



KILLINGLY VILLAGER

Friday, February 15, 2019

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Meet Ms. New England

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock resident Melissa Bellanceau won the title Ms. New England on Jan. 26, raising over \$500 towards the National Brain Tumor Society. Bellanceau will represent the National Brain Tumor Society this year and offer visibility to organizations that support their efforts.

"The crown and sash really give you a platform and a microphone, an opportunity to share your voice when you normally wouldn't be heard," she said. "This is a wonderful opportunity for me to promote greater awareness for the NBTS."

She also hopes to use her platform to help local charities and businesses raise money for their own fundraisers.

The charity-based Ms. New England included an evening gown and swimsuit portion, and also an essay component. For the essay, which is unique to this pageant circuit, the contestants had to discuss their chosen charity along with why they deserved to win. Charity boxes lined the lobby, where friends and viewers could put money towards the causes of their choice.

"It's an opportunity to share with the audience and judges just how much brain cancer research hasn't evolved," said Bellanceau, who has also won Mrs. Woodstock, and placed in the Mrs. Connecticut contest. "It's an incredibly deadly form of cancer, with 7,000 people being newly diagnosed each year. The mortality rate is incredibly high."

The National Brain Tumor Society is an organization committed to finding better treatments,



Courtesy photo



SUPER HERO FUN

Olivia Richman photo

POMFRET — Forest and Violet Nowakowski, and Scarlett and Lincoln Hogarty attended ComicCon at Pomfret Public Library on Saturday, Feb. 2.

Please Read **MS. NEW ENGLAND**, page A7

Lend me an ear

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

PUTNAM — After years being hard of hearing, Putnam resident Grace Sansoucy was fitted for new hearing aids at The Beltone Hearing Center in Dayville on Feb. 4.

Sansoucy received the hearing aids free of charge through The Foundation, a 501c3 that donates hearing aids to those who are unable to access them. Individuals are nominated by their friends and family, and by Doctor of Audiology Kerry Sweezy.

On Oct. 18, Sweezy did a hearing evaluation for Sansoucy that led her to send in an emotionally charged nomination letter on the patient's behalf.

"We chatted about her hearing difficulties, and she is really struggling to hear her children and grandchildren



Courtesy photo

Grace Sansoucy received some help to restore her hearing.

during visits and on the telephone," Sweezy wrote.

According to Sansoucy, she also had to have her televi-

sion turned all the way up, yet she still had trouble hearing it properly.

"Her family was really upset that she wasn't hearing things," said Sweezy, referencing the letter Sansoucy's daughter had sent in. "They noticed that it's really affecting her quality of life."

They also worried for her safety, since she can't hear traffic while driving. Sansoucy agreed that she was concerned for her safety and others because of her hearing loss.

"I feel like I've won the lottery," said Sansoucy. "It's a wonderful program. I hope a lot of others can benefit from it as well. They are all such wonderful people. I'm very, very thankful."

Even the little things

Please Read **EAR**, page A10

Hayes wants gun hunting on Sundays

PUTNAM — State Representative Rick Hayes (Republican - 51st District: Killingly, Putnam, Thompson) recently intro-

duced two separate pieces of legislation at the Capitol in Hartford to amend the state's statutes to extend the current hunting season and expand the type of hunting allowed on Sundays.

"Hunting is extremely important to not only the people of my district by also many of those who live in the Northeastern portion of the state," Hayes said. "By extending the Sunday hunting requirements to allow shotguns and rifles, it will then allow others who are currently being excluded from those private lands to also participate."

Hayes' first proposal, HB-5309, would seek to lengthen the state's bow, rifle, and shotgun seasons to allow an extra week for hunters to participate in these activities.

The second proposal, HB-5310, would look to expand Sunday hunting on public and private lands from only bow and arrow to also include shotgun and rifle.

In 2015, Public Act 15-204 was adopted to allow Sunday bow and arrow hunting on certain private property, provided such hunting occurred within deer management zones and was done in accordance with other wildlife management principles.

Both HB-5309 and HB-5310 have been referred to the Environment Committee for further action. Citizens can comment by contacting Hayes via e-mail at Rick.Hayes@housegop.ct.gov or by calling (800) 842-1423. His legislative activities can also be followed by signing up at <https://www.cthousegop.com/hayes/>.



Courtesy photo

Rick Hayes



TO THE BUCKET

Charlie Lentz photo

DAYVILLE — Killingly High's Emma Carpenter shoots vs. Stonington High last Friday, Feb. 8. High school sports coverage begins on page B-1 of today's Villager.

State police conduct warrant roundup



Brian Darosa



Joseph Delcastillo



John Fahey



Jennifer Fernandez



Michael Geer



Ibrahim Kamara



Karl Keivits



Labeck



Courtesy photos
Jeremy Lance

DANIELSON — On Feb. 7 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. members of Connecticut State Police Troop D Quality of Life Task Force, the Killingly Resident Troopers Office, the Brooklyn Resident Troopers Office and Danielson Office of Adult Probation conducted a warrant roundup which targeted local people wanted on outstanding arrest warrants

within Troop D's patrol area. Law enforcement members broke up into teams of two and were assigned multiple arrest warrants to serve. As a result of the warrant sweep several arrests were made. The following persons were arrested and the charges follow their names. Michael Geer, 31, of Commerce Avenue, Killingly – Violation of Probation. Jeremy Lance, 38, of North Main

Street, Killingly – Violation of Probation. Joseph Delcastillo, 30, of Prospect Avenue, Killingly – Failure to Appear 1st Degree. Ibrahim Kamara, 25, of Prospect Avenue, Killingly – Violation of Probation. Daniel Labeck, 60, of Furnace Street, Killingly – Violation of Probation. Karl Kieivits, 27, of Sabin Street, Putnam – Possession of Heroin.

Jennifer Fernandez, 39, of Sunset Drive, Brooklyn – Failure to Appear 1st Degree and 2nd Degree. Brian Darosa, 23, of Mechanic Street, Killingly – Failure to Appear 2nd Degree. On Feb. 6 at 5:45 p.m. Troopers were preparing warrant packets for the Feb. 7 warrant sweep when they received information that one of their targets was hiding at a residence on Boys Avenue

in Rogers and would likely flee from police. Uniformed Troopers from the Killingly Resident Troopers Office and Troopers from Troop D surrounded the house while plain clothed Troopers from QLTF knocked on the door. A resident of the home opened the door, not realizing it was the police. The QLTF Troopers identified themselves as police to the resident as the uniformed Troopers approached the house. Once the perimeter was secure and Troopers received confirmation that Fahey was hiding in the house, Troopers subsequently located John Fahey hiding in a bathroom, behind a door. Fahey was arrested for a Violation of Probation warrant and was additionally charged with Interfering with a Police Officer. 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 and/or synthetic marijuana 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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Editor's note: The information contained in these police logs was obtained through either press releases or public documents kept by the 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

PUTNAM

Sunday, Feb. 3

Matthew Heath, 34, of 224 Church Street, Apt. 2, Putnam, was charged with risk of injury to a child, sex with a victim age 13 to 15 years-old

POLICE LOGS

Thursday, Feb. 7

Karl Kieivits, 27, of Sabin Street, was charged with possession of heroin

BROOKLYN

Thursday, Feb. 7

Jennifer Fernandez, 39, of Sunset Drive, Brooklyn, was charged with a warrant

DANIELSON

Sunday, Feb. 3

Ashley-Ann Vargas, 28, of 285 Main Street, Danielson, was charged with interfering with an officer/resisting

Joseph W Vargas, 30, of 289 Main Street, Danielson, was charged with risk of injury to a child, disorderly conduct (interfering), assault and threatening

Wednesday, Feb. 6

Robert M Lemay, 73, of 105 Cady Road, Putnam, was charged with conspiracy to commit arson, interfering with an officer/resisting, insurance fraud and reckless endangerment

Thursday, Feb. 7

John Fahey, 32, of Boys Avenue, Killingly, was charged with a warrant Michael Geer, 31, of Commerce Avenue, Killingly, was charged with a warrant

Jeremy Lance, 38, of North Main Street, Killingly, was charged with a warrant

Joseph Delcastillo, 31, of Prospect Avenue, Killingly, was charged with a warrant

Ibrahim Kamara, 25, of Prospect Avenue, Killingly, was charged with a warrant

Daniel Labeck, 60, of Furnace Street, Killingly, was charged with a warrant Brian Darosa, 23, of Mechanic Street, Killingly, was charged with a warrant

THOMPSON

Wednesday, Feb. 6

Nicholas Edward Lavoie, 21, of Quaddick Town Farm Road, Thompson, was charged with disorderly conduct

Armand R. Boisvert, 51, of 1093 Quaddick Town Farm Road, Thompson, was charged with arson, tampering, insurance fraud and reckless endangerment

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VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Feb. 4: Cedar Waxwing, Brown Creeper, Bluebird, Canada Geese, Red-tailed Hawk, Barred Owl, Flicker, Red-winged Blackbird, Junco, White-throated Sparrows, American Tree Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Pileated Woodpecker. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home

DON'T MISS A BEAT

CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

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Cupcake wars heat up Eastford



Deb Torcellini photos
Brooklyn Gervasio of Woodstock with her Eastford Cupcake Wars People's Choice winner, peanut butter chocolate cupcake.

BY CAROL DAVIDGE
FOR THE VILLAGER

EASTFORD — Sixty people from as far away as Ohio came to Eastford's Cupcake Wars on Feb. 9. Brooklyn Gervasio of Woodstock received two awards: First Prize for Presentation by a Junior for her "Campfire with Marshmallow & S'mores" cupcake, and the Junior People's Choice award for her tasty "Peanut Butter Chocolate Cupcakes."

"This was fun and challenging," said Brooklyn, age 9.

"These Connecticut people really take their cupcake wars seriously, ha ha," said Melissa DeKoster, visiting from Columbus Ohio, after receiving the over-age 16 Senior People's Choice Award for her "Carrot Cake" cupcakes.

Among the many other cupcakes were "Spaghetti and Meatballs" by Porter Barlow (First Place Junior Presentation), "Sunflower with Edible Ladybug" (First Place Senior Presentation) by Cindy Labbe, "Cookie Monster" (Runner-up Presentation) by Linnea Barlow, "Foxface" by Abigail



Porter Barlow of Eastford with his first prize "Spaghetti and Meatballs" cupcake.



Cindy Labbe of Eastford with two firsts: "Sunflower" and "Valentine Chocolate" cupcakes.

Budd, and "Aquatic Wonderland" with octopus, starfish, seaweeds and goldfish by Amanda Hair (all from Eastford). The sweet delights were judged in two categories: (1) Recipe and (2) Presentation, each having two age groups: Junior (ages up to 15) and Senior (16 and up). The Congregational Church of Eastford hosted the competition.

Winners by categories are: Junior Division (Ages 15 and under): 1st place Recipe: Brooklyn Gervasio from Woodstock; 1st place Presentation: Porter Barlow from Eastford; Runner up Recipe: Molly Rourke from Ashford; Runner up Presentation: Linnea Barlow from Eastford; People's choice: Brooklyn Gervasio from Woodstock. Senior Division (Ages 16 and over): 1st place Recipe: Cindy Labbe from Eastford; 1st place Presentation: Cindy Labbe from Eastford; Runner up Recipe: Sandra Grossi from Eastford; Runner up Presentation: Zoe Marshall from Eastford; People's choice: Melissa DeKoster from Columbus, Ohio. Community judges were: Jen Lindsay (Grades 7/8 Language Arts teacher from Ashford School), Carole McCombe (Eastford Elementary School Principal), Sheryl Spink (Eastford Independent Fire Company), and Jacqueline Dubois (First Selectman in Eastford).

"This is a wonderful community event. A lot of work and care went into

the cupcakes," said Sheryl Spink.

The Church offers many community services, including Financial Peace classes, GriefShare, and Celebrate Recovery. Music for preschoolers and fix-it-yourself classes are wrapping up but will be back. Church volunteers help in the school with a homework club, after-school activities and mentoring. Our next community event on March 30 will be a "Creative Arts Night" to showcase visual arts, drama, music, poetry, quilting, crafts," said



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.

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



Pastor Mike Moran. For information, go to: www.cceastford.org/events/, or call (860) 974-0294 or e-mail: office@cceastford.com.



Brooklyn Gervasio of Woodstock's first prize for Junior Presentation, "Campfire Cupcake."



Cindy Labbe of Eastford's "Sunflower with edible Ladybug" won first in Senior Presentation.



Linnea Barlow of Eastford's "Cookie Monster" cupcake.

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Fire and Ice Festival in Putnam

PUTNAM — Putnam held its annual Fire & Ice Festival on Saturday, Feb. 9. Wendy Stone attended and photographed the event.



Wendy Stone photos

Jonathan Conway from Danielson and Ernie Delia from Millbury, Mass. work on their first ever ice sculpture.



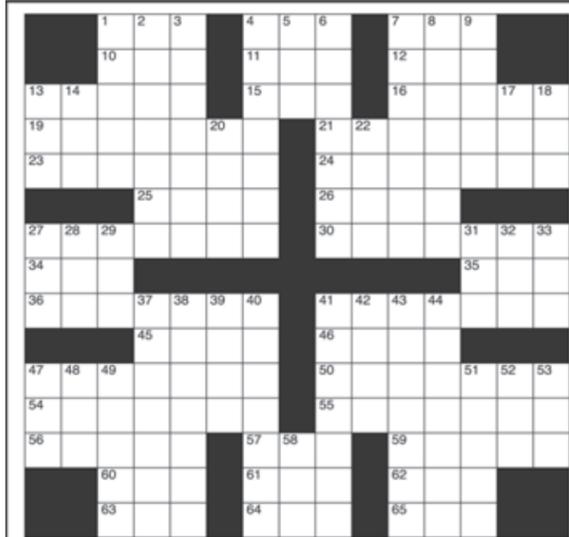
The Ice Princess reigns over Putnam.



Steve Raheb right from the Putnam Lions discusses their Lion ice sculpture with Seth Dunton from the Putnam Leo Club, the Lions youth group.



Kristopher Morrisette watches the owner of Skeeter's Toybox work on its window display.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Chop or cut
- 4. Political action committee
- 7. Male parent
- 10. Doctors' group
- 11. Ottoman military commander
- 12. A metal-bearing natural material
- 13. Lively ballroom dance
- 15. Male Gypsy
- 16. Once-popular card game
- 19. Occurred just once
- 21. __ Streisand, singer
- 23. Shiny yellow minerals
- 24. Get hitched again
- 25. See (Latin)
- 26. Lies between the Caspian and Persian Gulf
- 27. Scourges
- 30. Sentence
- 34. Supervises flying
- 35. Bar bill
- 36. Alfalfa
- 41. Type of dishwasher soap
- 45. Witnesses
- 46. Ancient Italian-Greek colony
- 47. Newspapers need them
- 50. Discuss again
- 54. Small group with shared interests
- 55. Support
- 56. Wool
- 57. Take hold of
- 59. Likely the first Meso-American civilization
- 60. Woman (French)
- 61. Automobile
- 62. Popular Georgia rockers
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. A major division of geological time
- 65. Make an effort

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Czech monetary unit
- 2. Able to arouse feeling
- 3. Elk
- 4. Muscular weaknesses
- 5. Earlier
- 6. Lightweight fabric
- 7. One who greets
- 8. Soldiers sometimes wear one
- 9. Officially prohibit
- 13. US political party
- 14. Used of a number or amount not specified
- 17. Make a mistake
- 18. Biopic starring Jamie Foxx
- 20. Ancient Media inhabitant
- 22. About aviation
- 27. Popular American sports league
- 28. Cologne
- 29. Partner to cheese
- 31. When you'll get there
- 32. Not pleased
- 33. One point east (clockwise) of due north
- 37. Respects
- 38. Shake up
- 39. Ethiopian river
- 40. Intrinsic nature of something
- 41. Principal parts of the brain
- 42. Brews
- 43. Where ships dock
- 44. One who wassails
- 47. Shock treatment
- 48. Popular average
- 49. Things
- 51. A type of "bear"
- 52. Utilize
- 53. European Economic Community
- 58. Swiss river

NOW to provide free child sexual abuse prevention training

PUTNAM — Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, Inc. (NOW) will offer free training to area youth serving organizations & community members in the Darkness to Light Stewards of Children program over the spring and fall of 2019. The program, which teaches adults how to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse, is designed for individuals concerned about the safety of children as well as organizations that serve youth. The 2019 training is supported by funds donated from the Brooklyn Cares Program at the Brooklyn Correctional Institution.

A training session is set for April 11 at TEEG in Thompson from 6 to 8 p.m. and a session is planned for October 10 in Plainfield. All sessions are free and open to the public, with registration required and available

through the NOW website. In 2017, NOW established the NOW Safe Coaching Program, which offered several training sessions in Darkness to Light Stewards of Children to partner youth sports organization boards and coaches during the spring and fall sports seasons. Stewards of Children is the only nationally available program scientifically proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes and change child-protective behaviors.

