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Friday, March 10, 2017

WOODSTOCK GYMNASTS NO. 1 IN STATE

Charlie Lentz photo

NEW MILFORD — Woodstock Academy's Jenna Davidson competes in the balance beam at the State Open Gymnastics Championships last Saturday at New Milford High. Woodstock was crowned as the best high school gymnastics team in Connecticut for the sixth straight year. Story on page B-1.

Fire levels trailer home

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DAYVILLE — Firefighters made quick work of a potentially dangerous structure fire in early-morning hours on Monday at Conrad Park. The call was made to dispatchers at 2:32 a.m. on March 6, bringing response from Dayville Fire Company, East Killingly, Danielson, Attawaugan, East Putnam, Atwood Hose FAST Team and KB Ambulance. Killingly Fire Marshall Randy Burchard said the flames leveled the home at 12 Conrad Park but firefighters kept the blaze from spreading to other units.



Photo courtesy QVEC Dispatch

Firefighters battle blaze at 12 Conrad Park in Dayville Monday.

"The mobile home will be pretty much a total loss. During our investigation we found the area of origin to be in the living room area," Burchard said. "The fire is going to be considered to have an undetermined cause."

Burchard said firefighters did an exceptional job handling the situation, especially considering that the fire had an extensive head start and if weather conditions were different the situation could have been a lot worse.

"Given the nature of a park

model, usually they burn rather quickly. It's not like a regular residential house. The fire departments did a heck of a job. They did very good work even though the fire was ahead of them. They managed to keep

it contained to that dwelling unit. If it was windy out like it had been days before, then it probably would have been a different situation," Burchard

Please Read **FIRE**, page A10

Putnam audit behind schedule

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

PUTNAM — With a new Finance Director and new Town Administrator in place, Putnam's Board of Selectmen hopes to embrace a more efficient audit cycle by the end of this year. The current audit, set to be in the Selectmen's

hands by March 10, is several months behind schedule.

Selectmen addressed the town's auditingscheduleduring the Town Administrator's report at the Board's meeting on Monday, March 6. It was the first report presented by Town Administrator Mary Calorio. Calorio succeeded the

late Doug Cutler at the end of February.

Calorio said she had been hard at work with the town's Finance Director, Donna Diani, who joined the town in November of last year. Calorio said Diani came on board when the town was already behind the eight ball. Putnam sought

three different extensions en route to finishing its latest audit. Calorio said there are findings in this year's document that caused it to be issued as a qualified opinion — not a clean opinion and containing misrepresentations.

"There were some material deficiencies that they found

as they were performing the audit, a lot of it related to grant reporting," Calorio said. "I know Donna has already started work on making changes to the process — some of the findings that we had, she's already starting to address which is a

Please Read **AUDIT**, page A10

Thompson students fill pantry shelves

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — Some kids spend their Sunday morning in bed catching up on lost sleep. Some spend in playing video games or watching Sunday morning cartoons. On Sunday March 5, a group of young CCD students in Thompson did something a little different with their Sunday. They helped transfer weeks' worth of collected food to the food pantry at the St. Joseph School.

Members of the seventh grade CCD class, led by teacher Laurie Barber,

took the time to transfer food collected to the shelves of the little-known pantry between the St. Joseph School and St. Joseph Church, with donations ranging from pasta and vegetables to peanut butter and even winter hats and gloves. Between 130 and 140 items were donated by students. If you ask the kids of Laurie Barber's class, it was a pleasure to bring those goods to the pantry.

"It feels good. We're helping out the

Please Read **PANTRY**, page A16



Jason Bleau photo

Lauren Barber's seventh grade CCD class from the St. Joseph School in Thompson show off just a few of over 100 items collected.

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Courtney condemns new healthcare bill

WASHINGTON, D.C.— U.S. Congressman Joe Courtney, Democrat of Connecticut representing the Second District (Putnam, Norwich, New London), was the first member of Congress to speak out on the House floor on March 7 against the new Republican healthcare bill which was finally revealed late in the night on March 6.

Courtney spoke against the measure that he said Republican leadership is attempting to jam through the legislative process. “Seven years ago, in March of 2010, the Affordable Care Act was signed into law after a two-year process of hundreds of committee meetings, exhaustive markups which I personally participated in, floor debate that went on for days, and back and forth between the House and Senate,” said Courtney during his floor speech.

“The fact that this measure is going forward in committee tomorrow morning, with less than 24 hours for

the American people to have even a glimpse of what is being proposed, and without an any analysis or a budgets score is just an abuse of the legislative and democratic process.

Courtney said his constituents want more careful consideration of the prospective overhaul. “We have seen an outpouring of Americans over the last two

months at town hall meetings — I have had four of them — telling heartfelt stories about how the ACA helped them,” Courtney said. “Yes, we can improve the law and there are many ideas we can work together on and that is what we should be focused on — not butchering the law which this proposal seeks to do.”



Joe Courtney speaks out on the House floor on March 7.

Courtesy photo



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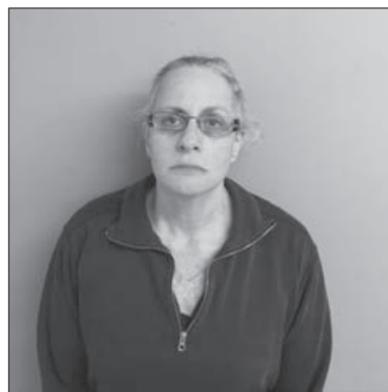
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Traffic stop leads to heroin bust



Courtesy photo

Nicole Dumas

WOODSTOCK — On March 1 at approximately 9 p.m., members of Connecticut State Police Troop D — Quality of Life Task Force, and a Troop D patrol Trooper conducted a traffic stop on a 2012 Hyundai Elantra for a traffic violation.

The traffic stop occurred on Route 171 in Woodstock near Peake Brook Road. QLTF Troopers interviewed all three occupants in the vehicle and became

suspicious criminal activity was taking place. The front passenger, identified as Nicole Dumas, 44, of 92 Powhattan Street, Putnam, admitted to Troopers that she had heroin on her person. Dumas turned over approximately 50 bags of heroin pre-packaged for sale. Dumas was then arrested without incident and transported to the Troop D -Danielson Barracks and charged with Possession of Heroin 21a-279(A) and Possession of Heroin WITS – 21a-278(B).

Dumas was released on a \$5,000.00 cash/surety bond and was scheduled to appear in Danielson Superior Court on March 15. A second passenger in the car, Scott Duquette, 38, of 192 Providence Street, Putnam was arrested after it was discovered that two Violation of Probation warrants existed for his arrest. Duquette was held on a combined bond of \$30,000 cash/surety bond. Duquette appeared in Danielson Superior Court on March 2.

Members of the Connecticut State Police are committed to combating drug activity in the “Quiet Corner” and anyone with information regarding the illegal sale of narcotics are encouraged to call the Troop D QLTF anonymous Tips Hotline at (860) 779-4950 or message the QLTF Facebook page.

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VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Feb. 27: American Woodcock, Robin, Common Grackle, Belted Kingfisher, Song Sparrow, Killdeer, Bluebird, Hooded Merganser, Ring-necked Duck, Mallard, Red-winged Blackbird. Visit <http://www.ctaudubon.org/center-at-pomfret>

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No price tag yet on Putnam projects

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

PUTNAM — Putnam's Facilities Study Group is looking ahead with several proposed projects that could bring new use to Putnam properties if voters approve later this year. The group met on Feb. 23 and discussed the proposed municipal complex and the planned reuse of the old armory building.

Consideration has begun on how to present the proposals for a vote prior to municipal elections in November. Chairman Allan Rawson said it's in the best interest of the town to get the projects before taxpayers in a timely manner.

"I think it's a good time that we start talking about how this is going to be presented to the public. I understand, after meeting with the town attorney, that they're looking at early August for the referendum. Their using that date



Courtesy Town of Putnam

Proposed layout for the Putnam armory's renovation

because we need to get state approval of the substitution of Murphy Park for Tarr Park as far as the covenant is concerned," Rawson said. "So in the meantime we have to have an appraisal and definitely we have to have it surveyed.

That gives us, according to the town attorney, the most time that we can. We don't want to go any further than that and get into the campaign time and election time."

Last year Putnam proposed plans to build a municipal complex on the Owen Tarr fields. That proposal would house a new library and town hall. LLB Architects, the firm charged with designing the municipal complex and the reuse of the town's armory, presented concepts for both projects last fall with the armory planned to house a senior center, the recreation department, and other offices including veteran's affairs.

With so much planning involved, Rawson said the Facilities Study Group wants to handle it properly and has

Turn To **PROJECTS** page **A11**



KILLINGLY VILLAGER

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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PUBLIC MEETINGS

BROOKLYN

Monday March 13
Parks and Recreation, 7 p.m., Clifford B. Green Building

Tuesday March 14

Wetlands Meeting, 7 p.m., Clifford B. Greene Building

Thursday March 15
Housing Authority, 10 a.m., Brooklyn Community Center

Board of Finance, 7 p.m., Clifford B. Green Building

Friday March 16

Emergency Management/Homeland Security, 7 p.m., 4 Wolf Den Road

EASTFORD

Tuesday March 14
Planning Commission, 7 p.m., Town Office Building

Wednesday March 15
Special Board of Selectmen Meeting, 9 a.m., Town Office Building

Experience Eastford Committee, 11 a.m., Town Office Building

Thursday March 16

Senior Citizens, 11 a.m., Town Office Building

KILLINGLY

Tuesday March 14
Town Council, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Wednesday March 15
Killingly Conservation Commission, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Danielson Borough, 7 p.m., Danielson Fire Station

Thursday March 16

Historic District Commission, 7 p.m., Town Hall

POMFRET

Monday March 13
Board of Finance, 6:30 a.m., Pomfret Community School

Tuesday March 14
Economic Planning & Development, 8 a.m., Pomfret Community/Senior Center

Library Trustees Board, 7 p.m., Pomfret Public Library

Recreation Commission, 7 p.m., Pomfret Community School Library

Wednesday March 15
Senior Advocate Commission, 6 p.m., Pomfret Community/Senior Center

Thursday March 16

Agriculture Commission, 7 p.m., Pomfret Community/Senior Center

PUTNAM

No meetings scheduled

THOMPSON

Monday March 13

Board of Education, 7 p.m., Thompson Middle School Media Center

Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday March 14

Inland Wetlands Commission, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Water Pollution Control Authority, 7 p.m., WPCA Treatment Plant
Wednesday March 15

Economic Development, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall

Thursday March 16

Library Board of Trustees, 2 p.m., Library Conference Room

Board of Finance, 7 p.m., Louis P. Faucher Committee Center

WOODSTOCK

Monday, March 13
Fracking waste ban, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Tuesday March 14

Board of Finance, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Wednesday March 15

Republican Town Committee, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Thursday March 16

Board of Selectmen, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Open Space Land Acquisition, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Planning & Zoning, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall

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Thompson mulls school bus privatization

BY JASON BLEAU
NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — Thompson's Board of Education, Board of Selectmen, and Board of Finance came together for a one-hour meeting on Thursday, March 2 to discuss the controversial proposal to privatize Thompson's school bus operations.

It was the first time all three boards had discussed the matter together. In recent months the proposal to privatize Thompson's bus operations has gained much negative feedback and concern from citizens on social media and at Board of Education meetings. Earlier this year Board of Education Chair William Witkowski said that it was not the intention of the Board of Education to take this matter into its own hands. The meeting of the three boards lived up to Witkowski's promise that all three entities would be involved in the conversation.

"The Board of Education has done their due diligence and we went out and solicited proposals for busing. We got the stuff back and like I said all along we're not making this decision in a vacuum by ourselves," said Witkowski at the

meeting.

No decision was made, or expected, during the discussion. But there was frustration from all three boards about the state of the town's current bus fleet and the ripple effect caused by a lack of upkeep. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Jolin gave some perspective on why the Board of Education solicited proposals for privatization, noting the town has neglected the bus fleet for far too long.

"The town, through no fault of its own, has had a history of not replacing buses as often as might be needed. That can be understandable. You don't necessarily always have to have new vehicles, however you reduce your liability if you have them," Dr. Jolin said. "There is an industry standard that you probably should not have any buses older than 10 years old. If something happens down the road your defense is diminished. What the low bidder proposes is to renew the fleet and never have a bus over 10 years old. Historically the town hasn't been able to accomplish that."

The special meeting revealed that DATTCO was the low bidder among three or four who



Courtesy photo

Members of the Thompson Boards of Education, Selectmen, and Finance discussed school bus privatization on March 2.

for proposals. DATTCO offered to provide services to the town, including a new fleet, for around \$6.76 million from fiscal year 2018 through fiscal year 2022. That's compared to just over \$7 million that school officials project in expenses to maintain the town's fleet, including bus replacements. Several monetary items on the plan summary were considered subject to change or further examination, but one thing remains consistent. School officials have argued throughout the process that they are not in the business of operating buses, they are in the business of education.

To that end there was some heavy debate about who exactly operates and thus should maintain the bus fleet in Thompson under the current setup. It was explained that the Board of Education is charged with maintenance, but the town owns the buses and Selectmen put in requests as part of the budget, through the advice of the Board of Education. Former Thompson First Selectman and current Board of Finance member Larry Groh said he remembers going through that process himself. Groh, without blaming

any one entity, said he felt the town as a whole had failed to do its due diligence in years past with keeping the fleet up to date.

"When I first got on to the Board of Selectmen the school always put in two buses. When I was First Selectman of that board we did try to cut one bus out because of the economic times, however the Board of Finance came back and added that bus back in at that time. From that point forward the Board of Selectmen, while I was there anyway, didn't take off any buses that were at the request of the Board of Education. Moving forward I still think the request should come from the schools for the number of buses," Groh said. "I don't think that (all the buses) are in bad shape. I can't see buying eight buses at one time. You have some perfectly good buses that are fairly new and are running every single day. Those things should be evaluated in this discussion too, not just 'Hey look at the age, it's 10 years old and we have to buy a new one.' That's not good enough for me."

Bill Witkowski said the problem lies in a lack of action from the town. Like Groh, Witkowski did not blame any one entity in the community but was clearly frustrated. "For years and years the town hasn't demonstrated either the willingness or the ability to replace buses so now we're stuck with an old fleet and we're at this

decision," Witkowski said.

Board of Education member Joe Lindley said the lack of commitment on the part of the town to keep the fleet up to date and purchase new buses every year is the real "elephant in the room".

"If we replace the buses at two per year we can't get caught up. So we've got this aging fleet and we've got this big balloon in front of us that we can't do anything with. Even if it costs us a little money to go privatized, the benefit of that is we get a brand new fleet, no liability, and we're done with the problems," said Lindley. "The biggest issue that I see is that it's not a board related issue. I think it's a town related issue. We've never shown (as a town) the willingness to fund long-term expenses and we've never managed those things very well."

Thompson is one of only a handful of communities in Connecticut that still owns and operates its own school bus fleet. The last new bus was purchased near the end of 2014 as part of the fiscal year 2015 budget. Superintendent Dr. Jolin said he has seen the privatization option work. While Jolin did not express his undying support for the concept he said it is an option Thompson should heavily consider.

"From conversations I've had with different superintendents the feelings is 'Let the experts do what the experts do,'" Dr. Jolin stated. "The companies that do this I think can purchase at a larger economy of scale. They get the buses cheaper than we probably can get them. They're used to managing. If we had buses that didn't pass inspection and we have a

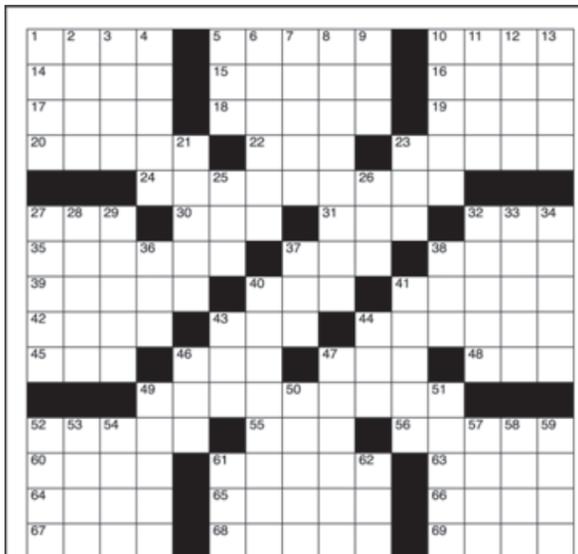
private company they can just go and get the buses from somewhere else and we don't lose a day. If we're on our own, we're stuck. If some calamity happens to our buses, worst case scenario and just my opinion, we don't have the capacity to go out and buy three or four buses and get them on the road in a day. It's not going to happen."

The last 10 minutes of the meeting were devoted to citizens' comments with many asking questions for clarity. Thompson citizen Chrissy Campbell provided possibly the harshest criticism of the plan itself when she pointed out issues she had with DATTCO's history.

"I've done a lot of research about DATTCO. They had a driver arrested for heroin sales. They had two people written up for leaving 3 and 4-year-old children on the buses. We can all search these facts and find them ourselves. It makes me shiver. Is every bus company perfect? No. Are the Thompson drivers perfect? Well I haven't seen one arrested for heroin. I haven't seen one arrested for leaving a 3 or 4-year-old on the bus," Campbell said.

Dr. Jolin those DATTCO incidents could be from a sample size of drivers amounting to thousands and if Thompson hired thousands of drivers it would probably have several issue of its own as well. The three boards were scheduled to continue discussions concerning the bus fleet situation on March 9.

Jason Bleau may be reached at (508) 909-1429, ext. 110, or by e-mail at Jason@stonebridgepress.com



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. "ER" actress Leslie
- 5. Hebrew name for Babylon
- 10. News
- 14. Leaf angle
- 15. Dravidian language
- 16. Ridge on nematodes
- 17. Monetary unit
- 18. Determined the tare
- 19. Unfreeze
- 20. Merits
- 22. World's oldest broadcasting organization
- 23. Vacation spot
- 24. December 25
- 27. Ottoman military command
- 30. Resin-like substance secreted by insects
- 31. A.C. Comics female supervillain
- 32. Insect linked to honey
- 35. Opinion
- 37. In the middle of
- 38. Basketballer Yao
- 39. Remove lid
- 40. Pressure wound therapy
- 41. Fabric
- 42. Witnessed
- 43. Defunct European economic organization
- 44. "Hotel California" rockers
- 45. When you expect to arrive
- 46. "Sleepless in Seattle" actress Ryan
- 47. Danish airline
- 48. Insecticide
- 49. Scientific instrument
- 52. Type of seal
- 55. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 56. Cavalry sword
- 60. Ottoman title
- 61. Gurus
- 63. Cold wind
- 64. Predatory reptile (abbr.)
- 65. New Jersey is one
- 66. Divulge a secret
- 67. Finely chopped mixture
- 68. Actress Zellweger
- 69. Romanian city

CLUES DOWN

- 1. "Dark Knight" actor
- 2. S. African plants
- 3. Castle in County Offaly, Ireland
- 4. White (French)
- 5. Morsel
- 6. Semitic language
- 7. Areas outside cities
- 8. Crackling
- 9. Cub
- 10. Landmark house in Los Angeles
- 11. Red Hot Chili Peppers bassist
- 12. Mineral
- 13. Late night host Myers
- 21. Pull along
- 23. Not good
- 25. British Air Aces
- 26. Upset
- 27. Maltreatment
- 28. Nocturnal, cat-like animal
- 29. Hollyhocks
- 32. Shelter
- 33. Finished
- 34. Discharge
- 36. "X-Men" actor McKellen
- 37. Beloved dish __ and cheese
- 38. Holds coffee
- 40. Languish
- 41. Quenches
- 43. Electric fish
- 44. Consume
- 46. Type of school
- 47. Erase
- 49. Educate
- 50. "Transformers" actress Fox
- 51. Spiritual leader
- 52. Every one
- 53. Site of the Taj Mahal
- 54. Welsh village
- 57. Weapon
- 58. Geological times
- 59. S. Asian crops
- 61. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 62. Witness



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ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS

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NOW holds youth track clinic in Thompson



Bear Crawls – the clinic began with a variety of dynamic stretches to get participants warmed up.



