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# PUTNAM VILLAGER

Friday, September 17, 2021

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## Local family makes donation to benefit Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of Day Kimball Healthcare



PUTNAM — The Solomon family has donated \$1,500 to the Northeast Connecticut (NECT) Cancer Fund of Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) in memory of the life of their family member

Photo Courtesy

Shawn Toussaint, Shannon's cousin; Bettye Jo Pakulis, Shannon's aunt; Linda Pacheco, Shannon's aunt; Ann Russo, Shannon's aunt; Zoe Labonte, Shannon's daughter; Roberta Solomon, Shannon's mother; JoAnn Labonte, Shannon's mother-in-law; Kristen Willis, director of development, Day Kimball Healthcare at the Deary Memorial Recognition Garden, located on the grounds of DKH's Schneider Center at 309 Pomfret Street across from the Day Kimball Hospital campus. The garden was created by members of the Deary family in 2007 to memorialize, honor, and recognize cancer survivors and loved ones lost to cancer.

and DKH's 2018 NECT Cancer Fund Walk & Race Angel Ambassador, Shannon Labonte.

The Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH provides financial assistance to more than 200 neighbors in need each year. Assistance is used to help pay for cancer-related screening and treatment services to individuals living in Northeast Connecticut who otherwise may not have the financial resources to access needed medical care.

Coinciding with what was an annual walk and race to benefit the fund for over 30 years, the DKH Walk & Race Committee traditionally selected a local cancer survivor whose story embodies the fight against cancer and the importance of supporting local, high-quality cancer care to serve as the annual

Please Read **DONATION**, page **A7**

## Savoring the Flavor of Putnam

BY JASON BLEAU  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM – For the second year in a row two tasty events in Putnam were combined into one on Sunday, Sept. 12, with Savor the Flavor and the Empty Bowls event both taking place downtown.

The events are usually held separately but in 2020, they were combined due to the limitations of the COVID-19 pandemic which forced the cancellation of the Empty Bowls fundraiser last March. In 2021, the events stayed together

with the united goal of helping support a well-known public entity, Daily Bread and the Interfaith Human Services of Putnam.

Sheila Frost, Business Coordinator for the Putnam Business Association which spearheaded the Savor the Flavor event, said keeping both events together for 2021 just felt right as both help support the same cause.

“it’s a side-by-side fundraiser but the funds raised from both events go to Interfaith Human Services of Putnam and Daily Bread. The Savor

the Flavor portion of it is a food competition with apples and we had the most participants ever this year, 19 in total that submitted a food or beverage. The beverage portion is new this year. Some people came only purchasing wristbands for the Savor the Flavor event but then saw the wonderful bowls and purchased them as well,” said Frost.

The Empty Bowls portion of the event featured handmade products from Sawmill Pottery, who traditionally

Please Read **EMPTY BOWLS**, page **A2**



Photo Jason Bleau

The Tiffany family pose for a photo at the Thompson Rod and Gun Club.

## Rod and Gun Club hosts benefit for Thompson teen

BY JASON BLEAU  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON – The Thompson Rod and Gun Club was a busy place on Saturday, Sept. 11 as the community came together to help support a local family and Thompson student in need.

Alicia Tiffany, a 17-year-old Tourtellotte Memorial High School student, was diagnosed with Leukemia in April of 2021 undergoing chemotherapy at Boston Children's Hospital and the Jimmy Fund Clinic. The Thompson Rod and Gun, of which her father Russell Tiffany is a member, decided to do something to help and put together a special event with food, music, raffles and more to raise funds to pay for Alicia's treatment.

Ray Williams, a member of the Rod and Gun Club's Board of Directors, said the club usually goes out of its way to help its fellow members and those struggling in their local community. In fact, the event for Alicia was not the first time they had helped the Tiffany family.

“We just put this together to help the family out. They're having a rough time and we wanted to help them out. Her father is a member. He had a stroke last year and we did a benefit for him too. They're situation really hit the members here hard, and we do stuff like this a few times a year to help out the community as much as we can,” Williams said. “The turnout is phenomenal. The donations from the

Please Read **ALICIA**, page **A3**



Photos Jason McKay

Putnam's Bailey Touchette attempts to out-manuever Ethan Lackner of Killingly

## Hat trick helps Ponciano win coaching debut for Killingly

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — Led by Ethan Lackner's hat trick, the Killingly boys' soccer team shook off a case of the first-game jitters and defeated neighboring rival Putnam High, 4-0, in the pouring rain on Thursday, Sept. 9.

The victory, in the season-opener for both schools, was career win No. 1 for Derek Ponciano, who was making his debut as the Killingly boys' varsity head coach. Ponciano, the varsity assistant coach in the Killingly girls' soccer program for the last seven years, was named the boys' head coach in June. A 2008 graduate of Killingly,

Ponciano is also head coach of the Killingly girls' lacrosse team and a physical education/health teacher at the school.

Lackner, a junior, staked Killingly to a 1-0 halftime lead, scoring in the 22nd minute of the game off an assist from classmate Harrison “Harry” Giambattista.

“Harry sent a through ball over the top and it dropped in right in front of the goal and then it bounced all over the place,” Lackner said. “It ended up popping out to me and I headed it back in and it came right back to me again. At that point I was able to

Please Read **SOCCER**, page **A6**



## *The news a century ago*



# KILLINGLY AT 300

**MARGARET  
WEAVER**

Once again, I've been browsing through old newspapers from 100 years ago. It's hard to imagine how different life was for the residents of Northeastern Connecticut in 1921. Since I grew up in Pennsylvania and didn't arrive in Northeastern Connecticut until 1969, I never saw the Danielson area and its roads before the construction of the highway so found the following articles quite interesting and thought-provoking. "Residents along East Franklin and Broad streets have been surprised during the past two days at the heavy stream of traffic passing through these thoroughfares and over the Old Furnace route to South Killingly. This heavy traffic is being caused by the diversion of the travel that usually passes over the route from South Killingly into Reynolds street, which route is now closed by the road building operations that are underway. Some complaints have been heard lately relative to speedy drivers of a certain type of light touring car leaving their machines standing on state highways and no lights showing on the cars. This is forbidden by law and is a very dangerous practice as it is apt to involve other cars in collision." (Norwich Bulletin, Sept. 15, 1921, p. 6; newspapers.com).

Looking at an earlier paper from Sept. 7, 1921, I found a little more about the new highway. "It was finally decided on Tuesday to make an important change in the route of the new state highway between Danielson and South Killingly. Under this change the present highway

will be abandoned at a point near what is known as the Burquist cottage and the new state highway will follow a route across a big open field in the rear of the Meadow Brook Inn and rejoin the present route near the residence of Edward Hall at the foot of the big hill leading into South Killingly. This change will cut out a big arc in the route of the present highway and eliminate one sharp and dangerous curve. Contractors who have the job of building the road have done no more as yet than cut brush along the route of the new highway at points where it does not follow the present road. It is understood that there will be material changes in the grade of South Killingly hill, which is now a hard, steep pull for cars, so that it will be easier... (missing) (Norwich Bulletin, p. 6; newspapers.com). "It is anticipated that about one year will be required to complete the state highway from two miles east of Danielson to Little Rest, so the route probably will be open to travel by September next." (Nor. Bul., p. 6, Sept. 15, 1921; newspapers.com).

The same paper provided a light, humorous article. "Bride and groom 'kidnapped' in Putnam. Alphonse Bourcier, former chief of the fire department chuckled Tuesday morning as he recalled how on the preceding day he had kidnapped two full grown people--a bride and groom by the way--and took them down to Danielson in a light motor truck that he had nicely curtained in so as to escape observation by the police, who did not get an inkling of what was going on Mr. Bourcier says, until the dark deed, committed in broad daylight, had been accomplished. The kidnapping stunt was pulled off in the Providence street section of the city (Putnam) and as a matter of fact was evidently regarded as an experience highly favorable to them by those who were kidnapped and saved from the designs of relatives and friends who had planned a merry hazing for them."

Did you go to the Brooklyn or Woodstock Fair this year? You might reflect on how different the logistics of getting animals there were more than 100 years ago. "Instead of being driven over the highways, as in former years, valuable cattle now being shown at fairs in this territory are transported by motor truck." (Norwich Bulletin, Sept. 16, 1921, p. 6; [newspapers.com](http://newspapers.com)).

Have you thought about the fact that in 1921 Prohibition was in place in our nation? “A representative of the state prohibition enforcement organization has been in Danielson giving the town an inspection.” (Ibid.)

Alcohol was not the only “guilty pleasure” under attack in 1921. “Literature calling for a ‘smokeless’ nation by 1925 is finding its way into this territory, and many smokers, mindful of prohibition, are already considering taking up knitting, which there is hope will not be banned.” (Norwich Bulletin, Sept. 16, 1921, p. 6; newspapers.com). I do enjoy the humor in some of these old articles!

“Repairs that have been under way for more than a year are nearing completion at the Dyer dam power plant of the Connecticut company. A washout during 1920 put the water power system out of commission and it has not since been in use. The repairs that have been made have cost the company many thousands of dollars. At the present time machinery is being changed over and it is expected that the water will again be in use for developing power in the near future. The Dyer dam plant furnished power for the lines in this section and even for the operation of (trolley)cars as far away as Willimantic.” (Norwich Bulletin, Sept. 16, 1921, p. 6; newspapers.com).

Except for the Covid hiatus, we pretty much take for granted that every fall will bring a myriad of high school football games. Although the papers did not say why, apparently neither Killingly nor Putnam had fielded football teams for a while. "Killingly High school's

football team is scheduled to appear here this Saturday afternoon in its first game of the season and a team representing the New London Vocational school will furnish the opposition. This will be the first football game in which a Killingly High school team has appeared in years. A score of years ago football was one of the adopted sports at K. H. S., but it lost its vogue and has not been of interest to athletic teams of the schools for years past only in an incidental way. This year's revival will be watched with interest by formers students and players, many of whom know what it is to line up against a heavier and more experienced team and to take the treatment that goes with such a combination. The sport, while strenuous, is valuable in many ways." "Putnam High school is to have a football team this fall, for the first time in years. This indicates a revival of this strenuous fall sport in the high schools of Windham county, for it recently has been noted that Killingly High school also has a football team this fall for the first time in nearly two decades. Upwards of a score of candidates came out to try for places on the Putnam High team which is being coached by Sub-master Charles L. Southey." (both articles from Norwich Bulletin, Sept. 24, 1921, p. 6; newspapers.com).

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly  
*Municipal Historian September 2021. For additional information email me at [margaretmweaver@gmail.com](mailto:margaretmweaver@gmail.com) or contact the Killingly Historical Society at [www.killinglyhistorical.org](http://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.-1 p.m. Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety](http://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.*

## EMPTY BOWLS

continued from page **A1**

spearhead the fundraiser each winter. The bowls were made available for purchase on Main Street where participants in the Savor the Flavor event could then use them to taste the delicious samples set up by eateries throughout downtown Putnam. For those who didn't participate in Savor the Flavor the bowls were a nice souvenir that helped support a worthy cause.

While both events have proven to be quite successful together, Frost doesn't foresee this

being a permanent marriage and expects Empty Bowls to return to its March date once the pandemic has allowed for a return to normal.

"I think eventually, the Empty Bowls would like to get back to doing a stand-alone event because they normally supply food and soup to go with their fundraiser. However, with the Savor the Flavor part of the event, the restaurants are certainly in favor of the people coming to them. It's a lot easier for the restaurants to put a table out front and serve customers," said

Frost. "I think the restaurants are so pleased with the theme. Apples was a great choice, and they always like to do some-

thing unique. It gets the kitchen excited to do something different. We really enjoy it. It's great weather, it's a great time

of year, everyone has a smile and they're all supporting a great organization."



Photos Jason Bleau

**The Courthouse on Main Street in Putnam provides an apple-themed food sample to a visitor.**



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Hand-made bowls from Sawmill Pottery were once again made available for purchase as part of the annual Empty Bowls fundraiser.



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# Preparing for retirement emotionally: A timeline and tips



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Retirement paves the way to a new and exciting chapter of our lives. Like popping the cork from a long-awaited champagne bottle, this is the moment of relief when, for the first time ever, we now have ample time to travel the world, take up new hobbies, and scratch whatever itch we've been ignoring. But for many of us, the thought of leaving our jobs forever can be daunting. After all, our careers play an important role in shaping our identity. And to suddenly cut the cord means we have to find something else to fill the void.

This isn't helped by the fact that the word 'retirement' can feel quite limiting – when it's anything but. Today's typical 60 somethings are nothing like those of a generation ago, when men could expect to live up to their late sixties, and for women their mid-seventies. Since then, life expectancy has improved incrementally. The current life expectancy for men in the U.S. is 75, and for women it's 85.

