



PUTNAM VILLAGER

Friday, May 7, 2021

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Seana Weaver (right front) with family and friends and Community Kitchen volunteers at the First Congregational Church of Woodstock as she begins her marathon fundraiser throughout Woodstock.

WOODSTOCK — What do you do when the Coronavirus pandemic shuts down the marathon you had been training for? You plot a marathon route through your home town as a fundraiser to help alleviate food insecurity.

That's what Seana Weaver did.

On Saturday, April 24, Weaver ran a 26.2-mile solo marathon along the backroads of Woodstock and

raised more than \$8,100 in donations for Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut.

This was Weaver's second marathon fundraiser for Community Kitchens. In March 2020, she was training to run a marathon in Rhode Island when it got canceled because of the pandemic. She came up with the idea of running an alternative "marathon-of-one" as a fundrais-

er and donating the proceeds to Community Kitchens. She raised \$1,200 that first year. For this year's fundraiser, she set a goal of \$5,000—which she shattered.

Weaver knows about hunger. She is the Agency Relations Manager at the Worcester County Food Bank. She works directly with soup kitchens and meal programs and food pantries throughout Central

Massachusetts.

"I organized the fundraiser and ran the marathon because I strongly believe that healthy food should be accessible to everyone," she said. "It's easy to forget in a rural town like Woodstock that poverty and hunger exist. But they do, and it's up to the community to take care

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Turn To **WEAVER**, page **A12**

Thompson budget goes to voters

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON — The town of Thompson held its annual town meeting on Monday, May 3, with a less than 15-minute gathering approving all items up for discussion on the agenda.

A small group of around 45 residents were on hand for the meeting which was held in-person only and not broadcast live via Zoom as with past meetings. The primary focus was on the town's proposed budgets with a combined \$27.2 million spending plan put forward for the 2022 Fiscal Year. The budget represents a .72 mill rate increase and a 1.92 percent overall expenditure increase over the current year. Voters did not act on the budgets as selectmen removed the item for submission to the voters to vote upon a paper ballot. That vote will take

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Turn To **BUDGET**, page **A5**

Day Kimball partners with Interfaith Human Services of Putnam to address food insecurity

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) is pleased to announce a partnership between its hospital-based food pantry, Caitlyn's Cupboard, and Interfaith Human Services of Putnam's (IHSP) Food Pantry, Daily Bread.

Caitlyn's Cupboard was established in late March 2020 to address malnutrition and food insecurity among patients treated in Day Kimball Hospital's Rose Bove LaRose Cancer Center through the provision of no-cost shelf-stable food and nutritional education. Nearly 135 DKH Cancer Center patients have accessed the food pantry since its opening.

Each patient served receives a three-day supply of non-perishable food for each member of the family, including staple items and healthy snacks. Caitlyn's Cupboard also provides patients with nutritional information, healthy recipes, and a comprehensive list of local food assistance programs and other community resources.

Through a new partnership with

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Turn To **DKH**, page **A11**



Day Kimball Healthcare's hospital-based food pantry, Caitlyn's Cupboard, partners with Interfaith Human Services of Putnam's Food Pantry, Daily Bread. (Pictured l to r :) Karen Osbrey, president, IHSP; Kristen Willis, director of development, Day Kimball Healthcare; Ann Kathi Peterson, program coordinator, IHSP; Caitlyn Sward, registered dietitian nutritionist, Day Kimball Healthcare; Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare.

Killingly considering town-wide camera system

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KILLINGLY — Killingly's Public Safety Committee is exploring the possibility of adding an integrated camera system to the town to help local law enforcement better respond to criminal activity.

Town Manager Mary Calorio discussed the concept with the committee on April 28, where she initially discussed adding cameras to Main Street but acknowledged the plan is much broader and inspired by input from local officers.

"This actually was a recommenda-

tion from our law enforcement division — we're really looking at more town wide utilization of a more integrated camera system. We have cameras on and in all of our buildings, but we also have cameras in our parks. They're not integrated, meaning any law enforcement cannot show up to the scene and be able to pull up that camera system to be able to respond to what's occurring or be forwarded of what's occurring. While we have some retrieval capabilities with our system and they do use those they are not as comprehensive as what we would want them or what law enforcement would need to have them

for some of the investigations," Calorio said.