Tree Pose – NOW staff member, Kristen Rukstela demonstrates yoga poses with a group of children.



Ready – set – go! The clinic introduced springing as well as distance running.



Might as well – JUMP! A favorite skill station at the clinic included jump challenges.



The importance of nutrition – NOW staff member Kelsey Quinn played fun nutrition games with each group while they snacked on clementine oranges.

THOMPSON — Northeast Opportunities for Wellness (NOW) held a youth sports clinic focused on track and field skills at Tourtellotte Memorial High School last Sunday, March 5. The clinic saw volunteer coaches and student athletes from Tourtellotte working with 50 children ages 6 to 13 on a variety of skills, including: sprinting, distance, jumping, throwing, relays, and hurdling. NOW staff members also worked with children teaching yoga and nutrition.

This is the second year NOW and TMHS have partnered on an annual running clinic. NOW Executive Director Sarah Mortensen credits the success of the clinic with the dedicated TMHS staff

and student volunteers.

“We are grateful to the Tourtellotte Memorial High School student athletes and especially to Coaches Beth Ten Eyck, Cindy Ouellette, and Deb Spinelli for their continued participation in this great event,” Mortensen said. “Not only do they plan every detail of the clinic and give up their Sunday afternoon for NOW but they are truly wonderful with the kids that come out to learn the mechanics of running.”

NOW holds several youth sports clinics throughout the year, partnering with local sports organizations and school coaches to introduce children to the importance of being active and healthy. NOW’s next clinic will be focused on lacrosse and

will take place on Sunday, March 26 at Woodstock Academy.

Founded in 2011 by an all-volunteer board, Northeast Opportunities for Wellness is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to making a positive impact in the lives of Quiet Corner children by insuring each child’s access to fitness, nutrition, and athletics. Serving the 10-town area of Northeast Connecticut, NOW partners with other local youth organizations to provide scholarships to children ages 3-14 who otherwise may not be able to afford such opportunities. For more information on NOW, their programs, and future clinics, visit www.nowinmotion.org.



Final stretch – after a final relay race, the participants stretch before heading home





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Woodstock Middle School National Geographic Bee



Courtesy photo

Owen Bland, with his parents, Bill and Sarah Bland, and his grandfather, Robert Tamsin, along with WMS teacher Kyra Litschauer, far left. Owen has been selected to compete in this year's State Geography Bee contest on March 31.

pion. Congratulations to all the grade-level finalists, and especially to Owen and Vincent, who demonstrated both excellent sportsmanship and outstanding skills in geography.

Owen took the National Geographic Qualifying Test to move on to the State level. Bland was notified by the National Geographic Society that he is one of the semifinalists eligible to compete in the 2017 Connecticut National Geographic State Bee. The contest will be held on Friday, March 31.

This is the second level of the National Geographic Bee competition, which is now in its 29th year. School Bees were held in schools with fourth-through eighth-grade students throughout the state to determine each school champion. School champions then took a qualifying test, which they submitted to the National Geographic Society. The National Geographic Society has invited up to 100 of the top-scoring students in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense Dependents Schools and U.S. territories to compete in the State Bees.

Each state champion will receive \$100, the National



Courtesy photo

WMS students compete in a GeoBee on Jan. 27.

WOODSTOCK — Ten students from grades 5 through 8 participated in the school-wide National Geographic Bee at Woodstock Middle School on Jan. 27. Owen Bland emerged as the grand champion.

The students were: Grade 5: Aidan Bain and Sophia Petrella; Grade 6: Charlotte Adase and Owen Bland; Grade 7: John Armstrong, Dylan Chamberlin, and Vincent Tocci; Grade 8: Andrew Dilko, Evan Odorski, and Elijah

Saine.

These students were selected due to their success in the preliminary rounds, which were held in grade level Social Studies classes. Students in the school bee answered dozens of questions in a double-elimination round until two students remained for the final round.

Finalists Vincent Tocci and Owen Bland faced off, each writing an answer to three questions. In the end, Bland was crowned the grand cham-

Geographic Concise Atlas of the World, fourth Edition and a trip to Washington, D.C., to represent their state in the National Geographic Bee Championship to be held at National Geographic Society headquarters, May 14-17, 2017. The national champion will receive a \$50,000 college scholarship, a lifetime membership in the Society, including a subscription to National Geographic magazine, and an all-expenses paid Lindblad expedition to the Galápagos Islands aboard the new National Geographic

Endeavour II. Travel for the trip is provided by Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic. Visit www.natgeo-bee.org for more information on the National Geographic Bee.

The National Geographic Channel and Nat Geo WILD will air the 2017 National Geographic Bee Championship, moderated by journalist and humorist Mo Rocca, on Friday, May 19. Check local television listings for the air date and time.

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KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following Killingly High School SENIORS achieved High Honors in Quarter 2: Kyle Derosier, Emily Ernest, Brandon Gaudreau, Tyler Hayes, Samantha Hindle, Sarah Pasqualetti, Angelia Rafter, Michaela Raymond, and Yingzhuo Yang.

First Honors include: Bryan Albee, Drew Basinet, Serena Berry, Jeremy Brown, Victoria Bryer, Megan Cassada, Jordan Chenette, Dylan Desjardins, Jordan Farquharson, Sherquan Jn Baptiste, Molly Johnson, Allison Keeling, Erin Kielyka, Xiaoyan Lang, Sarah McMerriman, Emma Nichols, Hayley Schnatter, Justin St. Onge, Karyn Stamper, Olivia Swanson, and Abigail Teczar.

Second Honors include: Kathryn Bellavance, Brittany Bennett, Jordan Bennett, Marjorie Berkery, Sage Blackmar, Cade Bonsall, Haylee Boudreau, Collin Byrnes, Cameron Chahanovich, Jintian Chen, Ava Crescimanno, Peyton Daugherty, Jeffrey Duplisea, Andrew Duval, Payton Fitzgerald, Michael Flaherty IV, Dominic Frantz, Destiny Gonyer, Jared Gosper, Breanna Green, Morgan Harriott, Meghan Hebert, Jaime Jax, Lindsey Julian, Owen Kelly, Alana Krasley, Isabella Latour-Gervais, Brandon Lemire, Joshua Pasco, Katelyn Picariello, Alex Proietti, Jenna Rodrigues, Aboyowa Rone,

Haley Russo, Hanna Russo, Kayla Spooner, Kaitlyn Stevens, Abigail vander-Swaagh, Hannah Weiss, and Eliana West.

The following JUNIORS achieved High Honors in Quarter 2: Tong Liu, Carlos Poch, and Stephen Wetherell.

First Honors include: Sarah Azizi, Ryan Comtois, Alexandria Conde, Silvia Cote, Grace Higgins, Emily Keeling, Corrine Khamphoukeo, Emily Morin, Reagan Morin, Ericka Olsen, Anastasia Salisbury, Zachary Schena, Alyssa Tracy, and Julia Trafacanda.

Second Honors include: Alexis Bedard, Allison Bonneau, Brandon Cacciapuoti, Johnathan Cacciapuoti, Ethan Canova, Sierra Cassano, Lyllyan Cheeks, Ashley Depointe, Jacob Gauthier, Emma Gifford, Megan Graham, Xavier Harrelle, Felicia Horne, Sarah Horvath, Rachel Hultzman, Polina Korzunina, Madison Laperle, Spencer Lockwood, Britney Mares, Jenna McCauley, Jared Olson, Connor Pellitier, Jillian Sharpe, Alexis Smith, Robert St. Pierre, Nicholas Theroux, Michael Thibeault, Gavin Turner, Ashley Veillette, Dexuan Wu, Larda Yottivong, Jacob Zadora, and Meredith Zamperini.

The following SOPHOMORES achieved High Honors in Quarter 2: Taylor Jax, Allison Levesque,

Turn To **HONOR ROLL** page A10

An Evening of Storytelling
 Featuring Bestselling Author Matthew Dicks and Christine Kalafus
Bracken Memorial Library
 Thursday, March 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Come join us for an evening of live storytelling at the library. Two local and popular storytellers, along with several students from The Woodstock Academy, will be telling live stories. Come and simply enjoy as an audience member, or feel free to bring a story to share during the open mic portion of the evening. Refreshments will be served. This event is free and open to the public.



Matthew Dicks is the internationally bestselling author of the novels *Memoirs of an Imaginary Friend*, *Something Missing*, *Unexpectedly*, *Milo*, *The Perfect Comeback of Caroline Jacobs*, and the upcoming *The Other Mother*. His novels have been translated into more than 25 languages worldwide. When not hunched over a computer screen, Matthew fills his days as an elementary school teacher, a storyteller, a speaking coach, a blogger, a wedding DJ, a minister, and a life coach.



Christine Kalafus is a writer, teacher, and addicted home remodeler. She lives in the wilds of southern New England where she writes, teaches, performs, and is polishing her first book: *Blueprint for Daylight*, a memoir about surviving the breakdown of her marriage, her body, and a house. She is the Assistant Director, Avon Programming for Westport Writers' Workshop but also leads monthly free writing workshops for the public at the Pomfret Library. Christine tells stories at The Moth and other storytelling venues in an attempt to conquer her fear of public speaking, which has worked. Kind of.

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Guerrero & Wright exhibit at Eastern's art gallery



Frank Lloyd Wright demonstrates organic architecture

Pedro Guerrero photo

WILLIMANTIC — The Art Gallery at Eastern Connecticut State University will present "Guerrero & Wright: Architecture Stories" from March 9 through April 20. This free exhibition of photographs from the estate of Pedro E. Guerrero, a longtime resident of New Canaan, explores the collaboration between the Mexican-American photographer and famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright. "Guerrero &

Wright: Architecture Stories" also celebrates the centennial of Guerrero's birth in 1917. An opening reception will be held on March 23 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Prior to the reception, there will be a screen-

ing of the American Masters documentary "Pedro E. Guerrero: A Photographer's Journey" in the Concert Hall of the Fine Arts Instructional Center from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Both events are free and open to the public.

In 1939, 22-year-old Guerrero traveled the short distance from his hometown of Mesa, Ariz., to Taliesin West, Wright's newly-established winter home and school in Scottsdale. Upon meeting the well-known architect, he introduced himself by saying simply, "My name is Pedro E. Guerrero and I'm a photographer." Despite Guerrero's youth and inexperience, Wright hired him on the spot to document Taliesin's construction. Wright soon recognized Guerrero's talent, as well as the young photographer's ability to translate his architectural forms to film. As Guerrero would later explain, Wright appreciated his ability

to visit a building and "come back with a story of (Wright's) architecture."

Guerrero worked as Wright's chief photographer until the architect's death in 1959. He continued to photograph both Taliesin West and the original Taliesin in Spring Green, WI, creating an intimate visual record of Wright and his apprentices at work. The final decades of Wright's career were also his most prolific. During this creative resurgence, Wright sent Guerrero across the country to photograph many of his most notable public and private commissions. Published in architectural journals and mass-market magazines alike, Guerrero's photographic "architecture stories" shaped the

public perception of the architect and his work.

Guerrero is the author of "Picturing Wright, An Album from Frank Lloyd Wright's Photographer" (1993) and "Pedro E. Guerrero: A Photographer's Journey" (2007), among others. His work has been widely exhibited in both the United States and Europe. Forthcoming exhibitions include solo shows at The Mexican Museum (San Francisco, CA), and Taliesin (Spring Green, WI). Guerrero's photographs will also be featured in the catalogue for the upcoming exhibition "Frank Lloyd Wright at 150: Unpacking the Archive" at the Museum of Modern Art (New York, NY).

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PCS students enter writing contest

POMFRET — In February, Pomfret Community School seventh grade students reflected on books that matter as part of a national writing contest sponsored by the Library of Congress. All 49 PCS seventh graders wrote letters to authors (living or dead) telling about books that had made a difference to them and how they were impacted.

Out of 133 state level finalists (56 at the Middle School level) four are PCS students. The writing of Ben Mayo, Sofia Murray, Zachary Roethlein, and

Zachary White will all progress to the next level of judging. According to the Connecticut State Coordinator of the program, Wendy Glenn, the writing of these four, as well as other seventh grader entries, "demonstrate the impressive strength of insight and writing skill that define this program." Seventh grade teacher Mary Archambault congratulated Ben, Sofia, Zachary and Zachary and wished them luck on the next level of judging.



Courtesy photo

From left, Ben Mayo, Sofia Murray, Zachary Roethlein, and Zachary White

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Dean's List

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — The following local residents made the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for fall semester 2016-2017: Hannah Budd of Eastford, who is studying in the diagnostic medical sonography program; Nicholas O'Brien of Pomfret Center, who is studying in the computing security program; Azhur Viano of Woodstock, who is studying in the computer engineering program. Degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term grade point average is greater than or equal to 3.4.

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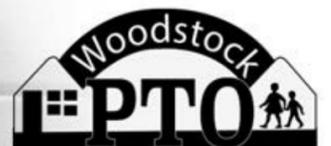
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Images from Mexico

The taxi dropped us off in front of the door to the house we had rented. It was late and while my husband walked around the corner to find the agent, who had the key, I waited. The night was cool and the lights of San Miguel Allende, the city in central Mexico where we were staying, twinkled in the distance like something out of a fairy story. From the vacant lot next door, a pack of dogs emerged, twisting and turning in playful exuberance.



NANCY WEISS

Three of the dogs appeared to be pit bull crosses. The fourth dog looked a bit like a Labrador retriever. They stopped their antics when they saw me. My heart stopped too. For a moment, I felt fear creep up my spine as the dogs and I appraised each other. Then the largest dog turned and trotted off into the darkness. His companions followed. My husband returned with the key and we slipped inside the heavy front door. I slammed it a bit harder than was necessary.

We were in Mexico so that I could attend a writers' conference and we could spend time with friends in a place we have come to love. I like being stretched by a culture I don't completely understand and a language I do not speak. I have to pay more attention, sharpen my wits and feel more alive than when I'm in the familiar world of my home town.

The next morning, before I set off on a long walk through the town to the conference, I opened the door and looked right and left. No dogs. As I strolled along in the sunshine, I realized that my concern about the dogs was because three of them looked like pit bulls. If they had all been undifferentiated mutts, I would have seen them as cute. I judged them on what they looked like, not how they behaved.

Every afternoon, after my classes, I walked to the center of the city to a plaza that included an historic cathedral and a park where people sat to watch other people. As I waited at a café, I studied the vendors, who sold their wares every afternoon and into the night.

My eye was drawn to a beautiful young woman, who was selling little Mexican dolls. She was dressed in a long skirt and shawl and carried a large basket. She sat on the cathedral steps. I felt sorry for her as her life seemed difficult. She had a small child with her. She and the child shared a plastic bag that contained a semi-frozen fruit drink, passing it back and forth and laughing. The little treat might have been a four-star meal given the way they enjoyed it.

Soon the mother began selling her wares as the child played nearby. I had assumed an entire history based on how they looked, not how they behaved.

There are many reasons to travel and most don't require that we upend our points of view. If we are fortunate enough to have the resources of energy, time and funds, we can go wherever we wish. For me, the chance to try to see things through different eyes, to challenge my own biases and to feel like an outsider looking in, is what makes travel important.

I'll always be unnerved at the presence of a pack of dogs on a dark street. I'll always worry about a small child playing on a cement step at dusk. These images are imprinted as memories that will last longer than the small Mexican dolls I brought home for my grandchildren or the dog biscuits that are crumbling in my pocket. They remind me that what I think I see and what may actually be happening can be different.

TOUGH BACON!
 CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thompson voter lauds coverage of roof vote

To the editor:

I would like to thank Villager reporter Jason Bleau for his fair coverage of the recent museum roof vote. I appreciate his effort to tell both sides of the story. Thank you as well to all of the voters who went to the polls regardless of your vote. My appreciation to John Rice, Joe Lindley, THS members and the Thompson Selectmen, Board of Finance and other town officials who helped in the effort to bring the roof matter to a vote.

Like our neighbor, the Thompson

Congregational Church, we must find creative ways to fund a watertight roof for each of these historic buildings. We appreciate the great efforts by the local firefighters to save the church. It was very cold and windy the evening of the church fire and only the will of the firefighters and a higher power spared the structure. To save the old library building, we hope for similar will, inspiration and community support.

JOSEPH IAMARTINO
THOMPSON

Time to remove Trump from office

To the editor:

Section 4 of the twenty-fifth Amendment to our Constitution provides the solution. A President who can no longer discharge his duties, but is unable or unwilling to concede this fact, may be removed. He may be removed by the Vice President, along with "a majority of either the principal officers of the executive departments or of, such other body as Congress may by law provide," to declare the President unfit and to install the Vice President as Acting President.

After only a month in office, Donald Trump has proved himself, be unable to discharge his duties. The evidence is compelling. His apologists, Secretaries of this and that, etc., have done a commendable job at home and abroad. But this hardly solves the problem, which will only get worse. The solutions: implementation of Section 4 of the 25th; Articles of Impeachment. Successful advise and counsel. All exceedingly unlikely.

All would-be despots play upon our fears. Forfeit freedom for security. Have your neighbor and everyone else who imperils your comfortable existence. At home or abroad. Trust me, I will make you safe. And so on.

I originally thought Mr. Trump was masking an intelligent mind in order to achieve popular support. It now is obvious that I was wrong.

The good news: "If Trump were more rational, and more competent, he might have a chance of destroying our democracy," George Packer, the New Yorker, February 27, 2017. The bad news: he's doing his best and causing awesome problems.

The man is not unique in world history, just my own.

DAVID B. BOYD
WOODSTOCK

Duct Tape Tips

Duct tape. Almost everyone has a roll of it lying around. And some people have come up with some pretty creative ways to use it. From beach sandals and wallets to iPad cases and prom dresses, the tape (which now comes in colorful hues) is the new frugal accessory! Reading about the many wacky uses for the tape inspired me to research some truly practical ways duct tape can "fix" some everyday hassles.

Whether the tape is protecting plants in the garden or used in minor medical treatments, the following ideas confirm a handy roll of duct tape is up to almost any task!

FYI: "Duck" tape was first used during WW2 to keep ammunition dry. Soldiers sealed ammo cases tight with the metallic tape (so named because water runs off it like a duck). The versatile tape eventually became known as "duct" tape for its widespread use in sealing duct heating and cooling systems. Ironically, using the tape for duct venting has now been banned in some states!

Skin Tags: Before you order up infomercial skin tag remedies, break out the roll of duct tape. Duck tape's newest claim to fame is that it helps remove unsightly skin tags! Here's how to use: Cut a piece of duct tape to cover the skin tag (hopefully it will be covered by your collar or else your co-workers might question your new silver accessory)! Be sure tape forms a good seal. The theory is that the longer the tape is left on, the more the skin tag shrinks. Leave on for a week or more, replacing tape as it loosens. Many people have reported success with this "no effort, no pain" method to remove skin tags!

DIY Wart Removal: Did you know WebMD posts a "duct tape method" of wart removal? If you're wary, you should know while no one is claiming the duct tape is anything more than a way to seal up the wart for healing, an early study by the health information website showed in 22 out of 26 people, warts treated this way disappeared completely within two months.



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

Here's how to perform the "tape occlusion" method according to WebMD:

Cut a piece of adhesive (duct) tape as close to the size of the wart as possible. Leave the tape in place for six days straight, replacing the tape if it loosens or falls off. After the six day duration, remove the tape and soak the wart in warm water. Gently rub the wart with a pumice stone or emery board and leave the tape off overnight. Repeat the process until the wart is gone, but no longer than two months.

Kick Up the Heat: Classic silver duct tape has reflective properties, which some folks claim give old boots an extra layer of insulation. According to posters on a frugal blog, taping insoles silver side up will boost the warming properties of winter boots.

Anti Ant: If you're looking for a chemical free way to stop ants from invading your fruit trees, duct tape may be the answer, according to garden gurus at TCPermaculture.com. The website offers this strategy to taping up the trees: "Wrap the base of the tree (about 3-4 feet off the ground) with duct tape, sticky side out, for about 8-10 inches in height. You may need to change the duct tape every few days if either the duct tape dries out (and becomes less sticky), or if the ants that get stuck create a living bridge for the remaining ants to cross over. (It's easier to place another layer of duct tape over the previous one instead of removing the first and adding the second.) Eventually, the ants give up and move elsewhere. If you had ant and aphid issues previously, you can set up duct tape protection on your trees in the spring before the ants emerge. This prevents them from getting established, and hopefully does that same with your aphids".