In 2018, NOW expanded the program to include educators, youth mentors and any community members interested in child abuse prevention. Led by NOW Board member and authorized Darkness to Light Facilitator Joe Couture, NOW hosted three free training sessions in April, June, and September, with a total of 36 individuals trained. Joe Couture has been credited with being one

of the most active facilitators in the state of Connecticut. Long-term, the goal for the program is for NOW and other local organizations to become "Partners in Prevention" with 90% or more of employees and volunteers who interact with youth receiving the training. In addition to the three training sessions currently open to the public, NOW is willing to work with organizations to schedule private sessions for groups of 5 or more.

For more information on NOW programs, including Darkness to Light Stewards of Children training, visit www.NOWinMotion.org. Individuals and organizations interested in receiving training are encouraged to contact Joe Couture at Joe.Couture@NOWinMotion.org or by calling 888.940.4669.

Woodstock Little League open house and fair

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock Little League will hold an open house and fun fair from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 22. Attendees will be able to participate in baseball/softball stations run by current WLL coaches and players. Stations will include throwing, hitting and catching. Participants will earn tickets at each station, which will be used to purchase prizes upon completion of the Fun Fair. WLL coaches and board members will be on hand to answer any questions from players and their families. A registration table will also be set up to allow families to register for the upcoming spring baseball and softball Little League seasons.

The fair will be at Woodstock Elementary School Gymnasium, 24 Frog Pond Rd, Woodstock (parking and entrance will be in the bus parking lot closest to the playgrounds and fields). The event is for players ages 4 through 8 (boys and girls), or new players interested in playing Little League baseball or softball (Woodstock residents and/or Woodstock students only, plus Thompson girls for softball). More information about the event and Woodstock Little League, as well as online registration, can be found on the league website at (<http://woodstocklittleleague.org/>).



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The Last Romance at the Bradley Playhouse



Courtesy photo

Wayne Trembly (Ralph) and Sheila Harrington-Hughes (Carol) in *The Last Romance*.

PUTNAM — The Theatre of Northeastern Connecticut at the Bradley Playhouse will present *The Last Romance*, Joe DiPietro's bitter-sweet, romantic comedy that explores love and opportunities lost, as well as the promise of new ones found. It opens Feb. 22 and runs for only two weekends.

Author Joe DiPietro, a New Jersey native, also wrote about family ties in his play *Over the River and Through the Woods*. He is perhaps best known for writing the book and lyrics of the musicals *Memphis* and *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*.

The Last Romance shows that a crush can make anyone feel young again, and love and romance can find people late in life. Widower Ralph decides to take a different path on his daily walk and meets Carol at the dog park. She's elegant but distant; he is ready to take an unexpected second chance at love. Along the way, Ralph and Carol must negotiate his jealous sister, Rose, secrets from their past and their own fears of taking the plunge. *The Last*

Romance is a heart-warming comedy about the transformative power of love and the ties of family.

The TNECT performance of *The Last Romance* is directed by Tina Huey. Wayne Trembly appears as Ralph and Sheila Harrington-Hughes plays Carol. Ralph's sister, Rose, is played by Jennifer Briere and Scotty Duval is the Young Man. There is also a special appearance by Bella as Carol's beloved dog, Peaches.

The Bradley Playhouse is located at 30 Front Street (Route 44) in Putnam, CT. All seats are reserved. Reservations may be made online at www.thebradleyplayhouse.org or by calling 860-928-7887. Performances are February 22, 23 and March 1, 2 at 7:30 p.m. and February 24 and March 3 at 2 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the theater box office, either before the performance or at the door if available.

Jeanne Foley
Production Manager
jcfoley@att.net
860-822-9041

Day Kimball Hospital Valentine Dinner Dance

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare and the Woman's Board of Day Kimball Hospital celebrated the past and toasted to the future at a 125th Anniversary and Valentine Dinner Dance held at StoneHurst Valley in Hampton on Feb. 2.

Just under 300 attended and included the DKH community represented by leadership, doctors, and staff, the Woman's Board, and local community supporters.

"This event was an opportunity for us to celebrate the history and service of the Woman's Board and Day Kimball Healthcare with the community in a very special way," said Kristen Willis, DKH Director of Development. "This milestone anniversary also provided us an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the support of our community. DKH has counted on the generosity of its community since 1894, enabling us to invest in our facilities, medical equipment and technology to improve overall patient experience and outcomes."

"Our Woman's Board members did a lot of work to make this event happen," said Nancy Dziki, President of the Woman's Board of Day Kimball Hospital. "This year, co-hosting our annual Valentine Dinner Dance with DKH for our combined 125 year anniversary, took the celebration to a whole new level. We had more people than ever; all ages, and from all areas of the community."

The Valentine Dinner Dance was enhanced this year with Ticker, the dancing heart from the American Heart Association, a real life Cupid, a GIF photo booth, and a large dance floor.

Special thanks to everyone who made the event a success: sponsors, donors, patrons, attendees, and the Valentine Dinner Dance Committee, co-chaired by Arlene Baril and Linnea Sarantopoulos.

This year, the Valentine Dinner Dance proceeds netted \$14,000 toward the Woman's Board pledge of raising \$200,000 for room renovations in the Burdick Family Birthing Center. Day Kimball Healthcare and the Woman's Board were especially honored to have the Burdick family represented at the event in recognition of their generosity and family's legacy.

"We are so grateful for the generosity of the Woman's Board who has supported and raised funds to enhance the quality of service of Day Kimball Hospital over these 125 years through the various fundraising they do throughout the year," said Anne Diamond, President and CEO of Day Kimball Healthcare. "The money raised from this event allows us to continue to provide critical services to our community, during periods of life that are both vulnerable and sacred. We are ever grateful to the community's support."

For more information about Day Kimball Hospital's Woman's Board, visit daykimball.org/womansboard.



Courtesy photo

Members of the Woman's Board of Day Kimball Hospital on Feb. 2.

United Services identifies policy issues

DAYVILLE — United Services, Inc. held its annual Legislative Dinner on Jan. 31 to provide area members of the General Assembly with an overview of the significant need and inadequate resources for behavioral health and wellness programs throughout the region.

The meeting identified key policy issues related to regional behavioral health and state funding disparities adversely impacting Northeast Connecticut.

United Services staff and board updated legislators on funding inequities that limit access in northeastern Connecticut to critical behavioral health services available in other parts of the state. United Services receives about \$3,000 per client for adult mental health services, while other providers in other areas of the state receive as much as \$20,000 per client for the same services.

United Services staff and board members also updated legislators on new programs within the agency, including Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid addiction treatment. United Services Medication Assisted Treatment program launched in January at the agency's Dayville clinic. United Services, Inc. is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. To learn more, visit www.UnitedServicesCT.org.

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LEARNING

SCHOOLS AND THE PUBLIC are encouraged to submit items for inclusion on the Learning Page. The deadline is noon Monday. Send all items to Editor Charlie Lentz at charlie@villagenewspapers.com

Cunha is in Tourtellotte spotlight

THOMPSON — Tourtellotte Memorial High School's Student Spotlight program recognizes a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement, character, leadership, attitude, and/or contributions to the school and community. February's Student Spotlight honoree is senior Olivia Cunha. Olivia was nominated by her classmate Kate Heffernan.

"Olivia is a person you can always count on and a person who is a great role model. She keeps everyone positive and is an extremely hard worker. She always makes everyone laugh!" When asked what motivates her, Olivia responded with, "my friends, my family, and my teachers," said Heffernan.

Cunha actively participates in her school community. She is Co-President of the Drama Club and an active member of the News Club, the Future Business Leaders of America, and the Yearbook Staff. She is also a member of the TMHS Modern Music Ensemble and has performed at many community events such as Thompson Community Day and the Martin Luther King



Breakfast in Putnam, as well as for hospice patients and veterans. Outside of school Cunha takes dance, music, theatre, and art classes at the Complex Performing and Creative Arts Centre in Putnam and performs through both The Complex and the Bradley Playhouse. She has performed in shows such as

The Rocky Horror Picture Show and The Buddy Holly Story. She is currently rehearsing for the role of Albert in the production of Newsies that is playing at the Bradley Theater on March 16th and 17th. Regarding her community involvement, "I think it is important to be involved and give back to your community," Cunha said.

Cunha discussed her plans for the future.

"I will be attending Dean College in the fall. I aspire to be a successful performer and hopefully make it on Broadway. I also hope to make a positive change in the world," Cunha said.

Cunha has been accepted to the Musical Theatre program at Dean College and is co-writing an original show that will be performed at The Complex in May. Cunha's message to her school community was simple.

"Do what makes you happy. As long as you're happy, who cares what others think? Live your life the way you want, not how others want you to," Cunha said.

PUTNAM HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

PUTNAM — Putnam High School's honor roll for the second quarter is as follows.

CLASS OF 2019

High honors: Trinity Bailey, Selena Cordero, Cole Davagian, Kaitlyn Eddy, Kira Fontaine, Autumn Grimshaw, Violet Khoshtariya, Kylene-Annmari Kupiec, Thomas Masso, Madison Toutant, Christian Yorz. First honors: Jordan Alexander, Dawnielle Dowd, Elizabeth Foss, Angelina Gould, Katy Maryanov, Maggie McKeon, Mya Meadows, Jeffrey Reed, Adriana Santos Bravo, Alexa Steinbrick, Mariah Travisano, Jacob Tremblay, Jane Vongvirath. Recognition:

Morgan Blackmar, Mackenzie Blackwell, Karissah Broughton, Lauren Deery, Victoria Dias, Michael DiColella, Stephane Fonseca, Dorian Frias, Tyion Harris, Sierra Mainville, Devin McCaughey, Jasmine Paulhus, Zachary Robinson, Cora Turner, Juanette Vargas.

CLASS OF 2020

High honors: Samantha Barylski, Tanner Clark, Jillian Gray, Kayleigh Lyons, Molly McKeon, Janete Morente Uz, Julia Silva Pereira. First honors: Nathaniel Dolbey, Autumn Fikter, Zoe Hetrick, Samantha Huff, Ellie Morissette, Edward Perry, Hunter Roberts, Hannah

Smith, Justin St. Martin, Jacob Tatro. Recognition: Haley Cutler, Niajah DeWolfe, Patrick Franks, Reece Gardiner, Abigayle Gardner, Amerah Harris, Madison Hayes, Michael Ionkin, Azalei LaBonte, Steven Merritt, Anthony Navedo, Charlotte Nichols, Jordyn Poole, Andrea Prochowski, Noah Tomkins.

CLASS OF 2021

High honors: Laylah Chavez, Brenden Guillen, Anna Ionkin, Ethan Latendresse, Haddijatou Mbye, Brooke Peloquin, Mackenzie Peloquin. First honors: Nathan Barylski, Johnathan Carita, Lesbia Morente-Mendez, Jamie Petre, Emma Rudman, Abby St. Martin, Haley Syrjala.

Recognition: Greyson Anderson, Emma Braithwaite, Kaylyn Daigneault, Samantha Dempsey, Charisma Farrington, Harley Field, Brenna Fowler, Sarah Keith, Alexis Kurtyka, Dylan McCaughey, Julie Morris, Mackenzie Oleszewski, Abigail Pelletier, Jillian Robidas, Damien Ruggeri, Tyler Shippee, Bethany Smith, Oscar Steinbrick, Maggie Wojciechowski

CLASS OF 2022

High honors: Autumn Allard, Amayah Chavez, Samantha Eddy, Tyler Fullerton, Jack Rindge, Ewa Sekula, Destiney Simas. First honors: Karson Bates, Reagan Boledovic,

Trinity Bonet Shepard, Johnathen Brouillette, Allison Callahan, Kandi Garcia-Morente, Ethan Gardner, Olivia Hassett-Mellen, Amelia Labbe-Fahy, Celenia Lopez, Kayla Morrison, Stephanie Olecki, Avery Pedersen, Halie Reidy, Adam Tomkins, Connor Vassar. Recognition: Saige Albino, Emma Barbeau, Makenna Barnett, Rodrigo Alejandro Candelario Jimenez, David DePari, Aliya Green, Ariana Hernandez, Cody Keene, James Lazarou, Brooke Lindell, Benjamin Northup, Amber Rape, Michael Roach, Hunter Vanasse.

WOODSTOCK MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

WOODSTOCK — The second quarter honor roll for Woodstock Middle School is as follows.

GRADE 6:

High honors: Juliet Allard, Liliana Bottone, Emma Brody, Olivia Dahl, Bella Ducat, Ava Golden, Kira Greene, Madeline Jezierski, Emily Jurnovoy, Matthew Letourneau, Bailey Nordman, Grace Pokorny, Freya Robbie, Brock Swabby, Kendra Wilson. Honors: Gunnar Basak, Regan Benedict, Nathan Billings, Katelyn Bruce, Cassidy Chabot, Ryder Chaput, Benjamin Cross, Josh Cunniff, Jacqueline Dearborn, Mila Ganas, Brooke Goodell, Phoebe Griffin, Sophie Gronski, Matthew LaBonte, Emma Manis, Matthew McClure, Xandar Miller, Eva Monahan, Anna Morse, Kaya Nichols, Evan Quinn, Cameron Robida, Isabella Selmecki, Emily Smock, Bailey Sweeney, Avery Thienel, Kaelyn Tremblay, Leah Wasielewski, William Wasko. Recognition: John Bennett, Maxx Corradi, Ayla Gorgone, Kyle Grist, Elmer Hebert, Sawyer Hull, Samantha Keller, Marie Mairson, Madison

GRADE 7

High honors: Peyton Bentley, Emily Cournoyer, Summer Espeseth, Campbell Fraser, Gavin Grant, Sophia Hernandez, Sydney Lundt, Emma Massey, Sarah McArthur, Sophia Petrella, Evan Rhault, Ava Simoes. Honors: Claire Beck, Beatrix Donovan, Allison Griswold, Joel Koleszar, Kayla Leite, Alexandra Mattioli, Seamus McDermott, Timothy O'Sullivan, Kaelin Soukaloun, Talia Tremblay, Madison Whitehouse. Recognition: Madison Brown, Gabriel Cooke, Amelia Haynes, Madison Hill-Rickell, Ava Hovestadt, Samantha McDowell, Reegan Reynolds, Noah Sampson, Lucas Theriaque, Henry

Wotton.

GRADE 8

High honors: Charlotte Adase, Maxwell Auker, Carah Bruce, Gabrielle Couture, Shannon Cunniff, Caroline Da Silva, Kirsten Deorse, Katie Fortin, Annika LeBoeuf, Bryn Miller, Paige Owens, Braiden Saucier, Concetta Sumner, Alexandra Taylor, YiYue Wang. Honors: Brooke Bergevin, Morgan Bonin, Summer Chaput, Alexis Danila, Bodie Defoc, Baden Eaton, Lennon Favreau, Magnolia Hart, Brian Jameson, Dylan Mayo, Makala McDermott, Ellie Nunes, Kylie Quercia,

Sophia Quinn, Amelia Racicot, Randall Rawcliffe, Fiona Rigney, Wyatt Robbie, Natalia Sarette, Adam Thompson, Nicholas Webster, Liam Wilcox, Abdullah Zameer. Recognition: Aaron Allard, Abigail Armstrong, Kristen Ash, Payton Barna, Mitchell Child, Brianna Connors, Ethan Craig, Amanda Currie, Jade Desmond, Penelope Esposito, Kara-Lynn Hebert, Olivia Jendrewski, Jacob Jurnovoy, Clinton Kallgren, Kaden McCullough-Murphy, Abigail Morse, Elias Newall-Vuillemot, Ethan Pokorny, Lillian Rossi, Carter Saracina, MacKenzie Starr, Matthew Wasielewski, Patrick Webster.

COLLEGE NEWS

CHARLESTON, S.C. —Charleston Southern University has named Daniel J. Creme of Brooklyn to the Dean's List.

WEST HARTFORD —The University of Hartford Dean's List includes: Nicholas Theroux of Dayville; Jennifer White of Dayville; Nicholas Foucault of Putnam; Destynie Medeiros of Eastford.

ALBANY, N.Y. —Heather Mowry of Woodstock, named to the Dean's List at The College of Saint Rose.

BOSTON —Emmanuel College Dean's List: Regan Disco of Dayville; Madison Brennan of Putnam.

HARTFORD —Rhone I. O'Hara, of Woodstock, was awarded Faculty Honors at Trinity College.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Springfield College Dean's List: Allison Tupaj of N Grosvenordale, Jordyn Staveski of Woodstock; Luke Bourque of Pomfret Center; Sidney Ratliff of North Grosvenordale; Haley Fettig of Thompson.

DURHAM, N.H. —Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire: Katherine Dalimonte of Pomfret Center; Matthew Rich of Woodstock; Haley Armstrong of Woodstock; Sarah Douglas of Thompson.



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Marriage program at Creation Church

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — Creation Church wants to help local couples fill their marriage with grace through its program, Grace Filled Marriage Part 2. Hosted every other Thursday until May, the program features different topics to discuss every night.

"It's love that gets us married, but grace that keeps us married," said Pastor Bernie Norman. "Grace is extended forgiveness to one another."

According to Norman, couples sometimes reach a point of unforgiveness. While he said that marital problems should not be ignored, there is a way to handle them with grace that allows the couple to move forward, instead of being stuck at a stand-still.

