



Injuries, illness won't stop Woodstock Academy's Taylor Markley



Woodstock Academy gymnast Taylor Markley, left, and her high school and club coach, Kasey Tocchio.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

DANIELSON — A betrayal unlike any other. That's what Woodstock Academy gymnast Taylor Markley has endured for the better part of the last three years. Making matters worse, if they can be, is that the junior not only never saw it coming, but it came from the most unexpected of sources — her own body. The summer before her freshman year at Woodstock Academy, Markley injured her left ankle while participating in a develop-

mental camp for USA Gymnastics. It was the beginning of an injury and illness odyssey that would continue until a week before the current season began. The injury was diagnosed as a sprain so Markley, believing the injury had healed after two weeks of inactivity, returned to the gym. "After that, even though I was wearing a brace on the ankle, I just kept tweaking it over and over," said Markley, a

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Eastern CT Veterans Community Center has new location

WILLIMANTIC — Last Wednesday, the Eastern CT Veterans Community Center, located at Tyler Square in Willimantic, moved its operations to the Chamber's building at 1010 Main St., Willimantic. All services currently being provided to veterans and their families will continue to be provided from the new location. The Veterans Coffee House, which brings together between 40-75 veterans, will meet every Wednesday from 9-11 a.m. at Hops 44, 625 Middle Turnpike, Storrs. The Veterans Community Center, a charitable 501c3 organization, has almost 800 members and has helped and will continue to help hundreds of veterans enroll in VA Healthcare, settle injury claims especially related to Agent Orange, start businesses, find jobs, find housing, get fuel assistance, receive adaptive equipment, arrange transportation, learn technology and better understand and navigate the VA systems. We have many partners who help us provide the following programs: several veteran support groups including AA and Dementia, Arnini Martial Arts exercise program, New

England Animal Human Bond Foundation support dog training classes and equine therapy, vocational training including CNA Bootcamp, Backpacks for Veterans, mental health services with Norwich Vet Center, Guitars for Veterans, Wreaths Across America, and the SBA, SBDC and WBDC entrepreneurial assistance. We are fortunate to work so closely with VA Healthcare in Connecticut, the Veterans Benefits Administration, the Vet Centers, CT Department of Labor, Access Agency, our Congressional Veteran Representatives and VSO's, and our local, state and federal legislative leaders. We wish to extend our gratitude to Ron Lyman of Lyman Real Estate for his generosity in providing us the space at Tyler Square and giving us the opportunity to serve so many veterans. The Veterans Community Center is looking for a new home. We operate on donations and with dedicated volunteers. If anyone would like to become a partner and has appropriate space to offer, with affordable rent and utilities, including accessible parking, please contact Gerry Wright at 860-982-3944.

Thompson music teacher turns song into a story

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

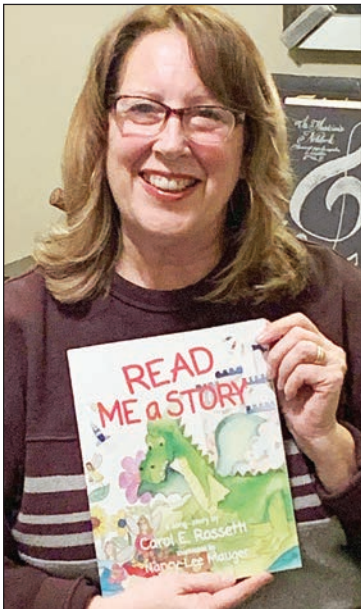
THOMPSON — During the COVID-19 pandemic, many used their time in quarantine to embrace their creativity and finally write that novel or children's book they had been longing to pen for years. However, for Carol Rossetti, the path to publishing her first children's book started well before the pandemic, and involved a different love of hers — music. The longtime music teacher at Mary R. Fisher Elementary School has been sharing stories with students of all aged

for decades, but one song left such a lasting impression that she eventually decided to turn it into a book called "Read Me a Story." The book is based directly off the lyrics of a tune Rossetti has shared annually with students and serves as a way for kids and parents to read and sing together. "I wanted to write a song about reading because every year we did an assembly for Read Across America which was the National Education Association's initiative for reading. Every year we would have that assembly and do a

big read along. So, I wrote this song and I started performing it with the kids at that particular event. After five or six years, I had a high school reunion and struck up a conversation with a classmate, Nancy-Lee Mauger, and I told her I was thinking of turning the song into the book and she became the illustrator. It took two years to complete the illustrations and it took another two years to figure out the whole self-publishing process," Rossetti said. The book itself follows a rhythmic format and starts with a child asking a par-

ent to read them a bedtime story before exploring how that appreciation for reading extends to the child's life as they get older. The idea of turning the song into a book was sparked from the evolution of technology. Rossetti realized that since she was using PowerPoint to present the lyrics on a screen so kids could sing along the book was basically already written. It was just a matter of taking the next step. "When I had just the words

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Mary. R. Fisher Elementary School Music teacher Carol Rossetti presents her first book, "Read Me a Story."



Firefighters work a four-alarm blaze at an old mill building-turned apartments on Woodstock Road.

Woodstock FD battles first four-alarm blaze

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WOODSTOCK — The town of Woodstock utilized its newly implemented fourth-alarm code for the first time on Feb. 6 when a fire broke out at an old apartment building at 223 Woodstock Road bringing 15 different departments from Connecticut and Rhode Island to the scene. The fire broke out around 6:30 p.m. at the home which sits across from the Woodstock Congregational Church. According to Woodstock Fire Marshal Dick Baron the fire began in the basement and worked its way up to the attic creating a precarious situation for firefighters inside the building.

"The cause of the fire is deemed to be accidental. We believe it may have been caused by overloading the electrical circuit in the basement, but it's still under investigation. The fire started there, and this is an old mill house with old boards and no fire stops so it went from the basement floor up the walls into the chimney and into the attic. There was a lot of fire around the firefighters in this building," said Baron. "When you get a two-and-a-half story apartment building like this which is well over 60-feet long and well over 36-feet wide that's a lot of potential for fire to spread. Based on the smoke emissions early on we wanted to get all of the resources we could to the scene in the

event that the fire took over the building. In the end we had enough interior firefighters and they really did a battle inside this building. You could say they won. They were able to put it out before it took over the attic." The fire marshal said this was the first time Woodstock has called a fourth alarm which brings extra departments to the scene to assist, whether it be with manpower, access to water or any other need. Crews from Quinebaug, West Thompson, Community Fire Company, Eastford Independent Fire Company, West Thompson, East Putnam, Pomfret, Mortlake Fire Company, and the

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Gold fever



KILLINGLY
AT 300
• • • • •
MARGARET
WEAVER

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

While researching newspaper articles for last week’s column, I came across a most interesting little tidbit in the notice of a funeral that had been conducted for Leslie Lamphere, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Dewey Lamphere... “resident in the district between the Foster gold mine and Moosup valley.” (Norwich Bulletin, Friday, Feb. 3, 1922, p. 8; newspapers.com). Now any mention of gold in this greater area sparks my interest. I wanted to know more.

I contacted Marilyn Labbe, former director of the Killingly Historical Center who lives in Plainfield and is familiar with Foster. She sent the following. “I have never been down there, but off of Cucumber Hill Road in Foster there is a Goldmine Road.” She also shared several references to the gold mine from her newspaper clippings file.

The March 7, 1901 Windham County Transcript reported, “The Foster gold mine will start up immediately. A carload of mining machinery arrived in Danielson last week, and will be taken to the mine this week. The Quinebaug Brick Co. is shipping brick to the mine every day, and all indications now are

that the mine will be going at full blast as soon as spring opens.” The North Sterling column in the same paper added, “The machinery for the Foster gold mine is arriving. Loads of bricks are also arriving daily ready for the going ahead of development work. There are those who are ready to stake their reputation that this mine will prove the richest in the country.”

It took several years for the gold mine to become operational but the Sept. 3, 1903 Windham County Transcript carried the following, “At last the Foster gold mine is taking on life. Mining has really commenced, and at the depth of only a few feet a chunk of pure gold was found one day last week, and all is great excitement at the mines. It is said that the value of the ore at present is \$11 per ton. Eight men are at work at the present time, with arrangements being made to double this force. Who knows but what Little Rhody will be a second California 49er?”

Marilyn included the Statewide Historical Preservation Report, R.I. Historic Preservation Commission - Foster, R.I., June 1982. “In the mid 1890’s John Avery Perry, a Tiverton, RI native, and a California Forty Niner and wife Ellathea moved to the Harrington farm in southwestern Foster. There he found promising traces of gold in a vein of quartz. With his son, Adelbert Perry (who had spent some time in West Coast gold fields and had taken a course in mining engineering) and two neighbors, Clarke H. Johnson and Curtis Foster, John Perry incorporated the Homestrike Mining Company in February, 1900. By May, 1901, \$20,000 for the venture had been subscribed, and the mine was in operation. By April of 1902, however, it had become clear that the amount of gold present in the mine did not make continuing the operation worthwhile. The processing mill shut down immediately but mining continued until 1905. The buildings and

machinery were subsequently dismantled and shipped via train to other New England mines. Only the stone dam across the brook, a number of shafts, and the long horizontal cut through ledge rock called “Poverty Gulch” remain today to underline the pathetic denouement of “gold fever” in Foster.” (Marilyn Labbe email, Feb. 4, 1922)

The last mention of the gold mine that I found was in the Saturday, July 10, 1909 Norwich Bulletin after operations in Foster had ceased. Nevertheless, Gold Fever still reigned. “Ernest Gingras has just returned from a trip to Lisbon, N.H. where he has been investigating the development of a gold mine in which many eastern Connecticut men have invested. This mine is located in the mountain district about Lisbon and is regarded as destined to be a money making proposition. All of the machinery formerly in use at the Foster gold mine and shipped from Danielson to Lisbon is now in use at the mine and it is expected that gold will be taken out in paying quantities within the next two weeks. Andrew Welton, formerly of Danielson, is the mining engineer in charge of the men in the camp. At present twelve men are employed. A shaft has been sunk to the depth of about 125 feet and the claim is that there is sufficient pay rock in sight to make the mine a paying proposition for many years to come. The assays of rock taken from this mine have averaged better than \$35 to the ton...The stockholders are looking for a dividend about Oct. 1. The Danielson men who are interested are Ernest Gingras, Abel L. Reeves and Joseph Bodo. Many other stockholders are in Willimantic, Baltic, Taftville and other towns in this section of the state. There are also many stockholders in New Bedford and Central Falls. “

Gold Fever continued, however. The next month an article appeared about possible gold on the Brooklyn side of the Quinebaug River: “13 Aug.

1909 – Danielson News – May Be Gold in Ledges. There may be fortune in gold up in the lucate ledges along that stretch of the Quinebaug river where the Danielson Cotton company is blasting out stone for their new dam and power-house foundations. Courtland Green of North Street was looking over the ledges the other day and from the mass of chipped rocks picked up a specimen of quartz that looks very much like a gold bearing specimen. It is a beautiful specimen, and has aroused some interest among those that have seen it. The ledge from which it is taken is among the most precipitous cliffs in eastern Connecticut and the formation of the rock in that vicinity has been of interest for years. Indian legends are connected with the picturesque spot where pounds of dynamite are being used to tear down great blocks of stone for the construction work under way and perhaps to reveal the deposits of precious metal it has held for ages. The specimen secured has not been passed upon by an expert, so it is still a little early to stake out any claims on the property.” (Norwich Morning Bulletin, courtesy of Marilyn Labbe Feb. 11).

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian February 2022. Special thanks to Marilyn Labbe. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or contact the Killingly Historical Society at www.killinglyhistorical.org. Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

MARKLEY

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Brooklyn resident. “It just hurt all the time.”

While Markley was deciding, once and for all, to get to the bottom of the exact nature of her ankle injury, she suffered another, much more serious injury — a stress fracture of the L-4 Vertebra in her back. The injury occurred just before America shut down because of COVID-19 and the accompanying global pandemic.

“I couldn’t practice or compete; I couldn’t do anything, for about a year,” Markley said. “It took the doctors about five months to find the stress fracture and then I was in one of those really big plastic back braces for three months. And then there was a lot of PT

[physical therapy] after that.”

Once the back injury — which was explained to Markley as an over-use injury that just never healed itself — was fixed she returned to the gym and, after a few weeks of conditioning, started gymnastics-specific training on the uneven parallel bars, the balance beam, the vault and her floor exercise routine. As soon as she did, the pain in her left ankle returned.

“The ankle hadn’t hurt at all during the time I was coming back from the back injury and that made me feel like was healed at that point,” said Markley, who acknowledged that her ankle pain might have gone away simply because she wasn’t allowed to do any physical activity while the back was healing. “As soon as I worked on a competitive routine I knew it wasn’t fully healed; it still hurt.”

A year ago doctors — finally — diagnosed Markley’s ankle injury as not one, but two bone spurs. One was on a bone in the foot called the talus, the other at the end of her tibia.