For many retirees these days, retirement isn't a wind-down phase, but a whole new beginning. And just as new beginnings in the earlier phases of life required preparation, so too does this one.

Financially speaking, you might need to consider how to manage your retirement fund more strategically. This is

where solid financial planning and strategic investments and wealth management come into play – these are essential to enabling you to live the kind of lifestyle you want, for longer than might have been expected by prior generations.

But how do you prepare for such a massive transition emotionally? According to gerontologist Ken Dychtwald, it's all about mindset. (You can read more about Dychtwald and his work on his website, [agewave.com](http://agewave.com).) He advises people approaching retirement to do so as they would a career: set goals, visualize a ladder to climb, and use these targets as motivation to move closer towards your next destination.

This is important because, as human beings, we're very goal oriented and without goals, we lack direction. Unfortunately, the statistics show how detrimental it can be to find yourself without purpose and meaning at retirement: depression is prevalent in 22 percent of men and 28 percent of women at the age of 65 and over.

If you're unsure of how to even begin to plan for retirement, then following some of the principles from Professor Dychtwald's five phases of retirement could help you map out your journey.

Imagination (15 years before retirement): Being at least fifteen years away from finishing work for good, retirement might not seem like a priority. At this point, you're more likely to be making sure that career aspirations are met, bills are paid, and your children are able to get through university. But it's important to think about your retirement savings at this stage to ensure you have the financial stability

to live well post-retirement. This is where you can start to dream big and imagine the retirement you really want to have.

Anticipation (three years from retirement): Now you're planning to turn retirement it into reality... this is where preparing emotionally is just as vital as preparing financially. A great way to do this is by trying to develop a network of retirees whom you can trust for advice so they can share their experience of how they coped with the process. Make a note of the goals you want to accomplish and what measures need to be put in place in order to achieve them.

Preparing (one year before retirement): The new beginning is near! Now's the time to start developing concrete steps. Ask yourself what you're going to do during the first week of retirement and what you plan on doing on a day-to-day basis. Make a plan of what you want to achieve in the first six months and talk it through with your partner or loved ones. Visualizing the practicalities of this new phase will make it seem less daunting when it eventually arrives.

The liberation phase (first year of retirement): Your working life is finally over! This is the stage when you're likely to feel the most excited, relieved, and liberated. You can finally begin to explore new opportunities, travels, and hobbies. Unfortunately, this honeymoon period will eventually fade, but remember, this is natural. Dychtwald states the importance of staying physically active and maintaining strong social ties with people at this stage.

Reorientation (three years

into retirement): Being this far into retirement, you'll hopefully be settled into a new routine and you may even have taken a step back and started to think about what you want to offer the world. This is the part where creating a legacy for the next generation can be top of mind. Whether that's by sharing your knowledge and wisdom with others, or by thinking more carefully about the financial gifts you're leaving children and grandchildren, this is an opportunity for you to decide what impact you want to leave on the world.

Wherever you are on this timeline, it's never too late to invest in the kind of life you want to live.

Retirement isn't the end of the road; dream big and don't be afraid to chase after your deepest desires. That may mean making adjustments to your overall financial planning and wealth management strategy.

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## VILLAGER ALMANAC At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Sept. 6: Virginia Rail, American Redstart, Black and White Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Northern Waterthrush, Carolina Wren, Trail's Flycatcher, American Kestrel, Bobolink, Barred Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, House Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Bluebird, Barn Swallow, Ovenbird, Scarlet Tanager, Indigo Bunting. Visit [ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home](http://ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home).

## Eastern student Samantha Orlowski of Woodstock competes on women's volleyball team

WILLIMANTIC — Sixteen student athletes are competing on Eastern Connecticut State University's women's volleyball team this fall 2021 season.

Among the athletes is junior Samantha Orlowski of Woodstock, number 11, who plays Setter and majors in Communication.

### ALICIA

continued from page A1

community for the raffles and we have five bands donating their time, it's just great. It means the world to me and all of us how the community pulled together to make this happen."

Everything from the pig served as the main course to the raffle prizes and music from Counterfeit Cash, Rebel Rebel, Alternate Groove, Wild Combo and End of Days as well as the services of DJ Crow was donated for the event which brought a packed house to the club. Alicia Tiffany's parents were humbled by the support.

"It's incredible," said Russell Tiffany. "If it wasn't for the club and the friends I've made along the way none of this would be happening, I'm sure of that. I'm pretty involved with the club so I'm a pretty good member here and made a lot of good friends."

"It's overwhelming," Alicia's mother, Kelly Tiffany, added. "Both Boston Children's Hospital and the Jimmy Fund Clinic, even the school system, everybody just came together. They've helped us the whole way through."

Alicia herself was lost for words about the event and said for those who are going through similar struggles she just implores them to stay strong through it all.

"I'm thankful. That's all I can say," she said. "Positivity is always the answer with this."

With a limited season last year due to COVID-19, the women's volleyball team is ready to get back to their regular schedule under the guidance of Head Coach Megan Silver-Droesch.

More more information on the team, visit <https://gowarriorathletics.com/sports/womens-volleyball?path=wvball>

At the end of the day the event was considered a massive success raising more than double the original financial goal to help the Tiffany family continue their fight.



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### Villager Newspapers

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# In the Studio

CYNTHIA SAARI

“In the Studio” is a newer feature for the Villager Newspapers. The Quiet Corner is home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, handcraft, performing art, art education, and graphic art. In this semi-weekly series, we’ll talk with our artist neighbors and learn about their careers, current projects, and connections to our towns. We’ll also learn some “artspeak” terms in our conversations, demystifying some of those “art-ist words.”

Today we’re talking with designer Zach Merrill, a native of Putnam currently living in Pittsburgh. Next year, Merrill’s printed clothing will be shown at Fashion Week in Pittsburgh—a major achievement and recognition in the industry. Zach’s story combines his love of two art forms: music, and graphics. Growing up in Putnam and attending local schools, Zach took a graphics course as a student at QVCC. Post-graduation, Zach toured with bands as a drummer and started designing tee shirts and other concert merchandise.

**Zach, I love the grass roots origin of your design success. I understand that you taught yourself screen printing, working in your garage here in Putnam. Tell us a bit about that.**

I grew up in the local hardcore music scene where band



Future.

merch [merchandise] is such a huge part of the environment—I’ve formed lifelong relationships with people after recognizing a shirt they were wearing. Being in a band, I wanted to cut out the middle man and learn the process of making clothing myself. Both of my parents are artists so there were always graphic related projects around the house—screen printing was a natural continuation of that environment for me. It provided both a creative outlet, as well as a means to support myself. I think I made just about every mistake I possibly could when I started teaching myself. Thankfully, I learned from all of them and over time my skill set grew.

**Describe life on the road**

**with your band.**

I could write a book about tour life but, in a very condensed way...it was freedom. Despite the difficulties that come from living a majority of your life on the road, I really can’t imagine my life without that time. For as many of the hundreds and hundreds of shows I played and booked, I have a lesson from each one. Touring and being a part of that music scene has really played a huge part in who I am.

**What kind of music did you play and what did your designs look like for the band?**

I played mostly heavy music, melodic hardcore. I played drums and eventually did vocals. Design wise that music scene has a very particular graphic style, which I love: a lot of large, simple, and bold text-based designs. Collegiate style fonts and live show photos printed in white on black T-shirts were the go-to aesthetic. I can spot a hardcore band shirt from a mile away.

**Take us through the making of your “XP Forever” collection and where you came up with the name.**

XP Forever is my exploration into using my technical printing skills to push the limits of screen-printing in fashion. Born out of the frustrations of a pandemic, XP Forever is a collection of unisex street wear staples, printed with bold graphics from retro sci fi magazines and bright, overlapping colors. I still use what many consider to be an “old” computer from the early 2000’s for all my digital graphic work. It runs Windows XP as the operating system, the collection name is a nod to that.

**What is in your “look book?”**

My current look book is a collection of photographs showcasing some of the first pieces of clothing I created. It is full of bright colors and kaleidoscopic images of models showcasing the clothing in a futuristic prismatic element. In such a digital age, I think having something physical in print for others to experience is important. The photography and edits are by Mad Sierra in Pittsburgh, Pa.



Ryand Dibble and Tamara Racic wearing two of my first printed pieces for this brand.

**Do you have a company philosophy or mission statement?**

I have an unstoppable need to create. That is the core of my brand. Creating. When someone wears a piece of my clothing, they can’t help but feel something. For many they feel a sense of empowerment; others are inspired. My mission is to create and invigorate.

**What kind of fabrics and sizing do you use?**

The majority of my fabrics are cotton. I use mainly 100 percent cotton and cotton-polyester blends. All of my garments are WRAP (worldwide responsible apparel production) certified. Fast fashion and exploitation within the fashion industry is a huge problem. My brand is not perfect, but I do everything I can to use ethical fabrics and garments. Size inclusivity is also really important to me, and I currently offer sizes XS-3XL.

**What are you currently working on?**

Currently I am working on finalizing details for my collection and planning a video + photo shoot. As a brand owner, you have to be responsible for every aspect of your business. For me, it is a constant endeavor to maintain a sense of balance between all of those aspects.

**Do you sew, or have helpers?**

Learning to sew is one of my many recent endeavors! I’ve got the basics down so far and plan to utilize the new skills in upcoming collections. The majority of the garments I currently use are already completed by the time I start to print them. My partner Hannah (who has a history in vintage fashion, and is known for using natural dyes in her work) has been a great help with any small sewing alterations.

**Can someone buy a piece of XP Forever clothing now? If so, how?**

Pieces from the collection will be available online this Fall. I also have ready-to-wear options available on my Web site at [www.zachmerrillprints.com](http://www.zachmerrillprints.com). The majority of my pieces are one of one. Commission info is also available on my Web site.

**I found some images on zachmerrillprints.com—please describe them for us.**

The first photo is the cover of my current look book titled “Future.” It features Tamara Racic in custom printed joggers.



me posing in front of my created clothing.

The second photo (l.) is of models Ryand Dibble and Tamara Racic wearing two of my first printed pieces for this brand.

The third photo (r.) is of me posing in front of my created clothing.

**What’s next for you?**

So many things! I have a photo and video shoot planned for late September to support the release of my new collection, many business and branding updates, Pittsburgh Fashion Week in March, and for that I’m designing a new collection diving deeper into the idea of old technology. I’ll be incorporating more sculptural couture elements, lights, and luminescent inks. On top of all that, there will be a handful of pop-up shops through the fall and collaborations with local retail shops who will carry my brand.

**Thanks, Zach, for this fascinating peek into your career. (And thanks go to your mom for telling me about you!) I’m going to look for your work during the March 2022 Pittsburgh Fashion Week.**

**Word of the day**

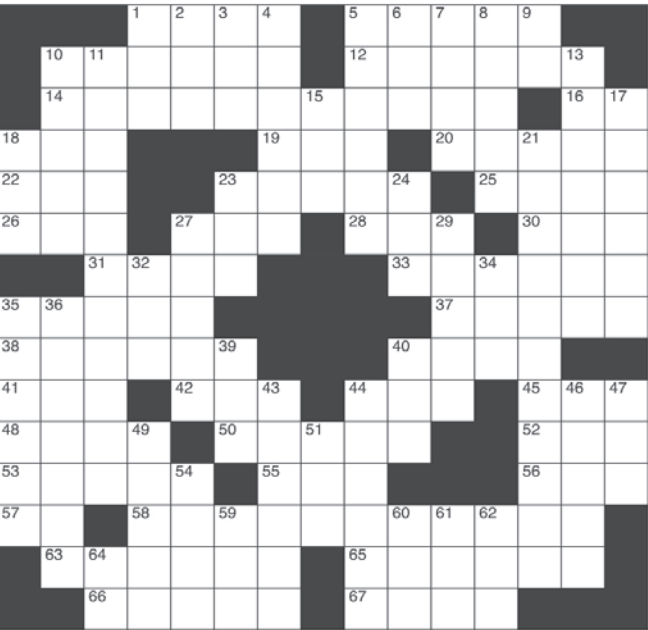
Screen Printing is a time-tested stenciling technique used to apply inked images to a wide variety of substrates. Using a stencil, or a series of stencils, the ink is distributed to the desired area(s) by being pressed through a porous screen, hence the name **Screen Printing**. ([formaxprinting.com](http://formaxprinting.com))

A Lookbook is [now] a digital catalog which is designed to convey the latest collection of a brand (fashion, interior, cosmetics, etc. ([designermost.net](http://designermost.net))) It functions as a portfolio.