"It's not easy. We know that," he said. "That's where God comes into the picture a little bit. He's extended tremendous grace to us. What we're attempting to do is love each other the same way God loves us. He loves us unconditionally."

The program's various topics deal with "certain areas of marriage that can cause a lot of tension." This includes how to argue graciously without hurting one another, how to deal with money issues, dealing with in-laws, and the impact children may have on the marriage.

Each evening begins with a video that comes from the Family Matters ministry. After the video, couples are invited to have a dialogue in a small group.

"Couples start to think, 'I'm not the only one who feels this way,'" said Norman. "It's really a study that gives couples hope and encouragement. There's not a lot of that today. We want to let them know they can make it."

Grace Filled Marriage Part 1 was held at Creations Church two years ago. Over 30 couples attended. In their continued efforts to bring marriage and family-oriented programs to the community, Norman and his wife, Gail, were excited to see Grace Filled Marriage Part 2 available.

Prior to coming to Creations Church, the Nelsons were part of a family ministry called Family Life in Arkansas. They put on Weekends to Remember for couples. Bringing these experiences to Creations Church has been very

important to them.

The first session of Grace Filled Marriage Part 2 had over 30 people in attendance from all over the area. Some couples had been together for three months, others almost 40 years. They all benefited from the program, and they are looking forward to the next session. Even if you have missed the first few sessions, you're invited to join as well.

Online registration is available at www.creationschurch.org. The sessions are every other Thursday evening at the church.

Olivia Richman may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 112 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com

Quinebaug Middle College deadline nears

DANIELSON — EASTCONN's Quinebaug Middle College (QMC), a regional magnet high school, is currently recruiting academically motivated students who will enter grades 9-12 in 2019-2020. Students seeking a more independent learning environment, tailored to their academic and career goals, are welcome to apply. QMC is located on the campus of Quinebaug Valley Community College (QVCC), at 742 Upper Maple St., Danielson.

QMC offers high school students a middle college experience that enables them to earn a high school diploma, while also earning college credits from QVCC at no additional cost.

Students who successfully complete QVCC courses may have an advantage when applying to college or any post-secondary program, not only because they've earned free, transferrable college credits, but because they've demonstrated their ability to succeed in a college environment. Highly motivated students can graduate from high school with enough

credits to earn an associate's degree.

Once enrolled at QMC, students will have access to high-tech laboratories, career and vocational resources, and other college amenities. Unique to the middle college experience is the opportunity to take college courses side-by-side with QVCC college students. Areas of study at QMC include STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), liberal arts, allied health or advanced manufacturing.

Currently, QMC enrolls 180 students, grades 9-12, from 22 towns across northeastern Connecticut. Housed in a \$24-million, state-of-the-art facility on the campus of QVCC in Danielson, QMC offers northeastern Connecticut students many small-school advantages that include small classes; one-on-one mentor and advisory support; a rigorous, Humanities-rich and STEM-integrated curriculum; an embedded focus on public service projects; access to the Mobile STEM Lab allowing for in-the-field science experiments; and a Town Meeting governance model that gives all students a voice in how their

school is run.

Students who want to enroll at QMC in 2019-2020 may visit www.eastconn.org/qmcto to download an application.

The application deadline is Feb. 28. To learn more, call QMC Principal Mary Kay Tshonas at (860) 932-4137, or reach her at mtshonas@eastconn.org.

QMC is operated by EASTCONN as part of a partnership that includes EASTCONN, QVCC, Brooklyn, Franklin, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Thompson, Voluntown, Windham and Woodstock. Enrollment is not limited to students who live in partner towns; students from across the region are welcome to apply. EASTCONN is a public, non-profit, Regional Educational Service Center that has been serving the education needs of schools and communities in northeastern Connecticut since 1980. Learn more at www.eastconn.org and follow EASTCONN at www.facebook.com/wherelearningcomestolife.

Creation Church in Thompson expands services

THOMPSON — Creation Church of 47 West Thompson Road in Thompson recently announced that it will be going to two worship services beginning in March. On Sunday March 3rd the church will launch a new service time of 9 a.m. followed by a second service time of 10:30am, which will include Nursery and their Creation Kids programs.

The pastor of the church is Bernie Norman, who along with his wife, Gale, have been in ministry for over 20 years. The Normans served with FamilyLife Ministries in Little Rock, Arkansas for five years before coming back to New England, where they are from over 15 years ago. Pastor Norman served as the senior pastor at Faith Bible Chapel in Westerly, Rhode Island for 11 years before coming to Creation Church to serve in the same capacity five years ago. He also serves as a schoolteacher at Woodstock Academy.

For more information about Creation Church and its activities, please go online at www.creationchurch.org.

MS. NEW ENGLAND continued from page A1

and ultimately a cure, for people living with a brain tumor.

Bellanceau also has a personal connection to this cause. Recently, a friend and co-worker from Pomfret School was diagnosed with a brain tumor.

"In a small community this has an impact on everyone. We all feel so terribly for him and his family," she said.

While the money and awareness may not ultimately cure this individual, she is hoping it will help others in the future struggling with terminal illness.

Bellanceau is no stranger to charity work. The successful pageant contestant has also raised awareness for families afflicted with drug abuse during past contests. She is also currently employed at Pomfret School, a non-profit.

"Working there is my day to day

life," said the former non-profit management major. "I feel passionately about contributing to society as a whole, leaving the world a better place than we found it."

She is hoping her charity work will inspire others to make a difference as well, in any way they can.

"There's a great ripple effect with that."

Currently, Bellanceau is organizing a project that brings St. Patrick's Day-themed cards to children that are at the hospital over the holiday. Families and elementary school classes have started designing cards, which will be sent to her. She will then ship them off to kids in hospitals over the holidays.

"St. Patrick's Day is underrepresented so this will be really nice for the children to get during this time. It's something uplifting," she said.

Olivia Richman may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 112 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com

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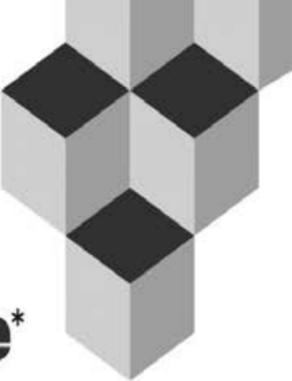
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What's eating me?

My husband and I like to go out to eat. He likes to peruse the menu, consider each item and read the description of every dish. I look at the specials and the wine-by-the-glass list. Then I am stumped. Nothing seems to be exactly what I want. Often I ask my husband to order my meal as he makes better choices. I'm not there as much for the food as to enjoy the experience.

I can't help but notice that the number of people dining out is on the decline. We can't let eateries slide away. Going to restaurants, no matter what type, adds to our sense of community and is the only way they are going to stay in business.

We recently pulled up to a favorite Boston bistro we had not visited since the summer. It was closed. We were disappointed, went immediately to the internet and read that it is under renovation. It will probably reopen as it is attached to a small hotel, but there is a trend in our favorite city for restaurants to close. If restaurants can't make it in a city filled with young people, scads of tourists and high-end techy types, what does that mean for the rest of us?

I turned to the internet to look at trends. I found some interesting bits.

For example, the Zagat site noted that diners eat out 4.9 times per week. We spend an average of \$36.40 per person on dinner (except in Boston where the price is \$41.54) leaving an 18.1% tip.

Another site said Americans eat "commercially prepared" meals 4 times a week at an average cost of \$13 per meal. Making a meal at home costs about \$4 per serving. The average American spends \$3,000 per year dining out. A 2016 article in Time magazine covered the ubiquitous pizza. On any given day, 1 in 8 Americans is eating a piece of pizza. Nothing like a jumble of numbers to give us a whiff of what's going on.

I meet friends and colleagues for lunch often. In our area, many places are jumping at noon time. In the years when I worked at a university, I saw a shift. More and more people ate a bag lunch at their desk or snacks from vending machines. Taking someone to lunch was once a way to catch up on office gossip, hear about career possibilities or just see and be seen.

When my husband and I married, my father advised him to make sure that once a week we went out. My parents loved to reminisce about taking the train to Providence to dance and dine, probably their best times. When I was a child they took me to restaurants to hone my table manners and try new foods with a Shirley Temple "cocktail". Our little threesome enjoyed talking with friends who dropped by the table and listening to live music played by skilled organ and piano players. We took our children to some of the same places. It was always fun.

Restaurants are risky to open, complicated to operate and hard to make profitable. They compete with super market meals, meal services and take out places. It's easier to pop something in the microwave and turn on Netflix than tidy up and go out to eat, but it is important that we do it. Local eating places, whether a diner serving mounds of breakfast food, a white linen inn, or a cozy place in between is what we crave. We need restaurants not for the calories, but for the community.



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OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Westview helped our father

On behalf of our entire family, I want to sincerely thank the staff at Westview Healthcare Center in Dayville for the outstanding care they provided to my father during his acute rehabilitation admission in January and February of this year. There are so many examples of how Westview's staff went above and beyond to provide him with the highest quality, personalized care possible.

My dad was admitted to Westview late on a Friday evening, and he was greeted by a kind nurse and assistant who helped to facilitate his transition from acute care at Day Kimball Hospital to acute rehabilitation care at Westview. A tray of food was also ready and waiting for him, and he felt very comfortable and ready to start his physical and occupational therapies the next morning. The nurses and nursing assistants made him feel at home right from night one.

The following day, therapies were started immediately. The Director of Therapies, Phuong Nilo, gave us an overview of what to expect during his stay. We were so grateful for this, and we were excited to see Phuong, since she and her staff have provided outpatient physical therapy services to my dad for the past three years. I was thrilled that she and Rick, another physical therapist who has worked with my dad through aquatic and land therapy, were there on a Saturday morning, demonstrating their commitment to their patients and their goals. That morning, Phuong also introduced us to David Panteleakos, the Director of Westview; he welcomed us and had many kind and comforting words for my father. All of this made the transition so smooth.

During my father's in-patient stay, my mother stayed by his side day and night, since the two are never apart from one another. On that first Saturday night, there was a terrible snow and ice storm that coated all of the cars in a thick layer of sleet that ultimately froze when the temperatures bottomed out the next morning. On that morning, one of the maintenance workers offered to unfreeze the locks on my mother's car, de-ice the wind-

shield, and shoveled her car out of its parking space. It took close to an hour to do this, and my mother was extremely grateful, since she needed to go home to get some clothing and personal items. This is just one example of how the Westview staff really provide assistance in every way possible.

Throughout my dad's three week stay, there were so many acts of kindness that I've lost count! My dad's nursing assistant would bring two coffees to his room for my dad and my mom every morning at 5:30 a.m., since that is when they would always wake up, and coffee has always been part of their wake up routine. The administrative assistant who works at the outpatient therapies desk would stop by to say hello to my dad throughout the week. The head of nutritional services always made sure that my dad had the food he enjoyed, and if there was something he discovered he did not like, a replacement was sent immediately. My dad raved about the food every day! My dad's nurses were always so accommodating. As a pharmacist, I like to be able to review my dad's medication list to ensure all of the doses are correct and that nothing is missing. His nurse would stop what she was doing to allow me to review his medication administration record and answer any questions I had.

In closing, I want to sincerely thank everyone at Westview for being so caring and thoughtful with all of their patients. I have sent thank you notes to the staff, and my parents have delivered candy and treats to say thank you, but I also wanted to send a public thank you to the entire staff. It is truly amazing to interact with people who care so much about their patients and their family members, and I will be eternally grateful for all they have done for my dad and my family. Westview is a truly great resource for the people of Northeastern Connecticut.

LINDA M. (HOULE) SPOONER, KILLINGLY HIGH ALUMNUS; KAREN L. HOULE; FLORA M. HOULE

Local littering is shameful

I want to thank Sue Wheeler for her letter published Feb. 8. I've been meaning to write about litter, but I'm too busy cleaning it up. I work full time but at least monthly I find myself risking my life on the hairpin turns of Wilsonville Rd near 395, and on my home street, Lowell Davis, even though I'm very susceptible to poison ivy, I risk a rash every time I go to clean my street.

Unlike Ms. Wheeler, my road isn't a major street, yet I never fail to fill 1-3 trash bags. Nips, Jaegermeister, Bud Light, Twisted Tea, and the ubiquitous fast food leftovers clutter my rural road.

We live in a beautiful town. I can't understand why we throw trash out the window. I can only imagine how bad it would be if not for spring cleanup and the occasional other neighbor helping to clean the trash.

And don't get me started about the highways. The first impression coming from MA, we are slob and we don't care, not does our

state DOT. I don't believe that's true, but we do obviously have a problem.

Judging by the alcoholic containers I find, it gives me pause as well as to how many people are driving under the influence. If you need to drink that badly, and hide it by throwing the evidence out the window, you have a problem, and whoever you're trying to hide it from - they already know.

For people like me and Sue that care, and clean up. Thank you. For those that don't clean up, give us a hand, it's your property I'm picking this trash from - you can help. For those who think this town is your trash can - just stop. If you don't care about this town then find another place to live.

As the saying goes, if you're not part of the solution, you are part of the problem.

BRIAN LOFFREDO
 NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Thanks to cemetery volunteers

I would like to commend Dino Laparle, the volunteers, and the North Grosvenordale K of C who took the initiative to clean the debris and trash, and to pick up fallen tombstones in the North Grosvenordale Cemetery. Just think of all the time and monies they save the Town of Thompson. If more people took pride in their cemeteries, as most cemeteries do not have the monies to absorb the cost of hiring someone to come in to clean and to fix fallen stones, many of the cemeteries would not be in such disarray.

My cemetery is St. Mary's in Putnam. When you buy a plot there, you usually are given a book with the rules and regulations, which many people tend to ignore. It appalls me to see the things placed on cemetery plots. In my opinion, Mylar balloons, beer cans, and do-dads have no place in a cemetery; it is a not a carnival, it is a sacred place, and should be treated as such. If people only realized, when they place live flowers and plants on their loved one's graves, they do not last without someone tending to them, it is their

responsibility to water them and to remove them when they have gone by. When the weather becomes severe and windy many of these items are strewn about the cemetery. Please be courteous enough to remove them. Most of the cemeteries do have someone who mows; however, they cannot be expected to get off the mower every time something is in their way. It should be the responsibility of the owner of the plot to take pride in their plot and take time to pick up and dispose of broken items and dead plants. It's a win, win for everyone!

Many times, on a nice day, I often go and pick up fallen flags and remove dead flowers and Christmas wreaths that have been sitting in front of the cemetery stones for some time, often as long as a couple of years.

Take pride in your cemetery, many of your loved ones are buried there, and most likely, someday so will you!

DIANE BATES
 PUTNAM

Thank you to East Putnam firefighters

We want to offer our heartfelt thank you and appreciation to the East Putnam Fire Department. On January 24th our basement began to flood. Being somewhat new to Putnam, we had no idea who to call. On a whim we contacted emergency services. Within about 20 minutes a crew arrived and for the next several hours worked diligently to pump the water out of our basement. We are

sorry we didn't get your names so we could direct our thank you personally. To the crew who arrived at Killingly Avenue in Putnam around 5 p.m. on January 24th, Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

DOTTI AND RON DENARO
 PUTNAM

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to charlie@villagernewspapers.com Please include your place of residence and phone number for verification, not publication. Letters must be received by noon on Tuesdays.

Truth makes free



BEYOND THE PEWS
 JOHN HANSON

Suppose a private shuttle pilot was flying a single engine plane over the ocean and was struck by an unidentified object. While attempting to radio for help he realizes that his radio has been damaged. Soon, he notices a small stream of gas spraying out the side of the engine housing. Being far from the mainland he frantically redirects his small craft toward the nearest land mass. Luckily, twenty minutes later, just as he approaches a sandy beach, his engine sputters to a stop and he glides safely onto the remote, uninhabited island.

After safely exiting the plane they discover an abandoned farm with a few crops that look as though they had been growing wild for few years. They take shelter in the house, eat some sandwiches from their cooler and become better acquainted. The older passenger is an uneducated farmer and the other a young man who had just earned a master's degree, in physics. Both men begin offering solutions to their dilemma.

The young scholar says he thinks he might be able to alter the plane engine's to run on modified, potato juice. He read an article in which someone had hypothesized that such a fuel might be made. But he had never done it before. The farmer tells about how he used to make ethanol from corn. He had spotted corn on the farm. If they could fix the gas leak and make a few gallons of ethanol they could fly to their destination.

The pilot is left with a simple choice; He has to decide which idea is most likely to set them free. It is not just about being right for argument's sake. It is not about winning an intellectual debate. It is not about being politically correct. It is about deciding whose solution would really work. The right answer will be a matter of life and death. He chose the farmer's tried and proven solution.

Life puts us in situations similar to the pilot's. We often need more than an easy answer or a popular ideal. We need truth. Truth is not relative philosophy that is concocted in the academia. Truth is not determined by polls. Truth is what is real and right. It is something that wise men seek. Jesus said, "ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32)

Some people seek truth like they shop - they look for the Madison avenue ads or watch to see what everyone else is buying. To make matters worse, people are often made to feel ashamed of beliefs that don't fit the trends, the norms or the opinions of the noisy people in a culture. The results are not good.

Other people search for truth as if their eternal life depends on it. They do not seek truth so can feel superior to others. They are not trying to find it so others will approve them. They are not just trying to prove themselves right about their values and opinions. They are seeking the truths of life that have been long proven to make people free.