According to cedars-sinai.org, the talus is a small bone that sits between the heel bone (the calcaneus) and the two bones of the lower leg (the tibia and fibula). The talus has an irregular, humped shape like a turtle’s shell. Besides connecting the foot to the leg and body, the talus helps transfer weight and pressure across the ankle joint.

“Basically, the two bone spurs were smashing together every time I landed on the ankle,” Markley explained.

Markley had surgery to remove both bone spurs 11 months ago.

“During surgery doctors discovered that the bone spur on the talus

had chipped off and was just floating around in my ankle joint,” Markley said. “The talus bone spur was removed and the bone spur on the tibia was filed down. During surgery all the cartilage that had been torn up as a result of the banging together of the two bone spurs was also removed.”

Kasey Tocchio, Markley’s high school and club coach, felt helpless watching her student-athlete slowed by injury and illness the last three years.

“It was heartbreaking. Every time she would make some progress there would be a setback,” Tocchio said. “She is as close to a daughter to me as you can get. She’s just been on a roller-coaster for most of her high school career.”

In May of this past year, after eight weeks of physical therapy, Markley was granted permission to return to the gym and resume her gymnastics training.

That’s when illness took a turn at tormenting Markley’s life.

The 16-year-old was diagnosed with COVID in July of 2021 and soon after experienced throat and stomach issues, a swollen spleen and an elevated enzymes count in her liver. Doctors attributed the throat issues to several bouts of tonsillitis and the stomach, spleen and liver issues to Markley having contracted mononucleosis.

“I was out of school for a month,” said Markley, who wasn’t cleared to participate in high school gymnastics until a week before the season started. “The ankle is good, the back is OK, the throat and stomach are fine and my liver enzymes count is right where it’s supposed to be.”

Markley said she never thought for even a second about not participating in gymnastics, which she was introduced to at Deary Gymnastics, a Danielson gym run by Tocchio, when she was three years old.

“There were definitely a lot of tears with every injury and setback I’ve suffered, but I never wanted to stop competing,” Markley said. “It was always, ‘how do I get through this? What do I need to do to get back on the beam and the bars?’ The struggles made my resolve to be the best I can be even stronger.”

Because she was cleared to participate so close to the beginning of the gymnastics season, Markley has gradually worked her way back into high school competitions. Usually a four-discipline competitor, she competed in only the bars in Woodstock’s first meet, a win over Killingly on Dec. 20, 2021, finishing first in the event with a 9.4 score.

Markley competed in three events — the vault, the bars and the floor exercise, finishing first in all three — in a road win over Norwich Free Academy on Dec. 30. As a result of her first-place finishes, she earned All-Around honors against NFA. She won two events (first-place finishes in the vault and the bars) against Old Lyme/East Lyme, also on the road, on Friday, Jan. 21.

Between Jan. 24 and Feb. 7, Markley finished first in 11 of the 12 events she competed in and winning all three All-Around titles, leading the 8-0 Centaurs to wins over Killingly (a second time), NFA (a second time), and Stonington (twice).

In addition to being a high school standout, Markley is a level 10 gymnast for Deary Gymnastics’ club team in USA Gymnastics events. She said her favorite disciplines to compete in are the bars and the beam.

As dominant as Markley is in high



In this photo from 2015, Taylor Markley, 10 years old at the time, had Kasey Tocchio coaching her. In fact, Tocchio has coached Markley since she was three.

school gymnastics, she is an even bigger deal when competing in USA Gymnastics events.

“My goal is to be a Division 1 college gymnast,” said Markley.

Tocchio, a Division 1 gymnast at Bowling Green University during her college days, said that these days the Division 1 recruiting process occurs at USA Gymnastics national competitions. Tocchio believes Markley has the ability, talent and drive to achieve her goal of being a Division 1 college gymnast.

“Taylor just has a natural talent when it comes to gymnastics,” Tocchio said. “She has a look to her that you don’t necessarily teach. She is very graceful, which is something that coaches are looking for. She has a beautiful toe point and beautiful lines to her. Those are the kinds of things that make Taylor stand out. She has an ease and effortlessness when she competes.”

“That said, she had a tremendous work ethic, too. She leads by example in the gym; she always has,” Tocchio continued. “She was always the little kid in the big kid group. Now she is the big kid in the group, but she’s been in that high level group since she was half the size she is now.”

Markley said it was in 2018, as a 13-year-old, at the Level 9 Eastern National competition, she became convinced she could be, if she continued to work hard, an accomplished gymnast.

“At Level 9 Eastern Nationals I had fallen on bars right before I was competing on beam,” Markley said. “I was really upset that I had fallen on bars and I was very down. Despite that I went on beam and had a really good beam routine and ended up winning the event. I remember thinking, ‘I needed that.’”

In the time it took to get from the bars to the beam Markley was aware that there was nothing she could do about falling in her bars routine.

“I just realized that bars were over and we weren’t doing it again so I just had to move past it,” Markley said. “It was game-time now for the beam. And then I went and won the beam.”



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Leisl Cording promoted to Senior VP, Financial Advisor at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors



Leisl Cording

POMFRET CENTER — Leisl L. Cording, CFP® has been named Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors (WHZ), a Pomfret-based independent investment, financial planning and wealth management firm serving individuals, businesses and not-for-profit institutions in 35 states.

Cording has nearly 15 years of experience working with high-net-worth individuals in multiple areas of retirement, financial, and estate planning. She has been a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ Practitioner (CFP®) since 2016 and was named a Five Star Wealth Manager1 in 2021, the first year she was eligible for the recognition.

Cording joined WHZ as Vice President, Associate Financial Advisor in January 2019. Prior to that, she served as Vice President, Wealth Management Officer at People's United Advisors in Wethersfield, where she played an integral role in helping to establish a wealth management presence in the Hartford area.

While she works with a broad base of clients, she has a particular interest in helping individuals in their thirties and forties to build a strategic financial strategy designed to help them reach their life goals as well as the lifestyle they want to Live Well. She's also passionate about sharing her investment and financial planning experience to support other women in reaching their financial and personal goals.

"Since joining our team, Leisl has demonstrated exceptional skill, care and dedication in consistently striving to deliver the very best for her clients," said Principal/Managing Partner and Chief Strategy Officer James Zahansky AWMA®. "In her new role she will continue to serve her clients first while playing a larger leadership role in the firm and serving as a mentor for new teammates."

WHZ Principal/Managing Partner and Chief Investment Officer Laurence Hale, AAMS, CRPS® said, "Leisl's promotion was well-deserved and hard earned. It has been great to witness her growth over the past three years.

The knowledge, skill and personalized attention she provides to her clients is a testament to our mission at WHZ of delivering the best wealth management experience for every client, every time, at every touchpoint."

Cording is a graduate of Quinnipiac University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Finance and played Division I Soccer. She is a native of Pomfret and current resident of Willington. She is involved in several organizations across eastern Connecticut, including the Northeast Connecticut Women & Girls Fund Steering Committee, Putnam Business Association, Quasset Cemetery Association, and the NECONN United Soccer Club, where she serves as a coach.

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Waiting for Yoko Series continues with poet Rhonda M. Ward



Rhonda M. Ward

DANIELSON — Quinebaug Valley Community College presents the Spring 2022 installment of the popular Waiting

for Yoko Series: "Celebrating Women's History with Poet Rhonda M. Ward." The reading takes place on Thursday, March 10 from 6 to 9 p.m. in the SPIROL Gallery on QVCC's main campus at 742 Upper Maple St. in Danielson. An open mic follows the featured reading. The event is free and open to the public. Light snacks and refreshments will be available. Please note: face masks that cover the nose and mouth are required.

Rhonda M. Ward is a native of Dayton, Ohio where she grew up across the street from poet Paul Lawrence Dunbar and began reciting his poems at the age of eight. She has organized poetry readings in the southeastern Connecticut region for nearly 20 years. She currently co-hosts the annual Langston Hughes Community PoetryReading at the Mystic Museum of Art, which will celebrate 14 years in 2022. Rhonda's poems have appeared in print and online, most recently in Connecticut Woodlands, Cape Cod Quarterly, the nature anthol-

ogy Waking Up to the Earth (edited by Connecticut Poet Laureate, Margaret Gibson), and online at the Academy of American Poets' Poem-A-Day Project. Ward has served on the board of directors for The Writers Block Ink and Soul Mountain Retreat. She has collaborated with visual artists on numerous projects including 3 Steps Forward, 2 Steps Back, which addresses systemic racism and was exhibited in April 2021 in Vero Beach, FL. Ward has read her poetry internationally, including Skiathos, Greece, Cumbria, UK, and Sofia, Bulgaria. She was appointed Poet Laureate for the City of New

London in 2017 and passed the torch to the next poet laureate in April 2021.

For more information, please contact Jon Andersen, professor of English, at jandersen@qvcc.edu (860-932-4054) or Jessica Porzuczek, instructor of fine arts at jporzuczek@qvcc.edu (860-932-4000).

Worcester State University Dean's List

WORCESTER, Mass. – The following local students have been named to the Dean's List for the fall semester of 2021 at Worcester State University.

NORTH GROSVENORDALE: Nicholas W. Kopacz, Lauren M. Ramos

POMFRET CENTER: Mikayla D. Wilcox

PUTNAM: Jillian R. Gray, Kelsey N. Kingman, Abby L. St. Martin, Jane Vongvirath

THOMPSON: Dedrick A. Baublitz, Paige M. Boisvert

WOODSTOCK: Rebecca L. Jarvis

FIRE

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Dudley, Sturbridge and Webster Fire Department in Massachusetts all turned out to help in addition to Woodstock's own Muddy Brook Fire Company, Bungay Fire Brigade, and Woodstock Volunteer Fire Department. Woodstock Ambulance was also on scene. Baron said the crews worked diligently and effectively to tackle what could have been a very dangerous situation considering the age of the structure.

"In my 48 years in the fire service, I've seen some big fires, but this fire in a building that surrounds you, with these old buildings the structural integrity can last a long time. You could be inside fighting the fire and you'll see fire in one area, but it could be all around you in the walls and ceiling and the floor. Once it breaks out and gets some oxygen things can turn sour very fast, but all the firefighters that came to fight this fire and all the personnel that helped out on scene pit together and all-out effort to resolve a fourth alarm we thought we might never use and when you see everyone working together for one common good it's impressive. Fighting this fire, where it got into the attic and we were still able to put it out, that's impressive," said Baron.

He concluded that the home could be salvageable, but it would take a significant investment and bringing the facility up to modern fire codes to make it livable once more. No major injuries were reported from the scene although Baron said several firefighters did fall due to the icy conditions and received medical assistance. All tenants and animals from the homes were reported safe after the fire.

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Killingly wins important game over rival Centaurs, 60-24

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Junior Ella Lach drained three 3-pointers and poured in a game-high 18 points to help lead the Killingly High girls' basketball team past neighboring rival Woodstock Academy, 60-24, on Wednesday, Feb. 9.

Sophomore Hannah Grudzien added 15 points and grabbed a game-high 12 rebounds in the victory, while classmate Sydney Crabtree added nine points for Killingly, which improved to 10-8 with the win over the Centaurs, but dropped to 10-9 the next night, losing on the road to Waterford High, 43-29.

Lach scored 11 of her 18 points and hit two of her three 3-pointers in the first half while Grudzien scored nine of her 15 points in the second half.

"That was a good win for us," Killingly coach Gina (Derosier) Lindberg said about the victory over the Centaurs. "We were coming off a tough loss at New London [72-51] before that and I thought the girls bounced back nicely and played well against Woodstock.

"We were really pumped up and ready for it. Our games against Woodstock are probably the two biggest games on our schedule every year from the players' perspective," Lindberg continued. "The girls came out and made shots. We got control of the game early and we were able to build on the lead



Aila Gutierrez of Killingly goes in for a shot while Woodstock Academy defends.

throughout the game. I was happy with the way we kept playing hard throughout the game even though the score got a little one-sided."

Thanks to the play of Lach, Killingly jumped out quickly on Woodstock Academy, leading 16-6 after the first quarter, 26-8 at halftime and 42-17 after three quarters. It sealed the win with an 18-point fourth quarter.

Woodstock Academy (3-16) was led by freshmen Eva Monahan (nine points) and

Sophia Sarkis (seven points), and sophomore Kerry Blais (five points). The Centaurs closed out their regular-season slate of games on Tuesday, Feb. 15 against Achievement First Amistad High School in New Haven, after press time.

Killingly, which plays in Division II in the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC), will participate in the postseason in both the ECC Division I-II Tournament (play began Thursday night), and the Class MM state tournament. Lindberg's crew played its final regular-season game on Valentine's Day, hosting New London High on Senior Night, after press time.

Woodstock Academy is also participating in the ECC Division I-II Tournament.

The 2021-2022 season has been a series of starts and stops for Killingly, which during the season experienced a two-game losing streak followed by a two-game winning streak, which was followed by a four-game losing streak, which was followed by a five-game winning streak. Killingly's last five games have been in a loss-win-loss-win-loss pattern.