**Couture**

1 : the business of designing, making, and selling fashionable custom-made clothing the world of Paris couture. 2 : the designers and establishments engaged in couture (Merriam-Webster)

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

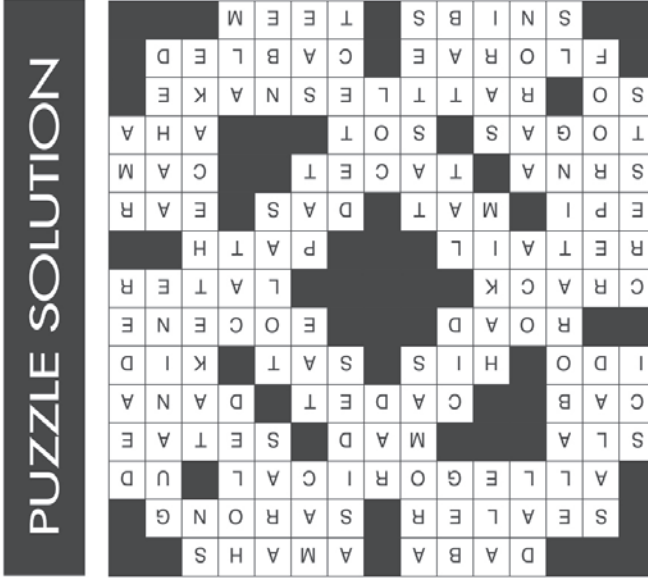


## CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Religion native to some in China
- 5. Nursemaids
- 10. Coats a porous surface
- 12. Garment of long cloth
- 14. Containing a broader message
- 16. University of Dayton
- 18. Patti Hearst’s captors
- 19. Insane
- 20. Bristlelike structures in invertebrates
- 22. Taxi
- 23. Trainee
- 25. Comedian Carvey
- 26. Some couples say it
- 27. Belong to he
- 28. High schoolers’ test
- 30. Young goat
- 31. You drive on one
- 33. Denotes a time long ago
- 35. Space between two surfaces
- 37. By and by
- 38. A way to sell
- 40. A line left by the passage of something
- 41. Indicates near
- 42. Where wrestlers compete
- 44. Prosecutors
- 45. Body part
- 48. Soluble ribonucleic acid
- 50. Indicates silence
- 52. NFL’s Newton
- 53. Ancient Roman garments
- 55. Drunkard
- 56. Expression of satisfaction
- 57. Thus
- 58. Noisy viper
- 63. Plants of a particular region
- 65. Communicated with
- 66. Latches a window
- 67. Swarm with

## CLUES DOWN

- 1. Split pulses
- 2. Brew
- 3. Ask humbly
- 4. Distinctive smells
- 5. Digressions
- 6. Partner to cheese
- 7. Father of Araethyrea
- 8. Made a cavity
- 9. Tin
- 10. Appetizer
- 11. Presenting in detail
- 13. Compound in guano and fish scales
- 15. Cool!
- 17. “\_\_\_ than a doornail”
- 18. Popular literary form \_\_\_ fi
- 21. Be the most remarkable
- 23. “Final Fantasy” universe character
- 24. Buffer solution
- 27. Muslim physician using traditional remedies
- 29. Fantastical planet
- 32. S. American plant
- 34. Domesticated animal
- 35. The tops of mountains
- 36. Expression of disapproval
- 39. Skeletal muscle
- 40. Game show host Sajak
- 43. One’s interests
- 44. Identify the existence of
- 46. Partner to “oohed”
- 47. Does not accept medical help (abbr.)
- 49. Hammerin’ Hank
- 51. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks
- 54. Elaborately draped garment
- 59. Check
- 60. Car mechanics group
- 61. One point east (clockwise) of due north
- 62. Austrian river
- 64. A command to list files



## Eastern student Emily Brown of Putnam named to summer 2021 Dean’s List

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University

recently released its Dean’s List for the summer 2021 session.

Among the students is Emily Brown of Putnam, who majors in Psychology and English.

In order to be named to the Dean’s List, Eastern students must achieve a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.5 or higher.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
860-928-1818 EXT. 103  
[frank@villagernewspapers.com](mailto:frank@villagernewspapers.com)  
  
BUSINESS MANAGER  
RYAN CORNEAU  
860-928-1818 EXT. 102  
[ryan@salmonpress.news](mailto:ryan@salmonpress.news)  
  
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR  
JIM DiNICOLA  
508-764-6102  
[jdinicola@stonebridgepress.com](mailto:jdinicola@stonebridgepress.com)  
  
EDITOR  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
860-928-1818 x 323  
[brendan@villagernewspapers.com](mailto:brendan@villagernewspapers.com)  
  
PRODUCTION MANAGER  
JULIE CLARKE  
860-928-1818, EXT. 305  
[julie@villagernewspapers.com](mailto:julie@villagernewspapers.com)

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## Local Eastern students graduate in summer 2021

WILLIMANTIC — Eighty students from Eastern Connecticut State University received their undergraduate diplomas in summer 2021.

Harrison Graham of Brooklyn graduated Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

Sarah McMerriman of Brooklyn graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

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Bring a furry friend and “join the pawty” as we celebrate survivors,honor canine caregivers and those battling cancer, and memorialize loved ones lost to this disease.

Supporting Canines for Cancer Care helps to provide financial assistance to residents of Northeast Connecticut who need resources to obtain cancer services and treatment, and who otherwise may not have the financial resources to obtain needed medical attention.

For more information and registration fees visit [www.daykimball.org/canines](http://www.daykimball.org/canines)

Registration Fees	
Pet & 1 Adult over 18	\$15.00
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Kids Under 12	Free
Crafters <small>(Mom &amp; Pop, No Brick and Mortar Store)</small>	\$30.00
Vendors <small>(Brick and Mortar Store, Vet, Groomer etc.)</small>	\$50.00



High School Notebook

Davis helps lead Woodstock Academy football to victory

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Senior quarterback Ethan Davis scored five touchdowns and passed for a sixth to lead visiting Woodstock Academy to a come-from-behind 40-27 victory over Windham High, on Friday, Sept. 10, in the season-opening football game for both schools.

Davis rushed for 153 yards in the game, a total which included touchdown runs of 1, 2, 11, and 37 yards. He also completed 14-of-21 passes for 144 yards.

On the final play of the first half Davis hit Carter Saracina with a 35-yard touchdown pass to help give the Centaurs a 13-12 halftime lead.

In the fourth quarter, following his one-yard quarterback sneak for a score, which put Woodstock Academy (1-0 overall and in Eastern Connecticut Conference Division II play) ahead,

33-27, with 47 seconds to play, Davis sealed the victory with a 25-yard interception return for a touchdown.

**Killingly Defeats Waterford, 42-14**  
Senior Jack Sharpe rushed for 140 yards and three touchdowns to help lead visiting Killingly High over Waterford High, 42-14, on Friday, Sept. 10, in the season-opener for both teams.

Sophomore Soren Reif was instrumental in the win as well, with a 72-yard interception return that led to a second-quarter touchdown and a 39-yard touchdown run in the third quarter following Waterford's first touchdown of the game.

**Volleyball**  
Senior Aurissa Boardman had five kills and 10 aces and classmate Annarose Avery added five aces and five assists for visiting Woodstock Academy, which defeated Killingly, 3-0,

on Thursday, Sept. 9 in the season-opening match for both schools.

Game scores of the match were 25-12, 25-17, 25-13.

For Killingly, Kit Poirier (four service points, three kills, three blocks), Jocelyn Crowley (six assists), Natalie Preston (four service points, three kills), Hannah Grudzien (three service points, six kills, six blocks), Chloe Difusco (eight assists), Chloe Yip (four service points), and Hailey Toth (eight digs), all played well.

Woodstock Academy followed up its win over Killingly with a 3-0 loss to Darien High on Friday, Sept. 10. Against Darien, considered one of the best Class LL teams in the state, Boardman had three kills and two aces while freshman Sophie Gronski added four assists and six service points.

**Boys' Soccer**  
Woodstock Academy rebounded from

its 2-0 season-opening loss at Fitch High on Thursday, Sept. 9 with a 2-1 road win over Windham High on Saturday, Sept. 11.

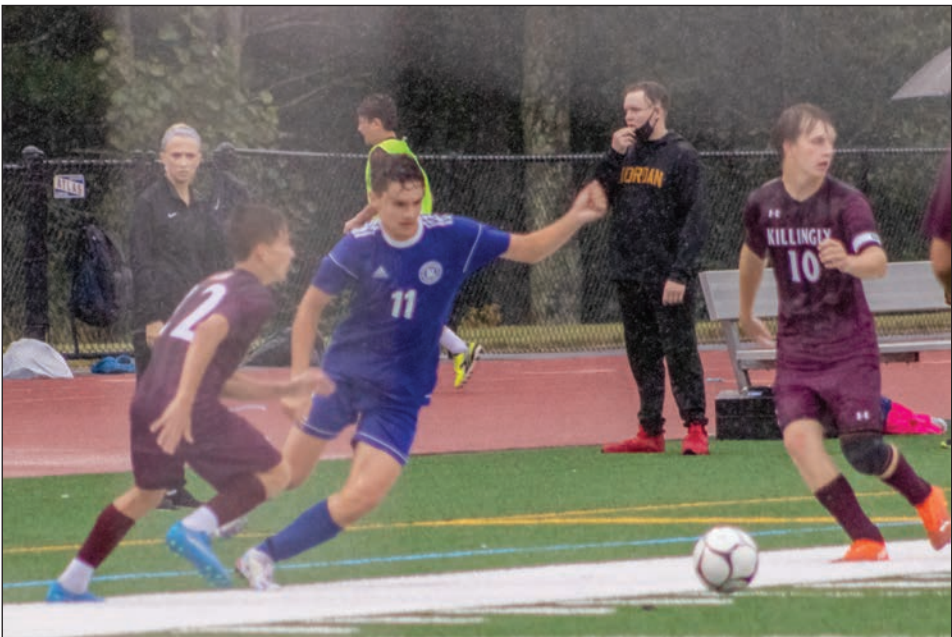
In the victory over Windham, junior Noah Page scored on a penalty kick with 50 seconds remaining in the game, breaking a 1-1 tie and delivering the Centaurs their first win of the season. Sophomore Beltran Velasco scored in the first half for Woodstock Academy (1-1, 1-0 ECC Division II).

**Field Hockey**  
Senior Elaina Borski and sophomore Caroline Harris both scored for visiting Woodstock Academy in its season-opening game with Manchester's East Catholic High School, but it wasn't enough as the Centaurs were defeated by the Eagles, 6-2, on Saturday, Sept. 11. Borski assisted on Harris' goal, while sophomore Ella Musumeci assisted on Borski's goal.

Soccer continued from page A1



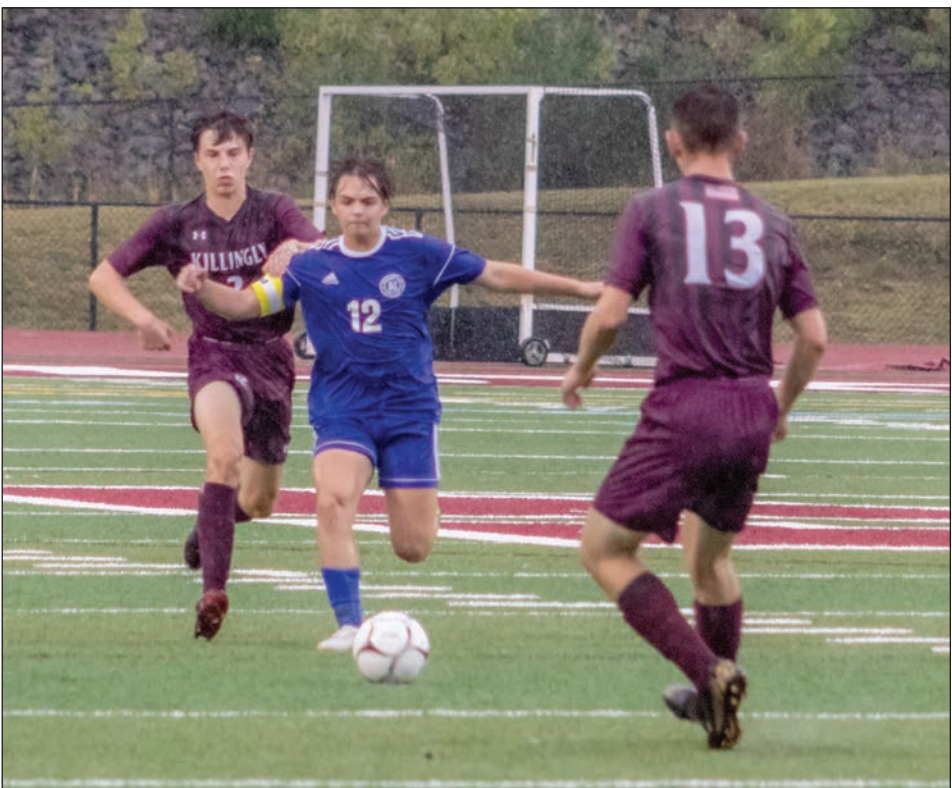
William Carver of Killingly has some time and space on Putnam defenders.



