 finish and the invitation to the New England Championship that goes with it, finished 40th, crossing the finish line in a time of 20:09, which was 40 seconds faster than she covered the same course on Monday.

As a team, Woodstock Academy finished 15th in the State Open champi-

onship.

Boys' Cross-Country

With only three seniors on the team, Woodstock Academy coach Peter Lusa was more than happy that his Centaurs brought home a sixth-place finish from the Class MM boys state championship meet, held Monday, Nov. 1 at Wickham Park in Manchester

First-year senior Ian Hoffman led the way with a 16th-place finish in 18 minutes flat. Junior Vincente Bastura finished 24th and freshman Christian

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SPORTS

Davis, Saucier complete two-headed monster at QB as Centaurs roll past Griswold

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Academy football team scored on its final possession of the first quarter and its first possession of the second quarter, led by three scores at halftime, and cruised to a 27-6 win over Griswold/Wheeler on Saturday, Nov. 6, at the Bentley Athletic Complex.

Included in the victory over the Wolverines was the fact that the Centaurs’ upcoming opponents must now prepare for a two-headed monster at the quarterback position.

Senior signal caller Ethan Davis was his usual self, completing 6-of-15 passes for 78 yards and a touchdown and also running for 33 yards on six carries.

Also getting time at quarterback for 6-2 Woodstock was junior Braiden Saucier, the son of Centaurs’ head coach Sean Saucier, who is a starting wide receiver for the team. Saucier was just 3-for-9 (for 145 yards) throwing the ball but his completion total included scoring strikes of 64 yards — to Davis, who had switched positions with him — and 54 yards to classmate Carter Saracina.

“It was amazing,” Braiden Saucier said of his touchdown pass to Davis. “Everybody knows that Ethan can catch the ball and I can throw it, too, so we switched it up. Ethan’s an incredible athlete. We have confidence putting him anywhere on the field.

“At the beginning of the game we realized we had one-on-one matchups in the passing game,” continued Braiden Saucier, who is considered WA’s “air” apparent at QB. “They were pressing our outside guys so we just put him out there and he just ran for it and I gave him a shot and he made the play.”

Coach Saucier was pleased flip-flopping Davis and his son paid dividends.

“It was nice to see Braiden get in there and execute. When we realized they were in man coverage the whole half it was a matter of our athletes versus theirs,” Coach Saucier said. “Braiden did a good job of finding the open receiver. It was good. It worked well.”

Coach Saucier acknowledged the fact that playing his son and Davis at two different positions gives upcoming opponents something else to plan for.

“It’s something new that people have to prepare for; that’s another piece of it,” coach Saucier said. “If you’ve got Ethan, teams have to prepare for Ethan. Then, if you can flip the script, teams have to prepare for something different. That’s a big part of it, too, making teams prepare for multiple things.”

Braiden Saucier’s TD tosses, and a 23-yard scoring scamper by junior Payton Barna (seven carries, 50 yards)



Woodstock Academy’s Payton Barna celebrates a successful run into the end zone versus Griswold.

allowed the Centaurs to take a 21-0 lead into halftime.

Woodstock’s momentum was slowed in the third quarter — literally and figuratively — when Griswold/Wheeler took the second-half kickoff, put together a 14-play, 43-yard drive that took 10:57 off the clock but resulted in no points.

“We faced a similar situation in our first game against Windham,” coach Saucier said. “If you leave a double-wing team on the field — if you don’t get first downs and keep the ball — if you give it back to them, you may not see the ball again for half an hour.”

Ironically, the Centaurs had a chance to get Griswold off the field early in the drive. The Wolverines faced a fourth-and-four at their 41-yard line, but ended up not having to try and convert the play because a Woodstock lineman was called for encroachment.

“It’s very difficult,” coach Saucier said of the methodical, determined way Griswold moved down the field. “It takes the wind out of you. Not only physically but also from a momentum and energy standpoint, too. The whole place was quiet when they were on their drive. It was a little boring, watching that drive, to be quite honest with you.”

