



# KILLINGLY VILLAGER

Friday, October 22, 2021

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## Pomfret Selectmen set to maintain status quo on Election Day

BY JASON BLEAU  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

POMFRET — While there are several contested elections on the 2021 election ballot for the town of Pomfret, the town's highest board will remain untouched as the current slate of selectmen are all running uncontested for their seats.

First, Selectwoman Maureen Nicholson will likely once again lead the town as the Democratic incumbent is unchallenged for her seat, which she has held for sever-

al terms as the first woman to serve and be elected to the position. Nicholson was first promoted to the seat in 2011 before officially winning the position in the 2013 election. She was briefly voted off the Board of Selectmen in 2015 but returned to the First Selectman seat two years later where she has remained ever since. Her fellow incumbent board members, Democrat Patrick McCarthy and Republican Ellsworth Chase, are also running unopposed for reelection,

essentially securing another term with the current board in place.

Only a few races are truly contested on the ballot in 2021, one being for Board of Education where two incumbents and two challengers are seeking a pair of seats on the board. Republican Brent Tuttle and Democrat Leigh Grossman are seeking to maintain their positions on the board, while Republican Whitney Bundy and Democrat Michael Lafevre are looking to join the board.

Only two other elections on the ballot are contested. The election of constables sees six candidates, three from each party, including Democratic candidates William Wolfe, Rich Huoppi and Michael Blackmer, and Republican nominees William Ireland, Terry Jackson and Jessica Ireland. Huoppi, Wolfe, Jackson, and William and Jessica Ireland are incumbents for the positions. Voters will be allowed to choose four candidates on the ballot. The other contested election is for

Library Trustees where voters will choose three candidates from Democrats Gary Sturni, Norine Reingold and Virginia Ginger Lusa, and Republican John Charest.

Elsewhere on the ballot, Republicans Jill Corey and Elaine Sistare are running unopposed for Board of Finance, Democrat Norine Reingold is running unopposed to fill a vacancy on the Board of Finance, Democrat

Turn To **POMFRET** page **A2**



Jason McKay photos

Killingly's Thomas Curran pulls off a no-look, behind the back kick.

## Killingly can't capitalize on early momentum before falling to New London

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — Momentum is a funny thing in soccer. Sometimes by the time you realize you have it, the window to take advantage of it has closed.

That was the experience the Killingly High boys' soccer team was forced to endure in its game against New London High, a 2-0 win by the Whalers, on Wednesday, Oct. 13.

Killingly (5-6) had a pair of quality scoring chances in the first half which it was unable to capitalize on, while New London (8-2) made the

most of its two second-half scoring opportunities.

"All of those first-half scoring chances will keep me up tonight, but I'm not going to think about them too much," Killingly coach Derek Ponciano said after the game. "Each season is always a work in progress. It's my first year coaching this team and all these kids are trusting in what I'm asking them to do. I'm happy we're going out and being competitive every single game, even against the big schools. I am proud of these kids."

Turn To **SOCCER** page **A14**

## COMMANDER OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST #21



Courtesy Photo

Charles Crowley (left) was installed as Commander of The American Legion Post #21 – Danielson at a ceremony on Wednesday, October 11. Crowley, who is serving his third year as Post #21 Commander, is congratulated by Ronald P. Coderre, Past District #4 Commander, who served as the installation officer.

## Ives, Tanner rematch highlights Brooklyn Election

BY JASON BLEAU  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

BROOKLYN — Brooklyn's election day lineup will see a pair of familiar names competing for the town's highest elected position of First Selectmen with contended elections for all but one position on the ballot.

The battle for First Selectman will see Democratic incumbent Richard Ives and Republican former First Selectman Austin Tanner compete for the First

Selectman seat in a rematch of the 2019 election. The two candidates have history dating back to 2013 when Tanner lost his bid for reelection to Ives, who would go on to win three more elections. Both currently serve on the Board of Selectmen. The First Selectmen candidates will be flanked by their running mates from 2019 for seats on the Board of Selectmen, Democrat Joe Voccio for Ives and incumbent Republican Lou

Turn To **REMATCH** page **A4**

## Schiavetti scores four times in helping Quinebaug Valley remain unbeaten

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

DANIELSON — The undefeated Quinebaug Valley Pride co-op football team made quick work of Milord's Platt Tech, scoring on three of its first four possessions, en route to a 35-0 thumping of the toothless Panthers on Friday, Oct. 15, at Ellis Tech High School.

The Pride (5-0), which has players from Tourtellotte, Putnam and Ellis Tech high schools

on their roster, led 21-0 at the end of the first quarter and 28-0 at halftime.

Quinebaug was led by senior running back Lee Schiavetti, who rushed for 201 yards and scored four touchdowns including first-half scoring scampers of 16, 21 and 30 yards. It was the second consecutive game that Schiavetti scored four touchdowns.

"Blocking was on point, the holes were wide open, and I just ran through them," Schiavetti told

WINEY radio's Mike Brunetti after the game. "Our game-plan was to ground and pound them. We came in, we executed, and we came out with the win."

After senior Sam Rebello returned the opening kickoff 50 yards, from his 20-yard line to the Platt Tech 30-yard line, the Pride needed just two plays to get into the end zone.

On second-and-10

Turn To **FOOTBALL** page **A14**

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# South Killingly Congregational Church to close



KILLINGLY  
AT 300  
\*\*\*\*\*  
MARGARET  
WEAVER

Killingly Historical Center Hours to Change: Beginning Wednesday, October 20 the Killingly Historical Center will return to pre-Covid hours and will again be open Wednesday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Stop in; look at the exhibits; renew memberships. We hope to see you. Masks suggested.

I imagine that a number of you have heard that the South Killingly Congregational Church will be closing. The closing service will be held Sunday, October 24 at 1 p.m. inside the Church. All are welcome. Masks will be available.

Mea Culpa! My apologies to Carol Cooper Ryley who so graciously contributed memories to last week's column. After writing so much about Rev. Cooper, I accidentally reversed her name. Lisa Joseph, another Killingly Historical Society board member also shared memories of going to the South Killingly Church property as a high school student. "I was in the Killingly High School Big Red Marching Band for all four years I was in High School. Every year on both Memorial Day and Veteran's Day the band would march in multiple parades, playing patriotic songs along the parade routes, and Taps in all the cemeteries and parks large and small. Of all these parades my favorite was always in South Killingly. It seemed to take forever to get there on the back roads. The church and streets

were lined with trees. The small cemetery was ancient, but well taken care of. Of all the places we went to play, this place seemed to fit the somber occasion. I will always remember how the cemetery, the narrow streets, and the old church seemed lost in time, and how nice it was to be there." (email, 10/8/21).

I am feeling sad this week. My longtime friend from the Killingly Historical Society, Natalie L. Coolidge, recently passed away. I cannot begin to mention all the ways she contributed to the wealth of research and published materials that are now available at the Killingly Historical Center and in private hands due to her. She was one of the authors-editors of both Images of America Killingly and Images of America Killingly Revisited. She edited Williamsville written by Ray C. Smith; she edited most of the journals, which the Society published; she compiled a multi-volume Killingly Business Encyclopedia; she prepared village brochures for handouts to the public and did so much with the photograph collection. Always kind and gracious, she encouraged us all and was a pleasure, to be around. Even as she became physically unable to come to the Center, she continued to use her computer skills to contribute. She was a blessing to us and to the community. During the pandemic she also compiled a detailed family history, They Were Real People Not Just Photographs, which she donated to Killingly Library. Natalie was quite an inspiration to me, and I will miss her.

I have been reading Pomfret: Through the Years-300 years of the history of Pomfret, Connecticut as seen through its people, places, and events, edited by Walter P. Hinchman. Somehow I missed it when it was published in 2013 for the town's tercentennial. All the towns in Northeastern Connecticut are really interconnected with families frequently moving from one to the other

so I have found the volume fascinating. I loved reading about the impact several of its residents made by founding settlements in the Midwest. Did you know that Gary, Indiana and Wheaton, Illinois have Northeastern Connecticut connections? I quote from Hinchman's book, "It seems that in the 1830's Erastus Gary of Pomfret, a school teacher, moved to the prairie west of Chicago and laid claim to many acres of land there. He was a member of the same family for whom Gary School and Gary School Rd. were named. As I am sure you know, the Gary School Rd. today marks the boundary between Pomfret and Putnam, but in the 1830's Pomfret extended all the way to the Quinebaug River. Erastus Gary convinced the neighbors in Pomfret, Warren Lyon Wheaton, a school teacher, and his younger brother, Jesse Childs Wheaton, a carpenter, to move to Illinois where they laid claim to nearly 1000 acres of land about 27 miles west of Chicago. They made their way there via the Hudson River, the Erie Canal, and the Great Lakes arriving in Chicago which was then a thriving town of nearly 3000 citizens. In their first years in Illinois the Wheatons lived with the Gary family while they were clearing their own land. When the Wheatons arrived in Illinois there were no railroads west of Chicago. When the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad was being developed the Wheatons offered a three and one half mile right of way through their land with the only stipulation being that the rail line run through their community. When the first train arrived in 1849 the railroad posted a sign Wheaton, Illinois giving the community a name... The Wheatons went on to be important members of their community. In 1853 they donated forty acres of their land thereby convincing a small school in Batavia, Illinois, the Illinois Institute, to move to Wheaton. (After another gen-

erous land donation to the school) the college president suggested the name of the school be changed to Wheaton College." (pp.200-202).

(I Googled the history of Wheaton, Illinois which noted Erastus Gary, Jesse Wheaton, and Warren Wheaton as the founders. For photos and additional information visit /www.wheaton.il.us/367/History-of-Wheaton.)

Walter Hinchman continued, "Erastus Gary's son, Elbert, who was born in a log cabin on the Illinois prairie, was educated at Wheaton College, went on to be a judge and eventually became involved with J. Pierpont Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, and Charles Schwab and served as the founding president of United States Steel, American's first billion dollar corporation...He is the man for whom Gary, Indiana is named" (p.204).

I am also aware of Moses Cleaveland and the Cleveland, Ohio connection and Manasseh Cutler and Ephraim Cutler and the founding of Marietta, Ohio. I wonder how many more Northeastern Connecticut connections you can think of? Please feel free to email me with them.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian October 2021. Special thanks to Lisa Joseph for sharing memories. For additional information email me at [margaretmweaver@gmail.com](mailto:margaretmweaver@gmail.com) or contact the Killingly Historical Society at [www.Killinglyhistorical.org](http://www.Killinglyhistorical.org). Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10-1. Like us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety). Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

# American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) fund discussed

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN: The Town of Woodstock held a Special Town meeting earlier this week, immediately followed by an Open Public Forum to discuss American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

Two ordinances were on the agenda to be amended, and another to be rescinded. All proposed changes passed. The Ordinance Creating the Woodstock Agricultural Land Preservation and Land Acquisition Fund was amended to allow alternates to be appointed

from participating boards and commissions. The Ordinance Concerning the Appointment of the Assessor was rescinded, as it is out of date and the statute that required it is no longer valid. Last, but not least, the Ordinance Regarding Tax Abatements for Dairy Farms and Fruit Orchards was amended to include different types of farms that are allowable under Connecticut General Statutes. For example, vegetable and nursery farms now qualify.

Stewart Morse, Chair of the

Agricultural Commission, was happy with the support to amend the ordinance regarding Tax Abatements for Dairy Farms and Fruit Orchards. "This move recognizes the changing face of agriculture in our community."

First Selectman Swan was pleased with the turnout. "We had approximately 50 citizens attend the meetings in person, and nearly 20 via Zoom. People had the opportunity to ask questions, both in the Special Town Meeting and in the Public Forum."

Much of the night was devoted to discussion of the ARPA funds. Finance Director Karen Fitzpatrick gave an overview that touched on where the funding comes from, eligible and non-eligible uses, and reporting. First Selectman Swan then introduced a preliminary list of funding ideas. The Board of Selectmen are working together to carefully plan the use of these funds to best benefit the town.

"It's important to note that several of the items on this list came from

Woodstock citizens reaching out to us directly through the [arpa2021@woodstockct.gov](mailto:arpa2021@woodstockct.gov) email that was created for this purpose," states Swan. "Upgrades to town recreation fields, town beach improvements, town infrastructure such as roads and bridges, and compatible self-contained breathing apparatus for one of our fire departments all came to us as suggestions."

New suggestions were also made at the meeting, such as support for the Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp dam repair and improvements to the town-owned tennis courts.

State Representative Pat Boyd was also in attendance at both meetings. "Woodstock is working to ensure that ARPA funds are being spent wisely and to the benefit of the majority of residents, specifically causes impacted by the pandemic. It was great to see the community engagement, as people asked questions and discussed ideas that they'd like to see included as proposals for these funds." Boyd said.

## THE REPUBLICAN TEAM

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<b>Selectman</b>	<b>Chandler Paquette</b>
<b>Tax Collector</b>	<b>Linda Bernardi</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Barry Shead</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b>	<b>Judy Walberg</b>
<b>Board of Finance</b>	<b>Mike Dougherty</b>
<b>Board of Finance (Alt)</b>	<b>Julie Marcotte</b>
<b>Board of Education</b>	<b>Amy Vinal</b>
<b>Board of Education</b>	<b>Alan Barker</b>
<b>Board of Education</b>	<b>Darryl Manbeck</b>
<b>Planning &amp; Zoning</b>	<b>David Morse</b>
<b>Board of Assess. Appeals</b>	<b>John Davis</b>

**Be sure to Vote Row B on Tuesday, November 2nd, 2021**

*Paid for Woodstock's Republican Town Committee, Jeffrey Marcotte, treasurer*

## PACHECO INDUCTED AS THE NEWEST MEMBER

*Courtesy Photo*

Mark Pacheco (3rd right) was inducted as the newest member of the Danielson American Legion Post #21 on Wednesday, October 11. Pictured with Pacheco are (l to r) Post Commander Charles Crowley, Pacheco, Ray Rochefort, Post Sgt.-at-Arms and Post Chaplain Chuck Lalumiere.

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## POMFRET

*continued from page A1*

Raymond Wishart and Republican Peter Mann are the only candidates for the two available Board of Assessment Appeals seats, Democrat Nicholas Stellitano and Republicans Peter Mann and Philip Allegretti are the only candidates for three open Planning and Zoning Committee seats with Democrat Tamara Harris as the only choice for an alternate on that commission, and Democrat Earl Semmelrock and Republican Elizabeth Cartier are unopposed for two open Zoning Board of Appeals seats.