Just as scientists have discovered the acceleration of gravity, the boiling points of liquids and how the water cycle really works, believers have discovered inalienable truths that make people free. Perhaps that is why the core truths of Christianity have outlived so many world empires, so much anti-Christian bigotry, and so much persecution. For centuries people have been warned that the truths taught by Jesus are mythology. Some are shocked that they keep resurfacing. Truth resurfaces because it is true, not because it is politically, culturally or socially embraced.

Yankee ingenuity at the old Cat Hollow mill



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

I thought I'd share another tidbit that I discovered while reading the Bits and Pieces Notebook at the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center. The following was in an October 18, 1945 Windham County Transcript. "Yankee Ingenuity. An example of Yankee ingenuity was called to our attention this week by ex-State Officer Lionel Poirier, who now conducts a bottling business in the old 'Cat Hollow' mill, and after checking the details with Earl C. Hopkins, we are convinced that somewhere, somehow, someone has muffed another chance to perpetuate another chance to attract sightseers in years to come. The story goes that back in the early '70's (1870's) when the mill was one of three owned by Sabin and Harris Sayles and the woolen goods they made were delivered to Providence by mule team, the little mill in Cat Hollow had difficulty with the boiler and in order to get more draft for the fire the workers dug a tunnel to the top of the bank nearby and built a chimney at the top of the hill. About a month ago, when repairs were being made to the dam at the Killingly Worsted

Mill, workmen digging out the bank to get fill for the dam, struck into part of the old tunnel, which was built of field stones. The old brick chimney is gone and the sections of conduit must have disappeared when the present roadbed was laid but enough of the stone tunnel was visible in the bank to convince the diggers that the old story was based on fact. Too bad the old structure could not have been preserved. And by the way, if you are a stranger to these parts, just ask any native where Cat Hollow is and he will enlighten you by replying, 'Why right at the foot of Dog Hill.'" (If you are new to the area and still can't place the location, it's not far from the Dayville Post Office on Route 12 in the section of Killingly that was once referred to as Elmville).

Among the notebooks at the Center are articles that have been extracted from old Putnam Patriot newspapers. Unlike today, most contain little columns from around northeastern Connecticut. The May 31, 1889 Patriot had the following: "The Wildwood Park team went to Norwich Saturday afternoon to play a match game with the Stars of that city. They stopped playing at the seventh inning in order to catch the train home with a score against them of 19 to 2."

Playing baseball in Putnam was apparently challenging. "While viewing the ball game last Saturday afternoon, with

four or five hundred other persons enjoying the manly sport, the thought came to us once more that this town needs a park, in which a playground for the young people can be provided. That plot of ground is the only one that can be used, and for that they are indebted to the generosity of M. George M. Morse. It is not certain but that may soon be required for business purposes. But it is not suited for ball playing, as it lies too close to the river, so that annoyance and trouble are caused by balls getting in the water and lost every time a game is played."

The same issue reported that in Danielsonville "W. W. Woodwad has an alligator which was brought from Florida four years ago. It was then seven years old making it eleven now. As usually no one has been able to keep one of these saurians at the north over six months, Mr. Woodward feels justified in giving it the appellation 'acclimated alligator.'"

We are so fortunate to have access to modern medical treatments including inoculations against diseases that were once life-threatening. The June 7, 1889 Putnam Patriot reported, "On Monday several cases of diphtheria were developed in the upper village. The family of Mr. Edward Lamondy were the greatest sufferers. Five out of six children were attacked, and on Tuesday the youngest of the family died, and was buried on Wednesday. The schools in the Sixth district were greatly thinned out when the alarm

was given."

Since our weather has been so variable this month, I thought you'd enjoy some of these "storm proverbs" that were printed in the August 9, 1889 issue of the Putnam Patriot. "When oxen or sheep collect together as if they were seeking shelter, a storm may be expected. Domestic animals stand with their heads from the coming storm. Coals becoming alternately bright and dim indicate approaching storm. Fire always burns brighter and throws out more heat just before a storm, and is hotter during a storm. It is said that blacksmiths select a stormy day in which to perform work that requires extra heat. Distant sounds heard with distinctness during the day indicate rain. The weather usually moderates before a storm."

Since the Court House is a popular Putnam eatery, I thought you might find this item interesting. "Court House Block will be finished complete for use throughout by October 1st. All the stores are rented. One to the 'Five Cent Store', the second to Mrs. Breault, the third to Simon Farley, and the fourth to Page's news office. County clerk Seward has two rooms on the second story for his offices, the Royal Arcadium a handsome hall, and the rest are to be used for sessions of the Superior Court." (Putnam Patriot, September 6, 1889).

There must have been quite a storm shortly before the publication of that paper. Under the Attawaugan column, I found

the following: "The mills were stopped here all of last week on account of a big wash-out in the canal that runs from the pond to the wheel." A second paragraph read, "About 18 Italians were working on the canal Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights. The wash-out will be a great loss to the Attawaugan Company." "There were twelve teams drawing dirt to fill in the wash-out last Friday."

I love looking at old newspaper clippings since they reveal so much about the everyday happenings in the area. I'm sure I will be mentioning other such tidbits in the future.

The next meeting of the Genealogical Club at the Killingly Public Library will be Saturday, February 16 from 10-11 a.m. Even if you did not attend last month's session, feel free to come. Exchange information about the families on which you are working and talk about your "roadblocks."

Margaret M. Weaver
Killingly Municipal Historian,
February 2019. For additional
information email me at
margaretmweaver@gmail.com or
visit the Killingly Historical &
Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat.
10-4 or www.killinglyhistorical.org.
or call 860-779-7250. Like us
at Facebook at www.facebook.com/
killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for
the Killingly Historical & Genealogical
Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical
& Genealogical Center should be
sent to PO Box 265, Danielson,
Connecticut 06329.

5 ways to minimize portfolio taxes

If you are thinking about tax season already, you are not the only one. Tax efficiency is a part of any investment strategy and it is important to consider how it will fit into your entire financial picture. Our unique and strategic process considers your specific circumstances and builds a plan to help you achieve your financial goals with the end in mind: "Living Well."

Whether you have thought about it yet or not, follow along for the month of February to hear tax tips to help you Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well. Converting to a Roth, harvesting losses and bunching donations can minimize taxes.

For most investors, the importance of having a tax-efficient portfolio only becomes apparent when Uncle Sam presents them with a steep bill, something many taxpayers may be discovering now after the gains in last year's torrid stock market. But that's a bit like bolting the barn door after the horses have escaped. Instead, investors should consider tax efficiency every time they invest by holding that asset in the most appropriate savings vehicle.

Even then, a tax-efficient strategy may require periodic tweaks and changes, because tax laws evolve over time. In fact, tax-efficient portfolios require a forward-looking mindset, with investors having to think long-term to lay the groundwork for preserving future wealth.

Maximize tax-advantaged savings: If reducing your current tax liability is high on your to-do list, the first place to start is to maximize savings into employer-sponsored plans like 401(k)s and 403(b)s if those are available, says Paul Gaudio, senior vice president at Bryn Mawr Trust's Wealth Specialty Office in Princeton, New

Jersey. Contribution limits for 2018 are \$18,500, with the catch-up contribution for people over 50 an additional \$5,500, he says. "By all means, max those out," he says.

Traditional individual retirement accounts also allow investors to shelter \$5,500 a year from taxable income, and 2017 contributions can be made until April 17, making this one step you can take now to cut your tax bill. Taxes are due on 401(k), 403(b) and IRA money when it's withdrawn during retirement.

Consider a Roth IRA conversion: This move saves investors taxes in the future versus now. Investors can convert savings from a tax-deferred vehicle like a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA and enjoy tax-free withdrawals in retirement. Even investors whose income levels are too high to invest directly into a Roth can benefit from a conversion.

Under the new tax code, Roth conversions are permanent and can't be undone the way they could in the past. Still Roth conversions remain a good option for people who think their income tax bracket will be the same or higher in retirement. To convert traditional IRA savings into a Roth, investors must pay the income tax on the funds moving into the Roth with non-retirement savings; otherwise, using IRA money to pay the tax bill triggers a 10 percent penalty for people younger than 59½.

Consider a conversion when the traditional IRA has lost money because of stock market swings – that helps reduce the tax burden while converting, and when the market rebounds, those new earnings will now count as



FINANCIAL
FOCUS
.....
JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT
ADVISER

tax-free withdrawals in retirement. Also, when converting to a Roth, check the ceiling on your tax bracket so that you don't accidentally get pushed into a higher tax bracket.

If converting the entire account will push you into a higher tax bracket, or you can't afford to pay the income tax on the full amount with outside funds, do a partial conversion.

Harvest your losses: No one likes to lose money, but those losses can offset taxes on gains from other investments. Tax-loss harvesting requires selling a money-losing investment to reduce capital gains elsewhere. Investors can use losses to reduce up to \$3,000 of ordinary income per year. Use market swings to take advantage of this strategy while remaining invested, says Ivan Hernandez co-founder of Omnia Family Wealth in Aventura, Florida.

"You haven't gotten out of the market, but you've locked in a loss and you are still completely participating in whatever may happen in the market," Hernandez says. "It may go down more; it will return up. But that loss is like this little gem that you can use to offset a future gain to reposition the portfolio."

Place assets in a tax-appropriate account: The type of account where the assets are held is just as important from a tax perspective as what you hold. When constructing a diversified portfolio, give some thought to whether an asset belongs in a taxable brokerage account or in a tax-deferred account. Hernandez calls asset location the «low-hanging fruit» when

investors are trying to optimize their tax efficiency.

Put stocks you plan to hold for more than a year, mutual funds with a low turnover rate and municipal bonds in taxable accounts, says Tammy Surratt, president of Legacy Family Office in Estero, Florida.

Use tax-deferred accounts for short-term holdings, like stocks you may not hold for a year that otherwise would be taxed as short-term capital gains, which have a higher rate. Income-producing investments like real estate investment trusts also belong in a tax-deferred account, she says. If REITs are held in a taxable account, the cash flow they generate will be taxed as income.

Plan well: In order for you to be able to maximize your investment profits, it will take a lot of careful planning based on your needs, goals, and overall circumstances so you may achieve your "Live Well" hopes and dreams. Visit www.whzwealth.com/resources to view an exclusive checklist on choosing an accountant.

Presented by James Zahansky, AWMA, researched through 2019 U.S. News & Money. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. 697 Pomfret Street, Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860.928.2341. www.whzwealth.com. Neither Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors nor Commonwealth provide tax or legal advice. You should consult a legal or tax professional regarding your individual situation as all investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal, and there can be no assurance that any investment strategy will be successful.

Eastford plant leveled by a fire

When I was growing up in Eastford, I was blessed with a big sand pile (fine sand, the best sand, from Charlie Clarke's Sandbanks), hand dug and shoveled into the back of my grandfather's 1951 International L-130 dump truck. The same truck that I now see holds the signage for Ross Recycling scrapyard on Rt 44 heading out of Putnam (breaks my heart to see the old truck put out to pasture, but it has memories for me). The sand for my sand pile was deposited one shovel-full at a time; at my residence located at Old Colony Road, Eastford. The sand banks are all gone now, but I have fond memories of them.

While playing with my wide variety of Tonka trucks (I had about all of them); grader, dump trucks, earth scraper, cement mixers, T-9 dozer, pay-loader, roller, cranes, etc.; I

have a memory of playing in the sandpile at night because on that night was as bright as day. It was the evening of Thursday, June 7th, 1973. I was 8 years old. The sky that night was bright as day because the Tatem Mill was on fire, and even though the mill was a quarter mile away, it seemed that the whole of Eastford was burning down. There was so much excitement, apparently my mother was distracted enough to let me slip away. I discreetly went outside and played in my sand pile with my Tonka trucks at 2:00 am in the morning. The event that enabled this moment in time is as follows:

Taken from the Windham County Observer- Putnam Patriot (13 June. 1973. P.19 (Fire Razes Plant in Eastford): "The woodworking plant at Tatem Manufacturing



QUIET
CORNER
MEMORIES
.....
ASA
SCRANTON

Company Route 198. Eastford was leveled by a fire early Thursday. The fire, which started about 1 a.m. in the plant's lacquer room, had gained such headway that the Eastford Volunteer Fire Department was unable to save the main building. Under the mutual aid system, detachments from Bungay Fire Brigade, Muddy Brook Fire Department, and Woodstock Hill Fire Department, all of Woodstock and men and apparatus from Union, Brooklyn, and Dayville departments assisted in firefighting efforts.

A total of 17 pieces of apparatus and about 70 men fought the blaze and kept it from spreading to nearby buildings. The fire finally was considered out about noon Thursday, nearly 11 hours after it started.

The company employs about 55 persons, many of whom live in Eastford. The second shift had left the plant shortly before the fire broke out. Electric power for Eastford Center was cut off for about an hour during the height of the blaze. Telephone communications also were cut for a time. Thursday's fire was the third in the company's more than 100-year history. Fires leveled the plant in 1910 and again in 1929."

I remember the excitement and joy of unattended playing in my sand pile as the night burned like day. I was young and naive back then. Nero (I)

played, while Rome (Eastford) burned, that day. I will never forget that.

Structure fires (like cancer) happen suddenly and are always life changing; and change who we are, and our neighborhoods. Mill fires were commonplace in the early days (1700s, 1800s, into the 1900s), and can even happen today. The towns within our Quiet Corner were built around the mills, some of which remain to this day as a testament to our past, fortitude, and perseverance.

I never know where my pen will lead me. My pen led me to this story today.

Asa Scranton lives in Woodstock. Do you remember the Quiet Corner of yesteryear? Send us your memories to share with our readers. Memories@VillagerNewspapers.com

ComicCon at Pomfret Public Library

POMFRET — Pomfret Public Library held a very successful ComicCon on Saturday, Feb. 2. Children came from all over the Quiet Corner dressed up in cosplay to take part in a parade. There were also comic drawing workshops and various geek-themed crafts and activities taking place throughout the day.



Rufus Teixeira with his son Joaquin, 5.5 years, dressed up as Ghost Busters.



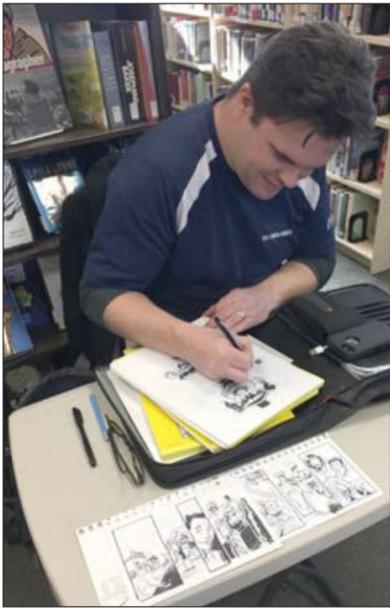
Wonderland Comics owner Zachery diPalma and Paul Dysinger sold some comic books and plushes.



Hazel and Orin Thurlow in exceptional home-made Invader Zim and Gir cosplays.



The event included craft projects.



Matt Ryan of Free Lunch Studios hosted a comic drawing workshop, represented by Connecticut Humanity.



Dante Picchieri mastering some cup stacking.



Pomfret Public Library's ComicCon included a lot of arts projects.



Yvon N'Chonon with his daughter Melodie, dressed up as Wonder Woman.

Youth art program at Thompson Library

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — Painting lessons paired with wine have become quite popular in the Quiet Corner, and now a tween and teen-friendly version is coming to Thompson Public Library. The younger crowd can sip on sparkling juice while learning the fun and fascinating techniques of paint pouring.

On Feb. 23 Sarah Zabka will be hosting the "Paint & Sip" program, beginning at 11 a.m., for children fifth grade and up. Zabka is the artist behind the library's January show, featuring her whimsical paint pouring creations.

Ending on Feb. 14, Zabka said she sold 10 pieces in that one month.

"It was amazing," she said. "I was in disbelief. I still am. But it's an incredible feeling. It makes me want to do it more."

And now, Zabka is bringing her paint pouring knowledge to tweens and teens

at the library.

One of the techniques she will be teaching the teens is the "dirty flip" technique. First, you select your desired colors. Then you select your pouring medium. You stir the paint, and layer it in a cup. You can pour it out slowly or completely flip the cup.

"You don't need a lot of skill, really," she said. "Yet, the kids will be creating something really beautiful, but it's not a stressful process. It's not about doing it right or wrong. You can't do it wrong. They love it because you can't go wrong. No matter what, you get a nice image. And you can always add more paint and try again. Once they have the technique down, they can try it again with different colors."

Zabka loves teaching paint pouring because she loves seeing the smiles on everyone's faces. People often come up to her after a class to thank her for all the fun they had.

"It's so gratifying to see everyone's

joy," she said.

It's especially exciting to teach to tweens and teens, who get a lot of benefit out of library programs. According to Zabka, it's a great way to give them something constructive to do and get them out of the house. But it also makes them feel really good inside.

Zabka first started paint pouring nine months ago. She happened across a video on YouTube and was immediately curious.

"I thought it was beautiful and wanted to try it myself," she said.

