

ECO program helps Windham students graduate with college certificates



WINDHAM — In 2016, Quinebaug Valley Community College teamed with Windham High School, creating the Windham Early College Opportunity (ECO) program, to provide students a chance to earn college credits in manufacturing disciplines. There were many questions along the way about curriculum, student engagement and funding sources. QVCC was creative in making this happen through College Career Pathways resources, the Windham Board of Education, and the help from the Eastern Workforce Investment Board (EWIB).

Beginning their freshman year, Windham High School students took several classes in advanced manufacturing at their school, earning 10 college credits in Manufacturing Math II, Blueprint Reading I, Benchwork and Computer Assisted Drawing. As juniors, in the summer of 2019, they attended QVCC and took Milling I and Lathe I, earning four more credits (paid for by the Windham Board

of Education). Support from the Eastern Workforce Investment Board helped with a critical CNC Fundamentals course, which set students up to take one remaining class, Safety in the Workplace. This one-credit course completes their Level I certificate.

By the end of the fall 2020 semester, the students will have completed QVCC certificates in Machine Technology Level I and Advanced Manufacturing Machine Technology II. 30 credits will apply directly to an Associate Degree in Technology Studies for those who wish to continue their education. Director and Instructor Stephen LaPointe is actively seeking out opportunities to start their careers in manufacturing in the Windham area.

"I'm impressed with their long-term commitment to completing this journey. The students have come together as a cohort and

Please Read **ECO**, page **A3**

Day Kimball names Michael Hanrahan Employee of the Month

PUTNAM — Michael Hanrahan, public safety officer at Day Kimball Hospital, has been named employee of the month for September by Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH).

Hanrahan, who has been in the security field for 25 years, began his career at DKH in 2015. Prior to joining Day Kimball, he served as a correctional officer for 20 years at the State of Connecticut Department of Corrections. In his role as public safety officer at DKH, Hanrahan is responsible for ensuring a safe and secure environment for patients, visitors, and employees of Day Kimball Hospital.

According to Hanrahan's supervisor, Brian Fulton, public safety manager, Day Kimball Healthcare, "Mike is very deserving of this recognition and we are proud to have him in our department. He is a dedicated worker who takes great pride in his ability to communicate with others, to which he always strives to achieve a positive outcome."

In response to being named employee of the month, Hanrahan said, "I was surprised, but honored to have been selected for employee of the month." When asked what he likes most about his job, he said, "I enjoy the people I work with and the patients and visitors I interact with each day."

A Northeast Connecticut native, Hanrahan is active in the Putnam Lion's Club and was recognized in 2015 with the Jerry Richard Award Lion of



Michael Hanrahan

the Year and the Ambassador of Sight Award in 2017.

Day Kimball Healthcare's employee of the month program is sponsored by Foxwoods Resort Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut. "The Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribal Nation and Foxwoods Resort Casino has been focused on taking care of the people that serve within our community, and we appreciate everything Day Kimball Healthcare does," said Foxwood's Director of Sponsorships and Partnerships Roy Colebut-Ingam. "Supporting meaningful employee recognition programs like that at DKH is just one way that we feel we can express our appreciation."

About Day Kimball Healthcare
Day Kimball Healthcare is a nonprofit community health-

Please Read **HANRAHAN**, page **A3**

Woodstock Academy presents Academic Convocation Awards

WOODSTOCK — On Wednesday, Sept. 30 The Woodstock Academy hosted a virtual Academic Convocation, an annual awards ceremony celebrating student academic achievements from the previous school year. This year The Woodstock Academy was pleased to award 292 awards to 203 students.

In place of students coming to the stage to accept their awards, each student was given the opportunity to submit their own photo for recog-

nition, resulting in a presentation as unique as each of the award recipients.

Woodstock Academy faculty also recorded videos of stories, poems, and advice on bravery which were compiled into an inspirational message to students who have bravely navigated a difficult school year.

The full ceremony was watched at woodstockacademy.org/convocation2020.

Students and their awards
Jai Abrams High: Achievement in Precalculus

Alexia Adams: High Achievement in ACC-2 Chemistry, High Achievement in Honors Calculus, High Achievement in Spanish 3 HON, AP Scholar with Distinction

Charlotte Adase: Outstanding Achievement in General Health, High Achievement in Art 1

Brian Antunes: High Achievement in Music Technology 1

Linsey Arends: Outstanding Achievement in Mandarin 2

HON, High Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition

Livia Armstrong: High Achievement in Honors Latin 2

Emma-Leigh Arsenault: Outstanding Achievement in Biology

Ethan Aspiras: Outstanding Achievement in Architectural Design, Outstanding Achievement in Drawing, High Achievement in Honors Chemistry

Emma Auker: AP Scholar
Annarose Avery: High

Achievement in Honors Biology

Riley Balanovich: High Achievement in Foundations of Science

Nicola Bastien: Outstanding Achievement in Electronic Design

Vincente Bastura: Outstanding Achievement in Introduction to Engineering

Iris Bazinet: Outstanding Junior Artist

Alison Benoit: Outstanding

Please Read **AWARDS**, page **A7**

Local divisions returning to Thompson for 58th Annual Sunoco World Series



Photo Alan Ward — Courtesy

The Twisted Tea SK Light Modifieds race on Sunoco World Series Sunday with a 20-lap main event.

THOMPSON — Some of New England's top weekly competitors will arrive at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park looking to chase more than \$16,000 in purses as part of the 58th annual Sunoco World Series on Oct. 9-11.

The Sunoco Modifieds, Twisted Tea SK Light Modifieds, Sam Adams Limited Sportsman and Mini Stocks will all hit the high-banks for their second races of the season. Although it looked like divisions might remain dark for the season, a new agreement with the American-Canadian Tour and Pro All Star Series leasing the track in the summer allowed these divisions to return and chase a lucrative payout to close the oval season at Thompson.

The World Series is well-known as the top short-track racing weekend in the New England region, and with 19 divisions set to compete again this year, fans won't want to miss the action over three days in Connecticut.

The Sunoco Modifieds will race for \$1,500 to win, while the Twisted Tea SK Light Modifieds will battle for a \$350 winning

prize. The Sam Adams Limited Sportsman winner's value matches the SK Lights, with \$350 on the line, and the Mini Stocks are set to tackle the track chasing \$200 to win.

The lucrative purses include a total of \$8,560 posted awards in the Sunoco Modifieds, a division that looks to steal the show as part of a busy Sunday. Keith Rocco and Todd Owen look to continue their fierce battle that started on Sept. 3 — when the two battled for the victory in the 25-lap feature. It was Rocco who would come out on top — while Owen was sidelined just laps before the finish with a flat tire after a large amount of crossover moves were pulled battling for the glory. Names like Troy Talman and former Stafford Motor Speedway champion Ronnie Williams, driving for Skowyr Motorsports, are also expected to compete in the 30-lap feature, which will follow the PASS Super Late Models on the final day of racing. Williams will be perhaps the busiest driver of the weekend, running four of 19 races during the weekend, including

Please Read **DIVISIONS**, page **A14**

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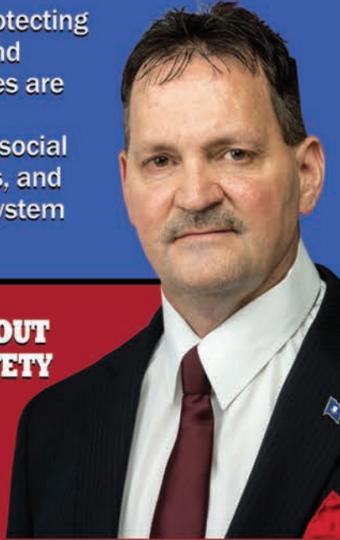
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- ★ Retired Connecticut Corrections Officer
- ★ Two Combat Tours in Afghanistan
- ★ Lieutenant Colonel in the Connecticut Army National Guard
- ★ CT State Planner and Leader of the Homeland Response Force

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PAID FOR BY JUSTIN ANDERSON FOR CONGRESS. KEN NOWELL, TREASURER

Alexandra Chitwood of Dayville (begins Lasell Works sophomore year experience)

NEWTON, Mass. — More than 50 second-year students at Lasell University, including Alexandra Chitwood of Dayville, are enrolled in the Lasell Works Program. Chitwood began the program's Sophomore Year Experience this fall.

Lasell Works is a career development and cost-savings initiative that offers professional mentorship and allows students to take all of their sophomore year coursework online in order to engage

in yearlong work experiences. These work experiences provide students with unparalleled opportunities to connect what they learn in the classroom with hands-on experience, and a decreased tuition rate ensures that students graduate in healthy financial situations.

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communications at smocle@lasell.edu or at 617-243-2386.

Robert A. Orellano named to SUNY Morrisville President's List

MORRISVILLE, N.Y. — SUNY Morrisville recently announced that Robert A. Orellano, of Earlville, N.Y., was named to the President's List for the Spring 2020 semester. Orellano is majoring in Mechanical Engineering

Technology. To be named to the President's List, a student must achieve a perfect 4.0 average for the semester and complete 12 credit hours.



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At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Sept. 28: Black-throated Blue Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Pine Warbler, Black and White Warbler, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Yellow-billed Sapsucker, Field Sparrow, Spotted Sandpiper, Swamp Sparrow, Belted Kingfisher, Great Blue Heron, Flicker, Eastern Phoebe. Visit ct.audubon.org/pomfret-home.

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Walk the Chase Reservoir Conservation Area

KILLINGLY — Join the Killingly Conservation Commission's Walktober event, exploring the Chase Reservoir Conservation area, a 365-acre protected open space. Features include: a guided hike on a short and a long woodland loop trail, scenic views of the 80 acre pond, learn about forest evolution, and see a very old oak tree 18 feet around!

The hike totals about 3 miles on moderate and mostly easy trails.

Saturday, Oct. 17 at 1 p.m.
 Location at 85 Pratt Rd., Killingly.
 From I-395, go about two miles east on Route 101; follow Walktober signs to kiosk.
 Registration is necessary by Thursday, Oct. 15.
 Email mcapraro@killinglyct.org with names of participants of your group.
 Call 860-779-5310 with any questions.
 Visit us on our Web site, KillinglyConservation.org, or find us on Facebook.

ECO

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have relied on each other for support in so many ways. Transportation has been one of the biggest obstacles, yet they made it work. This shows me they have determination and will make great employees in the manufacturing world, which will benefit our community tremendously," LaPointe said.

There is a continuous pipeline of Windham High School students that have committed to this pathway to a successful career in manufacturing. In September, Windham ECO student, Karen De Los Santos Dominguez and Stephen LaPointe participated in a roundtable with Governor Lamont at Eastern Connecticut State University, hosted by ECSU President Elsa Nunez with Board of Higher Education President Mark Ojakian. The discussion was focused on coping with COVID in the current environment and how on-ground classes can continue to run for hands-on learning. Karen provided valuable insight into her positive on-ground experience at QVCC's Danielson campus.

Learn more about QVCC's Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center at qvcc.edu/manufacturing.

HANRAHAN

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care system comprised of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare At Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Healthcare's comprehensive network offers more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its Web site is www.daykimball.org.

POLICE LOGS

Putnam police log

PUTNAM — The Putnam Police Department reports the following recent arrests.

John White, age 53, of Danielson was arrested on Sept. 29 for Larceny in the 6th Degree.

Carla Hetu, age 27, of North Grosvenordale was arrested on Sept. 29 for Reckless Endangerment in the Second Degree, Interfering with Police, and Operating an Unregistered Vehicle.

Charles Meseck, age 30, current address unknown, was arrested on Sept. 29 for Failure to Appear in the First Degree, two counts of Failure to Appear in the Second Degree, and for being a Fugitive From Justice.

Roger Rioux, age 53, of Putnam was arrested on Oct. 2 for Disorderly Conduct and Criminal Mischief.