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 2. For information on voting or to view a sample ballot visit the Pomfret Town Clerk page on the town's website.

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# Putnam High School - Wall of Honor Induction

Following several postponements due to COVID concerns, the Putnam High School Wall of Honor induction ceremony is now scheduled to be held Saturday,

October 23. In order to abide by local and CDC guidelines, modifications had to be made from the usual program format. The dinner portion of the event has been replaced by a reception for the inductees and close family at Putnam High School, followed by a ceremony at Putnam Middle School which is limited to invited guests.

While the current class was initially named in 2020, the COVID postponements eliminated all induction plans for that year, so it has become the class of 2021. This year's inductees will be the fourth class to be honored, bringing the overall total to twenty former Putnam High graduates.

The current class includes: Ira Cutler, class of 1885; Ronald Coderre, 1959; Jeffrey Jankot, 1965; Jeffrey Macdonald, 1976; and William Lychack, 1984.

Cutler is a posthumous inductee who

was the only male graduate in his class. As rare as a high school graduation was in that period, he headed west to attain his advanced degrees and became a professor at Denver University. He was a nationally recognized scientist who was included in Who's Who in America and honored with an Endowed Chair at Denver.

Coderre has been involved with many aspects in the Putnam community including politics, business, health services, youth activities sports journalism, education and veteran affairs. His efforts were a major factor in the establishment of the Hale YMCA in Putnam.

Jankot was an outstanding high school golfer who later received a degree from Boston College. He became a First Lieutenant in the 101st Airborne Division. While in Vietnam, an enemy explosion cost him his eyesight, but not his passion for golf. In 1976, he won the National Blind Golf Association Championship, and then continued to be an advocate for disabled veterans despite his handicap.

Macdonald's early interest in flying

led to his ultimate career path in the military. He began by flying search and rescue missions on medical evacuation assignments for the U.S. Air Force. He taxied many of our nation's leaders to various locations leading to various military awards, including two Legion of Merit medals. He retired as Colonel Macdonald but continues to pilot for commercial airlines.

Lychack is an associate professor in the writing program at the University of Pittsburgh. This position as writer and teacher was achieved through a lifelong pursuit of journalism and a desire to instill in others the qualities of honesty, clarity and empathy in their writings. He has garnered numerous awards for literary achievements from published articles to novels.

The Wall of Honor Committee is hoping to return to its April induction celebration in 2022. Application forms are available at the office of the Superintendent, Putnam Public Library, WINY and on-line on Putnam's Public School website and must be returned by January 15.



## 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.

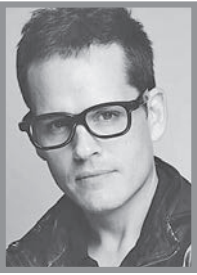
If you find a mistake call (860) 928-1818 or e-mail [charlie@villager-newspapers.com](mailto:charlie@villager-newspapers.com).

## Collection of winter coats, gloves, hats, blankets and baby clothing, Oct. 30

PUTNAM- There will be a collection of winter coats, gloves, hats, blankets and baby clothing for the needy and homeless throughout Windham County on Saturday, October 30, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Cargill Council 64, Knights of Columbus Hall, 64 Providence Street, in Putnam.

Please clean out your closets and donate what you can for those in need.

For information, please call (860) 928-7241 and leave a message.



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

TOBY  
MOORE

Ever since my dad died, I've had more problems than ever before. My responsibilities have easily tripled. I'm constantly working yet determined not to let all of these new responsibilities get in the way of my dreams.

I'm thankful I've had time to grow up before being faced with this situation. Not long ago, I wouldn't have handled it well; I would've been bitter, jaded, angry, and constantly complaining.

I've learned that to go where I want to go in life, I cannot complain. If I want to accomplish my goals and achieve my dreams - I must leave no room for complaint.

How can I focus on the future if I'm focused on the past? How can I think thoughts of victory when I'm feeling the thoughts of anger, defeat, and victimhood? If I'm reliving a bad experience that happened last month, yesterday, or even just five minutes ago through the act of complaining, I'm reinforcing that experience and living in the past.

Every thought produces a chemical peptide in the brain that causes a feeling in the body. When I complain, I am bathing my inner self in a chemical cocktail of negativity.

Complaining seems very innocent. After all, you're just expressing how you feel.

It's a common belief that you have to vent your feelings because if you don't let them out, then they will bottle up inside of you until you explode!

Scientific studies show that complaining isn't an act of getting rid of the feeling; it's not an act of venting at all. Instead, it reinforces a negative emotion and trains your brain to produce more bad feelings until all you can focus on is the negativity in every interaction.

I used to work in the service industry, and a lot of my income depended on tips. When I first started, I complained about almost every tip I received. I complained about customers that annoyed me, I complained about my managers, I complained about my co-workers, I complained about my schedule, I complained about my commute to work. It was a never-ending parade of complaints, and I was miserable.

Little did I know that I wasn't unhappy because I received a bad tip or had a bad interaction with a customer, co-worker, or manager. I was miserable because I reinforced negative moments I experienced in the past, making those connections stronger in my brain. I was trapped, a prisoner of my thoughts.

Studies have also concluded that complaining is bad for your health.

When you complain, you're damaging your brain. Complaining shrinks and damages part of your brain called the hippocampus. What does this mean? It means that complaining destroys your memory, imagination, creativity, decision-making, and much more!

When you complain, you're increasing your levels of cortisol, also known as the stress hormone. Chronically high cortisol levels can lead to various health problems, including depression, digestive issues, sleeping disorders, higher blood pressure, and increased risk of heart disease; complaining shortens your lifespan.

Although it's been a battle, I've rid myself of complaining more and more

## Don't Complain

every year. Sometimes I still catch myself, and I have to retrain my thought process. It becomes easier the more you do it.

Whenever I catch myself complaining, I try to think thoughts like this, "I know complaining keeps me from moving forward. Losers complain; winners brush it off and keep moving forward. Thank you for allowing this experience to sharpen me and make me better; I know I will overcome."

Rather than giving voice to the negativity of complaint, try voicing the positivity of gratitude. Try to speak words of encouragement, speak ill of nobody.

You are capable of handling every situation that comes your way. Every bad thing that happens to you doesn't deserve the time it takes to complain. Focus on your dreams. Change your thoughts and your words, and you'll begin to see miracles happen in your life.

*Toby Moore is a columnist, the star of Emmy - Nominated A Separate Peace, and CEO of CubeStream Inc.*

## ★ Thompson Voters ★ Protect Your Property Rights! Protect Your 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rights!

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# InSpire 150 Campaign Launched for Historic Academy Building Restoration

WOODSTOCK, CT (October 15, 2021) – On Thursday, October 14, The Woodstock Academy launched InSpire 150, the Campaign for the Academy Building, in celebration of the structure’s 150th anniversary in 2023. With this launch, The Academy has planned a complete renovation to revitalize and restore the historic elements of the building and update it for modern, innovative classroom usage for future generations of Academy students.

The renovations for this project are being conducted in two phases with a total completion period of two years (2021-2023). The first phase, already completed in summer 2021, included a complete restoration of the clocktower and weathervane, new structural bracing, new roofing, and fresh paint. Additionally, it received new clock controllers and bell interface, which enables the bell to chime on the hour every day from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. as it traditionally did in the past.

Phase two consists of a combination of new and restored windows, accessibility throughout the building, restroom upgrades, restoration of the central auditorium and stage, new electrical and heating systems, new AV systems, stabilization of the existing wood framing at the base of the building, interior painting, and a new metal batten seam roofing to match the original roof from 1873. Phase two is set to begin in spring 2022 and completion is planned for the fall of 2023.

The renovation of the central auditorium, the largest space in the building, is the future home of the Model United Nations program and a key element in providing students access to the innova-



Courtesy photos

tive, inclusive environment necessary to learn and grow beyond their expectations. The Woodstock Academy’s three-time defending national champion Model United Nations program is just one of the many programs that will significantly benefit from the Academy Building’s renovations.

“Since its construction in 1873 by Henry Chandler Bowen, almost every single Woodstock Academy student has been impacted by this historic and iconic building,” Head of School Christopher Sandford explained. “As an institution, we understand the importance of this renovation as the Academy Building will continue to inspire and impact future generations of Academy students to come.”

The total cost of the renovation is projected at \$5,500,000 and The Academy is exploring all funding options to efficiently complete the project. Included is an



approval for a Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit of up to \$1.58 million, which the Academy Building is eligible for since it is on the National Register of Historic Places.

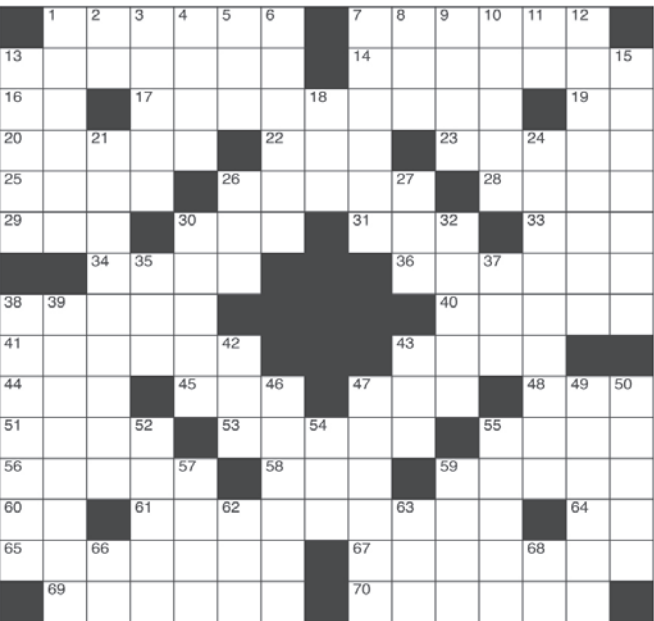
“Our alumni and friends have already shown tremendous generosity toward this project and as we extend this campaign to our larger constituency we anticipate a high level of participation,” said Jonathan Sturdevant, Associate Head of School for Advancement.

To explore giving options or learn more about InSpire 150, the Campaign for the Academy Building, visit wood-

stockacademy.org/inspire150.

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The Woodstock Academy is an independent, day and boarding, co-educational, college preparatory high school for grades 9–12 and postgraduates located in Woodstock, CT. The mission of The Woodstock Academy is to prepare all students by providing diverse opportunities through a rigorous curriculum and a variety of programs in order to cultivate the necessary skills to become lifelong learners and global citizens.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Break

7. Ruled Russia

13. Having several lobes

14. Walked around proudly

16. Atomic #77

17. Largest living land animals

19. The Great Lakes State

20. A type of toast

22. Partner to feather

23. Bristlelike

25. Bowfin

26. Distributes

28. Hairlike structure

29. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)

30. Where wrestlers work

31. Blood relation

33. A great deal

34. Round Dutch cheese

36. Move further away from

38. Type of wrap
40. Furies

41. Removes from the record

43. Young salmon

44. Feline

45. Skin decor

47. Disfigure

48. They \_\_\_

51. Formal term for “on”

53. Weight of precious stones

55. Traveled rapidly

56. Long-winged aquatic bird

58. Prickly husk

59. Expressed pleasure

60. Exclamation of surprise

61. Most irritable

64. Virginia

65. Optimistic

67. Humorous works

69. Arranged systematically

70. Emerges

CLUES DOWN

1. Wives of a polygamous man

2. Where hurt ballplayers land

3. Single-celled animal

4. Rhythmic pattern

5. One from Utah

6. A group of seven

7. Refrains from inflicting

8. Light brown

9. Humanistic discipline

10. Emits coherent radiation

11. It says who you are

12. Roundworm

13. Group of Native Americans

15. Makes wider

18. Headgear

21. One who sets others free

24. Form of communication

26. A Brit’s mother

27. Title of respect

30. Famed modernist painter

32. One-time province of British India
35. Prosecutors

37. Motor vehicle

38. Non-religious

39. Native Americans of Colorado and Wyoming

42. Pouch

43. Touch gently

46. Chose

47. Actress Tomei

49. Former Broncos coach Dan

50. Icelandic poems

52. More decent

54. Grillmasters use it

55. Self-immolation by fire rituals

57. Expression of annoyance

59. \_\_\_ Spumante (Italian wine)

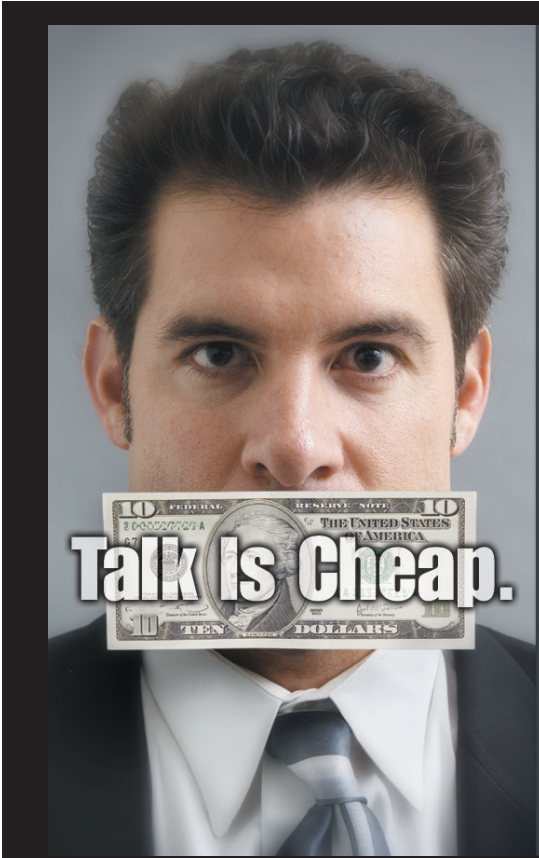
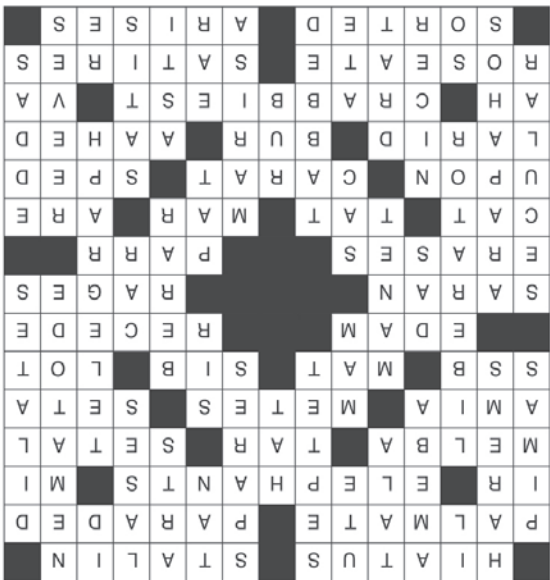
62. Consumed

63. Body part

66. Thus

68. Rupee

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REMATCH

continued from page A1

Brodeur for Tanner.