Nicholas Renshaw of Putnam handles the ball while the Killingly defense surrounds him.



Killingly's Harry Giambattista loads up on a free kick versus Putnam.



Putnam's Karson Bates advances down the field while having one Killingly defender on his back and another blocking his path.

just chip it over the goalie's head right into the net."

Killingly was happy to be ahead at the half — any team would be — but both Lackner and Ponciano both felt the team should have been ahead by a larger margin.

"In the first half we created opportunities, but I think we were definitely dealing with some first-game jitters," Ponciano said. "In the second half the upperclassmen really stepped it up. We got a solid defensive effort to keep us in

the game and then we had some beautiful passing in the final third. I've got to give credit to the entire team for this victory."

Lackner pushed the Killingly lead to 2-0 in the 66th minute, scoring an indefensible goal into the upper right corner of the net off a direct kick from about 25 yards out.

"As soon as I knew I was taking the kick my mindset was on that top right corner," Lackner said. "I didn't even look at everybody lining up; I just focused on that top right corner. As

soon as I shot it I knew it was going in."

Just 34 seconds later, Lackner completed his hat trick, again scoring off an assist from Giambattista.

"Harry shot the ball right at the goalie and the goalie made a great save, but the ball bounced right out to me," Lackner said. "I made sure I stayed inside and then I ran in and hit it right in."

After the game Ponciano made it clear he was happy to have Lackner on his team, as opposed to having to play against him.

"What a way to start a career for me, having a player of Ethan's caliber on the team," Ponciano said. "He is a focal point of the team, but he's not doing it alone. Our entire midfield, really, is the focus of the team. They're all good friends who work really well together. The chemistry on this team is clicking pretty quickly. As a head coach I can't ask for more than they're giving me."

Giambattista closed out the scoring

with seven minutes remaining in the game to account for the 4-0 final score.

Overshadowed in the four-goal loss to Killingly was the terrific play in net by Putnam goalkeeper Jake Mailloux. Mailloux, a junior, finished with a dozen saves. He kept the game within reach for the Clippers for more than 50 minutes.

"Jake did an absolutely tremendous job," said Natalie Dash, Putnam's first-year coach. "I think coming out in our first game of the season, everybody just rose to the occasion and did an amazing job."

Putnam is running a co-ed team this year. The Clippers had planned to field both a boys' and girls' varsity team this year, but not enough girls signed up for them to have separate teams, so the boys and girls have joined forces and formed one team. Eight girls and 18 boys are listed on the team's roster.

Nicholas Renshaw of Putnam handles the ball while the Killingly defense surrounds him.

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# DK Cruise, BBQ and Brew raises more than \$27,000 for NECT Cancer Fund of DKH

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare’s (DKH) Cruise, BBQ & Brew – a motorcycle and car cruise – was held on Sunday, Aug. 15 and raised more than \$27,000 to benefit the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH.

More than 200 motorcyclists and classic car enthusiasts joined in for memorial laps around the Thompson Speedway’s 1.7 mile course, followed by a scenic ride that covered more than 40 miles throughout beautiful Northeast Connecticut. This year’s event concluded at the Black Dog Bar and Grille in Putnam where participants convened for a delicious BBQ lunch.

Many joined in honor of a cancer survivor or in memory of a loved one. This annual event allows for riders to commemorate their loved one by including their name in a special memorial tribute during memorial laps at the track.

“Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of our riders, cruisers, volunteers and sponsors, this event keeps growing, bringing greater awareness of DKH’s mission and of our efforts to support patients in their fight against cancer,” said Kristen Willis, director of development, Day Kimball Healthcare. “We were overwhelmed with gratitude by the number of people that came out in support of our cancer patients, not only from our local service area, but from across the state and beyond who understand the importance of what we’re doing.”

“People choose to receive

their cancer care at DKH not only because it is convenient, but because of the high-quality and compassionate approach our team gives each of our patients and their caregivers,” said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. “With the proceeds from this annual event, we are able to continue to provide financial assistance for cancer-related screening and treatment services to those battling cancer in our community who otherwise may not have the financial resources to pay for needed medical care.”

Organized by DKH’s Cruisin’ for Cancer Care Committee, this 17th annual event was sponsored by: SPIROL International, presenting sponsor; major sponsors Waste Innovations, Centreville Bank, and the Robert Family Charitable Fund; and host sponsors Thompson Speedway and the Black Dog Bar & Grille.

To date Cruisin’ for Cancer Care has contributed more than \$163,000 to the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH. To learn more about the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH, visit [daykimball.org/nect-cancerfund](http://daykimball.org/nect-cancerfund).

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](http://www.daykimball.org).



Photo Courtesy

Members of DKH’s Cruisin’ for Cancer Care committee at the 17th Annual Cruise, BBQ, and Brew event to benefit the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH, held on Aug. 15 at the Thompson Speedway and Black Dog Bar and Grille.

## DONATION

continued from page A1

event’s honorary ambassador. Labonte, a Danielson resident, was chosen to serve as the 2018 honorary ambassador. She battled a rare cancer with courage, grace and a positive spirit until she passed away on April 27, 2018.

Since Labonte’s passing, the Solomon family and friends have organized various fundraisers to benefit the Shannon Lee Labonte Scholarship Fund at Putnam High School and other causes that she held close at heart to honor her memory and fulfill her goal of supporting access to high quality local cancer care.

In June 2021, the Solomon family held a book sale, basket raffle, and craft fair at the Putnam Congregational Church. Proceeds from the event were distributed to the Shannon Lee Labonte Memorial Scholarship, the Putnam Congregational Church, the Putnam Public Library toward the creation of a mural in their relocated space within the town’s newly constructed community center, and the NECT Cancer Fund of DKH.

“We are so grateful to the Solomon family for their generosity,” said Kristen Willis, director of development, Day Kimball Healthcare. “Shannon was such a special person and the fighting spirit with which she faced her cancer was a true inspiration. With this donation, they not only honor such a beloved individual, they also give those in our community who are battling cancer hope and courage.”

The Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH depends on the support and philanthropy of families like the Solomon’s and people in the community it serves. Through charitable contributions of local businesses, community members, and various philanthropic events, more than \$1.3 million has been raised for the Fund since its inception in 1989. For more information about the NECT Cancer Fund of DKH and cancer care services at Day Kimball Healthcare, visit [www.daykimball.org/cancercare](http://www.daykimball.org/cancercare).

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Local News

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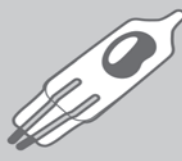
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EDITOR

# There is more to the labor shortage than laziness

All around the country, we’ve seen businesses reducing hours, restaurants reducing menu items and help wanted signs everywhere. “People just don’t want to work!” is the excuse we here uttered by anyone who hasn’t done their homework.

While it’s true there are some who don’t want to work, this certainly has not caused the labor shortage. Please note that since the dawn of history, there have always been those who don’t want to work. At the end of the day, if someone is able bodied enough to work and isn’t independently wealthy for some reason, and chooses not to work, well they end up unfortunately facing their own issues.


According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, job openings are at 9.3 million. Extended unemployment benefits have run out, so that argument is no more. In fact, only 3 percent of unemployed people earned enough with the extended benefits country wide to warrant not returning to work. Only 14 percent were earning more than they did prior to the extended benefits. The cessation of those benefits will send some people back to work, but not enough to make a dent. Experts say worker’s rights could have more to do with it.

Low pay is one reason for the shortage. In 1968, the federal minimum wage was \$1.60 per hour. Factoring in the rate of inflation since, that would be the equivalent to \$12.38 per hour in 2021; however, the federal minimum wage is just \$7.25 per hour in 2021. Walmart is now starting employees at \$17/hour, and McDonald’s restaurants in many New England states start their employees at \$15/hour. Lowes has just advertised to start paying \$18/hour. This is not good news for smaller local businesses who don’t have the backing of being a corporation.

Employees are also seeking better working conditions. Those in the restaurant business who rely on tips are sexually harassed at a much higher rate, and because of mask mandates, those workers are often asked to police rude and belligerent people who refuse to comply for either personal or political reasons.

The COVID lockdown has allowed many to re-evaluate what is really important and meaningful, and working a job where you’re harassed and underpaid just isn’t worth it. Flexibility that provides work life balance is what many are looking for. Remote work has allowed this to become more of a reality. Remote work has also allowed many companies to function with less employees. Workers without digital skills are out of luck as far as remote work goes until more training is available. There are some companies who do offer such training such as Google and Amazon.

Many Americans are also in a position where they need to stay home to care for vulnerable individuals including young children. While many schools and daycares are open, many have closed due to COVID outbreaks, leaving parents without childcare. The opening and closing is unpredictable, and will remain that way until the pandemic is under control.



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# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Joly is an original thinker

To the Editor:  
Janice Joly, currently serving on the Board of Education, is running for reelection. She has been an outstanding asset to the conservative electorate in our community. Her experience as a teacher for many years dealing with the day-to-day trials and tribulations of guiding our young students has been carried out with boundless energy and gusto. She has and will continue to fight against the dangerous nonsense known as Critical Race Theory.

Because the left’s demand and appetite for

more and more racism far exceeds the supply, we are beginning to find ourselves in a very dark place. Poor and middle class people have a vested interest in stability, and should not blindly listen to authority. With Janice Joly’s guidance sitting for another term on the Board of Education, we will most certainly have an ally who will help our failing schools. Vote for Janice if you would like an original thinker; not a nonthinker.

SANDRA HILL  
DANIELSON

### Playing politics with COVID

To the Editor:  
Covid 19 — The virus doesn’t know our name, our age, our sex, or our skin color. It doesn’t care where we live or what our political views are. It’s an equal opportunity killer. Our great country had the resources and technology to stop this nightmare in the beginning, but politics prevented that from happening. Politics (at all levels of government) is still hampering our escape from the pandemic. Donald Trump started the political mess, but as usual, both Democrats and Republicans are guilty of letting partisan childishness override common sense and the best interests of the American people.

Looking back on how Trump mishandled Covid is both tragic and ironic. Tragic for

all the unnecessary suffering and death, and ironic for the way Trump “shot himself in the foot.” If he had been a true leader and faced the crisis head on from the beginning, deferring to science instead of politics, the dummy would have looked like a national hero and would have been unbeatable last November. But that’s not who he’s ever been, so here we are as a nation, fighting about masks and vaccines because politics (not science) still dominates the conversation. This virus has caused so much damage that can’t ever be undone. It’s hard to imagine how and when it will finally end.

TODD PATRIE  
POMFRET CENTER

### Michelle Murphy is the right choice for Killingly

To the Editor:  
I am Natalie Silva, and I reside and vote in Killingly. I would like to recommend Michelle Murphy for Town Councilor at Large. I met Michelle through my daughter. Everyone that knows her speaks highly of her.

When I met her myself personally, I saw that she was a caring and loving person. She is friendly and honest. Michelle is always helping people. When I experienced some hard times in my own family, Michelle took me in. I would probably have ended up in a homeless shelter if she hadn’t have been in my life. She has a long history of helping people in this way and has often given people a hand up and a second chance at life. Michelle

also helps animals and loves nature.

Michelle impresses me because she is capable of doing anything. She is successful in her job and her life. If there is something that needs to be done, she does it. If a pipe breaks, she goes and fixes it herself. When the roof leaks she shingles it herself. I have never met a woman like her. She can make anything happen.

I feel for all of these reasons — her caring about people, about animals, and nature, and because of her many skills — that she would be a terrific town councilor for killingly.

NATALIE SILVA  
DAYVILLE

### Kevin Gaudreau for Board of Assessment Appeals

To the Editor:  
I am a lifelong resident of Killingly, and I am running to continue to be one of your town representatives on the Board of Assessment Appeals (BAA). I humbly ask for your vote on Nov. 2.

I believe my four years of experience on the BAA, in which I learned about town property valuation and tax laws is beneficial to the people of Killingly, who I believe are taxed enough already.

I am a small business owner, having operated Gaudreau’s Auction Company for over 30 years. This includes assessing and establishing the value of personal property, fittingly enough, the primary duty of someone who serves on the BAA.

I have over 40 years of general community service experience, serving in the

Williamsville Fire Engine Company as a volunteer firefighter, EMT and Association President.