After Griswold scored, midway through the fourth quarter, to cut the Woodstock lead to 21-6, the Centaurs marched down the field, their 10-play, 50-yard drive culminating in a nine-

Carter Saracina of Woodstock Academy makes a catch while running down the field with a Griswold defender on his tail.

yard touchdown pass from Davis to senior Jackson Goetz (four catches, 53 yards), pushing the WA lead to 27-6 with 1:20 remaining in the game.

The entire Woodstock defense played well and limited Griswold to 123 total yards on 55 plays. While the Centaurs were racing out to their 21-0 halftime lead, the WA defense was holding the Wolverines to a total of 37 yards.

“The defense has really cranked it up this season,” senior defensive end Huck Flanagan said.

“That’s what Woodstock has been about for a while. I’m glad we could [make a statement] as a defense.”

Flanagan did not wear his customary No. 55 blue and gold Woodstock Academy game jersey against Griswold, opting instead — on Senior Day — to



Woodstock Academy’s Ethan Davis springs into the air for a catch while Ethan Fraser of Griswold’s defense tries to intercept.



wear No. 50. “My Grandpa recently passed away and he wore No. 50 when he played high school football at Leominster [Mass.] High,” Flanagan. “He couldn’t be here for Senior Day so I thought I’d put on his jersey number and take him out on the field with me.”



Photos Courtesy

The Woodstock Academy girls’ cross-country team poses for a photo after finishing second overall in the Class MM state championship race, held Monday, Nov. 1, at Wickham Park in Manchester. The team consists of, from left, head coach Joe Banas, tri-captain Carah Bruce, tri-captain Leah Castle, tri-captain Linsey Arends, Lauren Brule, Julia Coyle, Tessa Brown, Sydney Lord and assistant coach Josh Welch.

NOTEBOOK

continued from page A6

Menounos 40th for WA.

Volleyball

Woodstock Academy won a set but lost its Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Division I-II tournament quarter-final match to Lyman Memorial High, 3-1, in Lebanon on Monday, Nov. 1.

Lyman, which won its 14th straight match with the victory over the Centaurs, took the first two sets, 25-16 and 25-11, before Woodstock rallied to win the third, 25-19. The 17-2 Bulldogs closed out the match with a 25-14 fourth-set win.

Freshman Liliana Bottone had 12 digs and five aces in the loss for Woodstock, which finished the season 5-16. Junior Ellie Nunes added 12 digs and senior Annarose Avery had seven assists.

Elsewhere, in ECC Division III-IV Tournament quarterfinal action on Monday, Nov. 1, New London defeated visiting Killingly High, 3-0, while Plainfield defeated visiting Putnam High, 3-0.

Boys’ Soccer

Ellis Tech lost its first-round game in the Connecticut Technical Conference (CTC) tournament, 3-2, with penalty kicks determining the outcome of the game. The game was tied, 2-2, at the end of regulation and after both 10-minute “golden goal” overtime periods.

Sophomore Cody Cramer and junior Jake Pichie both scored in regulation for the Golden Eagles, while senior Sebastian Fauxbel recorded an assists. Senior goalkeeper Bret Gile made 10 saves in net for Ellis Tech.

The 13-2-2 Golden Eagles, the top seed in the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Class L



Woodstock Academy senior Linsey Arends, center, navigates the Wickham Park cross-country course during the State Open championship race on Friday, Nov. 5. Arends was the Centaurs’ top finisher, placing 40th.

Tournament, hosted a second-round game on Thursday, Nov. 11 against the winner of the Masuk High-RHAM High first-round game, which was played Tuesday, Nov. 9. RHAM is an acronym for the official title of the school, which is Regional Hebron, Andover, and Marlborough. The regional public high school is located in Hebron.

Girls’ Prep Basketball

Ines Goryanova poured in 17 points, made seven steals, and dished out four assists to lead the Putnam Science Academy’s girls’ Prep Black team to an 84-47 season-opening victory over the visiting Community College of Rhode Island on Friday, Oct. 29.

Janeya Grant and Paris Kirk finished with 13 points each while Genevive Wedemeyer chipped into the win with 10 points and four steals, and Norwich native Jada Mills added eight points and three steals.


Boys’ Prep Basketball

The Woodstock Academy Gold team enjoyed an easy opening-night win, defeating visiting We Believe

Prep, a first-year program located in Waterbury, 96-47, on Wednesday, Nov. 3.