Webbed "Duck" Tape: This idea is ingenious! If you have any old school lawn chairs with webbing then you know how hard it is to find replacement straps. Bright duct tape is a practical substitute for the webbing. Just double up the tape and weave away! The sturdy tape is strong enough to fasten to the aluminum with screws, as the original webbing requires.

Workshop Helper: When working on a project with many tiny parts, nothing keeps little screws and pieces in place like a strip of duct tape attached sticky side up to the workbench.

Lint Removal: The thickness and super stickiness of duct tape make it the ideal quick fix for stray lint! Just roll it sticky side out around your hand and pat your clothing clean. No more searching drawers for the lint roller.

Bug Traps: Once again the sticky side of duct tape proves to be a handy aid! To stop small insects dead in their tracks, simply run strips of duct tape (sticky side up) where they enter the house. The tape is strong enough to trap the little buggers.

Ingrown Toenail Cure: A blogger touting the virtues of duct tape claims the sticky stuff remedied an ingrown toenail. Here's what he wrote: "I recently fixed an ingrown toenail by attaching a small strip of duct tape near the offending toenail and using it to stretch the skin back away. It relieved the pain and pressure and gave the toenail a chance to grow out instead of being buried and getting worse."

WIN DINNER FOR TWO AT THE PUBLIC HOUSE

Your tips can win you a fabulous dinner for two at the historic Public House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. Hints are entered into a drawing for a three course dinner for two at the historic Public House Inn! One

Turn To **TRAINOR** page **A9**

Steps prior to hiring an estate sale company

In past columns I've discussed differences between auctioning items and having an estate sale. I've also provided some tips on hiring an estate sale company. Some of the most important decisions that an estate personal representative makes should take place before they hire an estate sale company though.

Securing the property is extremely important. A past client had a family member who transitioned from her home to assisted living. She was very well liked in the area and gave several of the neighbors keys to her home.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA

There were also family members who felt that they were entitled to some of the personal property that were seen peering through the windows. When they

explained this to me, I recommended changing the locks immediately. The family also posted no trespassing signs. Additional measures such as portable security cameras and alarms may be used if needed.

With a few exceptions, don't throw anything out! Items from bath towels to cars can be sold at an estate sale. If in doubt, leave it to the estate sale company to determine whether or not something should be discarded. However, you may remove any personal papers, family photos and financial paperwork that you find. Make sure that the company that you hire will save any others that they find for you.

Don't have a yard sale yourself, sell your items online or invite other buyers to the estate before you call the estate sale company. If you are hiring an experienced company, they will know how to price items. You should rely on their expertise. Sellers often under price their valuable items. You also don't want to sell the better items and then not have enough for an estate sale company to run your sale. You may not find an estate sale company willing to run your sale if many of the valuable items have been sold and there is not enough personal property left to make it profitable for the company. If you have antiques this is even more important. Word travels quickly in the antiques community. Dealers and collectors may not attend the sale if they learn that many of the items were previously sold.

Heirs should remove any items that won't be included in the sale from the home prior to the event. If items can't be removed, it is best to place them in a room or closet than can be taped off so that people attending the sale don't open it.

If a car or other motor vehicle is sold, look for the title or have the estate sale company look for it if you are unable. Any receipts that you find can help with pricing and may make buyers more comfortable with their purchase.

If you decide to move forward with the sale, most estate sale companies will have a clause in their contract to charge a fee for any items that are removed from the sale. They calculate their fees based upon what is in the house when the contract is signed. Make sure to remove any items that won't be part of the sale prior to signing the contract and

Turn To **ANTIQUES** page **A9**

Taxes!

Tax filing season is here again. If you haven't done so already, you'll want to start pulling things together — that includes getting your hands on a copy of last year's tax return and gathering W-2s, 1099s, and deduction records. You'll need these records whether you're preparing your own return or paying someone else to do your taxes for you.

Don't procrastinate

The filing deadline for most individuals is Tuesday, April 18, 2017. That's because April 15 falls on a Saturday, and Emancipation Day, a legal holiday in Washington, D.C., is celebrated on Monday, April 17. Unlike last year, there's no extra time for residents of Massachusetts or Maine to file because Patriots' Day (a holiday in those two states) falls on April 17 — the same day that Emancipation Day is being celebrated.

Filing for an extension

If you don't think you're going to be able to file your federal income tax return by the due date, you can file for and obtain an extension using IRS Form 4868, Application for Automatic Extension of Time to File U.S. Individual Income Tax Return. Filing this extension gives you an additional six months (to October 16, 2017) to file your federal income tax

return. You can also file for an extension electronically — instructions on how to do so can be found in the Form 4868 instructions.

Filing for an automatic extension does not provide any additional time to pay your tax! When you file for an extension, you have to estimate the amount of tax you will owe and pay this amount by the April filing due date. If you don't pay the amount you've estimated, you may owe interest and penalties. In fact, if the IRS believes that your estimate was not reasonable, it may void your extension.

Special rules apply if you're living outside the country or serving in the military and on duty outside the United States. In these circumstances you are generally allowed an automatic two-month extension without filing Form 4868, though interest will be owed on any taxes due that are paid after April 18. If you served in a combat zone or qualified hazardous duty area, you may be eligible for a longer extension of time to file.

What if you owe?

One of the biggest mistakes you can make is not filing your return because you owe money. If your return shows a balance due, file and pay the amount due in full by the due date if



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possible. If there's no way that you can pay what you owe, file the return and pay as much as you can afford. You'll owe interest and possibly penalties on the unpaid tax, but you'll limit the penalties assessed by filing your return on time, and you may be able to work with the IRS to pay the remaining balance (options can include paying the unpaid balance in installments).

Expecting a refund? The IRS is stepping up efforts to combat identity theft and tax refund fraud. New, more aggressive filters that are intended to curtail fraudulent refunds may inadvertently delay some legitimate refund requests. In fact, beginning this year, a new law requires the IRS to hold refunds on all tax returns claiming the earned income tax credit or the refundable portion of the Child Tax Credit until at least February 15.

Most filers, though, can

expect a refund check to be issued within 21 days of the IRS receiving a return. IRS.gov (IR-2016-117, IRS Urges Taxpayers to Check Their Withholding; New Factors Increase Importance of Mid-Year Check Up, August 31, 2016)

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Anyone remember grocery delivery?

A September 22, 1938 Windham County Transcript was sitting on the research table at the Killingly Center so I took a look at some of the articles and ads. Do any of you remember Boulaine's grocery store? A check of the Killingly Business



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

Encyclopedia by Natalie Coolidge provided the information that Pierre Boulaine came to Danielson in 1899 and worked as a clerk in the Quinebaug Store. In 1919 he purchased the grocery business of C. E. Austin on Main Street in Danielson. The following are some of the items that Boulaine's Quality Grocery was advertising: "Old Dutch Cleanser, 2 for 17 cents; Ivory Soap, large size, 2 for 15 cents; Underwoods' Clam Chowder, 1 large can for 27 cents; Fancy shrimps, 2 cans for 37 cents; Tao Tea Balls, 20 to tin, 25 cents; sweet potatoes, fancy, 6 lbs., for 19 cents; Libby's Tomato Juice, 3 cans for 20 cents. Prompt Delivery."

Were you a Girl Scout in 1938? Perhaps you went on the following outing. "Troop One. On Thursday afternoon, Troop One visited Hillshire goat farm near Ballouville. A majority of the troop was present and all had a good time and appreciated the refresh-

ments of goat milk and cookies served by Mrs. Baldwin." Some of you might recall Hillshire Farms, which was located on the lower section of North Road east of the Five Mile River. The Killingly Business Encyclopedia revealed that Marion Baldwin registered her business with the Killingly town Clerk on November 28, 1939. That meant that the above outing must have been in the early years of her business. Mrs. Baldwin was known for her products made of goats' milk. "A large herd of Toggenburg and Nubian goats were brought to this country from Switzerland by Marion E. Baldwin. Scientists have reported that their milk will help cure cases of ulcer and skin disorders." By the 1960's she had a laboratory and what was referred to as a "honeymoon cottage" (1964-65 Telephone Book as referenced in the Business Encyclopedia).

How much do you pay for your Sunday paper? One hundred years ago it

was under a dime. "I regret to be obliged to announce that the wholesale price of Sunday newspapers has been advanced and that hereafter the price of Sunday papers will be eight cents instead of seven. I am forced to make this increase through circumstances beyond my control. Harry W. Clarke, 30 Hutchins St., Danielson." (3-1/1917 Windham County Transcript).

"To Be Found at the Woman's Exchange. Aprons, Sweeping Caps, Holders, Towels, Children's Supplies, Fancy Articles, Home-Made Candy, Food, Fresh Eggs and Afternoon Tea. Main St., Danielson." (WCT 3-1-1917). Women, have you ever worn a "sweeping cap"?

"Henri Baer of the Palisade Kennels attended the recent exhibition at Madison Square Gardens, where his dogs won several prizes." Does anyone recall the Palisade Kennels?

Keeping in mind that in 1917 World War I was in progress, it was not surprising to see the following: "For a number of weeks the Thirteenth Company, C. C. A. have been keenly on the lookout for a call to service. Inquiries and orders as to equipment have disclosed that 'something was up'.

"The order came suddenly Friday afternoon, and messengers hurried and messages flew in all directions, as all of the men were not resident here, but come from Putnam, Attawaugan, Dayville, Williamsville, Brooklyn, Plainfield and Wauregan, with some over the state line in Rhode Island. But the readiness of the Company showed efficiency and preparedness and Saturday morning 53 out of the total of 60 responded to roll call. Micky McShane came up from Rhode Island and Percy Brown came in from his team on the Green Hollow Road and in thirty minutes was in his uniform ready for service.

"In the morning it appeared that the Company had been summoned to do guard duty on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, between New Haven and New York, with probable headquarters in Bridgeport. The Company took along many hundred rounds of ammunition and so are all ready for business. Citizens, mothers, wives and sweethearts all exhibited great interest in the departure of their loved one on a service the end of which is all unknown. As hundreds gathered to witness the departure it was a reminder of the days of the Civil War. We well recollect the crowded streets of Danielson Center when, on a hot and sweltering summer day, hundreds gathered to say good bye to the boys of Company K, Eighteenth Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers. Patriotism was rampant. Flags floated everywhere and bands of music swelled the airs of patriotism. Tears dimmed the eyes of mother and sweet-

heart, for they knew that some would ne'er return. But, finally, after all the farewell words had been spoken, the departure became an enthusiastic triumph and, as the train bore the boys away, the band played "The Girl I Left Behind Me," while hundreds of handkerchiefs waved a silent farewell, and hundreds of voices rent the summer air with cheers.

"Twas thus Saturday, only more quiet and subdued. The excitement was not as intense, for the danger is less imminent. The enthusiasm may not have been as pronounced, for it has not yet been awakened by the echoes from a score of bloody battlefields. But nevertheless, it was patriotism pure and undefiled by which mothers gave their sons and men gave themselves upon the altar of their country.

"Warm quarters have been made ready for the men and everything possible will be done for their comfort and welfare. It looks as if their greatest immediate deprivation will be of companionship as scattered along at intervals they will not be able to see each other often.

"The roster of the Company, exclusive of the recruits who filed named at the last hour, is as follows: Captain F. E. Withee, First Lieutenant Ira A. Warren, First Sergeant Percy Brown, Quartermaster Sergeant Arthur W. Logee, Sergeant Kenneth H. Hamilton, Sergeant Charles C. Rapp, Corporal Howard M. Withey, Corporal Earl L. Geer, Corporal P. Henry Dubuc, Corporal Hugh G. Nolle, Corporal Edward Clements, Cook Cassius A. Hamilton, Machinist Lewis E.

Shoales, Musician Arthur Wells, Musicial Albert Piette, Privates Edward R. Barker, Louis E. Caron, Walter E. Clark, Peter W. Collins, Alexander Blackmar, Leon N. Blanchard, Joseph Burton, Elzear Cotnoir, James T. Day, Howard Dixon, Robert Dragon, George O. Dunn, Arthur Drayon, Henry Gazette, Charles Geldard, John H. Gilman, Valmore J. Guertin, Nelson Greenwood, Raymond B. Hamilton, David C. Herbert, Ovide Jarvais, Peter Kagan, Charles B. Lucas, Joseph Laroque, John Mayhew, Anthony Michon, Paul Mondor, Frank Monty, John J. Moran, Ovila Mitchell, William H. Marquis, William H. Pike, Ledore Poirier, Joseph Raille, Julius A. Rainville, Henry Roberge, Henry Rondeau, George D. Stone, T. J. A. Tetreault, Fred Vandale, Frank Vandale, Stephen J. Wood, Theodore Roireau." (WCT 3/8/1917) Perhaps you recognize the name of a relative and can add more to the story. If so, please email me or contact the Killingly Historical Center.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian. Special thanks to Marilyn Labbe for her work extracting Transcript articles. For additional information visit the Killingly Historical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 (or by appointment) or www.killinglyhistorical.org or call (860) 779-7250. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, Connecticut 06329. Margaret Weaver may be reached at margaretmweaver@gmail.com.



ANTIQUES

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make sure that other heirs have removed their items as well. Handling an estate is never an easy job but these guidelines can make it less overwhelming.

We will be auctioning a milk bottle collection and other dairy collectibles with many from local dairies on April 27th in Worcester. See www.centralmassauctions.com for more information on this and additional upcoming events.

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

TRAINOR

continued from page A8

winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips,

not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out thee to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you

have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press publications? Send questions and/or hint to: Take the Hint!, c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email kdrr@aol.com.

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AUDIT
continued from page A1

great thing for someone just starting in that position to be able to start addressing those right out of the gate.”

The Selectmen will be expecting a full audit report at their next meeting on March 20. In the meantime they took the opportunity to discuss the auditing process to try and ensure the document is finished earlier during the next budget year.

Calorio said her office and the finance department are working to resolve delays in the process, which she and selectmen agreed are partially due to the unusual amount of turn-

around in both offices over the last year or so. Calorio said Selectmen shouldn't expect immediate results and that it may take a few cycles for all the issues to be ironed out. She said that realistically the next audit will probably be done by Jan. 31 of 2018 and the following year would likely be completed by Dec. 31, which she said is the date Putnam should shoot for from here on out. Selectman Roy Simmons asked why a November completion wouldn't be likely. Calorio said it would take a very efficient system for any town to make that happen.

“I think it would be more realistic for the town to shoot to have the audit ready by Dec. 31.

That is the traditional cutoff for filing requirements with the state. Most audits aren't done until Dec. 31. That being said, with the items that we have that we need to address I think that it's going to take a couple years to get this cleaned up to be honest. It's not going to be a one-year fix,” Calorio said. “I think (Jan. 31) is a realistic look at where we think we're going to be able to land for next year. In the subsequent year I would think we could get to Dec. 31. I don't know that it would be realistic to anticipate getting an audit issued by the end of November. That's just not typically the time frame. You'd have to be on a very advanced schedule for

that.”

Calorio said the town's books aren't usually finished until the end of August or early September and that by October the auditors are coming out to the town and it takes several weeks for them to do their field work and then a draft is written up. So realistically having a report completed and finalized by the end of November is not feasible for most towns.

Putnam Mayor Tony Falzarano said he sees promise from the town's new employees that any audit issues will be resolved. Assuming there is more consistency in the departments involved in that process, he expressed optimism that the town of Putnam

is in good hands.

“Hopefully our present treasurer will stay for another 20 years and we'll have consistency and continuity in that office. I think stuff is being cleared up right now and it's a good cycle,” said Falzarano.

Selectman Roy Simmons said he is less worried about what is being fixed and more worried about timing, especially around budget season. Simmons had hoped that November would be a realistic time for a finalized audit to be produced, but said he believes the town is in capable hands.

“My overriding concern is not necessarily rectifying problems that are being addressed. We know what they are. I

think as (Donna and Mary) get more time in their jobs they will be fine,” Simmons said. “The problem is unless we can get the data that we just recently received sooner, we're running up against deadlines in the town charter as it's written now. It's in my opinion foolish to sit here and try to pass departmental budgets when you don't even know what the revenue is or expected revenues or shortfalls.”

Jason Bleau may be reached at (508) 909-1429, ext. 110, or by e-mail at Jason@stonebridgepress.com

FIRE
continued from page A1

said. “We lucked out. As I put it, ‘No runs, no hits, no errors’. Nobody got displaced and nobody got hurt.”

Luckily the home had no

permanent resident at the time. The owner of the property was in the process of remodeling the structure and it's believed that the electricity was the only utility turned on for use in the home. Burchard stressed that there is no suspicion of foul play and that

the incident appears simply the result of an unfortunate accident. The exact cause will likely never be determined.

Burchard said firefighters and park patrons were fortunate that the situation was handled so well and was not surprised that the trail-

er would be a total loss after experiencing a fire of that size.

“The older manufactured homes that were built in the 50s and 60s, the average time from start to finish for a building to be fully involved is around seven to 10 min-

utes,” Burchard said. “That doesn't give much time to get there and battle the fire, but they're made to not withstand fire for too long so you don't send anyone in. We usually have to stay outside so we're glad no one was living there at the time.”

HONOR ROLL
continued from page A6

Joseph Raheb, and Chang Yuan.

First Honors include: Terren Allen, Bryce Bentinck, Jacob Brower, Jennifer Burdick, Christianna Cairo, Tate Credit, Hailey Jimenez, Dylan McMerriman, Prachi Patel, Brynly Rich, Emily Robinson, and Melanie Straub.

Second Honors include: Jasmine Alvord, Katherine Archambault, Karena Ayotte, Camille Benoit, Colin Bragdon, Mia Briere, Kortnie Buell, Alexandra Chitwood, Mackenzie Coffee, Kera Crossman, Nazmia Dionis, Lauryn Durand, Andrea Filbert,

Jailyn Gancarz, Tres-Belle Gaudette, Alexis Gavitt, Ezra George, Tiffany Hicks, Colby Johndrow, Mary Jordan, Seth Kelly, Trevor LaFlamme, Luke Lageman, Cecilia LeBlanc, Samantha Lynch, Emma Marceau, Noah Marcoux, Nolan Marcoux, Lauren Mayotte, Kylee Mazzarella, Kaitlyn McCrory, Joshua Montpelier, Alexandria Morrisette, Michael O'Connor, Cody Ogozalek, Kaitlyn Peckham, Matthew Phelan, Sedona Pratt, Hannah Privee, Blake Reynolds, David Rull, Jamie Shay, Camryn Soler, Derek Turner, Emily Watling, Blake Wolanin, Aubrey Woods, and Caitlyn Woods.

The following FRESHMEN achieved High Honors in Quarter 2: Keeley Cerbo, Isabella Deep, Rebecca DiBenedetto,

Sarah Greenhalgh, Alyssa Hansen, Jonathan Lepire, Kaileigh Martineau, Morrian Owen, Christopher Pawul, Alexandra Purcell, Ashley Ray, and Mackenzie Weaver.

First Honors include: Julia Beausoleil, Griffin Bellavance, Stephanie Bellows, Shayne Bigelow, Faith Boateng-Afranie, Brianna Caffrey, Kameron Crowe, Erin DeRouin, Courtney Ennis, Russell Farnsworth, Alyssa Gaudreau, Lauren Hyatt, Mackenzie Jackson, Lauren Jones, Jedrek Lopez, Alexis Manfredo, Benjamin Morin, Ariana Moulton, Jacob Nurse, Bryce Pratt, Amirah Samuel, Isabel Tang, Benjamin Theroux, and Evan Townsend.

Second Honors include: Arianna Binienda, Jonathan Creswell, Jaisha

Crowell, Jordan Dreibholz, Edward Esposito, Christiana Filbert, Caroline Gagnon, Madeline Guari, Amber Hall, Brianna Hogan, Caleb Johnson, Lauren Kirkconnell, Christopher Lackner, Cassidy Lefevre, Jaimie Lohman, Jackson Lopes, Rylee Lopes, Hannah Mason, Hailey Messier, Samantha Murd, Leah Murdock, Ryan Noll, Colby O'Donnell, Jasmine Oenning, Aidan Parsons, Caleb Peckham, Nadia Ponciano, Ethan Preston, Sierra Rocha, Brianna Rumrill, Jaycin Shaw, Soudalath Souvanhnaphan, Annabelle Sparling, Madison Stevens, Abbygail Surrell, Benjamin Torre, Aaron Townsend, Alexander Vanasse, Justin Veal, Jasmine Wilson, and Riley Zadora.