For Zabka, paint pouring is all about creating something very unique and learning a lot of fun techniques.

For more information, or to sign up, call (860) 923-9779.

Olivia Richman may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 112 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com



Jan May, as Belle, greeted guests. Pictured with Library Director Laurie Bell, dressed up as General Leia.

HANSON

continued from page A8

Throughout history some cultures have discovered incontrovertible truths such as the 10 commandments and prosperity and freedom ensued to whatever extent they lived by those truths. Most of those same cultures have also experienced a decline when the people convince themselves to try cheap substitutes and counterfeits. My prayer is that our culture will choose to seek truth rather than arbitrarily deciding what they think is best, because truth makes free.

Bishop John W Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. For more information please visit www.ActsII.org.

EAR

continued from page A1

have been an emotional change for Sansoucy. It may seem small, but she said she never heard her refrigerator running until she was fitted for hearing aids.

"I wish I could make people understand how important being able to hear is, how much it impacts everything," said Sweezy. "It's a really good feeling to make such an important difference in people's lives."

For a lot of people, said Sweezy, something is holding them back from coming in for a hearing test. Sometimes people don't want to admit they need hearing aids. They may feel it's a sign of aging, or not be able to afford the hearing aids.

"But it's important to know where you stand," she said. "Hearing aids are so different than they used to be. They're discreet and the sound quality is amazing."

The people chosen by The Foundation are picked based on need. When Sweezy has someone come in who can't hear well, but can't financially make it work, she will start looking into how she can help them, including applying to The Foundation.

Sansoucy is excited by her new ability to hear things clearly. She currently runs bingo on Friday nights and Wii bowling on Monday nights at the Ella Grasso Apartments. She also loves doing jigsaw puzzles and staying active.

Olivia Richman may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 112 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com



Heather Reilly and Kim Mather teamed up as a Pokemon trainer and her Butterfree.

www.ConnecticutQuietCorner.com

Fire and Ice Festival in Putnam

PUTNAM — Fire & Ice Festival on Saturday, Feb. 9 saw Main Street packed with hat and glove-clad families and couples, fighting through the chilly weather to watch live ice carving demonstrations.



Olivia Richman photos

Guests watched live ice sculpting demonstrations done by artistic individuals and local artists.



Josh Deojay creates Green Lantern's power battery outside of Wonderland Comics.



An ice bar had people laughing and drinking outside of The Courthouse.



A handmade dragon and other medieval-themed designs decorated the festive Montgomery Ward building. People could even get their photos taken on a giant throne.



Outside of Jeremiah's Antiques, Rick Dubre works on a wolf made of ice.



"It's a lot of fun here," said Paige, Liam, Greyson, and Ryan Tully. "We come every year."



Gloria Profetto and David Burbin were prepared for the winter weather.



"This is great!" said Liz Dillis and Jennifer Smith, who had fun browsing the shops.



Trista, Tayliana, Joel, and Tenzen Iozzo check out the festival.



Nicole Aghjayan, and Christie and Jackson Sheldon loved the sculptures.

Villager Newspapers COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

"Shining a light on community events"

February 16, Sat., 11am-3pm

Paws Cat Shelter at Pet Valu, 538 Providence Road, Brooklyn. Our volunteers will be at Pet Valu in Brooklyn with information about Paws Cat Shelter. Learn about fostering, adopting, volunteering, fundraising, & our Community Outreach efforts. Meet some of our cats and talk to some of our awesome volunteers! We'll also be accepting donations! (Give your dog a bath in the dog wash station while you're there!)



February 22, Fri., noon-8pm

Club 2087 will hold a fish fry from in its hall at 1017 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale. Fish and chips (\$10); baked haddock or fried shrimp (\$11); fried scallops (\$12, \$15); fried clams (\$16); seafood platter (\$17), and more. 860-923-2967, council2087@gmail.com.

February 23, 5:30pm

Killingly Grange presents a ham and bean dinner, followed by an exciting bluegrass event. Dinner is at 5:30 for \$8, followed by Nick Anderson, Shady Creek, and 81 South starting at 7pm for \$12. At the corner of Dog Hill and Hartford Pike in Dayville. Come eat and listen to some great music.

February 23, Sat., 10am-2pm

Home-made soups to go and bake sale at Oneco United Methodist Church, 1128 Plainfield Pike (Rt. 14A). Storm date March 2. For more info call 860-564-4126

February 23, Sat., 7-8:30am

The Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund (SSMF) assistance is available this Saturday and every Saturday morning, at the Pomfret Senior Center, 207 Mashamoquet Road (Rt.44) in Pomfret. Always free and confidential; call 860-928-2309 for questions. (The SSMF is administered by the American Legion to provide temporary financial assistance to qualified veterans.)

February 23, Sat., 10:30-11:30am

Wee Wander with Wyndham Land Trust-Nature Loving at Lyon Preserve Lyon Preserve, end of Wrights Crossing Rd, just off Route 101, Pomfret. (take immediate right onto the preserve just after you cross the bridge over the Mashamoquet Brook) Eagles and hawks are frequent flyers here. Snacks & fresh air are free!

February 16, Sat., 9:30-11am

Bring your kids to learn all about the Lunar New Year, what the pig represents this year, and how the Chinese celebrate the holiday. Students from Woodstock Academy will be sharing facts and doing 2 fun crafts. No need to register...just bring your kids for a fun-filled morning! Bracken Memorial Library, 57 Academy Road, Woodstock.

February 17, Sun., 2-4pm

Visit the Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp Open HHHouse 326 Taft Pond Road, Pomfret. Meet the director & other camp staff, take a camp tour, registration materials available.

February 19, Tues. 6:30 pm

Book Club at the West Woodstock Library, 5 Bungay Hill Connector, Woodstock. Join us to discuss The Orchardist by Amanda Coplin.

February 20, Wed., 7pm

Bingo every Wednesday night at St. James, 12 Franklin Street, Danielson. Proceeds benefit St. James School.

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 Stohberg at 860-928-1818 ext. 105,
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Deadline for submission is Friday at Noon

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Toying around in Putnam

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

PUTNAM — Skeeter's Toybox opened up their doors in October, and held their official ribbon cutting on December 1, welcoming the community into their two-floor toy emporium. Located on Main Street, the new store is owned by David Bielski, who has been enjoying the Putnam community and its residents.

"I was looking for a nice, quaint downtown," he said. "When I got here, the people were already waiting to shop local for toys. They've all made the experience really worthwhile."

Bielski spoke about his passion for play and what it takes to pick out the perfect toy.

How would you describe your store?

The best way to describe my store is just slow, unplugged toys. Toys that have a flavor of yesteryear. Most things don't need batteries here. And they certainly don't need a screen or an app. It's back to basics. I always try to make sure there is play space in the store, so children can have an experience, try out the toy.

Why focus on these kinds of toys?

Having dealt with my own cell phone addiction, and then watching younger people try to cope with that as well and not really understanding why it's an issue... I think parents have also started looking for something that's not



Olivia Richman photos

"I want a generation of children who can explore on their own, without following a script," said David Bielski, owner of Skeeter's Toybox.

mass produced. I have access to a lot of specialty brands. I can find wooden toys, soft dolls, things that aren't tied to a larger franchise or a Hollywood character.

What were you doing before you opened your toy store?

I was a database administrator. But LEGOs were my outlet. I always had a soft spot for toy robots.

Why LEGOs?

I've always had LEGOs, since I was four. I love being able to create something without anyone telling me what to create. I'll buy a LEGO City set to have a nice bus or truck. But I'll create my own downtown. I like that about LEGOs.

And robots?

Blame Voltron. The open-ended story of going off into space. There's just a sense of adventure there.

You mentioned loving LEGOs because of its open-ended play style. Do you feel that a lot of modern toys are missing that sense of imagination and open-ended possibility?

It's my impression that a lot of parents may enroll children in a lot of activities, or give them a toy that may have limited possibilities. I want a generation of children who can explore on their own, without following a script. Some of the best minds out there have creativity. Painting. In a band. Telling a story. These are people who think more outside the box and can solve problems more effectively. They're not restricted by boundaries, like 'This is He Man and he only battles Skeletor.' They can have a doll be whatever they want it to be. That's key to child development, but it's something we've been missing for a little while.

So you feel that having these old-fashioned toys allow for more

storytelling during playtime. How do you pick out which toys to include in your collection?

It's one part things that I relate to, but it's also one part what other people relate to. I have a social media presence, and I'll ask people what they like or what they look for. That's how we ended up bringing Calico Critters in. They're collectible clothed animal figures for doll houses.

Before the interview, you mentioned Foxes being a popular trend right now. Do you try to follow these toy trends?

I try not to jump on trendy things. It's mostly trial and error. I may pick a set of plush animals that I think are cute, but if the foxes sell, I'd buy more of them. Some things just come upon by accident. Those are usually happy accidents.

What are you working on right now? What's next?

We want to continue to explore other avenues, for example someone asked about Bruder Trucks today. I want to try and have something different in here every month. I also want to have some in-store demos for First Fridays coming up.

Olivia Richman may be reached at (860) 928-1818, ext. 112 or by e-mail at olivia@stonebridgepress.com

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BROOKLYN

Tuesday, Feb. 19

P&Z, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall
Wednesday, Feb. 20
Board of Finance, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Thursday, Feb. 21

Emergency Management and Homeland Security, 7 p.m., Town Hall

PUTNAM

Tuesday, Feb. 19

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

Thursday, Feb. 21

Municipal Complex Building Committee, 6 p.m., Town Hall
POMFRET

ZBA, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Tuesday, Feb. 19

Board of Selectmen, 8 a.m., Town Hall

Wednesday, Feb. 20

P&Z, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Thursday, Feb. 21

Agriculture Commission, 7 p.m., Town Hall

KILLINGLY/DANIELSON

Tuesday, Feb. 19
Special Solid Waste, 6 p.m., Town Hall

PZC, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Housing Authority, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Wednesday, Feb. 20
Water Pollution Control Authority, 6 p.m., Town Hall

Charter Revision, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall

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

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

KCC, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Thursday, Feb. 21

HDC, 7 p.m., Town Hall

Friday, Feb. 22

NE CT Council of Governments, 8:30 a.m., Town Hall

EASTFORD

Tuesday, Feb. 19

Special Board of Selectmen, 6:30 p.m., Town Office Building

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

Wednesday, Feb. 20

Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Town Office Building



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Killingly girls sneak into state tourney



Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly High's Trinity Angel shoots against Stonington last Friday, Feb. 8.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
 VILLAGER EDITOR

DAYVILLE — Sometimes it’s good to be sneaky. Eight wins are required to guarantee a berth in the state tournament but Killingly High will squeeze into the Class L state tourney with just six wins because a slew of teams in that division did not reach the eight-victory plateau. The 32-team bracket must be filled. Coach Gina Derosier makes no apologies for sneaking in.

“You get the privilege of playing in these games, you might as well try to make a splash and see where you can go from that,” Derosier said. “Yeah, we are a lower seed and we are going to face a high seed but I think it’s an absolute privilege. We hit one of our goals, which was to make the state tournament. We didn’t do it in the way I would like to have. But we still made it. So that says a lot for my girls.”

The Redgals finished the regular season with a record of 6-14 and will likely be seeded 30th in Class L. Killingly will travel to play one of the top teams in the tourney and it will be a challenge. Coach Derosier expects some stiff competition but the tournament experience should benefit her young team.

“It’s a matter of keeping the girls’ heads on their shoulders. It’s not going into a game expecting to get whacked by 60 points. We’re going to go down to Bridgeport,

Wallingford — wherever we’re going to go — but the girls have to have an expectation that you have to play the game,” Derosier said. “Yeah, one (seed) against 32 isn’t ideal but it’s why you play the game. Crazy things have happened.”

Among the key players on the Redgals youthful roster are junior forward Trinity Angel, freshman guard Emma Carpenter, sophomore guard Abbie Burgess, sophomore forward Grace Nichols, sophomore center Maddie Sumner, freshman guard Sage Lamparelli, and freshman guard Makala Dube. All those players are expected back next season. Angel recently returned to the lineup after missing four games and Burgess joined the team two-thirds into the season after concentrating on winter-season soccer.

“It’s nice to have a full bench. We have 10 girls now on varsity which is huge for us. We haven’t that many in a very long time,” Derosier said. “Having Trinity (Angel) back, having Abbie (Burgess), she brings a different element to the team because we didn’t have her all year — her quickness, her speed, her defense, it’s unmatched really. Having Trinity back is huge too because not only does it provide a little more offense for us but it provides a little bit more stability and confidence in my girls.”

While a deep run in the state tourney might be an uphill climb, the finish of this season serves as pre-

lude to next season.

“Obviously you look ahead to the future. You have good things coming up. However, we do have the rest of the season to play. For me, we still have to do the little things, it’s getting on the floor for a loose ball. It’s taking a charge. It’s beating them back on defense. It’s getting a hand on the shooter. It’s playing hard defense. I expect that of my girls,” Derosier said. “If we can do the little things the big things will take care of themselves.”

Killingly will continue to work hard in practice regardless of their chances in the state tourney.

“We do a defensive drill every single practice, our shell drill, from day one until day 90. It comes down to defense for me. It comes down to working hard,” Derosier said.

The Redgals closed out the regular season with a 49-24 loss at Windham on Monday, Feb. 11. Killingly fell to Stonington High 72-30 at Killingly High last Friday, Feb. 8. Kate Johnson and Miranda Arruda each scored 15 points for the Bears (15-3). Sumner scored eight points, Angel tallied seven and Carpenter scored six points for the Redgals. The play-downs round of the Class M state tournament are set for Feb. 21 through Feb. 23 and the first round of the tourney is slated to begin on Feb. 26.

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

Down to the wire for Killingly boys

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
 VILLAGER EDITOR

DAYVILLE — Luke Desaulnier and his Killingly High teammates can’t be accused of rushing into anything. The Redmen needed just eight victories this season to qualify for the Division 4 state tournament. They have waited until their final regular-season game to try and lock up a berth in the tourney.

“Last couple games you start thinking it’s the last time I’m going to play basketball possibly and it just kicks you kind of into gear,” said Desaulnier, a senior guard.

The gears need to be turning at Bacon Academy on Friday night in a must-win game. Coach Jim Crabtree wished that urgency would have kicked in a couple of months ago.

“They don’t understand how much those games mean in December. You get 20 of them in a season and they’re all important. Sometimes they take for granted who we can beat, who we can’t, we play good against better teams than us and then we take nights off and lose games that we’re supposed to win,” Crabtree said.

By now the coach expected to have his tourney ticket signed, sealed, and delivered — but postseason postage is still due.

“I’m just happy that they decided not to mail it in yet this year,” Crabtree said.

They’ve spent more than a few games spinning their wheels — unable to put together 32 minutes of basketball. It almost happened again on Monday night against Lyman Memorial — the Redmen fell behind the Bulldogs 16-4 in the first quarter before rallying.

“Backed ourselves into a corner, wanted to play one minute of basketball and then take six or seven minutes off and then find ourselves down 16-4. It looked like we were telling me ‘Maybe we’ve had enough.’ And then something happened in the timeout, we talked,” Crabtree said. “Some guys stepped up and called out their teammates. And now we’ve got a chance.”

Killingly clawed back and took care of business in its next-to-last regular-season game against the Bulldogs on Feb. 11, knocking off Lyman Memorial 65-55 at Killingly High’s gymnasium.

“It was win or go home. We put ourselves in this situation with two games left, we needed two wins,” said

Crabtree.

Killingly junior guard Shayne Bigelow led Killingly with 25 points and Desaulnier added 15 points. Zack Dunnack scored 19 points for Lyman Memorial (11-7). The win against the Bulldogs kept the Redmen (7-12) in the hunt for a state tourney berth.

“At this point in the season every game is a playoff game for us,” Desaulnier said.

Trailing Lyman by five points at halftime, 33-28, Killingly outscored the Bulldogs 21-8 in the third quarter to take control.

“We turned up the defense. We hedged on screens better. We finally respected what the scouting report was,” Crabtree said. “I’ve got to give them credit. They answered the call when it was time.”

Killingly travels to Bacon Academy this Friday, Feb. 15, with its postseason hopes hanging in the balance. The Redmen defeated Bacon 62-53 in their first meeting on Jan. 15. Desaulnier expects the Redmen’s gears to mesh from the opening tipoff.

“I’ll be ready to go. We don’t win we’re going to be all done,” Desaulnier said. “Guys just got to step up. If we do that we can play with anyone.”

Bacon Academy has not won a game over its first 18 contests this season but coach Crabtree is taking nothing for granted.

“It’s not going to be easy. When we go in there they’re probably still going to have the goose egg in the win column. Every team that has the goose egg scares me. You know they’re going to fight for that one win before the season ends,” Crabtree said. “I hope we just don’t go down there and think we can just go through the motions.”

Desaulnier and his teammates can’t be accused of rushing into anything. They’ll be no need to hurry if they can’t beat the Bobcats this Friday night.

“If anybody wants to enjoy the post-season, the young guys want to enjoy it for the first time, or the seniors want to go out with a little bit of extra basketball, they’ll let me know early,” Crabtree said. “I would hope I shouldn’t have to say too much when we get on the bus and head down to Bacon.”