The Centaurs, who scored 60 points in the second half, were led by Walter Andrew (14 points), Simon Hildebrandt (12 points) and Jalen Bradberry (10 points). Every Woodstock Academy player in uniform for the game played and scored.





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PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

The origins of Veterans Day

We would like to begin this Editorial by sharing words of gratitude to our veterans. Thank you for your valor, your sacrifices and your courage to defend our rights and to keep us safe.

In honor of all those who have served our country, past and present, we thought we would share some history behind how Veteran’s Day came to be.

The Great War was officially over when the Treaty of Versailles was signed in June of 1919, in France. Actual fighting ended seven months earlier between Germany and Allied nations, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Since then, Nov. 11, 1918 is known as “the war to end all wars.”

In 1919, President Wilson proclaimed Nov. 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. Wilson stated, “To us in America, the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country’s service and with gratitude for the victory, both because of the thing from which it has freed us and because of the opportunity it has given America to show her sympathy with peace and justice in the councils of the nations.”

In June of 1926, Congress officially recognized the end of WWI, passing a resolution. Part of that resolution stated, “Whereas it is fitting that the recurring anniversary of this date should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations; and Whereas the legislatures of twenty-seven of our States have already declared November 11 to be a legal holiday: Therefore be it Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), that the President of the United States is requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the officials to display the flag of the United States on all Government buildings on November 11 and inviting the people of the United States to observe the day in schools and churches, or other suitable places, with appropriate ceremonies of friendly relations with all other peoples.”

In 1938, Nov. 11 became a legal holiday to celebrate all veterans in WWI and WWII. Armistice was replaced with Veterans. In 1954, Veteran’s Day would honor all veterans in all wars.


LETTERS POLICY

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

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



Insightful



POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY MOORE

Everybody loves a good story about an underdog— who overcomes impossible odds. Many movies are made with the central character as the underdog. This is the accepted structure of most screenplays in Hollywood today. The protagonist must be up against impossible odds, facing a literal or a figurative giant.

Real-life underdogs include George Washington, Susan B. Anthony, Harriet Tubman, King David, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, and Gandhi, to

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We should be moving in the direction of civility

To the Editor:

Recently, I came upon a sign hanging on a Woodstock resident’s fence, facing out into the street, with a vulgar message regarding President Biden. I recognize the value of freedom of speech, but am concerned when it sinks this low and, in particular, when it is in full view of impressionable children who walk or ride by (a school bus route goes past the house).

As responsible adults, we should strive to set positive examples of how to engage in expression of political viewpoints. Crude

language is not the means to do so and only serves to diminish the messaging and promote a similar response from those with opposing perspectives. Haven’t we had enough negative communication? Wouldn’t we all like to return to a more civil and respectful exchange of ideas? Seems to me that would be a move in the right direction for all concerned.

PATRICIA SUSLA
WOODSTOCK

The American Experiment is in danger

To the Editor:

Our nation is going through a dark period, the darkest in many decades. The enemy is not foreign. Rather, it comes from within. Citizens of our own country, urged on by Donald Trump, staged a violent insurrection to destroy our form of government. The “American Experiment” is in mortal danger.

One of our two major political parties has gone off the rails. It has no scruples and no integrity. Its members have to sign on to the big lie that President Biden didn’t defeat Donald Trump in the 2020 election or risk being ostracized and being opposed by radical Republicans in the next electoral cycle. The party is based on lies and intolerance and has no policies or moral principles. Well, maybe obstructionism can be considered to be their only policy.

GOP members of Congress who dare oppose Trump’s wishes and that of their so-called leaders, are embraced by Trump and traipse around the country holding rallies with fellow haters. Sociopaths like Paul Gosar post videos depicting violence against fellow Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and President Biden.

Not only does Republican leadership refuse to condemn its members advocating violence, it actively accepts them. Perhaps even more troubling and damaging, Democrats don’t seem to have the will or the courage to take

action against these radical Republicans. Not very long ago, it was inconceivable that Republicans would call for stripping its members who voted for the infrastructure bill of their committee seats but allow Gosar to continue his outrageous glorification of violence against his opponents. If any of us were the object of violence depicted by Gosar where we work, the perpetrator would be fired.