"We've had a lot of ebbs and flows this season, a lot of ups and downs," Lindberg said. "The loss to Waterford was probably our worst game of the season. We were awful in that game."

The Waterford loss aside, Lindberg expects her team to be ready to go when the postseason begins.

"Going into the postseason the girls will be ready. No doubt about it," Lindberg said. "They're competitive and they know what it takes to win in the tournament. We've won the Division and the tournament the last two years. So, they know



Woodstock Academy's Eva Monahan releases a midrange jump shot from the corner.



Killingly's Hannah Grudzien leaps into the air for a layup just ahead of Woodstock Academy's defense.

what it's going to take.

"It's certainly going to be a tougher competition this year, but they know what the goal is," Lindberg continued. "They know the goal is to play at Mohegan Sun. They've been talking about it since the beginning of the year. It is possible? Of course it is. Is it going to be hard? You bet."

After a slow start to the season Killingly senior Emma Carpenter — who serves as a team captain along with classmate Sophia Moore — seems to have returned to the player she has been in previous years, averaging 10 points per game the second half of the season.

"From the mid-point of the year Emma has played like her old self," Lindberg said. "She has broken out of that little funk she was in at the beginning of the season and has been the leader and competitor I've had for the last four years. It's been nice to see."

Early in the season Lindberg said she wanted to see this team develop; she wanted the team to get better as the season progressed. She hoped at tournament time Killingly would be playing its best basketball.

Killingly's 52-31 win over Ledyard at home on Friday, Jan. 21 was, Lindberg thought, a key moment in the team's development process.

"The win over Ledyard the second time we played them was big for us; they're pretty good," Lindberg said of the 13-6 Colonels. "They beat us by about 20 [59-46] the first time we played them, in the second game of the season [Thursday, Dec. 16]. So, to be able to come out and beat them by more than 20 points the second time we played them really said a lot about this team.

"It's anybody's league to win, really," Lindberg continued. "I wouldn't say we're playing our best right now, but we're definitely playing better than we were, and a big part of that is our bench is a little deeper than it was earlier in the season."

ROSSETTI

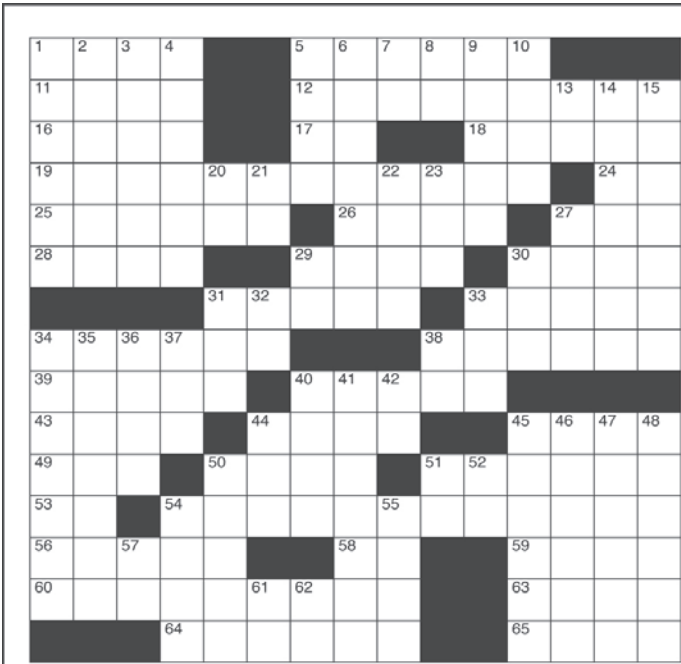
continued from page A1

up there it was fun, and the kids sang with their beautiful voices. I just thought what if people could enjoy the song but in a book form so that they could read it as a book or sing it and then it takes on a whole new life," said Rossetti. "The back of the book has the music so that anyone who can play guitar chords or piano can play it on their own, but I also did a Q-code on the back that people can scan, and it takes them right to YouTube where they can hear the song and listen to it while they're looking at the book."

Rossetti said publishing the book was an amazing experience that may have opened the door for a second career when she decides to retire from teaching. She said the most rewarding part of it all though is knowing that the song and book could become a new tradition for families to help bring them closer together through their love of books and song.

"My excitement is in putting that book in kids' hands and having them sing it because they know it and just enjoying the songs," said Rossetti. "The joy of a child asking if they can read the story and then generations go by and their children and grandchildren want to read it, it's a nice reflection of my life with the kids at the school because I have them in elementary school and then they grow up and they graduate and now I'm getting children of their children. I just think it's an exciting future for me and the story."

Rossetti did confirm there are more books in the pipeline and that she plans to do book signings to help promote the work. "Read Me a Story" is now available on Amazon and the musical version of the book can be found on Carol Rossetti's YouTube channel.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Remain as is

5. Functional

11. News magazine

12. Popular treat

16. Area units

17. Artificial intelligence

18. Marten valued for its fur

19. Forms of matter

24. Home of the Dodgers

25. Bordering

26. Part of the eye

27. It might be nervous

28. Visualizes

29. Crest of a hill

30. Measures engine speed (abbr.)

31. Tears in a garment (Br. Eng.)

33. Not easily explained

34. Song in short stanzas
38. Detonations

39. Intestinal

40. EU cofounder Paul-Henri ____

43. Balm

44. New Mexico mountain town

45. Gobblers

49. Insecticide

50. Golf scores

51. Has its own altar

53. "Pollock" actor Harris

54. Being livable

56. NHL play-by-play man

58. "The Great Lakes State" (abbr.)

59. Unpainted

60. Swam underwater

63. Native American people

64. Containing salt

65. Exam

CLUES DOWN

1. Small bone in middle ear

2. Long, angry speech

3. Move out of

4. Male organ

5. Two-toed sloth

6. Making dirty

7. Article

8. Oil company

9. Emits coherent radiation

10. Amounts of time

13. Unit equal to one quintillion bytes (abbr.)

14. Forbidden by law

15. Drains away

20. Not out

21. Sea patrol (abbr.)

22. Bird genus

23. Gratuity

27. ____ and feathers

29. Spiritual part of an individual (ancient Egypt)

30. Hot beverage

31. Pouch
32. It followed the cassette

33. Large northern deer

34. Ones who offer formally

35. Famed genie

36. Bequeathed

37. Skeletal muscle

38. Atomic #56

40. Silk garment

41. They deliver the mail

42. Equally

44. Check

45. Light-colored breed of hound

46. Drug that soothes

47. Railroads

48. Most slick

50. Jacket

51. A radio band

52. Hello

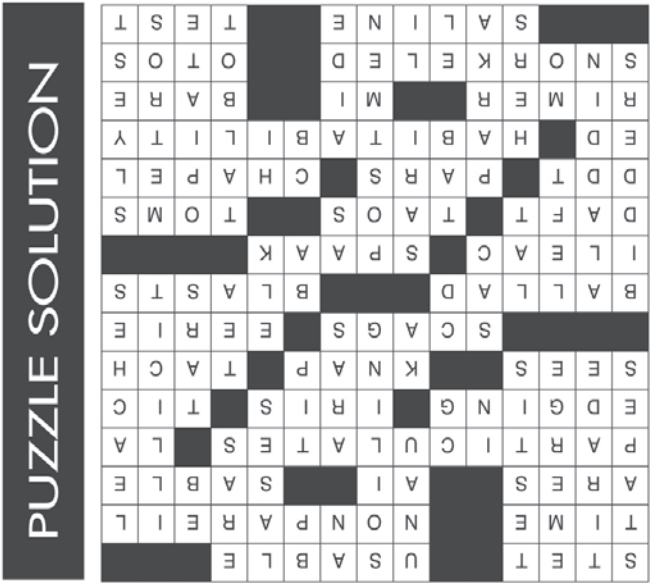
54. His and ____

55. Supporter

57. Popular software suite (abbr.)

61. Railway

62. NY coastal region (abbr.)



VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Feb. 7: Bald Eagle, Flicker, Junco, Northern Harrier, Barred Owl, Great Horned Owl, Carolina Wren, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Red-tailed Hawk, Goldfinch, House Finch, American Tree Sparrow, Common Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret.

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HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Tasked with tough week, Ellis Tech wins two of three to qualify for state tournament

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Because of weather and COVID-related postponements, the Ellis Tech girls' basketball team was faced with the unenviable task of having to play three games in three days. The Golden Eagles played at Grasso Tech on Tuesday, Feb. 8, home against Goodwin Tech on Wednesday, Feb. 9, and at Norwich Tech on Thursday, Feb. 10.

Adding to the degree of difficulty of this task was the fact that the Golden Eagles needed to win two of the three games to qualify for the state tournament.

Mission accomplished.

Ellis Tech began its daunting task with a 41-37 victory over Grasso Tech in Groton, sophomore Kylie Damble helping to lead her team to victory with a 15-point, 12-rebound performance. Classmate Brooke Montecalvo contributed to the Golden Eagles' win over the Eagles with eight points and three steals. Freshman Sadie Murray added eight points, six assists and four steals to the victorious effort.

The next night, back at home in Danielson, Ellis Tech lost to Goodwin Tech of New Britain, 29-16. The Golden Eagles led, 7-6, after the first quarter, but scored just nine points the rest of the way. Montecalvo led the way with seven points while senior Jordan Daoust added four points.

On Thursday Ellis Tech made it two wins in three days with a 29-13 victory over Norwich Tech. The game was tied, 7-7, after the first quarter, but the Golden Eagles' suffocating defense limited the Warriors to six points in the final three quarters. Montecalvo led a balanced scoring attack with seven points while Damble and freshman Kiara Cartier scored six points each. Junior Liliana WongKam grabbed a game-high 10 rebounds in the game.

A consistent defensive effort has been the signature of this year's edition of the Golden Eagles.

"Our defense this year, all around, has been superb. I tell the team all the time if we can hold our opponents to under 40 points and score more than 40 ourselves, we've got a shot," Ellis Tech coach John Murdock said. "We do struggle at times trying to get over the 40-point mark scoring-wise, but defensively the girls have been working their butts off.

"Sophomore Brooke Montecalvo, she's really a spark for us defensively," Murdock continued. "She's gotten at least a half-dozen five-second calls against our opponents this year. It's not something you see all the time but she is just great at it; she slides her feet and she doesn't foul."

With last week's pair of wins Ellis Tech improved to 9-7 with four games remaining. To qualify for the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Tournament a team has to win eight games, so the Golden Eagles are most definitely in and it's their second straight trip to the postseason (there was no tournament last year due to COVID). Once the state tournament begins Ellis Tech will compete in Class S.

The Golden Eagles are still in the thick of qualifying for the Connecticut Technical Conference (CTC) Tournament. Nothing has been decided yet regarding the CTC tournament, but qualifying for it would give the team, which is very young — one senior in the starting lineup — experience playing together in a tournament environment.

"I think if we do make the CTC tournament we would be very competitive," Murdock said. "Our games against the other tech teams that should make the tournament have been very competitive."

The Golden Eagles' regular starting lineup consists of one senior (Daoust), one junior (WongKam), two sophomores (Damble and Montecalvo) and one freshman (Murray). The first player off the bench for Murdock is often a freshman (Cartier).

Murdock said team chemistry was a question mark when the season started.

"One thing about being a tech school is we draw from 16-20 towns. We draw from all over. Some of our girls are from Woodstock, some are from Ashford, Killingly, and Willimantic," too," Murdock said. "Because we get them from everywhere, it's not like they've been playing basketball together since grammar school like you get with a lot of public schools. We get them as freshmen and we just have to hope that they mesh well and mesh well quickly."



Photo Courtesy

The Ellis Tech 2021-2022 Girls' Basketball Team on Yearbook Picture Day. Front row (left to right): Sophia Beshaw; Brooke Montecalvo; Mackenzie Dickenson; Kiara Cartier; Sadie Murray. Back Row (left to right): Assistant Coach Michelle Murray; Hailey Keefe; Jordan Daoust; Kylie Cummings; Kylie Damble, Head Coach John Murdock. Not Pictured: Assistant Coach Kalista Lovely; Liliana WongKam; Mackenzie Ruley.

They have.

"I was shocked at how quickly the chemistry on this team came around in terms of the young mixing with the old," Murdock explained. "Normally, the first three months, you never know what kind of chemistry you're going to have. This year in particular, the group that I have really is just one big happy family. The girls say it all the time, but it's true. They all get along. There are no issues whatsoever. They just go out there and play for each other."

Boys' Basketball

The Killingly boys' basketball team rebounded from a pair of losses with a pair of wins, defeating Tourtellotte, 58-35, on Tuesday, Feb. 8, and Woodstock Academy, 46-26, on Saturday, Feb. 12.

Yianni Baribeau led Killingly (9-8) in both victories.