I’ve always enjoyed helping people given the opportunity. I have done this during my time on the BAA, helping Killingly citizens understand property tax and reasons for assessment. I believe my professional career assessing the value of personal property makes me uniquely qualified for a BAA position.

I have greatly enjoyed my experience thus far on the BAA and humbly seek your vote on November 2nd, so I may continue to help Killingly citizens with their tax grievances.

Thank You,

KEVIN GAUDREAU  
KILLINGLY

### Andrew Whitehead for Town Council at Large

To the Editor:  
I am a 30-year Killingly resident running to be your representative for Town Council at Large, and humbly ask for your vote on Nov. 2.

My wife and I raised five sons in Killingly. I am a 1985 Redmen graduate of KHS as well as our five sons. It is time to give back to the town I love.

Professionally, I have 30-plus years of construction industry experience, currently a Project Manager for a large construction company in Massachusetts. I bring a fresh set of eyes to the business, construction, and facility requirements of the town with knowledge that matters.

I believe my technical, schedule and budgetary experience for small and large projects is beneficial in my ability to understand and analyze many of the complex issues the town faces on such matters.

I am a fiscal conservative, and believe in

sensible spending and the proper use of our tax dollars. It is important to keep Killingly strong financially, as well as, keeping our town the pride of the Northeast Corner.

I advocate for individual rights, support our Second Amendment and the individual rights protected by our Bill of Rights.

Hartford should stay out of our business and stop with the unfunded mandates to the towns, and let local government manage our town as we see fit. I oppose forced regionalization of our town services.

I pledge to be a dedicated representative and listen to your issues and concerns, and work to keep Killingly the great town it is.

I humbly ask for your vote on Tuesday, Nov. 2.

Thank you,

ANDREW WHITEHEAD  
KILLINGLY

# Be alert after isolating

It was raining, and I was distracted. I was meeting a friend for lunch in West Hartford, and for once, I was early. I pulled into the parking lot at Whole Foods to check my email. As I looked down at my phone, someone knocked on my window. I saw a short, older man standing next to my car. He was dressed in a dark t-shirt. I thought he worked for the store and was telling me I had parked in the wrong place. There were some spots reserved for pick-up only. That wasn’t what he wanted.

He asked me if I were praying, which threw me off balance. I said I wasn’t. He told me that he needed money for a bus ticket to get to a hospital. As he spoke, he was getting more agitated. I was too. I felt vulnerable. I rarely have any cash in my purse. I wanted him to leave. I pulled out \$20, and as I turned back to the window, he put his hand on the door. It was locked, but I began to wonder if this was a carjacking.

I handed him the money and raised my voice to him to get away. He didn’t move. He told me he needed a ticket for his son, who was standing nearby. I was angry, turned on the car and began to back up. I couldn’t see him. He was striding toward the front door of the store. To ease my anxiety, I decided to think he was going in to buy organic vegetables with my 20 dollars.

What should I have done? I was rattled by the incident, but except for the loss of the money, I was fine. I give cash to panhandlers, especially if they are women or girls, and even more if they have a child or a dog. I know they may spend it on something they shouldn’t, but that is their decision, not mine. As part of my Christian upbringing, I was taught to give to the poor. Admittedly I also feel good for a moment. In my recent encounter, I gave because I thought the man was needy and I was uneasy.

By the time he demanded more money, I was scared.

Since COVID began, I have been more isolated. The lunch was one of very few I’ve had outside of my community. I was less aware of my surroundings and more focused on my iPhone and what I would do next, not what was immediate. I sat in my car, alone, and distracted for several minutes. It was easy for anyone who wanted to approach me to do so. I even opened the window.

I felt foolish for falling prey to the man. Did I do it because he was older? Small? Fairly well-dressed? Or is it always a dilemma of whether to give or not? I didn’t want a confrontation and I didn’t want to get involved with reporting him to the store or to the police, even though the station is nearby. Was I enabling him, not helping? Probably, yes, I was.

This isn’t the first negative experience I’ve ever had, and it won’t be the last. Like everyone else, I enjoy my independence to go and do what I wish. This encounter won’t change that, but it will make me shake away the cobwebs of isolation and the easy distraction of technology. It’s possible to be alert without being paranoid. It’s possible to help a fellow human being without being compromised, but real help probably doesn’t happen in a parking lot.



NANCY WEISS

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.

If it’s important to you,



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Trump is the one who pushed the boundaries of civility

To the Editor:

In the Aug. 27 issue of the Villager, Ed DeLuca has an issue with Donald Trump’s detractors for the harsh and occasionally uncivil criticism that some subjected the former president to and then, in his view, crying foul (my words) when harsh criticism was directed back at the Biden supporters. Mr. DeLuca concludes his letter by stating that “not one of you has ever posted anything positive about the job Biden and Harris are doing.”

The anti-Trumpers did, at times, push civility, unfortunately, guilty as charged, but certainly no more so than did the former president himself. More than anyone, he set a tone by example which was unfortunate, and the consequences resulted in new lows in standards of civil discourse. Time will tell, but I am hopeful that we will once again be able to agree to disagree in a manner

Thompson’s Democratic candidates are cause for excitement

To the Editor:

I am so pleased and excited about this year’s Democratic slate for the Town of Thompson! This is possibly the best group of candidates that I’ve seen in the 45 years I have lived in this town.

All of the Board of Education candidates are TMHS alumni whose children have attended our schools. Since I have taught in the Thompson schools for over two decades (now retired), education is important to me. I want qualified people on our board, and I have every confidence that this is a great team for Thompson. Heather Santos, a newcomer to this team, is exceptionally qualified. She is a lifelong resident of Thompson, the mother of two children attending our schools, and has been involved with numerous school activities. She also has talents and skills from her 23 years of experience in the architecture and interior design field that will benefit this board: creativity, problem solving, organization, and management of budget requirements.

Brian Santos has been an alternate on Planning and Zoning and is now

less poisonous to those with differing opinions.

Although I haven’t the quotations to prove it, I believe there have been positive comments made on behalf of the President. The commentary, and my view, has generally had to do with a welcome return to decency and, yes, “civility” in the White House. We are no longer subjected to a daily diatribe of Tweets finding fault elsewhere, lamenting perceived persecution, distorting fact, and a refusal to accept reality. People are far more likely to go public with their opinions when they are upset than when they are satisfied, or at least generally content. The absence of commentary, though not necessarily an endorsement, is a statement in itself.

BENJAMIN D. WILLIAMS  
POMFRET

running for a seated position. He has extensive experience in construction. A valuable skill set in a small town! His projects have won awards, including the “ENR New England Best K-12 Project Award.”

David Johnson is running again for Board of Finance. He was a great person to work for as VP in the High School and as Principal in the Middle School here in town, and is well known for his money management skills.

Ken Beausoleil is running for First Selectman. In his previous terms on the Board of Selectmen, I found him always consistent, available and ready to help.

There are too many outstanding candidates to mention them all, so please check them out on Facebook under “Thompson Democrats,” where their impressive bios are listed for you.

Believe in Thompson! Come support this great slate of candidates with your vote in November!

KRISTI DUROCHER  
THOMPSON

Patti Larrow George has the leadership skills Killingly needs

To the Editor:

Over the past few years, Patti Larrow George has shown in several ways that she has the ability, desire, and leadership skills to be a productive and beneficial member of the Town Council for Killingly. I have personally known Patti for many years, and she has never wavered from her commitment to community and her dedication to ensuring that the growth of Killingly is done in a sound and responsible way.

With the Nov. 2 election fast approaching, I write in support of Patti Larrow George for Killingly Town Council. During her past years in office, she has served the citizens admirably, effectively handling the inevitable growth that has occurred in our area while maintaining the quality of life that we all enjoy here.

Covid-19 has been at the forefront of everyone’s mind during the last term, including the shutdown of our community’s businesses. Patti has effectively managed her position during these trying times, remains positive, and fights for what is best for everyone involved.

I have always followed the rule, “If it isn’t broke, don’t fix it!” I urge you to follow this rule when it comes to Patti. She is an outstanding public servant, and I have witnessed her passion for her town on many occasions. She seeks what is best for the people of our community with integrity, and you can always depend on her word.

Patti Larrow George is not only a wonderful public servant; I am proud to call her my friend. We all know that public service can be a thankless job at times, and I admire her leadership and personal courage. Please show up at the polls on Nov. 2 and let Killingly know that you care about what happens here. Vote, vote, vote!

KELLY MARTIN  
KILLINGLY

Information included in letters should be verified

To the Editor:

It’s been good to see the recent spate of letters calling for more civility in this space. To that call, I would add one for fact-checking. A couple of months ago, a writer calling for the de-masking of school children stated that “children rarely catch it (the Coronavirus) and don’t really spread it.” At the time, the most recent available monthly data showed that children represented 22.4 percent of new cases, or 71,649 out of 319,601 cases — important information in view of the incredible surge in pediatric cases to come: 250,000 children with Covid, or 27 percent of all cases, were reported last week). This was information readily available at the time on the first page of a Google search. The writer also stated that the WHO was not recommending that children be vaccinated. This too was false — a fact easily ascertained by a quick visit to several fact-checking sites. (Factcheck.org and Snopes seem to be the most useful and reliable

but there are a number of good sites.) Last week, a letter writer stated that President Biden fell asleep in a meeting with the Prime Minister of Israel. This was presumably based on a doctored video posted to social media. A quick Google search led me to Snopes (and multiple other sites) and revealed that a “creative” video editor had clipped out a section before a quick nod to make it look like the President was falling asleep. I don’t think it’s too much to ask letter writers to check their facts. If we can’t keep people from getting medical information from the Facebook University School of Medicine, or political information from the Mark Zuckerberg Institute of Politics (or wherever these letter writers get it), it seems a reasonable request that before people spread information around, they take a few moments to check its accuracy.

JOHN A. DAY, JR.  
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

School emotions — anxiety or excitement?

To the Editor:

Each fall, I like to think about how students prepare for a return to school. Each child may have a little apprehension to return due to classes with zoom, first-day jitters, or the pandemic. I do think students from last year’s virtual classroom are excited to return after a zoom year away and summer vacation, but there is more to consider.

Social situations at home while students were Zooming were much less likely to include bullying, teasing, and intimidation, but thoughts about returning to school paint a different picture in a child’s mind.

The pandemic has already shredded the self-esteem of many kids (and adults) who have developed social and emotional issues. Many children with confidence and high self-esteem have also felt depressed and sad because of the state of affairs the world is currently in. It is also not surprising that kids have lost social skills in the last year and a half. For many, life on Zoom in the comfort of home was oftentimes an easy day at school. Despite the occa-

sional technical glitch, online learning meant keeping other stresses at bay. But this came with a major trade-off.

Seeing one’s peers on a screen gives students a sense of control over whom they see and talk to. They can log in and log off. But by heading back to the physical classroom, kids are mostly worried about facing social pressures that they have not faced in more than a year. Virtual learning helped get us through a tough time and some students have even thrived in class and engaged more than in person classes.

However, we are social creatures, and we need people.

Kids with social anxiety had an easier time interacting on Zoom. No playground bullying, no bathroom bullying, no peer pressure in the hallways or bus. All the areas where bullying takes place are removed from daily life, except cyberbullying which can take a more pronounced toll on kids because they are online so often. Prolonged zooming has made kids suffer from social isolation and loneliness. As a martial arts instructor teaching on

Zoom for a year, I know firsthand how difficult it has been for teachers too.

With any technology, we must acknowledge the good and the bad -- no interaction equals depression.

One of a human being’s basic needs is a sense of belonging. We all need social connections, and chatting with friends in school about clothes, hairstyles, and hobbies has been out of the picture while on Zoom. Parents have developed other ways to help their children develop social interaction safely within their bubble or safe areas during the pandemic.

Change is hard- getting comfortable (too comfortable) with online learning will make kids more anxious in this changing situation.

Here are some solutions.

Help kids visualize a positive atmosphere, fun times, good friends. In our karate class, we call this pre-framing. Helping your kids imagine and expect a positive experience is a helpful tool.


Ask for feedback in specific ways. A question like “How was school today?” is too open-ended and will not get you a

good response. Ask them to rate their day on a scale of one to ten, ask what was the most fun or the most challenging part of their day. This will open further dialogue and discussion.

Mention times when you might have had difficulties in school so you can show empathy. We have all had many painful experiences in our school careers and sharing these stories will help your kids open up. If they did have a low day ask them what could have happened differently that might have improved the situation. Lastly, be a good listener and get them help from a teacher or a friend if needed. Depression and bullying are no joke and can have a devastating effect on a child’s development. And as the headline states, excitement or anxiety, both very similar emotions. Just remind your child, it’s excitement!