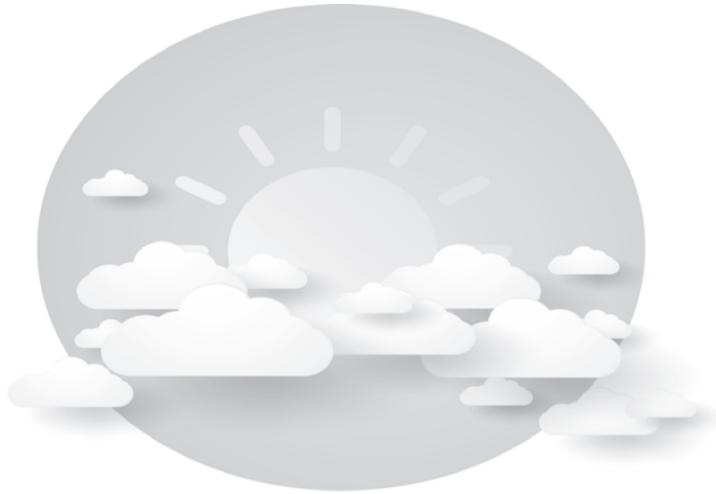
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ACCURACY WATCH

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

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^{*}Offers available at our Putnam office only and end October 31, 2020. Subject to change without notice. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) as of September 1, 2020.
¹ APY of 1.12% assumes principal remains on deposit for the term of the certificate. Minimum \$1,000 to open and maintain CD. Maximum opening deposit is \$100,000. Term of the account is 5 years. Each interest rate coincides with 12-month intervals from the date of account opening. Funds may be withdrawn from the account without penalty within a 10-day grace period after each 12-month interval. Otherwise, a penalty will be imposed for withdrawals not made during a grace period or at maturity. Fees may reduce the earnings on the account. Jewett City Savings Bank checking or savings account required as interest is transferred monthly to a linked checking or savings account. No additional deposits allowed after account opening. New money only; funds not currently on deposit with Jewett City Savings Bank. Limited to one account per household or business. Not available for Individual Retirement Accounts.
² No purchase or payment necessary to win prizes. Winners do not need to be a Jewett City Savings Bank customer. Visit www.jcsbank.com/putnam for complete rules and additional important information. Subject to 1099 reporting.

One hundred years ago this week

I've been trying to get a feel for what was happening in Northeastern Connecticut 100 years ago, so once again, I turned to newspapers.com for a look at 1920. Since I've been watching the baseball playoffs, I was quite surprised to come across an article about a local man who had just broken into the majors. Perhaps a few of you will recognize his name. "Paul Johnson, the North Grosvenordale boy, who was transferred from the Worcester team to the Athletics of the American League, has made good during the final few games of the season in which he has appeared as a big leaguer. His hitting would be a credit to a seasoned veteran of the major circuits and he will be given a glad-handed welcome when he gets home. He is expected here Sunday morning, having wired from Philadelphia that he expects to be able to leave that city for home Saturday night" (newspapers.com; Norwich Bulletin, Friday, Oct. 1, 1920, p. 6).

Johnson was a right-handed outfielder who was born September 2, 1896 and died in McAllen, Texas February 14, 1973, aged 76. He played for the Philadelphia Athletics during the 1920 and 1921 seasons. He broke into the big leagues on September 13, 1920. (en. Wikipedia.org; https://www.baseball-almanac.com/players/player.php?p=johnspa01).

In the fall of 1920, women were elated that they had finally been given the right to

vote in national elections. I came across an article about a female who had decided to run for local office. "The name of Mrs. Mabel Dupre Ryan will appear on the ballots for Monday's town election (in Putnam) as the democratic* candidate for tax collector. Mrs. Dupre is said to be the first woman candidate named in Windham County for such an important office" (newspapers.com; Norwich Bulletin, Friday, Oct. 1, 1920, p. 6). *Uncapitalized in the article.

"The closing down of textile plants in this territory has caused some moving about from one village to another by families, but here is not much of this, as textile workers are aware that conditions are much the same in all mill centers as they are in Killingly at the present time and little is to be gained by moving about." (newspapers.com; Norwich Bulletin, Friday, Oct. 8, 1920, p. 6).

The downturn in the economic climate in Killingly had challenged business leaders in the town to try to attract new industries. "A first dividend has been declared by the Danielson Development association. This is the concern that was organized here last winter for the purpose of bringing new industries into Danielson. That its programme (sic) has been successfully put into operation is attested by the presence of the Paco Manufacturing company (Powdrell and Alexander). The



KILLINGLY AT 300

MARGARET WEAVER

Development association supplied the funds for the purchase of the property on Furnace Street which has been remodeled and enlarged to house an industry that is now engaged in active operations and doing a splendid business." (newspapers.com; Norwich Bulletin, Friday, October 8, 1920, p. 6). Powdrell and Alexander went on to become one of the largest manufacturing concerns in Killingly, having six factories--the one on Furnace Street, one at the corner of Maple Street, one at Connecticut Mills, and one each in Attawaugan, Pineville, and Ballouville. During P & A's time Danielson became known as "Curtaintown U.S.A."

Fall 1920 brought hunting season, as it still does. "Killingly's hunters will be out in field and brush early as the light will let many of them this (Friday) morning for the first day's sport of the season with dog and gun. Game birds are said to be quite plentiful in some sections hereabouts, notwithstanding that last winter was unusually severe. This is the first hunting season since 1918 during which the shooting of partridge has been permitted. The law is off on these birds today." (newspapers.com; Norwich Bulletin, Friday, October 8, 1920, p. 6). Partridge, Oh! I associate that with the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" and a partridge in a pear tree, not with eating. As a child growing up in Pennsylvania, I can remember my father hunting for pheasant and the gorgeous feathers that it had. I don't remember how my mother cooked it, but I recall rabbit and squirrel potpie (Pennsylvania Dutch potpie--flat pieces of dough

dropped in boiling chicken broth with vegetables).

There were number of fall fairs in Northeastern Connecticut and adjacent states, and horse races were common in 1920. "Belle at Law, a pretty black mare that has been racing very successfully at fairs in southern New England this fall, has been sold by a group of local men that have owned her for a year past. Belle at Law has been cleaning up this season, winning races at Kingston, Norwich, Brooklyn and other places. In Wednesday's racing at Brockton fair, Belle at Law took first money in the race in which she was entered and set a new mark of 2.13 for herself. She has been racing under the entry of C. H. Michaels, landlord of the Danielson Inn and one of her owners. The local owners sold Belle at Law this week for a good price and she has since been resold at \$2500. Good horsemen say that it is not at all unlikely that she will lower her mark of 2.10 before the end of the present racing season. Belle at Law is only five years old and is rated sound as a dollar." (newspapers.com; Norwich Bulletin, Friday, October 8, 1920, p. 6).

"The temperature dropped to 29 degrees in Danielson during the early hours of Thursday when there was a killing frost." (newspapers.com, Norwich Bulletin, Fri. Oct. 8, 1920, p. 6).

Now I'll add a few 1933 extracts from the Oct. 12, 1933 Windham County Transcript. I'm sure some of you long-time area residents will recognize the names of the businesses mentioned below. "Allan Mopsik, who has been in business in Moosup and Plainfield since 1914, will open a store in Danielson on Friday (Oct. 13). The concern, which will be known as Allan's Clothes Shop, will be located at 22 Main St. Mr. Mopsik will handle men's suits, overcoats and topcoats, featuring Brunswick worsteds, which are woven in Moosup. He will continue his cleaning and dyeing establishment in Moosup, with the local store as

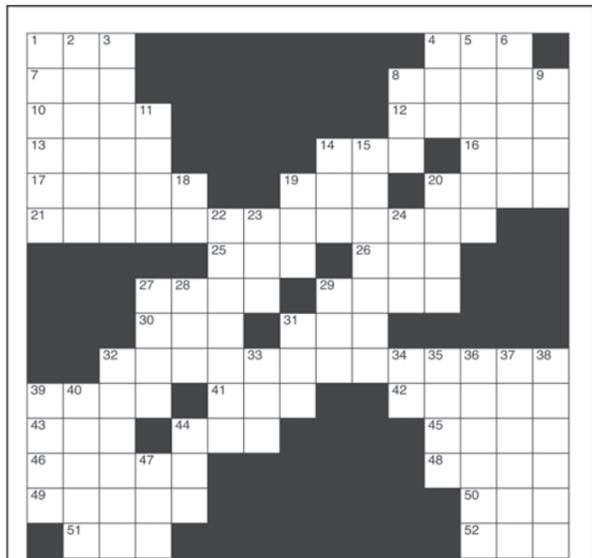
a service branch, giving twenty-four hour service.

"Morris Savage, proprietor of the Boston Meat Market, is celebrating the second anniversary of his establishment in business in Danielson with a special sales event. Mr. Savage came here from Putnam, locating in the old Diamond building. When it was razed he located temporarily on the West Side and as soon as the new Diamond Block was completed he returned to occupy modern and sanitary quarters there."

How many of you remember when Veterans Day was called Armistice Day? The November festivities in 1933 had a special dedication as a main part of the program. "Plans for the Armistice Day celebration which will include the dedication of the World war memorial in Davis Park..." "Signs and Floats, place your orders now for Armistice Day. Ralph M. Shoales, 47 School St." How will we commemorate the Armistice and celebrate Veterans Day this year with Covid restrictions? It's not too early to begin planning.

The mail and answering machine are being checked although the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center is closed. Please send your membership renewals to P.O. Box 265 Danielson, CT 06239.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, October, 2020. Thanks to Marilyn Labbe for the 1933 newspaper extracts. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 (when it reopens) or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250 (when the Historical Center reopens). Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistorical-society. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, Connecticut 06239



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. They look out for kids
- 4. Play
- 7. Water (French)
- 8. Prayer leader
- 10. Small constellation
- 12. ___ Carta: influential royal charter
- 13. Pressure unit
- 14. Extrasensory perception
- 16. A symbol of "Aloha"
- 17. Portion of the small intestine
- 19. Psychedelic amphetamine
- 20. Very long period of time
- 21. British overseas territory
- 25. Cereal grain
- 26. Car mechanics group
- 27. Wish harm upon
- 29. At a specific prior time
- 30. Peyton's younger brother
- 31. UK firefighters' union
- 32. Carroll O'Connor's screen partner
- 39. Popular show honoring musicians
- 41. Basics
- 42. Honk
- 43. Trent Reznor's band
- 44. Patti Hearst's captors
- 45. Long-legged wading bird
- 46. Specialized biological grouping
- 48. A coin goes in it
- 49. Of the wind
- 50. One-time measure of length
- 51. A very large body of water
- 52. River in NE Scotland

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Boston hoopster
- 2. A type of bribe
- 3. SE England county
- 4. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 5. "Hotel California" rockers
- 6. Italian province
- 8. Mischievous child
- 9. Popular street name
- 11. Boxing promoter Bob
- 14. Snakelike fish
- 15. Break into pieces
- 18. The Bay State
- 19. Time zone
- 20. Port city in Yemen
- 22. In name only
- 23. 007's creator
- 24. No (Scottish)
- 27. Baseball's Gordon and rock's Snider are two
- 28. Pie ___ mode
- 29. Don't know when yet
- 31. Supervises interstate commerce
- 32. Make a ringing metallic sound
- 33. Helps little firms
- 34. Pound
- 35. Lilly and Manning are two
- 36. Put on the back burner
- 37. Baltimore ballplayer
- 38. Cuddle
- 39. Poker stake
- 40. Drinks to celebrate a birth (Spanish)
- 44. Pouch
- 47. Not around

Hofstra University welcomes Lily Brin of Pomfret Center

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Hofstra University welcomes Lily Brin, who has joined our dynamic community of more than 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence, and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers. We can't wait to see all the great things Lily will do as a #HUWorldChanger!