Calorio said the idea is very much in the conceptual stage. She couldn't provide a price estimate and she noted that the extent of the system and where cameras would be installed is still being worked out. However, one major area of focus would likely be Owen Bell Park, where vandalism has been and increasingly common issue and Main Street where security and an increased police presence has been a longstanding desire of locals.

The concept was welcomed openly by members of the committee who all

supported the proposal without major debate, especially Chairperson Amy Shatney, who has been a victim of crime in the town.

"I am totally, a hundred percent for this, just because we all know that the crime is out there and we definitely need to get a handle on it because it's happening in my driveway as well as the rest of the town," she said.

Committee member Scott Clifford called the idea "something that would benefit not only the downtown area, but the entire town," while member Chad

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Turn To **CAMERA**, page **A4**

News clips from the past



KILLINGLY
AT 300

• • • • •
MARGARET
WEAVER

I thought it was time for more clips from the past, so found a few articles of interest on newspapers.com. The Wednesday, May 18, 1921 Norwich Bulletin wrote of an upcoming opportunity for baseball lovers. “Danielson baseball fans are to have an opportunity in June to witness a baseball game between McDermott’s Braves of Putnam and the Pere Marquette K. of C. team of Greater Boston, of which ‘Babe Ruth’, the famous home run king is a member, at Wildwood Park. The visiting team will be made up of ex-leaguers who have entertained fans from coast to coast and this early game of the season is expected to be one of the finest of the entire playing season.” (p. 6). I’d love to learn if any of you have relatives who saw Babe Ruth play. If so, please email me.

Another event covered during that issue of the paper included the following, “At East Killingly today (Wednesday) a health institute will be held. This is one of the meetings that have been conducted in Windham County during the past few weeks. The institutes are being held under the auspices of the U.S. department of agriculture, the Connecticut Agricultural College and the Windham County Farmer’s Association. An interesting program is to be given at today’s meeting.” (p. 6).

When I arrived in Northeastern

Connecticut in 1969, it was the custom for a number of businesses to be closed one afternoon a week; I think perhaps Wednesday. In May 1921, “Clerks in Danielson’s stores are beginning to talk of the half holiday period of the year that is expected to begin within a few weeks, giving Thursday afternoons off during July and August.” Perhaps this was the forerunner of more recent half days. (Ibid, p. 6).

I hadn’t found as many May articles as I had hoped so removed the Norwich Bulletin from my search request on newspapers.com. I wasn’t expecting a mention of someone local in a Florida newspaper. “George E. Cook will leave today for his home in Danielson, CT, after spending the winter in the city.” A “snow bird”. (The Tampa Tribune, Tampa, Florida, Wednesday, May 1, 1918, p. 12; newspapers.com). I will have to be more open-minded in my future searches. Who knows what tidbits I might find.

I love this time of year when the daffodils and tulips are still blooming; the magnolias, flowering crab apples, redbuds, dogwoods, azaleas, and lilacs paint the landscape with glorious shades of pinks and whites; tiny green leaves appear on the trees and produce dappled sunlight. Glorious! My salmon-colored japonica (flowering quince) is extra special since it is a third generation shrub. A piece of my maternal grandmother’s went to my mother and then another to me. It is also where we watch for the arrival of the hummingbirds, which have just put in an appearance. I put the hummingbird feeder out this morning.

Of course, for me the beginning of May also reminds me of Mother’s Day even though my own mother has been gone several years. I couldn’t quite remember the history of the celebration

so decided to refresh my memory. I thought I’d share.

“The origins of Mother’s Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the Civil War, Ann Reeves Jarvis of West Virginia helped start ‘Mothers’ Day Work Clubs’ to teach local women how to properly care for their children. These clubs later became a unifying force in the region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized ‘Mothers’ Friendship Day,’ at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

“Another precursor to Mother’s Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette Julia Ward Howe. In 1870 Howe wrote the ‘Mother’s Day Proclamation’, a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a ‘Mother’s Peace Day’ to be celebrated every June 2...

“The official Mother’s Day holiday (in the United States) arose in the 1900’s as a result of the efforts of Anna Jarvis, daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother’s 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother’s Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children. After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May, 1908 she organized the first official Mother’s Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother’s Day event at one of Wanamaker’s retail stores in Philadelphia...

“Following the success of her first Mother’s Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward

male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians... Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a measure officially establishing the second Sunday in May as Mother’s Day.”