The Board of Finance will have four candidates running for two available seats. Incumbent Democrats Kim Conroy and Kenneth Dykstra are challenged by Republicans R. David Lee and Aaron Soucy. Five names are on the ballot for three seats on the Board of Education. Democratic incumbents Nathan Richards and Melissa Perkins-Banas are joined by fellow Democrat Ailla Wasstrom-Evans on the ballot for the education board while Republicans Kayla E. Burgess and Justin G. Phaiah, an incumbent, are also seeking seats. Democrat Samuel Bonfante and Republican Isaias Sostre are also on the ballot to fill a vacancy on the Board of Education. The Board of Assessment Appeals is the final contested election on the ballot with four candidates, two from each party, seeking one of two open seats. Republican incumbents Justin Phaiah and Joanne Eller are challenged by Democrats Susan Wesstrom and Natalie Dionne. The final candidate on the ballot is Katherine Bisson who is the lone candidate for the Town Clerk position which she holds currently.

Election Day is Nov. 2 with details on voting times and locations available on the Town Clerk page of the Brooklyn town website.



# There’s a Boom in Small Business Startups – 10 Things to Consider Before Starting Your Own



FINANCIAL  
FOCUS  
JIM ZAHANSKY  
INVESTMENT  
ADVISER

The pandemic has had far-reaching and wildly differing effects on small businesses, forcing closure for some while offering new opportunities to pivot and grow for others. It has also spurred significant growth in the number of new businesses being started.

According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, paperwork for 4.3 million new businesses was filed last year, a 24 percent increase from the year before and the most of any year since 2004 – and applications are on pace to be even higher this year.

If you’re among those looking to start a new business, or to purchase an existing one or a franchise, there are critical steps to take in order to plan well for your investment. Here’s a look at some of the major considerations to think about.

**Legal structure:** This is a critical first question to consider, as it has far-reaching effects both legally and financially. There are various types of business entities, each with its own characteristics to consider. Will you conduct business as a sole proprietor, or will you instead create an entity separate from yourself, like a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company? The structure that’s best for you depends on your particular business and situation.

**Taxation:** How you and your business will be taxed is, of course, an especially important factor to consider and flows from your decision on legal structure. For example, if you choose a C corporation as your legal structure, you may be subject to a double tax – one tax when the corporation makes a profit and another when those profits are distributed to the owners (shareholders). Alternatively, if you choose a partnership, only the owners (partners) are taxed. For this and many other reasons, tax considerations must be weighed

carefully.

**Accounting and record keeping:** Accounting is critical to gauging business performance so you can adjust accordingly. You’ll need to choose a method of accounting, such as cash-basis or accrual method, and you must decide when your business’s financial or fiscal year begins and ends. For your accounting to be effective, as well as to prepare for an unexpected visit by the IRS, you must also be sure to keep thorough records.

**Insurance:** Your insurance needs may include property and casualty insurance, life insurance, and liability insurance. If you have employees, you need to think about whether to provide medical insurance and benefits; worker’s compensation insurance is typically required in most states.

**Staffing:** Are you going to do all the work in your business yourself? If not, whom will you hire and what skills must they possess? Keep in mind that you may be subject to certain tax rules when employing family members, and that the more employees you hire, the more your company will be subject to state and federal laws – some laws are applied depending on the number of employees in your business, including federal laws relating to discrimination and the requirement to provide certain employee benefits.

**Marketing and advertising:** Marketing and advertising are invaluable ingredients for the success of any business. You should develop a written marketing plan that answers questions like: Who are your competitors and what are your company’s advantages over them? How will you price your product or service? Who is your target market and what is the best way to reach them? What is the key message you want to convey (i.e., your “value proposition”)? You may want to conduct market research to help answer these questions and uncover opportunities.

**Financing:** Insufficient financing is probably the most common obstacle to starting a business. In addition to calculating how much money (capital) you’ll need to start and run your business, you have to figure out where to get the funds and how the financing will be structured. Will you borrow from a bank or

family member (debt), or will you take money from investors in exchange for a share in the ownership of the business (equity), or both? If you intend to seek equity financing, you will be subject to securities regulations.

**Patents, trademarks, and copyrights:** How will you protect your intangible assets – your company’s name, for example (trademark)? Perhaps you have an invention you wish to protect (patent). Or maybe you’ve written a book and wish to protect your written words (copyright). An experienced attorney can help you set up the protections you need.

**Licenses, permits, and registration:** You may need to obtain licenses or permits, or even register with a government agency. For example, if you choose to create a corporation, you must register with the secretary of state. If instead you are a sole proprietor, you might be required to obtain business permits from, and/or register your business’s name with the municipality. To find out more, contact the office of the secretary of state or the chamber of commerce in your state or municipality.

**Additional factors to consider when buying an existing business or franchise:** In addition to all the factors above, there are other things to consider when buying an existing business. Is it a stock purchase or are you buying company assets? How is the business being valued? You may also want to reconsider the form of business entity – just because you bought the assets of a sole proprietorship doesn’t mean you can’t change the entity to some form of corporation. If you’re buying a franchise, remember that you are obligated

to pay certain fees and accept a certain level of control from the franchisor.

Bringing it all together and aligning your business and personal goals

Starting or buying a business is an exciting time, but it can also be daunting and the wrong decisions

could cost you down the road – both in terms of your business’ profitability as well as your personal financial stability and goals for you and your loved ones. It’s a good idea to invest in professional help to get your business started off on the right foot.

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THIS FOOD IS THOUGHT TO HAVE BEEN INVENTED IN NAPLES, ITALY IN THE EARLY 1500S.

ANSWER: PIZZA

Crossword Puzzle

1				2				
								3
4								
			5					
6								
7								

ACROSS

1. Pleasantly crisp

4. Consume

5. Rounded shape

6. Prefix for “half”

7. Working with hands to mix

DOWN

1. Dairy food that melts

2. Opposite of “yes”

3. Vegetable or meat that enhances pizza

5. Popular comfort food

THIS DAY IN...

HISTORY

• 1797: THE NAVY LAUNCHES THE FRIGATE U.S.S. CONSTITUTION IN BOSTON HARBOR.

• 1940: THE FIRST EDITION OF ERNEST HEMINGWAY’S “FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS” IS PUBLISHED.

• 1959: THE SOLOMON R. GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM OF MODERN AND CONTEMPORARY ART OPENS IN NEW YORK.

CRUST

crunchy, cooked dough

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Cheese

SPANISH: Queso

ITALIAN: Formaggio

FRENCH: Fromage

GERMAN: Käse

Did You Know?

THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT STYLES OF PIZZA. FROM NEW YORK STYLE TO CHICAGO DEEP DISH TO DETROIT STYLE TO SICILIAN SQUARE, PIZZA IS DELICIOUS.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: PEPPERONI PIZZA

CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to health and wellness. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 12 = S)

A. 25 6 20 8 6 13  
Clue: Medical professional

B. 20 3 10 20 4 17 19  
Clue: Well visit

C. 8 10 12 8 1 7 24  
Clue: Medical examination procedures

D. 25 1 5 24 7 6 12 1 12  
Clue: Identification of an illness

Answers: A. doctor B. checkup C. testing D. diagnosis

SUDOKU

					3	4	
		6		4	7	5	1
					6		8
8		4					
5			4	7	1		3
		7					
				2			8
	6	1	5		7		
		8	9				2

Level: Intermediate

Here’s How It Works:

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

9	1	3	4	6	8	5	7
6	2	7	8	5	1	9	3
3	9	4	7	8	6	5	2
7	8	5	6	1	2	3	4
4	2	1	5	9	8	7	6
6	3	8	7	4	9	2	5
8	1	4	3	6	2	7	5
5	7	2	9	6	3	4	8
2	8	9	1	7	5	4	3

ANSWER:



# Putnam hosts annual Great Pumpkin Festival

PUTNAM — The town of Putnam was filled with activity on Saturday, Oct. 16 at the town's annual fall celebration, the Great Pumpkin Festival, making downtown the place to be. The yearly fall event might have been a bit quieter than in the past, especially with the absence of the traditional arrival of the Providence & Worcester Railroad commuter train, but guests still embraced the atmosphere exploring the over 80 crafters and vendors as well as local businesses that were present for the event. The Great Pumpkin itself was the centerpiece of the event with hundreds enjoying yet another community celebration in Putnam.

*Jason Bleau photos*

While the annual train ride was halted for 2021, Romeo Blackmar continued his long-standing tradition acting as Town Crier, greeting guests through the streets of downtown Putnam.



The Just 2 Trio provided musical entertainment for visitors to the Great Pumpkin Festival.



The official Great Pumpkin came in at 1,915 pounds!



The staff of Sawmill pottery help a young visitor start a project.



Putnam Congregational Church held their annual Harvest Fair & Luncheon during the Great Pumpkin Festival welcoming guests into the church for a craft and goods fair, raffles and more.



The Quiet Corner Garden Club was one of many vendors and organizations who set up along Main Street and downtown Putnam.



Bank Hometown allowed guests the chance to get creative with their own pumpkin projects as they entered the lower section of the Great Pumpkin Festival.

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EDITOR

# Why do people enjoy being scared?

With Halloween just around the corner, scary movies, goblins, monsters and all things Freddy and Jason are re-surfacing as they do each year. One of the scariest novels by far is Stephen King's IT.

When this Editor was in High School, an attempt to read the original 1,138 page novel did not go so well. Being far to scared by Chapter Three, the book, was closed and has been collecting dust since. An avid reader of Dean Koontz, the thought of reading IT didn't seem so scary, but I digress.

When the film was released in 2016, this Editor, took another stab (see what I did there) at the story, this time via motion picture. It was not scary, maybe a 20 plus year gap between the attempt to read the novel and see the film played a role in that. Disturbing, yes, but not scary.

This brings us to Bangor, Maine, the home of Stephen King. The trip from New Hampshire and into Maine was vast, with winding roads and houses scattered far apart. Small towns were passed and if you blinked, you would miss them. Farm stands and old farm houses lined the roads and we could see why it would be the perfect place for an author to relax their minds, and get creative.

The interest to go and see Stephen King's home wasn't planned, it was more of a, 'since we're here' type of situation. The downtown area was quaint and had less people than one would think on a Sunday, sunny morning. King's home was located just about a mile from the downtown area.

Anyone with any knowledge of the famous author could pick his house out right away. Red balloons were seen swinging and bobbing from the tall black gates, with iron cobwebs and a bat at the top. Our guess is that the balloons were placed by enthusiastic fans, however a closer look and one will notice a red balloon inside the home, peeking from a window. Thank you Stephen, for playing along. King is said to be the best horror writer of all time. Before him, Bram Stoker who wrote Dracula in 1897 was the one to read for a good scare. A story about the Dracula Festival in Whitby, England, I'll save for next week.

A conversation with the Editor in Chief for Salmon Press, brought us the knowledge that King, was working as an Associate Professor of English at the University of Maine, barely making ends meet, when his wife rescued the manuscript for 'Carrie' from the trash and sent it to Viking, his original publisher. The rest is history.

So brought forth the question, 'Why do people like being scared?'. Human beings have been telling ghost stories and doing other fear producing things, such as jumping from cliffs or entering haunted houses since the dawn of time, but why? There are some people who abhor being scared and those who love nothing more. Horror has become, fun and a major pillar of the entertainment world.

Experts say there is a rush from the fight or flight response. This happens when a person feels threatened. That natural high can leave some people feeling great. The Excitation-Transfer Theory could play a role as well. This is when a group experiences extreme emotions together, which can build stronger relationships. The oxytocin released tends to make those moments more prevalent in our brains. There is also the Reward Pathway Theory, in which the brain thinks you're in danger while watching a scary movie or reading a horror novel. When the story is over, your brain 'likes' not being scared, therefore provides a reward.

## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to [Brendan@villagernewspapers.com](mailto:Brendan@villagernewspapers.com)

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

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Please Control Your Dog

Letter to the Editor:

Northeast Connecticut is a great place to live if you own dogs. There are many wonderful places to go walking here where we can legally have our dogs off leash. The state of Connecticut does not have a mandatory leash requirement. Local governments may create specific leash ordinances, but the Connecticut state laws regarding dogs state that the owner of a dog must keep their dog under their control and not allow their dog to roam. As a dog owner who has enjoyed off leash privileges with my dogs, I feel having control of my dog and respecting others I meet in public places is an important part of enjoying the beautiful places I get to walk with my dog. Controlling your dog is more than a simple courtesy, though, it is required by state law and it is necessary if we are to continue to enjoy this privilege and not be faced with mandatory leash ordinances in our community. Controlling your dog is important for the safety of everyone involved, including the off leash dog. When I encounter others when I am out walking or hiking in off leash areas with my dog, I call my dog to me and either put my dog on a leash or ask him to walk with me in heel position until the other person has passed by on the trail. My experiences when encountering other dogs and their owners when out with my dog has been that most people understand and abide by the requirement to control their dogs. However, several recent encounters have illustrated that many local dog owners have confused the right to have their dog off leash to mean their dog can run around wherever they want and approach whomever they want, whenever they want - even if the person that the dog is approaching has made it clear that they do not want to have the off leash dog in their immediate space. Having the right to have your dog off leash is NOT the same thing as having the right to invade the personal space of another individual with your dog. The responsibility of a dog owner is clear: you must have your dog under your control. If your dog is approaching another person without that person's permission, your dog is not under your control.