I’ve written previously about the hate speech that prevents intelligent discussion. Trump, Taylor Greene, Gosar and others like them have normalized such speech and now are normalizing calls for violence.

And this deplorable behavior has trickled down to the local level. Local school board members and election officials across the country have been subjected to death threats. Rep. Anne Dauphinais compared Gov. Lamont to Hitler, and compared some of his actions to book burning and Nazi concentration camps. That is profoundly insulting to survivors of the Holocaust, and anyone with a conscience. It also demonstrates an astounding lack of judgment.

We are indeed in the midst of a dark period of American history. American representative democracy isn’t guaranteed to survive just because it survived previous crises. The people will have to overwhelmingly reject the GOP’s lies, embrace of white supremacists and tolerance of violence to stem the current downward trajectory.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
KILLINGLY

Remembering and thanking our veterans

To the Editor:

Veterans Day is here. However, every day should be a day for us to remember not only those who over the years and generations have served our country, but those who are doing so right now. This is no more poignant than as America is still engaged in military actions and has men and women in uniform stationed around the world in places familiar and unfamiliar, friendly and unfriendly, near and far.

According to the Department of Defense, there are approximately 1.4 million active-duty and over 590,000 national guard and reserve U.S. military personnel. Although a majority of the military is stationed in the U.S., there are military personnel deployed around the world, in 150 countries. The three places where the most American military personnel are deployed include Japan, Germany, and South Korea.

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates approximately 18 million veterans are alive. Veterans comprise approximately 7 percent of the U.S. population. Approximately 25 percent of veterans are disabled.

Our veterans and soldiers may not ask for recognition. We may know little about what they have done and are doing as we focus on our own busy lives. But, such does not diminish the gratitude we owe them. We may agree or disagree with military policies and actions, but we all agree that we must continue to support the men and women in uniform who voluntarily stand on sentry (there is no mandatory draft, after all) to protect us from those who continuously intend us harm – 9/11 and the ongoing security threats not being forgotten.

Think about how precious our liberty is and how many people elsewhere do not have it. We are free to vote in elections, as evidenced by the elections just held in towns in our communities. Think about how often we take for granted the rights outlined in the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the Constitution (with its amendments). As world history and even U.S. history have shown – and current world events still remind us every day – such freedoms do not exist by themselves. They require people to defend them at all times. Until there is a day that we can truly and realistically beat all swords into plowshares, then our country must make both swords and plowshares. We must invest smartly in our military and we must think wisely and carefully before we put American soldiers and sailors in harm’s way.

Veterans Day is more than just a sole reminder of our fellow Americans in the armed forces. It is also a reminder that a civil society is neither civil nor a society if there are only some rights for some people some of the time or if some rights for some people are under threat or being diminished. We all must do our part to keep strong our rights and liberties for all American citizens all of the time.

Veterans Day reminds us that there is never-ending, hard work to keep secure and free our ways of life. Men and women in uniform, ready to defend us, are always needed. We, who have been given this liberty and safety, must always cherish it.

For our veterans – thank you.

JEFFREY A. GORDON
WOODSTOCK

Giant killers

name a few.

Only a tiny percentage of us want to slay giants. If you are called to battle giants in a given industry or profession, learning lessons from those who have done the same will be necessary.

Arreguin-Toft is a political scientist who calculated the odds of weaker countries winning wars against stronger countries. He found that when weaker countries fight by the same rules as the stronger countries, they only win 28% of the time. When they fight using unconventional methods, they win 64% of the time.

Vivek Ranadive never played

or coached basketball before. In his first year as coach of his twelve-year-old girl’s basketball team, he brought his inexperienced team to the national championships and almost won. How was this possible? He refused to play the traditional game of basketball. Instead, he taught his girls to play using unconventional methods.

George Washington sometimes fought the British using conventional warfare but often used guerilla tactics to win. If he had fought only using European-style tactics, he wouldn’t have won.

Never play by the Giant’s rules.

My favorite underdog is King David of ancient Israel. He was unappreciated by his family and considered unworthy of greatness. Until he decided to become a giant killer, he spent most of his time alone in the pastures tending his father’s sheep.