It was not long before the holiday became commercialized with promotions of flowers, cards, and candies. Jarvis was so dismayed that “by the time of her death in 1948 (she) had disowned the holiday, and even actively lobbied the government to have it removed from the American calendar.” (www.history.com. Go to the website to read more).

We owe our lives to our mothers. If your mother is living, give her a call and do something special for her. If she is deceased, do something in her memory. Either way, give thanks for the care and sacrifices she has made for you.

The mail and answering machine are being checked on a regular basis although the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center is closed to the public. Please send an email to the director or leave a message on the answering machine if you would like to donate items or have research questions.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, May 2021. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 (when it reopens) or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250 (when the Historical Center reopens). Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, Connecticut 06239

Lions to host live auction

LEBANON — Lions of Eastern Connecticut, District 23C, invite you to our Kentucky Derby-style Live and Silent Auctions on Sunday, May 23 at the Lebanon Fairgrounds, 122 Mack Rd., Lebanon, from 4-5:30 p.m. Registration is at 3 p.m. in the Cattle Barn. The cost of a paddle is \$10 per person and each person must have a paddle to bid.

Attendees are encouraged to dress the part and wear your favorite derby hat, fancy hat, or fascinator to the festivities. You may bring in food and beverages to the fairground.

The “Race is On” to bid for some auction items. The top Live auction items include: a chartered fishing trip for four people, valued at \$850, two pieces of vintage art mea-

suring 24 inch by 36 inch described as Mexican paintings on bark, a 24-inch tall and six-and-a-half-inch-diameter jar of U.S. pennies (at a minimum 20 years old), a stained-glass wall hanging of approximately 20 by 48 inches, a 15 inch by 15 inch New Mexico sand painting from the 1970’s, two separate cords of wood, an IPAD, a 36-inch Vizio flat screen television, and a case of locally

bottled wine.

Auctioneer Dan Stanavage will coordinate the Live Auction bidding and will help the Lions raise funds for their Low Vision program. A variety of approximately 20 gift baskets will be included in the Silent Auction, all starting at a minimum bid.

All proceeds will benefit our Eastern Connecticut Lions Low Vision Center.

This Low Vision program serves the counties of Middlesex, New London, Tolland, and Windham. Low Vision is best described as insufficient usable vision to accomplish the task of daily living, even after conventional treatments such as medication, eyeglasses, or surgery. Lions provide low vision aids, at no cost, to enhance remaining vision. They optimize a client’s remaining eyesight through the proper use of magnification, glare control, proper lighting, specialized reading techniques, and referral to additional supportive agencies. These devices empower the low vision individuals to improve their quality of life and maintain their independence. Visit https://lionslowvisionctr.org/ for more information.

Questions about the auction can be directed to Lion Julie Shilosky, President of the Lions Low Vision Center, 860-490-6564, or govjulie23c@yahoo.com.

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Woodstock • Public • Schools
2021 – 2022 Kindergarten Registration
Woodstock Elementary School invites all families with Kindergarten eligible students to register for the 2021-2022 school year. All students turning five years old before December 31, 2021 are eligible for entry into our full-day Kindergarten program.
Registration packets can be obtained by calling the main office at 860-928-0471 or by email at wesoffice@woodstockschools.net
Completed registration packets can be submitted in person at Woodstock Elementary School the week of May 24th between 8am and 4pm or mailed to:
Woodstock Elementary School
24 Frog Pond Rd., Woodstock, CT 06281
Woodstock Public Schools

HELP WANTED PART-TIME SEASONAL
Town of Thompson
Part time temporary position available, 3 days per week, 8 hours per day, to assist with lawn care and related duties. Candidates must be age 18 or older, hold a valid CT driver license and a DOT Medical Card, have no physical restrictions and expect to work outdoors through the warm summer months.
Duties will include mowing, weed whacking, litter cleanup, operating a 1 ton truck with a trailer to haul equipment, and any other tasks associated to maintaining town parks and properties. These positions will be under the immediate supervision of the Director of Public Works.
Rate of Pay: \$15.00 per hour. Submit cover letter & resume or application.
We can also mail one to you. Application is available on line at www.thompsonct.org and in the Selectmen’s Office at Town Hall.
Return Resume or Application to the Selectmen’s Office, PO Box 899, 815 Riverside Dr., N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255.
You may contact us at 860-923-9561.
Application Deadline is May 20, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
EOE/AA