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



Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly’s Nsaih Harriet, white jersey, battles Lyman Memorial’s Cody Hyburg for a rebound on Monday, Feb. 11, at Killingly High School.

Putnam High teetering as postseason nears



Charlie Lentz photo

Putnam High's Sebastian Ramos shoots in traffic against Lyman Memorial on Feb. 7.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

PUTNAM — Forrest Gump's mother once said "life was like a box of chocolates. You never know what you're gonna get" — Putnam High coach Shawn Deary can relate. Deary couldn't count on a stable lineup down the stretch as the Clippers scrambled to secure a playoff berth for the Division 5 state tournament.

"It's high school basketball. It's a coaching

carousel on a roller coaster. It's up and down. It's good. It's bad," Deary said "When you think it's one thing it's another."

At various junctures this season a slew of key players have missed playing time and games because of injuries and other factors including senior guard Hunter Touchette, junior guard Ezaviar Key, senior guard Kobie Bates, and 6-foot-3 senior center Ty Harris.

"We lost Ezaviar for

the last two weeks, he's coming back tomorrow, that will help. Ty wasn't here tonight. Bates got sick," Deary said.

The Clippers were without Harris and Key against Lyman Memorial on Feb. 7. Harris's inside presence was missed as the Bulldogs dominated the backboards in a 60-40 victory over the Clippers at Putnam High School. The loss dropped Putnam's record to 7-10 with three games remaining in the regular season.



Charlie Lentz photo

Putnam High's Colby Livingston drives against Lyman Memorial on Feb. 7.

Eight wins are needed to gain a berth in the state tournament. The longer it takes to qualify the more pressure is attached to each game.

"We talk about it all the time, being able to get eight (wins) and coast into 12 if you really can scum in. But at this point in time we've got to look for eight," Deary said. "Our focus every game is one game at a time."

After the loss to Lyman Memorial Putnam needed to secure one win over its last three games (against Windham, Cheney Tech, or Wheeler) to qualify for the tourney. Putnam traveled to Cheney Tech on Thursday, Feb. 14, and then closes out its regular season at home against Wheeler on Friday, Feb. 15, with tipoff scheduled for 7 p.m. at Putnam High.

The Clippers trailed Lyman Memorial by six points, 29-23, at half

time. Lyman Memorial outscored Putnam 18-5 in the third quarter to put the game away. Zach Dunnack scored 19 points and Dylan Lucey added 18 points for the Bulldogs (11-5).

"We came out really hot. Played really well in the first, hoping that we could push through it, unfortunately ran out of gas early," Deary said. Senior guard Sebastian Ramos scored a game-high 23 points. Ramos scored 14 points in the first quarter including dropping four three-pointers as the Clippers led 18-14 after one quarter. But no other Clipper scored in double figures for the game.

"Seb's a great athlete and a great basketball player but once they start to key on him we need somebody else to step so that heat can come off Seb again and he can find it again," Deary said. "Unfortunately

nobody else was really on tonight."

The Clippers will likely be seeded toward the bottom the bottom of the 32-team bracket if they qualify for the state tourney and would face a top team in Division 5 in the opening round. Like his mix-and-match lineup this season — the state tournament will also be a box of chocolates.

"You never know until you get there how you match up against whoever it's going to be," Deary said. "Basketball's a game of matchups. Maybe it's a bunch of guards and we play bad. Or maybe it's a couple of bigs that we can go around. We'll get there. First we've got to cross the bridge to get to it."

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

Woodstock boys qualify for state tourney

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock Academy senior guard Chase Anderson breathed a sigh of relief after scoring 18 points in the Centaurs 69-57 victory over Fitch last Saturday at Alumni Fieldhouse. Anderson could exhale not only because he helped deflate the Falcons but because the win was Woodstock's eighth this season and

earned it a berth in the Division 4 state tournament.

"It's nice to know that we're here," Anderson said. "Coach told us before the game this is the biggest game of the year so far because we need eight to get to states. This was a big win and our first real win of the season against a really good team."

The victory raised Woodstock's record to 8-8 with four games remaining

in its regular season. Eight wins were needed to guarantee a slot in the D-4 tourney bracket. The victory takes the heat off the Centaurs and allows them to focus on lifting their record over the final four games so they can improve their seeding for the state tournament.

"It's exciting for the team. I feel like we can be very competitive in that Division 4 tournament," said Woodstock coach Marty Hart. "We're glad we got eight. We're glad to get it done. But we want to improve our seeding by finishing out the season strong."

Anderson was also encouraged because last Saturday's win avenged a 78-56 loss at Fitch back on Jan. 10.

"We lost to them by 22 points last game. We just came today prepared," Anderson said. "Our main focus was to attack inside. We did that. We came out with the victory. The intensity was better. We were just motivated."

Coach Hart said they put together 32 minutes in the rematch against Fitch on Feb. 9.

"There's four quarters of basketball and a couple bounces one way or the other in a quarter can stack up," Hart said. "For us today we really talked about locating their shooters and then transitioning back on fast break. We held them to contested shots and then we flooded the area with rebounders and the guys worked hard."

Senior forward Cole Hackett added 13 points and senior guard Aaron Johnson added 11 points in Woodstock's win over Fitch. Senior guard Kiev Lucas scored a game-high 21 points for Fitch (9-7).

Woodstock is next scheduled to play at Ellington on Friday, Feb. 18. The Centaurs close out the regular season at Waterford on Monday, Feb. 18. Coach Hart said they need to keep up the intensity they displayed against Fitch.

"Talent will only get you so far. You're going to have to bring hard work and intensity with it. I'm really happy with how hard the guys are working together at the right time of year," Hart said.

The play-down round of the Division 4 state tournament begins on March 1 and the first round of the tourney is slat-

ed to begin on March 4. The Centaurs have qualified for the postseason after navigating a tough Eastern Connecticut Conference schedule and Anderson looked forward to getting more wins in the Division 4 state tourney.

"No disrespect to the teams (in Division 4) but we play much tougher competition and hopefully this just makes us more prepared for the state tournament," Anderson said.

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



Charlie Lentz photo

Woodstock's Aaron Johnson hangs before releasing a shot against Fitch on Saturday, Feb. 9, at Alumni Fieldhouse.



Charlie Lentz photo

Woodstock's Luke Mathewson shoots against Fitch last Saturday.

Tigers on the bubble for Class S tourney



Charlie Lentz photo

Tourtellotte's Lauren Ramos shoots against St. Bernard.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

THOMPSON — Seniors Mary Steglitz and Lauren Ramos had never seen Tourtellotte coach Carla Faucher more focused. Perhaps that's because time was running down in a tightly contested game against St. Bernard and time was running

out on the Tigers' hopes for a berth in the Class S state tournament. "She was very intense," said Steglitz, Tourtellotte's senior center. "She's been intense this whole season. She really wants us to get that win to get into states. I love when she gets intense. It really hypes

the team up."

Tourtellotte was nursing a two-point lead against the Saints last Friday, Feb. 8, with just over two minutes left in its next-to-last game of the regular season. Going into the game the team was ranked No. 31 in Class S but had only six wins — Tourtellotte needed a win to stay in the hunt for a berth in the 32-team bracket for the state tourney. Ramos understood her coach's focus when the clock was running down.

"The last couple timeouts she was pretty intense," Ramos said.

With time running out and leading by just two points, 19-17, Tourtellotte had possession beneath its own basket and set up a crucial inbounds play. Senior guard Brianna Loffredo inbounded the basketball to Ramos in the lane and she sank the bucket to put the Tigers up 21-17 with 2:05 left.

"That was a great play. Actually we were just going over that play yesterday in practice and our coach said don't look at the first option all time — see her cutting down because I'm usually open and we never see it," Ramos said. "And we were able to pull it off on the one inbound."

Junior guard Ashley Morin iced the win for the Tigers, sinking a driving bucket with 50 seconds left to complete the scoring in Tourtellotte's 23-19 victory over St. Bernard at Canty Gymnasium on Feb. 8.

Faucher could be heard throughout Canty Gymnasium exhorting

her players down the stretch.

"I want it so much for them and I'm trying to give them my sense of intensity out on the court," Faucher said. "We're definitely playing a lot better. We make some mental mistakes here and there but I think we're in a good spot."

Not exactly an offensive explosion against St. Bernard but the singular win was the only number that mattered.

"It was so low scoring but I think just both teams really came out tonight and put it out on defense," Ramos said.

Ramos led Tourtellotte with 13 points, 17 rebounds, and eight steals. Morin finished with eight points. Sophia Boras led St. Bernard with seven points. Tourtellotte finished its regular season with a 45-32 loss at Montville on Monday, Feb. 11. After completing its regular season the Tigers had a 7-13 record and were ranked 32nd in Class S. If that ranking holds the Tigers will earn a berth in the state tourney.

The Tigers avenged a 37-27 loss to St. Bernard on Jan. 10 and if they had not won the rematch their tourney hopes would have dimmed.

"We lost to them (St. Bernard) down there. We knew it was going to be a close game. They came out a little bit slow but we put them away and then we have Montville, that could just seal it but it's going to be another tough game," Faucher said. "This will help boost their confidence."



Charlie Lentz photo

Tourtellotte's Ashley Morin gets off a shot against St. Bernard last Friday, Feb. 8, at Canty Gymnasium.

Steglitz badly wants the state tourney berth.

"It was my goal to get in. I did not want to stay home at all. I really wanted to get into the state tournament," Steglitz said. "We're playing so much better than we did at the beginning of the season. I'm really proud of this team. The chemistry on this team has grown so much since the beginning of the season."

While Tourtellotte's win over the St. Bernard (7-13) did not guarantee the Tigers a berth in the tourney it solidified their ranking. After her big bucket on an inbounds play Ramos was holding

on to hope that the win over St. Bernard will help her finish out her senior season with a chance to play in the Class S state tournament.

"It's huge to end in states. I really don't care if we make it through the first round. I just want to make it there and end on a good note because it's always huge to finish the season in states," Ramos said.

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

HIGH SCHOOL ROUNDUP

PUTNAM 50, ST. BERNARD 29

UNCASVILLE — The Putnam High girls defeated the Saints on Monday, Feb. 11, and the victory secured at least a share of the Eastern Connecticut Conference Division IV regular season championship with Montville. The Lady Clippers were led on offense by Kayleigh Lyons (14 points), Molly McKeon (12 points) and Laylah Chavez and Abby St. Martin each with nine points. Lindsey Clement and Taryn Bellinger were high scorers for the Saints with 11 and 10 points respectively. The loss dropped St. Bernard's record to 7-13. The win lifted Putnam's record to 15-4.

NFA 60, WOODSTOCK 35

NORWICH — Katie Papp scored 11 points for Woodstock in girls basketball

on Feb. 11. Sarah Ericson led Norwich Free Academy with 13 points. The win lifted NFA's record to 10-9. The loss dropped Woodstock Academy's record to 10-10.

MONTVILLE 45, TOURTELLOTTE 32

MONTVILLE — Tourtellotte Memorial's Lauren Ramos scored 16 points, grabbed 17 rebounds, and made six steals in the Tigers loss to Montville in girls basketball on Monday, Feb. 11. For Tourtellotte: Ashley Morin had 13 points, four rebounds and two assists; Brianna Loffredo notched four points, with five rebounds and one steal; Emily Angelo dished six assists and had two steals. The win lifted Montville's record to 12-8. The loss dropped Tourtellotte's record to 7-13.

STONINGTON 50, WOODSTOCK 34

STONINGTON — Heather Converse scored 10 points in Woodstock Academy's loss to the Bears in girls basketball on Feb. 9. Miranda Arruda led Stonington with 12 points. The win lifted the Bears record to 16-3.

ELLIS TECH 35, PRINCE TECH 23

DANIELSON — Vивиanna St. Jean and Kalista Lovely each scored nine points and Breeanna Bentley added eight points in the Golden Eagles win over Prince Tech in girls basketball on Feb. 8 at Ellis Tech. Ashley Avila led Prince Tech with 14 points. The win lifted Ellis Tech's record to 7-13. The loss dropped Prince Tech's to 12-6.

WETHERSFIELD 48, WOODSTOCK 45

WETHERSFIELD — Heather

Converse scored 17 points and Kayla Gaudreau added 13 in Woodstock Academy's loss to Wethersfield in girls basketball on Feb. 8. Isabella Samse and Alice Kelly each scored 12 points for Wethersfield (14-5).

WOODSTOCK GYMNASTICS

DANIELSON — Woodstock Academy defeated Killingly/Putnam/Tourtellotte co-op 144.8-131.6 in a meet on Feb. 11 at Deary's Gymnastics. Woodstock's Lydia Taft placed first in vault (9.55), floor (9.45), bars (9.4) and beam (9.3) and the all-around (37.25). Woodstock's Ali Crescimanno was second (36.45) in the all-around and Woodstock's Jenna Davidson finished third (36.0). Putnam High's Maggie McKeon notched a 35.25 in the all-around.



File photo

Ellis Tech's Kalista Lovely scored nine points in the Golden Eagles win over Prince Tech.



BROOKLYN MIDDLE SCHOOL WINS TITLE

Courtesy photo

BROOKLYN — The Brooklyn Middle School girls defeated Woodstock Middle School 39-31 to win the Quinebaug Valley Junior Conference Large Division basketball tournament championship on Feb. 7 at Griswold Middle School. The Lady Bobcats finished the regular season with a perfect 12 and 0 and are the 2019 QVJC Girls Large Division Basketball Champions. The contest was tight from start to finish and at the end of the second quarter the Bobcats pulled ahead 24-18. Coach Arturo Gutierrez said his players had a special chemistry, always working as a team and having fun. They used a smothering defense and patient offense. Pictured from left to right; bottom row: co-captain Ella Each, Alyson Niemiec, Lexi Thompson, Co-Captain Marisa Kazantzis, Co-Captain Aila Gutierrez, Molly Crabtree. Second row left to right: Ana Davis, Avery Hardacker, Kayliegh Murray, Madison Goetz, Kylie Gregory, Amy Shinkiewicz, Peyton Rosen, Sydney Crabtree, Alyssa Thompson, Co-Captain Emma Korsu, Head Coach Arturo Gutierrez.

OBITUARIES

Richard A. Magnan, 80



PUTNAM - Richard "Dick" Magnan, 80, of David Circle, passed away on Sunday, February 10, 2019, at Matulaitis Nursing Home, after a long illness. He was the loving husband of Priscilla (Coderre) Magnan, and a lifelong resident of Putnam. Dick was born on June 3, 1938, and was the son of the late Henry Magnan and Beatrice (Robitaille) Gay. Dick was a graduate of the Woodstock Academy.

Richard was a "Master" collector and builder of LEGO's and 3D puzzles.

He also enjoyed dollar bill origami. He loved watching the Uconn women play, and was a New York Giants fan, begrudgingly to his family.

Richard worked at Bud's Garage and Church St. Texaco. He was also a maintenance man at the Putnam Housing Authority, and his last job prior to retirement was at Putnam Elementary School as a custodian. He had been Retired for 18 years and enjoyed his daily trips to the coffee shop to catch up with his guys.

He leaves behind his beloved wife of 54 years, Priscilla (Coderre); his son, Michael and his fiancée Kerry Stockwell; his daughter, Sharon Tyrrell and son in law Brandon; grandchildren Alexis and Taylor and a great grandson Asher. He was predeceased by his stepfather, George Gay and his brother, Raymond Magnan.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, February 14, in St. Mary Church of the Visitation Church in Putnam. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Matulaitis Nursing Home, 10 Thurber Rd., Putnam, CT 06260 or the DKH Wound Care Clinic, P.O. Box 632, Putnam, CT 06260. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.



Rosanna L. Royer, 86

THOMPSON - Rosanna (Sisson) Royer, 86, of Thompson Rd. passed away on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 in her home. She was born December 20, 1932 in Olean, New York, daughter of

Christy Higgins, Trisha McAllister, Nicholas Royer, Bruce Hartley, Kyle Hartley, Jennifer Hatch and Amber Hatch; many great grandchildren, step grandchildren and step great grandchildren; her sister, Ethel Drane of Phoenix, Arizona; her brothers, Frank Sisson and Edwin "Kelly" Sisson of Olean, New York; and many nieces and nephews.

the late Gaylord and Rosanna (Green) Sisson. She married Eugene Royer in 1951. He passed away in 2001.

She was a homemaker and lived in Thompson for 38 years. She collected keys and spoons, and enjoyed genealogy, and playing the piano and organ.

Rosanna is survived by her son, Eugene L. Royer, Jr. and his wife Kandi of Cartersville, Georgia; her daughters, Karen Hartley and her husband Bruce of Sun City, Arizona, Pamela Martin and her husband Kevin of Dayville, and Lori Hatch and her partner Mike Lashua of Webster, Massachusetts; ten grandchildren, Christopher Ferrone, David Ferrone, Eugene Royer III,

She was predeceased by her daughters, Debra Ferrone in 2000 and Patricia Royer in 2015; her brothers, Gaylord Sisson, William Sisson, Thomas Sisson and Robert Sisson; and her sisters, Betsy Arnold and Helen Boqacz.