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012

and 2016). Our campus is a leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreational and professional opportunities. We offer small classes and personal attention, with the resources, technology and facilities of a large university. Students can choose from more than 165 undergraduate program options and 175 graduate program options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred

DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Hofstra University is a dynamic community of 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers.

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Senior congregate living in Pomfret Center, CT is now accepting applications for our waiting list. Seniors 62+ may apply. If interested, call 860-928-2744 or email seelybrown400@yahoo.com for information.

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Adjusting to the times: Get your antique and collectibles appraised without leaving home



The pandemic has affected all of us in some way, and non-profits are no exception. The Worcester Historical Museum recently reopened with social distancing guidelines in place. The Worcester Art Museum is scheduled to reopen this week. Cancelled events due to COVID-19 decreased revenue at these larger non-profits. Smaller non-profits typically have fewer grants and have likely suffered larger setbacks due to COVID-19. With the inability conduct in-per-

son meetings, members of smaller non-profits have not been able to share the camaraderie with those who hold similar interests.

One local non-profit group is learning how to adapt during these unprecedented times. The Townsend Historical Society recently approached me about appraising items virtually. I had appraised items at a live appraisal event for them in Townsend in 2017. I enjoy the interaction with the public at these events and look forward to having that interaction soon, even if it's through a screen.

The event will take place via Zoom during the Townsend Historical Society's "Virtually Vintage: A Live, Online Antique Appraisal Event" on Oct. 10 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. You can buy tickets to get your items appraised on their website: townsendhistorical-society.org. Appraisals are \$10 each or 3 items for \$25. After you purchase your ticket(s), you can either send photos of your items and any history that you have or bring them in person to Townsend on the day of the event. Ticket holders will be able to watch the entire event or just sign in when it is time to have their items appraised.

I have been working closely with Taber Morrell, the Site Administrator for the Townsend Historical Society, to prepare for the event. In an email interview, he said that the Site Administrator is responsible for the "Reed Homestead where [they] do most of [their] tours and programs, and



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
•••••
WAYNE TUISKULA

where [their] records and artifact collections are stored." Morrell also said: "the position extends to other historic buildings we care for as well, a 19th century grist mill, cooperage, church, and some monuments throughout town."

Mr. Morrell provided me with some additional information on the organization and event. The group has close to 300 members who are "really active with the Historical Society and its programs." He informed me that the "appraisal held in 2017 along with our Arts and Crafts Fair are absolutely the most talked about events." Unfortunately, the fair had to be canceled this year, but the organization has been working hard to make many other events accessible virtually. Mr. Morrell said that the Townsend Historical Society has run a "virtual open house, an online presentation about the history of tourism in New England, and [they are] even working on a web-based cemetery tour for October." He informed me that "mem-

bers have been craving another edition of the antique appraisal [held with me] in 2017" and they hoped to "create a virtual version we could make a lot of people really happy." I look forward to utilizing modern technology to help online attendees learn more about their historical artifacts. I hope to see some regular readers of this column through my screen.

In addition to the virtual appraisal with the Townsend Historical Society, we also have other exciting events coming up this month. We will be holding an estate sale in Stoneham, Mass. on Oct. 17, following COVID-19 safety guidelines. Bidding will end on October 28th for our online coin auction. We are still accepting quality consignments for our multi-estate online antiques and collectibles auction ending on Nov. 11.

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

Pomfret Center resident graduates with Class of 2020 at Stonehill College

EASTON, Mass. — Caroline Schad, of Pomfret Center, graduated with the Class of 2020 during a virtual Commencement Ceremony this summer at Stonehill College.

Initially scheduled for Sunday, May 17 with a traditional in-person format but knocked off course by COVID-19, Stonehill's 69th Commencement finally took place on Saturday, Aug. 8, making history as the College's first virtual Commencement and the first ever held in August. Another big change this year was the presentation of candidates for master's degrees.

Live-streamed from Stonehill's McCarthy Auditorium in the Thomas and Donna May School of Arts & Sciences building the ceremony addressed 630 undergraduates, 13 graduates, their families, and a wider audience of Stonehill faculty, staff, alumni, and friends.

In prerecorded remarks, Commencement speaker New England Patriots star Matthew Slater drew on his career as a three-time Super Bowl Champion to hail the Class of 2020 for their ability to endure, persevere and thrive in the face of adversity.

Stonehill is a Catholic college located near Boston on a beautiful 384-acre campus in Easton, Massachusetts. With a student-faculty ratio of 12:1, the College engages over 2,500 students in 80+ rigorous academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and pre-professional fields. The Stonehill community

helps students to develop the knowledge, skills, and character to meet their professional goals and to live lives of purpose and integrity.



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Dr. Morales is now accepting new patients. To schedule an appointment call (860) 928-2552.

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THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1845:** THE U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY OPENS IN ANNAPOLIS, MD.
- **1966:** THE BEACH BOYS RELEASE "GOOD VIBRATIONS," ONE OF THEIR MOST POPULAR SINGLES.
- **1970:** FIJI GAINS ITS INDEPENDENCE FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

Staying on track with your strategic financial plan

Investing to achieve your financial life goals isn't about getting rich quick. More often, it's about having a game plan that you can live with over a long time. You wouldn't expect to be able to play the piano without learning the basics and practicing. Investing for your goals over the long term also takes a little knowledge and discipline. Though there can be no guarantee that any investment strategy will be successful, and all investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal, there are ways to help yourself build your retirement nest egg.

In last week's article we discussed the importance of creating a solid foundation for your financial plan: setting goals, a time horizon, and risk tolerance. Then you created an investment strategy, but the hard part is sticking to it. In this article, we will discuss key investment strategies and the importance of staying confident with your plan.

Compounding is your best friend. It's the "rolling snowball" effect. Put simply, compounding pays you earnings on your reinvested earnings. Here's how it works: Let's say you invest \$100, and that money earns a 7 percent annual return. At the end of a year, the \$7 you earned is added to your \$100; that would give you \$107 in your account. If you earn 7 percent again the next year, you're earning 7 percent of \$107 rather than \$100, as you did in the first year. Like a snowball rolling downhill, the value of compounding grows the longer you leave your money in the account. In effect, compounding can do some of the work of building a nest egg for you.

The longer you leave your money at work for you, the more exciting the numbers get. For example, imagine an investment of \$10,000 at an annual rate of return of 8 percent. In 20 years, assuming no withdrawals, your \$10,000 investment would grow to \$46,610. In 25 years, it would grow to \$68,485, a 47 percent gain over the 20-year figure. After 30 years, your account would total

\$100,627. (Of course, these are hypothetical examples that do not reflect the performance of any specific investment and assume that no taxes are paid, or withdrawals are made during that time.)

If your workplace savings plan contributions are made pretax, as most peoples are, compounding really becomes a powerful force. Not having to pay taxes from year to year on either your contributions or the compounded earnings helps your savings grow even faster (though you'll owe taxes on that money when you start withdrawing from your account). The value of compounded tax-deferred dollars is the main reason you may want to fully fund all tax-advantaged retirement accounts and plans available to you, and start as early as you can. Investing money over time can help compounding produce potentially significant returns. With time on your side, you don't necessarily have to aim for investment "home runs" in order to be successful.

Diversify your investments. Asset allocation is the process of deciding how to spread your dollars over several categories of investments, usually referred to as asset classes. A basic asset allocation would likely include at least stocks, bonds, and cash or cash alternatives such as a money market fund. The term "asset classes" also may refer to subcategories, such as particular types of stocks or bonds.

Asset allocation is important for two reasons. First, the mix of asset classes you own is a large factor — some say the biggest factor by far — in determining your overall investment portfolio performance. How you divide your money between stocks, bonds, and cash can be more important than your choice of specific investments. Second, by dividing your portfolio among asset classes that don't respond to market forces in the same way at the same time,



FINANCIAL FOCUS
.....
JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT ADVISER

you can help minimize the effects of market volatility while maximizing your chances of long-term return. Ideally, if your investments in one class are performing poorly, assets in another class may be doing better and may help stabilize

your portfolio. Remember that during any given period of market or economic turmoil, some asset categories and some individual investments historically have been less volatile than others. You can manage your risk to some extent by diversifying your holdings among various classes of assets, as well as different types of assets within each class. Taking steps that can help manage the amount of volatility you experience can help you stay with your game plan over the long term.

Stick to your strategy. Try to resist the impulse to change your investment strategy with every news headline or investing tip from a relative or coworker. Timing the market correctly is very difficult; even professionals find it a challenge. Most people fare better by having an investment game plan that can weather good times and bad, and then sticking to it. The 2020 presidential election and the COVID pandemic continue to create volatility in the market and may cause you to second-guess your investment strategy. However, history shows that presidential elections and their outcomes tend to have less of an effect on the market than we think. Visit our website, www.whzwealth.com/covid19-resources for more information about the relation between the presidential election, COVID, and the financial markets.

That doesn't mean you should simply forget about your investments altogether. At least once a year, you should review your portfolio to see if your choices are still appropriate. Even if your circumstances haven't changed,

market movements can affect how your money is divided among various types of investments. For example, if one type of asset has been very successful, it may now represent too large a share of your holdings. To rebalance your portfolio, you could sell some of an asset that's now larger than you intended and buy more of a type that is lower than desired. Or you could keep your existing allocation but shift future investments into an asset class you want to increase. But if you don't review your holdings periodically, you won't know whether a change is needed. You should meet with your financial advisor before making changes to your investment portfolio.

Remain calm and confident. There is no doubt that we are going through some very challenging times right now. However, it's important to err on the side of caution when making decisions about your investment strategy. Remember to focus on achieving your goals in the long-term and that you have a sound strategy to get you there. Check back each week as we continue to discuss important topics during Financial Planning Month. For more financial planning resources, visit our website www.whzwealth.com/resources/

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Unexpected twists and turns

Life is rarely as we plan it. What we expect often turns out differently and we are reluctantly forced to adjust accordingly. Riding the waves of life is what we make of it. It can be waves of frustration or we can allow those same waves to take us on a fascinating journey.

I didn't plan on spending the last few days in the hospital, yet here I am. So, I'm writing this column on my phone rather than my laptop. I'm

doing so, the old-fashioned way, without the use of my usual editing program. I'm horrified how this may be received by your newspaper but hopefully we can take it all in stride.

If you are a regular reader of my column, you know I'm fighting Stage 4 Stomach Cancer. It's not what I expected. This isn't what I planned. Lying in this hospital bed using one finger to type my column on a phone certainly isn't what I anticipated happening ... but it did.

So, what do you do when life unexpectedly changes your plans? You can react to the problem or you can respond. You can react with anger, sadness, frustration, or depression, or you can respond with courage to



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
.....
GARY W. MOORE

overcome the adversity. You can use your intuition to guide you. You can harness thoughtful and logical creativity and act to overcome the unexpected obstacle.

I've written about this before. There is a difference between reacting and responding. Reacting is usually a knee-jerk reaction that usually compounds the problem and makes it worse. Always try not to react.

Responding is different. When we respond, it's usually with calmness and courage to face the situation. Face the issue and always respond.

It also makes a difference in how we label things. We can call them problems or situations. Problems are nasty, headache causing circumstances that usually cause a reaction. A situation insinuates a circumstance that you can resolve. Label all your obstacle and unexpired circumstance as situations and not problems.

So, I'm choosing tonight to respond to the situation of being in the hospital rather than reacting to a problem that's out of my control. I can make this a problem or situation. I choose

it to be the latter. either one true. This newspaper may fire me over this problem if I can't resolve it. I instead choose to overcome this situation with courage, careful thought and logic and not disappoint the newspaper that relays on me.

Think about interchanging these words ... react vs respond and problem vs situation. We can look at the same event and react to a problem or respond to a situation. How we label it determines what we think I, and what we think determines how we view the obstacle. And again, how we view it determines if we react or respond.