SPECIAL FUNDRAISING EVENT!

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BRADLEY

New England Comedy All Stars ONE NIGHT ONLY

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Linda Belt - Has performed in Atlantic City, Mohegan Sun, The Boston Comedy Festival and "Laughs" on Fox
Graig Murphy - Boston Favorite works at Foxwoods and in Las Vegas
Ray Harrington - His Debut album "The Worst is Over" debut at the top of the iTunes and Amazon comedy charts, Named Best Comedian by the Providence Phoenix

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Charge by phone: 860-928-7887 • Or visit the box office. • Tickets may be available at the door

Woodstock benefit raises over \$4,000 for community kitchens

WOODSTOCK — The First Congregational Church of Woodstock held a benefit concert on Feb. 25 for Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut featuring the Bluegrass Gospel Project. The event netted over \$4,000 from ticket sales, sponsorships, and a free will offering.

This was the second time in just 11 months that the Hill Church presented the Bluegrass Gospel Project in a benefit concert for Community Kitchens, and the second time the event sold out and raised over \$4,000.

The capacity crowd responded enthusiastically to the expressive solos of singer-songwriter Colby Crehan, the group's close harmonies, and their impeccable musicianship. BGP performed many numbers from their just-released CD *Delivered* as well as old favorites including an a cappella rendering of "Precious Memories" and a bluegrass version of U2's "Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For." After a standing ovation, the band returned to the stage for a two-song encore.

"It doesn't get any better," said Bruce Lyman, a Woodstock Community Kitchen site coordinator and organizer of the event. "We raised money for an important local non-profit while having the time of our lives enjoying terrific music by a great band."



"The Bluegrass Gospel Project" performs before a full house at the First Congregational Church of Woodstock on Feb. 25

Courtesy photo

For BGP fans, the concert was bittersweet. The group is disbanding after 16 years of performing at bluegrass festivals, churches and granges, and other venues throughout New England. They will be performing a farewell concert in their home state of Vermont

later this month.

The Rev. Jocelyn Gardner Spencer, pastor of First Congregational Church of Woodstock said "What a wonderful evening — great music, great crowd, great cause. We are proud to be part of the Community Kitchens network

that provides gathering places for our community and care and support for people in need."

Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut is a nonprofit organization that provides a hot noon-time meal each weekday at one of five

locations in our region including the First Congregational Church of Woodstock on Mondays, the Living Faith United Methodist Church of Putnam on Tuesdays, the United Methodist Church of Danielson on Wednesdays, All Hallows Catholic Church of Moosup on Thursdays, and Moosup United Methodist Church on Fridays. All meals are free and everyone is welcome.

The First Congregational Church of Woodstock partners with East Woodstock Congregational Church, South Woodstock Baptist Church, and Christ Church of Pomfret in providing the Monday meal, each church preparing and serving one meal each month. Bread for Life, a nonprofit founded by Caryn Hollowell of Woodstock, covers fifth Mondays. Baked goods are donated by Soleil & Suns Bakery, Java Jive, Stop & Shop, and Price Chopper, and fresh produce is donated by Big Y.

Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut needs additional funds to continue its mission of addressing food insecurity and providing places where seniors and others can find community and companionship. Donations may be sent to Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut, P.O. 502, Danielson, Ct., 06239.

Local students perform in epic Game of Thrones concert



Courtesy photo

ECSCU students rehearse for Game of Thrones concert

WILLIMANTIC — Fallon Michalski, from Brooklyn, and Halie Poirier, from Putnam, were among 19 talented student vocalists from Eastern Connecticut State University's Music Program who were selected to perform in the Game of Thrones Live Concert Experience at the Mohegan Sun Arena on Feb. 25. The epic three-hour concert immersed performers and audience members of the sold-out show into the world of Westeros.

Michalski, Class of 2020, majors in Pre-Early Childhood Education and Music. Poirier, Class of 2017, majors in Music. The vocalists were led by composer Ramin Djawadi, best known for his score for the famous HBO television series.

Through Djawadi's groundbreaking score, performers in the choir and orchestra brought audience mem-

bers on a journey from the King's Landing to Winterfell. The best compositions from the Game of Thrones were brought to life with spectacular effects and footage from famous scenes projected onto massive screens above and around the stage-capturing the grand scale of a renowned series that has been hailed as one of the best television programs of all time.

"Our reputation has opened doors for us to work with internationally known artists because they know they will be met with professionalism and excellence," said Eastern Music Professor and Director of Vocal Studies David Belles. "I am so proud of all the students who performed and the incredible amount of work that went into this experience."

PROJECTS

continued from page A3

sought advice from other town officials to get it right.

Putnam Selectman Scott Pempek was in attendance during the group's meeting. Pempek, having played a vital role in pushing for the renovation of Putnam High School, was asked to give his advice on how the group should proceed. Pempek said it's all about presentation and consistency and making sure the public gets the information it needs in the most professional and easily comprehensible way possible. He said the Facilities Study Group could learn from past failures of project proposals. He said presenting the projects as one initiative might be the best course of action.

There are still a lot of unknowns before the Facilities Study Group can proceed. The group was expected to be presented with details from the architects on both projects at the Feb. 23 meeting, with a floor plan of the armory concept in hand from LLB Architects. The Recreation

Commission and Commission on Aging both having a stake in the armory's floor plan and design and requested a meeting with the architects in March before the plans were further discussed with the Facilities Study Group.

The Facilities Study Group is looking to get the word out, including bringing information to First Friday events. Rawson said plenty of questions still need answers.

"We certainly need to have more than one, maybe three, public forums to get people up to speed on what we've been doing and what we're trying to do," Rawson said. "The other part is the funding of it. And that has a lot to do with getting numbers back. We can't really do anything, I don't think, until we get numbers back on the armory. Then we will know and be able to show the public numbers and talk about how we are going to fund it."

Jason Bleau may be reached at (508) 909-1429, ext. 110, or by e-mail at Jason@stonebridgepress.com

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Tufts Hill road has storied history with Woodstock

BY LINDA K. BRANNIFF
FOR THE VILLAGER

In the early 1600s, there was no formal road over today's Tufts Hill or what was called Quittamaug or Nipmuc Hill (named for John Quittamaug, the old Nipmuc who made the then bare hill his home). There was the Woodstock Trail down Quittamaug Hill that had been established by colonists traveling between Oxford and Woodstock in the late 1680s to early 1700s, but it seemed to be just that...a trail to Woodstock.

Using today's landmarks to explain the route, people wishing to get from Dudley to the road to Southbridge in 1795 had to take a route to Dudley Hill to meet the county road running south and then go right at Yummy's or from the Hill take Healy Road to today's Route 31, turn right on Mill Street and come out at Brown's Bridge (now the Route 131 bridge over the Quinebaug) to connect with the county road to Southbridge. There was also the Rattlesnake Trail and the back road following today's Dudley-Southbridge Road, but they were more difficult traveling and a bit longer.

In the early 1800s, turnpikes appeared and were privately financed roads, generally a step above town or county roads, with barriers every so often, requiring travelers to stop and pay a toll before proceeding. The barriers across the road were called "pikes" and they were "turned" aside to allow passage once the toll was paid. Twenty-five cents generally got a stagecoach through and four cents was the toll for a horse and rider.

In 1824 the Central Turnpike Corporation, founded by Samuel Slater and others, was chartered by the Mass. Legislature to build a private toll road from Wellesley westward, through Framingham, Sutton, and Oxford down

into Dudley and then into Connecticut. The Central Turnpike ran over existing colonial roads in Dudley (Rte. 12 and 197) but when it got to today's Cumberland Farms, the Central Turnpike veered to the left and followed the old Woodstock Trail (Oxford to Woodstock), going past Sully's Dog Shack and Patriot Gas, down Quittamaug Hill. It was finished in 1829. Originally, the path of the Central Turnpike down the hill from about today's Dunkin' Donuts would have run in a straight line to the southwest, going right through the Courthouse, behind the private house at the end of Woodmere Drive, and coming out just before the four corners at the base of the hill (near Yummy's) and then into Quinebaug. It must have been an exhilarating ride for people going down that hill in the winter and a pitiable trip for the poor horses going up it in the summer.

The Central Turnpike continued to function as a toll road (there was a toll house across from the end of Brandon Road) until 1836 when the tolls were discontinued. In October 1836 the Turnpike through Dudley and down Tufts Hill was ceded by the corporation to the county and then the town. In 1839 the Central Turnpike Corporation officially dissolved.

If you slow down a bit as you cross into Quinebaug from Dudley on Route 197, on the right side of the road, at the bottom of a large road sign, there is a small green sign that says "Old Turnpike Road."

The former Central Turnpike road over Tufts Hill was used until 1907, when the town voted to discontinue a portion of the road and create a new path down Tufts Hill. Using the first several hundred feet of the old Central Turnpike up to where it would have gone through the court-



Courtesy photo

This postcard, circa 1905, shows the old intersection at the bottom of Tufts Hill in south central Massachusetts, looking East. The sign post on the left at Center Road gives distances to Webster, Quinebaug, Woodstock and Southbridge.

house, a hairpin curve was created making the road go laterally across the hill a few hundred feet towards Universal Tag, then turning southwest down the hill in an attempt to decrease the grade (think about a reverse S on its side halfway down the hill.) Autos were a novelty at that time and were not considered a problem, so the roadbed was created for horses and wagons.

However, autos did turn out to be a problem, and the Tufts Hill road became a maintenance nightmare. The road could not be kept passable due to the increase in auto traffic which constantly tore up the dirt roadbed.

Finally, in 1924 officials from Dudley, with support from Webster and Southbridge, petitioned the state to make the old Central Turnpike through town a state

road. It was presented that the road was the main thoroughfare between Webster and Southbridge, was much used, and the cost of constantly repairing the road was more than the small town of Dudley could afford. Patching of the road was the best that could be done. The petition was apparently not granted since officials of the three towns were again petitioning the state for help in 1926 for the same reasons. By now the road was in even more deplorable condition.

In September 1927 plans were finally being made by the state to take over the road. A new state road would be started at the junction of Hall, West Main, and Lyons Road where the then cement road ended. Engineers would remove the hairpin turns and a wide, sweeping curve

going toward Universal Tag installed instead. A gentle arc would be created on the north side of the discontinued road until the arc joined the old road near the bottom of the hill. The new road would be macadam and go to the Quinebaug CT state line. Bids went out for the work.

Opening of the bids revealed the favored local contractor Charles A. Haggerty lost the job to a man from Leominster, who underbid him by \$29! Work began in March 1928. The rest of the road to Southbridge (River Road) would be finished in 1930-31; THAT was another adventure, for another day.

Tufts Hill again underwent renovations about 1965. It turned out the road drainage was inadequate, turning runoff coming down the hill into raging white water rapids after a heavy rain. Some

said you might even have seen the old Nipmuc, John Quittamaug, navigating the rapids in his canoe!

A postcard, circa 1905, shows the old intersection at the bottom of Tufts Hill, looking East. The sign post on the left at Center Road gives distances to Webster, Quinebaug, Woodstock and Southbridge.

Thanks to Lisa Berg, Dudley Principal Assessor, for help with this article. The Black Tavern opens its 2017 public programs on March 16 at 7 p.m. in the Tavern with a presentation by Tom Kelleher from Old Sturbridge Village called "Peddling Your Wares." The event is free to all. Light refreshments will be served following the program. The Tavern is at 148 Center Road, Dudley, Mass.

Brooklyn Sand and Gravel honored

BROOKLYN — Brooklyn Sand and Gravel has been recognized by the United States Department of Labor and Mine Safety Health Administration (MSHA) for eight years in a row now as being honored as Sentinels of Safety. The business has been injury free and illness free for over eight years. The recognition comes with a lot of hard work by all of Brooklyn Sand and Gravel employees and management. The company recognizes that a large amount of dedication and financial support from Wayne and Leslie Jolley is needed to accomplish such a goal.



Courtesy photo

From left, Brooklyn Sand and Gravel's Jim Stewart, Jamie Labarre, Jared Labarre, Wayne Jolley, Paul Breault, Ray Viens, and kneeling Moe LaPierre.

Murphy concerned with rails in Northeast corridor

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) called on the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) on Feb. 28 to heed the concerns of Connecticut residents before finalizing a plan for the NEC FUTURE project along the Northeast Corridor (NEC). In a letter addressed to FRA's Executive Director Patrick Warren, Murphy emphasized the important economic impact of the NEC rail corridor and his strong support for prioritizing transportation investment. Murphy also expressed serious concerns with the FRA's proposed new rail line in southeastern Connecticut, which does not adequately address the historical and environmental worries of residents who live along the proposed route. While all construction decisions on the NEC require the approval of state and local governments, NEC FUTURE will create a framework to guide future planning and investments. The FRA is currently accepting public comments before issuing the next set of recommendations in March 2017.

"The economic impact of the [NEC] cannot be overstated...The transformative potential of increased rail investment is undeniable. It is in this context that the FRA undertook NEC

FUTURE," said Murphy. "More than residents of any other state, Connecticut residents have been intensely interested in the work of NEC FUTURE. Underlying the intense interest is both a strong belief in the transformative potential of rail investment in the region and a fear that the current iteration of NEC FUTURE's plan will adversely affect the lives of Connecticut shoreline residents, particularly in the towns affected by the proposed bypass routes outlined in the FEIS. Therefore, I urge you and the NEC FUTURE team to heed the concerns of these residents before choosing a Selected Alternative."

Murphy is a vocal advocate for robust investment in transportation infrastructure. Through his "Fed Up" Campaign, Murphy hears directly from Connecticut's commuters about why they're "fed up" with Connecticut's traffic and aging transportation infrastructure. Murphy recently announced a plan to invest \$1 trillion in transportation infrastructure to rebuild America's infrastructure projects over the next ten years and create 15 million jobs. America's deteriorating infrastructure already costs the economy close to \$200 billion a year.

Marianapolis girls win NEPSAC crown



Olivia Summiel was named tourney MVP.

Courtesy photo



The Knights celebrate their NEPSAC championship.

Courtesy photo

THOMPSON — Marianapolis Prep defeated Choate Rosemary Hall 52-44 in the Class A NEPSAC Girls Basketball Championship game on March 5. Defense was the name of the game for the Knights as they forced 11 turn-

overs in the first half which led to some great scoring opportunities. Choate went on a run at the end of the first half to cut the lead to one point as the Knights went into halftime up 21-20. Marianapolis looked to settle

down on offense and stay out of trouble on defense in the second half. They continued to share the ball and look to score in the paint on offense, while they played tough nose man to man on the defensive end. The Knights ended the day with a 52-44 victory and took home the NEPSAC Class A trophy. The Knights were led in the scoring column by Saoirse

Power-Cassidy with 13 points and came up big on the defensive end with four steals. Fellow senior Nicole Anderson was in double digits with 12 and had three steals as she came up huge once again on the defensive end, covering the opponents top players. Jordan Frye added 7 points and pulled down four rebounds while dishing out 3 assists for the day.

Sophomore Olivia Summiel was elected the Class A Championship Game Most Valuable Player as she finished the day with a double-double of 12 points and 16 rebounds. She also had three steals. It was a true team victory for the Knights as they made history for Marianapolis winning the NEPSAC Championship.

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Westview hosts Mardi Gras celebration

DAYVILLE — Fat Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday. Pancake Tuesday. Call it what you will but the folks at Westview Health Care Center in Dayville called Tuesday, Feb. 28 a blast. In the spirit of year's past, the facility's Formal Dining Room played center stage for the vibrantly colorful and festive Mardi Gras celebration.

Tom Callinan, a multi-faceted performing artist and Connecticut's first "Official State Troubadour", performed for the capacity crowd utilizing an assortment of instrumental accompaniment including a banjo, guitar and a drum. Playing such songs as "Little Brown Jug", "Jambalaya", "Golden Slippers" and "Blueberry Hill."

Callinan kept the celebration upbeat and high-energy through his hour long set as residents and patients contributed to the ambience with horns, noisemakers and hand clappers. In addition to Callinan's performance, residents and patients enjoyed food and drink including the customary "King Cake", a cinnamon sugared sweet bread that, as part of tradition, had two small plastic babies baked inside. The two residents whose piece of cake revealed a plastic baby were later crowned as 2017's king and queen of Westview.

"We're extremely grateful to Mr. Callinan for sharing his musical talents with us," said David T. Panteleakos, Westview administrator. "We gauge the success of our Recreation Department's efforts by the excitement in the room and this celebration has definitely set the bar quite high for next year's Mardi Gras event."



Westview held a Mardi Gras celebration.

Courtesy photo

Last Green Valley presents Spring Outdoors

DANIELSON — The Last Green Valley, Inc. (TLGV) is pleased to present the second annual Spring Outdoors — expanded this year to run for the entire spring season, from March 20 through June 21. Spring Outdoors connects you to lands, waters, and trails in the Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor, including some properties not normally accessible to the public.

Walktober was a tremendous success this past fall, with almost 300 opportunities for people to enjoy all of our wonderful resources in the National Heritage Corridor's 35 towns. Land trusts, conservation com-

missions, trails committees, farms, historical societies and small businesses hosted experiences highlighting what makes them unique. TLGV sprang into action last year when asked to coordinate a program similar to Walktober, but in the spring as nature springs forth. Spring Outdoors is blossoming and growing quickly just as Walktober has done. Experience many of these properties, trails, museums, camps, woods and waters in both spring and fall.

The Friends of Goodwin Forest kick off with "Predation & the Ecosystem" and the "Goodwin Book Club fea-

turing Edwin Way Teale" on Wednesday, March 22. Goodwin Forest's trails in Hampton provide access to the Air Line State Park Trail and offer you a full day of fresh air!

"Organic Lawns" and "Medicinal Weeds" sprout as choices on Saturday, March 25. The organic lawns workshop is offered as a part of a healthy environment series by the Town of Mansfield. Goodwin Forest's medicinal weeds walk includes how to recognize plants, shares recipes and teaches how to include healing traditions in your own life.

All ages can enjoy the happenings on Sunday, March 26.

For the kiddos, "TLGV Ranger Marcy's Acorn Adventure" hits the Air Line State Park Trail in Chaplin, looking for skunk cabbage and other signs of spring. Joshua's Trust's "Spring Along the Willimantic River" is also aimed at youth, searching for signs of spring in a different spot. Stroll back over to Goodwin Forest for a discussion on "Climate Change 101." Then stroll on the trails at Goodwin.

To get all the Spring Outdoors choices, TLGV has developed a web-based brochure that can be downloaded and printed. Events are also listed on TLGV's Facebook page. New

adventures are being added all the time, so be sure to check in often. Learn more about the National Heritage Corridor and Spring Outdoors at The Last Green Valley's website, www.thelastgreenvalley.org.

The Last Green Valley is a National Heritage Corridor — the last stretch of dark night sky in the coastal sprawl between Boston and Washington, D.C. The Last Green Valley works for you in the National Heritage Corridor. Together we can care for it, enjoy it and pass it on.

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Salvation Army opens center in Dayville

DAYVILLE — The Salvation Army opened a new Family Center Store on March 6 at 730 Hartford Turnpike in Dayville, next to Planet Fitness. The Dayville Family Store will be replacing the previous store located at 570 Providence Turnpike in Brooklyn. The new store will be open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to p.m. Donations of clothing, household items and small furniture will be accepted only during business hours via the back door, behind the Planet Fitness. Tax receipts

will be provided on-the-spot for any donations. We encourage all our customers to donate clothing and goods directly to the store.

Captain Leo Lloyd, Jr., who oversees The Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center in Hartford said, "Our new Family Store will offer a one-of-a kind shopping experience with customer-friendly options like never before, and we hope to revolutionize the way customers shop our locations." The Salvation Army Family Store in

Dayville funds the Adult Rehabilitation Center in Hartford that helps people with substance abuse issues fight their addiction. The center hosts 120 beds and offers six-month rehabilitation programs. For more information on the program, please call (860) 527-8106 and ask for the Intake Coordinator. To schedule a large donation pick up, please visit www.SATruck.org or call (800) 728-7825.