During this time, the Israelites were at a standstill against the Philistine army and were powerless to stop a giant named Goliath, nine and a half feet tall.

Every day Goliath emerged from his tent, dressed in armor, carrying a spear, a sword, and a weapon slung on his back. Daily he terrified

Believers



BEYOND THE PEWS

BISHOP JOHN W. HANSON

His blood pressure was spiking, and his mind was racing, as the doctor approached his hospital bed. Eager to face the music, he bypassed the obligatory greetings and blurted out, “It’s bad, isn’t it? I know I’m dying. How long do I have?”

To his surprise, the doctor answered calmly, almost cheerfully, “You did have a heart attack and we have determined that several of your arteries are blocked.” Then with a smile, he added, “But it is not time for us to despair. With surgery, you may live another twenty or thirty years.”

His wife, who had been keeping vigil by his side, squeezed his hand, as if to say, “Give the man a chance. Hear him out.” But all he could think was, “What a shocking thing to say! How could the man be so chipper? Was he naïve or uncaring? What gave him so much hope and optimism?”

The answer is simple: the doctor was a believer. He had studied the principles of medicine and he knew how the human body worked. He had read and heard many stories of successful heart surgeries. Most importantly, he had performed many surgeries that resulted in healed hearts and healthy patients. He didn’t know the future, but he knew enough, and had enough experience, to be confident that this man’s heart condition was, very likely, not going to be fatal.

Similar conversations take place every day at schools, in businesses and in restaurants and living rooms. Someone whose heart has been broken, someone who is grieving loss, or someone who is worried by what they are seeing take place in our chaotic world, asks, “It’s bad, isn’t it? Are we going to make it?”

If they ask a believer, they might get a “chipper” response. At first, it may seem like the believer is just naïve, or an incurable optimist. But believers are not airheads or clueless simpletons. Many of them have studied the principles of the universe and they know how the body, soul and spirit work. Often, they have had extensive personal experience with difficulties, loss and abuse. But they have also experienced the kind of heart surgery that only God can perform. It has changed their life so profoundly that they can calmly say, “It is not time for despair.”

Unbelievers might be understandably skeptical. Those who have not yet experienced the miracles of grace might mistakenly think believers are simply not willing to face reality. But, look around. After thousands of years there are millions of believers, from every people group and socio-economic class. There are highly educated believers and widely traveled believers. There are artistic believers and analytical believers. There are thousands of believers who were once very skeptical of the chipper, hopeful people who talked about grace and sang about heaven. But, at some point, like the heart patient, they took a chance on the Great Physician and their heart was forever changed.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries located at 1366 Riverside Dr. (Route 12) in Thompson. To watch uplifting sermons, please visit www.ActsII.org.

the Israelites and challenged their best soldiers to face him in battle. Nobody was up to the challenge.

One day, David was called out from the fields and sent to bring food to his brothers. When he arrived, he learned of Goliath’s challenge and accepted. He was mocked and made fun of, but David paid them no mind. He prepared himself for the fight of his life.

The Israelites tried to outfit David with traditional battle weapons like heavy armor, a sword, and a spear. They wanted to get him to fight the way Goliath wished to fight. David

The Quiet Corner is on the rise

It may be euphoria of being out and about, but I am seeing our area in an especially positive light. The elections are over, and while some rancor may live on, those elected will settle down to do the jobs sought. None of it is easy, and anyone who plans to dominate via hot air will receive a rude awakening. We can turn back our clocks, but we can't turn back the hands of time. Change is inevitable and our area is in a good place.

A week ago, contractors erected a sign – Airline Trail State Park, on the bridge over Route 169 in Pomfret. The bridge is far more attractive than one might expect from a



NANCY WEISS

public works project. I chatted with the woman in charge of safety and traffic control for the contractors. She told me they used new techniques and products to make the bridge look beautiful. It has a special look and feel.