I'll admit. The fact I'm being contained in a hospital without my computer caused me to momentarily react and become frustrated, but I took a breath and said out loud, this is a situation to be solved and not a problem. Once I thought about my options, my phone was it, and I resolved my situation and began typing.

As I began this column saying, life is never perfect. There will always be unexpected events that change destroy our carefully laid plans. The only choice you have in those moments is to label it as a situation rather than a problem and respond rather than react.

I always choose to respond.

Will you join me?

P.S.: I'm going to be fine. I had a bowel obstruction which is resolving itself. I hope to be released today.

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryW Moore 721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

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Richard Loomis, president of the Putnam Business Association, gives Kris Willis, president of the Putnam Rotary Club, a check for \$970. The funds came from the PBA's Pluck-a-Duck fund-raiser.

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AWARDS

continued from page A1

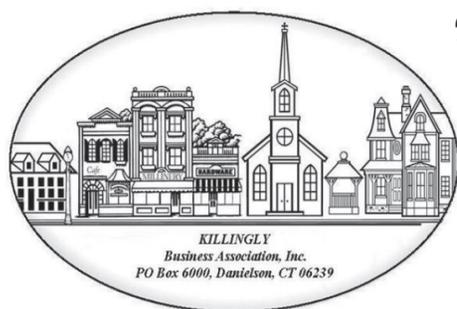
Achievement in Introduction to Careers
 Morgan Bentley: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 5 AP/ECE
 Aden Berthiaume: High Achievement in Culinary Arts
 Rianna Bessios: Outstanding Achievement in Art Remix
 Tabitha Bezanson: High Achievement in Anatomy & Physiology, High Achievement in Yoga, Uconn Avery Point Book Award
 Owen Bland: Outstanding Achievement in Exploring Multimedia
 Zoe Botta: Outstanding Achievement in Honors Latin 2
 Ethan Bove: Outstanding Achievement in ACC-2 Chemistry, Outstanding Achievement in AP Computer Science, Outstanding Achievement in Calculus AB, Outstanding Achievement in Honors Calculus, Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 4 ECE/ACC, Governor's Scholar Award Semi-Finalist, National Merit Scholarship Competition Semifinalist, AP Scholar with Distinction
 Katelin Briere: Outstanding Achievement in Piano 2, High Achievement in Spanish 2
 Logan Brock: AP Scholar with Distinction
 Jacob Brown: Outstanding Achievement in Game Design, High Achievement in Honors Chemistry
 Carah Bruce: High Achievement in Introduction to Careers
 Lauren Brule: High Achievement in Algebra 2
 Eshete Calvo: High Achievement in Personal Finance
 Paige Campbell: Outstanding Achievement in Biology
 Leah Castle: High Achievement in American Government & Politics
 Murphy Chace: Outstanding Achievement in Music Biz
 Riley Chapuis: Outstanding Achievement in AP US History, Outstanding Achievement in Mandarin 4 ACC, Connecticut College Book Award, AP Scholar with Distinction
 Suyeong Choi: Outstanding Achievement in AP Biology 2, Outstanding Achievement in AP Macroeconomics, High Achievement in Chemistry
 Alexandra Cloutier: High Achievement in Music Technology 1
 Camille Corrado: Outstanding Achievement in Family & Consumer Sciences
 Sara Cutillo Soria: Outstanding Achievement in International Business
 Ava Coutu: Outstanding Achievement in Innovative Technology
 Sydney Couture: Outstanding Achievement in Chorale, High Achievement in Spanish 4 ACC/ECE
 Shannon Cunniff: Outstanding Achievement in Honors Foundations of Science, Math Achievement Award
 Walker Dalton: Outstanding Achievement in Fire Technology
 Alexis Danila: Outstanding Achievement in Algebra 1, High Achievement in Honors Foundations of Science
 Hannah Darigan: High Achievement in Spanish 5 AP/ECE, AP Scholar with Distinction
 Carolina DaSilva: High Achievement

in Honors Foundations of Science
 Ella Davis: High Achievement in Honors Latin 1
 Julia Dearborn: High Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition, High Achievement in Modern US History, High Achievement in General Health
 James DiNoia: Outstanding Achievement in Italian 1 HON
 Stella DiPippo: DAR History Award, High Achievement in ACC-2 Chemistry, AP Scholar with Distinction
 Zhiyan Du: Outstanding Achievement in Calculus BC, Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 3 Hon, High Achievement in ACC-1 Chemistry, Harvard Book Award, Trinity College Book Award, College Board National Rural & Small Town Recognition, AP Scholar with Distinction
 Eliza Dutson: AP Scholar
 Lennon Favreau: Outstanding Achievement in Art 1
 Atticus Finch: High Achievement in Honors Biology
 Luella Flanagan: High Achievement in Art 1
 Tomson Flanagan: High Achievement in Photography
 Chloe Forsten: Outstanding Achievement in 3D Animation
 Kileigh Gagnon: High Achievement in Honors Chemistry, AP Scholar with Honor
 William Gaug: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 3
 Gabriel Geyer: High Achievement in ACC-1 Chemistry, High Achievement in Anatomy & Physiology
 Emily Goodell: Outstanding Achievement in Foundations of Science
 Jaydon Gormley: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 1 HON, High Achievement in Algebra 2, High Achievement in English 1, High Achievement in Honors Foundations of Science, High Achievement in Modern World History
 Tyler Green: High Achievement in Biology
 Matthew Griffin: High Achievement in Biology
 Colby Groves: Outstanding Achievement in Music Technology 2
 Madelyn Groves: High Achievement in ACC Biology 1
 Liam Hagan: Outstanding Achievement in Geometry, Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 4 HON, High Achievement in ACC Biology 2
 Samuel Hagan: Outstanding Achievement in Computer Science
 Lillian Hagerman: Outstanding Achievement in Human Biology
 Emma Hayden: High Achievement in American Government & Politics
 Emma Heimgartner: High Achievement in American Government & Politics
 Sergio Herrera Moreno de Acevedo: High Achievement in International Business
 Yago Herrera Moreno de Acevedo: High Achievement in Honors Physics
 Emma Hovestadt: Outstanding Achievement in Individual & Family Development, AP Scholar with Distinction
 Joey Ignacio: Outstanding Achievement in Anatomy & Physiology, High Achievement in Weight Training, AP Scholar with Honor
 Aleena Jafar-DeCesare: Outstanding Achievement in English 1, Outstanding Achievement in Musical Theater,

High Achievement in General Health, High Achievement in Modern World History, High Achievement in Spanish 2 HON
 Brian Jameson: First Year Math Award - Highest Ranking Freshman in Math, Outstanding Achievement in Algebra 2, High Achievement in Geometry
 Hannah Johnson: High Achievement in Foundations of Science
 Nathan Joseph: High Achievement in Foundations of Science
 Ashley Kasacek: Outstanding Achievement in Honors Biology, High Achievement in Spanish 3 HON
 Esmeralda Kasnecki: High Achievement in English 1
 Keegan Kelleher: High Achievement in Peer Tutor - Percussion Prep
 Megan Kelly: High Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition
 Samuel Kim: Outstanding Achievement in Explorations in Woodworking, High Achievement in Algebra 2, High Achievement in Foundations of Science, High Achievement in Mandarin 1 HON
 Cassandra Klingensmith: Outstanding Achievement in Piano 1
 Brynn Kusnarowis: Outstanding Achievement in ACC Environmental Science, AP Scholar with Honor
 Kaily LaChapelle: Outstanding Achievement in Honors Physics, High Achievement in Honors Chemistry
 Jady LaFlamme: High Achievement in Peer Tutor - Concert Band
 Annika LeBoeuf: Outstanding Freshman Artist, High Achievement in Drawing
 Curtis Lefebvre: High Achievement in Spanish 1
 Mackenzie Leveille: Outstanding Achievement in Early Childhood Education
 Aochen Li: Outstanding Achievement in ECE Latin 5
 Joanna Lin: Outstanding Achievement in Mandarin 1 HON
 Kanxu Lin: High Achievement in Mandarin 1 HON
 Seamus Lippy: High Achievement in Spanish 2
 Alexis Lisee: High Achievement in Modern World History
 Hanna Longwell: AP Scholar with Distinction
 Elizabeth Lovrien: Outstanding Achievement in German 1 HON
 Angela Lu: Outstanding Achievement in Honors Forensics, High Achievement in Modern US History, High Achievement in Precalculus
 Ciara MacKinnon: Outstanding Achievement in English 3, High Achievement in Modern US History, AP Scholar with Honor
 Leila MacKinnon: Outstanding Achievement in Honors Latin 1
 Thy Mai: Outstanding Achievement in English Intensive 1 & 2, Outstanding Achievement in English 1a & 1b
 Marco Maluf: AP Scholar with Distinction
 Jillian Marcotte: Outstanding Achievement in Multicultural Foods, Outstanding Achievement in Sports Management, High Achievement in Honors Biology
 Samuel Massey: Outstanding Achievement in German 5 ACC, Gettysburg Book Prize, AP Scholar
 Sophia Mawson: AP Scholar
 Joshua May: High Achievement in

Family Foods & Nutrition
 Emily McClure: AP Scholar with Honor
 Lucy McDermott: AP Scholar
 Ella McMahon: High Achievement in Electronic Design
 Kamden Meyer: High Achievement in English 1
 Alina Michalski: American History Award
 Everett Michalski: Outstanding Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition
 Emme Miglietta: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 4, High Achievement in Ceramics
 Bryn Miller: Outstanding Achievement in General Physical Education
 Gavin Miller: Outstanding Achievement in Guitar 2
 Carly Millette: Outstanding Achievement in Prenatal Development & Infancy
 Elizabeth Morgis: Outstanding Achievement in STEAM Foundations
 Abigail Morin: Outstanding Achievement in Guitar 1, High Achievement in Algebra 1, High Achievement in Art 1, High Achievement in Spanish 1 HON
 Sofia Murray: AP Scholar
 Matthew Myslenski: High Achievement in Modern World History
 Salwa Naveed: Outstanding Achievement in Individual & Dual Sports, AP Scholar with Honor
 Elias Newall-Vuillemot: Outstanding Achievement in Weight Training
 Ashley Nunes: High Achievement in Modern US History
 Lindsay Nuttall: High Achievement in Piano 1
 Savannah Olson: High Achievement in Photography
 Maya Orbegozo: Outstanding Achievement in Percussion Prep, High Achievement in Spanish 1 HON
 Avery Pajak: Outstanding Achievement in Aerospace Engineering
 Alyssa Patel: High Achievement in Music Technology 2
 Dhruvi Patel: High Achievement in Algebra 2
 Lily Patenaude: Outstanding Achievement in Mandarin 3 HON
 John Peabody: Outstanding Achievement in Symphonic Band, High Achievement in English 3, High Achievement in Honors Chemistry
 Alexa Pechie: High Achievement in Honors Forensics
 Oliver Pendelton: AP Scholar
 Payton Peterson: Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry
 Lily Pierce: Outstanding Achievement in Personal Finance
 John Pokorny: High Achievement in Honors Biology
 Julia Powell: High Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition
 Megan Preston: AP Scholar with Honor
 Arriel Quant: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 2
 Connor Quinn: Outstanding Achievement in Advanced Engineering Robotics, AP Scholar with Distinction
 Austin Quinney: High Achievement in Foundations of Science
 Maxwell Racicot: AP Scholar
 David Ramos: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 2 HON, High

Turn To **AWARDS** page **A14**



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
 PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

Preparing for winter

Like a squirrel gathering nuts, I'm working on putting aside ideas and projects to keep me going through the long winter that is slipping in right on schedule. As I gather colorful leaves and insist that autumn is less striking than usual, I am collecting my own "acorns" and ideas to make the dark days more bearable, productive and pleasant. Rather than hibernating, we can let our New England heartiness kick in and actually accomplish something. Or feel a bit less glum.