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The Killingly-Brooklyn Rotary Club is accepting 2017 scholarship applications. Students who reside in or attend school in Killingly or Brooklyn are eligible to apply. Students must be a high school senior planning to attend college in the fall of 2017 or a student currently matriculated in at least one course at Quinebaug Valley Community College. Applications are available through the guidance departments at Killingly High School, Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School, Marianapolis Preparatory School, QVCC, QVCC Middle College, and Woodstock Academy. For further information contact K-B Rotary Club Treasurer Sarah Wallace at Sarah_Wallace@banksi.com. All applications must be postmarked no later than April 14.

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Bradley Theatre presents Pirates of Penzance

PUTNAM — The Theatre of Northeastern Connecticut at the Bradley Playhouse is honored and grateful to announce a special fundraising event, Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance*. This hilarious comic opera is being brought to the stage by Bob and Caroline Sloat to raise money for the Bradley.

Performances are for one weekend only, March 17 and 18 at 7:30 pm and March 19 at 2 p.m. Bob Sloat, who retired as Arts Chair and Theatre Director of Pomfret School, produced his first Gilbert and Sullivan in 1975 beginning a thirty-year tradition that featured student performers and adults from the area. After a break, he decided it was time to present *The Pirates of Penzance* once again.

The plot of *The Pirates of Penzance* centers on the confusion created by a mistaken apprenticeship, a leap-year birthday, and the false claim to be an orphan. Will young Frederic, apprenticed to a pirate (and not a pilot), become free on his 21st birthday? So it appears, until it is discovered that he was born in a leap year and is only a little boy of 5. Despite his objection to piracy, he is honor bound to remain a pirate, but can the

beautiful Mabel wait for sixty years? Guiding Frederic through his unusual predicament are the brash Pirate King, Ruth, the pirates' maid-of-all work, romantic Mabel, and the delightfully stuffy Major-General Stanley.

This special production of *The Pirates of Penzance* is directed and conducted by Sloat, who is assisted in bringing the show to the stage by Leslie Snow, choreographers Joey Army Almonte, Keri Danner, and Nichola Johnson. Major-General Stanley is played by Jim Dehls and Adam Leidemer appears as the Pirate King. The roles of Frederic and Mabel are played by Jon Carpentier, who has appeared in many Bradley productions, and soprano Aimée-Rose Willett, 2016 soloist for the Concert Choir Messiah. The ensemble cast includes a delightful band of sentimental pirates, lovely wards and bumbling police, accompanied by a full orchestra that Sloat will conduct.

The Bradley Playhouse is located at 30 Front Street (Route 44) in Putnam, CT. All seats are reserved. Tickets are \$24 for adults and \$20 for seniors and students. Bradley Season and Flex Passes are



Courtesy photo

Larissa Bailey (Isabel), Jim Dehls (Major-General Stanley) and Aimee-Rose Willett (Mabel).

not valid for this production. Reservations may be made with a major credit card online

at www.thebradleyplayhouse.org or by calling (860) 928-7887. Tickets may be purchased at

the theater box office, either before the performance or at the door.



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PANTRY
continued from page A1

community by gathering these foods from the kids who have brought them from their homes," student Nick Dahl said. "It's better to feel like you're doing something good. You don't get that feeling when you're sleeping or outside playing on a Sunday morning. I feel much better being a part of this."

His classmate Lauren Wager said she was thrilled to be a part of the project and agreed that she wouldn't have wanted to be anywhere else that Sunday than with her friends and fellow students helping give back to the local community.

"I feel great about it. I think everyone who donated should feel good too. They took the time to find these foods and bring them in so others could have a chance at a better life," Wager said. "Even though we're young I feel we should be involved in things like this, even on a Sunday."

Laurie Barber said she was thrilled about the enthusiasm and excitement her students shared for being a part of the project. Students not only brought the food to the pantry, they emptied the boxes and placed them on their respective shelves. The also learned the ins and outs of the pantry and about the people they were helping through their effort. Barber said it was an experience she knew the students would respect.

"We decided that with this age group we wanted to do something a little more hands on than just teaching from a book or classroom. They put together the fliers and distributed them to all the classrooms so this was an effort for the whole school, grades one through eight. They've been collecting the food every single week and today we brought it all to the pantry," she said. "They've been a part of these collections before, but they never see the end result. Here they get to bring the food over to

the pantry and envision that this will help people in need from our parish and community."

The pantry at the St. Joseph School has served anywhere between 15 and 30 families from the Thompson and Woodstock communities at any given time, and many more are unaware the pantry exists. Occasionally the pantry works in tandem with the Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group and relies heavily on donations of both goods and money to stay in operation. Barber said she hopes that her students, and the community at large, can learn from their generosity. Even if something seems very simple, it can make a big difference to someone who may not have a lot to spare.

"They can come and read from a book, but this is something they will hopefully continue and understand. It's part of being a good person and a part of their community. How much effort did this really take? Very



Jason Bleau photo

St. Joseph School CCD students distribute collected food to the school's food pantry last Sunday.

little really, but it makes a big difference so if we can teach them that then it will pay off," Barber said. "Hopefully they'll be more willing to reach out to those in need in

the future. They are a great bunch of kids and this hands-on experience is something this age group needs so I knew it would be a great project for them."

Jason Bleau may be reached at (508) 909-1429, ext. 110, or by e-mail at Jason@stonebridgepress.com



Quest Martial Arts promotes students

PUTNAM — Grandmaster Mike Bogdanski and Master Kristin Duethorn of Quest Martial Arts in Putnam proudly announced the recent promotions of the following students.

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March is colorectal cancer screening month

BY DR. JEFFREY A. GORDON
FOR THE VILLAGER

Colorectal cancer affects many people. Every day someone is either given the diagnosis of, or is undergoing treatment for it. You may know someone. It is the third most common cancer in the United States. March is colorectal cancer awareness month.

The American Cancer Society estimates there will be approximately 135,430 people in the U.S. (approximately 1,600 people in Connecticut) given a new diagnosis of colorectal cancer this year. 1 out of every 22 men and 1 out of every 24 women will get it in their lifetime.

Over the past 20 years, the number of people who have died from cancer overall, including colorectal cancer, has decreased by 50 percent. It is estimated that there are over 1.2 million colorectal cancer survivors in the U.S. This is all wonderful news! Informing people about getting screened, people actually going to get screened, colonoscopies finding polyps (small growths in the colon and rectum) that can be removed before they turn into cancer, finding cancer at early stages that are easily treated, and new cancer treatments, have all together made this possible.

A colonoscopy looks directly inside the bowel. Unlike a sigmoidoscopy, which looks only at the rectum and the last part of the colon (called the sigmoid), a colonoscopy looks at the rectum and the entire colon. Medical studies show that if polyps are found, then removing them before cancer starts directly decreases the

chance of dying of colorectal cancer. That is why colonoscopies are recommended - not just once, but on a scheduled basis. If a polyp is not removed, over time it grows and can become cancerous. You may have one polyp. You may have more than one. You may have a polyp removed and then at a later time, another one forms elsewhere in the bowel. It is when a cancer develops that it becomes dangerous. That is why finding and removing polyps is so important. A colonoscopy is easy and safe. You're asleep during it. Some people are embarrassed to talk about a colonoscopy. But, you don't want to die of embarrassment because you did not get a colonoscopy.

Have you had your screening colonoscopy yet?

Most people think that having colorectal cancer is associated with symptoms. However, when colon cancer starts small, especially when it is a polyp or when it is an early stage, it has no symptoms. You do not know you have it. That is why getting a screening colonoscopy is important. By the time symptoms develop (such as loss of appetite, weight loss, fatigue, abdominal pain, bloating, changes in bowel habits, or blood in the stool), the cancer may be at an advanced stage.

Sometimes colorectal cancer can be associated with blood in the stool. Although more often than not, such blood is associated with hemorrhoids, sometimes it is not. Additionally, you may not see any blood in the stool, but it is there microscopically. This is a reason for testing of the stool looking for blood. No matter how blood is detected — you seeing it or a

test finding it — getting a colonoscopy can take a look and find if there is something causing the bleeding.

If a colorectal cancer is found, then surgery is often used to remove it. For early stage colorectal cancer, surgery alone can cure it. Chemotherapy may be used after surgery to increase the potential of being cured. Chemotherapy eradicates any microscopic cancer that remains after surgery. Not everyone needs chemotherapy. It depends upon the features and extent of the cancer. Aiding in this assessment are molecular and genetic tests that help a physician decide who may or may not benefit from chemotherapy.

In advanced stage colorectal cancer, when the cancer has spread to sites of the body distant from the colon and rectum (such as to the lungs, liver, brain, and bones), an array of therapies can help people enjoy better of qualities of life for longer periods of time than ever before. Chemotherapy and biologic therapy, the latter targeting features of the cancer, are used as part of a continuum of care over time. The side effects of chemotherapy are less than they were many years ago and the drugs used are more efficacious than the older drugs. Supportive care maneuvers are able to decrease treatment side effects. These have allowed more people to get the doses of the treatments they need and to stay longer on the treatments that are working.

A family history of colorectal cancer may increase your risk of developing colorectal cancer. It is estimated that 5 to 10 percent of colon cancers

have a hereditary component. You cannot change your family history, but you can get genetic counseling and testing, if indicated, to assess your risk even if you do not have colorectal cancer.

Other factors that increase colorectal cancer risk include being overweight or obese, being physically inactive, eating a lot of red or processed meats, overcooking meats when frying or grilling them, smoking cigarettes, drinking too much alcohol (more than two drinks/day for men or one drink/day for women), and having diabetes, Crohn's disease, or ulcerative colitis.

Additional risk factors include age and ethnic background. Colorectal cancer can occur in people who are less than 50 years of age, but over the age of 50, as one ages, the risk increases. African-Americans and people of Jewish Ashkenazi (eastern European descent) have an increased risk of colorectal cancer.

Some factors that decrease colorectal cancer risk include eating a lot of vegetables, fruits, and whole grains.

Knowing your risks helps you plan for the future. Lifestyle factors you can modify and thereby improve your odds for a healthy future. Some factors, such as age, family history, and ethnicity, you cannot change.

Unfortunately, approximately one third of people in the U.S. who should be screened for colorectal cancer do not get it done. In Connecticut, the statistic is better: approximately, one fourth of people do not get a colonoscopy. This puts our state No. 5 in a national rank-

ing of people getting screening colonoscopies. Talk with your doctor about what you can do for yourself, a family member, or a friend.

I recommend the following starting at age 50 years for people at "average" risk, based upon information from the American Cancer Society and the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force:

Checking for blood in the stool every year by fecal occult blood test (FOBT) or fecal immunochemical test (FIT),

Considering the additional check of the stool by DNA testing every three years, and

Following a defined colonoscopy schedule, such as every 10 years.

If you have a family history of colorectal cancer or other risk factors, then you may be in a "high" risk category and thus need screening tests done earlier than age 50 years and/or frequently.

March may be the colorectal cancer awareness month, but any day is a good day to do something for yourself so that you can live healthier and longer. For more information contact Dr. Jeffrey A. Gordon at (860) 443-4455, or go to www.JeffreyGordon.com.

Dr. Jeffrey A. Gordon, from Woodstock, is Board Certified in Hematology and Medical Oncology. He works at Hartford HealthCare Oncology Waterford and he is the President of the Connecticut State Medical Society. Dr. Gordon's opinions do not reflect any official position or policies of the CSMS.

Brooklyn woman says exercise is a lifesaver



Courtesy photo

Brenda-Rich Pike, DKH exercise physiologist (left) and Carol Artiaco, RN (right) with Sylvia Miller of Brooklyn.

PUTNAM — Eighty-six year-old Sylvia Miller of Brooklyn and her husband, Robert, have been going to the Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation medically-supervised exercise program at Day Kimball Hospital for a couple of years, on the recommendation of their cardiologist, Dr. William

Bradbury. That habit may have very likely saved Sylvia's life just a couple of months ago.

Sylvia and Robert headed to the hospital last Dec. 28 to exercise as they always did on Wednesdays. But, Sylvia recalls, she wasn't feeling quite right.

"I had felt short of breath for a few days and

had very low energy," she says. "But it was holiday time and I kept thinking, it's just a difficult, busy time."

When Sylvia and Robert arrived at cardiac rehab, it didn't take long for Brenda Rich-Pike, exercise physiologist, Colette Cote, RN and Carol Artiaco, RN, clinical coordinator for the cardiac rehab program, to notice something was amiss. Sylvia explained to Brenda how she'd been feeling. Carol put a monitor on Sylvia to check her oxygen levels and to monitor her heart rate.

With minimal physical exertion Sylvia's heart rate was very high. Carol called and consulted with Dr. Paul Matty, Sylvia's primary care doctor and with Dr. Bradbury, and it was decided that Sylvia should be brought to the Emergency Department.

"Carol wheeled me in a wheelchair to the Emergency Department. It was very scary but it was also just great treatment," Sylvia says.

It was discovered Sylvia was suffering from multiple pulmonary embolisms, which are potentially fatal blood clots in the lungs.

She was treated with

medicines to dissolve the clots and then admitted to the Intensive Care Unit at Day Kimball Hospital for five days, before being transferred to Westview Health Care Center in Dayville for another 10 days of recovery and rehabilitation. Two months later, Sylvia is slowly getting back to normal, with a new and greater appreciation for what the exercise program and the clinical staff has done for her health and her life.

"I had all those clots in my body that I didn't even know were there...I think the fact that I was taken [to the emergency department] as quickly as I was, is what saved me," Sylvia says.

But it wasn't just the quick action on the day the embolisms were discovered that Sylvia credits for saving her life.

"I most definitely feel much healthier for getting into that program in the first place and I think that helped me greatly to survive and to do so well after this," she says. "I was amazed at how weak one becomes after being down for a few days. If I'd been a more sedentary person I don't think it would have gone as

well."

With the scary experience behind her, Sylvia says she couldn't be more grateful for the care she received, from her nurses at cardiac rehab to the staff at the hospital's Emergency Department and Intensive Care Unit, to the staff at Westview Health Care Center.

"I just want to give all of them a lot of credit for what they did for me. I really am very grateful for all of the care. For Dr. Bradbury getting my husband and I into the exercise program in the first place. And Carol and Brenda and all the cardiac rehab nurses are just the greatest. They were like family members when I was hospitalized and at Westview, coming to visit and check on me. They're a great caring group," Sylvia says.

She says she's also thankful that that kind of care was available close to home.

"I'm very grateful that I haven't had to travel for any of my care; I was hoping I didn't have to be transferred anywhere else. It was nice being cared for locally and it was excellent care at both Day Kimball and at Westview," she says.

As for what's next, Sylvia is seeing a hematologist at Day Kimball Hospital to help discover and treat what caused her clots. She's taking short walks to build her strength back up. She's looking forward to returning full-steam to her exercise program at the hospital. And she has some words of advice for others her age, and those who are younger:

"I think about it now, and I wish that I had started earlier in my life doing the exercises, but it's never too late. Get into an exercise program if you're not already in one and listen to your body, and just have the desire to be healthier. Keep everything moving," Sylvia said. "Start with the little things, there are so many exercises, even to sit and do them, which is how I started out at rehab, so nothing needs to hurt. And it's fun. You feel good once you get the blood flowing and the oxygen levels where they should be. I'm going back to exercise this coming Monday, and hopefully this will all have a good ending. It's just good to be alive."

LeBlanc named Day Kimball employee of the month

PUTNAM — Cassandra LeBlanc, from Dayville, lead patient services representative (PSR) for Day Kimball Healthcare's Plainfield office, has been named Employee of the Month for February by Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH).

LeBlanc, who has been in the healthcare field for some seven years, began working for DKH about two years ago. In her role as lead PSR, she is responsible for assisting the office supervisor/practice manager with the PSR staff as well as daily operations of the front office. She provides support and guidance to the staff to ensure that proper clerical policies are followed while focusing on constant improvement of patient service. In addition, she helps to ensure that there is sufficient staff, assists with scheduling patient appointments, processing insurance, and ultimately helps the entire

office run smoothly.

During a recent employee of the month celebration, Joseph Adiletta, DKH President and CEO said, "Presenting this award to Cassie on behalf of the nearly 1,200 employees here at DKH is really an honor. As healthcare workers, we are all here to help our patients and the community, and Cassie goes above and beyond to make sure her work environment is a happy, upbeat place to be. What she does to create that for the people she works with allows them to create that same environment for patients, at a time when they need it the most."

According to Donna Manni, Regional Director of Operations, "Cassie is compassionate and caring toward her patients and they always come first. If patients have any questions whatsoever, she makes sure they have

answers before leaving the office. Cassie is also a team player, always willing to work on any project and always there to lend a helping hand. She is truly an asset to the organization."

When asked about what she likes most about her job, LeBlanc said, "My job is rewarding in so many ways, but knowing that I make a difference for our patients and co-workers every day is what I like most about my job. Helping our patients, showing them we care, and making sure they are being taken care of, is the most rewarding part of my job."

During the employee celebration, LeBlanc said she was honored by the award, but she also gave credit to her co-workers. She said, "We all work very hard in this office and we are all only as good as the team we're working with. This is a group win in my eyes, and I want to thank all of my



Courtesy photo

DKH President and CEO Joseph Adiletta, and Cassandra LeBlanc

co-workers and superiors for recognizing me as being able to represent DKH as employee of the month."

LeBlanc was born in Canandaigua, New York, and currently resides in Dayville with her husband, two daughters and stepson. She graduated from Killingly High School.

Birth announcement

PUTNAM — A son was born to Alyssa Denaris and Frankie Regula at Day Kimball Hospital on Jan. 28.

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POLICE LOGS

Editor's note: The information contained in these police logs was obtained through either press releases or public documents kept by the Putnam Police Department or Connecticut State Police Troop D and is considered the account of the police. All subjects are considered innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. If a case is dismissed in court or the party is found to be innocent, The Villager, with proper documentation, will update the log at the request of the party.

TROOP D LOG

KILLINGLY
 Monday Feb. 27
 Jacelyn A. Whittemore, 56, of 41 Hawkins Street in Killingly was charged with criminal trespassing in the first degree and larceny in the 5th degree.
 Saturday March 4
 Ian Emerson Gervais, 42, of 11 Pineville Road in Killingly was charged

with illegal possession of narcotics, operating under the influence of drugs or alcohol, and operation of a motor vehicle without a license.
NORTH GROSVENORDALE
 Monday Feb. 27
 Justin Brown, 29, of 19 Market Street Apt. #5 in North Grosvenordale was charged with criminal attempt of larceny in the sixth degree, interfering with an officer, breach of peace, and assault in the third degree.
PUTNAM
 Wednesday March 1
 Nicole Dumas, 44, of 92 Powhattan Street in Putnam was charged with possession of heroin and possession of heroin with intent to sell.
DANIELSON
 Saturday March 4
 Erin Patricia Browne, 46, of 51 Reynolds Street in Danielson, was

charged failure to appear in the second.
POMFRET
 Sunday March 5
 Robert Chalos Lima, 49, of 30 Tyrone Road of Pomfret, was charged with disorderly conduct and sexual assault in the fourth degree.
PUTNAM POLICE DEPARTMENT
 Monday, Feb. 27
 Angel Cote, 24, of 45 Battey St. Putnam, was charged with disorderly conduct, interfering with a police officer.
 Friday, March 3
 Terrence Oleszewski-Pierce, 22, of 65 Gaumont Road, North Grosvenordale, was charged with operating under the influence, traveling too fast.
 Kimberly Dysinjer, 22, of 274 Sabin St., Putnam, was charged with speed-

ing.
 Angel Cote, 24, of 45 Battey St. Putnam, was charged with failure to appear second degree.
 Norman Beaupre III, 34, of 6 Lyon Road, Woodstock, was charged with criminal attempt at criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, third degree assault.
 Saturday, March 4
 Katherin Peek, 25, of 24 Mill St. Putnam, was charged with breach of peace, third degree assault.
 Tina Murray, 36, of 24 Mill St., Putnam, was charged with breach of peace.
 Sunday, March 5
 Cara Parsons, 29, of 43 Lhomme St., Danielson, was charged with operating under the influence, operating without a license, insufficient insurance, failure to renew, failure to obey stop light.