MIKE BOGDANSKI  
QUEST MARTIAL ARTS  
THOMPSON

Help for weather-stressed lawns



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....

MELINDA  
MYERS

The extreme heat and drought of 2021 across much of the country has turned many lawns brown. Damaged lawns may be thin, contain dead patches or are overrun with weeds.

Fall is a good time to improve the health and appearance of a weather-worn lawn. Start the process by evaluating the damage. Then plan a course of action and be prepared to follow through as needed with proper care.

Fall fertilization can help improve thin lawns and those with numerous small dead patches the size of a baseball or smaller. Apply fertilizer in early September to help lawns recover from summer stress while encouraging denser growth and deeper, more drought tolerant roots. Those in warmer climates growing grasses like centipede, Bermuda and zoysia should make sure the last fall application is at least one month prior to the average first killing frost. Use a low nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer that won’t harm stressed lawns and young seedlings if repairing or overseeding the lawn.

Continue to mow high as long as the grass continues to grow. Taller grass produces deeper, more drought toler-

ant roots. Mow often, removing only a third of the total height. This is less stressful on the lawn and results in shorter clippings that can be left on the lawn. The clippings return moisture, nutrients, and organic matter to the soil.

Use a sharp blade for a cleaner cut that closes more quickly, reducing water consumption and risk of insects and disease while leaving the lawn looking its best. You’ll also save time as sharp blades cut more efficiently and reduce fuel consumption by as much as 22 percent.

Improving a lawn’s growing conditions will help it recover more quickly and equip it to better manage environmental stress. Core aerate lawnsB that have more than one half an inch of thatch, those growing in compacted soils, or before overseeding. By removing plugs of soil, you will break through the thatch and create channels for water and fertilizer to reach the grass roots. For best results, core aerate the lawn when its actively growing; fall for cool season grasses and spring or early summer for warm season grasses.

Hand removal of weeds is the most environmentally friendly option. Organic broadleaf weedkillers with the active ingredient Fehedta or Hedta is another option. Spot treat problem areas to minimize the use of chemicals and reduce the stress on already stressed lawns. As always, read and follow label directions carefully whether using traditional, natural or organic chemicals.

Repair dead and bare patches in cool



Photo Melinda Myers

Fall is a good time to improve the health and appearance of a stressed lawn.

season lawns that are the size of a soccer ball or larger as needed. Those growing warm season grasses will have the best results when seeding in spring through early summer. Rake away dead grass and debris roughening and exposing the soil below. Spread grass seed over the area and lightly rake to ensure seed-to-soil contact. Or mix a handful of grass seed in a bucket of compost or potting mix. The organic matter helps conserve moisture and promotes seed sprouting. Spread the mix over the soil surface. Water these areas often enough to keep the soil surface moist until the grass seed sprouts. As grass begins to grow, water more deeply and less often to encourage a

robust drought tolerant root system.

Proper maintenance and a bit of cooperation from nature will help transform your lawn from a disappointment to an asset in your landscape.

Melinda Myers has written 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](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).



# OBITUARIES

## Al A. Paine, Sr., 98

Pomfret, Ctr. – Al A. Paine, Sr., 98, of Angel Rd., died Saturday afternoon, September 11, 2021, at Villa Maria Nursing Home in Plainfield. He was the loving husband of the late Gloria D. (Baranski) Paine. Born in Pomfret Ctr., he was the son of the late Alfred and Mildred (Fay) Paine.

Mr. Paine proudly served his country in the United States Army during WWII. He worked as a dairy farmer as well as for a saw-mill. He later went on to work as a self-employed truck driver. He enjoyed camping, traveling, hunting, fishing, gardening, fixing, and making things, always “tinkering” with something. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was affectionately known to them as

the “Wood Bandit.”

Al is survived by his son, Al A. Paine, Jr., and his wife Kathleen of Pomfret; his daughter, Ann Gratton and her husband Roger of Pomfret; four grandchildren, Roger Gratton and his wife Diane, David Gratton and his wife Gabbi, Seth Paine and his wife Jacquie, and Travis Paine and his wife Kristen; and two great grandchildren, Owen Gratton and Atticus Paine.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Al’s family from 9:30a.m. to 11:30a.m. on Saturday, September 18, 2021, in the Gilman Funeral Home, 104 Church St., Putnam. Burial with military honors to follow in Abington Cemetery, Rte. 44, Pomfret, CT. Memorial donations in Al’s memory may be made to the Wounded Warriors Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka, KS 66675-8516. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Dana A. Jordan, 73

Putnam – Dana A. Jordan, 73, died early Wednesday morning September 8, 2021, at Brookside Rehabilitation Center in Webster.



He was the loving husband of Jo-Ann (Guertin) Williams. Born in Southbridge, MA, he was the son of the late Abram and Muriel (Goulet) Jordan.

Mr. Jordan was a proud veteran serving with the United States Marines Corps where he actively served during the Vietnam War alongside his brother Paul for thirteen months

in Vietnam and worked for many years in the construction field.

Dana was a master carpenter and cabinet maker as well as an avid fan of motorcycles.

He is survived by his wife, Jo-Ann Williams of Putnam; his siblings, Paul Jordan of Webster, MA, Richard Jordan of Kingman, AZ, and Dorothy Morris of Webster, MA ; and her niece, Dawn Krasnecky and her partner Louise Taylor of Thompson. He was predeceased by his sisters, the late Nancy Jodoin and Arlene Plouff.

Funeral services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook please visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Claire Mullen, 98

Claire (King) Mullen, 98, of Danielson, passed away on September 2, 2021, at Davis Place. She was born in Fall River, MA on January 9, 1923, daughter of the late Maurice and Bernadette (Ouellette) King. Claire was married to the late Leonard Mullen on January 23, 1943. They were married 64 years. She was a loving mother, devoted wife, and being a grandmother was her greatest joy. She was an expert seamstress who enjoyed traveling with her husband and is warmly remembered by all that knew her. She is predeceased by



her brother Maurice, sisters Isabelle, Irene, Marjorie, and Jeannie. She is survived by her son, Leonard Mullen Jr. and his wife Nancy of Florida, and daughters Janice Allen of Brooklyn and Karen Dyson and her husband Robert Dyson of Danielson. She also leaves several grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and one sister, Maureen Cookson. Funeral services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Claire’s memory to the Westfield Congregational Church, 210 Main St, Danielson, CT 06239. The family would like to thank the staff at Westfield Village and Davis Place for taking such great care of our beloved Claire. [tillinghastfh.com](mailto:tillinghastfh.com)

## Jay Cortis Dooley, 77

Jay Cortis Dooley 77 died peacefully at the Brentwood Nursing Home in Warwick, RI, on Saturday, August 7, 2021. Born in Des Moines, Iowa, he was the son of Virginia Perrin Cortis Dooley and Corbin Vincent Dooley.



Jay graduated from Morehead State University where he belonged to the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity. He was mar-

ried for a short time to Jerrel Dean Allen Tarr.

He is survived by cousins, John Newman, Olympia, WA; Herb Cortis, CT and the Magown and Morgan families.

Jay is also survived by his wonderful friends Dave Beaulier, RI; Robert Vincent, CT and Arthur Rabourn, Esq., OH.

His ashes were buried at the North Woodstock Cemetery, CT with his mother and grandparents Elmer and Edith Corttis.

## Randall William Hicking, 51

Woodstock - Randall William Hicking, 51, residing in Dayville, CT, passed away September 7, 2021, in Hartford Hospital with his family by his side. Born in Windham, Connecticut, he was the son of Richard and Cheryl (Hoevet) Hicking. Randall lived in Woodstock most his life.



He worked for the Marian Fathers Monastery as a maintenance man for over 30 years. Beyond the general maintenance tasks, he enjoyed assisting the elderly Fathers with errands and rides to doctors’ appointments. He was proud of his work. While performing many tasks from custom woodworking, painting, installing perennial gardens and landscaping, he developed many friendships.

Randy enjoyed racing, Nascar, Formula1, Motocross... if it went FAST, he had interest. He enjoyed drives in his car or on his Harley on a beautiful day. He also enjoyed fishing. Randall appreciated nature, the birds, the gardens, mow-

ing the lawn a certain way. Attention to detail and creativity were very big qualities he possessed. He enjoyed Westerns, watching tractor pulls at the Fairs, his John Deere, Stihl, and his Harley hat collection. The man had a cap for every occasion.

He loved his dog. His boy Sigumund, the enormous Rottie, put the sparkle in Randall’s eye for many fulfilling years.

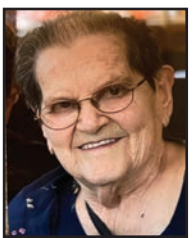
Randall was helpful, kind, loyal, and a good man.

Randall is survived by his sister, Michelle L. Hicking and companion Jody P. Reynolds of Dayville, CT; his father, Richard Hicking, and stepmother, Jill (Buhl) Hicking, of White Bear Lake, MN.

Relatives and friends were invited to visit with Randall’s family from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 in The Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT 06260. A funeral service followed at 6:30 pm in the funeral home. Memorial donations made in Randall’s name may be sent to the A.S.P.C.A., 424 East 92nd St., New York, NY 10128. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com)

## Anita Shippee, 85

Anita Shippee, 85, of Danielson, CT passed away on Monday, September 6, 2021 at Day Kimball in Putnam, CT. She was born July 28, 1936 in Danielson, CT, daughter of the late Wilfred and Blanche (Dionna) Caron.



Anita went to Killingly High School and then worked for Colt’s Plastic until her retirement. She enjoyed playing BINGO and was an

average card player. Anita loved to camp.

Anita is survived by her children Fredrick G. Shippee and Darlene Shippee; her grandchildren Tammy, Adam, Shelley, Damon, Amber and Brittany. Her great grandchildren Hailey, Jake, Lilly, Alivia, Mariah, Payton and Addison.

A Private Graveside Service will be held at Holy Cross Cemetery, Danielson, CT. Share a memory at [Gagnonandcostellofh.com](http://Gagnonandcostellofh.com)

Quinebaug – Francis T. Andrzejewski, 82, of Highland Dr., passed away at Day Kimball Hospital. He was lovingly united in marriage to Mathilda (Boutin) Andrzejewski on August 4, 1962. Born in Webster, MA, he was the son of the late Stanley and Jeannette (Barrette) Andrzejewski.



Mr. Andrzejewski worked as a truck driver for several area trucking companies for many years. He also worked as a bus driver for North East Transit for ten years. Lovingly referred to as the “Old Goat,” by his family. He loved working, whether it was driving the big rigs, the transit bus or mowing the 13+ lawns for other members of the Quinebaug Park where he resided for the past 21 years. He was always a hard worker which he passed on to not only his children, but to his grandchildren as well. He enjoyed spending time outside and working in his shed. Francis will be missed deeply, along with the many stories from his childhood that he used to share with his family. He was a member of the New England Teamsters and a former member of the Community Volunteer

Fire Department in N. Grosvenordale.

In addition to his wife, Francis is survived by his daughters, Janice Kegel of Dayville, CT, Anita Gallant and her husband Glenn of Leicester, MA, and Denise Preston and her husband Kevin of Louisburg, NC; his brother, Robert Andrzejewski and his wife Loretta of Webster, MA; his grandchildren, Tabytha Perry, Caitlin Phillips, Veronica Curboy, Kelsey Kegel, Amanda Skeens, Sami Preston, Andrew Burdick, Travis Gallant, and Tara Gallant; and ten great-grandchildren of which are seven boys and three girls. He was predeceased by his daughter, the late Mary Andrzejewski and his brother, the late Richard Andrzejewski.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Francis’ family from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 9, 2021 in the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale. A gathering will begin in the funeral home at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 10, 2021 followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. in St. Joseph Church, 18 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, CT. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Linda Phaneuf, 71

Dayville – Linda (Deotte) Phaneuf, 71, of Ballouville Rd., passed away on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, in her home surrounded by her family. She was united in marriage on September 20, 1969, in St. Ann Church to Richard G. Phaneuf. Born in Putnam, she was the daughter of the late Clifford and Jean (Prisk) Deotte.



Linda worked as a store manager for Cumberland Farms for over 20 years. She was a member of the U.S. Trotting Association and along with her husband, they enjoyed 35 years of training,

breeding, and racing Trotters. She was an excellent cook who enjoyed feeding her family and friends.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her daughter, Brenna Gill and her husband Daniel of Monticello, NY.

Relatives and friends were invited to visit with Linda’s family from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Monday, September 13, 2021, in the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery, 350 Hartford Pike, Dayville, CT. Memorial donations may be made in Linda’s name to the A.S.P.C.A., 424 E. 92nd St. New York, NY 10128. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Roger Donald Duhaime, 79

North Grosvenordale - Roger Donald Duhaime age 79, passed away peacefully at home, on August 30th, 2021.