We've bought two outdoor heaters. They run on propane, and they look like fiery lamp posts. When I saw them years ago in France they seemed exotic. Now they seem indispensable. The cost rose significantly between the first and

second purchases, so perhaps they are selling out. They don't throw much heat, but they give the illusion of warmth and that is enough for a socially distanced drink outside. We have a free-standing fire pit that came with the house. It too is more illusion than effectiveness, but it is safer than a wood fire during this droughty time.

No matter what happens, get outside every day for a deep breath of fresh air and a walk. The Airline Trail is a wonderful, safe and easy place to take a dog, a friend or both for a few flat miles of stretching one's legs on foot or a bike. The trail is pleasantly boring with trees, weeds, brush and the sky. When I stroll along it, I think about the engineering marvel it was and the hard working immigrants who carved a train track out of the rocky wilderness. Work is being completed on two overpasses and one underpass within my town. I'll welcome the chance to use all three. At least it will be something new to experience.

I've checked out my snow shoes and find that the new ones, made from aluminum, courtesy of LL Bean, are much better than the giant old ones that look like tennis rackets. I suppose they still have some utility if used to decorate a rustic cabin. I plan to lace up my boots, slip on the snow shoes and troop off into the snow drifts. Let's hope we have plenty of snow for sledding and tramping and cold temperatures to freeze local ponds. Safe distancing won't be hard outside and masks will feel good.

Bird feeders are the cheapest entertainment around. I bought a giant bag of sunflower seeds to get started and a case of suet. Every day I sense little eyes peering through the windows demanding that I refill the feeders immediately. I comply. In return, I get an ever changing show of shapes, feathers, personalities and avian style. This year, I plan to add more feeders and a few different kinds of seeds. I work on identifying every visitor to the buffet, but I'm not sure about some of the tiny brown birds. This year, armed with "Birds of Connecticut" I'm sorting out the wrens from the sparrows. I resist characterizing some birds as greedy or too aggressive, seeing some as "better" than others. We've got enough of that going on with humans. I'll enjoy the birds for being exactly who and what they are, especially if I know their names.

My husband made a list of warm clothes he needs. One daughter ordered children's boots as they might be in short supply. Another is buying black beans, chickpeas, chicken broth and books! With about 75 days until the winter solstice, I'm stockpiling sun light, deep breaths of chilly air and time with my feathered friends.

CLAUDIA ALLEN & ROMAN JAMIESON THOMPSON

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Somers, Dauphinais, and Lanoue deserve your vote

To the Editor:
 I am writing to ask that this Nov. 3, you come out to the polls to vote for three people who have given their all to their constituents. These three people have proven that they fight to give our region support in all aspects of our communities. Working to bring in connections to regional transportation, fighting for jobs, infrastructure and the economy. They are always available to answer ques-

tions, take the time to explain why they vote on important legislation and always listen to your input.

Please consider voting to re-elect Heather Somers – State Senate, Anne Dauphinais – State Representative, and Brian Lanoue – State Representative.

KEVIN M. CUNNINGHAM
 PLAINFIELD

When will it be time for a third party?

To the Editor:
 It is indeed sad news that President Trump and the First Lady have tested positive for Covid-19, and I'll give tons of credit to Joe Biden, his wife and to Barack Obama for wishing them well. However, this wasn't the case with some useless Hollywood garbage and the squad members. I'm only going to laugh at them because I doubt that anybody actually takes these fools seriously. It was questioned as if Obama's well wishes were genuine, as was the extent of the President's illness, and if it will be used as an election tool, and to this I say; shame on you people!

So now it appears that the President has been released from the hospital and is heading home. That is indeed great news, but of course, that will turn into yet another moan and groan issue for the left's news media, the fools on liberal talk radio, and probably for some of my fellow letter writers.

Now, I'm expecting to see a few accompanying letters this week commenting on the first Presidential debate. That debate was a sickening spectacle involving two men who acted like immature little brats. On the day after that disgusting mess, I listened to the comments on my usual talk radio programs, and depending on which side it came from, it was nothing more than the expected «hooray for my side» rantings.

Chris Wallace indeed had a thankless job. If I was to moderate the next debate, I wouldn't even have the candidates in the same room, and when whomever was speaking, that's all you'd be able to see or hear. And, for the next debate, it should be made mandatory that both men apologize to each other - starting with Donald Trump! I know that this is totally a stretch, but if you want to take both the popular vote and the electoral college com-

pletely out of the picture, why don't we decide who'll become the next President by having a "pay-per-view," steel cage until submission brawl? The money generated from that event would probably pay off the national debt.

Pelosi said she «lost sleep» because Trump would not declare the «proud boys» a white supremacist group, but of course, she's never spoken out against Antifa or BLM. (Any surprise there?) Fact is that the Proud Boys' organization also includes men of color, and I'd rather have the "proud boys" on my side any day of the week! During the debate, Chris Wallace asked President Trump if he was willing to denounce "white supremacists and militia groups," and Trump answered "sure, I'm willing to do that," but obviously, the word "sure" didn't translate into "yes" for certain observers. Pelosi had said that she would have resigned if Hillary Clinton became President, and if she now declared a similar intention, I'd gladly accept a Biden presidency if it only resulted in getting her out of politics forever!

As for the issue of Trump's taxes: «while there is no law requiring Trump to publicly release his tax returns, federal law of IRS Code section 6103(f) does require Trump's (or anyone else's) tax returns to be given to Congress if they request it.» Personally, I'd like to see the President get this done, but of course, it will never be over, and it will only result in more belly-aching.

When will we ever have a truly viable third party candidate, and now I'd bet that the thought of Vermin Supreme for President doesn't seem like such a bad idea?

ED DELUCA
 NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Anne gets my vote

To the Editor:
 When I cast my vote on Election Day this Nov. 3, I will once again choose Anne Dauphinais (R-44th) to represent me and my interests in congress, and I'd like to share why.

As a lifelong resident of the Quiet Corner, I see our most immediate and important challenges to be lack of transparency in government, out of control spending, and executive overreach. Anne encourages her constituency to understand and be a part of the legislative process; she is accessible and approachable, always keeping those in her district up

to date on issues that matter to us most while engaging in discussion and really listening. In congress, Anne asks tough questions and votes according to her conscience, often a vigilant voice of opposition to the majority party running the show in Hartford. Anne is committed to protecting our freedoms, the Constitution being the foundation of her core belief system, and her record speaks to that. If these issues are important to you, I hope you'll join me in my support for Anne too.

BECKY DUFF
 KILLINGLY

We need Christine Rosati Randall in Hartford

To the Editor:
 Many people already know who they are voting for for President, but let's not forget our local candidates who play a very important role in our towns. Christine Rosati Randall has been a tremendous advocate for Northeast Connecticut long before running for office and even after her term ended in 2017. She's running for state representative again and I ask all the voters to learn more about Christine.

Remember when DEEP came to Killingly and killed a beloved swan? It was Christine that took on DEEP and was effective in having them change their protocols. She has invested in our communities, raising her family in Killingly and working on a variety of important causes. She currently works for Day Kimball Healthcare, connecting fami-

lies to parenting support, which is especially important during this COVID crisis.

She is a board member for Access Agency, which provides assistance to many of our families with fixed or low incomes, including operating shelters and housing programs for our homeless populations. Christine is always willing to listen, but takes that information into action and ultimately, results. She is a hard worker and someone the forgotten corner needs in their corner. Elections matter and their results have consequences. We are heading into an uncertain future. We will need an effective and tireless advocate... we will need Christine.

Thank You,

DON GLADDING
 MOOSUP

Larry Groh will bring represent us well in Hartford

To the Editor:
 The 51st District Connecticut State Representative race gives voters of Killingly, Putnam and Thompson the opportunity to send to Hartford a strong candidate with years of successful public service to put our local best interest forward.

Larry Groh, Jr. has a record of integrity, responsiveness to our townspeople and a calm, nonreactive manner during times of strife.

Larry served our town of Thompson well for three terms as First Selectman, passing five annual budgets on the first vote. He did this by engaging with stakeholders, ordinary citizens and other town officials. But Larry also listened to the needs of children-who have no vote-and to those who may not even be voters. All people in our town were his constituents and they all mattered, regardless

of political impact.

Larry is approachable, unassuming, available, and knows how to work hard to bring about results that improve quality of life while keeping the big picture in mind.

Best of all, Larry is a listener who thinks through facts, weighs fairness and need, and will fight if necessary using what he has learned instead of merely implementing the agenda of a political party. His manner is invariably respectful and level-headed.

Larry will bring a necessary change to our Hartford presence that will benefit 51st District citizens. We believe he deserves that chance, and that our citizens deserve the kind of representation he offers. We urge voters to choose him on Nov. 3.

CLAUDIA ALLEN & ROMAN JAMIESON THOMPSON

The need to unplug

Oftentimes, our ideas for editorials arise when something close to us personally surfaces that hits home, or when we hear a significant amount of chatter about a specific topic. This week, the chatter has been about national news overload.

We love the news — after all, it's what we do. Sharing information with our readers on the local level is both an honor and a necessity. This week, however, we have heard many people say they just can't listen to the national news anymore. They feel bombarded, often times leaving them feeling depressed and overwhelmed. News junkies watch the news every morning and night, check their Twitter feeds, listen to talk radio on their commutes and are constantly in the know. It's important and responsible to be aware of what's happening around you, however finding a balance is key, even for those of us in the businesses.

It seems as though the national news cycle has been nothing but chaos over the past several years, especially with regard to the current presidential election. Relentless statistics about the COVID-19 pandemic and negative commentary trying to pass itself off as analysis of the candidates and their platforms seems to ping our phones almost on the minute. This can be exhausting.

As a way to catch your breath, pick one day of the week as a 'no news' day, sort of like a news siesta. Get outside, unplug, read a book, listen to some vinyl or watch Cobra Kai (we do recommend for a splash of nostalgia). Attempt to shut off the little magic box we all stare at way too much on the daily. Could landlines actually still serve a purpose?

If you feel like you can't make a difference, realize that you can. First, it goes without saying, get out and vote. Second, do something every day to make the world a better place, even if that means your own little world. Such actions result in the domino effect.

Take some time to count the blessings in your life. Positivity still surrounds us in bulk if you look for it. Family, friends, dogs, crisp fall leaves, apple crisp, bacon, a friendly wave from a neighbor, morning coffee, a cold drink, a beautiful hike or walk, a good novel and a nice music blasting session are just a few things we can lean on to always lift us back up.

LETTERS POLICY

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



Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.
 – Benjamin Franklin
www.860Local.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Lisa Thomas has my support

To the Editor:

I would like to express my support for Lisa Thomas for State Senator for District 35.

As a former student of Lisa's, I can speak from personal experience about her strength, intelligence, and caring nature. In Lisa's classes at Hebron Elementary School, she challenged me to think critically and to explore topics, ideas, and books that I had never experienced before.

While she taught in Hebron, Lisa introduced the Future Problem Solving Program, which teaches students critical problem solving and teamwork skills and encourages them to engage with complex social and scientific issues. After getting my start with FPS in sixth grade under Lisa's coaching, I participated in the program for seven

years, and I look back on my experiences as an FPS-er as some of the most formative of my young adulthood. The program taught me how to work with others on a team, how to think creatively and analytically, and how to lead, and it is thanks to Lisa that I had that opportunity.

Today, we face significant challenges: the global pandemic, the ongoing struggle for racial justice, climate change, and many more. We need a State Senator who knows how to solve problems, who is a passionate advocate for education, and who is committed to her community. Lisa Thomas is that person.

ANNA NEWMAN
TOLLAND

I support Lisa Thomas for Senator for the 35th District

To the Editor:

My kids were lucky to attend good schools and had some great teachers. But for both Steve and Amanda, one teacher stood out — Lisa Thomas. Lisa ran the Challenge & Enrichment and Future Problem Solvers programs at Hebron Elementary School. She taught kids how to think critically, opened their minds to issues affecting people way beyond their town limits, inspired them to persist when stuck, encouraged them to work together on teams even when it was hard and they didn't all agree, she taught patience and diplomacy and compassion for one other. I'm sure that she influenced my kids' career choices (international relations and fuel cell technology).