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Killingly Historical Society receives grant

DANIELSON — Killingly Public Library and the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society recently received grants from the Jewett City Savings Bank Foundation. The Foundation awarded \$1,000 to the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society for the purchase of special materials needed for document preservation. The Preston Historical Society received \$1,000 to help fund repairs to the Long Society Meeting House. The Finnish American Heritage Society will use its \$500 Foundation grant to replace its archive room's temperature control system.
 "The Foundation is proud to support efforts designed to preserve his-

tory, to help enhance the services that our libraries provide to their patrons, and to promote the performing arts," said Kevin Merchant, bank president and CEO. "These are projects that help define a vibrant and caring community."
 The Foundation has awarded a total of \$9,200 to support libraries and arts and cultural organizations in local communities. Foundation funding will also help five local libraries enhance programs and services for the public. Aldrich Free Public Library received \$1,000 to refurbish the children's room, and Slater Library will use its \$1,200 grant to purchase a laptop, cables and word processing programs. Sterling

Public Library will direct its \$1,000 grant to providing educational and social programs for patrons, the Killingly Public Library received a \$1,000 grant to establish a portable computer learning lab, and the Fletcher Memorial Library will provide enrichment programs for its patrons with its \$500 grant.
 The Foundation also awarded \$1,000 in annual support to Performing Arts of Northeast Connecticut and to the Slater Library in Jewett City. According to Merchant, the Jewett City Savings Bank Foundation awarded grants totaling \$75,970 in 2016 to nonprofit organizations that provide a variety of services in local communities.

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Woodstock's title dreams hang in the balance

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

NEW MILFORD — Now comes the hard part. The seemingly routine task was accomplished last Saturday when Woodstock Academy proved for the sixth straight year it has the best high school gymnastics team in Connecticut — earning that title by capturing first place at the CIAC Open Gymnastics Championships at New Milford High School on March 4.

Now the Centaurs seek the top of the podium on a larger stage. This weekend's New England Gymnastics Championships are set to begin team competition at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Woodstock Academy's Alumni Fieldhouse.

Winning the New England championship won't come easy — and likely won't come at all if Woodstock repeats its New Milford performance on the balance beam — when four of six Centaurs lost their equilibrium and fell. Those miscues couldn't derail the Centaurs against the best of the rest in Connecticut — where they stand head, shoulders, and handstands above the competition — but mistakes might prove costly at New England's.

"It can't happen. They've got to be on their game. And I think they will be," said Woodstock coach Kasey Fillmore. "Today was an off day, it doesn't really show what they've done in the gym in the past. I think they'll get there."

Mental toughness figures heavily into the equation on beam and Fillmore will endeavor to sharpen her gymnasts in practice at Deary's Gymnastics in Danielson.

"Our pressure days, where we put them under pressure and they've got to hit. We'll silence the whole gym, we have a gym packed with 150 class kids, and it's silent — you've got to do a beam routine in front of everybody," Fillmore said. "Or just kind of throwing stuff out at them that puts them in a pressure situation — just different stuff so when they salute the judge for beam (at New

England's) it's not so scary."

Despite the slipups at Opens — coach Fillmore has some powerful weapons in her arsenal going into New England's. Senior co-captains Paige Stuyanski and Grace Logan led the Centaurs to the Open crown in New Milford. Stuyanski won gold in the all-around (38.80), gold in beam (9.75), and silver medals in vault (9.55), uneven bars (9.6) and floor exercise (9.7). Logan captured gold in bars (9.75), and bronze medals in the all-around (37.65) vault (9.525) and floor exercise (9.575).

Stuyanski said the Centaurs have to believe in themselves this weekend.

"We've got to make sure that every turn counts in the gym this week coming up — just feel confident going into New England's," Stuyanski said. "We've just got to trust ourselves. I just tell them to trust themselves because they've done so many routines in practice. They know they can do it. They've just got to trust themselves and go out there and feel good and do it."

Logan lost her balance on beam and hopped off at Opens, scoring an 8.8 to finish in 17th place. Her equilibrium at New England's will likely be critical to the Centaurs success.

"Beam takes a high level of concentration. It's all about staying in that moment. I think we got out of the moment today," Logan said. "So we're going to go back to practice on Monday and really focus on details and do a lot of repetitions. Do a lot of pressure sets and make sure you stay in the moment — because that's the time mistakes happen, is when you get out of the moment. You try to stay in your own head and not let the outside forces contradict what you're doing. I just focus on myself and stay in my own zone and try not to worry about what other people are doing."

Woodstock sophomore Lydia Taft stayed in the moment at Opens, she

Turn To **GYMNASTICS**, page B5



Charlie Lentz photo

Woodstock's Grace Logan competes in balance beam at the State Open Gymnastics Championships last Saturday in New Milford.

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Woodstock tops Barlow in state opener



Charlie Lentz photo

Woodstock's Ryan Black lines up a shot on Joel Barlow goalie Zach Gormley Monday.



Charlie Lentz photo

Woodstock's Nathan DeLuca shoots against Joel Barlow Monday.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

POMFRET — It's been a long wait for Nathan DeLuca and Ryan Black — since March 15 of last year. On that day Woodstock Academy was knocked out of last season's Division III State Hockey Tournament. Woodstock fell 6-5 in overtime to Staples/Weston/Shelton co-op in the state semifinals and the Centaurs have waited one full year to erase the memory of being stopped one goal short of the championship game. "I've tried to forget about it, honestly you

can't," said Black, a senior right winger. "Because that's just one thing that's a heartbreak. Everyone knew it was a heartbreak." Woodstock is seeded No. 1 in this season's Division III tourney and began its quest for a state title with an 11-0 win over 16th-seeded Joel Barlow in the opening round of the D-III tournament at Pomfret School's Jahn Rink on Monday. The Centaurs began their schedule back on Dec. 23 and DeLuca said they've worked all season for their No.-1 ranking and a shot at redemption.

"It feels like a really long time to get to the playoffs," said DeLuca, a senior centerman. "But now it feels like the season started. There was definitely a lot of anticipation. This is what really matters. This is what we're going to remember." The opening-round win over Joel Barlow on March 6 lifted the Centaurs record to 19-2-1 and advanced Woodstock to a quarterfinal game against ninth-seeded Trinity Catholic (8-13-0) on Thursday, March 9. If Woodstock gets past the Crusaders they'll

advance to a March 14 tourney semifinal at Yale University's Ingalls Rink in New Haven. "It's a completely different season," DeLuca said. "Our coach was saying before the game it doesn't matter what our record was in the regular season. It's a new season today. We're 0-0. The other team's 0-0. Season starts today for everyone." Woodstock had little trouble dispatching Joel Barlow, outshooting the Falcons 35-9. Black scored four goals and notched two assists. DeLuca had one goal and one assist. Zach Gagnon scored two goals. Will Liscomb scored one goal and had two assists. Patrick Delaney had one goal and one assist. Tyler Huhtanen scored one goal with one assist. Avery Riva notched one goal and two assists. Ethan

Thorpe had three assists. Liam McDermott, Aiden Boisvert, Doug Newton, Bruce Dexter, and goalie Cal Wilcox each notched one assist. Wilcox made nine saves en route to the shutout. If Woodstock can get past Trinity Catholic on March 9, the semifinals are slated for Tuesday, March 14 in New Haven at Ingalls Rink. "The goal is to win the next game and then move on from there," DeLuca said. Coach Mike Starr told the Centaurs to forget their No.-1 ranking in the tournament and start anew. "We talked about that before the game tonight. It's a new season. Nobody's won a game. Nobody's lost a game," Starr said. "Let's go out there and play."

Starr is well aware that last season's loss in the state semifinals festers. "That burns a little bit," Starr said. "And I know they think about it and I know it upsets them. We could have won that game — a couple bad bounces — but that's playoff hockey." Perhaps the only way to fully erase last year's bad memory will be a trip to the D-III championship game, slated for Saturday, March 18, at Yale's Ingalls Rink. "We've got to step up to the challenge because I know all the young kids want to be at Yale for the first time. All the seniors want to get back there," Black said. "And we want to have two games at Yale — and hopefully be raising the trophy." *Charlie Lentz may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 110, or by e-mail at charlie@villagernewsapers.com.*

Ellis Tech's Gonzalez wins New England title

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Ellis Tech senior JoJo Gonzalez pinned Josh Lee of Burlington, Mass., at 3:43 in the championship bout at 132 pounds to claim the gold medal at the New England Wrestling Championships on March 4 at Providence Career and Technical Center. Ellis Tech finished in eighth place in team competition, with over 140 teams represented. Danbury High finished first in team scoring. Ellis Tech's Sean Johnson claimed a bronze medal at 113 pounds. Johnson earned a 2-0 decision over Jack Darling of Maconomet Regional, Mass., in the consolation final.

CLASSICAL 100,
PUTNAM 64

HARTFORD — Seventh-seeded Classical Magnet defeated the 26th-seeded Clipper boys in the first round of the Class S Tournament on March 7. Putnam's Zack Cutler led the Clippers with 24 points and was 6-for-6 from three-point range. Putnam's Lucas Basilio added 20 points. The win lifted Classical's basketball record to 16-5. The loss ended Putnam High's season at 11-12.



File photo

Ellis Tech JoJo Gonzalez won the gold medal at 132 pounds the New England Wrestling Championships last Saturday.

DANIEL HAND 60,
WOODSTOCK 33

MADISON — Second-seeded Daniel Hand topped 10th-seeded Woodstock Academy in the girls quarterfinals of the Class L State Tournament on March 7. The loss ended Woodstock's season with a record of 17-9. Daniel Hand lifted its record to 18-3.

WILTON 73,
WOODSTOCK 35

WILTON — Sixth-seeded Wilton knock out the Woodstock Academy boys in the first round of the Class L State Tournament on March 7 at Wilton High. The loss ended the Centaurs basketball season with a record of 8-14. The win lifted Wilton's record to 16-5.

HOLY CROSS 59,
KILLINGLY 41

WATERBURY — Fourth-seeded Holy Cross of Waterbury defeated No. 29 Killingly in the opening round of the boys Class M State Tournament on March 6. The loss ended the Redmen's season at 9-15. Holy Cross lifted its record to 17-4.

WOODSTOCK 6, SGWL 5

POMFRET — Nathan DeLuca scored three goals to help Woodstock Academy defeat Suffield/Granby/Windsor Locks in the Nutmeg Conference championship game on March 4 at Pomfret School's Jahn Hockey Rink. Woodstock's Ryan Black and Gunner Moore both had one goal and one assist. Patrick Delaney scored one goal, and Avery Riva and Doug Newton each had one assist for the Centaurs. Jake Bourdeau scored four goals for SGWL. Woodstock led 29-23 in shots. Cal Wilcox picked up the win in goal.

WOODSTOCK 43,
TORRINGTON 41

TORRINGTON — Jamie Woods and Ari Koivisto each scored 12 points to lift the 10th-seeded Centaurs over seventh-seeded Torrington in the second round of the girls Class L State Tournament on March 2. Mackenzie Cayer added nine points for Woodstock (17-8). Brie Pergola scored 14 points for Torrington (15-6).

Killingly Youth Wrestling competes in New London

NEW LONDON — Killingly Youth Wrestling's youngest wrestlers competed at the Mighty Mite and Bantam State Championships in New London last Sunday. Bantam Logan Williams and Mighty Mite A-ris Kuljancic both claimed the coveted championship titles for their brackets. Bantam Gavin Jonasch placed second, and Bantam Angel Stimson placed third.

Williams and Kuljancic raise the number of state champions for Killingly Youth Wrestling to three. Killingly's Brady Zadora won the Intermediate championship title last month.

"These kids have really put in a lot of work and it's great to see that hard work pay off," said coach Ron LaBeef. "It's exciting to have three state champions on our team this season."

Wrestling doesn't end at states for many Killingly Youth Wrestling wrestlers. Zadora won the title "King of the Mat" at a tournament in Saco, Maine last weekend. Wrestlers plan to continue to compete over the next few months in tournaments throughout New England and in Pennsylvania.



Courtesy photo

Killingly Youth Wrestling Coaches Eric Dumont and Ron LaBeef hold champion A-ris Kuljancic as he shows off his championship trophy



Courtesy photo

Killingly's Logan Williams pins his opponent at the Connecticut Mighty Mite and Bantam State Championships

Woodstock hosts New England Championships



BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

NEW MILFORD — After trekking to New Hampshire and Massachusetts for the last three New England Gymnastics Championship meets — Paige Stuyanski and Grace Logan get to stay home this weekend. On Saturday Woodstock Academy will play host to New England's at Alumni Fieldhouse. Stuyanski and Logan hope the Centaurs spend Saturday night celebrating as the best gymnastics team in New England.

Coach Kasey Fillmore knows her senior co-captains want to go out on a high note. Stuyanski and Logan were freshmen the last time Woodstock won the New England Championships — in 2014 at Algonquin Regional High in Northborough, Mass. The Centaurs have finished second at New

England's the last two seasons.

"They want to bring this back like their freshmen year again. I think they'll do it and they'll teach this team where it needs to go without them," Fillmore said.

Stuyanski are best friends both inside and outside of the gymnasium.

"It's unbelievable. We're so close," Stuyanski said. "If we could finish New England's with a win together that would be the best outcome possible."

Stuyanski said a gold-medal outcome at New England's can only be accomplished the old-fashioned way — through hard work.

"We've got to focus on doing one thing at a time, having a good practice next week and then going into New England's feeling good and hopefully doing really well," Stuyanski said.

When she was a freshman Stuyanski said she might not have been as appreciative of the cerebral side of the sport —

but now knows it's a key component of any championship effort.

"I think as I've gotten older I've realized it's so much more mental than physical," Stuyanski said. "I mean, your mind powers everything else. So we've got to tell ourselves that we know how to do things and we can do it."

Sophomore Lydia Taft said the underclassmen hope to send out Stuyanski and Logan with a New England Championship.

"We just all really want it, especially for them, since it's their senior year and it's at our school. We just really want it for them," Taft said. "It's something that we really want as a team."

Logan and Stuyanski want the underclassmen to experience what they achieved as freshmen.

"I really want to recreate that feeling for the underclassmen of being leaders and winning New England's," Logan said. "There's no greater feeling than that."

After trekking to Massachusetts and New

Hampshire for the New England Gymnastics Championships the last three seasons — Stuyanski and Logan don't have to board the bus this weekend.

"The fact that it's at our home field and we have that excitement, it's going to be crazy," Logan said. "Doing it with Paige, who I've been with the last four years, is going to be crazy. She's just such a good teammate. And we're so excited to show off what we've done the last four years next weekend."

The show is scheduled to begin at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Alumni Fieldhouse.

"I'm sure it will be packed there with all our friends and family," Stuyanski said. "We want to go out really, really well. We're all motivated. We know what we need to do."

Charlie Lentz may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 110, or by e-mail at charlie@villagernewsapers.com.

Charlie Lentz photo

Grace Logan, left, and Paige Stuyanski.

CIAC Open Gymnastics Championships

NEW MILFORD — Woodstock Academy won its sixth consecutive State Open Gymnastics title at New Milford High School last Saturday, March 4. Woodstock Academy plays host to the New England Gymnastics Championships this Saturday, March 11, with team competition set to begin at 1:30 p.m. at Alumni Fieldhouse.



Charlie Lentz photos

Woodstock's State Open championship team, from left, Emily Arters, Abigail Vaida, Maddie Grube, Elise Boisvert, Paige Stuyanski, Grace Logan, Lydia Taft, Ali Crescimanno, and Jenna Davidson.



Paige Stuyanski



Lydia Taft



Elise Boisvert



Ali Crescimanno



Maddie Grube



Abigail Vaida



Grace Logan

GYMNASTICS

continued from page B1

won the bronze medal in beam (9.4) and finished in fourth place in all-around (37.55). Taft's contributions helped Woodstock win the team title with 149.675 points, followed by Greenwich High (143.725), Trumbull (139.95) and Daniel Hand (135.1).

Taft, sophomore Ali Crescimanno, and freshman Jenna Davidson all had solid meets for Woodstock and their performances should prove pivotal at New England. At Opens Taft placed fourth in vault (9.25), fourth in floor (9.425), fourth in bars (9.475). Crescimanno was fifth in bars (9.45) and finished 16th in the all-around (34.8). Davidson tied for 13th in the all-around (35.05).

"We're counting on them a lot. They're just as important to the team as we are," said Logan of her teammates. "We can't win without them. They're going to be a huge part of our success."

Taft knows nothing comes easy at New England's.

"Beam is all mental. We've been struggling on it all season but we're starting to get the hang of it," Taft said. "We're just going to keep working hard in practice and it will show."

Woodstock has won two out of the last five New England Championships, finishing in second place the last two years. Fillmore said the Centaurs control their destiny.

"We haven't really thought about any other team," Fillmore said. "In gymnastics you can only control yourself. We've just got to stay strong and I think this team has it."

From the National Anthem through final routines, concentration will be paramount on Saturday.

"You've just have to be really focused from start to finish and we talked about that today. You have to think about every little thing and you really can't get distracted at all," Stuyanski said. "Focus is key for us."

Winning Woodstock's sixth-straight Open title was accomplished in seemingly routine fashion — against the best of the rest in Connecticut. Now comes the hard part — a New England title hangs in the balance.

"There's room to improve. Beam wasn't our strongest today. Now they have something to strive for," Fillmore said. "We've got to stay on the beam."

Charlie Lentz may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 110, or by e-mail at charlie@villagernewspapers.com.



Woodstock's Lydia Taft competes in the balance beam last Saturday at New Milford High.

Charlie Lentz photo

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OBITUARIES

Tracy Jean (Dowling) Perreault, 70



N O R T H A T T L E B O R O , M A S S A C H U S E T T S -- Tracy Jean (Dowling) Perreault, 70, of North Attleboro, Massachusetts, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her

beloved family on February 26. She was the loving wife of Frank C. Perreault.

Born on July 12, 1946 in Rochester, New York, she was the daughter of the late Robert F. Dowling and the late Rosemary (Doyle) Dowling.

Tracy was a graduate of Tantasqua Regional High School in Sturbridge, and North Adams State College. She was both a caring homemaker and worked in customer service for various businesses throughout the years.

Tracy was a resident of North Attleboro, Massachusetts for the past thirty years. Tracy previously lived in North Adams, Massachusetts.

A vibrant and engaging woman, Tracy enjoyed golf, softball, and tennis. She was an avid reader and a gifted gardener who loved tending to her home's beautiful gardens. Her greatest enjoyment and pride was as a wife, mother, and Mimi.

In addition to her husband, she is survived by her cherished daughter, Amie Lynn Perreault Clancy, and her husband, Kevin Clancy, Jr., of Plainville, Massachusetts. She was the adoring Mimi of Daniel J. Clancy, Kaelyn D. Clancy, Sean F. Clancy, and McKenna K. Clancy. Tracy was the sister of Judith Schumacher and her late husband, Samuel Schumacher, of East Woodstock; the late Robert F. Dowling and his wife, Joan Dowling, of East Woodstock and Bonita Springs, Florida; Michael Dowling and his

wife, Pamela Dowling, of Abington, Virginia; the late Elizabeth Dowling and her husband, Thomas F. Burns, and his wife, Noreen Burns, of Fall River, Massachusetts; Mary Renner and her husband, Siggy Renner, of Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts; Peter Dowling and his wife, Margaret Dowling, of Brimfield, Massachusetts; and Thomas Dowling and his wife, Mary Dowling, of Sturbridge, Massachusetts. She leaves numerous nieces and nephews and many dear friends. Tracy will be missed by all her knew her.

Friends and family were invited to attend a Visitation on March 2, in the "Memorial Chapel" of the Dyer-Lake Funeral Home — the national historic Colonel Obed Robinson Home, 161 Commonwealth Avenue, Village of Attleboro Falls, North Attleboro, Massachusetts.

A funeral service immediately following visitation was held on March 2, in the "Memorial Chapel" of the Dyer-Lake Funeral Home, North Attleboro, with Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster officiating.

Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, Tracy's family has requested that donations be made in her memory to either Community VNA Hospice Care, 10 Emory Street, Attleboro, MA 02703, or to the National Brain Tumor Society, 55 Chapel Street, Suite 200, Newton, MA 02458 or online at braintumor.org.

For additional information or to send the family a written expression of sympathy, please visit an online guest book at www.dyer-lakefuneralhome.com.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Dyer-Lake Funeral Home, 161 Commonwealth Avenue, Village of Attleboro Falls, North Attleboro, Mass., (508) 695-0200.

Todd D. Rawinski, 50



N O R T H G R O S V E N O R D A L E -- Todd D. Rawinski, 50, formerly of Millbury, Massachusetts, died unexpectedly at home on February 27.

Todd was born in Worcester, son of Dennis and the late Gail (Vaillancourt) Rawinski of Millbury. Todd was raised in Millbury and graduated from Millbury Memorial High School, class of 1985, before moving to Connecticut. In addition to being predeceased by his mother also his daughter, Christine Rawinski and his favorite dog Comet.

He is survived by two sons, Eric Rawinski of New Port Richey, Florida and Tyler Rawinski of North Grosvenordale; his father, Dennis Rawinski and companion Dorothy Couture both of Millbury; his brother, Steven and his wife, Natalie Rawinski of Orange Massachusetts; his sister, Jill and her husband John Brindisi of Millbury; his best friend and love of his life, Lori O'Neill of Smithfield,

Rhode Island; his former wife, Debora Rawinski of Thompson; fur baby Stanley; many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Todd was employed until the time of his death at Saint Gobain in Worcester, where he worked for over 30 years as an IT Tech in which he traveled extensively all over the world. Todd was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed fishing and hunting with many of his family and friends. He was a long-standing member of the Thompson Connecticut Rod & Gun Club. He will greatly be missed by all.

Calling hours were held on March 5 at Mulhane Home for Funerals, in Millbury, Massachusetts. His Funeral Mass was held March 6 at St. Brigid Church in Millbury, Massachusetts. Burial will be in Central Cemetery in Millbury, Massachusetts. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Todd's memory to the Thompson Rod & Gun Club, 93 Brandy Hill Road, Thompson, CT 06277. To view Todd's online Tribute and Guestbook please visit: www.mulhane.com

Richard A. Auger, 61



W O O D S T O C K -- Richard A. Auger, 61, of Route 171, died Friday afternoon March 3, at home surrounded by his loving family. He was the loving husband of Linda (Varjabedian) Auger (42 years). Born in Putnam, he is the son of Gerald Auger of Wauregan and the late Margaret T. (Cusson) Auger.

Richard (Dick) was a Certified Facilities Manager (CFM) and was employed by JLL as Sr. Vice President of GXP Engineering. Dick and his wife Linda are the owners and operators of Taylor Brooke Winery in Woodstock.

He studied masonry at Ellis Tech High School and received a degree in Facilities Management from UMass Amherst. He was a member of the Woodstock Agricultural Society, a former Boy Scout Leader for Troop 27 in Woodstock, the former President of the Pharmaceutical Maintenance and Operations Network (PMON), and LEED certified, and Winemaker at Taylor Brooke Winery. He enjoyed cooking, spending time with his dogs, and was a proud Eagle Scout.

Dick is survived by his wife Linda Auger of Woodstock; his father Gerald Auger of Wauregan; a son Corey

A. Auger and his partner Fraser Davis of Providence, Rhode Island; a daughter Nicole L. Auger and her husband Ralph Fiegel of Grafton, Massachusetts; four brothers Steven Auger and his wife Polly of Moosup, Ronald Auger of Brooklyn, Robert Auger of Moosup, and Kenneth Auger and his wife Susan of Sterling; three sisters Sandra LaBelle and her companion Mario Palumbo of Brooklyn, Jeanne Wintrow and her husband Phillip of Dayville, and Laurie Ducat and her husband Peter of Sterling; and many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 18, 2017 in St. Mary Church of the Visitation, 218 Providence St, Putnam, meeting directly at church. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT.

Memorial donations may be made to ALS Assoc. CT Chapter, 4 Oxford Road, Unit E4, Milford, CT 06460 or online at www.alsact.org or to the Woodstock Boy Scouts of America Troop 27, c/o Roger Underwood, P.O. Box 154, Woodstock, CT 06281 or online at www.ctrivers.org. For memorial guestbook, visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Andrew F. Murawski, 91



W E B S T E R , M A S S A C H U S E T T S -- Andrew F. Murawski, 91, died February 27 in Webster Manor after a short illness. His wife of 63 years, Helen F. (Sulminski) Murawski, died in

2011. He leaves a brother, John C. Murawski and his wife Patricia of The Villages, Florida; a brother-in-law, Paul Sulminski and his wife Nancy of N. Grafton; a sister-in-law, Connie Murawski of Thompson; and several nephews and nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces. He was preceded in death by 5 brothers, Anthony, Edward, Frank, Chester and Stanley Murawski.

He was born in Webster on March 6, 1925, son of Michael and Nellie (Pryga) Murawski and lived here all his life. He attended Bartlett High School and later in life was awarded his diploma by the school in recognition of his mil-

itary service.

He was an Army veteran of World War II.

Mr. Murawski was an inspector at Pratt-Whitney Company in East Hartford for 23 years before retiring in 1987.

He was a communicant of Saint Joseph Basilica. He loved to spend the weekend boating and water skiing on Webster Lake. He also enjoyed snow skiing.

The funeral was held March 4, from the Sitkowski & Malboeuf Funeral Home, followed by a Mass at 10:00 AM at Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial will be in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace with the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council performing military honors at the cemetery. Visitation was held on March 4 in the funeral home. Donations in his name may be made to St. Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street, Webster, MA 01570.

Georgiana Gammardella, 86



P U T N A M -- Georgiana Gammardella, 86, of Putnam, died March 4, at home. She was the loving wife of Ralph for the last 66 years. Born April 28, 1930 in Putnam, she was the daughter of

the late Arthur and Florence (Smith) Proulx.

In addition to her husband Ralph, she is survived by her children Ralph Gammardella, Susan Lucey and her husband Rick, Sandra Huth and her husband Mike, Sally Donovan and her husband Mike, 16 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

She was a lifelong member of the Putnam Baptist Church and loved the Lord. She derived great happiness from spending time with her family. She worked for Chase Graphics and then she worked for H.H. Ellis Technical School until she retired.

Calling hours will be held Tuesday, March 7, 2017 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street in Putnam on. The Funeral Service was March 8, at Putnam Baptist Church in Putnam. Burial in Grove Street Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her memory to the Putnam Baptist Church, P.O. Box 85, Putnam, CT 06260. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Doris R. Deslongchamps, 93



P U T N A M -- Doris (Viens) Deslongchamps, 93, of Underwood Road, died March 1, in Day Kimball Hospital. She was the loving wife of the late William J. Deslongchamps.

Born in Putnam, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Alphonsine (Bibeault) Viens. Doris was a homemaker.

Doris is survived by her son, Paul Deslongchamps of Putnam; and seven

grandchildren. She was predeceased by her son, Robert Deslongchamps; her daughter, Irene Nadeau; her brothers, Raymond Viens, and Norman Viens; her sisters, Anita Dumas and Evelyn Mitchell.

A graveside service for Doris took place on March 6, in Saint Mary Cemetery, in Putnam. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman and Valade Funeral Homes and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guest-book visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Charles Chito, 93

B U R L I N G T O N -- Charles Chito, 93, of Burlington, formerly of Webster, Massachusetts, passed away at home surrounded by loving family on February 4.

Charles was born on May 14, 1923 in Lashova, Albania, immigrated to Istanbul, Turkey in 1935, and to Oxford, Massachusetts in 1956. He is survived by his wife Antigone (Kerbici) Chito, with whom he enjoyed over 61 years of marriage, a son Michael and his wife Theoktisti of Quinebaug and daughter Alexis and her husband James Ferraris of Burlington. He leaves one grandson Charles Lazaros Chito; four granddaughters: Mary (Chito), her husband Kurt Pion, and their sons Jacob, Lucas, Matthew and Nathan; Nina Ferraris; Angela (Ferraris), her husband Christopher Tucker, and their sons James, Owen and Charles; Christina (Ferraris), her husband Michael Phelan, and their daughters Kathryn and Margaret. He was very proud of and enjoyed his grandchildren and great-grandchildren with much enthusiasm and love. He also leaves a godson Louis Kerbici and his partner Patrick Guerriero, a goddaughter Pauline (Kerbici) and her husband Lorenz Jakober, brother-in-law George Kerbici and his wife Helen, as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was predeceased by his parents

Lazaros and Vangjelia (Fidhe) Chito, a brother Yorgo Chito, sisters Thomaitsa Spiro and Aleksandra Skenderidhou, a nephew Vasilios Skenderidhis.

He was eternally grateful to the Nesta family for sponsoring his journey to the United States.

In Turkey, Charles worked at a patisserie. He worked at a number of Webster, Massachusetts factories before becoming a partner at Kelly Square Pizza in Worcester, Massachusetts from which he retired in 1985. He was known for his culinary expertise, his passion for his garden and the generosity and support he provided to relatives and friends. In 1986 Charles and Ann traveled to Albania to reconnect with his brother whom he had not seen in over 50 years. He also cherished his time and friends in Pompano Beach, Florida.

Relatives and friends were welcomed to join the family at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church on February 8, with a Trisagion service. Funeral services were held at Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church on February 9. Burial was in the North Cemetery in Oxford.

Memorial donations in his memory may be made to Sts. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 35 Lake Pkwy, Webster, MA 01570 or Farmington Valley VNA, 8 Old Mill Pond Lane, Simsbury, CT 06070.

Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home (shaw-majercik.com), 48 School St., Webster, Massachusetts has been entrusted with arrangements.

Margaret M (Sweeney) Payne, 80



T H O M P S O N -- Margaret Mary Elizabeth Ann (Sweeney) Payne, 80, of Thompson, died March 3. Beloved wife of the late William T. Payne. Predeceased by her parents Daniel and Beatrice (King) Sweeney of Acton, Massachusetts; her daughter, Norma E. Stang of Simsbury; and granddaughter Rachel E. Payne. Survived by her son William T. Payne, Jr. and his wife Marcia of Simsbury; her daughter, Florence Payne of Southbridge Massachusetts; her son in law, Steven Stang and his wife Macil of Canton; and her grandchildren: Andrew of East Lyme, Christina and her wife Alyssa of Providence, Rhode Island, Melissa of Worcester, Massachusetts, and Thomas of Brooklyn, New York.

For over forty years Margaret managed Thornfield Hall in Thompson, a unique home for special needs women, known throughout the state as a truly wonderful residence for all those who lived or worked there. Margaret's concern was always for others, family, friends, employees or total strangers in other countries to whom she contributed so generously. Margaret will be greatly missed by all her family and friends.

Calling Hours were held March 5 at the Smith and Walker Funeral Home in Putnam. A funeral service was held on March 6 at the Putnam Baptist Church in Putnam. Burial took place March 7 at the family plot in Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Auburn Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Those who wish may make a memorial gift to the charity of one's choice. www.smithandwalkerfh.com.

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Valade Funeral Home
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OBITUARIES

Blanche Lamarre, 78



PUTNAM -- Blanche Lamarre, 78, longtime resident of Putnam, passed away on March 2 at Backus Hospital in Norwich. Blanche was born in Sheridan, Maine on February 6, 1939 to Romeo and Alexina (Nadeau) LeBlanc.



Blanche and her late husband Henry were the owners of Alvord's Market in Putnam and B & H Retailers for many years as well as the camp store at Hide-Away-Cove Family Campground. She also worked at Commerce Insurance for some years and most recently at Danielson

Surplus. Blanche was a very talented seamstress and loved to make clothes. She also did alterations for her family, friends and many people in the local area. She loved flowers and gardening and enjoyed singing. She always saw a use for everything and never wanted anything to go to waste. Everyone who knew Blanche always said what a sweet woman she was.

Blanche is survived by her children Christine Okwuosa, Julie Leveille, Henry Lamarre and Catherine Fontaine as well as their spouses, partners and 6 grandchildren. She also leaves her brother Patrick LeBlanc and wife Madeline of Vernon-Rockville, and her sister-in-law Anita Klewicki of Warrensburg, New York.

Services will be private at the request of the family. Memorial Donations can be made to the American Cancer Society.

Frank E. Benson, Sr., 73



THOMPSON -- Frank E. Benson, Sr., 73, of East Thompson Road, died March 5, at Davis Place in Danielson, surrounded by his loving family. Husband of Patricia M. (Rogers) Benson, she died in

1992. Born January 2, 1944 in Webster, Massachusetts, son of the late Frank M. and Dorothy L. (Cordray) Benson.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1965 to 1971 with the 250th Combat Engineers. He worked and retired from the Providence Worcester Railroad as an assistant Division Engineer in the Track Department. He was an avid candlepin bowler with the Tri-Town Bowling League in Webster, Massachusetts for many years. He loved boating, fishing, his projects, fixing things and being outside working on the yard on his tractor.

He leaves his children, Frank Benson, Jr. of Thompson, Brenda Benson of

Quinebaug, Jennifer Piechocki and her fiancé Michael Kiley of Thompson and predeceased by his son Timothy in 2015. He also leaves his sisters Vera Keene and Dorothy Hetherington, his grandchildren Jacqueline Bonengel, Laura Bonengel, Kate Bonengel, Kylie, Nygard, Isabella Sarette, Robbie Piechocki, Jr., Patricia Benson, Cheyenne Benson, Patrick Benson, Travis Benson, Christian Kiley, Lillian Kiley and Lucy Kiley, great grandchildren, Tyrone, Brianna, Louis, Blake, Jonathan and a baby boy due in 2017, and many nieces and nephews and his dog Bella. He was also predeceased by his sisters Elizabeth Sharpe and Shirley Caswell.

Calling Hours were held March 9 at the Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam. www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Phyllis T. Grynecwicz, 90



WEBSTER, MASSACHUSETTS -- Phyllis T. (Konieczny) Grynecwicz, 90, died February 28, surrounded by her family, in Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge after

an illness. Her husband of 64 years, Bernard Grynecwicz, died in 2013.

She leaves four sons, John J. Grynecwicz of Webster, Paul C. Grynecwicz of Virginia, Robert R. and his wife Donna M. Grynecwicz of Dudley, Massachusetts and James C. Grynecwicz of East Bridgewater, Massachusetts; a daughter, Nancy L. and her husband Daniel W. Santerre of Thompson; 7 grandchildren, Lisa Grynecwicz, Patricia Nelson, Laura Grynecwicz, Specialist Robby Grynecwicz, Katie Grynecwicz, Alyson Santerre and Andrew Santerre; a daughter-in-law, Karen Glenn of Virginia and a close

friend, Diane Nachajko of Dudley, Massachusetts. She was predeceased by four brothers, Joseph, Chester, Fred and Raymond Konieczny.

She was born in Dudley, Massachusetts a daughter of John and Mary (Socha) Konieczny.

Mrs. Grynecwicz worked as a clerk in the Dudley District Court House for over 20 years. She retired in 1990.

She was a communicant of Saint Joseph Basilica and a member of its Holy Rosary Society, and the Saint Joseph Polish Women's Club. She was a member of the Mass State Retired Employees.

The funeral was held March 6, from the Sitkowski & Malboeuf Funeral Home, with a Mass in Saint Joseph Basilica. Burial will be in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Calling hours were held March 6, in the funeral home. Donations in her name may be made to Webster E.M.S., 67 Thompson Road or Webster Fire Department Safety & Training Fund, 55 Thompson Road, both Webster, MA 01570.

Joyce A. Smith, 79



PUTNAM -- Joyce A. Smith, 79, of Putnam, died March 5, at home. Joyce passed away peacefully with her loving family by her side. She was born in Mobile, Alabama, daughter of Hugh

Craig and Minnie Lee Bailey. Joyce was the 5th child of eleven children. She lived in Putnam with her family, where she recently relocated from Pittsburgh. She was a loving and

caring mother to her only son Myles Smith and daughter-in-law Rachel, and a loving grandmother to Darneshia, Xzavier, Javané, Monet, Earl, Mia. Joyce retired from Budweiser bottling company in Van Nuys, California. She raised her son Myles who she loved dearly. She was a wonderful and amazing woman, and will never be forgotten. You will always be in our hearts. Funeral services and burial will be in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on Saturday March 11, 2017. www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Donald "Duck" Pellerin, 75



BROOKLYN -- Donald "Duck" Pellerin, 75 of Brooklyn, passed away surrounded by his loving family on March 4 at home. He was born on July 19, 1941 in Wauregan, son of the late Eldege and Andrea (Hamel) Pellerin. He married the love of his life Jacqueline (Kendzierski) Pellerin on September 11, 1965.

Donald was a communicant of Our Lady of LaSalette in Brooklyn and was a member of the National Guard. He worked at Berris Restaurant as a cook and later at American Standard as a caster for over 28 years. He also worked as an aide for DMR at group homes and the Dempsey Center for 15 Years. Donald was a season ticket holder of the New England Patriots for over 40 years and he was a lifetime fan of the Atlanta Braves.

Besides his wife Jacqueline he leaves his children; Brian Pellerin of Dayville, Steven (Lori) Pellerin of

Dayville, Brenda (Gregory) Despathy of Moosup, his three brothers Roger (Lorraine) Pellerin, Donald (Bernice) Grenier and Keith (Geodi) Pellerin, his two sisters Estelle Raye and Connie (Edward) Boucher, his four grandchildren Tyler Pellerin, Heather (Shane) Merson, Evan Despathy, Zachary Despathy and many nieces, nephews and his cats Blotchy and Alvin. He was predeceased by his parents and his step-mother Beatrice Pellerin. In lieu of flowers donations to the National Stroke Association, 9707 E. Easter Lane, Suite B, Centennial, CO 80112.

A Calling Hour was held March 7 at Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home in Danielson, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of LaSalette in Brooklyn. Burial with Military Honors followed at Holy Cross Cemetery, Danielson. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Robert Louis Melanson, 87



DANIELSON -- Robert Louis Melanson, of Danielson, formerly of Blounts Town, Florida, passed away peacefully on Wednesday March 1. Born in Moosup, Connecticut to Wilfred and Donald (Ravenelle) Melanson. Robert graduated from Marianapolis Preparatory School in Thompson, in 1946, and joined the US Coast Guard in 1948 serving four years in the Alaskan territory Aleutian Islands, and three years in the Gulf of Mexico in New Orleans Louisiana. There he met and married the love of his life Carol Rita Haug in 1953, having recently celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary. Robert was a member of the VFW Post 10284 of Moosup and was a Boy Scout leader. He worked for Dow Chemical in Groton; Posi Seal International in Pawcatuck; and the Plainfield Public Schools transportation department as a school bus driver.

He was an avid fisherman, camper, and loved traveling with his family. Robert is survived by his wife Carol of Plainfield, six children; David Melanson of Lakeland, Florida, Donna and Michael Zito of Beacon Falls, Roberta Melanson of Danielson, Carolyn and Homer Jennings of Kent, George and Loretta Melanson of Clewiston, Florida, and Paula and Jeffrey Goyette of Plainfield, CT, ten loving grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Robert was predeceased by his parents, sister Jeanette LaPierre, and granddaughter Jamie Lynn Melanson.

Calling hours were Monday, March 6 at Smith and Walker Funeral Home in Putnam, which was followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in St. Mary Church of the Visitation, 218 Providence Street, Putnam. Burial in Holy Cross Cemetery, Danielson, CT. www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Joan F. Kennedy, 78



WOONSOCKET, RHODE ISLAND -- Joan F. Kennedy, 78, of Huntington Avenue, died Thursday March 2, in Landmark Medical Center after an illness. She was the loving wife of the late Charles Vincent Kennedy who died in 2008. Born in Cranston, Rhode Island, she was the daughter of the late Hazel (Phillips) Rossi. Her life was always focused on her family.

Joan is survived by her loving son David Kennedy and his wife Jessica of Lincoln, Rhode Island; her beloved granddaughters Sarah and Karah Kennedy; her other son, Manuel Kennedy of Florida; her three sis-

ters, Linda Fabbri of Coventry, Rhode Island, Janice Macera of Coventry, Rhode Island, Rosie Hawkins of West Greenwich, Rhode Island; her brother, Nick Rossi of Florida and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother Howard Wills.