As requested by her family, services will take place in the Spring and have been entrusted to the Gilman and Valade Funeral Homes & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam. Memorial Donations may be made to Hospice of Northeastern Connecticut, PO Box 632, Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

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Mary Elizabeth Gunas, 82



DANIELSON - Mary Elizabeth Gunas, 82, passed away peacefully on Friday, February 8, 2019 in Danielson. She was born on April 6, 1936 in Kansas City, Missouri to Harlie W. and Lulu Mae

Smith, both missionaries who raised her in Gravette, Arkansas. She studied English Literature at Greenville College (Illinois) where she lived out her love of music, traveling the country singing alto in a quartet. She also played the organ, piano, violin, and accordion. She met her beloved husband, Peter Jones Gunas, Jr., in Kansas City, Missouri in December of 1958 while playing the piano at the Kansas City Rescue Mission, serving the underprivileged. She and Peter married in April of 1959 and had four children.

Mary loved the Lord. She was a devoted wife, mother, sister, and grandmother. She had passion and deep appreciation for music, art, nature, gardening, literature, and travel. She encouraged her children constantly to pursue experiences, education, and travel - one of the last trips she took was to visit her daughter and grandchildren while they were living in France. She taught in

public elementary schools in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Manchester, Connecticut, and Belleville, Michigan, as well as high school French and Physical Education at a Christian high school in Kansas City, Kansas. Her passion for education and learning was a lifetime pursuit, not only for herself but also for others. She received a lifetime award for being the top fundraiser at Northfield Mount Hermon, the private high school where she sent two of her children.

Her surviving family will forever cherish her selfless and loving demeanor, sharp wit, superb intellect, and the keenest memory anyone could imagine.

Mary is survived by her husband, Peter; her daughters Priscilla May Gunas (Putnam), Elizabeth Pamela Gunas Crampton (Lexington, Massachusetts), Heather Leigh Gunas (Northern Virginia), and her son, Peter Jones Gunas III and his wife Alice Mary Gunas (Northern Virginia); three grandchildren, Peter James, Miriam Elizabeth, and Samuel Hillard Crampton; and her sister, Ruth Winona Herbert (Stouffville, Ontario).

A service in her honor was held Monday, February 11, at Smith and Walker Funeral Home in Putnam. Burial followed in Grove Street Cemetery, Putnam. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com



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OBITUARIES

Richard A. Gaudreau, 82



BROOKLYN -- Richard A. Gaudreau, 82 of Brooklyn, died Wednesday January 30, 2019 at Westview Nursing Home in Dayville. Richard was born in Brooklyn on May 16, 1936, son of the late Alcide and Jenny (Sugulski) Gaudreau. He graduated from Putnam Trade School in 1955, served in the Army from 1955-1959, and was a Chamber of Commerce Gold Key Award Recipient. Richard was the owner of Hurme Radio TV & Appliance from 1963-1998. He was a member of the Elks BPOE 1706 and enjoyed woodworking, golfing, hunting, fishing, and watching his grandchildren play sports. Richard was pre-deceased by his two brothers Rodney and David Gaudreau. He is survived by his wife of 63 years Helen

(Peckham) Gaudreau of Brooklyn, his four children: Michael and his wife Sharon Gaudreau of Brooklyn, Karen Balch of Wakefield, Rhode Island, Denise and her husband Ronnie Olsen of Griswold, and Scott and his wife Erin Gaudreau of Eastford. Grandchildren and great-grandchildren: Kristen and her husband Alberto Ortiz and their children Evan, Noah, and Bebo; Lindsay and her husband Al Boulanger and their children Mason and Kinslie, Mikey Gaudreau, Megan Gaudreau, Matt Gaudreau, and Kayla Gaudreau. Calling hours and Memorial Service were held in Tillinghast Funeral Home 433 Main Street Danielson. Burial will be in the spring at Holy Cross Cemetery, Danielson. In lieu of flowers donations in Richard's memory may be made to The Parkinson's Foundation 200 SE 1st Street Suite 800 Miami, FL 33131. tillinghastfh.com

Kathleen C. Fontaine, 66

THOMPSON, CT - Kathleen C. Fontaine age 66 passed away with her loving family at her side, Thursday, February 7, 2019 at her home. She leaves her sisters, Cindy Bergeron of Tariffyville, CT, Debra Neundorf, Lisa Pratt both of Thompson, CT, Lori Herrick of Dayville, CT and Billie Jo Fontaine of Turin, NY. She also leaves her brothers, Ernest and Brian Fontaine of Thompson, CT, Bruce Fontaine of Putnam, CT, 68 nieces and nephews. She had two brothers that predeceased her, Eugene Fontaine of Putnam, CT and Michael Fontaine of Rogers, CT. She was born in Putnam, CT daughter of the late Ernest J. Fontaine and Helen F. (Fifield) Fontaine and lived in the area all her life. She was the man-

ager of Movie Gallery in Danielson. Kathleen's great love was her family. She was the World's Greatest Auntie. She supported her family in all endeavors. There are no calling hours. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday at 11 AM February 13, 2019 at St. Mary of the Visitation Church, Providence St., Putnam, CT. Burial will be at a later date. Please omit flowers, donations may be made in her memory to the Day Kimball Hospital Oncology Dept. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with her arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or light a candle.

Paul M. Williams, 78



REPUBLIC, MISSOURI - Paul M. Williams, 78, of Republic Missouri, formally of Woodstock, died February 1, 2019 in Springfield, Missouri. Born in Putnam on March 24, 1940, he was the son of the late Napoleon and Lillian (Gosselin) Williams. He was the loving husband of Sydnie Ann (Willits) Williams.

Paul worked for the State of Connecticut and retired in 1995 after 30 years of service.

Paul enjoyed working with and giving back to a number of his passions. He was an active member of the Boy Scouts of American, having worked with both Troop 21 of Putnam and Troop 27 of Woodstock. He enjoyed volunteer positions at the District level as well as the June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation. Paul's other passion was serving and supporting emergency services. For many years, he was a member and officer with the Woodstock Volunteer Fire Association,

Station 76 as well as more recently the West Republic Fire Protection District and the Brookline Fire Protection District. In working with Brookline Fire Protection District, he truly enjoyed his role in educating younger volunteers.

Paul is survived by his wife of 53 years Sydnie Ann; his son, James Williams and his wife Helen of Emporia, Kansas; and his daughter Sydnie and her husband Ken of Brookline, Missouri; grandchildren Grant Hurst and fiancée Kaylea Fulp of Republic, Missouri; Nicholas Hurst of Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri; and Emma and Betsey Williams of Emporia, Kansas.

Paul was predeceased by his parents and sister Jane C. Flynn of Putnam.

The family will hold a celebration of life that will take place May 25, 2019 with further details finalized later. The family asks in lieu of flowers donation maybe made to the Brookline Fire Protection District care of Barbara Wilson P.O. Box 407, Brookline Station, MO 65619.

Family and friends may share online condolences at www.meadorsfuneral-home.com.

Michael E. Grimshaw, 85



DANIELSON -- Michael E. Grimshaw, 85, of Danielson died Tuesday, February 5, 2019 in Putnam. He was born on November 29, 1933 in Killingly, son of Frank and Marie (Babbitt) Grimshaw.

He is predeceased by three brothers and two sisters and is survived by three brothers and a sister. He also has many surviving nephews and nieces.

He served in the Army and was a

Veteran of the Korean War in 1951 to 1952. Michael was a member of the Masons, the Shriners and a past Patron of the Jasmine Chapter in Thompson and Putnam. He worked for Duro-Test Lighting Company in New York, in industrial sales for 30 Years.

Burial will be private. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellofh.com



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Photos are welcome in JPEG format.

OBITUARIES

Roger G. Plouffe, 90



DUDLEY - Roger G. Plouffe, 90, formerly of Dudley, MA and later of Dyer, IN, died Thursday, February 7, 2019 at the Southbridge Rehabilitation & Health Care Center.

His wife of 64 years, Pauline A. (St. Laurent) Plouffe, died February 12, 2014. He is survived by 4 children, Ann Marie and her husband Daniel A. Ellis of Dyer, IN, Susan Livernois of Thompson, CT, Arthur Plouffe and his wife Carol of Blackstone, MA, and Alan Plouffe and his wife Karen of Spencer, MA. He is also survived by 7 grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchild, and a sister Constance Del Vecchio of Saratoga Springs, CA. He was predeceased by his son Ronald Plouffe, his brother Normand Plouffe, and 2 sisters Therese Dunn and Rita Gaudreau.

Born in Southbridge on March 21, 1928, Roger was the son of the late Ephrem and Yvonne (Bernard) Plouffe. He lived in Southbridge, MA for many years, moving to Dudley, MA in 1960 with his wife to raise their family. He and his wife later moved to Arizona for

many years, and then to Dyer, IN to be with his loving daughter Ann Marie to be cared for in his later years. He was a former long-time member of St. Stephen's Church in Quinebaug, CT.

He was a proud veteran of the US Army during World War II, serving with the Military Police, and also served as the personal driver for General Douglas MacArthur during his tour in the Philippines. He also watched over the POW's of WW2.

He worked for over 38 years at the former American Optical Co., where he was a lens grinder. After retirement, he did landscaping work locally and in Arizona for many years. He enjoyed gardening, going to the casino, and many years ago enjoyed skiing.

Calling hours will be Saturday, Feb. 16, 2019, from 9:30-10:30AM at Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA with a Mass at 11AM at St. Stephen's Church, Quinebaug, CT. Burial with Military Honors will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery in North Grosvenordale, CT. www.sansoucyfuneral.com



Richard T. Graves, 73

GROTON - Richard T. Graves, 73, of Gold Star Highway, died on December 22, 2018, at home. Born in New London, he was the son of the late John and Beryl (Rupp) Graves.

Mr. Graves was a proud veteran of the United States Army serving with the 2nd General Hospital Corps, being honorably discharged on December 18, 1968. Richard worked in the health and medical field.

Funeral arrangements have been

entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory 104 Church St., Putnam. Burial with military honors will take place in the Spring. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.



Raymond L. Poirier, 83



N O R T H GROSVENORDALE - Raymond L. Poirier, 83, of Faucher St., passed away Saturday, February 9, 2019 in St. Francis Hospital. He was the loving husband of Theresa (Brousseau) Poirier for 56 years. Born in Grosvenordale, he was the son of the late Lionel and Loretta (Dion) Poirier.

Raymond was a truck driver for the former Risom Manufacturing and Frito-Lay. He was a Korean War Army Veteran and was a member of the American Legion. He served as assistant Chief of Community Fire Department.

In addition to his wife Theresa, Raymond is survived by his children, Gary Thorstenson and his wife Diana of East Lyme, Charles Thorstenson

and his wife JoAnn of N. Grosvenordale, Michael Thorstenson and his wife Marlene of Vernon, and Linda Keeling and her husband George of Dayville; twelve grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild.

Relatives and friends are invited to a Funeral Mass of Christian Burial for Raymond at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, February 18, 2019 in St. Joseph Church, 18 Main St., N. Grosvenordale. Burial will be private. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Valade Funeral Home & Crematory. Memorial donations may be made to St. Joseph Church. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.



Girard P. Dennis, 73



THOMPSON, CT - Girard P. "Jerry" Dennis, 73, died Tuesday, February 5, 2019 in UMASS Medical Center with his wife at his side.

He leaves his wife of 43 years, Karen M. (Petrunia) Dennis; a daughter, Deneen Azzolino and her husband Mark of Danielson; a brother Harold and his wife Patricia Dennis of Palmer, MA; his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Harvey and Sylvia Allard, Jr. of Thompson. He was predeceased by his by his brothers William and Daniel Dennis and by his sisters Dawn Dennis and Joy Kulis.

He was born in Palmer, MA, a son of Harold and Dorothy (Joy) Dennis. He graduated from Bartlett High School in Webster, MA.

He was a Navy veteran, serving during the Vietnam Era.

Mr. Dennis first worked as a supervisor at B & W Footware in Webster and then as a filler at Webco Chemical Corporation in Dudley before retiring in 2008. He enjoyed gardening, playing cards and was an avid bird watcher.

A funeral service was held at 11:00 AM on Monday, February 11, 2019, in Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster, MA. Burial with military honors following in Saint Joseph Cemetery, North Grosvenordale, CT. A calling period took from 9:30 to 11:00 before the service. Donations in his memory may be made to the American Cancer Society, 3 Speen Street, Framingham, MA 01701.

www.scanlonfs.com



William E Gendreau, 59



WILLIAM E Gendreau, 59, of Quinebaug, CT died Friday, February 8, 2019 at Backus Hospital of Norwich, CT, after a battle with cancer. William was born September 26, 1959 in Southbridge, MA. He is the son of Henry "Pete" and the late Shirley (Talbot) Gendreau.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Justine (Bodreau) Gendreau, one daughter: Ashley Gendreau of Quinebaug, CT and one son: Ryan Gendreau and his wife Lucy of Danielson, CT; his father Henry "Pete" Gendreau; of Southbridge, one sister: Cheryl Gendreau of Auburn, MA; Several nieces and nephews. His brothers and sisters in the Fire Service.

Predeceased by his brother, Donald

Gendreau. William graduated from Bay Path High School. He worked several years in the printing ink business. Most recently worked for Auto Zone in Webster as a Commercial Sales Manager.

Willie devoted 41 years to the Quinebaug Vol Fire Dept. as Captain. He proudly served as Lieutenant with the Webster Fire Rescue and formerly with Southbridge Fire Dept. where he began his career in Fire Service.

A Mass of Christian burial was held 10:00 am on Thursday, February 14 at St. Stephens Church, Corners of Route 197 & 131, in Quinebaug, CT.

Calling hours were Wednesday, February 13 from 4 to 8 PM at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA. www.bartelfuneralhome.com

#Willie Strong

George R. Davis, 98



D A Y T O N A BEACH, FLORIDA - George R. Davis, 98, formerly of Danielson, passed away on February 2, 2019 in Daytona Beach, Florida. George was the son of the late F. Clifford

and Celinda (Viens) Davis. He was predeceased by his wife Priscilla, son Lt. Dean "Randy" Davis and brother Milton Davis. George is survived by his son Roger, sister Doris Davis Johnson, grandson Michael, granddaughter Susan Hutton and husband George and great granddaughter Eastlyn Hutton. He is also survived

by many nieces and nephews. George enjoyed fishing and golf which he continued to play until the age of 92. He was a captain in the Army Air Corp and flew 102 combat missions in a P-47 Thunderbolt in Europe during WWII. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 16 clusters and European campaign with 5 battle stars. After active duty, he remained in the Air Force Reserves retiring as a Lt. Colonel. Upon his return from the war, he joined the family trucking business founded in 1913 by his father. He and

his sister Doris owned and operated F.C. Davis Transportation Company until its 75th anniversary in 1988. Services will be held at the convenience of family and friends at which time he will be laid to rest next to his wife of 64 years in Westfield Cemetery in Danielson. Those wishing to express their condolences may make a donation in his memory to Westfield Congregational Church, 210 Main Street, Danielson, CT 06239.



Doretta P. Tinti "Meme," 96



N O R T H GROSVENORDALE - Doretta P. Tinti "Meme," 96, of North Grosvenordale died Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at Villa Maria Nursing Home in Plainfield, surrounded by her family.

Beloved wife of the late Charles R. Tinti, who died in 1985. She was born in New Britain on September 26, 1922, daughter of Howard and Gertrude (Strosser) Pascoe.

Doretta was a member of the Thompson Congregational Church since 1965 and was a member of the Thimble club, volunteered with the Red Cross for 25 years, the voting polls in Thompson, the Thompson Library and TEEG. She owned Tri-State Electronics with her husband from 1965-1971, later working as a book-keeper for Bugbee's Department Store from 1972 until closing. She loved her doll houses that her father made her in 1940, enjoyed plastic canvas and knitting. Meme loved spending time with her grandchildren playing cards, puzzles and games.

She leaves her children Roger Tinti and his wife Sandee of Missouri, Darlene Kudzal and her husband Frank of Putnam, siblings Jean Coghill and her husband Henry of Schenectady,

New York, Arthur Pascoe and Grace of Connecticut, grandchildren Randy Kudzal and his fiancée Sarah of North Grosvenordale, Ryan Kudzal and his wife Stephanie of Sellersville, Pennsylvania, Raun Kudzal and his wife Lindsey of Putnam, Ross Kudzal and his wife Jessie of Woodstock, Rene Kudzal and his wife Edtess of Danielson, Reid Kudzal and his wife Naomi of Thompson, Rory Kudzal of Moosup, Regan Kudzal of Putnam, great grandchildren Gabrielle, Isabella, Kayden, Khaya, Blake, Connor, Dustin, Zachary "Bobo," Jackson, Andrew, many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by a sister Eadie Martin of Oregon and an infant brother.

Calling hours will be Saturday, February 16, 2019 from 11:00 to 12:00 PM with a Funeral Service at 12 Noon at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam. Burial will follow in West Thompson Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her memory to Thompson Public Library, PO Box 855, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255 or Thompson Congregational Church, PO Box 308, Thompson, CT 06277 or Alzheimer's Association Connecticut Chapter, 200 Executive Boulevard, Suite 4B, Southington, CT 06489. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com



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Each day I see you behind me, but when I turn back to hold you,

There is only a memory.