Socializing the dog is often the excuse I hear when I encounter an off leash dog that is not under the owners's control. The excuse I hear is that dogs need to be dogs and run around and be free. While dogs benefit from regular exercise and they need the opportunity to learn how to behave in public, allowing your dog to run up to anyone they meet isn't the correct way to socialize a dog. Socializing a dog is the process of teaching a dog appropriate behavior in social situations. Often times the appropriate behavior for a dog in a public place is simply "mind your own business". Letting your dog run around and invade the personal space of others is NOT socializing your dog. That is the opposite of socializing your dog, that is creating a nuisance dog that has no manners. But worse than that, it creates a dangerous situation for both the dog and others in the community. Calling out "It's OK, they're friendly!" to someone you meet when your dog is running towards them doesn't make the situation OK. All that means is it's ok with you; it doesn't mean it's ok with the person your dog is running towards. There are many reasons a person may have for not wanting your dog

### Best Selectpersons for Thompson

To the Editor:

I am one of the few people who have had the honor of serving our town and working with both Mr. Ken Beausoleil and Ms. Amy St. Onge on the Thompson Board of Selectmen.

There are big fundamental differences between the two candidates. One is very cautious and does not want to try anything new. The other is willing to consider other options - not seeking change just to make a change but to seek better alternatives. One wants to do things the way we "have always done it", the other candidate thinks about the choices, evaluates the options and picks the best one - whether that is the old way or another, better, choice.

Although I am a member of a political party, no candidate automatically gets my vote because they happen to be a member of that party. I evaluate the candidates and vote for the best one. I have been able to observe, first hand, the way the candidates for first selectman operate. I can honestly say that the one who would best serve our town is Amy St. Onge. She is not afraid to make a decision, she is willing to consider alternate opinions and

### Ellsworth Chase for Pomfret Selectman

To the Editor:

Serving as Selectman for the past two terms, I am running again to continue my interest, dedication, and commitment to serve all Pomfret citizens. I was born in Pomfret, benefited from a good education and lifestyle. I grew up on a dairy farm, now enjoying retirement as hobby farmer, and I know Pomfret. Pomfret is a beautiful, peaceful, and safe community, we live in a gem. I want to continue my work to help keep it that way. My 42-year career was based in computer technology, beginning as a software engineer and later as a Service and Sales executive on a global scale. My work spanned six major corporations and was based in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York City

in their immediate space, reasons that have nothing to do with whether or not your dog is friendly, reasons that should not have to explained to you in order to get you to control your dog. It's a simple matter to ask someone if it's ok for your dog to approach them. If the person says yes, then go ahead and let your dog approach. If the person says no, then please, call your dog to you and get your dog under your control. It's the right thing to do and it is required by state law.

Recently a good friend of mine came to visit me and together we went to a local public park with our dogs. I had taken my dog down to the open field area while my friend got her dog ready near her car. Before she left the area where she was parked on a public road with her leashed dog, she suddenly encountered two people with a large group of off leash dogs. When my friend asked the couple to call their dogs back to them, they refused. Instead they instructed my friend to stand still and not move while their pack of off leash dogs surrounded her and her leashed dog. The off leash dogs where allowed to sniff and investigate whatever they felt like and my friend was told to stand still if she wanted to remain safe. My friend was laughed at and mocked for asking this couple to control their dogs. She was told that she was in an off leash area and the dogs didn't have to be leashed and that as long as she stood still nothing bad would happen. This friend of mine is of petite stature and in her 70's, and she was bullied in my town by foolish people who have no understanding of what it means to control their dogs. She was bullied by people who think they have the right to control another person but have no responsibility to control their dogs. I am appalled at how my friend was treated. To the people who did this, I ask: Do you think it acceptable to use fear of violence to threaten someone and require them to stand still and just accept you doing whatever you what to do to them while you laugh and mock them? If not, then explain to me how you can justify doing that with your dogs? What gives you the right to control another person while arrogantly proclaiming that you don't have to control your dogs? What you did was not legal and if you think it is, you have a complete misunderstanding of what Connecticut laws are regarding the control of dogs.

I have several friends with well trained dogs who will not walk in public places in Connecticut because of the problem with off leash dogs that are not under their owner's control. They are not willing to take the risk of injury to their dogs or themselves because another dog owner doesn't think the rules of controlling their dog applies to them. A dog owner can't decide the law doesn't apply to them because they believe their dog is friendly. Accidents can happen with friendly dogs. So please, if you are going to give your dog the wonderful freedom to run off leash, take the time to teach your dog to come when called. This simple thing allows you to control your dog so that everyone can enjoy our beautiful outdoor places.

M. D. ADAM THOMPSON, CT

STEPHEN HERBERT

choices and to pick the best one for our town.

I think that the past two years have proven what Amy St.Onge can do for our community. Shortly after taking office she was confronted with the covid pandemic - a monumental challenge for our country and our community. No one could have handled it better.

Even while confronting the impacts of the pandemic, she did what no prior First Selectman did - she developed a cooperative spirit between the town government and our school district. This was, and is, more than just vague generalizations, the town and school now cooperate on things like intellectual technology, on sharing human resource assets, and on security to cite some examples. Mr Beausoleil could have done this in his past tenures as First Selectman but never took the initiative to do so. This is just one example of the differences between the two candidates - one never takes any initiatives, and the other, Amy St. Onge finds ways to help our community. I urge you to vote for Ms. Amy St. Onge and her running mate Susanne Witkowski.

and Washington DC. I earned a degree in engineering and did my graduate work in marketing. Career assignments along with formal education provides experience and knowledge that applies to the many challenges in a small-town government. I am committed to listening to all citizens and promoting a cooperative and balanced approach to governing in Pomfret. Political party affiliation provides guiding principles, but I see my obligation and dedication equally to all citizens. Let's work together for a brighter future. I am dedicated to continue working for you and ask for your vote in the November Election.

ELLSWORTH E CHASE JR  
POMFRET CENTER

# Hats

Toss one's hat in the ring. Wear many hats. Tip your hat to no one. Pull a rabbit out of the hat. Drop of a hat. Black hat/white hat. Home is where you hang your hat. I could go on. Hats figure prominently in our speech and our lives. As I pack away my summer hats, I think about all the ways hats matter and how much hats communicate.

I love hats. From my childhood when women and girls wore hats to church to the present day when I pop one on to protect my face or minimize a bad hair day, there is always a hat close at hand. Hats symbolize much and keep evolving.

President Kennedy is credited with damaging the hat industry when he walked to his inauguration bare headed. Prior to that time, my father and most men like him wore a hat every day when they went to work. Professionals and office workers wore soft hats or fedoras and others wore caps of various types. The military carries on a tradition of hats as symbols of rank. As the top hat and straw boaters were replaced by felt hats, all were supplanted by the ubiquitous baseball cap.

In a Louse Penny mystery, I read, the hero, A r m a n d G a m a c h e , a Canadian policeman, wore a toque.

My late mother-in-law, a fashionista in today's parlance, sported hats she called toques. They were often knit caps or hats without brims. She wore hats with veils to church as that was the norm. Often head coverings denote respect in a temple, a mosque or a church, although except for yarmulkes, men generally take their hats off when inside religious or secular buildings.

Baseball caps break all the rules, and we love them. When did people begin wearing caps backwards, I wondered. Superficial research points to a baseball player, Ken Griffey, Jr. who turned his hat around and started a major trend. He did it because of a childhood fondness for wearing his father's hat, but the reversal became a symbol of rebellion and was picked up by the hip-hop community in a flash. As the practice rippled through society, it had a polarizing effect. Hats communicate the opinions and temperament of the wearer, at the drop of a hat.

The first time I noticed a man wearing a hat in a restaurant, I was surprised. Etiquette once would have prescribed a man remove his hat when inside, t doff his hat at a lady, take it off and press it to his heart when a funeral passed by or when the national anthem is played. I still observe the latter, but in general, men and women keep their hats on their heads regardless. It is a change that won't be reversed. It's a cultural practice that has shifted and, while not the end of the world, it is more about individual expression than group norms, except for the actual hats.

Glance around at baseball caps. They say so much. Sports teams lead the list, but schools, veterans' affiliations, civic groups, vacation destinations, dogs and cats, grandparent status, political parties and candidates, and rude sayings dominate in my informal survey. Should one wear a hat that bears the name of a former employer, a candidate that lost or a business that went defunct? If it's a comfortable hat, I'd keep it, but perhaps wear it only in the garden.

Halloween costumes focus on witches, scarecrows, pirates and princesses. Everyone features a hat. Put on or take off a mantilla, fedora, bonnet, baseball cap and say whatever you wish about yourself.



NANCY WEISS





LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Brooklyn voters and taxpayers

To the Editor:  
With the municipal elections quickly approaching, I would like to draw your attention to the two candidates seeking re-election for the Board of Finance. Kim Conroy and Ken Dykstra are two valued members of the board that have and continue to work for the overall fiscal balance of Brooklyn. Neither of them is focused on only one hot button agenda item, but look at the whole picture for Brooklyn to decide the direction for our town.  
Kim is a dedicated public servant and has served and chaired on several town boards. Her financial background and her commitment to the town has made her an exceptional member of the Board of Finance for several years. She brings the experience and knowledge to

the board, and understands the balance needed in providing services to the townspeople, achieving Brooklyn fiscal strength, and maintaining as fair and balanced tax burden as possible.  
Ken is an independent minded highly regarded member of the board. His common-sense approach and ability to see the big picture for Brooklyn has garnered respect from both sides of the aisle. Ken has also been able to liaison for the board to other boards and commissions in the town.  
I hope you will join me in returning these two candidates to Brooklyn's Board of Finance and keep our town moving forward.

DREW DIONNE  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
VICE CHAIR

Demarais: Endorsing Patti Larrow George for Killingly Town Council

To the Editor:  
I want to go on record as endorsing Patti Larrow George for Killingly Town Council at Large. I had the privilege of crossing paths with Patti at a Killingly Business Association event.  
Immediately, I realized that Patti is a strong influencer in the town of Killingly. As I now know Patti, I realize that my gut was right. Patti cares so much about the community of Killingly and the Quiet Corner that she is willing to do whatever it takes to make sure the people are represented. She believes in helping the citizens by being their voice and communicating their wishes. Patti represents the people and wants to bring jobs and businesses to Killingly. Patti believes that everyone should be able to have a job and give back to their community. By being fiscally responsible, Patti is demonstrating that the town can thrive and businesses will prosper. Patti recognizes the need for literacy for our children to be ready for the work

force, affordable housing and community involvement to promote relationships to get things done. Patti listens to the needs of the town's citizens and will do everything in their best interest to represent them.  
On a personal note, Patti is more than proud to have always called Killingly her home. The love she has for her husband, children, and pets shows through the warmth of her personality and smile. She will always put her family and relationships before anything or anyone else. Patti does not do what she does to prosper from a political image. She does what she does for her family, friends, and the citizens of Killingly, Connecticut and will represent them better than any candidate out there. I am proud to endorse Patti Larrow George for Killingly Town Council at Large.  
Thank you for your time.

DAWNE DEMARAIS  
POMFRET

Fortin: to join me in voting for Mike Daugherty

To the Editor:  
Speaking as a 20-year resident of Woodstock I ask you to join me in voting for Mike Daugherty for the Board of Finance on November 2nd.  
Mike has been a board member for the last 14 years and has served as the Chairman for the last 6.  
His preparation for each meeting and his knowledge of our towns municipal finance is second to none. Mike has been instrumental in the approval process that for the last 3 out of 4 years yielded budgets that haven't required a Mill Rate increase, allowing Woodstock

to maintain one of the lowest tax rates in CT. The Board, under Mike's leadership, has accomplished this while continuing to fund the vital services a community such as ours requires.  
The wealth of knowledge and experience Mike brings to the board is important to retain this November.  
Please cast your vote to re-elect Mike Daugherty to the Woodstock Board of Finance.

DAVID FORTIN.  
WOODSTOCK

Hatfield : Amy is truly a proven leader

To the Editor:  
It is my distinct pleasure to announce my enthusiastic support and endorsement for Amy St. Onge who is seeking re-election to the office of Thompson First Selectman. Amy is a dedicated and compassionate leader who has worked tirelessly for Thompson. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, Amy kept town hall open and accessible to the public. In many cases she scheduled appointments herself and then personally drove seniors to their vaccination appointments.  
As someone who is part of the law enforcement family, I am also proud that Amy has stood firmly behind our police and first responders. One example of this is how, through dogged determination, she significantly improved the funding of Thompson's Fire Department and EMS services

by 33%. She also eliminated duplication between the town and education budgets, improved the town's cyber security measures, and implemented important road and bridge reclamation efforts throughout the town. I know Amy to be a reliable and cherished friend to many, who has taken steps to ensure that Thompson's citizens and its animals are well cared for by reinstating the responsible use of animal control services. Amy is truly a proven leader for the town of Thompson who has been a great First Selectman. I strongly encourage the residents of Thompson to vote for my friend, Amy St. Onge, on Nov. 2nd  
Sincerely,

SUE HATFIELD, POMFRET  
FMR. CHAIR CONNECTICUT  
REPUBLICAN PARTY

POMFRET PROUD!

To the Editor:  
I have been a resident since 1993 and have seen Pomfret evolve into a progressive and responsible community that values honesty, transparency and cooperation. Our leadership has demonstrated it's care for our environment as well as the health and safety of our citizens. When I mention that I live in Pomfret, I get comments praising our bucolic town. Good schools, com-

munity involvement, dedicated leaders and board members make Pomfret special. Let's support our candidates with a special thank-you to Maureen Nicholson and Patrick McCarthy. Also thanks to all who serve us as teachers, town employees and volunteers. Frankly, without our EMS I wouldn't be alive.

MARLENE HEALD, ACSW, LCSW

Let us put back critical thinking into Town Government

To the Editor:  
Thursday evening October 15th at the Thompson Speedway, sponsored by Thompson Together held a debate for Selectmen on down the ticket for both Democrat and Republican candidates running for elective office.  
After opening statements from all candidates Thompson Together divided the various offices with a five minute break between the office of Board of Education, Board of Planning and Zoning Commission and lastly Board of Selectmen. With an attendance of between 50 and 60 town folks their written and pointed questions highlighted by Beth Goldsmith of Thompson Together on a screen, the various candidates delivered their responses. Highlighting the evening and lastly was the Democrat run-

ning for First Selectmen Ken Beausoleil and Republican First Selectmen Amy St Onge. Ken Beausoleil and his running mate "Free Money" Matt Harmon spoke openly to issues related to the various fire department issues confronting the Town along with issues related to the school. Republican Incumbents First Selectmen Amy St Onge and her running mate Susan Witkowski delivered thoughtful and logical reasoning to all questions posed by the Thompson gathering. Let us put back critical thinking into Town Government vote Republican!