Lisa has gone on to public service and is now running to be the State Senator for Connecticut's 35th District. I've followed her as she's spoken out on

issues that I care about. These include improving access to quality health care (and mental health care), supporting small businesses and promoting economic growth for Eastern Connecticut, preserving our natural resources, and of course, continuing to provide high quality education for all.

Lisa has the intelligence, temperament and communication skills to be an excellent legislator. While she has strong beliefs and great ideas, she asks good questions, listens well and works together with her colleagues to get things done. Her experience as a lawyer, educator and a public servant (having served on the Coventry Town Council for 11 years), will help make her an excellent State Senator.

DONNA JOLLY
HEBRON

Why I'm supporting Larry Groh

To the Editor:

My vote this election feels more important now than in past years and it has everything to do with how I see candidates on the issues that I'm most concerned about. In helping me choose the right candidate to represent me I had a chance to review the voting record of the sitting State Rep., Rick Hayes, 51st district. I was shocked to learn that among the many votes he participated in the past two years he chose to vote against those that had a direct impact on his constituents. His no vote to cap Insulin prices was only 1 of 4 no votes. As a person recently diagnosed with Diabetes I couldn't understand why anyone would choose to vote against this bipartisan bill. I later heard him on a local talk show respond by saying... "It was going to pass any-

way" when asked why he voted no. That's not the answer I wanted to hear. His no votes to establish a workforce pipeline for manufacturing jobs was another shock to me. Why would anyone vote against a pipeline for manufacturing jobs when we have such an outstanding program for just that at QVCC. His no vote to ensure adequate staffing at nursing homes was just another mind boggling vote. Again, another bipartisan vote. It's clear to me that Mr. Hayes fails to work across party lines for the benefit of his constituents. That is the reason my vote will be for Larry Groh who has a history of working with all people regardless of party.

RENE MARION
PUTNAM

Re-elect Anne Dauphinais for 44th District State Rep!

To the Editor:

I met Anne several years ago, when she was knocking on doors during her first campaign. We hit it off instantly, and I felt she would represent our best interests in Hartford. She has not let me down.

Anne has the same beliefs & concerns as many people in our area and relies on her core values to guide her voting decisions. She is fiscally responsible, while also looking out for our

freedoms, safety and independence. I watch her talk and more importantly listen to people...even the ones that may have a negative comment. During these crazy times, Anne is exactly who we need in Hartford and I am proud to say she is my State Rep and my friend. Sincerely

KYLE NAPIERATA
DANIELSON

Karma

To the Editor:

Donald Trump arrived at the hospital with Covid-19 just days after mocking Joe Biden for wearing a mask — more than a little ironic. The same Donald Trump who called Covid-19 "a hoax," "fake news," and "a liberal conspiracy." The same Donald Trump who's trying to repeal The Affordable Care Act, while he gets the best medical care that taxpayer money can buy.

I feel extremely bad — for over 200,000 Americans that have suffered and died,

and for their loved-ones left behind. For the thousands of Americans who have lost their jobs and a place to live. For all the stressed-out Front-Line Workers who deal with this nightmare every day. But for Donald Trump, who could have done so much more to help and protect the American people, but chose to play politics instead, I can only think of one word — karma.

TODD PATRIE
POMFRET CENTER

The rush to replace Ginsburg is appalling

To the Editor:

It is appalling, the rush to replace Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the Supreme Court. The woman has not even been properly mourned. Politicians and the press should be ashamed of their actions. She was an amazing inspiring woman who did a lot to further equality for women, to have women treated on the same footing as men.

Lincoln said a house divided cannot stand. We are a divided country; there is no decency or justice in politics. We need to value the creeds and ideals that unite us rather than focus on the differences. Empathy for the loss and suffering of others is important, being

treated equally regardless of race, gender, religious belief or sexual orientation is important.

Peaceful protest is important. No one wants violence or looting, no one wants a pandemic that kills people, no one wants police brutality or racial profiling. We need to stand up for the rights of all people. And we need to elect people who believe in the values that have made America great not elect people who are dismantling our democracy and rushing to pack the supreme court with no regard for the will of the people.

ANN C. ROSEBROOKS
THOMPSON

Dauphinais' votes defy logic

To the Editor:

Last week's letters supporting Anne Dauphinais were very interesting. One says "Government is...a necessary evil." Another says Anne "pushes back against this insanity." A third rails about loss of "constitutional freedoms."

Not one of these letters claimed Anne Dauphinais actually solved any problem affecting the citizens of the 44th District.

None claimed Anne's vote against capping the price big pharma can charge for a medicine Donald Trump said should be as cheap a water would benefit District 44. They didn't because it didn't. It did benefit big pharma, though.

Anne recently spoke passionately against Gov. Lamont's actions to contain the spread of the Covid virus. Given Connecticut's very good position compared to all states nationally and even adjoining states, why would anyone want to go in the direction of Florida or Texas? Polls show the vast majority of Connecticut residents support the Governor but a small group, including Anne Dauphinais oppose what he has done. Is wearing a mask the kind of insanity the writer was referring to?

Earlier, Anne took the position opposing highway tolls. What did she and

the Republicans propose instead? Use the rainy-day fund and borrow if there is ever a crisis. Well there is a crisis and thanks to level headed thinking we have those funds. Nobody wants a tax, but the gas tax is too high and is insufficient to maintain the roads and bridges. In a world with high mileage gas engines, hybrid and electric cars where are the extra funds coming from? Bottom line; no solutions, out-of-state trucks and cars continue to transverse the state for free, and roads and bridges remain in poor condition. I suspect even Thomas Paine would see fixing the state's infrastructure is the "necessary" part of the "necessary evil."

I want more from my representative than a person who is "against" the government she is a member of. I want to get a mailing from my representative with more than vague statements about how she "fights for us." I want specific actions, a list of co-sponsored legislation passed, and specific projects she has worked on to benefit our district. I want a representative I don't need to call to have her explain her vote (#AskAnneWhy) that defies logic. I'll be voting for Christine Rosati Randall.

DAVID SMITH
DANIELSON

Don't be duped by Dauphinais

To the Editor:

Please do not be duped by Dauphinais. She was elected to be a public servant and represent the values of the people in her district. Her voting record has proven she is only working to push her own far right, extremist views. She will tell you what she thinks you want to hear and say anything to get elected.

Anne shows up for photo ops and takes credit for other people's work. She defends each of her bad votes by manipulating the public, claiming we do not understand the bill. She

takes advantage of the voters' lack of information. Her no votes to banning toxic substances in children's clothing, not allowing pregnant women access to health insurance and capping insulin costs may sound unbelievable but sadly, they are true, and represent only a handful of her extreme votes.

Please join me in supporting the candidate who has a proven record of working for us, Christine Rosati Randall.

RENEE TOPER
CENTRAL VILLAGE

Represent us!

To the Editor:

She's unbelievable! Remember the storm we recently had where most people lost power for days? Many lost all of their food. Well, just last week, our Representative, Anne Dauphinais, voted no to requiring Eversource to give us a credit for those losses (HB 7006). The CEO made over \$19 million last year, and we can't get \$250 for lost food? This is not the first time she has sided with Eversource.

There was another bill in 2019 (SB 469) that would look at Eversource's performance and minimum staffing

requirements for storm response. Anne Dauphinais voted no to that also. Both of these bills passed with overwhelming bi-partisan support.

You have to ask, who is she representing? Going into an uncertain winter season, can we really afford to have Anne working against us? I will be voting for the candidate who wasn't afraid to take on Eversource, Christine Rosati Randall. I urge others to do the same.

AMIE WEEKLEY
PLAINFIELD

Ginsburg's legacy reminds us of the importance of voting

To the Editor:

My sister, Gretchen Volenik, wrote this poem the night Ruth Bader Ginsburg died.

RBG
How does such a small person
Encompass such Greatness?

It looks like this:

You get up every morning
With a purpose in your heart,
A commitment, not for yourself,
But the "Other",
Your sisters, the migrants, the poor
and disenfranchised,

A commitment to Democracy
And a country that stands on the
freedom
To choose the life that is right for
you.

This commitment is your life
Day in and day out,
When you are well
And when you are sick.
You show up and you defend
What you know is right, with
Kindness and humor
And love.

How do we honor such a life?
We put on our high heels, sneakers,
sandals
And working boots.
We march together
And speak as One,
And we vote
As if our lives, our daughters' and
granddaughters'
Depend upon it.

Because it does.

I felt compelled to share it, both to honor Justice Bader's life and to underscore the conclusion, that voting in this upcoming election is crucial. It is not too late to register. You may register online (<https://voterregistration.ct.gov>) or by mail through Oct. 27. Applications must be hand delivered or post-marked by this date in order to be accepted for the Nov. 3 election. The on-line voter registration deadline is 11:59 p.m. The 27th also is a mandated registration session for all Registrar's Offices across the state. Applicants can appear in person to register that day — check your town's website for

Registrar's office hours.

On Nov. 2, registrars throughout the state will hold a limited special registration session for those seeking to vote in the election whose qualifications as to age, citizenship or residence was attained since Oct. 27. On Nov. 3, Election Day Registration allows eligible people to register to vote in person and cast a ballot on Election Day if he or she meets eligibility requirements for voting and is either (1) not already an elector or (2) is registered in one municipality but wants to change his or her registration because he or she currently in lives in another municipality. A person is eligible to register and vote if he or she is a U.S. citizen, age 18 years or older, and a bona fide resident of the municipality which he or she applies for admission as an elector.

All eligible electors should have already received an application for an absentee ballot for the Nov. 3 Presidential Election. The State of Connecticut has determined that if a voter has a pre-existing illness and does not feel safe at the designated polling place they may vote by absentee ballot. If a voter does not have a pre-existing illness, and there is not a widely available vaccine, the existence of COVID-19 virus allows a voter to vote by absentee if they so choose for their own safety.

When you receive your application, and you chose to vote with an absentee ballot, please return the application promptly. This will allow the Town Clerk's office to process the application and get the actual ballot back to you for your voting. Town Clerks will begin mailing ballots out on Oct. 2, and you can submit your ballot as soon as you receive it. Please follow the instructions carefully! You must sign and seal the inner envelope for your ballot to be valid! You may return the ballot via USPS or directly to your town's secure Ballot Drop Box at your town hall but it must be received (not just postmarked) by 8 p.m. on Nov. 3 to be counted. However you choose to vote is your decision, but voting is a right, a privilege and a responsibility. Please exercise that right so that your vote will be counted on Nov. 3.

ELAINE NELSON
POMFRET CENTER

Top open-wheel racers preparing for World Series Modified, 350 Super Opens

THOMPSON — Some of the top open-wheel racers from throughout the Northeast are getting ready for two major open events as part of the 58th Annual Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing at Connecticut's Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. The Budweiser Modified Open and 350 Supermodified Open on Saturday, Oct. 10 have big prizes up for grabs and big names ready to chase them.

The 75-lap open event for Tour-type Modifieds has more than \$26,000 in posted awards with \$5,000 for the winner. Notable Modified racers such as Eric Goodale, Chase Dowling, Jeff Gallup, and Mike Christopher Jr. are preparing their ground-pounders for one of the most anticipated events on the packed World Series schedule.

Of the early entries for the Budweiser Modified Open, Bethlehem's Dowling might be the one to keep the closest eye on. The 22-year-old hot shoe is already a winner at Thompson Speedway in the Modified Racing Series at the 2019 Icebreaker.

Dowling also has victories with the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, Tri-Track Open Modified Series, Modified Touring Series, and Stafford Motor Speedway SK Modifieds in his young career. For the Budweiser Modified Open, he will team with veteran car owner Jimmy Paige and his #00 Troyer machine. Dowling will also drive a NEMA Midget during the weekend, and says the Modified might feel like slow motion, compared to the winged midget around the .625-mile oval.