The junior scored 21 points, grabbed

16 rebounds, recorded six steals, and blocked five shots in the win over the Centaurs. Junior Thomas Dreibholz added nine points to the winning effort against Woodstock while freshman Johnny Kazantzis scored six points for Killingly, which held the Centaurs scoreless in the fourth quarter. The leading scorer for Woodstock (1-15) was senior Jackson Goetz (seven points).

In the win over 5-13 Tourtellotte, Baribeau turned in a 16-point, 16-rebound effort. Kazantzis torched the Tigers for 15 points while senior J.R. Simoneau added 14.

Girls' Ice Hockey

The offense lit the lamp 12 times and senior goalie Mia Dang posted a pair of shutouts as the Woodstock Academy girls' hockey team swept a home-and-home series from the Warwick/Chariho co-op team, 4-0 on the road Friday, Feb.

11 and 8-0 Saturday, Feb. 12, in a game played at Pomfret School's Jahn Rink.

In Friday's win, played at Thayer Academy in Warwick, R.I., junior Keynila Hochard scored two goals while middle schoolers Maci Corradi and Grace Lescault found the back of the net for the Centaurs. Senior Bella Chaves recorded a pair of assists for WA and Dang finished with 22 saves.

In Saturday's Senior Night victory Hochard again had the hot hand, scoring a hat trick. Chaves added a pair of goals while Corradi, freshman Olivia Crawford and senior Sydney Haskins also scored for the 3-6-2 Centaurs.

Gymnastics

Junior Taylor Markley finished first in all four routines for undefeated Woodstock Academy, which scored 134.75 points to sweep a tri-meet against Killingly (126.05) and Stonington (124.35) on Monday, Feb. 7 at Deary Gymnastics in Danielson.

Markley scored a 9.65 in the vault; a 9.4 on the floor; a 9.2 on the beam and a 9.0 on bars to finish first in the All-Around with a 37.25 total. Centaurs' senior Lindsey Gillies was third in the All-Around with a 33.75 score. Senior Savannah Turner was third on beam (8.4) for Killingly (5-2, 5-2).

With the win Woodstock Academy improved to 8-0 overall and in the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC).

Alpine Skiing

Woodstock Academy senior Eliza Simpson qualified for Team Connecticut with an 11th-place finish in the Slalom shootout championship at Mt. Southington on Monday, Feb. 7. Team Connecticut will compete in the Eastern High School State Championships on March 3-6 at Attitash Mountain in Bartlett, N.H.

On Thursday, Feb. 10, the Connecticut Interscholastic Ski League (CISL) season came to a close with the State Open championship. Eliza Simpson placed sixth out of the 170 competitors who took part. Centaurs' freshman Emma Brody was 52nd in the girls' race while junior Davis Simpson was 53rd out of 150 in the boys' race.



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ENTERTAINMENT AND
EVENTS

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A THING!

‘Sunshine ahead’ Groundhog Day event a success

POMFRET — The “Sunshine Ahead! Connecticut Rising” Groundhog Day event, brought together a diverse group of speakers to the Quiet Corner. Addressing an audience from Pomfret and nearby towns, speakers Joe Markley, Carol Platt Liebau, Dominic Rapini and Jennifer Tafuto provided unique insights into many of the issues facing Connecticut and our small towns.

“Our goal was to start this important election year with a positive message of engagement, inclusion and education on the important

issues facing our citizens and I think we more than accomplished it,” said Ellsworth Chase, Chairman of the Pomfret Republican Town Committee. “The questions from the audience and the different perspectives on issues and solutions is what democracy is all about; respectful dialogue and thoughtful discussion based on facts.”

From parental concern about education curriculum to the history of state’s financial problems, the speakers covered a broad range of topics, in a fast and entertaining way. Each speak-

er quickly established their impressive background and experience.

“It was really great to be a part of such an interesting and thought-provoking event,” said William Vollweiler, a Pomfret family member. “As a young 23-year-old Republican voter, it was clear how much these issues affect my generation and other young people. I hope many more young voters in our town will get engaged.”

With elections to take place this fall, the audience learned about some of the challenges facing Connecticut with its 169 towns & cities. Dominic

Rapini, a candidate for the Secretary of State explained the importance of ensuring every voter has full faith and trust and security in our elections.

As a follow-up to the event, the PRTC will be announcing a series of virtual “Brown Bag Lunch” 30-minute discussions with each of the speakers. Stay tuned for more information visit our website www.pomfretgop.com or Facebook www.facebook.com/PomfretGOP.

The PRTC welcomes questions and interest in new members. For more information con-



tact Ellsworth Chase, chaselinks.com and 860-Chairman, at echase@922-4400.

Tourtellotte Student Spotlight: Zeynep Acun



NORTH GROSVENORDALE — Each month, Tourtellotte Memorial High School’s Student Spotlight program recognizes a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement, character, leadership, attitude, and/or contributes to the school and community. February’s Student Spotlight honoree is Senior Zeynep Acun.

Zeynep was nominated by fellow peers Joel Majorowski and Chloe Manzo, as well as Library Media Specialist Mrs. Ouillette. Joel says about Zeynep,

“Zeynep does so much for this school. She is always involved in so many extra-curricular activities such as FBLA, basketball, town recreation, town politics, Student Leadership, Student Council, National Honor Society, and she is a young cultural ambassador and BOE Liaison. She is super active and is always extremely kind and caring. Plus, her accomplishments are insane! She always studies and she always does what she is supposed to do. She has personally helped me with a lot of things and helped me learn new things that I never even knew about.”

Chloe Manzo also remarked on Zeynep’s involvement in the school and community as well as her accomplishments, adding, “I never knew her until this year when we had study hall together. At first, I didn’t talk to her because she was always busy doing work. The first time I talked to her I asked her to help me with my English project because I needed help. She explained it to me and helped me understand what I needed to do. I got a 97 on the assignment. I honestly thank her for that grade because she didn’t do my work for me; instead, she really made sure I understood what I needed to do. I’m glad I got to know her this year and hear

about all of her successes.”

Mrs. Ouillette adds, “Zeynep has been a strong leader in her school community for almost four years and has contributed immensely to her school. She is an excellent representative for the student body of TMHS.” When asked what motivates her, Zeynep says, “Knowing that the more I work at being successful, the more likely I am to fulfill my goals.”

Besides being an excellent student, Zeynep is one of two Thompson Board of Education Student Liaisons. She is also the Captain of the TMHS Girls Basketball Team and a member of several school organizations. Zeynep also works at the Thompson Town Hall as the Social Media/Marketing intern and is a Cultural Ambassador for the American-Turkish Association of Washington, D.C.

About her future, Zeynep plans to pursue a degree at the George Washington University to become a diplomat or legislator.

Finally, Zeynep’s message to her school and community is, “Though my time at Tourtellotte is coming to an end, I am more than grateful for the opportunities that TMHS and the Thompson community have provided me with.”

Local residents make dean’s list at Wentworth Institute of Technology

BOSTON, Mass. — The following local students have made the dean’s list at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the Fall 2021 semester:

- * Dan Clapp of Ashford
- * Jenna Gormley of Woodstock
- * Jacob Ledbetter of Woodstock

Wentworth Institute of Technology Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology is a nationally ranked university offering career-focused education through bachelors and graduate degree programs in areas including engineering, architecture, computer and data science, life sciences, management, and design. Its 31 acres are situated in the Fenway neighborhood of Boston, Mass., within walking distance of several leading cultural, educational, sports, and medical hubs. Wentworth is known for its emphasis on career preparation for students through its leading co-op programs, hands-on learning approach, and alignment with 21st-century workforce needs.



Killingly Public Library

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Itty Bitty Art Craft at the Killingly Public Library
Pick up supplies starting March 1
We will provide the materials, you create the masterpiece! Return your creation as soon as you can so that it can be featured in the Itty Bitty Art Show during the month of April. This is a great program for the whole family! Materials available starting March 1, while supplies last.

Crafty Days at the Killingly Library Ages 3-11
11 a.m. to noon March 10, 17, 24 & 31
Come and join us for this fun craft program in celebration of National Crafting Month! Registration is required.
Register on our events calendar at www.killinglypl.org.



QUEST MARTIAL ARTS STUDENTS EARN DRAGON BELTS

Photos Courtesy

Grandmaster Mike Bogdanski and Master Kristin Duethorn of Quest Martial Arts are proud to announce the promotion of students this month Dragon belts: Honorable Walford – Blue; Gnan Patel – Blue; Julian Cellucci – Green; Nella Copeland – Orange; Roscoe Kirkconnell – Orange; Cody Lenihan – Blue; Yellow Belt-Cameron Crowley; Orange Black Belt-Aiden Powell, Evoleht Powell; Orange Black Belt-Theodore Franklin; Orange Belt-Jeremi Helwig, Joshua Jeffers; Layla Benoit – Blue Green belt; Blue Belt-Blaise Bollig, Iayah Burke, Wyatt Campbell, William Magee; Blue White Belt Abigail Vose, Piper Vose; Green White belt-Sophia Benoit; Green Red Belt-Peyton Salley.

The Quiet Corner Page

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Woodstock Middle School honor roll

Grade 6
High Honors: Carolina Ahearn, Rhys Asikainen, Georgia Cross, Alexander DeCarli, Charlotte Donovan, Nathaniel Drake, Sophia Groves, Scarlett Hogarty, Haven Magnan, Kaitlyn McQuiston, Stella Puchalski, Patrick Raftery, Abel Rigney, Kaitlyn Teal
Honors: Ryder Benoit, Ayla Calabrese, Zoe Cloutier, William Collige, Colby Deary, Roan Donovan, Ava Eaton, Caroline Ethier, Jax Golden, Davis Jette, Abigail Keser, Zoe Laffert, Kaylee Letourneau, Teagan Maloney, Tristen Maloney, Abigail Manning, James McHugh, Colbie O'Connor, Erin Russell, James Silva, Lily Smock
Recognition: Drake Abdulloviski, Isabella Amlaw, Kaylee Armbruster, Evan Boucher, Aiden Bush, James Carlone, Summer Goodell, Henry Griffin, Daniel Jameson, Cuhrliz Welch Lopera, Oliver Moulton, Owen Murdock, Muhammad Zameer

Grade 7
High Honors: Brayden Bottone, Robert Graham, Samuel Greene, Brady Hebert
Honors: Mia Auger, Sydney Betty, Brayden De Oliveira, Lorelai Fish, Arianna Fox, Maylie Ganas, Julia Guimont, Cooper Harris, Samuel Lindsay, Kelsey McNeil, Landon Murdock, Tyler Odorski, Tatum Perez,

Keegan Porter, Rita Anne Rawcliffe, Drew Rhault, Jenna Saraidarian, Leah Thibodeau, Chloe Vogt, Cayden Worth
Recognition: Cole Cimeno, Kaylyn Converse, Matthew Dearborn, Willow Deary, Amelia Ditzel, Avery Grant, Jake Henderson, Nathan Jezierski, Brendon Lundt, Hayden Maloney, Jessica Palmerino, Damien Redman, Alexee Richter-LaMarre, Blake Robida

Grade 8
High Honors: Anthony Beaudreault, Adelyn Cournoyer, Avery Danis, Scarlet Delaney, Riley Faber, Isadora Graham, Eli Manning, Spencer Mayo, Katelyn McArthur, Ivar McDonald, Alec Nunes, Diya Patel, Thatcher Paterson, Kaylee Saucier, Jocelynn Sirrine, Samantha Smyth, Abigail Stevens
Honors: Aiden Bachand, Nathaniel Couture, Jackson Dorez, Harrison Durand, Jackson Durand, Campbell Favreau, Siobhan Hart, Sadie Johnson-Teed, Payton Leite, Guilia Musumeci, Aidan O'Connor, Lucas Quercia, Emma Quinney, Nathan Rauls, Abigail Towne, Wynter Worth
Recognition: Kyle Bain, Abby Ditzel, Emma Eaton, Sara Forcier, Henry Forrest, Gianna Musumeci, Vayda Payne, Cotter Pierce, Kerrigan Reynolds, Zachary Rodriguez, Jonathan Silva, Luke Thompson

Local students named to Dean's List at Western New England University

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Western New England University (WNE) is pleased to announce that Morgan Schmidt of Brooklyn and Matthew Weiss of Thompson have been named to the Dean's List for the Fall Semester 2021. They are among the 700 students who achieved this mark of academic excellence. Students are named to the Dean's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.30 or higher.
A model for the "New Traditional University," Western New England University is among just 13% of private (5,000 students or less) institutions ranked among US News and World Report «National Universities» and a «Top 100 Engineering Program.» WNE enrolls 3,690 students, including

2,552 full-time undergraduate, in bachelors, masters, and doctoral degrees at its Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy & Health Sciences, and School of Law.
Schmidt is working toward a BS in Forensic Biology. Weiss is working toward a BS in Health Sciences/Pre-Physician Assistant Concentration.
A WNE education provides career-span agility through a curriculum grounded in professional/experiential studies, enhanced by the liberal arts, and enriched by mentored research that equips graduates to adapt and succeed in the workplace of the future.
Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-

ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

“Sweet Flag” opens Eastern’s spring theatre season

WILLIMANTIC — “Sweet Flag” will open Eastern Connecticut State University’s spring theatre season from March 1-6 in Fine Arts Instructional Center (FAIC) Proscenium Theater. Written and directed by Theatre Professor J.J. Cobb, the show explores the struggles that women faced in the western frontier.
The story follows Prudie Prentiss, the lone midwife for hundreds of miles in the Nebraska Territory. When a wild girl’s unexpected appearance causes friction, the settlers realize that their visions of freedom and self-reliance will be hard won, but at whose expense?