ALVAN R. HILL,  
INCUMBENT ALTERNATE FOR  
THOMPSON PLANNING AND  
ZONING COMMISSION.

Ray Williams will bring a fresh perspective and common sense approach to this commission

To Whom it May Concern,  
As a 29 year Thompson resident and homeowner, I am proud to support Ray Williams' candidacy for Thompson's Planning & Zoning Commission.  
I have known Ray for a quarter century and know him to be a solid community member and a man whose word is his bond. Ray has served for years as one of the board leaders of the Thompson Rod & Gun Club, where his initiative and enthusiasm in running fundraisers for persons in need has always been extraordinary.  
Recently, Ray worked tirelessly in educating and organizing Thompson citizens about a concerning proposal by the Planning & Zoning Commission which would have placed unreasonable and unnecessary restrictions on target shooting on private property and at the Thompson Rod & Gun and Valley

Springs Sportsman's Clubs.  
In large part due to Ray's efforts, nearly 500 residents came to the September 27 P&Z Commission meeting and convinced commission members to withdraw this proposal. I truly believe this would not have occurred without Ray's hard work.  
Disappointed with the lack of transparency associated with this P&Z proposal, Ray has decided to become part of the solution, rather than the problem, and run for a seat on the P&Z Commission. Ray will bring a fresh perspective and common sense approach to this commission and I encourage my fellow citizens to vote for him on November 2.  
Respectfully,

MICHAEL B. DARCY  
THOMPSON, CONNECTICUT

Please check Putnam Democrats

Dear Editor,  
Putnam Democratic Candidates endorsed on the Municipal Ballot bring to our community years of leadership and experience working together in support of the positive direction of our community.  
Current Selectman Scott Pempek, consistently makes decisions based on what is the best for Putnam. Scott's educational background, leadership performance and business experience are important qualifications for public service.  
Selectman Candidate Gloria Marion, is currently Special Service District official. Gloria served as Vice Chair and Chair of the Special Service District. Vice Chair of the Finance Board and a member of the Zoning Board. Gloria will draw from her experience with budget issues, municipal government management and Town projects to work together with her peers.  
Board of Finance Candidate Maura Higginson is currently an alternate on the Board. Her business management and accounting experience bring a common sense approach to maintain and approve Putnam's services, through managing spending and creating workable budgets.  
Alternate Board of Finance Candidate Joe Nash, will build on his 20 years experience on the Finance Board, identifying the community's needs and keep working to keep our tax rate low.  
Incumbent Board of Education

Candidates Carrie Blackmar, Lauren Konicki and Kevin Davis are joined by Candidate Chad Neal. All of our candidates bring educational experience and leadership to the Board. Chad will join the other members in supporting the teachers, staff and administration to provide a strong education, extra curricular activities and a positive environment that will contribute to our children's successful future.  
Library Board incumbent Candidates Anne Lamondy, current Chair, Susan Nash and candidate Marla Allard, past Board member, are experienced in understanding and promoting the Boards' mission of giving energy to the many programs offered to all residents.  
Kathy Noel Johnson, Special Service District candidate, is a business owner and past member of the Board of Finance. Her experience is a positive addition to the District management  
Lauren Heidelberger, Board of Assessment candidate, brings her Real Estate experience when dealing with taxpayers property assessment concerns.  
Our candidates are life residents of Putnam and want to make living in Putnam a positive experience. Please check Putnam Democrats Facebook page to read the candidates detailed bios. Vote Nov 2nd, Row A.

CYNTHIA DUNNE  
PUTNAM

Janice Joly is efficient, detail-oriented, and extremely competent

To The Editor:  
I have known Janice Joly in a variety of capacities for many years. Janice worked as a reading specialist in the Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS) and I was her department head for two years. Janice and I have kept in touch over the years, and we have collaborated on multiple education projects, including the implementation of the Renaissance Reading Program. We both currently reside in Killingly, CT.  
Janice is efficient, detail-oriented, and extremely competent. She often successfully finishes a task well before the deadline. She is very organized, and

never misses a deadline or forgets an assignment.  
Janice also has an excellent rapport with people of all ages. She has successfully taught reading for many years at the high school level and has enriched the lives of her students. Her excellent communication skills (both written and verbal) allow her to connect with all kinds of people and to inspire them to put forth their best effort.  
In summary, I highly recommend Janice for any position or endeavor that she may seek to pursue. She will be a valuable asset for any organization.

MICHAEL J. GARCIA

Is it responsible

To the Editor:  
Is it responsible to abandon \$94,000 in annual educational funding because of the name of a mascot?  
Is it responsible to support businesses to garner tax revenue but sacrifice our values?  
Is it responsible to spend tax dollars on one area of town aesthetics instead of fixing the actual social problems that stunts it?  
Is it responsible to make fiscal decisions without defining an entire town's vision and then direct a comprehensive plan for growth?  
Is it responsible to spend \$27,000,000 on one town amenity when many of those resources already exist?  
Is is responsible to spend \$39,000

grant funds for essentially marketing, signage, navigation plan for one area of town with few visitors or places to go?  
Is it responsible to outright refuse to consider regional cost sharing resources instead of duplicating assets and services?  
Is it responsible to let town employees (often non residents) or outside interests influence Killingly's growth, character and values instead of it's residents?  
Killingly, Attawaugan, Ballouville, Danielson, Dayville, East Killingly, Rogers, South Killingly be responsible, watch and listen, choose wisely. Vote.

KATHY H. FEDOR  
DAYVILLE, CT

Higginson: Gloria Marion has my vote and full support!

To the Editor:  
I am writing to endorse Gloria Marion for the position of Selectman for Putnam, CT. Gloria is an intelligent, strong, independent woman with extensive experience and a vast wealth of knowledge. She knows the Town & District Charters and the State Statutes inside & out. Gloria is focused on the needs of Putnam, the issues that matter here and are important to as well as needed by the people of our Town. Gloria is a vocal presence at Town and Board meetings, asking the critical questions, spotting the omissions, errors, and legal items that others have missed.  
Gloria has been a strong & prudent leader on both the Board of Finance and the Special Services District Board,

managing expenses, creating workable budgets, negotiating contracts, balancing the best interests of the town with the needs & concerns of it's citizens & taxpayers.  
Putnam needs a strong, intelligent, truly independent person, like Gloria Marion, who will listen to, represent and stand up for ALL of us! Gloria is the person that I want and trust to represent me & to be my voice as Selectman! Gloria Marion has my vote and full support!  
Thank you for offering the opportunity to voice my opinion in your newspaper!

MAURA HIGGINSON  
PUTNAM



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thrilled to learn, \$10 million given to research cultivated meat

To the editor,  
I was thrilled to learn the U.S. Department of Agriculture is giving \$10 million over five years to Tufts University, which will establish a National Institute for Cellular Agriculture. The institute will conduct open-access research into cultivated meat. For those who don't know, cultivated meat is grown from cells, without slaughter. It's better for the environment, public health and animal welfare. "USDA's historic funding for a National Institute for Cellular Agriculture is an important advancement for cultivated meat research and science," said Appropriations Committee Chair Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT). "I am pleased

that USDA's leadership continues to recognize the important role these technologies can play in combating climate change and adding much needed resiliency to our food system." As wonderful as this news is, a greater investment is needed for cultivated meat to reach price parity and surmount other obstacles. Given the technology's potential to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, pandemic risk, and animal suffering, the government should be allocating billions of dollars to the effort, not millions. I hope legislators will increase funding in the near future.

JON HOCHSCHARTNER

I'm asking President Biden to return the favor

To the Editor:  
In November 2020, millions of voters like me went to the polls and cast a ballot for Joe Biden. Now, with a relentless GOP attack on our voting rights underway, I'm asking President Biden to return the favor. It's time for Biden to go further than talking about supporting voting rights legislation. We need him to come out and fully support ending the filibuster so the Senate can finally pass voting rights legislation like the Freedom to Vote Act and the John

Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. With the filibuster intact, these bills stand little chance of passing. We need the president to use his power of office to pressure the Senate to end the filibuster and clear a path for voting rights reform. We can't out-organize voter suppression. History will remember how President Biden handles these attacks on our right to vote. I'm urging him to do the right thing.  
Sincerely,

DEVRA KEMP

Meet the Candidate: Steve Nickerson

Hello Thompson voters, my name is Steve Nickerson, and I would like to introduce myself to you as a candidate for the open position at the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA). The WPCA is an important part of Thompson's infrastructure supporting hundreds of homes and businesses. As a Republican candidate for the position, I will bring a no-nonsense conservative approach to the authority. I will be a strong and active advocate for Thompson residents, looking to ensure that the needs of the town are achieved for this essential service.  
I am a member of the Thompson Republican Town Committee, and have a breadth of experience that I will bring

to the table:  
· Extensive experience in Town politics  
· Veteran of the US Marine Corps – Rank of Sergeant  
· Graduate of Stonehill College, Magna Cum Laude, Easton MA  
· Former Business owner  
· Senior Manager, Information Technology, for a local area business  
· Active Church member  
· Proud Parent of 2 children  
Please look for my signs around town  
I ask for your vote on Election Day, November 2  
Thank you for your support!

STEVE NICKERSON

Meet the Candidate: Janice Joly

To the Editor:  
I am a virtual lifelong resident of Killingly, attended KHS with many generations of my family living and working in Killingly. As a current BOE member since February 2020, I humbly ask for your vote to continue to provide sound decisions in the education of our children.  
I hold a BS in Elementary Education, an MS in Reading and Language Arts. I have 18 years of teaching experience, hold Connecticut certifications in primary, elementary, RLA (PreK-12) and adult education and a certified Reading and Language Arts Consultant. I am a former employee of the Killingly School District – paraprofessional for seven years and a Substitute Teacher.  
My experience includes: BOE Vice Chair, elected as the Curriculum Committee Chair and a member of the following committees: Personnel,

Facilities, Policy, and Curriculum, Superintendent Search Committee and a team member to negotiate union and nonunion contracts.  
As a fiscal conservative, I want to do what is right for our schools and children, as well as, what is right to our taxed enough citizens. I will ensure transparency with our budget and fight against unfunded state mandates and against any state mandate to implement the bigoted critical race theory (CRT) ideology in our classrooms.  
Killingly is an Alliance District which means it is a failing district and this needs to stop. It's time to find out why our schools are failing, identify the obstacles and fix the issues.  
I ask for your vote on Tuesday, November 2nd.  
Thank you,

JANICE

A letter to the People of Putnam:

My name is John Miller. I am excited and honored to be on the ballot as a petitioning candidate for Selectman. I want to earn your vote as Selectman to put my experience to use to serve the people of Putnam.  
My wife Darlene and I are both born and raised in Putnam. I am a business owner in Putnam (National Chromium Co. Inc.) for over 20 years as well as a local community college educator since 1984. We have two daughters, Tiffany Miller Barnes and Amanda Miller both of whom are graduates of the Putnam Public Schools. Tiffany is a resident of Putnam and has been a teacher in the Putnam School system for thirteen years. Our son-in-law John Barnes, also a Putnam graduate, is a key person in his family business, JB Concrete Products located on Arch Street in Putnam. Their son and our grandson, Lucas, is a second grader in the Putnam School system. Amanda Miller is a Director in the Patient Experience Department at Yale New Haven Health System for Bridgeport and Milford Hospitals.  
I am striving to be your Selectman so that I have the opportunity to assist Putnam to continue to move forward addressing the issues that affect all of us. I believe that our Town Government must continue the progress that has been made improving Putnam's infrastructure as well as by supporting the social infrastructure that provides affordable and convenient child care, educational and recreational opportunities for the people of Putnam  
I began my experience in Putnam

government in the early 1990's; here is how I gained the experience that I have today:  
15 years of Service on the Putnam Economic Development Commission, several years as Chairperson  
15 Years of Service on the Putnam Redevelopment Agency, several years as Chairperson.  
Served as Vice Chair of the Mayor's Task Force for Business Development in 2004.  
Board of Finance, several terms in the 2000's. One term as Vice Chair.  
Board of Finance since January 2018, Vice Chair since 2020.  
Served on the Putnam Charter Study Committee.  
We need to continue to increase the grand list, through Economic Development and a strong Redevelopment Agency. Increasing the grand list will increase the value of a mill which will enable the Town to absorb the inflationary increases in costs needed to operate the General Government, Library and Education departments, thereby controlling the tax rate.  
I want to listen to the people of Putnam so that I can be their voice at the table advocating for your opinions and issues that are important to you-the people of Putnam. Please contact me directly at 860.465.6256 to start he conversation.

JOHN MILLER  
PETITIONING CANDIDATE FOR THE  
PUTNAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Vote St. Onge and Witkowski for Selectpersons in Thompson!

To the Editor:  
Why vote for St. Onge and Witkowski? Because they keep their promises. They promised to improve Communication and Unity in the Town of Thompson. Surmounting the challenges of COVID they kept Town Hall open to the citizens of Thompson. They United and Collaborated with the school to allow town boards, committees, and commissions meetings to continue and remain accessible to the public using Zoom. Now meetings continue to be held in hybrid mode, with the added benefit of more citizens attending the meetings because of the convenience. Thereby, as promised this team has increased Communication to the Citizens of Thompson. They also collaborated with the school to share resources like IT technology to improve cybersecurity at Town Hall, Human Resources and Insurance saving the Taxpayers of this Town thousands of dollars. They continue to seek out ways to Unify resources to achieve economies of scale in any way possible. This current administra-

tion, spearheaded by Amy St. Onge gets things done. She just doesn't talk about it; she acts and makes things happen.  
St. Onge and Witkowski acted to "Move Thompson Forward" and "Get the Job Done". Long past due inspection of small bridges in Town are now completed. Grant applications needed for funding necessary repairs to these bridges has been submitted. For the first time a long-range plan is in place for the improvement of our Town infrastructure. Our roads are being properly addressed and resurfaced. The salt shed long talked about as environmentally necessary but has lingered eternally on the drawing table is now going forward. St. Onge is actively pursuing opportunities for the Route 12 Business Corridor. There is a bright future ahead for the Town of Thompson. Keep the momentum going. Vote St. Onge – Witkowski for Selectpersons November 2 and for the entire Republican team.