While we talked, people whizzed along the Airline Trail on bikes, on foot, with kids, with dogs or alone. It was busy, as are the land trust properties. At the annual meeting of the Wyndham Land Trust, maps illustrated recently acquired plots. If all goes as planned, another 1,000 acres will be protected. It was especially thoughtful that a trail to Bull Hill in Woodstock was

named in honor of Ron Tillen, an extraordinary volunteer. Once, I wouldn't have believed land preservation would happen here on this scale.

The census indicates a fairly slow growth rate, but people are moving here. I meet them all the time. They come because they like the pace of life and, except for a blip around 3 p.m., very little traffic. Real estate is less expensive, although there isn't much to buy. There is more school choice than most places and our schools, public, parochial, private and special needs, are good. There are no country clubs, which is fine with me, and there is the Hale YMCA, that is open to everyone. I love the place. That's where I meet the people who've moved here.

My husband is a "foodie" and hard to please about markets and restaurants. He is quick to say this is not a food desert. There are farm to table operations and robust Farmers' Markets. The orchards are packed, attractive and places for families to do something together. We've got restaurants offering various cuisines, inside and outside seating and breweries, wineries and distilleries. Once our choices were limited to pizza or pot roast. That's no longer true. I buy prepared food at Sweet Peas and add my own touches when I don't want to cook, and that's just one option among many for hybrid takeout.

The last two years have taught us the importance of access to health care. We've

got Day Kimball Hospital, a fine community hospital. I'm on the board and I have learned plenty about the complexity of the operation. We have seasoned doctors and new ones coming. We have skilled nurses, new equipment, high safety and cleanliness ratings. Best of all, it is there, 24/7 every day of the year. It is a true asset.

The area was rural, then textile mills dominated, then there was a lull, which is over. The industrial parks are full. Everyone is hiring. People drive here to go out to dinner. Strangers stop me to ask me where to shop.

Is it perfect? Not by a long-shot, but is it good, hopeful, poised to get better. I tell those new people – it is a very fine place to live.

Gift ideas for bird watchers and gardeners



Photo Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company

Roosting pockets provide some needed insulation for birds and are easy for them to enter and exit.

Give a gift that provides beauty, entertainment, and health benefits throughout the year. With the recent increase in people gardening and bird watching, what could be more perfect than a gift that supports both interests?

Birds visiting feeders, munching on the coneflower seeds in the garden and perching in the shelter of evergreens help brighten the long, often dreary days of winter. Just like gardening, bird watching helps us connect with

nature, reduces stress, and elevates our mood. Plus, the gardeners on your list will appreciate the help birds provide managing insect pests. Protein-rich insects and spiders are an essential part of the diet of 96 percent of North American terrestrial birds.

Growing a landscape filled with plants that provide seeds, berries and shelter is a great way to attract these welcome guests to our gardens. Providing additional sources of food, water and shelter can increase the number and diversity of the winged visitors.

Help your gift recipient create a bird feeding station so they can easily watch the birds and enjoy their songs. Include a variety of feeders suited to the birds they want to attract. Select feeders that are easy to fill and clean and protect seed from weather and squirrels.

You'll attract a wide range of birds with tray and platform feeders. Look for ones like the Gardener's Supply Twigs Platform Bird Feeder which has a cover to protect the seed from rain and snow and a removable mesh floor for easy cleaning. Platform feeders like this, with excellent drainage, help minimize the risk of wet seed sprouting or supporting bacteria and fungi that can harm the birds. Help keep seeds safe and fresh with regular cleaning and by only providing enough seed for a day or two.

Hopper or house feeders protect seed



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

against the weather and bird droppings. But if the seed gets wet, the closed environment is perfect for bacteria and fungi to thrive. Plus, they are more difficult to clean.

Tube feeders are cylinders with perches and feeding ports.

Those with perches above the openings attract birds like goldfinches and chickadees that can feed upside down. Those with small perches discourage large birds from feeding. Select tube feeders with small ports for smaller seeds like Nyjer thistle and ones with larger openings for large seeds.

Look for ones with wire surrounds to keep out squirrels and those that are easy to clean like the Gardener's Supply Cleaver Clean Tube Feeder with a removable bottom. Reduce problems on other tube feeders by blocking the bottom of the tube that extends below the lowest feeding port. Seed and water can collect there, increasing the risk of fungi and bacteria.