"We've been good at Thompson in the

past few years, winning or finishing second," Dowling said. "But we've been struggling lately with Jimmy's car. The guys took the car apart, found a few things wrong with it and I think we will be good going back there. Thompson is its own character... the racing has been aggressive there lately, which is good for the fans. It's creates a risk versus reward."

Riverhead, N.Y.'s Goodale comes into the Budweiser Modified Open on an upswing. The veteran recently won the pole for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event at Stafford, producing a much-needed highlight in a tough season. The multi-time NASCAR Modified winner has a career-best Thompson finish of third and looks to improve on that in his familiar #58.

The Mike Christopher, Jr. entry is one of the most intriguing to date. Wolcott's Christopher, the nephew of the all-time leading Thompson Speedway winner Ted Christopher, will drive for Tommy Baldwin Racing in the Budweiser Modified Open. The pairing of the second-generation racer and the Daytona 500-winning crew chief has run up front in the Stafford Open Modified series this year. Christopher has a Sunoco Modified win at Thompson and now is aiming for an even bigger score.

Agawam, Mass.'s Jeff Gallup, Center Conway, New Hampshire's Andy Shaw, and Copiague, N.Y.'s Glen Steger are among the other Modified racers who have field entries. Gallup and Shaw are proven frontrunners in various touring Modified divisions while Steger is a longtime competitor in the local

Sunoco Modifieds. The many rules options for the event allows these racers and many more to share the asphalt at America's oldest paved race track.

Several household names are also gearing up for the 30-lap, \$2,000-to-win 350 Small Block Supermodified Open. Two racers from Windham, Maine, Bobby Timmons III and Brad Babb, have committed to the event.

Both had successful careers in Late Model and Super Late Model racing before transitioning to the Supermodified ranks. Babb won the 2017 championship at Epping, New Hampshire's Star Speedway in his first Supermodified season. Timmons recently won the Star Mayor's Cup and was a top-5 finisher in the Star Classic.

Seabrook, New Hampshire's Rich Eaton is another noteworthy entry for the 350 Supermodifieds. Eaton is a winner at Star Speedway this year and scored a podium finish in the 2019 Oswego Classic at New York's Oswego Speedway.

Drivers can still enter both the Budweiser Modified Open and the 350 Supermodified Open. The entry forms and rules are available at www.thompsonspeedway.com, www.actour.com/thompson-speedway (link is external), and www.proallstarsseries.com (link is external).

These events are part of a 19-division card at the 58th Annual Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing. The three-day racing festival from Friday, Oct. 9 to Sunday, Oct. 11 also includes the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, ISMA Big Block Supermodifieds, ACT-

type Late Model Open, NEMA Midgets, Street Stock Open, North East Mini Stock Tour and much more.

General admission at the Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing is \$55 for a three-day adult ticket and \$15 for kids ages 12 and under. Advance tickets can be purchased by visiting <https://happsnow.com/event/Thompson-Speedway-Motorsports-Park-YHPQ/WORLD-SERIES-NO2QX> (link is external). Pit passes will be sold at the track and are \$75 for adults and \$40 for kids ages 12 and under.

For more information about the Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing schedule, contact the ACT offices at (802) 244-6963, media@actour.com, or visit www.actour.com/thompson-speedway (link is external). You can also get updates on Facebook and Twitter at @ACTTour.

For camping information and general Thompson Speedway inquiries, call (860) 923-2280, email oval@thompsonspeedway.com, or visit www.thompsonspeedway.com. You can follow Thompson Speedway on Facebook and Instagram at @ThompsonSpeedway or on Twitter at @ThompsonSpdwy.

For technical information concerning all PASS divisions, and for media or marketing questions, please contact passracing@roadrunner.com or visit www.proallstarsseries.com (link is external). Don't forget to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow on Twitter @PASSSLM14 to keep up with breaking news as it happens.



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Photos Courtesy

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Grow garlic this fall for flavorful meals and health benefits



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

Add a bit of flavor and health benefits to your main course with some home-grown garlic. This vegetable has been used for thousands of years as both food and medicine. Today it is credited with fighting heart disease, lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, and boosting the immune system while fighting cancer. Grow garlic in a well-drained soil and full sun. Plant cloves in fall about six weeks before the ground freezes in cold climates and early winter in warmer regions. Garlic needs 6 to 8 weeks of cool temperatures below 40 degrees for the shoot and bulb to develop. The leaves will form during cool, short days then slows as bulb growth begins when the days are warmer and longer.

Plant individual cloves with the pointed side up and the base of the clove 2 to 3 inches below the soil surface. Space cloves 6 inches apart in rows 12 to 14 inches apart or more depending on the variety.

Mulch the soil with weed-free straw after the ground freezes in regions with cold winters. This provides added insulation and helps prevent frost heaving

that occurs when temperatures fluctuate, causing soil to alternately freeze, thaw and shift throughout the winter.

Water thoroughly and often enough to keep the soil evenly moist during active growth. Inconsistent moisture during the growing season results in misshapen bulbs. Mulch the soil with shredded leaves, evergreen needles, or other organic matter to conserve moisture, suppress weeds, and improve the soil as it decomposes.

Double your garlic harvest by using the curly Q stems, called scapes, in cooking and flower arrangements. Watch for these curled stems about a month after the spring leaves appear.

Remove the scape soon after the swollen part appears at the tip of the stem. Cut or break the scape off just below the swollen area. All parts are edible and can be used fresh or cooked just like garlic. You will not only enjoy the mild flavor but removing the scapes helps increase the size of the garlic bulbs.

Harvest garlic when about one third, but less than one half of the leaves turn brown. Start by digging one plant and checking the garlic for maturity. Cloves should be plump and fill the skin. Immature garlic does not store well while over-mature bulbs are subject to disease.

Cure garlic for 3 to 4 weeks in a warm, well-ventilated location. Once dried, remove the tops and store in a cool, moderately humid location with good air circulation and out of direct sunlight. Properly harvested and cured



Photo Melinda Myers

Plant garlic cloves in fall about six weeks before the ground freezes in cold climates and early winter in warmer regions.

garlic will last for up to 8 months.

So, plant some garlic this fall and add flavor and health benefits to your meals.

Gardening expert Melinda Myers has 30 years of horticulture experience and written over 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. Myers is

the host of *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' website is www.melindamyers.com.

Thompson resident graduates with Class of 2020 at Stonehill College

EASTON, Mass. — Megan Romprey, of Thompson, graduated with the Class of 2020 during a virtual Commencement Ceremony this summer at Stonehill College.

Initially scheduled for Sunday, May 17 with a traditional in-person format but knocked off course by COVID-19, Stonehill's 69th Commencement finally took place on Saturday, Aug. 8 making history as the College's first virtual Commencement and the first ever held in August. Another big change this year was the presentation of candidates for master's degrees.

Live-streamed from Stonehill's McCarthy Auditorium in the Thomas and Donna May School of Arts & Sciences building the ceremony addressed 630 undergraduates, 13 graduates, their families, and a wider audience of Stonehill faculty, staff, alumni, and friends.

In prerecorded remarks, Commencement speaker New England Patriots star Matthew Slater drew on his career as a three-time Super Bowl Champion to hail the Class of 2020 for their ability to endure, persevere and thrive in the face of adversity.

Stonehill is a Catholic college located near Boston on a beautiful 384-acre campus in Easton, Massachusetts. With a student-faculty ratio of 12:1, the College engages over 2,500 students in 80+ rigorous academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and pre-professional fields. The Stonehill community helps students to develop the knowledge, skills, and character to meet their professional goals and to live lives of purpose and integrity.

Putnam High School Wall of Honor ceremony postponed

PUTNAM — Due to the uncertainty of the available use of Putnam High School and the ongoing concerns of the Caronavirus pandemic, the PHS Wall of Honor induction ceremony, scheduled for Oct. 24, has been rescheduled for the second time. The new date will be April 24, 2021.

Following a meeting with Superintendent of Schools, Dan Sullivan and Board of Education representation, the Committee came to the conclusion and decision that attempting to hold the induction ceremony in October carries too much of an unpredictable risk.

Although a summer of planning enabled Putnam Public Schools to open in

September with a hybrid schedule, major modifications to buildings and classrooms placed limitations upon the facilities and impacted room capacity.

The current 2020 class of five individuals will now become the class of 2021 with no new honorees added. The list includes: Ira Cutler (posthumous), Ronald Coderre, Jeffrey Jankot, Jeffrey Macdonald and William Lychak.

Notices will be sent to individuals who have already committed to the ceremony with an explanation of available options for ticket refunds.

Putnam Boy Scout Troop to hold popcorn fundraiser

PUTNAM — On Saturday, Oct. 10 & 17 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Boy Scouts from Troop 25 will be at Putnam Farmers Market selling popcorn in order to raise money for their activities and to benefit the Scouting program in Connecticut.

The troop will also be at Tractor Supply Company in

Putnam the next two Sundays, Oct. 11 & 18, from 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

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

To learn more about the pop-

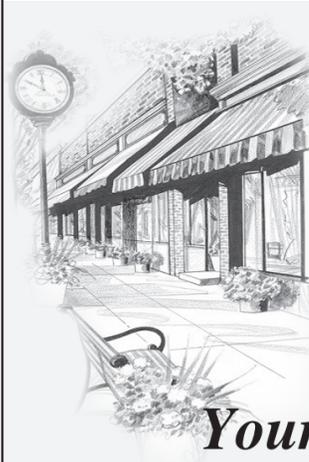
corn sale or to request that a Scout salesman comes to your door please contact Shauna Heydecker at 978-618-4782 or shaunaheydecker@gmail.com

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Richard R. Phaneuf, Jr. 1960 - 2020



EASTFORD – Richard R. Phaneuf, Jr., 60, of Eastford died Friday, September 25, 2020, in Hartford Hospital. He was the devoted husband to Mary Ann (Hornzewic) Phaneuf, and caring father to Melanie Phaneuf.

invited to visit with Richard's family on Saturday, October 10, 2020, from 9:00a.m. to 11:00a.m. at the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:30 a.m. in Most Holy Trinity Church, 568 Pomfret St., Pomfret, CT. Burial to follow in St. Philip Cemetery, Ashford. Due to the current Covid-19 limitations we ask that masks be wore throughout the entire service.

Relatives and friends are respectfully

Michael J. Wimmer

Michael J. Wimmer passed away on October 1, 2020 after a long, courageous battle with cancer. Michael was born in the Bronx, New York on February 21, 1952, son of the late Alfred and Rita (Wimmer) Wolfburg. He was the husband of Diane Kellan. He graduated from Southern Connecticut University in 1974



with a B.S and in 1981 with a MS. Michael worked as a counselor supervisor for the Connecticut Department of Corrections retiring in 1996. He started a second career as a counselor at Natchaug, Southington and finally retiring a second time from United Services in 2017. Michael loved volunteering in the community, especially with anything to do with his children. He was a cub scout leader, soccer coach, member of Brooklyn PTO. He was a member of Danielson 1706 Lodge of Elks, where he continued working for the community. He served as an officer of the Elks for 11 years as a trustee, knight and finally as Exalted Ruler. He received Officer of the Year three times. He

loved spending time with his family and friends. Besides his wife of 39 years, he leaves his beloved children, Jennifer of Hyde Park, Ma and Michael of Winter Garden, FL. He is also survived by his siblings Janet Lamirand, Barbara Davis, Cynthia Wolfburg and Arthur Wolfburg, Jr. all of Killingly and several nieces and nephews. He had a special place in his heart for his godchildren, Erin Lamirand, Gary Lamirand and Scott Baribeau. He was predeceased by his brother Richard Wimmer, and his sisters Patricia Langlois and Kathleen Miller. Calling hours will be held on Thursday October 8, 2020 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM with a funeral service at 6:00 PM in the Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home, 33 Reynolds Street, Danielson CT. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, calling hours will be limited to the amount of people allowed in the Funeral Home at one time. Social Distancing and wearing a mask must be followed. Burial will be at a later date. Please omit flowers donations may be made to Elks National Foundation, 2750 N. Lakeview Ave, Chicago, IL 60614-2256 or a charity of your choice. Share memory at Gagnonandcostellofh.com

WOODSTOCK BROWNIES CREATE SCARECROWS



Photo Courtesy

Woodstock Brownie Troop 65052 created three Girl Scout scarecrows at the Woodstock Palmer Arboretum on Friday, Oct. 2 for everyone to enjoy this fall. Standing: Hazel Rigney. Seated, from left to right: Troop mascot Greta the Great, Julia Huynh, Lizzie Jolliff, Sophie Smith, Holly Barrette, Farrah Hogarty, Sofia Wolslegel, Bella Sandholm, Katalina Mendez, and Alainah Lambert.