KATHLEEN HERBERT  
THOMPSON CT

Thompson is indeed lucky to have Ken Beausoleil running for office

To the Editor:  
In this day and age where so many politicians can "talk the talk" but far and few between are the rare individuals who can "walk the walk" Thompson is indeed lucky to have Ken Beausoleil running for office again. Ken is a man who truly cares about Thompson and is committed to the community. You won't see his face plastered on giant billboards proclaiming he is working for you because he IS too busy actually working for everyone in this town Republicans and Democrats alike. Too often people are sidetracked by the D or The R next to someones name to listen to the content and the message of what they are saying and more importantly

DOING for the town. The current politicians in charge in Thompson spend a lot of time and energy finger pointing and blaming others for their own shortcomings and shortsightedness which has cost the town countless tens of thousands of dollars and lots of unnecessary expense and loss of services. The future of this town and the quality of life here depends upon voting quality people like Ken into office who are here because they care about everyone and not just their own political party. For every citizens future wellbeing please, please, please, vote for Beausoleil and Herman November 2nd.

MICHAEL KAPLAN

Woodstock Board of Education - Think carefully about who you vote for!

Please join us in supporting Emily Green-Hayden, Jessica Weaver-Boose, and Katherine McDonald, three highly qualified Democrat candidates for the Woodstock Board of Education. All three are natives of our community who know Woodstock's strengths and needs. All three have recently returned to Woodstock, where their children are now enrolled in Woodstock public schools or the Academy. Emily brings expertise in early childhood education, while Kate has taught at the high school and college levels; Jessica has worked in youth ministry and has excellent fundraising and social media skills.  
Emily, Jessica, and Kate share a commitment to providing safe and excellent educational opportunities for all of our Woodstock students. This includes following the CDC and FDA guidelines to protect ourselves, our community, and our children from COVID-19. Unfortunately, that is not true of all the Republican BoE candidates.  
This election year in Woodstock,

the choices for Board of Education are clear - Democratic candidates who have the knowledge, experience, and dedication we need to guide our schools today, versus some Republican candidates whose ideas about safeguarding the health and well-being of our children are severely misguided and - if left unchecked - could result in preventable illnesses and worse among our children and school staff.  
Want to learn more about Emily, Jessica, and Kate? Please visit the Woodstock Democratic Town Committee's website <https://www.woodstockdemocratictowncommittee.org/>. For more information on recent discussions about health and safety at Woodstock Board of Education meetings, check out <https://www.woodstockschools.net/browse/21487>.  
This year, think carefully about who you vote for. Vote the Democratic slate for Woodstock!

GLEN AND CHRISTINE LESSIG

Napierata: Kyle believes Killingly schools are better than the present educational trends

To the editor:  
I enthusiastically write this letter of support for Kyle Napierata running for reelection to the Killingly Board of Education. Kyle's commitment to excellence in education, transparent communication, and common sense qualities all make him an outstanding candidate.  
Sadly, we are seeing a trend across our great nation where students are being taught what to think, rather than how to think. Kyle believes Killingly schools are better than the present educational trends. He believes that they need to continue to stay focused on what is best for all students and not allow political agendas to infiltrate our schools.  
Being married to a teacher, and having many family members employed by CT schools, Kyle understands and appreciates the incredible amount of arduous work and dedication school employees put forth every day.

Kyle's committed to transparent communication and knows that parents and guardians have a vital role in the collaborative partnership between schools, administrators and families.  
Working for more than thirty years for a small family-owned business has taught Kyle the value of being fiscally responsible. He has taught his own children two basic financial principles to live by- don't spend money that you don't have and going into debt is not an option.  
As an elected Board member Kyle knows he has a responsibility to the students, staff, tax payers of Killingly and the parents to the community as a whole.  
Please go out and vote for my husband, Kyle Napierata, on Tuesday, November 2nd.

JEN NAPIERATA  
DANIELSON

Thanks to those who attended

To the Editor:  
On Tuesday, Oct. 12th, the Town of Woodstock hosted a Special Town Meeting to amend 2 ordinances and rescind a third. All were acted upon and passed.  
Perhaps more importantly, immediately following the meeting, an Open Forum was held to discuss ideas on how to invest approximately 2.3 million dollars from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the best interests of the town and its citizens. More than 50 residents attended these meetings in person with another 20 attending via ZOOM. There was excellent participation, and many innovative ideas were offered to be taken into consideration.  
My reason for writing is to express my

personal thanks to those who attended, and also to those who have sent us ideas or questions about ARPA funds. As I mentioned recently in these pages: Democracy Requires Participation! I was thankful for the number of people who came out. This forum also caused many to contact us with additional ideas via our dedicated email address: [arpa2021@woodstockct.gov](mailto:arpa2021@woodstockct.gov). This will be a continuing conversation as the town plans how to wisely allocate these funds.  
Again, my sincere thanks!

JAY SWAN  
FIRST SELECTMAN  
WOODSTOCK

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Meet the Candidate: Kelly Martin

I am a 17-year Killingly resident and proud to call Killingly my home. As a resident, I have met many wonderful people and love being involved in our community. I love our local town and country feeling.

I am running for BOE because I have two children in the Killingly public school system, and I want to ensure that they and other children are not being led astray and get the best education we can offer. I want parents to be able to raise their children the way they want and keep their voices. As a taxpayer, I want this done with fiscal responsibility as we taxpayers are taxed enough.

In 2009, I left my job of 25 years as a legal assistant to lay down roots in Killingly and start a freelance writing business and become a partner at The Broken Crust restaurant in Putnam.

I previously taught continuing education classes at QVCC, and I am current-

ly an instructor teaching legal assisting classes at Roger Williams University College.

I believe my knowledge in the legal system, being a small business owner, and my teaching experience to be of value as a BOE member.

I oppose curriculum and instruction the implements in any form critical race theory (CRT); our children need to learn to read, write, and do arithmetic, not learn to hate one another. As a fiscal conservative, I will ensure BOE finances are responsible and transparent. It is your money, not the BOE's. I will ensure that this is understood.

Killingly has been an Alliance District for years, which means it is a failing district. We need to understand why and how to become excellent.

I humbly ask for your vote on November 2nd. Thank you.

KELLY MARTIN

Rawson: join me in voting for Earl Rosebrooks

Dear Putnam Voters:

I would like to provide this endorsement on behalf of Earl Rosebrooks. I have known Earl for over 10 years and have enjoyed watching his development and growth as both a business owner and philanthropist within the town of Putnam and the northeast corner of CT as a whole. Earl's high intellect and business acumen have driven the growth of his business, Fluid Coating Technology, to become a recognized leading business within its sector. Earl chose the Putnam Industrial Park to locate his business and is happy to employ folks from the area.

I have also had the opportunity to serve along side Earl in his countless volunteer capacities including as a former President of the Putnam Business Association, board member for Northeast Opportunities for Wellness (NOW), weekly delivery person for Daily Bread, and as a volunteer for the Danielson Veteran's Coffee house and its many food distributions. Earl is a natural leader. His can-do atti-

tude is infectious and he is an inspiration to others. Earl has spent much of his free time helping the youth of the community as a volunteer for the YMCA and NOW. The organizations have come to depend upon Earl, and he has always delivered. I have witnessed first-hand the impact that Earl has on children and his obvious love of children. During the 2021 election season, voters will have the opportunity to put their faith in Earl to help lead the Board of Education. It is a crucial time in our history as it relates to education, compounded by the pandemic and increased strain on funding sources. Earl will be there to ask the difficult questions, but most of all to provide the best educational opportunities for our children. I ask that you join me in voting for Earl Rosebrooks for the Board of Education on November 2.

Respectfully Submitted,

JEFFREY A. RAWSON

Super: vote the Democratic slate

To the Editor:

The letter by Jeffery A. Gordon, M.D. in the October 15 edition of this paper, contains an amazing list of non-truths and disinformation. For example, he claims that Woodstock Republicans have kept "taxes low." Does he know that over the last 10 years, Woodstock's Republican leadership has increased the tax rate by 42%, from 17.92 mills to 25.5?

He claims the Republican-controlled budgets have been "fiscally responsible" – like paying a full-time salary to a First Selectman who only works a few hours a week and has another full-time job?

He says the Republican leadership has supported "strong public education." Does he know that with so many school programs and facilities eliminated due to under-funding, our schools' state rankings have dropped precipitously? Under Republican leadership, the Middle school plunged from 42nd to 107th, and the Elementary school dropped from 209th to 299th.

He claims the Republicans have been "transparent." Would he include in that the redefining of an elected staff position, establishing a new, non-elected one, and filling it without even so much as a public notice (not to mention

open applications)?

He says Woodstock Republicans have guided "the town through the COVID-19 pandemic." They did indeed put in barriers and shields in Town Hall – that is good (even though it ran far over budget). But did they make any effort to increase public awareness of how to fight the virus? Did they coordinate with local medical authorities to have a pop-up vaccination clinic in Town Hall, in East Woodstock, Woodstock Valley, or anywhere for that matter?

Finally Dr. Gordon – Jeffery A. Gordon, Medical Doctor – endorses for the Board of Education two candidates who stand against vaccinations and even against protective face masks. As a physician, surely Dr. Gordon has a basic understanding of viruses and the human immune system, and yet he supports candidates who would deliberately increase the medical risk to our children and our teachers.

I urge Woodstock citizens to vote for responsible budgeting, ethical management, improved schools, and protection of our community's health – vote the Democratic slate on Row A of the ballot, November 2nd.

CHARLES M. SUPER, PhD

White: Join me in voting for this enterprising, enthusiastic young candidate, Orion Newall-Vuillemot

To the Editor:

Orion Newall-Vuillemot is a petitioning candidate for the Woodstock Board of Education. Woodstock voters help us elect a young, energetic person to our Board of Education to help guide our schools to a progressive future. As a petitioning candidate he is not bound by either party's ideas or expectations. Orion Newall-Vuillemot has recently gone through our town school system, graduating from Woodstock Academy in 2019. He has firsthand knowledge of the current school climate. Because he is newly out of school, he can identify what needs are not currently being met with the present system. He can put an up to date students' needs and expectations on the table. A young perspective would be a fresh change to add to the

Board of Education. While age adds wisdom, youth adds enthusiasm and a current viewpoint on what is needed in education for the coming generation. Recent graduates of our school system have firsthand knowledge of what is needed to succeed in today's world.

Orion is also a town taxpayer, and I believe he can responsibly balance the education needs with those of the taxpayers to keep taxes in a reasonable range.

Please join me in voting for this enterprising, enthusiastic young candidate for Woodstock Board of Education this November.

GAIL WHITE  
WOODSTOCK

Zamagni: join me in voting for Carrie Blackmar

To the voters of Putnam,

I will be casting my vote to re-elect Carrie Blackmar to the Board of Education (BOE). Why? For many reasons: She has served on the BOE since 2014, and has chosen the Putnam Public Schools for her children's education. She and her husband are also Putnam Public School graduates.

Carrie currently serves as the BOE Secretary. She continues to be active in the Putnam High School Alumni Athletic Association, served on the PHS building committee and is a member of the Wall of Honor Committee.

Carrie is a graduate of the University Of Connecticut NEAG School Of Education, and holds a Master of Education from the same School.

She has been a teacher for 21 years and her dedication to improving education qualifies her as an excellent choice for BOE.

Putnam residents, please join me in voting for Carrie Blackmar on November 2nd.

KATHLEEN ZAMAGNI  
PUTNAM, CT

Panteleakos: A vote for Patti Larrow George is a vote for the best interest of Killingly

To the Editor:

Patti Larrow George has lived in this area her entire life. I have known her for 35 years. Her elders are here. Her children are here. She is vested and rooted in this town for a multitude of reasons. Her history is here and her future is here. The pride that comes with a legacy like that is exactly why you want her working to maintain and preserve Killingly for today and for tomorrow.

She's got the experience; research the positions she's held for this town already and you'll see she's passionate about her responsibilities and knowledgeable about the workings of politics and agendas.

A vote for Patti is a vote for the best interest of Killingly.

Respectfully,

TRACY PANTELEAKOS

Ray Williams for Thompson PZ Commission

To the Editor:

Ray Williams would be an excellent choice as member of the Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission. He is a Connecticut native and lifelong resident of the Town of Thompson. He knows what our values are and what we want going forward for this town. We need someone like Ray on the PZ Commission to add balance and a voice of reason.

The PZ Commission is the most important commission in the Town of Thompson due to its power to regulate virtually every significant decision relating to our homes and real estate. Ray helped defeat the recent failed PZ proposed shooting range regulation designed to take away, or severely restrict, the right to exercise your 2nd amendment (keep and bear arms) and 5th amendment (free enjoyment of property) rights. As drafted, those rights would have been lost for citizens in the Town of Thompson due to the PZ Commission. Ray Williams, as a member of Thompson Rod and Gun Club, organized and led the charge along with

nearly 600 citizens to speak out against the PZ Commission. His voice was clear and heard by all present, resulting in a resounding NO vote! It takes moral courage, an understanding of values, and a deep knowledge of what is best for this town. We want people like Ray making informed decisions that are based upon facts and guided by good common sense directing the PZ Commission. Many may object to regulatory tyranny but few are willing to stand up, speak out and be counted. Ray is one of the special breed of citizens that will do the right thing when it's needed.

Ray didn't hesitate to step up and speak out to oppose the PZ commission, and I believe he will be a voice for reason, a steady hand and conscientious force on the Thompson PZ Commission. For these reasons, I wholeheartedly recommend Ray Williams as a write-in candidate on the November 2nd ballot for PZ Commission in Thompson.

GEORGE T. O NEIL, III  
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Meet the Candidate: Raymond Wood II

My name is Raymond Wood II and I am a republican candidate for the Killingly Town Council in the 5<sup>th</sup> district.