Clean feeders regularly with a 10% non-chlorine bleach solution, commercial birdfeeder cleaner or mild solution of unscented dishwashing soap. Wash the inside and outside of the feeder, perches and feeding ports. Once cleaned, rinse with clear water and dry before refilling.

Provide some shelter from wind, snow, rain, and predators for birds spending the winter in your landscape. Supplement what trees and shrubs provide by including a few roosting boxes and pockets. Gardener's Supply fair

trade roosting pockets (gardeners.com) are attractive, easy to hang, provide some needed insulation and are easy for birds to enter and exit.

Make sure to provide water throughout the year. Those in colder climates will need to add a heater, bubbler, or aerator to prevent the water from freezing. Providing fresh water reduces the calories and body heat a bird uses when melting snow and ice.

Select a birdbath that can be left outside year-round to avoid cracks and leaks as water freezes and place it in a sunny area. Add a few stones so the birds can take a sip without getting totally wet. Keep these clean just as you do during warmer months.

Looking for more ideas? Help your favorite birder prepare for the nesting season with a gift of one or more birdhouses. These make attractive additions to any landscape while providing more homes for visiting songbirds.

When selecting the right gift for your favorite bird watcher or gardener consider creating or expanding your own bird-friendly landscape. A small investment in creating a bird habitat reaps wonderful benefits all year round.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and 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. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



FINANCIAL FOCUS

LAURENCE HALE
INVESTMENT ADVISER

As 2021 comes to a close, you're likely thinking about all that happened this year in your life. Was it a momentous year for you? Did you get married, have a baby or buy a home – maybe even all three?

As you reflect back on these happy accomplishments, don't forget to also consider how they'll impact your finances going forward. In particular, right now you'll want to be aware of how they may affect your 2021 taxes so you can make any necessary adjustments before year's end and make sure to take advantage of any new tax benefits you may be entitled to claim.

If you got married:

If you got married this year (or will be married by the end of the year), you should compare the tax liability for yourself and your spouse based on all filing statuses that you might select. Compare the results when you file jointly and when you file separately to determine which results in lower overall taxation.

It's also important to be aware that generally speaking, if you sign a joint return, you take full

responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained in your return. If your spouse intentionally underreports his or her income, you, too, could be held liable if the IRS sends a deficiency notice with accompanying interest and penalties. In some cases, however, you can be relieved of responsibility for your spouse's errors. This relief is known as innocent spouse relief.

If you file a joint tax return, it's also possible that the entire tax refund due on your return will be used to offset certain debts of your spouse, including student loans, taxes, and child support arrearages. Because it may be inequitable for you to lose your portion of the tax refund simply because your spouse owes money, the IRS allows you to file an injured spouse claim (in some cases) to claim your money.

If you had a baby or adopted a child:

If you had a baby or adopted a child in 2021, congratulations! In addition to that precious new member of the family, you may also qualify for one or more child-related tax

credits, including the child tax credit, the child and dependent care credit, and the adoption tax credit.

The child tax credit is a per-child tax credit against your personal income tax liability. For 2021 the credit is \$3,600 per child for kids 5 and under, and \$3,000 per child for kids 6 to 17. (But note that this is a temporary increase from the previous credit of \$2,000 per child; the credit is set to go back to \$2,000 per child in 2022.) The child tax credit begins to phase out if your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) exceeds a certain level. In 2021, the credit begins to phase out for MAGI in excess of \$75,000 for single filers and \$150,000 for married couples filing jointly.

The child and dependent care credit provides a tax credit for working individuals to help offset the costs of paying for care for a child or dependent with disabilities. The amount of the credit depends on your income and how much you paid for qualifying care. For tax year 2021, you can claim up to \$8,000 in care costs for one qualifying child or dependent and up to

full armor and armed with a sword, David would have lost his life.

Giant killers in modern times won't be using slings, swords, and spears. Our weapon will be the knowledge of the giant's weakness and a refusal to play the game the way the giant wants to play it.

If you choose to be a giant slayer, then remove all doubt and replace it with faith. People will laugh at you but do not pay attention. Sprint into battle, knowing your victory is secure.

Had a major life event in 2021? It could affect your taxes

The next step: build a strategy for 2022 and beyond.