Utilizing primary source documentation research over the past two decades, Cobb employs “site methodology,” the concept that theatre not only adapts to the constraints of a particular site, but can be written to illuminate how that location influences the events that take place. By using lighting, soundscape and scent, Cobb and the rest of the “Sweet Flag” production team will take viewers on an immersive experience within the Nebraskan Territory and frontier. The show will also incorporate music written by famed Haudenosaunee composer Dennis Yerry.
“Sweet Flag” will show in the Proscenium Theatre on March

1, 2, 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m., March 2 at 5:30 p.m. and March 6 at 4 p.m. Tickets are free for Eastern students upon the completion of a Student Reservation Survey; \$5 for other students and groups of 10 or more; \$10 for senior citizens; \$12 for Eastern faculty, staff, alumni and \$20 for the general public. Purchase tickets online at <https://easternct.showare.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=44>
For more information, visit: <https://www.easternct.edu/theatre/productions/sweet-flag.html> or contact the FAIC Box Office at (860) 465-5123 or email theatreboxoffice@easternct.edu.

Husson University announces Fall 2021 President’s List

BANGOR, Maine — The following students have been named to the Fall 2021 Presidents List at Husson University. Students who make the President's List must be enrolled as an undergraduate student, carry a full-time load of 12 credit hours, complete all attempted courses in the time allotted for the semester, and achieve a 3.80 to 4.0 semester grade-point average. Credits from pass/fail classes do not qualify toward meeting the minimum credit hour requirement.
Jolie R. Wilber of North Grosvenordale is enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with a concentration in National/Corporate Security and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration program.
Kevin C. Froehlich of Woodstock is enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in Communications Technology with a concentration in Video Production program.
Rori M. Johnson of Thompson, Conn. is enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration and Public

Health/Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program.
For more than 120 years, Husson University has shown its adaptability and strength in delivering educational programs that prepare future leaders to handle the challenges of tomorrow through innovative undergraduate and graduate degrees. With a commitment to delivering affordable classroom, online and experiential learning opportunities, Husson University has come to represent a superior value in higher education. The hallmarks of a Husson education include advanced knowledge delivered through quality educational programs in business; health and education; pharmacy studies; science and humanities; as well as communication. According to a recent analysis of tuition and fees by U.S. News & World Report, Husson University is one of the most affordable private colleges in New England. For more information about educational opportunities that can lead to personal and professional success, visit Husson.edu.

Samantha E. Murd named to Husson University Dean’s List

BANGOR, Maine — Danielson resident Samantha E. Murd, has been named to Husson University's Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester.
During the fall semester, Murd was enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice/Psychology and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration program.
Students who make the Dean's List must be enrolled as an undergraduate student, carry a full-time load of 12 credit hours, complete all attempted courses in the time allotted for the semester, and achieve a 3.60 to 3.79 semester grade-point average. Credits from pass/fail classes do not qualify toward meeting the minimum credit hour requirement.
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advanced knowledge delivered through quality educational programs in business; health and education; pharmacy studies; science and humanities; as well as communication. According to a recent analysis of tuition and fees by U.S. News & World Report, Husson University is one of the most affordable private colleges in New England. For more information about educational opportunities that can lead to personal and professional success, visit Husson.edu.

Charlotte Lillian Morrisette named to Husson University Honors List

BANGOR, Maine — Danielson resident, Charlotte Lillian Morrisette, has been named to Husson University's Honors List for the Fall 2021 semester.
During the fall semester, Morrisette was enrolled in Husson's Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science/Doctor of Physical Therapy program.
Students who make the Honors List must be enrolled as an undergraduate student, carry a full-time load of 12 credit hours, complete all attempted courses in the time allotted for the semester, and achieve a 3.40 to 3.59 semester grade-point average. Credits from pass/fail classes do not qualify toward meeting the minimum credit

hour requirement.
For more than 120 years, Husson University has shown its adaptability and strength in delivering educational programs that prepare future leaders to handle the challenges of tomorrow through innovative undergraduate and graduate degrees. With a commitment to delivering affordable classroom, online and experiential learning opportunities, Husson University has come to represent a superior value in higher education. The hallmarks of a Husson education include advanced knowledge delivered through quality educational programs in business; health and education; pharmacy studies; science and humanities; as well as communication. According to a recent analysis of tuition and fees by U.S. News & World Report, Husson University is one of the most affordable private colleges in New England. For more information about educational opportunities that can lead to personal and professional success, visit Husson.edu.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
 PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

Thank you
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us thrive

Our local papers are more important now than ever. Not only is the small-town newspaper tradition alive and well, but they are making a valiant come back across the country, thanks to local advertisers and loyal readers like you.

Small town papers have always “carried a big stick,” as some say, with the power to inform, highlight and bring the community together in an organized way. Our newspapers may not be important to those far and wide; however, they are everything to the readers who call these small communities home, and that is what matters, and we know it.

Locals reading about locals, in news reported by locals, means just one thing. Trust. A small-town paper delivers just that, and that relationship between readers and the paper means everything.

Over the years, there has been chatter in regard to digital media affecting print media. This may be true on a larger scale, but it’s the small-town paper that delivers the news that directly affects its readers. News from a local paper can prepare you for things that may impact your daily life. You can’t read a local police log, or know what is going on down at Town Hall, by reading the Washington Post.

Our favorite thing about running a local paper is the ability to highlight local achievements. Local sports teams, or graduates who move on to do big things, or locals who deserve accolades for a job well done, can be found off the rack of your local store. This is so important in making people know they are valued members of the community.

For our papers to still be thriving in the wake of a worldwide pandemic and months-long lockdown is no small achievement. News coverage, news gathering and technology have changed over the years, however our papers do fit into today’s world.

A wise publisher once wrote, “Once a week, we deserve to take the time to slow things down, grab a cup of our favorite beverage and immerse ourselves in the local, close, cozy community feeling of a hometown newspaper. The kind you can lean your elbows on as you scan the weekly specials; the kind with accidental coffee rings, folded and creased to fit in a briefcase or handbag; the kind that prints pics of YOUR kids, YOUR neighbors, YOUR organization, YOUR school.”

Thank you for making us proud to reflect and celebrate our community every week.

**LETTERS
POLICY**

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

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

Jan. 6 was no 9/11

To the Editor:

I found the recent Michael A. Douglas letter to be most interesting, and I’ll also admit that Donald Trump is far from perfect and the Republicans have their faults. I agree about the deafening silence from the Democrats and their controlled lapdog media on avoiding issues, and it’s because their highest priority is to continually portray Donald Trump as the bad guy. I don’t know what they fear more, Donald Trump again becoming president or them ending up like Jeffery Epstein if they dared to truly investigate Hillary Clinton? And whatever new evidence against her that’s recently come to light (like the John Durham probe) will be downplayed and quickly brushed under the rug.

However, they will continue to hammer up Jan. 6, which they said was the biggest ever attack on our democracy and compared it to 9/11. An attack on our democracy? I can kind of see their reasoning on that one, but any comparison or its reference to 9/11 is wrong. Form your own

OPINION
 Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

“Sorry”

To the Editor:

The title of an amazing Oscar winning short-film story. Google it. It could change your attitude and life. Such a gift that I

Where do we go after death?

To the Editor:

While reading the obituaries, my mind wandered. After death, what happens? Have you ever stopped to think when you die you will not see your own obituary? You will never know who was present at your services. No one has ever come back, in the flesh, to tell us where they are. We are told maybe there is a heaven, hell, or some other place we go; but again, no one knows for sure. One thing, for sure, is that we are all going to die at some time.

“The real question of life after death isn’t whether or not it exists; but even

The lost GOP is endangering our democracy

To the Editor:

It’s 2016, months before the national election. Candidate Donald Trump is already saying that if he loses, it will be because of a corrupt and rigged electoral system. Then, in November, he loses the popular vote by several million votes, but wins the presidency because of the “rigged” electoral vote. He stopped talking about it for some reason.

We all know the nonsense he’s been spewing since he lost both the popular and electoral vote in 2020 — “The Big Lie” that he continues to promote. If you believe that our election process is totally corrupt, then anyone from either party who has won an election (including Trump) is not a legitimate winner. Really? Or is the election process only corrupt when Trump loses? Sounds like the logic of a whiny sore loser. This would

Who is the real hypocrite?

To the Editor:

Michael A. Douglas may have been referring to me in his letter to you published on Feb. 11 when he accused an unnamed frequent writer of being hypocritical.

Mr. Douglas claims that it’s debatable whether or not the Jan. 6 treasonous, violent attack on the Capitol, along with Trump’s attempts to prevent the Vice President from accepting the legally certified slate of electors from a number of states, constituted an insurrection. He uses as evidence that people on the right say “no,” and that no one has yet been charged with insurrection.

They are dubious claims, since Mitch McConnell, the Republican leader in the U.S. Senate, called the attack “a violent insurrection.” Mitt Romney, Republican candidate for president in 2012, said at the time, “this is what the president (Trump) has caused today, this insurrection.” And the GOP leader in the U.S. House, Kevin McCarthy, in a rare moment of lucidity, said that Trump “bears responsibility for” the 6 January “attack on Congress by mob rioters.”

Regarding the supposed lack of arrests, last month, Elmer Rhodes, founder of far-right militia group Oath Keepers, and ten others were arrested and charged with “seditious conspiracy” for the failed insurrection. Without delving too deeply into the common and legal definitions, “sedition” is defined as incitement of insurrection against lawful authority. And “insurrection” is an uprising,



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opinion, but if you put the politics aside and look at Jan. 6 on a scale of lives lost and damage caused, it pales in comparison to the deaths and destruction caused when hundreds of riots raged in the cities and states run by the spineless puppet democrats alone, never mind what happened on 9/11. Remember also that these pawns refused President Donald Trump’s offer to help during those riots, and they have the nerve to say “orange man bad.” So now we have a wall around the Capitol building that was partially built by the same dopes who once said that walls were racist and immoral. Yes, you are correct, Mr. Douglas, it’s all hypocrisy at its definition, and I’ll add that if your unnamed letter writer doesn’t have anything to say about all of this, I’ll be quite surprised.

The Democrats are now lifting their Covid restrictions, reversing their failed stance on defunding the police, seemingly starting to address the soaring murder and crime rates in their cities, and even Beto O’Rourke has backed off on taking

received when I saw it. If it touches your heart as it did mine, please share it.

TAMI JO WYKES
 BROOKLYN

if it does, what problem this really solves?” (Ludwig Witttenstein)

We can’t explain everything; it’s okay to say we don’t have an answer. So, live your life to the fullest, in the present, be kind to others, treat others like you would like to be treated. Show love to your family, friends, and neighbors. Love them as you love yourself.

When your name appears in the obituaries, you will be gone from this earth forever, and no one will know where you truly are.

FORD FAY
 POMFRET

all be pathetically funny if it hadn’t led up to the deadly attack on our nation’s capital, and the continued threat of future violence.

The Republican Party was the party of Abraham Lincoln, Ronald Reagan, and John McCain, just to name a few. Even if you didn’t agree with their politics, you knew they were good, decent people who loved our country. Now the party is fronted by people like Trump, Marjorie Taylor Greene, and Matt Gaetz. Liars, nuts, and weirdos. The divided GOP has lost direction and credibility, and our democracy is in grave danger because of it.

TODD PATRIE
 POMFRET

usually violent, of citizens against their government.

So, there you have it. Prominent GOP leaders agree that there was an insurrection incited by Trump and the Justice Department has indicted 11 people for inciting the insurrection. It hardly seems hypocritical for anyone to describe the Capitol attack as an “insurrection.”

Typically, deniers like Mr. Douglas try to equate the violent attack that injured dozens of law enforcement officers and caused over a million dollars in damage to the Capitol in an attempt to subvert the will of the voters to accusations of Trump’s encouragement of Russian involvement in the 2016 election and the two impeachments of the former president. That’s a laughable comparison, and it cannot be seriously postulated by any objective observer. Impeachment, by definition since it is in the Constitution, is a legal, and non-violent, process and accusations about Russian collusion can hardly be compared to the illegal, violent attack on the Capitol.