I have lived in the town of Killingly almost all my life. I graduated from Ellis Tech in 2007. I took my EMT course through QVCC in 2011 and currently serve our town as the BLS Supervisor on our town ambulance. Killingly has been home and remains my focus to keep it a great place to live and do business.

I have always stood for small limited government. While some call for an expansion, I recognize the larger government is, the more restricted the people become. This is true especially with finances. The larger government gets, the more you pay. Not everyone can afford this and I will always work toward a responsible budget that keeps you and your family in mind. I care about transparency in finances and joined fellow council members in

directing the town manager to find a program that would make the town's finances as transparent as possible.

As we navigate the COVID-19 crisis I have always kept you and your family in mind. I was supportive of giving up the stipend the council receives to help keep the mil rate flat. I have not forgotten that despite a pandemic you have individual rights that must not be trampled upon. I did this by voting yes to a resolution requesting that towns make the choice regarding lockdowns. As a frontline worker I have treated many covid positive patients without fear knowing they need help. When it comes to this town I will do the same, working without fear to keep Killingly a great place to live.

Thank you for your consideration. I humbly ask for your vote on Tuesday November 2.

RAYMOND WOOD

Join me in voting for Julie Marcotte for Woodstock Board of Finance Alternate

To the Editor,

My wife Julie Marcotte is a 27 year resident of Woodstock. Julie is a wonderful mother of our 2 children, Justin 19 and Jillian 17. Julie has a Degree in Accounting and an MBA in Finance as well as being a Certified Public Accountant. Julie also has experience

as the Director of Finance for a local Eastern CT municipality. Please join me in voting for Julie on November 2nd.

JEFFREY M MARCOTTE  
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

Valliere: Vote for Brandon Gaudreau

The the Editor: ,

Brandon Gaudreau is one of my oldest friends, so it was never much of a question whether I would vote for him for Board of Ed in Killingly or not. He has always been extremely compassionate, loyal, and a natural leader figure. But just because he is a leader figure does not mean he is a showoff or cocky. Instead, he is actually very thoughtful, considerate, and curious, but still firm when he makes his choice of action. Whenever there is a problem, he has always been there to try and help no matter what that problem is, and is very good at making sense of complicated situations and finding ways to solve them. Even if I didn't know Brandon and didn't already know these things about him, I would still be very impressed and excited to vote for him.

I hate politics and all the games that come with them, so I fully support the idea behind Brandon's slogan, "Education Should Not Be Political." It's a simple statement, but it feels like it's forgotten so much that it doesn't sound simple when said out loud. On a school board, your job is not to be a politician. It isn't to play games, or be dramatic, or do or don't do things because your political party wants or doesn't want it. Your job is to make the best decisions and choices for your school district using your best judgment, and to always look for ways to make it a better place for kids to learn. That is what Brandon is going to do. You have my word.

Brandon is going to school to be a teacher, but he also has grown up knowing the value of money and how taxes affect people outside of the lines of a budget. This means that he will be able to see all sides of a problem and come to the best conclusion for the issues that will come to his attention. He will know the perspective of teachers, students, and taxpayers when thinking about what to do. If he doesn't know, he will ask. He will also, because of his natural leadership ability, be able to bring other people together, explain these points of view, and come up with a solution that everyone can be happy with. This is just the kind of cool, calm, and collected voice that Killingly needs right now.

Things have been way too heated in the last few years. Not everything has to be a big political battle, and it should never get so tense that school board meetings, of all things, become dramatic showdowns. It is about time that we take a step back, take a deep breath, calm down, and think about what we can do to make Killingly's schools better for everyone. If it is a good idea, then it is a good idea, and the same if it is a bad one. It's that simple. That is a mindset and plan of action that I know Brandon will be leading when he is on the Board of Ed, and so I am very happy to be voting for him and think everyone else should too.

BRITTANY VALLIERE  
DANIELSON







LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thompson P&Z Commission “Write-In” Candidates, seek support

To the Editor,

This past summer the Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission attempted to add to their preview the regulation of shooting ranges. Their definition of a shooting range is: “Shooting range (also “firing range” or “range”) - An area designed and operated primarily for persons aged 16 or older using or discharging rifles, shotguns, pistols, revolvers, black powder weapons, archery, air rifles, paint-ball guns, or any other air-powered projectiles; or making use of silhouette targets, skeet ranges trap ranges, or any other similar sport shooting elements.” These regulations would apply to everything from a rifle to a pea shooter and require the property owner to apply for a special permit, outlining all of the precautions they have taken, and require you to register any rifle, gun, paint ball gun, BB gun, or pea shooter you plan on using on your “range”. It also prohibits you from teaching your children less than 16 years of age about gun safety.

Within the P & Z Comm. proposed regulations, are requirements that state the “range” “shall not be located closer than 1,250 feet from the bound-

ary line of any adjacent property or public right-of-way” or “on a property that shares a boundary with any designated public recreation area.” This would eliminate virtually every property in Thompson. If your property was a perfect circle, you would need 112.7 acres of land, and if you abut state owned land like Quaddick State Park or federal land like West Thompson Lake or recreational sites like a golf course or raceway, it doesn't matter how much land you own, you would not be eligible for a permit.

This proposal would institute the most egregious usurping of property rights and 2nd amendment rights in America. Close to five hundred concerned citizens showed up to the September 22, 2021 public hearing to voice their displeasure with this over reach of the P & Z Comm. Most pointed out that current state and federal laws were more than sufficient and that there hadn't been an incident at private or commercial ranges that anyone could recall over the past 80 years. This meeting can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5cm--7-HusE&t=7755s>.

The consensus of the concerned citi-

zens was that the P & Z Comm. should reject the proposal “with prejudice”. “With prejudice” is a legal term meaning the P & Z Comm. would not be allowed to revisit the proposal at a later date. The P & Z Comm. voted to deny the proposal, but they did not vote with prejudice, meaning they can revisit this issue at any time.

Since the P & Z Comm. has provided that they can revisit this very important issue at any time, a few concerned citizens have filed as “Write-In” Candidates for the four slots on the Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission, for the Thompson November 2, 2021 election. Their names are Raymond Williams, Jane Salce,

James Niedzialkoski, and yours truly, William Warner. We pledge that we will work to preserve and protect the property and 2nd amendment rights of the citizens of Thompson.

In order to get elected to the board, we will need other concerned citizens to write in our names on the ballot and to fill in the circles next to our names. Only then will your votes be valid and we can be seated on the commission and make sure this proposal does not resurface, nor any other property rights be disrespected.

BILL WARNER  
THOMPSON, CT

St Cyr: St Onge is driven by a desire to better our town.

To the Editor:

In November of 2019 as an unaffiliated voter, I cast my vote hoping for change. Born and raised in Thompson, and spending most of my life here as a constituent and taxpayer I was not happy with where I saw Thompson at that time. Surrounding towns like Putnam and Webster were moving ahead, and Thompson simply was not. I didn't know much about Amy St. Onge other than she possessed a quiet confidence and professionalism that I thought was part of the change needed. Today in 2021, before I cast another vote to re-elect Amy St Onge, I am even more convinced that I am making the right choice.

Despite the unprecedented restrictions and uncertainty of COVID 19, Amy has not lost focus and started to foster the change I believe we desperately need. Amy is fiscally responsible with town funding and has looked for opportunities within the budget to bring more to taxpayers. Some of the accomplishments under Amy's leadership are the sharing of Information Technology between the town and the school, improved Cyber Security, implementing a road and bridge reclamation schedule for the entire town, hiring a new HR director, hiring a full-time Assessor, and reinstating the use of Thompsons Animal Control Service.

During COVID Amy helped senior citizens by making and driving them to vaccination appointments, and our

town hall and its services remained open and accessible. Both a demonstration of Amy's care for our town and townspeople's welfare. Throughout the very controversial Fire Station discussions I found Amy to be equally caring she was concerned with the safety and welfare of our EMS and what was financially in the taxpayer's best interest. Amy has followed process and not taken part in the banter instead she led our town to an immediate remediation plan while others chose not to collaborate. While some will slight this accomplishment, it is a milestone in the greater scheme of Amy's vision for our town.

Under Amy's leadership Thompson will see the forming of a new EMS Service, unifying of fire departments, a resident trooper and promotion of commercial business on rt 12 & Wilsonville. All things that align with what I believe Thompson needs to bring back the safety, community, and prosperity of the town I grew up in. If you don't know Amy, I recommend you take the opportunity to speak with her. You will find a genuine, caring compassionate woman, mother, wife, professional and leader who isn't politically charged, but is driven by a desire to better our town. Please join me by endorsing Amy St Onge for a second term as First Selectman.

JILL ST CYR

Killingly, are you ready for a change?

To the Editor:

Killingly, are you embarrassed enough by the local Republicans that you're ready for a change? As a tax paying resident of Killingly it seems to me we should be.

Republican Board of Education. Republicans got elected on the sole promise to reinstate the Redmen mascot. Once they got past the mascot and into the work of making decisions regarding guiding a school department they became exposed as clueless. Skilled educators, paralegals and staff are drawn away by higher pay and a better work environment. This Republican lead Board of Ed is clueless as to how to fix it and their best excuse is “ain't our job, that's the Superintendent.” But they will run on leadership. Gimme a break.

Republican Town Council. Last election for Killingly Town Council, who had “ratified the Second Amendment” on their wish list? Seriously. Killingly, like every Connecticut town, has multiple fiscal challenges, meanwhile this Town Council found it a priority to debate the Second Amendment. Time

to elect people concerned more with potholes and safer streets and less with hollow symbolisms.

Republican State Representative. Three terms, zero accomplishments. Zero influence in the legislature, zero allies in the administration, few allies in her own party. While Connecticut leads the nation in Covid response, one of the highest in vaccinations, lowest in infections, Anne Dauphanais insults the governor in a grotesque complaint about his leadership. Her comments were so repulsive, her own party called on her to apologize (she didn't) after the story went nationwide. If you need help from the State government, I suggest you by-pass Anne Dauphanais' office because you have more pull at the Statehouse than she does. And yes I know she isn't running but she symbolizes what is wrong with the local Republican party - great at campaigning but terrible at governing.

I'm ready for a change Killingly, I hope you are too.

DAVID SMITH

LEGALS

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

**The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, October 25, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT on the following applications.**

**1. PZC Application #21-31** Applicant Inn Acquisition Associates, Andrew Silvester and property owner of 286 Thompson Hill Road, Map 103, Block 40, Lot 2, Zone, Thompson Common Village District, TTCV, requesting a Public Hearing for a 2-lot re-subdivision, Subdivision Regulations, Article 111, Section 4A, 1.

**2. PZC Application #21-32** Applicant and property Owner, Wojciech of 1574 Riverside Drive, Map 55, Block 65 Lot 14, Zone, Thompson Corridor Development District, TCDD, requesting a Public Hearing for construction of Commercial Building, Light Manufacturing, Zoning DONERegulations Article 4E, Section 2-24.

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

**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman**  
October 15, 2021  
October 22, 2021

**TOWN OF KILLINGLY/BOROUGH OF DANIELSON TAX COLLECTORS  
LEGAL NOTICE**

Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00-4:30pm Tuesday 8:00-5:30pm Friday 8-11:30am. By mail, online, or in our drop box. The second quarter installment of taxes becomes due on October 1, 2021, and becomes delinquent on November 2, 2021 and subject to interest from the due date. Interest will be charged at the rate of 1 ½% per month or a fraction of a month from the due date. Minimum interest charge is \$2.00. Please visit our website for full details and online payments [www.killinglyct.gov](http://www.killinglyct.gov).

Dated at Killingly this 13th day of September, 2021  
Patricia Monahan CCMC  
Revenue Collector for the Town of Killingly  
September 24, 2021  
October 8, 2021  
October 22, 2021

**REGISTRARS OF VOTERS**

THE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS FOR THE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK WILL BE HOLDING A VOTER REGISTRATION SESSION ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1st, 2021 FROM 9AM TO 5PM. THIS SESSION IS TO ADMIT THOSE SEERKING TO VOTE IN THE NOVEMBER 2nd ELECTION WHOSE QUALIFICATIONS AS TO AGE, CITIZENSHIP OR RESIDENCE WAS OBTAINED SINCE OCTOBER 26th, 2021. SESSION TO BE HELD AT THE WOODSTOCK TOWN HALL, LOWER LEVEL, 415 ROUTE 169, WOODSTOCK, CT.

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS  
Katlyn Gugliotti  
Jessica McComiskey  
October 22, 2021

**TOWN OF BROOKLYN  
PLANNING AND ZONING  
COMMISSION  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. via Webex and in-person (masks required) at the Clifford B. Green Memorial Center, 69 South Main Street Brooklyn, CT on the following:

**ZRC 21-001:** Request to change Zoning Regulations concerning conservation subdivisions. Applicant: David Held.

**SRC 21-001:** Request to change Subdivision Regulations concerning conservation subdivisions. Applicant: David Held.

Copies of applications will be available for review on the Town of Brooklyn website.

All interested parties may attend the meeting, be heard and written correspondence received.

Dated this 14th day of October 2021.  
October 22, 2021

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High School Notebook

McGregor fulfills ‘once in a lifetime opportunity’ for Woodstock Academy football team

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock Academy junior Marcus McGregor lived out the dream of every player who has ever lined up along the defensive line at any level of organized football.

Back in Week Three, in a 39-0 win over Plainfield High, the 5-foot-10, 280-pound McGregor, who lines up at defensive tackle for the Centaurs, intercepted a pass by Panthers’ quarterback Codey Lefevre — that had been tipped by fellow defensive linemen Huck Flanagan — and rumbled untouched 35 yards into the end zone.

“I was running to the play [Lefevre was back to pass], but Huck got there first and hit [Lefevre] so hard the ball popped up in the air. I saw it, grabbed it, and took it to the crib,” McGregor said. “Once I caught the ball, I knew I was going to score. I run pretty fast for my size. I knew nobody was going to catch me. I knew it was a once in a lifetime opportunity and I wanted to make the most of it. I wasn’t hyped until the play was over. Once I sat down and calmed down, I got pretty excited.”

His teammates, however. Well, that’s a different story.

“They were so excited; they mobbed me in the end zone and kept slapping me on the helmet,” McGregor said. “They were way more excited when it happened than I expected them to be.”