If you've had any of these major life changes happen to you this year, you already know how quickly life can change, and how those changes can affect other areas of your life in unexpected ways – including your finances.

That's why it's so important to have a financial strategy in place and a financial professional to guide that strategy as your life continues to change and evolve. At Weiss, Hale and Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors we use our proprietary Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well™ strategic process to help our clients pursue their financial and life goals along every stage of life's journey. See how we can help you create your own strategy at whzwealth.com and contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com to create a strategic financial plan for you and your business.

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MOORE

continued from page A8

found the weapons awkward; it was then he decided he wasn't going to play by Goliath's rules. David opted to use a sling and a stone.

Slings in David's time weren't like the slingshots we used as kids. Ancient slingers could defeat infantry armed with swords and armor most of the time. A good slinger could penetrate the skull of his enemy.

When the contest began,

David didn't hesitate. He sprinted to the fight, quickly finding a few smooth stones; swinging his sling, he released the rock and sunk it straight into Goliath's forehead. David walked over to Goliath and chopped off his head using Goliath's sword.

This was a great victory that cemented David's position as a giant killer, and he went on to become the greatest king in Israel's history.

How did David win? He refused to play by the giant's rules. Indeed if David had approached Goliath dressed in



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Unvaccinated? Need a booster shot?

Northeast District Department of Health

COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Schedule

Tuesdays 10:00-2:00

Thursdays 2:00-6:00

NDDH Office, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn

Walk-ins welcome • FREE • No insurance needed • No appointment needed for Tues/Thurs clinics

Vaccines Available	For Ages	# of shots needed to be fully vaccinated	WHEN you can get a COVID-19 booster	WHO can get a booster shot
Pfizer	12+	2 (21 days apart) <small>Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian</small>	At least 6 months after a second dose of Pfizer or Moderna	For Pfizer/Moderna: Those 65 years & older 18+ who live in long-term care setting 18+ who have underlying medical conditions 18+ who work or live in high-risk settings
Moderna	18+	2 (28 days apart)		
Johnson & Johnson	18+	1	At least 2 months after a J & J vaccine	For J & J booster: Ages 18+

You may have a preference, but you can receive **any** authorized COVID-19 vaccine as a booster.

In addition, "BOOSTER-Only" Clinics being held BY APPOINTMENT:

Wednesdays, 11/10, 11/17, 12/1 and 12/8

2:00 – 6:00 pm

Quinebaug Valley Senior Citizens Center

69 South Main Street, Brooklyn (front of building)

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<https://www.vaccines.gov/>
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MEET

Everett & Nancy Cowley

THE COWLEYS AND THEIR BELOVED DOG REAGAN RESIDE AT COUNTRY LIVING AT WESTVIEW COMMONS, CONTINUING THEIR REMARKABLE LIFE EXPERIENCES.

Nancy: We first met as teenagers—high school sweethearts to this day!

Everett: I enlisted in the United States Marine Corps shortly after that, and it taught me a great deal about myself and others. I learned so many important lessons as a Marine and as a service member. I entered the Marines as a Private, and 30 years later I retired from service as a Major.

Nancy: He served on several tours in several different Asian countries, and when Everett was stationed in the United States between these service assignments we had housing on those bases and our family moved around together. Eventually, we made Woodstock, CT our home; living there for 44 years. During that time I made connections with dog show enthusiasts and I started judging shows and breeding dogs. Our dog Reagan is from our last litter. We love to take 4 or 5 walks every day around the dedicated walking paths on Westview Commons' grounds.

Everett: Reagan has adapted quite readily to living here—we all have. It's a good life!

Nancy: In our earlier years; going from base-to-base and meeting a new community each time gave us confidence when it was time to move into Westview Commons. After being here for a year, we take pride in warmly welcoming all of the new residents that join this community.

Everett: Living at Westview Commons gives us a lot of comfort, stability, and freedom to enjoy life. I'm happy to have this location as our home base now. Our move here has proven to be the right decision. Westview Commons is accommodating, it's full of friendly residents with similar interests, and it's easy to fit in.

Everett, Nancy, and Reagan in the Great Room at Westview Commons



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