Relatives and friends were invited to visit with Joan's family on March 8, in the Fournier & Fournier Funeral Home, which was followed with a prayer service at 7:30 pm. Committal Prayers were held on March 9, at the Rhode Island Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 301 South County Trail, Exeter, Rhode Island. Memorial Donations may be made in her memory to the American Lung Association. For Memorial Guestbook, visit www.GilmanandValade.com.

Lisa Marie Becker Stover, 32



PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA -- Lisa Marie Becker Stover, 32 of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, passed away on Thursday February 9.

Lisa was born in Abilene, Texas on September 27, 1984. She received her GED from East Conn.

Lisa enjoyed cooking, coloring, watching movies and spending time with friends and family. She loved turtles and she had the nickname of Turtle. Lisa was a one of a kind dynamo with a heart of gold. Lisa will be missed deeply.

Lisa is survived by her parents

George and Debbie Becker of Thompson, brother Kristopher Becker of North Grosvenordale, and sister Kimberly Becker of North Grosvenordale, niece Julianna Rodriguez and nephew Isaac Rodriguez, grandmother Frances Becker of Pittsboro, North Carolina, and other family and friends.

Lisa is preceded in death by her grandfather George Becker of Thompson, and aunt MaryAnn Becker of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The memorial service will be held at 2pm on March 18, at Creation Church 47 West Thompson Rd. Thompson. Pastor Bernie Norman will be officiating. There will also be a reception after the service. Burial will be private.

LEGALS

TOWN OF BROOKLYN INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

Pursuant to Section 22a-42e of the Connecticut State Statute, the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission took the following action at the special meeting February 28, 2017:

Modification of previously approved permit (1/10/17) Application 121316A KCTT Properties, LLC, 520 Providence Road, Map 41, Lot 15, PC Zone; Construction of Drive Thru Lane within 125 feet of wetlands – APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS.

Any appeals are to be filed with the Superior Court 15 days from the date of the legal notice appearing in the paper.

Dated this 1st Day of March 2017

Jeffrey Arends
Chairman
March 10, 2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOHN C WOHRMAN
(17-00068)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 28, 2017, 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.

Janis E. Beltis, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Leigh M. Cashmore
c/o William J. Monty, Esq.,
PO Box 266,
Woodstock, CT 06281
March 10, 2017

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Frederic R. Dewey III,
AKA Frederic Dewey, AKA F. Raymond Dewey (17-00044)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 27, 2017, 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:
Annette L. Dewey
c/o Jamie C. Davis, Esq.,
Borner, Aleman & Davis, LLC,
155 Providence Street, PO Box 166,
Putnam, CT 06260-0166
March 10, 2017

TOWN OF BROOKLYN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION NOTICE OF ACTION

At the regular meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission on Wednesday, March 1, 2017, the following action was taken:

1. SPR16-008 KCTT Properties, LLC, 520 Providence Road, Map 41, Lot 15, PC Zone; Construction of a drive-thru lane (relocation from current) – APPROVED

Dated this 6th day of March 2017

Michelle Sigfridson
Chairman
March 10, 2017

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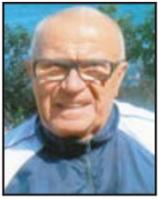
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OBITUARIES

Hieronim Ucher, 79



WEBSTER, MASSACHUSETTS – Hieronim Ucher, 79, died March 3 in Overlook Masonic Home, Charlton, after an illness. He leaves his former wife, Jadwiga (Kluska)

Ucher of Webster; three children, Ted Ucher of Webster, Renata Ucher-Szumski and her husband Marek of Norway, and Robert Ucher and his wife Ewa of Oxford; four grandchildren, Oscar, Dominik, Nicole and Christopher; four brothers, Jan, Kazimierz and Wladyslaw Ucher, all of Webster, Massachusetts and Walenty "Stanislaw" Ucher of Grosvenordale; three sisters, Stanislawa Rabska of Webster, Anna Frankowska of Tampa, Florida and Wladyslawa Gustab of Chicago, Illinois, and many nephews and nieces. He was preceded in death

by his brother Jozef. He was born and raised in Skomielna Biala, Poland, the oldest of the nine children of Walenty and Anna (Lopata) Ucher. He lived in Poland before moving here in the mid 1980's.

Mr. Ucher was a bus and taxi driver in Poland for many years. Among other jobs he was a machine operator at Anglo Fabrics Company before retiring in 1999.

He loved to travel all over the world. He enjoyed collecting things: Polish and American coins, auto license plates, and old paintings.

The funeral was held March 7, from the Sitkowski & Malboeuf Funeral Home, 340 School Street, which was followed with a Mass at St. Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial will be in St. Joseph Garden of Peace, Webster. Visitation will be from 9:00 to 10:15 AM Tuesday in the funeral home.

Madeline L. Wells, 96



EAST KILLINGLY -- Madeline L. Wells, 96, a practical, independent woman, passed away February 27, at Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam. She was born September 4, 1920, in Putnam,

daughter of the late Arthur and Lillian (Bousquet) Wells. Madeline dwelled nearly her entire life at the Valley Road home in East Killingly that also served as her father's village store, and graduated with the Killingly High School Class of 1938.

During WWII, Madeline showed considerable welding skill while working as a ship builder's assistant at the Walsh-Kaiser Shipyard in Providence, Rhode Island. On Thursday evenings, she rode her bicycle up North Road to take her weekly shift as a plane spotter. Soon after, she started her career as a telephone operator, earning accolades for quick thinking in the days before 9-1-1. As a little girl, Madeline learned to harmonize at her mother's side. She served as organist for Our Lady of Peace in East Killingly,

and was more recently a communicant at St. James Church in Danielson. She sang with The Happy Singers and was a member of the Concert Choir of Northeastern Connecticut for over 50 years. Madeline loved dogs, especially Airedales, and was active throughout her life with swimming, badminton, cross-country skiing and, well into her 90s, league bowling with Bowl O' Nuts at Friendly Bowl. She donated over 15 gallons of blood through the Red Cross and was a regular at Zip's Diner. She spent several comfortable years at Westcott Wilcox Retirement Home in Danielson.

Predeceased by her brother Richard and his wife Stephanie, Madeline leaves her helpful pal Phyllis Emigh and the many friends she accumulated from her various activities. Her family treasures are archived with the Killingly Historical Society.

Visitation was held on March 3 at the Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home in Danielson, which was followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at St. James Church in Danielson. Burial will be in St. Joseph Cemetery, Dayville. www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Jeanne D. Merrill, 84



DANIELSON -- Jeanne Demoranville Merrill, 84 died February 20 surrounded by her loving family. Jeanne was born December 12, 1932 in New Bedford, Massachusetts.

After graduating from Killingly High School, she attended the executive secretary program at Fisher Junior College in Boston where she graduated with Honors. Jeanne then applied those skills as Secretary to the Comptroller at UCONN. There she met Kenneth T. Merrill; they married in 1952. Jeanne and Ken owned Uncle Ken's Tastee Freeze in Willimantic for seventeen years, while starting their family in Chaplin. While living in Chaplin, Jeanne organized many community programs and activities. These included hosting the local Republican town committee meetings in their home, establishing 4-H groups for the local youth, she was also active with the PTA and Chaplin Congregational Church.

In 1969, Jeanne and family moved to Killingly. Jeanne was a very active member at Westfield Congregational Church in Danielson. She sang in the choir and helped host many church sup-

pers and events throughout the years. Jeanne is predeceased by her husband Kenneth, her two sisters Gail Greene of Swansea, Massachusetts, and Fay Logee of Danielson. She is survived by her brother Bruce Demoranville of Swansea, Massachusetts, her three children: Deborah Merrill, Wendy Merrill-Mason and her husband Roger, and Jeffrey Merrill and his wife Jayne as well as 5 grandchildren: Sarah Roers and her husband Jason Williams, Jocelyn Magalis, Seth Merrill, Stephanie Roers, and Paul Michael Gignac.

Jeanne was an avid fisherwoman, frequently going deep-sea fishing with family and friends. She loved to travel and was very efficient, often organizing trips with friends and family. She spent many happy hours with her grandchildren at Alexander's Lake, where she had been a senior lifesaver in her youth. Jeanne was very loved by her family and friends and had a lively and infectious energy that was evident to all who knew her.

A memorial service will be held Sunday March 19th at 2pm at Westfield Congregational Church in Danielson. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Westfield Church, 210 Main Street, Danielson, CT 06239. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

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Villager Newspapers COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT "Shining a light on community events"

Can you spare 2 1/2 hours once a month from May to October? If so, the Gertrude Warner Boxcar Museum in Putnam is looking for volunteers to work Saturday or Sunday. from 11 am -1:30 pm or 1:30 - 4:00 pm. Training is provided. It's fun and easy! Call 860-974-0325 or 860-207-6044 for details.

Art @ the Library, Observing Influence, A collection of paintings in acrylic and oil By: Kevin G. Nicholson, On view March 2 to March 27. The meeting room may be unavailable at times due to other functions. Program generously sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Thompson Public Library, www.thompsonpubliclibrary.org

March 10, Fri., 7pm
VFW Post 5446, Steak Supper, ALL you can EAT! Baked potato, vegetable, salad, rolls and butter \$20 pp, 7 Winsor Ave, Plainfield, Call 860-564-5446 for more details.

March 11, Sat. 6:45pm
Woodcock Watches, Meet at the Center at Pomfret, 218 Day Rd. Fee: \$5 CAS members; \$10 non-members.

March 11, Sat., 9am - 2pm
TAG SALE to benefit PAWS Cat and Kitten Shelter, Killingly Public Library at 25 Westcott Rd. Danielson, 860-336-7129

March 11, Sat., 1:30-2:30
For ages 3-8 from the Killingly Library - we will be exploring area businesses to see what we can learn about what it is they do. We will be meeting up at the

entrance to the specific location each month. Meet at Lowes. Registration required. You can register by going to the Killingly Public Library's website and at: www.killinglypl.org. or by calling the library at 860-779-5383.

March 11, Sat., 7pm
A bluegrass concert fundraiser for the Canterbury Historical Society - The Feinberg Brothers Bluegrass Band; opening band Redwood Hill, at Town Hall Community Room, 1 Municipal Dr., Canterbury. Send check to CHS, PO Box 2, Canterbury CT 06331. Tickets are \$18 in advance; \$15 for seniors 60+ and 14 & under or \$20 at door.

March 11, Sat., 1-4pm
Nature Sketchbook Journaling - You'll spend time outdoors on the Bafflin Sanctuary, sketching and painting from nature. Roxanne Steed will teach basic drawing and quick intuitive watercolor techniques. Cost: \$10 CAS members; \$20 non-members. Call 860-928-4948 to register.

March 11, Sat., 5-7pm
American Legion Family Post 67, Rte. 200, N. Grosvenordale Roast Pork Dinner, Cost: \$12 per person. To benefit Legion Programs.

March 12, Sun., 2pm
Second Sunday Guided Walk, Meet in Trail Wood parking lot, 93 Kenyon Rd, Hampton. Free to CAS members; \$5 non-members

March 12, Sun., 2pm
Trail Wood Sign Dedication & Second Sunday Guided Walk, Come for an introduction to the new trail sign network now at Trail Wood. The story of Edwin and Nellie Teale, his books and their love of Trail Wood can now be learned as one explores the trails. Enjoy refreshments around the woodstove. Free

March 12, Sun., 7pm
Full Moon Guided Walk, Meet in Trail Wood parking lot, 93 Kenyon Rd, Hampton. Free to CAS members; \$5 non-members

March 14, Tues., 4-10pm
Dining for a Cause to benefit PAWS Cat and Kitten Shelter, 99 Restaurant & Pub, 1068 Killingly Commons, Dayville 860-336-7129

March 15, Wed., 10am-12pm
Mom to Mom at the Woodstock Evangelical Covenant Church - young moms meet together for quality Biblical instruction in parenting, small group discussion and interaction with mentor moms. Community moms welcome! Free childcare is available through age 5. 24 Child Hill Road, Woodstock. Register at woodstockcovenant.org. Any questions, call 860-928-0486.

March 15, Wed., 6:45pm
Woodcock Watches, Meet at the Center at Pomfret, 218 Day Rd. Fee: \$5 CAS members; \$10 non-members.

March 16, Thurs., 7pm

Cut the Cord! - End the High Cost of Cable TV & Phone Service, at Pomfret Library. Is your cable/phone/internet bill too high? Tired of switching providers or arguing with yours when introductory rates? Do you want to save \$1,000+ a year? Cut the cord!

March 16, Thurs., 7pm
An evening of storytelling featuring best-selling author Matthew Dicks and local storyteller/teacher Christine Kalafus, together with students from WA. Come and listen, or feel free to bring a story to share during the open mic portion! Refreshments will be served. Free event! Bracken Memorial Library, 57 Academy Road, Woodstock.

March 17, Fri., 4:30-6pm
VFW Post 5446, Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, \$13 pp Eat in or Take out, 7 Winsor Ave, Plainfield, Call 860-564-5446 for more details.

March 17, Fri., noon-8pm
Knights of Columbus Council 2087 will hold a Lenten fish fry, in the Knights Hall, 1017 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale. Fish and chips (\$10); baked had-dock and fried bay scallops (\$11); fried clams (\$14); seafood platters (\$17), and more. 860-923-2967, council2087@att.net

March 17, Fri., 4:30-6pm
VFW Post 5446, Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, \$13 pp Eat in or Take out, 7 Winsor Ave, Plainfield, Call 860-564-5446 for more details.

This page is designed to shine a light on upcoming local nonprofit, educational and community events. Submissions are limited to 50 words or less and are FREE to qualifying organizations, schools, churches and town offices. To submit your event contact:

Teri Stohlberg at 860-928-1818 ext. 105,
or teri@villagernewspapers.com. Deadline for submission is Friday at Noon



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<p>2011 Toyota Corolla LE I-4 cyl, auto, front-wheel drive, 70K miles, A4085</p> <p>\$9,998</p>	<p>2011 Chevrolet HHR LT SUV, I-4 cyl, 5 spd manual, 62K miles, A4116</p> <p>\$9,998</p>	<p>2015 Toyota Corolla S Sedan, I-4 cyl, auto, front wheel drive, 48K miles, A267370A</p> <p>\$16,998</p>	<p>2014 Toyota Corolla S Sedan, I-4 cyl, 4-spd auto, 16K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4038</p> <p>\$16,998</p>	<p>2015 Toyota Yaris 5dr Liftback, I-4 cyl, 4 spd auto, 10K miles, Carfax 1-owner, RT4105</p> <p>\$16,998</p>	<p>2013 Honda Civic Si Sedan, I-4 cyl, 6 spd manual, 37K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4032</p> <p>\$16,998</p>	<p>2013 Hyundai Genesis 3.8 Sedan, V-6 cyl, 8 spd auto, rear wheel drive, 63K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4086</p> <p>\$18,998</p>	<p>2014 Toyota RAV4 4WD LE SUV, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, AWD, 28K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4118</p> <p>\$20,998</p>
<p>2016 Toyota Camry LE Sedan, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 15K miles, Carfax 1-owner, RT4104</p> <p>\$22,598</p>	<p>2015 Toyota Venza LE SUV, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 34K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A265924A</p> <p>\$22,598</p>	<p>MANAGER'S SPECIALS</p> <p>\$33,998</p> <p>2012 Dodge Challenger SRT8 392 Coupe, V-8 cyl, 6-spd manual, 35K miles, A267579A</p>		<p>2014 Toyota RAV4 4WD Ltd SUV, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 40K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267547A</p> <p>\$23,598</p>	<p>2013 Toyota RAV4 4WD Ltd SUV, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 48K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267323A</p> <p>\$23,598</p>	<p>2014 Toyota Venza XLE Crossover I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 33K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4121</p> <p>\$23,598</p>	
<p>2008 Toyota Tundra SR5 5.7L Truck Double Cab, V-8 cyl, 6 spd auto, 84K miles, A266944B</p> <p>\$24,598</p>	<p>2011 BMW X5 Series SUV, I-6 cyl, 8 spd auto, AWD, 39K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4081A</p> <p>\$25,998</p>	<p>2014 Ford F-150 STX Extended Cab, V-8 cyl, 6 spd auto, 4x4, 35K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A266839A</p> <p>\$25,998</p>	<p>\$33,998</p> <p>2015 Subaru WRX STI Ltd 4dr (M6), H-4 cyl, AWD, Black, 17K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267085A</p>		<p>2011 Toyota Tacoma Base Truck Dbl Cab, V-6 cyl, 5 spd auto, 4x4, 47K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267511A</p> <p>\$26,998</p>	<p>2014 Toyota Highlander XLE SUV, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, AWD, 80K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4051A</p> <p>\$27,998</p>	<p>2014 Toyota 4Runner SUV, V-6 cyl, 5 spd auto, 4x4, 27K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267495A</p> <p>\$31,598</p>
<p>2015 Toyota Highlander XLE SUV, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, AWD, 46K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A266814A</p> <p>\$31,998</p>	<p>2014 Acura MDX SH-AWD w/ tech pkg V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, all wheel drive, 49K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4024</p> <p>\$32,998</p>	<p>2016 Toyota Tacoma Double Cab V-6 cyl, auto, 4x4, 24K miles, Carfax 1 owner, A266949A</p> <p>\$32,998</p>	<p>2014 Toyota Highlander Ltd SUV, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, 39K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A4120</p> <p>\$33,598</p>	<p>2014 Toyota RAV4 4WD Ltd SUV, I-4 cyl, 6 spd auto, 29K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267306A</p> <p>\$26,998</p>	<p>2011 Toyota Tacoma Base Truck Dbl Cab, V-6 cyl, auto, 63K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267285A</p> <p>\$26,998</p>	<p>2015 Toyota Highlander SUV, V-6 cyl, 6 spd auto, AWD, 45K miles, A4122</p> <p>\$35,998</p>	<p>2016 Toyota 4Runner SUV, V-6 cyl auto, 14K miles, Carfax 1-owner, A267169A</p> <p>\$39,998</p>

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New 2017 Toyota Prius II
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Not responsible for typographical errors



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<p>2014 CHEVY CORVETTE STINGRAY COUPE, CRYSTAL RED, BLACK LEATHER, AUTOMATIC, NAVIGATION, TRANSPARENT ROOF, HEATED SEATS, BLACK WHEELS, BOSE CALPERS, ONLY 8,400 MILES, BOSE STEREO, ONE OWNER, #Y117407A</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY CORVETTE STINGRAY COUPE, VELOCITY YELLOW, ADRENALINE RED, LEATHER, AUTOMATIC, BLACK WHEELS, Z51, SUSPENSION PACKAGE, BOSE STEREO, NAVIGATION, REMOVABLE TOP, ONLY 10,000 MILES, LIKE NEW, ONE OWNER, #Y117477A</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY CAMARO LS COUPE, BLUE RAY METALLIC, BLACK INTERIOR, AUTOMATIC, 6 CYLINDER, ONLY 10,000 MILES, ONE OWNER, #TK17603A</p>	<p>2012 CHEVY CAMARO SS COUPE BLACK, BLACK LEATHER, 45TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION, 8 CYLINDER, 6 SPEED MANUAL, MOONROOF, HEATED SEATS, ONLY 8,300 MILES, #S15527A</p>

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<p>2013 CHEVY SILVERADO 4X4 1500 LT DOUBLE CAB, DUAL ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, POER SEAT, ONE OWNER, #S117556B YOUR PRICE \$25,988</p>	<p>2015 DODGE RAM 4X4 1500 TRADESMAN, GUAD CAB, ONE OWNER, AUTOMATIC, 20" WHEELS, LIKE NEW, #TK16706A YOUR PRICE \$26,988</p>	<p>2014 CHEVY SILVERADO 4X4 DOUBLE CAB 1500 EDITION, Z71 PACKAGE, SUSPENSION PACKAGE, HEATED SEATS, #TK17372A YOUR PRICE \$27,988</p>	<p>2014 FORD F150 XLT EXTENDED CAB, 4X4, ONE OWNER, LOW MILES, ALLOY WHEELS, CA16258A YOUR PRICE \$27,988</p>
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