The story of how McGregor came to play football at Woodstock Academy is

arguably as interesting as his scoring a defensive touchdown is exciting.

McGregor, a native of the Bahamas, arrived in the Nutmeg State in the fall of 2019. His coming to America moment was centered on the fact he was a baseball player looking to improve his craft and perhaps catch the eye of a college scout who would convince McGregor to further his education in the states.

Baseball is big in the Bahamas; football, not so much. McGregor said coming to the U.S., he knew about the gridiron game — in a kind of, sort of, way.

“I had been to a few football games when I was little because my brother played, but I wasn’t into it. I was just there,” McGregor said. “I didn’t know anything about football until last year when I went to a Woodstock game with some friends. After that some of my friends who are on the team convinced me to play.”

So why did a baseball guy who had never played the game show up at the football field at the beginning of this school year but long after the Centaurs’ preseason preparations had begun?

“It looked interesting. It looked pretty fun. And, I had never played football before, so I figured I might as well give it a try,” said McGregor, who didn’t hesitate when asked about the lasting impression of his first football practice. “A lot of running. There was a lot of hitting, too. I was better with the hitting than I was with the running.”

Woodstock Academy football coach

Sean Saucier, whose team is 4-1 and coming off a bye week, said McGregor opened the eyes of the coaching staff and his teammates in his first official practice with the team, which just happened to be a full-contact intrasquad scrimmage.

“As soon as we were able to get him in pads we realized he was a natural at the game of football,” Saucier said. “We had to teach him a few things, like you can’t grab a facemask and you can’t jump off-side, but he picked the game up quickly. When you boil it down, playing defensive tackle is pretty straightforward; you clog the line and get the guy with the ball. He picked it up right away.”

“Marcus has a physical toughness that we were really excited to see. You never know until someone gets in pads if they’re really a football player. But, right away, it was clear to us that he could handle the physical part of the game,” Saucier continued. “Marcus also has a fantastic sense of humor and a great personality. It is nice to have him around because he brings a joyfulness to practice. Every now and then he’ll say something hilarious that just lifts the mood and the morale of the team.”

Football

Undefeated Killingly High struggled early, losing three fumbles in the first quarter, before finding its stride and pounding Stonington, 32-7, on the road Friday, Oct. 15. Killingly (4-0), trailed

early, 7-0, but regrouped in time to score 32 unanswered points.

Senior running back Jack Sharpe led the way for Killingly, rushing for 190 yards and all five of his team’s touchdowns. In four games this season the 5-foot-11, 210-pound Sharpe has rushed for more than 550 yards and scored 14 touchdowns. The win over Stonington was Sharpe’s second straight five-touchdown game.

Boys’ Soccer

Ellis Tech pushed its unbeaten streak to a dozen games when it played Norwich Tech to a 0-0 tie on the road on Friday, Oct. 15. Senior goalkeeper Bret Gile was the star of this game, making 10 saves for the 10-0-2 Golden Eagles. The tie did, unfortunately, snap Ellis Tech’s consecutive win streak at 10. For the Warriors (5-5-2) junior goalie Connor Fishkin recorded nine saves in net. Two days before tying Norwich Tech, the Golden Eagles defeated visiting Grasso Tech, 3-1. Sophomore Cody Cramer scored two goals and set up the other, which was scored by freshman Hunter Giovanni. Sophomore Cameron Fulone also recorded an assist. Gile (nine saves) posted the win in net.

Seniors Ryan Odorski and Ty Morgan each scored two goals for Woodstock Academy, which defeated visiting Windham, 8-0, on Wednesday, Oct. 13. Junior Max Ferreira added a goal and

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FOOTBALL

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Schiavetti took a handoff from Quinebaug quarterback Mike Merrill, started up the middle and then bounced out to the right side and raced into the end zone. Rebello followed Schiavetti’s score with the first of his five extra points and, just like that, 56 seconds into the game, the Pride led, 7-0.

The first offensive drive for Platt Tech (2-2) lasted two plays, senior running back Vaun Coble fumbling on a right-side run. The loose ball was recovered by Quinebaug junior Chris Daly at the Panthers’ 33-yard line.

Four plays later Schiavetti bounced through a hole on the left side of the line and scurried 16 yards into the end zone. With 9:06 to play in the first quarter, the Pride led, 14-0.

“He’s the total package,” Quinebaug Valley head coach Joe Asermelly said to Brunetti when asked about Schiavetti. “Total yards, nose for the end zone, incredibly well balanced. Lee keeps his feet under him, has the vision, is hard working, and leads with actions not words. There are not enough good adjectives for that kid.”

With 1:49 remaining in the opening quarter Quinebaug pushed its lead to 21-0, Merrill hitting Rebello with a 14-yard scoring strike to cap a five-play, 45-yard drive that took 2:16 to complete. Rebello made a diving catch on the play.



Jason McKay photos

Quinebaug Valley’s Connor Stoyanovich drags down Platt Tech’s ball carrier.

“Mike Merrill threw a beautiful ball to Sam Rebello on that play,” Asermelly said in an email exchange.

Schiavetti extended the Pride lead to 28-0 with 4:09 left in the first half, running smartly behind his blockers on a sweep left before dashing town the left sideline to complete a 21-yard touchdown run.

Schiavetti closed out the scoring with a seven-yard touchdown run at the end of the third quarter, accounting for the 35-0 final.

“It’s a real privilege to coach such talented players, that’s the bottom line,” Asermelly told Brunetti. “These guys are really good. I did not expect to have such a big first quarter,

Quinebaug Valley’s Mike Merrill scans the field for an opening while his teammate blocks the defense.

but I think you do have to look at the work they put in all week and all season so far, and say these guys are for real now.”

Next up for Quinebaug Valley, which competes in Class L of the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC), is a home game at 6 p.m., Friday, Oct. 22, against Bridgeport’s Bullard-Havens/Kolbe Cathedral co-op team.

“We have to continue to focus on the process,” Asermelly told Brunetti. “Opponents change, the process doesn’t and the standard doesn’t. The standard



Sam Rebello of Quinebaug Valley sprints toward the end zone while a defensive player runs behind him.



is to work hard and get better every week, no matter who the opponent is. Stick to the standard, work the process, and that will pay off for us.”

SOCCER

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Killingly’s first real scoring chance came with 18 minutes, 15 seconds left in the first half. Junior Lucas Clayton gathered in an over-the-top ball and dribbled in on Whalers’ goalkeeper Anthony Martinez. The more Clayton moved in for the shot, the more Martinez, a senior, cut off the wide-side angle. Clayton ended up getting off a hard shot but couldn’t get it past Martinez.

With 2:08 left before intermission Killingly was knocking on the door again, thanks to a cross from senior captain William Carver to senior captain J.R. Simoneau. Simoneau shot for the far post but couldn’t bend it around Martinez, who came up with one of his five saves.

“That’s the nature of soccer; you get down there and you can flip a coin as to whether the shot’s going to go in or not go in,” Simoneau said, shrugging his shoulders. “He [Martinez] is a good goalie and their defense back there is good, too.”

New London grabbed a 1-0 lead in the 17th minute of the second half, junior Moises Melgar-Sanchez scoring on a penalty kick after Killingly was called for a hand ball inside the 18-yard box. Trent Piche, Killingly’s freshman goalkeeper, got his hands on Melgar-Sanchez’s low boot to the left side, but couldn’t secure possession of the ball which bounced off his hands and into the net.

“It’s frustrating, going down 1-0 on a penalty kick; but that’s soccer,” Ponciano said. “I’m never going to blame the game on a PK. The ref saw it better, so if it’s a hand ball, it’s a hand



John Fitzgibbons of Killingly chest-bumps the ball while a New London defender attempts to take control of the play.

ball.”

Less than five minutes later the Whalers doubled their lead to 2-0, senior Andy Suarez scoring on a low, left-to-right line drive of a shot that got past Piche and curled into the far post.

“After they scored on the PK we lost focus a little bit. But I’ve got to tell you, that’s a good team over there,” Ponciano said, pointing to the Whalers’ post-game huddle. The Whalers won the first meeting of the teams, 3-2, on Saturday, Sept. 11, at Pat Cannamela Field in New London.



Killingly’s Owen Johnson fights against a New London opponent for control over the ball.

Junior Ethan Lackner had a pair of chances to get Killingly on the board in the final 19 minutes on two direct kicks. Lackner’s first shot was just over the crossbar, the second one — headed to the far post — was stopped from a diving save by Martinez.

Lost in the defeat to New London was the play of Piche, who finished with nine saves.

“I’ve got to give it up to Trent, he had a great game,” Ponciano said. “He’s killing it right now. He’s doing so well back there I’ve got to give a shout out to him.”

Simoneau also praised Piche’s play. “Trent’s amazing; he’s so good,”

Simoneau said. “He saved a ton of shots. We would have lost by 10 goals without him back there.”

Ponciano was disappointed by the loss, but remained upbeat when talking about his team.

“I’ve got to give it up to these boys. I was switching up so much on the fly and that didn’t faze them at all.” Ponciano said. “I can’t praise these guys enough; they’ve done really well. They’re here and they’re killing it. Coming from only two wins last year to being competitive against New London, a team that has a lot of skill, I’m just so proud of the boys and how far they’ve come.”



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# Save seeds of favorite vegetable and flower plants



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Experimentation is part of the fun of gardening. Saving seeds from your favorite vegetable or flower for next year's garden or even the next generation is something you might like to try. Keep in mind that all flowers and vegetables will not come true from seed. Hybrids and those pollinated by the wind or insects may produce offspring unlike the parent plant. The resulting surprise can add to the fun. Use heirloom or older varieties when looking for consistency. Timing is critical. When saving flower seeds wait for the seeds, not the flower, to be full size and mature. This is usually when the seedpod, capsule or seed head that houses the seeds turns brown and brittle. Collect these and separate the seeds from the surrounding structure. Spread them on newspaper to finish drying. Place the dry seeds in an envelope



Photo courtesy MelindaMyers.com

Saving heirloom seeds, like this striped Roman paste tomato preserves both flavor and history. labeled with the plant name and date the seeds were collected. This will make spring planting much easier. Store the seeds in an airtight container in the

refrigerator. Consider saving a few vegetable seeds as well. Heirloom peas and beans are open-pollinated, so they form seeds that will grow into plants that are similar to the parent plant. Allow the peas and beans you plan on saving to dry on the plant. Once the pods turn brown and the seeds rattle inside, they are ready to harvest. This is about six weeks after you harvest snap beans for eating and about four weeks after the normal picking stage for peas. Protect plants from frost or pull them out of the ground and hang them in a cool dry location, so the pods can finish drying if needed. Remove the pods from the plants and allow them to further dry indoors for about two weeks. Remove the seeds from the dried pods, store in an airtight opaque container in a cool dark location. Label with the varietal name and date the seeds were collected. Saving seeds from tomatoes requires a bit different preparation. Scoop out the gelatinous center of a ripe tomato. Place this in a container of water and let it ferment in a warm location for a week or two. Then remove and compost the rather disgusting layer of fermented tomato waste and bad seeds floating on the surface. Pour the remaining water and the good seeds sitting on the bottom of the container through a fine mesh strainer. Rinse the seeds, removing any of the gelatinous material that may remain. Spread the seeds on a piece of paper to dry. Once dry, place the seeds in an envelope labeled with the date and variety and set in a sealed jar or plastic container. Store in the refrigerator or other consistently cool location until it's time to start them for next season. Start with these and then consider trying other flower, vegetable and even tree and shrub seeds. You'll find helpful information in books, online and on the Seed Savers Exchange website. Saving your own seeds can help you save money while preserving and planting a bit of gardening history. Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Her web site is [www.melindamyers.com](http://www.melindamyers.com).



Courtesy photo

Marcus McGregor finishes off his 35-yard interception return for a touchdown.



Ken Powers photo

Marcus McGregor, left, with Woodstock Academy football coach Sean Saucier.

## NOTEBOOK

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an assist and freshman John Bennett had two assists. With the victory the Centaurs improved to 5-5-1 overall and 3-2 in Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Division II.

### Girls' Soccer

Sophomore Laura Farquhar scored

33 seconds into overtime to lift Killingly High to its fourth straight win, 3-2, over visiting Stonington on Tuesday, Oct. 12. The Bears (6-6) tied the game, 2-2, on a goal by freshman Maya Terwilliger with 11 seconds left in regulation. Killingly had forged its 2-1 lead on goals by senior Makala Dube and sophomore Emily Lamparelli.

### Field Hockey

Senior Rhiannon Martin and junior Aila Gutierrez both scored two goals and assisted on another to lead Killingly High (2-8) to a 4-1 road win over Norwich Free Academy on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

Senior Hailey Radtke added an assist in the victory while classmate Emma Barbeau recorded 15 saves in the cage. Alice Ann Rarke scored for NFA (2-9).

### Boys' Cross Country

Ellis Tech runners finished second, third, and fourth in the Eagles' 22-39 victory over visiting Grasso Tech on Tuesday, Oct. 12. Sophomore Tyler Parmentier was the second overall finisher, completing the race in 20 minutes, 45 seconds. He was followed by teammates Jackson Tassoni (third, 22:09), and Mason Hill (fourth, 22:19). Also finishing in the top 10 for 5-1 Ellis Tech were Owen Reinhart (sixth, 23:06), Matthew Aubin (seventh, 23:08), Xavier Dietz (eighth, 23:52), and Aiden Nadeau (ninth, 24:14).

Woodstock Academy senior Ian Hoffman was near the front of the pack for the entire race, finishing fifth overall in a double dual meet with Norwich Free Academy and Griswold, on Wednesday, Oct. 13. The Centaurs (5-4 overall, 0-3 in ECC competition) were defeated by NFA (27-30) and Griswold (22-34). Junior Vincent Bastura finished seventh overall for WA.

### Girls' Cross Country

Senior Linsey Arends paced the field at Mohegan Park for Woodstock Academy (8-1, 2-1 ECC Division I) which downed NFA, 22-37, and Griswold, 15-50, on Wednesday, Oct. 13. Arends finished in 22 minutes, 11 seconds. Junior Carah Bruce finished third and sophomore Julia Coyle fifth for the Centaurs.

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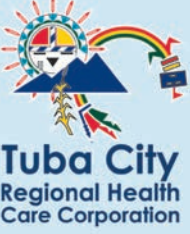
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