I leave it to you and your readers to decide who actually is the hypocrite. Next, I expect the Trump cult to try to excuse Trump’s illegal removal of a trove of official documents, including classified and top secret material, to his Florida residence when he left office.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
 KILLINGLY

The pleasures
of poetry

The flowers are beginning to wilt, and the chocolates have been eaten. Once again, Valentine’s Day has come and gone, and we are left with memories of the pleasures we enjoyed or the disappointments we quietly endured. We need holidays to brighten the long days of winter, and to keep us looking forward. I read that primitive cultures generally celebrated every six weeks or so. If we look at a church calendar, a school schedule or our own itchy psyches, I think an event every six weeks or so is a very good idea.

This year is a special one for me for many reasons, but the newest one is the fun I am having as a co-poet laureate with my fellow Pomfret resident, Christine Kalafus. Christine and I are different in many ways, but joined in our mutual love of poetry and laughter. She holds an MFA from Goddard. Her poems are contemporary, real, often personal and edgy. Mine are traditional, based in memories or stories of people long gone. We think we complement each other with our work. We hope we add to the overall enjoyment of reading, writing and listening to poetry in our region.

As we are the first people to hold the roles of poets laureate, we are finding our way and creating a template for what the people who follow us may or may not do. We held our first workshop – Love Poems for Beginners at the Pomfret Public Library. We and the people who attended had a wonderful time. Here are the poems we shared.

Tokens
Christine Kalafus

Grandma Eva’s favorite
lipstick was red
but not just any red

Revlon’s
Cherries in the Snow

a drug store salve
sticky enough
to plant a blossom
on my cheek
at Grandpa Joe’s
funeral

Its svelte gold tube
slight enough to bury
in the pocket

of her black silk dress
tough enough
to hold up the Parthenon.

My poem was inspired by seeing people wearing gloves during the early months of the pandemic. An image sprang to my mind of a woman I once knew. The poem is my imagination, not necessarily based on any incidents from her life.

Edie

In summer, her gloves were cotton edged with lace, skimming the edge of her slim, speckled wrists, touching peaches at the market stand.

In winter, peach cans poised in palms of goat skin or cashmere- proof that she was not like you at all.

Her hands had once been leather gloved, riding horses from his stable. Taming horses, if not him.

At night, she’d take her riding gloves to bed, breathing the odor of the promises he’d made.

In dreams, the bridle paths they followed would be hers.

Once caught, her social world deflated fast. Some say she left for Argentina.

Married there, a man who took all her money. She never took his name, of course, but brought

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Jan. 6 insurrection is beyond debate

To the Editor:
I have refrained from engaging with Ed DeLuca, as I endure briefly perusing his biweekly litany of name calling (politicians and letter writers who have different views than he) and lies and exaggerations.
But last week, even Mr. DeLuca seemed sane in comparison to Mr. Douglas.
Let's start with his statement that since no one has been charged with an insurrection, then there was none.
Insurrection: a violent uprising against an authority or government (New Oxford American Dictionary)
If he took the time to watch Merrick Garland's address to the DOJ, he would realize that the low hanging fruit is charged first as they build cases and try to get people to flip on the bigger targets. Maybe he missed that just a couple weeks ago, 11 people were charged with seditious conspiracy, essentially insurrection, or as close as you can get without using that term, and this charge carries a 20-year max sentence.
Or maybe he believes in alternate facts, that in spite of overwhelming video evidence, that these were peaceful protesters who happened to carry weapons or use anything at their disposal including the American Flag on a pole as a weapon. Maybe he doesn't care that five died and even VP Pence was being searched for so he could be lynched. Maybe he believes that Secretary Clinton should have been locked up for Benghazi because four servicemen died, but it's ok that Capitol Officers lost their lives during and as a result of the 'seditious conspiracy.'
There is nothing up for debate here, Mr. Douglas. I will remind you, Mitch McConnell himself called it a 'violent insurrection.' The only reason the big fish haven't been charged is to make sure the DOJ doesn't err when taking an unprecedented step of charging sitting members of government.
Then there's the Russia question. Trump's own intelligence service acknowledged Russian interference in 2016. The Mueller Report did the same

and indicted Manafort for his involvement along with over a dozen Russian Nationals. Others in the Trump circle have been linked to Persons of interest. Recent parts of the report that were unredacted show further links to Don, Jr. himself in the Wikileaks scandal. Finally, we would know much more if the Republicans subpoenaed in the impeachment hearings actually testified. Just like with the Jan. 6 Commission, they are all either refusing (and maybe facing contempt charges in the future) or pleading the Fifth, not once but hundreds of times.
I have no doubt that had President Trump been legitimately re-elected that the Ukraine would already be part of Russia. It may eventually end up that way but at least President Biden's presence has made Putin delay, he had President Trump, willingly or just duped into it, as his ally in trying to weaken or destroy NATO so he could have a free hand in Ukraine just as he did when Pres Trump handed over Syria and and the Taliban did when he handed over Afghanistan.
Who hides from the truth if they are innocent? How many times and for how long did Secretary Clinton testify, not once pleading the Fifth? Only the guilty hide.
The Steele Dossier was partly inaccurate. Remember first that it was solicited by the Republicans. When he was finding things that hurt them, they tossed him aside and he went to the Democrats. There he likely got carried away with the more sensational media friendly headlines but much of what he presented has not been disproven. Now this weekend we have more of the same, the alleged John Durham revelations. Except it's already been revealed he didn't write it, Kash Patel, a Trump appointee put in place to push the Big Lie, is the author of at least some of it.
If Secretary Clinton is guilty of improperly commissioning someone to spy on the White House, then she should face legal action. Let's be clear, Pres Trump needs to be held accountable.
The centerpiece of the 2016 cam-

paign was the 'e-mails' We now see that an acting President, Mr. Trump, was illegally and unethically using personal devices, throwing away and tearing up documents, putting them down the toilet, and moving even confidential documents to Mar-a-Lago. Where is the outrage Mr. Douglas? Mr. DeLuca? I would love to go back and see how many times in this paper, the opinion writers said Secretary Clinton needed to be locked up just because of the emails. I'm waiting Mr. Deluca for you to call for Pres Trump's immediate arrest. I'd argue that as President his infractions were much more severe and potentially damaging and they are obstructing this investigation (Jan. 6). That they also occurred after his accusations and fear mongering in order to win the Presidency is probably the first and biggest example of his hypocrisy and use of projection to cover up his misdeeds.
Even if there's an ounce of truth in that, opposition research and trying to get to the truth from those who work to hide it from the People is exactly what we need. Somebody to speak truth to power, or we truly have an authoritarian dictator. Also, this just happens to come out as the walls close in on the Trump administration, and right on the heels of the news that the RNC had hired another ex-British Intelligence operative to not only spy on Democrats but also any Republican who wasn't following Trump's agenda. Nothing like having extortion to keep the Republicans in line.
I do not defend Avenatti; he's a con man just like President Trump; they do flock together especially when they smell money. Cuomo should not even be brought up unless you also want to talk about why Representatives Jordan and Gaetz are still in office.
While I'm at the keyboard, I'd like to address one point of Mr. DeLuca's letter, which, as usual, has tons of alternative facts — too much to address in one letter; maybe in the entire Villager. I also do not feel well versed on immigration, except to say that it has been an issue for administrations

from both parties and no one has had an answer including President Trump. Immigration reform was a key piece of legislation for President Obama, but there was no bipartisan agreement, and it didn't see the light of day.
Mr. DeLuca calls for term limits because of Rep. Pelosi. First, I'll say no one has done more for women's rights in government than Rep Pelosi and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. But the right hates powerful Democratic women, so let's make her a target.
Okay, I'm in favor of term limits myself. Isn't it just a bit convenient that Mr. DeLuca goes after Rep. Pelosi for declaring she's running another two years? Where was Ed when Sen Charles Grassley, seven years older than Rep. Nancy Pelosi and in office six years longer, decided to run for another six year term? If you want to talk term limits, let's represent the problem in a fair, bipartisan way.
As for calling Rep. Maxine Waters a name, nothing bothers a Trump supporter more than a powerful woman, except a powerful woman of color. So of course, he also attacks VP Harris. He also fails to refer to any of these legally elected officials by their titles; another insult. Finally, attacking Jen Psaki after the series of Press Secretaries that lied to the American public and the media if they spoke at all (and Stephanie Grisham has been at the forefront of exposing lies) is just hilarious.
Try doing some research that isn't funded by far right think tanks before you write letters. Maybe read the Mueller Report as well, basically a Republican document that suggested Russian interference and multiple counts of obstruction, but Mueller left it to Congress to deal with except Congress and the DOJ was, for all intents and purposes, controlled by Republicans.

BRIAN LOFFREDO
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Direct Contracting poses a threat to Medicare for all

To the Editor:
I regularly attend Medicare for All CT virtual meetings, and recently learned of a situation that poses quite a threat to our endeavor to get Connecticut to adopt a Single Payer health care system. Even if the current system was to remain in place, this new development is not good for the health of folks on Medicare.
Dr. Susan Rogers, president of Physicians for a National Health Program, testified on Feb. 2 before the Senate Finance Committee (subcommittee on Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Growth) and gave them some sobering facts. Dr. Rogers is a general internist from Chicago, and as president leads more than 24,000 doctors who advocate for a single-payer Medicare for All health care system. She said the current threat to Medicare is very real.
Quoting from her testimony, she said, "What we now call Traditional Medicare was created in 1965 to provide a safety net for seniors and those with disabilities, many of whom lived in poverty....(it) is at risk of being sold off to the highest bidder, with no input from seniors, health providers, or even members of Congress. This privatization of Medicare began when President Nixon enacted the HMO Act in 1973, but exploded in 2003 with the creation of Medicare Advantage, the version of Medicare run by commercial insurers. The common thread among these privatization experiments is the theory that inserting a middleman between Medicare and health providers — and between providers and our patients — will somehow save money or improve care. It has failed at both. In fact, researchers estimate that Medicare overpaid Medicare Advantage insurers by more than \$106 billion from 2010 through 2019. That's money that could have been spent on seniors' care."
Now, after "decades of failure," Dr Rogers said, "the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services launched a new model of Medicare privatization, called Direct Contracting. Instead of paying providers directly, Medicare pays third-party middlemen called Direct Contracting Entities, or DCEs, a set amount to "manage" seniors' health. DCEs are then allowed to pocket what they don't pay for in health

services, a dangerous financial incentive to restrict and ration seniors' care. If you haven't yet heard of Direct Contracting, that's by design. It was created in 2019 by the CMS Innovation Center, which is authorized to conduct payment experiments and scale them up to all of Medicare without input from Congress."
One particularly upsetting aspect of this "Direct Contracting," according to Rogers is that "Virtually any type of company can apply to be a DCE, including commercial insurers, venture capital investors, and even dialysis centers. Seniors in Traditional Medicare are automatically assigned to a DCE, without their full knowledge or understanding, if their primary care provider is affiliated with a DCE."
Rogers said, "This new model assumes that DCE middlemen will somehow lower costs and improve coordination of care. But former CMS and CMMI officials estimate that DCEs may spend as little as 60 percent of their Medicare payments on patient care, keeping the other 40 percent as profit and overhead. How is this an improvement on Traditional Medicare, which spends 98 percent of its funds on care? As for coordination, primary care physicians like me understand that it is our responsibility to make care decisions in partnership with our patients, not answer to third-party investors. Medicare was designed as a lifeline for America's seniors and those with disabilities, not a playground for Wall Street investors. If middlemen in health care actually saved money and improved outcomes, the U.S. wouldn't have the most expensive and ineffective health care system in the world. We don't need to put seniors through another failed experiment to prove this," she concluded.
I hope all reading this letter research this subject, find out about the Direct Contracting Entities and join up with Medicare for All CT. What we need is a Single Payer system, not more interference from third parties who only aim to make money off of health care. Please write to your Congressmen on this issue today!
Sincerely,

KAREN WARINSKY
WOODSTOCK

Choose to be happy

People usually allow circumstances to determine how they feel. Everyone has at many points allowed the events of the day to decide whether or not they have a good day. Sometimes the morning goes like this: We wake up late for work, as we scramble around trying to leave the house, and we say to ourselves, "Today is going to be a terrible day!"
After arriving at work, and missing the important meeting, the rest of the morning is in recovery mode. Sometimes the day gets worse, and sometimes it doesn't, but the negative thoughts persist, "Today is a bad day!" When this happens, we are allowing circumstances to determine how we feel. The thoughts run through our minds, "What happened to my life? Why am I not where I want to be? How come bad things always happen to me? Why am I always the one who messes up? Why didn't I get the promotion? Why am I not making more money? Why am I so unhappy?"
Most people don't want to hear it, but the uncomfortable truth is that happiness is a choice.
In fifth grade, I had a series of bad days. I came home one day and complained to my mom and dad about how bad my days were. They listened to me and responded by telling me it would get better, but it never did. Then one morning, my dad decided to drive me to school. As we pulled up to the front door, he asked me to repeat after him, "I will have a good day today." I remember saying, "How do you know I'll have a good day?" His response was, "you're the one who decides whether your day is good or bad. Just try it. Tell yourself that you'll have a good day and see what happens." With the openness of a child, I repeated, "I will have a good day today." I accepted his challenge and eagerly wanted to know if his strategy would work. As the day went on, I was surprised that the day was running smoothly. When he picked me back up from school, I happily jumped into the



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

TOBY
MOORE

I always remember that lesson. I eventually realized that the day went well because I expected good things to happen. I trusted my father's approach and, as a result, ended up focusing on the good things that happened that day rather than the bad ones.
I was a happy person for many years after that day because I chose to be happy. Sadly, as I got older and the troubles came, I was quickly thrown off course. I spent many years letting daily events determine how I felt. I allowed myself to be a victim of circumstance.
Even when you're determined to be happy, bad things will still happen. Even when you wake up in the morning and tell yourself, "Today is going to be a great day!" It doesn't mean you won't encounter adverse incidents. The secret is that when you're determined to have a good day, you won't dwell on the negative occurrences; you'll dwell on the positive ones. You'll expect that good thing will come, and even if they don't always, you'll view the events with a half-glass full mentality - which will open your mind up to new possibilities.
There will be delays to our plans, and there will be betrayals by people that can force us into despair. When these things occur, we usually feel that things will never change. We must continually remind ourselves that we are determined to be happy. Our will can indeed overcome any negative emotion.
If you're putting off your happiness until you have the life you want, it probably will never happen. Instead, wake up every day with the expectation that the day will be great, you'll begin to view life in a new light, and things will start to change in your favor.