He was predeceased by his wife of 55 years, Marie Elizabeth Caron. He leaves two sons, Randy Duhaime and his wife Karen of Woodstock CT, Robert Duhaime and his wife Jennifer of Belchertown MA, and a daughter Pamela Key of Thompson, CT. He also leaves a sister, Arlene Martin of Woodstock, CT. Roger was predeceased by a son Roger Duhaime Jr. of Grosvenordale, CT. He also leaves six grandchildren who affectionately called him Pepe, who will miss him very much.

Roger was a true Jack of all trades, he successfully operated a business for many years in North Grosvenordale,

was skilled in gardening, carpentry, plumbing, electrical and auto repair. He retired from the Town of Thompson Highway department. Roger was proud to help his family using his expertise tirelessly, and always brought laughter and a positive attitude to every situation. Through the attentive love and care of his family he was able to remain in the home he loved. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Private Funeral Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home.

A guest book is available at [www.shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com) where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Roger.

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# OBITUARIES

## Michael S. Zadora (Mike, Z, Zman), 50

Michael S. Zadora (Mike, Z, Zman), 50, passed away unexpectedly on September 8, 2021. He was born in Putnam September 18, 1970, son of Stephen Jr. and Linda (Berube) Zadora of Rogers. Besides his parents, Michael is survived by his son Parker of Mechanicsville, VA, brothers Bryan of Cathedral City, CA and Christopher of Texas. His nieces Meghan, Macy, Zyann, nephew Zayne and great nephew Ryder. He also leaves behind many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Michael was predeceased by his Jorgie and Bobchie Stephen and Stacia Zadora and grandmother Constance Berube. Michael attended Killingly High School and Virginia Common



University where he ran cross country and track. Michael worked as a manager at many restaurants and loved what he did. He was most proud of his son Parker and all he achieved and what he wants to do in life at such a young age. Over the years, Michael made many special friends. Whether it was who he ran with or worked with, he was always a people person. He loved to watch all sports especially the Patriots, Boston Red Sox, Celtics and Bruins. Michael was so passionate about sports; he could even give stats on almost all of the teams. He loved to run and always gave it his all. A leisurely, relaxing Sunday run for him when he was in school was 20 miles. A life taken so young. He will be missed by all. A graveside service will be held at Holy Cross Cemetery in Danielson on Saturday November 13, 2021 at 10AM. [tillinghastfh.com](mailto:tillinghastfh.com)

## William Beaudoin, 85

Putnam - William Beaudoin, 85, of Putnam, died September 9, 2021, in Day Kimball Hospital. Married February 5, 1955, he was the loving husband of Anita (Ethier) Beaudoin for 66 years. Born in New Britain, Connecticut, he was the son of the late William and Eleanor (Guilbeault) Beaudoin. Mr. Beaudoin worked for Anchor Glass as a Supervisor for 35 years. He was also a school bus driver for the Putnam School System for over 40 years. He also drove the bus for graduation trips and for the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp. Bill also coached little league baseball for over 20 years. Mr. Beaudoin enjoyed traveling with his wife to places including Alaska, Hawaii, and Bermuda. He was an avid sports fan, following UConn Women's Basketball, the Red Sox, and the



Patriots. William is survived by daughter, Joan Blymiller (Richard); son, Paul Beaudoin (Lisa); grandchildren, Sarah Beaudoin-Bookmiller (Eric), April Lamothe (Ernest), and Jessica Beaudoin, great-granddaughter, Mackenzie Lamothe; sister Shirley O'Brien (Neil); and many nieces and nephews. William is predeceased by siblings John, Jerry, Joseph "Sonny", Lucille Bertrand, Annette Vincent, and Florence Lockwood. Relatives and friends are invited to visit with William's family from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm on Thursday, September 16, 2021 in the Gilman Funeral Home, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT 06260. A funeral service will follow at 7:30 pm in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, donations in William's name may be made to The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, 565 Ashford Center Rd, Ashford, CT 06278. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

# Eradicating invasive Purple Loosestrife in Eastford

BY CAROL DAVIDGE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

EASTFORD — Crews of folks in Eastford are battling a beautiful but dangerous invader. "Purple Loosestrife (Lythrum Salicaria) invades wet lands, pushing out our native species. Each mature plant can contain as many as 2.7 million tiny seeds," said Mary Ellen Ellsworth, Ph.D. and Co-Chair of Eastford's Conservation and Historic Preservation Commission. Facing the challenge along Route 198 with permission of landowners were volunteers Theresa Becker, Rebecca Gurland, David Jakubowski, and Dale and Joanne Warren. They cut seed heads containing millions of seeds and then incinerated a pickup load plus six huge paper bags full of seeds. "The wetlands we worked in today, across the street from the ball fields, drains under the road and under the ball fields and empties into the Still River. Just downstream are wetlands where the Purple Loosestrife could take hold and wreak havoc if the seeds have not already reached this area," said Dale. "Purple Loosestrife takes over wetland areas, squeezing out native plants that should be growing there and thus starves out animals that rely on that native vegetation for food, shelter, and nest sites," said Deborah Lee, Ph.D. ecologist and Co-Chair of Eastford's Commission. Purple Loosestrife can advance eight feet every year across a pond and is just one of the non-native plants that are overwhelming Connecticut's forests and waterways, including Oriental Bittersweet, Winged Euonymus



Photo Carol Davidge

**Eastford volunteers Dale and Joanne Warren, David Jakubowski and Theresa Becker removed and incinerated millions of Purple Loosestrife seeds on Sept. 12 to prevent clogging of waterways.**

(Firebush), and Honeysuckle. Entire forests have been covered by Oriental Bittersweet vines with their lovely orange seeds; these are often used for fall decorations but are spread by birds so don't use bittersweet for decor. The challenge of invasives is immense. Eastford volunteers worked for 20 years at one pondsite before the invasive waterchestnut plant was eradicated. Information may be found at Web sites of UConn's Extension Service or the CT Invasive Plant Working Group: Invasive Plant Working Group link: <https://cipwg.uconn.edu/> Invasive Plant List: [https://cipwg.uconn.edu/invasive\\_plant\\_list/](https://cipwg.uconn.edu/invasive_plant_list/)

# Worries

All kinds of stresses and pressures will come to us in this life. Worries will come about our parents, careers, children, health, finances, relationships, death, sickness, and more. It seems there is a never-ending stream of things we can worry about—nail-biting worry, worry that makes our head and heart hurt. Thankfully, our imaginations usually make things seem much worse than they are. Too often, we imagine the worst possible outcome, outcomes that generally never come to pass; if they do come to pass, often they aren't as bad as we imagined them to be. A little bit of worry can be good when that worry propels us to action so we can solve the problem before it gets out of hand. Worry is bad if we allow fear to paralyze us, never taking the necessary steps to solve the problem. Worry affects us all in different ways. Most of us have at times been so worried we become consumed with fear. Our hands tremble, and anxiety overwhelms all of our senses. Paralyzed with fear, often all we can do is lay down and fall asleep or pace back and forth, mumbling incoherently until exhaustion takes hold. Some of us can only see a negative outcome and are angry and irritable at those trying to convince us that a good result may be possible. Some of us turn into complainers, taking on the victim mentality and telling everyone how dire our situation is and how things will never get better. Drugs and alcohol sometimes become the temporary solution; Waking up with a hangover, but the problem is still there. Some might turn to healthier solutions like exercise, prayer, and meditation to calm the worried mind. Napoleon Hill said, "Worry is a state of mind based upon fear. It works slowly,

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but persistently. It is insidious and subtle. Step by step it "digs itself in" until it paralyzes one's reasoning faculty, destroys self-confidence and initiative. Worry is a form of sustained fear caused by indecision; therefore, it is a state of mind which can be controlled." I believe Napoleon Hill was correct. Worry is based on fear; it paralyzes our reasoning faculty, destroys our initiative, it's caused by indecision, and therefore it is a state of mind that can be controlled. How can we control it? According to Napoleon Hill, worry is caused by indecision. The proper response to anxiety might then be to decide on a course of action. We need to remove the hesitation and choose! Sometimes just figuring out what path to take is all that's necessary to stop the worry. What if you're having trouble deciding what to do? Talk to your friends, get advice, pray, meditate, think it over. If you're focused on what path you need to take, an answer will come. Once you choose what the best course of action is, it is essential not to worry if you made the right choice. If you find yourself worrying whether or not you made the right choice, then it's ok to modify your course of action as the days pass. Whatever you do, keep moving forward. Wherever you are right now, whatever you're going through, maybe you're nervous, worried, stressed, and afraid. Try to be thankful, think of all the positive things in your life as you make your decision, count your blessings. Moving forward with gratitude and thankfulness is crucial and can often make for a better outcome. You don't have to make a decision; you get to make a decision. Be thankful that you can choose. Keep a smile on your face; you're capable of great things!

# LEGALS

### TOWN OF BROOKLYN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING LEGAL NOTICE

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. via Webex and in-person (masks required) at the Brooklyn Middle School Auditorium, 119 Gorman Road, Brooklyn, CT on the following:  
SP 21-002: Special Permit Application for Multi-Family Development (51 Condominium units) on south side of Louise Berry Drive (formerly School Street), Assessor's Map 33, Lot 19, 13.5 acres, R-30 Zone, Applicant: Shane Pollock. Copies of applications will be available for review on the Town of Brooklyn website. All interested parties may attend the meeting, be heard and written correspondence received. Dated this 30th day of August, 2021  
September 10, 2021  
September 17, 2021

### TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, September 23, 2021, at 7:45 p.m. to be held at the Woodstock Town office, 415 Route 169, Lower level, Meeting Room 1, SP-652-08-38- 150 Route 169- Woodstock Academy c/o Christopher Sanford- Construction of 156 new parking spaces at the Loos Center for the Arts. Dr. Jeffrey Gordon, Chairman  
September 17, 2021

### TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

**The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT to continue the Public Hearing on the following application:**  
**PZC Application #21-23** Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission, 815 Riverside Drive, Amendments to the Town of Thompson Amended (effective date June 21, 2021) Zoning Regulations with respect to the proposed revisions to Sections Article 5A, Section 9 Shooting Ranges and Article 7, Definitions. *File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting*  
**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman**  
September 17, 2021  
September 24, 2021

### TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 7:45 p.m. to be held at the Woodstock Town office, 415 Route 169, Lower level, Meeting Room 1, to amend the Woodstock Zoning Regulations to: 1. Proposed Text Amendment for the Purpose of Establishing a Temporary and Limited Moratorium on Cannabis Establishments in the Town of Woodstock; Zoning Regulations, Article III.A.2 and 2. Proposed Text Amendment for the Purpose of Updating Accessory Apartment Zoning Regulations; Article IV.A and Article IV.B.2a  
September 17, 2021

September 24, 2021

### TOWN OF BROOKLYN ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF ACTION

The Zoning Board of Appeals held a public hearing and special meeting, on Wednesday September 8, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. held at the Cliff B Green Meeting Center 69 South Main Street Brooklyn, CT and via WebEx and the following action was taken:  
**1. ZBA-21-003** Brad and Heather Oatley, 268 Allen Hill Road, Map-33, Lot-88-7, Acres 2.15, RA Zone. Construct 32 ft x 30 ft two car garage with second story storage area with log siding. Requesting variance of section 3.C.5.2.1 from the minimum front yard setback. APPROVED with conditions: Submit an as-built plan prepared, signed and stamped by a surveyor licensed to work in the State of Connecticut demonstrating that the garage shall not extend further than 13 feet into the front yard setback.  
**2. ZBA-21-004** Brian and Christine Therrien, 286 Cherry Hill Road, Map-11, Lot 1-2, Acres 0.5, RA Zone. Construct a farmer's porch with roof including handicap accessibility ramp. Requesting variance of section 3.C.5.2.1 from the minimum front yard setback. APPROVED with the condition that the porch shall be closer than 44 feet from the front property line.  
**3. ZBA-21-005** Theodore R. Stever, 82 South Main Street, Map-47 Lot 012, Acres .43, NB Zone. Construct living space on third floor, convert space to a one-bedroom apartment. Requesting variance of section 6.E.3.8 for living quarters above the second story. APPROVED.  
Dated this 9th day of September 2021  
Any appeals are to be with the Su-

preme Court within 15 days from the legal notice appearing in the paper. Bruce Parsons  
Chairman  
September 17, 2021

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Michael P Joly (21-00316)  
The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated September 1, 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:  
Lynda Joly,  
35 Dawn Lane, Brooklyn, CT 06234  
Attorney: CHRISTIAN GEORGE SARANTOPOULOS  
143 SCHOOL STREET, DANIELSON, CT 06239  
September 17, 2021

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Claudia S. Weiss (21-00295)  
The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated September 3, 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.  
Mary Ann Champney, Chief Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Amy Kathleen Brown,  
242 Church Street, Putnam, CT 06260  
September 17, 2021



# Experience could go long way for Woodstock Academy girls' soccer



Grace Gelhaus of Woodstock Academy goes in for a powerhouse kick before a defensive NFA player can block the attempt.