Each day I see you waiting ahead of me,

But when I reach for you,

I touch only a dream.

I'll always miss our yesterdays and what could have been our tomorrows.

I am sorry we cannot walk together, except in my memories of yesterday, and my dreams of tomorrow.

For I will miss you most in my todays.

Love, Mom

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OBITUARIES

Janet Leschke Fellows, 90



WOODSTOCK -- Janet Leschke Fellows passed away peacefully on January 24 with her family at her side. She was born on August 28, 1928 in Hartford to the late Emil and Bertha (Gilmour) Leschke. She was raised in West Hartford. Never letting her inability to hear well be a disability, she took ballet lessons when she was young, and even performed at the Bushnell Theater. She was a graduate of Hall High, attended the former Hartford College for Women and Vesper George Art School in Boston. In 1948 she moved to Pomfret when her father founded the former Leschke Puffer Insurance Agency in Putnam. While living in Pomfret, she met her future husband Norman Fellows. They were married in 1951, and made their home in Woodstock for the next 67 years. She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Pomfret for 70 years. She belonged to the women's fellowship, was the organist, served as treasurer, and also taught Sunday school.

When her children were young, she did accounting for her father's insurance company, working at home at night. She loved playing bridge. For many years she was part of a bridge league that benefited the Woodstock Nursery School. Her and her husband were also long-time members of the Woodstock Country Square Dancers. She was a volunteer with the Meals on Wheels program, and enjoyed her interactions with the people that she met through her deliveries. An avid reader, she was always interested in learning new things. History was one

of her passions. Along with her husband, they traveled to many historical sites throughout the northeast. They also enjoyed their trips to the mountains of New England and the shores of Cape Cod. She was a life-long fan of the Red Sox and UConn Women's Basketball. She never missed a game!

Music and art were an integral part of her life. She was talented at any form of art she pursued. However, painting with oils was her love, and she produced many beautiful pieces that she displayed throughout her home. In addition to playing the organ, she was an accomplished pianist. She enjoyed listening to classical music and opera.

She was predeceased by her husband and best friend of 67 years, Norman Fellows. She leaves a daughter, Susan Kozey and her husband Michael of Eastford, a daughter Katherine Fellows and her husband Daniel Southall of Pomfret, grandchildren Nicholas Kozey and his wife Jody, David Kozey and his wife Karrin, Brian Kozey, Collin Sumera and his partner Toquyen Doan, and Kristiana Sumera and her partner Carlos Rivera, great grandchildren Evan, Alexander, Andrew, and Jillian Kozey, sister in law Bernice Fellows of Bolton. She was predeceased by her brother Robert S. Leschke, brother in law Donald Fellows and sister in law Elaine Fahle and her husband Robert.

Burial will be private at the Woodstock Hill Cemetery. Arrangements by Smith and Walker Funeral Home of Putnam. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Janet's memory to the First Congregational Church of Pomfret, 13 Church Road, PO Box 297, Pomfret Center, CT 06259 or The Smile Train at P.O. Box 96231, Washington, D.C. 200090-6231. www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Frederick J. Bates, 59

NORTH GROSVENORDALE

– Frederick "Fred" J. Bates, 59, of Linehouse Road, passed away on Monday, January 21, 2019 at Day Kimball Hospital. He was the loving husband of Shara (Lamontagne) Bates for nine years. Born in Fairfield, California, he was the son of the late Frank and Elizabeth (Rojo) Bates-Leduc.

Mr. Bates was the owner and operator of Bates Auto Parts. He was a member of

the Springfield Chapter of the Hells Angels. He enjoyed working with his antique sawmill; he was always "tinkering." He enjoyed rat rods and racing his car #43 at the Thompson Speedway. Fred was known for always helping other people.

In addition to his wife Shara, Fred is survived by his daughter, Nichol Paradise of Danielson; his step-son, Dillion Mark of Thompson; step-daughter, Larrissa Mark of Thompson; his brother, Christopher "Festis" Bates of Maine; his sisters, Danielle (Bates) Albrecht of Florida, and Terry Lynn Bardy of Southbridge, Massachusetts;

and many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Fred's family from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Friday, February 15, 2019 in the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale. A gathering will begin in the funeral home at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 16, 2019 followed by a burial in East Thompson Cemetery at 10:00 a.m.

Memorial donations in Fred's memory may be made to Shara Bates, 65 Linehouse Rd, N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Paul C. Franklin, 81

THOMPSON

– Paul C. Franklin, 81, of Quaddick Town Farm Rd., died Wednesday morning, February 6, 2019 at home surrounded by his loving family.

He was the loving husband of Marie (LaBrec) Franklin. Born in Putnam he was the son of the late Robert B. and Elsie E. (Meyers) Franklin. Paul received his Bachelor of Science degree in History from the University of Connecticut.

Paul worked at Day Kimball Hospital for over 40 years in the diagnostic imaging depart-

ment. He was a life member of and former secretary for the Thompson Lions Club where he received the prestigious Melvin Jones Fellow Award. Paul enjoyed woodworking. He was an avid reader and fan of the Boston Red Sox. He also enjoyed working on his computer.

Paul is survived by his wife of fifty-two years, Marie (LaBrec) Franklin; two daughters Paula Boisvert and her husband Roger and Anne Douglas both of Thompson; siblings, Marshall Franklin of California, Donna Chunko of Putnam, and Jean Sherman of Plainfield; and eight grandchildren Dillon Boisvert, Emma Boisvert, Paige Boisvert, Paul

Boisvert, Elizabeth Douglas, Sarah Douglas, Rebecca Douglas, and Riley Douglas. He was predeceased by a brother Leslie Franklin.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Paul's family on Saturday, February 23, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., North Grosvenordale, followed by a service in the funeral home at 10:30 a.m. Memorial donations may be made to Community Fire Department, P.O. Box 874, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255, in order to thank them for all of their help and service. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

George C. Smith, Jr., 77



DAYVILLE -- George C. Smith, Jr., 77, of Dayville, passed peacefully February 10, 2019 at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam. He was born December 18, 1941, son of George C. and Elizabeth (Mitchell)

Smith, Sr.

George retired from Anchor Glass after 32 years as a mold maker and worked for five years at Crabtree & Evelyn as a material handler. He was a former member and officer of the Danielson Lions Club and was a resident of Northeastern Connecticut most of his life.

George leaves his son Kyle Smith and his wife Erika of Fairmont,

West Virginia, and step-son Roger Duchesne and wife Lynne of Fitchburg, Massachusetts, granddaughter Taylor Smith of Morgantown, West Virginia, step-grandchildren A. J. and Laramie Linn both of Fairmont, West Virginia, and Nicole and Jeffrey Duchesne both of New Hampshire, sisters Janet Smith of El Cerrito, California, Sharon Mann and husband Robert of Woodstock, special friends Robert and Judy Payne of Brooklyn, companion Ernest Cristo and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by a brother Gary Smith.

There will be a graveside service at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. Share memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

L. Dorcas Labonte, 103



PUTNAM -- L. Dorcas Labonte, 103, of Putnam died Thursday, February 7, 2019 at Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam, surrounded by her family. Beloved wife of the late Leonel L.

Labonte, who died in 2001. Born on December 14, 1915 in West Gloucester, Rhode Island, daughter of Homer and Bertha (Greene) Martin.

She was a Licensed Practical Nurse and worked for Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam. She volunteered with the Red Cross for many years. She was a member of The Methodist Church of Putnam, involved in the choir, volunteered with church suppers and also taught Sunday School. She enjoyed crocheting, knitting, reading, loved to bake and she had a great sense of humor.

She leaves her children Eugene

Labonte and his wife Joyce of Putnam, Michael Labonte of Putnam, Christine Paparo and her husband Gary of Dayville, brother Kenneth Bowen and his wife Shirley of Burrillville, RI, grandchildren Gabrielle Labonte and her husband David Gratton of Pomfret Center, Carly Hetrick and her husband Craig of Putnam, Michael Paparo and his wife Jessica of Gloucester, RI, Krista Paparo (Jay) of Dayville, great grandchildren Zoe, Owen, Olivia and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by eight brothers and sisters.

Funeral Service was held Thursday, February 14, 2019 at the Living Faith United Methodist Church, 53 Grove Street, Putnam. Burial followed at Munyan Cemetery in Putnam. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her memory to The Hole In The Wall Gang Fund, 555 Long Warf Drive, Department W, New Haven, CT 06511. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com



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LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Robert Cony Brown (19-00019)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 15, 2019, 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:
 Timothy D Brown, 305 Christian Hill Road, Brooklyn, CT 06234
 Karen L Barbeau
 c/o Gabrielle Labonte, Esq., 5 Vina Lane, PO Box 709, Brooklyn, CT 06234
 February 15, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Roger Anderson, AKA Roger E Anderson, AKA Roger Anderson (19-00044)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 15, 2019, 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:
 Eric S Anderson
 c/o Michael J Rice, Esq.,
 Jacobs, Walker, Rice & Barry, LLC,
 146 Main Street,
 Manchester, CT 06042
 February 15, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Kenneth Butler, Sr., AKA Kenneth F Butler, AKA Kenneth F Butler, Sr. (19-00012)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 7, 2019, 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:
 Kevin Butler
 c/o Ernest J. Cotnoir, Esq.,
 163 Providence Street,
 PO Box 187, Putnam, CT 06260
 February 15, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Ibolya Centeri (19-00041)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 15, 2019, 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:
 Kathy Hallibuton
 c/o Stephen J. Adams, Esq.,
 158 Main Street, Suite 7, PO Box 682,
 Putnam, CT 06260
 February 15, 2019



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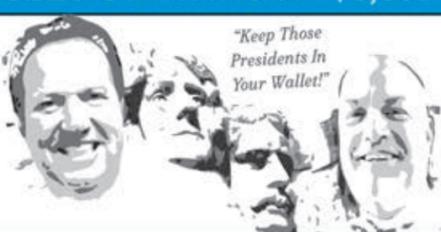
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SAVE \$7,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 FORD ESCAPE SE NEW Retail Price: ~~\$24,845~~
#18694A • BACK-UP CAM, TURBO, ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH, SPOILER
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$15,755
SAVE \$9,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2017 GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4x4
#D9488

Keyless Start, Alloys, Parking Sensors, Back-Up Camera, Bluetooth, Roof Rails.
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$37,490~~
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$26,877
SAVE \$10,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

SPECIAL PURCHASE #P11950R
Like New 2017 FORD EXPLORER SUV
XLT TRIM 4X4

NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$38,640~~
STARTING AT ONLY: \$27,355
9 Available
Heated Leather, Back-Up Cam, Nav, 8" LCD, Alloy Wheels!
SAVE \$11,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2017 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE SUV
#D9564R

17" Alloy Wheels, iPod Input, 4x4, Remote Start, Back-Up Camera.
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$26,470~~
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$19,277
SAVE \$7,200 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 RAM 1500 EXPRESS NEW Retail Price: ~~\$41,930~~
#19272A • CREW CAB, 4X4, 5.7L V8, BEDLINER, 20" ALLOYS, NAV
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$31,788
SAVE \$10,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2015 LINCOLN MKC SUV NEW Retail Price: ~~\$33,995~~
#P11258A • ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, TURBO, HEATED LEATHER
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$22,455
SAVE \$11,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 HYUNDAI ELANTRA NEW Retail Price: ~~\$22,305~~
#H8550A • GT HATCHBACK, HEATED SEATS, 17" ALLOYS
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$7,888
SAVE \$14,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2013 NISSAN ALTIMA SL NEW Retail Price: ~~\$28,630~~
#18707A • 3.5L V6, 18" ALLOYS, MOONROOF, HEATED LEATHER
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$8,899
SAVE \$19,700 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2016 HYUNDAI SANTA FE SPORT SUV
#H0560L

All-Wheel Drive, 27K Miles, Bluetooth, 17" Alloy Wheels, Satellite Radio.
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$28,305~~
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$17,899
SAVE \$10,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2017 HYUNDAI SONATA NEW Retail Price: ~~\$28,775~~
#H0523 • SPORT TRIM, TURBO, HEATED SEATS, BACK-UP CAM
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$16,699
SAVE \$12,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2017 FORD ESCAPE SE SUV
#39138A

4x4, 17" Alloys, Back-Up Camera, Turbo, Bluetooth, Satellite Radio.
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$28,045~~
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$17,444
SAVE \$10,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2015 FORD F-150 4x4 SUPERCAB
#P11746L

2.7L V6 EcoBoost, Alloy Wheels, Bluetooth, SYNC, Back-Up Cam.
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$38,965~~
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$30,355
SAVE \$8,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

SALE ENDS 02/20/19. WE'LL GIVE YOU A DISCOUNT EQUAL TO YOUR FIRST 6 MONTHS OF PAYMENTS. PAYMENTS TOTAL WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM SELLING PRICE AND PAYMENT NOT TO EXCEED \$300/MONTH. CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER DISCOUNT OR PROMOTION AND MUST USE DEALER SOURCE FINANCING. SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY. SEE US FOR DETAILS. NEW RETAIL PRICE BASED ON MSRP OF NEW MODELS. NOT VALID WITH PRIOR SALES. SELLING PRICE INCLUDING OUR \$1,000 IMPERIAL TRADE ASSISTANCE BONUS FOR A QUALIFYING 2007 OR NEWER TRADES. SEE US FOR DETAILS. ADVERTISED PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE TAX, TITLE, REGISTRATION OR DOCUMENTATION FEE. VEHICLE MUST BE PAID IN FULL AND TAKE SAME DAY DELIVERY. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS. CALL 1-800-526-AUTO TO SEE WHICH INCENTIVES YOU QUALIFY FOR.

8-18 UXBRIDGE ROAD, RTE. 16 • MENDON, MA
www.imperialcars.com

HERE & THERE → Local Events, Arts, and Entertainment Listings

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15

2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS AT KLEM'S
Come visit the dogs and cats available
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

MONDAY-FRIDAY FEBRUARY 18-22

10 a.m. daily
KLEM'S KIDS WEEK
Join us for a week of free activities to keep kids busy and having fun during winter school break!
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21

6-8:30 pm
WINE TASTING DINNER
Featuring Kendall-Jackson wine
Apps, main course, desserts
\$55 per person plus tax & gratuity
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

GILMAN & VALADE
Invite you to an
OPEN HOUSE AND TO MEET PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

3 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Come and witness this historic event, which is free and open to the public. President Lincoln will speak of his final days and answer questions.
23 Main St., North Grosvenordale, CT

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

2 p.m.
POULTRY SEMINAR
Learn the backyard basics!
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS AT KLEM'S
Come visit the dogs and cats available
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
KLEM'S FISHING EXPO
Reps, experts and the latest gear for 2019!
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
EASTER BUNNY PICTURES
Children and pets welcome!
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS AT KLEM'S
Come visit the dogs and cats available
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY MAY 3, 4, 5

KLEM'S SPRINGFEST + TENT SALE
Kids' bounce house and huge savings!
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, MAY 10

2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS AT KLEM'S
Come visit the dogs and cats available
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY MAY 9, 10, 11, 12

RECORDS & BURPEE CHILDREN'S ZOO AT KLEM'S
Educational family fun!
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS AT KLEM'S
Come visit the dogs and cats available
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, JULY 19

2 P.M. - 4 P.M.
SECOND CHANCE PET ADOPTIONS AT KLEM'S
Come visit and cats and dogs available
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY JULY 19, 20, 21

dockdogs
DockDogs at Klem's
Canine Aquatics Competition!
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

ONGOING

JUNE 5th THROUGH AUGUST 28th • 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT CRUISING FOR CHARITY CAR SHOW AT KLEM'S
All makes and models. Proceeds benefit the Masonic Children's Charity
KLEM'S
117 West Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-2708 (Ext. 104)
www.klemsonline.com

MARIACHI BAND
First Thursday of the month
5-8 p.m.

MEXICALI MEXICAN GRILL
Webster location
41 Worcester Rd., Webster, MA
508-461-5070

ROADHOUSE BLUES JAM
Every Sunday, 3:00 - 7:00 p.m.
CADY'S TAVERN
2168 Putnam Pike, Chepachet, RI
401-568-4102

TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS
7:00 p.m. register
7:30 p.m. start up
HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB
325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA
508-892-9822

WISE GUYS TEAM TRIVIA
Every Tuesday, 8:00 - 10:00 p.m.
CADY'S TAVERN
2168 Putnam Pike (Rt. 44)
Chepachet, RI
401-568-4102

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT
HEXMARK TAVERN AT SALEM CROSS INN
260 West Main St., West Brookfield, MA
508-867-2345
www.salemcrossinn.com

FRIDAY ACOUSTICS IN THE BAR AND SATURDAY ENTERTAINMENT EVERY OTHER SATURDAY
308 LAKESIDE
308 East Main St.
East Brookfield, MA
774-449-8333

THE CENTRAL MA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED meets the first Monday of every month from September through May. We discuss a variety of conservation programs to improve the local cold water fisheries, local fishing opportunities, our annual High School Fly Fishing Championship (open to all MA high school students) and our annual fund raising banquet.
Auburn Sportsman's Club
50 Elm St., Auburn, MA