Local students named to Dean's List at Saint Michael's College

COLCHESTER, Vt. — The following students were named to the Dean's List at Saint Michael's College for the Fall 2021 semester.
* Summer Chaponis, a junior mathematics / economics major from Woodstock and a graduate of Woodstock Academy.
* Sofia Jendrewski, a junior psychology major from Woodstock and a graduate of Woodstock Academy.
About Saint Michael's College
Saint Michael's College, founded in the great Catholic intellectual tradition, which also recognizes the principles

of social justice and compassion, is a selective, fully residential Catholic college in Vermont's beautiful Green Mountains. Our closely connected community delivers internationally-respected liberal arts and graduate education near Burlington, one of the country's best college towns. To prepare for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives, young adults here grow intellectually, socially, and morally, learning to be responsible for themselves, each other and their world.



WEISS
continued from page A8

him home to show the others how well he rode.

I hope you enjoy these thoughts of love. We will be offering another workshop on March 19 from 10 a.m.-noon in celebration of Women's History Month at the library at Christ Church Pomfret.
Sign up at Pomfret Public Library. Write some poems yourself.

DELUCA
continued from page A8

would try to keep you from speaking your mind, or say that you should stop writing editorials. It reminds me of when it was suggested that I be banned from writing letters here, and though the way we look at things may differ, we now have something in common.

ED DELUCA
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Vertical gardening maximizes beauty and harvest

Go vertical to expand your outdoor gardening space, create privacy and add beauty to bare walls and fences. This centuries-old technique has been used to grow food and flowers, adding beauty and productivity from the ground up. Even those gardening on small city lots, balconies and decks can go vertical to expand their gardening opportunities.

Grow pole beans, peas, squash, melons, tomatoes, and other vining edible plants onto supports. This saves space, reduces the risk of disease, and makes harvesting much easier.

Enjoy the many benefits of vertical gardening even when growing in containers. Create your own or purchase a support that securely fits and supports the vines growing in the planter. Or purchase a container with an integrated trellis. Further reduce maintenance by utilizing a self-watering pot like the City Jungle Self-Watering Tomato Planter large enough to grow and support two indeterminate tomatoes.

Mount containers on a wall or fence or stack and secure them vertically to increase growing space. Systems



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

like the Vigoroot 4-Tiered Balcony Garden provide lots of planting space in just a few square feet.

Include trellises and arbors in raised beds and elevated gardens to further maximize growing space. Trellises train vines

upward while arches allow you to grow two layers of plants, one over the trellis and one below.

Dress up a bare wall or fence, screen a bad view or create privacy with a plant-covered trellis. Leave space between the wall and trellis when gardening next to a building. This space allows airflow between the building and plants, reducing the risk of mildew on the wall and diseases infecting the plants.

Grow annual vines for quick cover and perennial vines for years of beauty. Mix the two to quickly cover the trellis with the annual vine while waiting for the perennial to establish and reach its mature size. Plant two vines with different bloom times on one trellis to extend the colorful flower display. Or look for those that bloom at the same time to double the floral impact.

Use decorative supports to add beauty or a focal point year-round. Select the style – rustic, formal or colorful – that complements your garden design, furnishings, and personality. Make sure whatever you choose is strong enough to support the plants you grow.

Mask rain barrels, compost bins and other functional areas in the landscape with a wall of plants. Leave space for easy access as you fill your compost bin or harvest finished compost and rainwater.

Dress up a lamp or mailbox post with a vine covered support. Create your own from chicken wire or purchase a curved trellis like the Bosmere Trellis (gardeners.com) suitable for this application.

Use trellises and arbors to brighten often overlooked spaces. A vine-covered arbor makes a nice floral welcome at the entrance to a walkway or colorful transition between garden areas. Make sure the opening is large enough to accommodate visitors and any equipment needed.

No matter your style and location, vertical gardens can help you maximize your growing space and garden's beauty.



Photo Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company

Grow a vegetable garden vertically in a compact space whether on a balcony or patio.

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

Free to live



BEYOND
THE PEWS
.....
BISHOP JOHN
W. HANSON

She paces in her cage, tripping over her two newborn cubs that she recently birthed as a result of artificial insemination. Each day, thousands of people file by the beautiful, three-hundred-fifty-pound, Siberian Tiger. A piece of raw meat lays, untouched, near the small iron grate through which her keepers had recently thrust it. Elaborate scenery, including “play-things,” decorated the quarter-acre enclosure. Everything was state of the art, as far as zoos are concerned.

“Why the pacing?” someone might ask. “She has food, water, company and safety. This must really be the good life. How come she has paced so much that she has worn a path around the perimeter of her pen?”

The answer is rather obvious. She

paces because everything about her life is unnatural. She was born to be free. She was born to run, fight and survive. She was engineered to expend energy. Her body wanted to experience episodes of elevated blood pressure and adrenaline rushes. She was designed to mate and hunt for her young. In the zoo she is alive, but not really living.

Ironically, all the provision and comfort provided her by the zoo diminishes her life - because she is not in her native environment. Because everything is provided for her, one might think she would just sit back and enjoy life. Instead, she wears a path near the perimeter wall that holds her captive, eyeing the door in case it might be left ajar. She has a deep longing to be free.

Sometimes, people feel a similar restlessness. They may have the comforts of life, but they are lacking purpose and meaning for which they were created. They may be playing the games society invents, but they long for supernatural encounters in which they strain and struggle, but in which they also grow and overcome.

Many people think of sin as things we do that we are not supposed to do. It is often viewed as the “forbidden

fruit.” But Scripture describes it as a cage that holds us captive. Sin can sometimes provide counterfeits for the important things in life. However, sin usually cheapens, entangles and squeezes the life out of its victims. Often, people who seem to have everything, wander through life looking for meaning, so frustrated that they sometimes despair of life.

The Good News is that the door to that cage has been left ajar. Jesus Christ paid the price to make it possible for anyone to leave their cage and live free. Those who will follow him can live free from sin, guilt and shame. They can live a life of purpose, as they look forward to an eternal life that will follow. Their free life will not be easy, but it will be the kind of life they were designed to live. The door to freedom is open; it only takes one commitment, and they will be ushered into a life that is truly free.

Bishop John W Hanson oversee Acts II Ministries in Thompson. Please visit www.ActsII.org for more information.

Dean’s list honors announced at Tufts University

MEDFORD, Mass. — Tufts University recently announced the dean's list for the Fall 2021 semester.

Among students earning dean's list honors is Travis White of Pomfret Center, Class of 2024.

Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, Mass., and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.



LEGALS

Public Hearing

Woodstock Historic District Commission public hearing Feb 23, 6:30 pm for 556 Rt 169, Roseland Cottage; 435 Rt 169. G Usher, Chair. February 18, 2022

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

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

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

File may be reviewed online, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting

Respectfully submitted, Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman February 18, 2022 February 25, 2022

TOWN OF THOMPSON

At the December 14, 2021 meeting of the Thompson Inland Wetlands Commission the following action was taken: Application #IWA21028, approved with conditions, Wojciech Sudyka, 1574 Riverside Dr. (Assessor's Map 55, Block 65, Lot 14) - filling 3,500 sq. ft. of wetlands and 100-foot upland review area for construction of commercial building and associated parking. George T. O'Neil, Chair February 18, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Barbara A. Arons (22-00030) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 21, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fi-

duciary 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: Evelina M. Ruszkowski, The Prue Law Group, P.C., 720 Main Street, Floor Four, Willimantic, CT 06226 February 18, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Jack H Berry (22-00017) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 7, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Anne Cunneen c/o CHRISTIAN GEORGE SARANTOPOULOS, SARANTOPOULOS &, SARANTOPOULOS, LLC, 143 SCHOOL STREET, DANIELSON, CT 06239 February 18, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Bernard Mayo (22-00041) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 7, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Bernard P. Mayo c/o GABRIELLE LABONTE, LAW OFFICE OF GABRIELLE LABONTE, 5 VINA LANE, P.O. BOX 709, BROOKLYN, CT 06234 February 18, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF William Fred Moser, AKA

William F Moser (22-00009) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 8, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Lorraine M. Moser c/o NICHOLAS A LONGO, BACHAND, LONGO &, HIGGINS. 168 MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260 February 18, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Jeremy David Barefoot (22-00044) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 7, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Laurie Barefoot, 1374 Route 171, Woodstock Valley, CT 06282 February 18, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Timothy Guy Durand, AKA Timothy Durand, AKA Timothy G Durand, AKA Tim Durand (22-00051) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 7, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Scott Durand, PO Box 108, Thompson, CT 06271 February 18, 2022

Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I, SARA E ALERS 1009 ROUTE 169 WOODSTOCK, CT 06281-1723 Have filed an application placarded 02/14/2022 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a RESTAURANT LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at 142 OLD TURNPIKE RD QUINEBAUG CT 06262-7717 State of Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection LIQUOR PERMIT REQUESTED FOR THESE PREMISES Posting Date: 02/14/2022 Type of Permit: RESTAURANT LIQUOR Permittee: SARA E ALERS Backer-Owner: PIT STOP PUB LLC Entertainment, If Any: Disc Jockeys, Live Bands Objections must be received to DCP – Liquor Control Division by: 03-28-2022 Mail: 450 Columbus Blvd. Suite 901 Hartford, CT 06103 E-mail: DCP.LiquorRemonstrance@ct.gov February 18, 2022 February 25, 2022

Legal Notice LIQUOR PERMIT Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I, Kirankumar N. Patel 6 Glen Meadow Franklin, MA 02038 Have filed an application placard 02/16/2022 with Department of Consumer Protection for a Package Store LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at: 520 Riverside Dr. N. Grosvenordale CT, 06255 The Business will be owned by: MAHAKALI INC. Objections must be filed by 3-30-2022 February 18, 2022

Putnam Fire & Ice draws record crowd

PUTNAM – It's estimated around 20,000 people crowded Downtown Putnam on Saturday, Feb. 12 for the 11th annual Fire & Ice Festival signaling and undeniable return to a sense of normalcy in one of the Quiet Corner's most active towns. A wide array of activities and displays created a delightful atmosphere one of the warmest days since 2022 began as temperatures reached nearly 60 degrees. In spite of the heat, ice sculptures sponsored by area businesses and organizations braved the unseasonable elements as spectators walked the streets enjoying the sights and sounds of Main Street. The day included a vendor fair; a cake contest, a public game show hosted by Mohegan Sun, and, after the sun went down, fire dancing displays that lit up the night. It was truly a day to remember and the most celebrated edition to date of Putnam's annual pre-Valentine's Day celebration.



Mohegan Sun Casino hosted a fun Temperature Rising Game Show right in the middle of downtown Putnam picking random contenders from the audience to compete in a quiz show for cash prizes.



Photos Jason Bleau/Nate Ruggirello

1. Fire dancers light up the night in the late hours of Fire & Ice 2022.



Spectators examine several of the creative cakes made for the Love is Brewing Cake Contest.



The Putnam Antler Lodge #574 had a busy display outside of the The Crossing with roses, an ice sculpture display and more.



The Foster Corporation sponsored this interactive ice sculpture that allowed visitors, especially youngsters, to add sand to its pillars to create a truly unique community art project.



A sculptor begins work on a piece outside of the Chubby Dog Coffee Company which served a special selection of Pokémon-themed coffees throughout the day.



One of several adult beverage themed ice sculptures, this Ketel One Vodka sculpture feature a classic lounge sifting the alcohol through the ice to create drinks.



This Linemaster Switch ice sculpture had a truly American flair to it.