Dental Care Word Find

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AWARDS

continued from page A7

Achievement in Spanish 3 HON
 Haven Renshaw: High Achievement in ECE Music Fundamentals
 Logan Reynolds: High Achievement in American Government & Politics
 Owen Ritzau: AP Scholar with Distinction
 Wyatt Robbie: High Achievement in Geometry, High Achievement in Honors Foundations of Science, High Achievement in Spanish 2 HON
 Alexa Rock: High Achievement in English 1
 Zachary Roethlein: High Achievement in Honors Biology, High Achievement in Spanish 4 HON
 Jeremy Romano: Outstanding Achievement in Conversational Spanish
 Avery Sabrowski: Outstanding Achievement in Photography
 Noah Salsich: Outstanding Achievement in German 4 ACC, Undergraduate Who Has Done The Most For The Academy, High Achievement in Entrepreneurship
 Ida Sanders: AP Scholar with Distinction
 Tavian Santos: High Achievement in Biology
 Maria Santucci: AP Scholar
 Braiden Saucier: High Achievement in Spanish 2 HON

Julia Scandalito: High Achievement in Spanish 3 HON
 Alexa Schimmelpfennig: Outstanding Achievement in Digital Drawing, High Achievement in Honors Chemistry
 Heather Schofield: Outstanding Achievement in ACC-1 Chemistry
 Lillian Sharpe: High Achievement in Algebra 1
 Alyssa Sharrow: Outstanding Achievement in Honors Chemistry
 Kyra Shaw: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 1
 Madeline Silbermann: AP Scholar
 Suzanne Silbermann: AP Scholar
 Clayton Singleton: High Achievement in Music Technology 1
 Meghan Slate: Outstanding Achievement in Music Technology 1, AP Scholar
 Adeline Smith: Outstanding Achievement in ACC Biology 2, Outstanding Achievement in Precalculus, High Achievement in Geometry
 Colin Smith: AP Scholar with Distinction
 Jonathan Smith: Outstanding Achievement in Team Sports
 Isabella Sorrentino: Outstanding Achievement in Art 1
 Cameran Steiger: AP Scholar
 Conor Stewart: Outstanding Achievement in ACC Biology 1, High Achievement in Calculus AB, AP Scholar
 Katinka Sule: Outstanding

Achievement in History of Rock and Roll, High Achievement in Algebra 2
 Concetta Sumner: High Achievement in Multicultural Foods
 Xin Sun: High Achievement in Algebra 1
 Jonathan Surowaniec: Outstanding Achievement in German 3 HON
 Mya Symington-St. John: Outstanding Achievement in College Accounting, AP Scholar with Honor
 Javier Taberna: High Achievement in Biology
 Sybaljan Tahirova: AP Scholar with Distinction
 Sarah Tavares: High Achievement in Personal Finance
 Cuong To: High Achievement in Geometry
 Thao To: High Achievement in Geometry, High Achievement in Precalculus
 Vincent Tocci: Outstanding Achievement in English 2
 Steisi Topalli: Outstanding Achievement in Entrepreneurship
 Ainslie Tschamler: High Achievement in Drawing
 Mason Turner: High Achievement in General Physical Education
 Mallory Tyimok: High Achievement in Honors Forensics, High Achievement in Painting, AP Scholar
 Alexandra Vaida: Outstanding Achievement in Ceramics, Rensselaer Medal, High Achievement in Precalculus, AP Scholar with

Distinction
 Rockwell Valentine: Outstanding Achievement in ECE Music Fundamentals, AP Scholar with Honor
 Paige Veilleux-Catlin: High Achievement in Foundations of Science
 Ainsley Viano: High Achievement in Honors Biology
 Cassidy Walden: Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry, Outstanding Achievement in The Developing Child
 Allison Wall: High Achievement in Digital Drawing, High Achievement in Personal Finance
 Tyler Warren: AP Scholar
 Matthew Wasielewski: Outstanding Achievement in Foundations of Science, Outstanding Achievement in Unified Physical Education
 Nicholas Webster: Outstanding Achievement in Mixed Chorus
 Eli Werstler: AP Scholar with Honor
 Alexander Williams: High Achievement in ACC-1 Chemistry, AP Scholar with Distinction
 Emily Wyrstek: Outstanding Achievement in German 2 HON
 Jiacheng Ying: Outstanding Achievement in AP Physics Mechanics
 Violet Young: Outstanding Achievement in Concert Band
 Han Zheng: Outstanding Achievement in Painting, Outstanding Sophomore Artist, High Achievement in English 2

DIVISIONS

continued from page A1

the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, Budweiser Modified Open, ISMA Supermodifieds and Sunoco Modifieds.
 The Mini Stocks are at the opposite end of the spectrum, opening the weekend with a 15-lap feature on Friday night, giving drivers the opportunity to prepare their car for the North East Mini Stock Tour race on Saturday night if they wish. Jared Roy looks for his second win of the season off a dominant performance on Sept. 3, holding off Dave Trudeau and Tommy Silva late. He's expected to be joined by Dave Trudeau, Jr., Steve Michalski and more of the top Mini Stock competitors in the area.
 The Twisted Tea SK Light

Modifieds are back for their own 20-lap race on Saturday night, with Josh Carey looking to repeat with his second career win. The division continues to produce some of the region's best upcoming Modified talent, with names like 2019 division champion Bryan Narducci making his presence felt in the class before moving to the SK Modifieds this year over at Stafford.
 Chasing more than \$3,000 in posted awards, the Sam Adams Limited Sportsman return to the track looking to pick up on their intense battle from September 3. Shawn Monahan, a multiple-time Thompson champion, led more than half of the race, but was passed by Ryan Waterman in the late laps after a tussle for the top spot. Monahan, Larry Barnett, Diego Monahan and newcomer Nickolas Hovey complet-

ed the top-five. The Limited Sportsman drivers may also decide they want to take their chances in the \$1,000 Open Street Stock race on Friday night, especially if they have a second car in the stable. Three-wide racing is usually a staple of this division, and it's expected to keep fans on the edge of their seats again.
 The Thompson Late Models can compete in the ACT-type Late Model open, a 75-lap feature on Saturday night, worth \$2,000 to win. The race pays a total of \$17,040 in total purse value throughout the field, including lap money collected by some of the competitors and race teams.
 Outside of the local divisions, the Sunoco World Series card includes countless other divisions across three days of racing from Friday, October 9 to Sunday, October 11. The

NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour, ISMA Big Block Supermodifieds, Budweiser Modified Open, Pro All Star Series Super Late Models, 350 Supermodified Open, and NEMA Midgets are just some of the highlights on the busy card.
 A three-day general admission ticket for the Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing is \$55 for adults and \$15 for kids ages 12 and under. Advance tickets can be purchased by visiting <https://happsnow.com/event/Thompson-Speedway-Motorsports-Park-YHPQ/WORLD-SERIES-NO2QX>. Pit passes will be sold at the track and are \$75 for adults and \$40 for kids ages 12 and under.
 For more information about the Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing schedule, contact the ACT offices at (802) 244-6963, media@acttour.com,

or visit www.acttour.com/thompson-speedway. You can also get updates on Facebook and Twitter at @ACTTour.
 For camping information and general Thompson Speedway inquiries, call (860) 923-2280, email oval@thompsons Speedway.com, or visit www.thompsons Speedway.com. You can follow Thompson Speedway on Facebook and Instagram at @ThompsonSpeedway or on Twitter at @ThompsonSpdwy.
 For technical information concerning all PASS divisions, and for media or marketing questions, please contact pass-racing@roadrunner.com or visit www.proallstarseries.com. Don't forget to "Like" the Pro All Stars Series on Facebook or follow on Twitter @PASSSLM14 to keep up with breaking news as it happens.

THREE TIERS FOR CONNECTICUT, FLEXER CELEBRATED SUCCESS OF THOMPSON'S ANTI-LITTER INITIATIVE



Photo Courtesy

Director of Planning and Development Tyra Penn-Gesek (left) and State Senator Mae Flexer (right) celebrate the successful conclusion of Thompson's "Nips for Holiday Cheer" anti-litter initiative at Riverside Park in Thompson. With support from Three Tiers for Connecticut's "Don't Trash Connecticut—Nip It In The Bin!" campaign, this months-long initiative encouraged town residents to collect and turn in discarded alcohol "nip" containers over the course of 2020. In total, 48,000 containers were collected from local roadways and public spaces.

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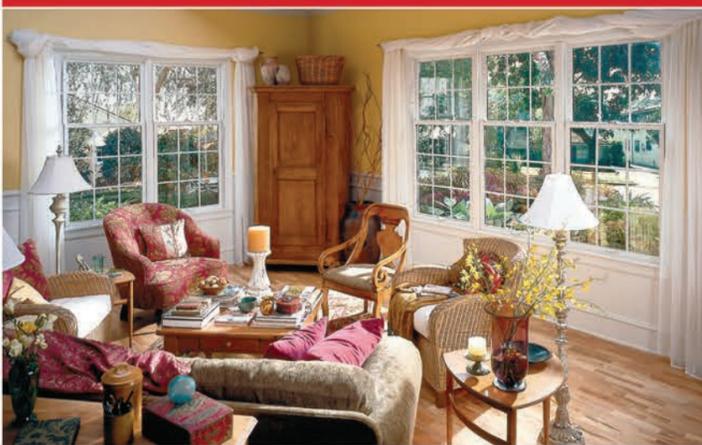


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¹Offer not available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative at time of contract execution and applies to purchase of 4 or more windows and/or entry or patio doors. Buy two windows and/or doors, get the second two windows and/or doors, of equal or lesser value, 40% off. Discount applied to lowest priced window and/or door products in purchase. Cannot be combined with other offers. Initial contact for a free Window and Door Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 10/31/20, with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. Not all customers may qualify. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Renewal by Andersen retailers are independently owned and operated retailers, and are neither brokers nor lenders. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only, and all financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Renewal by Andersen retailers, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard will be subject to an island surcharge. CT HIC.0634555. MA 173245. RI 36079. Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. Southern New England Windows LLC is the authorized representative of Renewal by Andersen and the registered Home Improvement Contractor. Renewal by Andersen does not hold this HIC number. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are marks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *Using U.S. and imported parts. **See limited warranty for details at <https://www.renewalbyandersen.com/homeowner-help/warranty>. †Values are based on comparison of Renewal by Andersen® double-hung window U-Factor to the U-Factor for clear dual pane glass non-metal frame default values from the 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015 and 2018 International Energy Conservation Code "Glazed Fenestration" Default Tables. All sales, marketing and installation of windows is conducted by Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England, an independently owned and operated affiliate operating in RI, CT and Cape Cod, MA.

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— TO LEARN MORE —
 About the many benefits of this educational opportunity

— CONTACT —
Ruth Bentley, Director of Human Resources
 Westview Health Care Center — (860) 774-8574 — extension 157

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