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — For the Woodstock Academy girls' soccer team, the first week of the 2021 season brought with it a lot of frustration, but also a lot of opportunities to gain some much-needed experience.

Heading into week two the Centaurs were 0-1-1, having lost their season/home opener to Waterford, 3-1, on Thursday, Sept. 9. Woodstock appeared on the verge of victory in its second game — also at home — against Norwich Free Academy on Saturday, Sept. 11, but a late Wildcats' goal forced the Centaurs to settle for a 1-1 tie.

Woodstock, thanks to junior Grace Gelhaus' first goal of the season, led NFA at halftime, 1-0. The goal was quintessential Gelhaus, coming on a powerful and accurate shot from 30 yards out.

"Grace has that foot where she can strike a ball and it must be going 70 miles an hour," Centaurs' coach Dennis Snelling told Allard. "We know she will be able to shine this year. It's just the matter of building around her so she isn't double or triple-teamed."

The Wildcats spoiled the Centaurs' chance to pick up that first win of the season, tying the game, 1-1, with 15 minutes to play, when one of their shots on net deflected off a Woodstock player and bounced into the net for what is known in soccer circles as an own goal.

The Centaurs had chances to win the game during the two overtime periods, but WA could not convert any of those chances.

In the season-opener against Waterford, played in the pouring rain, Woodstock trailed 1-0 at halftime, the Lancers' first-half goal coming on a header by Lily Marelli, off a perfectly placed corner kick from teammate Aimee Girard.

Waterford pushed its lead to 3-0 early



Woodstock Academy's Kayla Leite goes up to head the ball.

in the second half, Emily Gates and Paige Jessuck scoring within a minute of each other around the 50th minute of the match.

The Centaurs avoided the shutout with seven minutes, 14 seconds to play. Gelhaus lofted the ball over the top of a pair of Waterford defenders to senior Ava Coutu, who scored WA's first goal of the season on a solid shot from 20 yards out, cutting the Lancers' lead to 3-1.

Woodstock finished its game against Waterford with nearly twice as many shots as the Lancers, but not as many scoring chances.

"We had nothing for their back line at all," Snelling told Allard. "We had no chances inside the box."

The 2021 version of the WA girls' soccer team looks a lot different than last year's edition.

Seven seniors on last year's team — Brynn Kusnarowis, Caroline Wilcox, Gillian Price, Peyton Saracina, Sydney Couture, Lucy McDermott and Sophia Mawson — are not part of this year's squad, having graduated in the spring.

This year's team features three seniors, 10 juniors, three sophomores and seven freshmen.

Seniors on the team are Coutu, Stella Brin and Addy Smith. Juniors on the team are Gelhaus, Gabrielle Couture, Lennon Favreau, Magnolia Hart, Olivia



Photos Jason McKay

Woodstock Academy's Juliet Allard sprints down the field while a NFA defender creeps up on her.



Mila Ganas of Woodstock Academy attempts to steal the ball away from the opposing team.



Woodstock Academy's Addy Smith streaks down the field with possession of the ball on her foot.

Mawson, Abby Morin, Magdalena Myslenski, Maya Orbegozo, Paige Owens and Fiona Rigney. Sophomores include Kayla Leite, Emma Massey and Rebecca Nazer. Freshmen on the team are Juliet Allard, Mila Ganas, Bella Mawson, Macy Rawson, Isabella Selmecki, Avery Thienel and Haley Whitehouse.

"We have a lot of talented kids, but the experience level is low since not a lot of our returning players got a lot of varsity playing time last year," Snelling told Allard. "I'm confident with the talent level. We just need experience."

The Centaurs got some of that much needed experience in Week One.

## Eastern student Iris Bazinet of Pomfret runs on Eastern's women's cross-country team

WILLIMANTIC — Eleven student athletes are competing on Eastern Connecticut State University's women's cross-country team this fall 2021 season.

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Among the athletes is first-year student Iris Bazinet of Pomfret, who majors in Art.

One year after Covid-19 cancelled their 2020 season, the women's cross-country team has a full schedule for the 2021 season. With more than five meets this fall, track and field and cross country head coach Kathy Manizza said, "After a year of no real competition, it's hard to predict, but both teams looked strong in preseason so we know they put their training in over the summer."

For more information on the team, visit its website at: <https://gowarriorathletics.com/sports/womens-cross-country?path=wcross>

Eastern offers a broad-based, Division III athletic program aimed at safeguarding the amateur aspects of the various sports and maintaining the proper perspective of athletics within Eastern's academic mission. By placing emphasis on the values of equity, diversity, sportsmanship, health and well-being, Eastern's athletic program encourages students to contribute more effectively to our society and live richer, fuller lives.

## Kayla Beckler of Thompson transfers to Nichols College for Fall semester

DUDLEY, Mass. — Nichols College is excited to welcome Kayla Beckler of Thompson as one of the new transfer students to the Fall 2021 semester.

Nichols College welcomes Kayla to the herd!

About Nichols College

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research

## Caleb Budd of Eastford transfers to Nichols College for Fall 2021 semester

DUDLEY, Mass. — Nichols College is excited to welcome Caleb Budd of Eastford as one of the new transfer students to the Fall 2021 semester.

Nichols College welcomes Caleb to the herd!

About Nichols College

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

## Kira Lizotte of Brooklyn transfers to Nichols College

## for fall semester

DUDLEY, Mass. — Nichols College is excited to welcome Kira Lizotte of Brooklyn as one of the new transfer students to the Fall 2021 semester.

Nichols College welcomes Kira to the herd!

About Nichols College

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

## Our Lady of LaSalette to hold book and bake sale

BROOKLYN — A huge book sale will be held in the Our Lady of LaSalette Church basement

Route 6, Brooklyn (near the Route 169 intersection) Friday, Oct. 5 from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday, Oct. 9 from 9 a.m.-noon.

The sale features an alphabetized fiction section including both hardcovers and paperbacks, as well as non-fiction titles and lots of children's books. Teachers, replenish your bookshelves. Lots of great baked goods will be available for sale as well.

Masks are suggested and may be required, depending on state guidance at that time.



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# Chubby Dog Coffee Company donates to NOW

PUTNAM — NOW would like to sincerely thank Chubby Dog Coffee Company for their generous donation of \$590 to benefit NOW's youth health & wellness programs.

In mid-August NOW Executive Director, Tayler Shea, and Chubby Dog Coffee Company Owner, Adam Rondeau, partnered together to host the Chubby Dog ~Cold Brew for a Cause ~ fundraiser to benefit NOW.

The Chubby Dog Coffee Co. donated 100 percent of the proceeds from all cold brew purchases made on Aug. 13 through Aug. 15 to NOW. More than 10 gallons of the Chubby Dog signature cold brew was purchased over those three days, totaling \$590 in funds raised for NOW.

"NOW is so thankful to be a part of such a supportive and generous community," said Tayler Shea, NOW Executive Director. "We cannot thank Adam at Chubby Dog enough for the generosity that he has shown as a new business owner. Additionally, the support that we received from the community was truly amazing. Thank you



to everyone who stopped by the Chubby Dog to purchase their Cold Brew for a Cause to support NOW."

The Chubby Dog Coffee Company is located at 164 Main St., Putnam, CT 06260.

Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, Inc. (NOW) is a

non-profit human service organization dedicated to the promotion of youth wellness. NOW provides accessibility and education in health, wellness, nutrition, and sports, regardless of family access to financial resources. To learn more about NOW, visit [www.NOWinMotion.org](http://www.NOWinMotion.org).

## Artists and poets to appear at Roseland Park

WOODSTOCK—Sunday, Sept. 26, artists and poets will be at Roseland Park, 205 Roseland Park Rd. It is the seventh annual Art in the Park (running from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.) and this year, poetry readings will be featured on the same day from 2- 4 p.m. Both events are free and open to the public.

Fine art will be for sale in the barn and can be viewed and purchased from 11 a.m. till 4 p.m. There will be original and unique paintings, prints, cards, painted rocks and more. Some of the artists involved are Alison Ciarlante, Liz Fecteau, Jet Tucker, Michael Vicino, and Adele Karbowski.

Regional poets will hold a reading from 2-4 p.m. in the outdoor amphitheater. The amphitheater is about 30 yards from the playscape across from the boat house. The seating is rustic so chairs and/or blankets are recommended. A rain date for this event has been set for Oct. 17 (2-4 p.m.) in the barn.

Reading will be National Beat Poet Laureate for 2020 and owner of Human Error Publishing Paul Richmond, author and Assistant Professor at UCONN Brian Sneed, Montreal International Poetry Contest finalist and author Karen Warinsky, and author Robert Eugene Perry. All will have their books available for purchase. There will be an intermission and an open mic as time allows. Sign-ups are at the event. The readings are recommended for ages 14 and up.

The Hungry Lion food truck will also be at the park that day.

For further information, send email to [karen.warinsky@gmail.com](mailto:karen.warinsky@gmail.com).

## SNHU announces Summer 2021 Dean's List

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

Full-time students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 & EW2, EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6.

Paul Johnson of Putnam  
Rebecca Okeefe of Putnam  
Tisha-Lynnette Hirst of Putnam  
Everlyn Moore of Danielson

Courtney Rice of Thompson Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 150,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at [www.snhu.edu](http://www.snhu.edu).

## Class of 2025 enrolls at Nichols College

DUDLEY, Mass. — Nichols College has welcomed the newest members of our herd, the class of 2025.

Taylor Charron of Brooklyn  
Hannah Laurens of Woodstock Valley  
Nolan Blanchette of North Grosvenordale  
Garret Koziak of N Grosvenordale  
Kaitlyn Lamontagne of N Grosvenordale  
Nick Skaradowski of Thompson  
Timothy Billings of Woodstock  
Dominick Kollbeck of Woodstock

About Nichols College

Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

## Boy Scouts raise funds by selling popcorn

PUTNAM — On Sunday, Sept. 19 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Boy Scouts from Troop 25 will be at Tractor Supply Co. in Putnam selling popcorn in order to raise money for their activities and to benefit the Scouting program in Connecticut.

The Scouts will have a variety of products available including popping corn, microwave popcorn and bagged salted caramel, white cheddar, and kettle popcorn. This year's collection of popcorn products features healthier varieties as well as new flavors.

To learn more about the popcorn sale or to request that a Scout salesman comes to your door please contact Corina Torrey at 860-880-0185 or [tech\\_girl01@yahoo.com](mailto:tech_girl01@yahoo.com).

## CODERRE PINNED



Photo Courtesy

The American Legion Department of Connecticut Commander Jeffrey DeClerck (right) presents Ronald P. Coderre, Past District #4 Commander, with the Past District Commander lapel pin. Coderre, who was honored as the Department of Connecticut District Commander of the Year, recently completed two years as the only 100 percent District Commander in Connecticut.

## HELPING HANDS



Photo Courtesy

Sept. 12 was a glorious day for the DKH cancer survivor picnic at Roseland Park and the Putnam Rotary Club's Interact Club and the Putnam Lions' Leos Club were on hand to help. They helped with parking, wheelchair assistance, check in and drawings. Interact Advisor Roberta Rocchetti thanked Leo volunteers Brooke Mayo, Sophia Scandalito, Julia Scandalito, Emma Martineau and Mia Cosentino and advisor Mary Ann Pezanko. Rocchetti, who was there helping, also thanked Interact volunteers Suzie and Quinn Lefevre, Sierra Girard, Lucas Cornell, and Mike Rocchetti. Shown are Interact members helping: Quinn Lefevre, Lucas Cornell and Sierra Girard.

## CONNECTICUT LEGION OFFICERS ATTEND NATIONAL CONVENTION



Photo Courtesy

The American Legion Department of Connecticut District #4 was well represented at the National Convention in Phoenix, Az. for the installation of Paul Dillard of Texas as the National Commander of The American Legion. Pictured at the Connecticut State placard are (r to l) Immediate Past Commander of District #4 Ronald P. Coderre of Post #13 Putnam; Department Commander Jeff DeClerck of Post #91 Moosup; Past Department Commander James LaCoursiere of Post #91 Moosup; Archie LaPierre Department Sgt.-at-Arms of Post #91 Moosup; and Everett G. Shepard III Past Department Commander and Past Department Adjutant of Post #111 of Woodstock.

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