Sculptors display their craft for onlookers on Putnam's Main Street.



What better sculpture to represent Skeeter's Toybox than this large Lego man?



The Mansion at Bald Hill sponsored this delightful eagle sculpture.



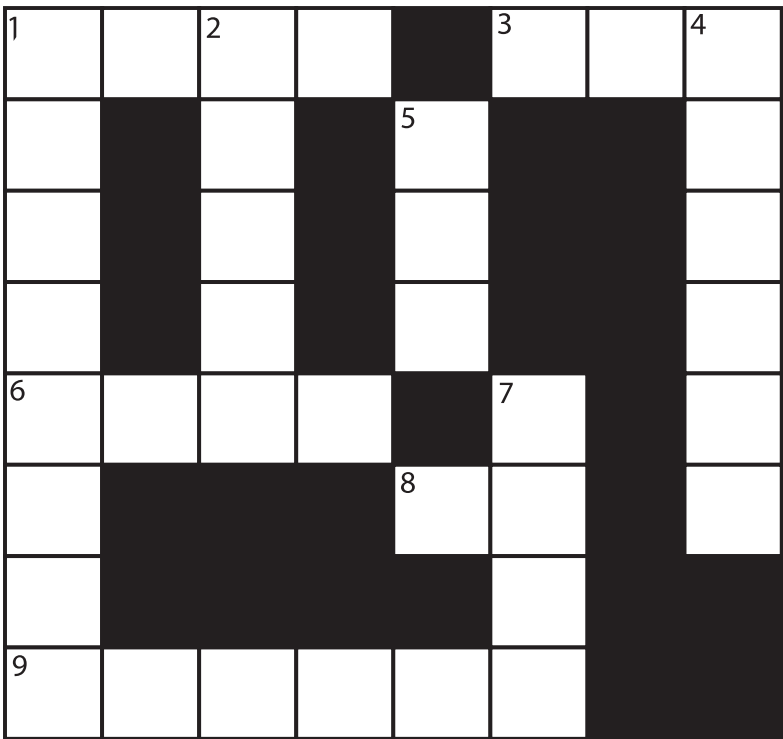
The young members of the Putnam Rotary Interact Club go to work on their sculpture which eventually became a penguin.



The Remax balloon was a fun stop for many, especially kids who got to sit in the basket and see firsthand how balloon flames work.



Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Part of a bird’s face
- 3. Consume
- 6. Look for
- 8. Opposite of “off”
- 9. Gloomy

DOWN

- 1. Food for birds
- 2. Love deeply
- 4. Food rewards
- 5. Oily or greasy substance
- 7. Solely

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1807:** FORMER VICE PRESIDENT AARON BURR IS ARRESTED FOR TREASON IN ALABAMA.
- **1945:** THE UNITED STATES MARINES GO ASHORE AT IWO JIMA.
- **1985:** WILLIAM J. SCHROEDER MAKES MEDICAL HISTORY WHEN HE BECOMES THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF AN ARTIFICIAL HEART TO LEAVE THE HOSPITAL.



THESE ANIMALS CAN USE AN EXTRA BOOST OF FOOD DURING WINTER WHEN RESOURCES ARE SCARCE.

ANSWER: BIRDS

Down
1. Birdseed 2. Adore 4. Treats 5. Fat 7. Only

Across
1. Beak 3. Eat 6. Seek 8. On 9. Drearly



MILLET

small-seeded cereal grain



- ENGLISH:** Seed
- SPANISH:** Semilla
- ITALIAN:** Seme
- FRENCH:** Graine
- GERMAN:** Samen



MANY DIFFERENT BIRD SPECIES DO NOT FLY TO WARMER PLACES TO ESCAPE THE COLD. YOU CAN ASSIST BIRDS IN WINTER BY PUTTING OUT FOOD.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: BLUE JAY



CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to the library.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 17 = O)

A. 21 18 21 8 18 15

Clue: Part of a group or club

B. 8 17 17 19 26

Clue: Bound volumes

C. 3 22 26 9 18 26

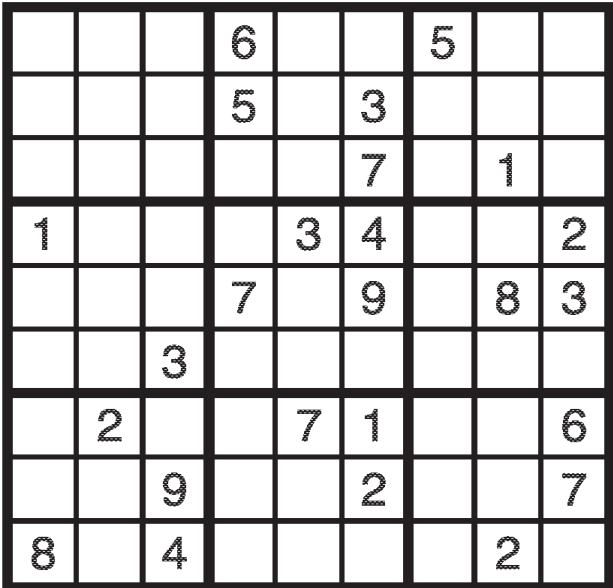
Clue: Passages between rows

D. 8 17 15 15 17 25

Clue: Temporarily use

Answers: A. member B. books C. aisles D. borrow

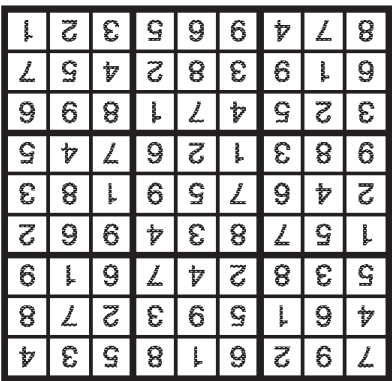
SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:


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



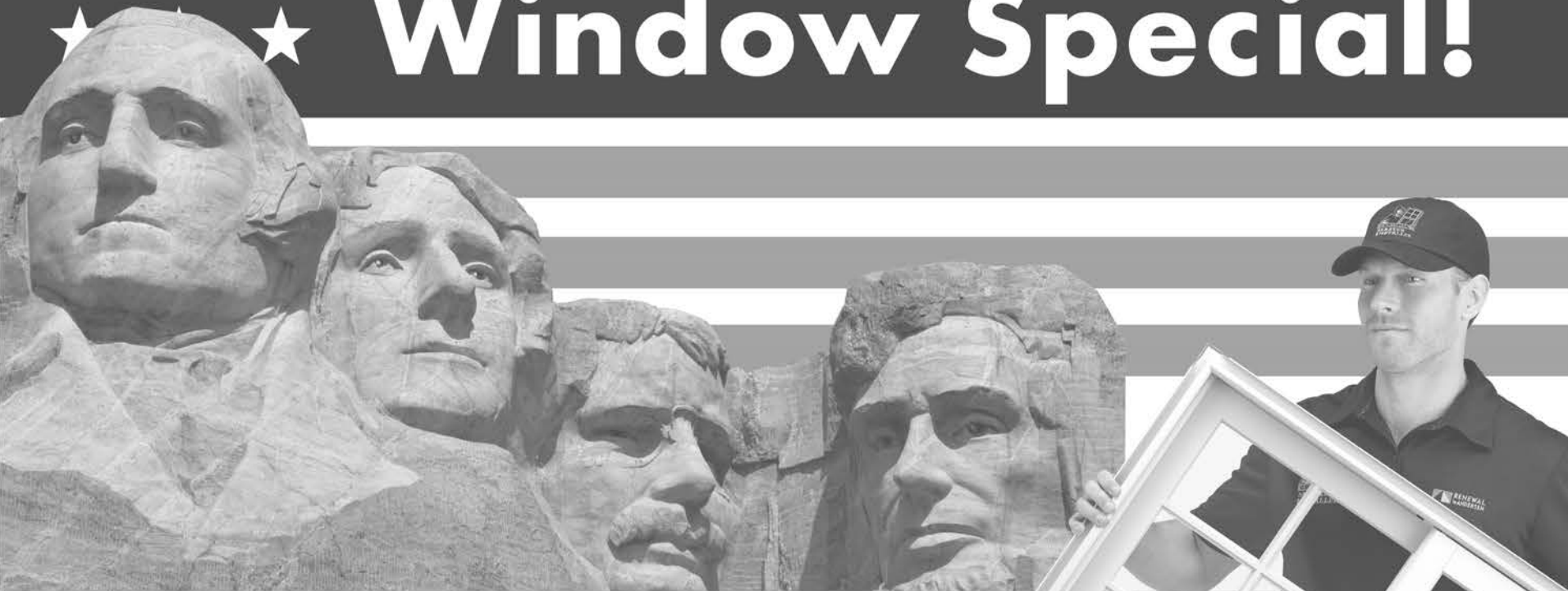
ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

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



PRESIDENTS' DAY Window Special!



- **Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen**, and every window that we custom-build has to live up to their strict quality standards
- Our window helps make homes more comfortable because our Fibrex® material is **two times stronger than vinyl**
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Presidents' Day Special ENDS Monday, February 28th

Buy 1 window or door,
get 1 window or door

40% OFF¹

PLUS



Take an
additional

\$200 OFF

your
project¹



PLUS

NO

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Payments

NO

Interest

FOR 1
YEAR²





Call to schedule your
appointment. Limited
appointments are available.

959-456-0067

¹Subject to availability, on a total purchase of 4 or more. Buy 2 windows or doors and get the second 2 windows or doors, of equal or lesser value, 40% off – applied to lowest priced window and/or door products in purchase. Special Presidents' Day \$200 discount valid during first appointment only. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for an appointment must be made and documented on or before 2/28/22 with the purchase then occurring on or before 3/10/22. ²No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available from third-party lenders to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Products are marketed, sold and installed (but not manufactured) by Renewal by Andersen retailers, which are independently owned and operated under CT HIC.0634555, MA 173245, RI 36079. Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. Southern New England Windows LLC is the authorized representative of Renewal by Andersen and the registered Home Improvement Contractor. Renewal by Andersen does not hold this HIC number. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard will be subject to an island surcharge. See complete information and entity identification at www.rbaguidelines.com. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

♥ Love life? Love someone? Get vaccinated. ♥

News to love:

- ♥ COVID-19 transmission rates continue to drop.
- ♥ Longer days and better weather are ahead to get out, get walking, and enjoy the great outdoors.
- ♥ Safe, effective COVID-19 vaccines are available to protect against hospitalization and death.

Northeast District Department of Health
COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Schedule
for Unvaccinated Ages 5+ and Boosters

Tuesdays 10 am – 2 pm at NDDH
Thursdays 2 – 6 pm at Quinebaug Valley Senior Center

69 South Main Street, Brooklyn
(NDDH at back of building; QVSCC at front of building)

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

Vaccines Available	For Ages	# of shots needed to be fully vaccinated	WHO can get a COVID-19 booster and when you can get it
Pfizer	5+	2 (21 days apart) Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian	Ages 12+ At least 5 months after a 2 nd dose of Pfizer
Moderna	18+	2 (28 days apart)	Ages 18+ At least 5 months after a 2 nd dose of Moderna
Johnson & Johnson	18+	1	Ages 18+ At least 2 months after a J & J vaccine

- 1st and 2nd doses for **ages 5+:** Walk-ins accepted or by appointment scheduled in VAMS
- Booster shots for all three vaccines: Walk-ins accepted or by appointment scheduled in VAMS
- Please bring your vaccination card for 2nd dose and booster appointments

A word about masks...

State mask mandates may end soon but IT'S STILL OKAY TO WEAR THEM... and still recommended by the CDC to reduce risk. Federal mask mandates remain in place and must be worn on public transit including school buses. Many people continue to be at risk for COVID-19, so respect mask choices for those who must still mask or who choose to wear them.



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

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



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

University of Saint Joseph congratulates Dean's List students

WEST HARTFORD — Sam Majek, of Brooklyn and Alicia Smith of Eastford are among the more than 395 undergraduate students who have been named to the University of Saint Joseph Dean's List for the fall 2021 semester. Students who are awarded this academic achievement have earned a GPA of 3.50 or higher for the semester, with no grade lower than a "B." Majek is a student majoring in Biology.

"Once again, USJ students proved that they are committed to academic excellence," said Provost Michelle Kalis, Ph.D. "These students are the future nurses, teachers, social workers, scientists, actuaries, and leaders our community needs. The entire University community is proud of their accomplishments."

Congratulations on earning this aca-

ademic achievement!

The University of Saint Joseph is the premier private university in Connecticut for future in-demand professionals in health care and social services, education, digital media, and the sciences with its undergraduate and graduate degree programs designed for your goals! A USJ degree is a proven credential for undergraduates seeking a traditional New England college setting with exceptional NCAA Division III athletics and a strong sense of community. For graduate students ready to learn more and earn more, USJ offers online, hybrid, and on-ground masters and doctoral programs with innovative modular curricula that attract students from around the world.

To learn more, view our Web site at www.usj.edu.

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