VILLAGER ALMANAC
At CT AUDUBON
Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of April 26: Orange-crowned Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, American Redstart, Pine Warbler, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Baltimore Oriole, Purple Martin, Green Heron, Barn Swallow, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black and White Warbler, Broad-winged Hawk, Kestrel, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Black-throated Green Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Palm Warbler, Savannah Sparrow, American Pippit, Brown Thrasher, Yellow Warbler. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home

WELCOME TO WOODSTOCK!
Spring is bustin’ out all o-o-ver!
The OPEN flag The OPEN flag is flying in South Woodstock where Andrew Gad-waw/Supreme Sheds & Barns builds samples of his well-constructed sheds. Using locally sourced materials, he designs and builds exactly what you need on your site
Pine Knoll Realty, in business since 1970, has re-located to RT 169, North Woodstock. Effie Vinal, Amy and all the other licensed, local realtors can help you list a property or purchase the one that fulfills your family’s goals and dreams.
Rusty Relic has re-located to 599 RT 169 (Woodstock Hill) where Amish-built furniture and household decorative items are packed right in! Jamie and Jason Beausoleil are there to help you make the best selections for a gift or your home.
Rose Kihara/Family Healthcare and Walk-In Medical Center, is celebrating over 3 years in the Soleil and Suns Plaza, South Woodstock. As a Family Nurse Practitioner, she has the training and experience for whatever need pops up.
*Woo - Woo - Woodstock,
The place to be... come see!*
The Woodstock Economic Development Commission / Town Hall • Route 169

DON'T MISS A THING!

Pending Budget approval, Eastford School in Eastford, CT (PK-8) seeks applicants for the following, anticipated positions for the 2021-2022 school year:
1.0 FTE Language Arts Teacher
CT Certification (015, 215, 001, 004 or 006) required
1.0 FTE Mathematics Teacher
CT Certification (029, 229, 001, 004, or 006) required
Salaries: Eastford Teachers Association Agreement: Commensurate with Experience
Send letter of intent, resume, copy of Connecticut certification, 3 letters of reference and unofficial transcripts to:
Dr. Donna Leake, Superintendent Eastford School District
P.O. Box 158 12 Westford Road, Eastford, CT 06242-0158
Application materials may also be emailed to:
Carole McCombe, Principal cmccombe@eastfordct.org
Application Deadline: open until filled • Starting Date: August 26, 2021

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Day Kimball Hospital earns national recognition for quality and patient safety

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Hospital (DKH) has recently earned top recognition from two national healthcare ratings organizations in areas related to patient safety and quality of care.

Day Kimball Hospital has been awarded the highest five-star quality rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and was honored with an “A” grade in the spring 2021 release of the Leapfrog Group’s Hospital Safety Grade, a national distinction recognizing DKH’s achievements protecting patients from errors, injuries, accidents, and infections.

“Delivering high-quality healthcare to our region is our top priority at Day Kimball Healthcare,” said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. “Day Kimball is so proud to be the only hospital in our region to have achieved this level of recognition. We are honored to be among an elite group of hospitals dedicated to delivering excellent patient care and providing a positive experience for patients. These recognitions are a testament to our incredible team of physicians, nurses, clinical staff, and those behind the scenes who come to work every day committed to delivering excellence in quality, safety, and service.”

CMS Five-Star Quality Rating
DKH is one of only four hospitals in the state of Connecticut to achieve an overall five-star ranking from CMS, the highest ranking possible. Nationally, DKH ranks in the top 13 percent (one of just over 400) of eligible hospitals that have earned this distinction.

CMS created the Five-Star Quality Rating System to help consumers compare hospital and nursing home facilities. CMS’ Care Compare website is consumer-oriented, and provides information on how well hospitals provide recommended care to their patients. This information can help consumers make informed decisions about where to go for health care and features a quality rating system that gives hospitals and nursing homes a rating between one and five stars.

Since the start of the star rating system in 2015, CMS collects and compiles data from hospitals and uses that information to assign ratings from 1-5 stars. Much of the data comes from surveys of actual patients assessing their specific experience.

CMS uses the rating system to measure multiple facets of over 4,000 hospitals across the country to drive systematic improvements in care and safety

for patients. The specific performance indicators in the CMS Star Rating system include measurements related to five areas: Mortality, Safety of Care, Re-Admission Rate, Patient Experience, and Timely and Effective Care. The ratings are published on the CMS Care Compare website. Each category is weighted and combined to create a score.

Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade
The Leapfrog Group is an independent national watchdog organization committed to health care quality and safety. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade assigns an “A,” “B,” “C,” “D,” or “F” grade to all general hospitals across the country and is updated every six months. It is the only hospital ratings program based exclusively on hospitals’ prevention of medical errors and other harms to patients in their care.

Day Kimball was among 33% of over 2,700 hospitals graded across the country and 8 in Connecticut to earn the “A” rating, placing it in the top third of hospitals in the nation for patient safety. The healthcare system first earned an “A” grade in the fall of 2017.

“An ‘A’ safety grade is an elite designation that your community should be proud of,” said Leah Binder, president and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. “The past year has been extraordinarily difficult for hospitals, but Day Kimball Hospital shows us it is possible to keep a laser focus on patients and their safety, no matter what it takes.”

Developed under the guidance of a national Expert Panel, the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade uses up to 27 measures of publicly available hospital safety data to assign grades to more than 2,700 U.S. acute-care hospitals twice per year. The Hospital Safety Grade’s methodology is peer-reviewed and fully transparent, and the results are free to the public. To see Day Kimball Hospital’s full grade details and access patient tips for staying safe in the hospital, visit [hospitalgrade.org](https://www.hospitalgrade.org) and follow The Leapfrog Group on Twitter and Facebook.

Day Kimball Healthcare also recently earned three national quality awards from The Joint Commission, an independent organization that accredits and certifies health care organizations and programs in the United States: The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for Advanced Certification for Primary Stroke Centers; Day Kimball Hospital and Day Kimball Healthcare At Home earned The Joint Commission’s Gold

Seal of Approval®; and The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for Joint Replacement Certification.

“We are honored to be recognized with these distinctions which further demonstrate what a vital resource our healthcare system is to the Northeast Connecticut community. As we continue to redefine what a community hospital should be, we aim to provide the best quality of care coupled with a culture of learning and performance improvement at every level. Especially with the added layer of safety issues surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic, I am incredibly proud of our staff’s sustained teamwork in maintaining our high standards for patient safety and quality,” added Kramer.

DKH takes pride in the excellence of care provided to its patients and the community. To learn more about all of Day Kimball Hospital’s various safety and quality measures, visit www.daykimball.org/quality.

About The Leapfrog Group
Founded in 2000 by large employers and other purchasers, The Leapfrog Group is a national nonprofit organization driving a movement for giant leaps forward in the quality and safety of American health care. The flagship Leapfrog Hospital Survey and new Leapfrog Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Survey collect and transparently report hospital and ASC performance, empowering purchasers to find the highest-value care and giving consumers the lifesaving information they need to make informed decisions. The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade, Leapfrog’s other main initiative, assigns letter grades to hospitals based on their record of patient safety, helping consumers protect themselves and their families from errors, injuries, accidents, and infections.

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



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.

CORRECTION

WOODSTOCK — The Villager would like to correct inaccuracies presented in an article published in our April 30 edition titled Woodstock Budget Heads to Voters.

In the story, a typo presented an increase in the budget for the recreation and welfare line item. The story printed stated the starting amount as \$55,209 when the increase is actually from \$555,209 to \$572,673. The Villager would also like to clarify that the budget will be voted on at a referendum on May 11 at the Woodstock Town Hall from noon until 8 p.m., which was not included in the original story.

The proposal contains a general government spending plan of \$2.07 million, a \$119,313 increase over the current year’s \$1.9 million budget, and an education budget of \$19.76 million, a \$556,058 increase over the current budget of \$19.2 million. The total spending plan comes in at \$25.23 million, a \$592,799 increase over the \$24.6 million approved for the 2021 budget year. In approved, the impact to the tax base will be \$18.1 million, up from \$17.4 million in 2021.



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Thompson Trails, Historical Society & National Park Service present design options for “Train Wreck Park”

THOMPSON — As a part of an ongoing project with the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program, the Town of Thompson is hosting a public presentation of design options for “Train Wreck Park,” an interpretive site telling the story of the Great East Thompson Train Wreck. The presentation will take place on Zoom, Wednesday May 12th at 6:30 p.m. Participants can join in by following this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82723340687?pwd=djhUT004VnFEUVRRQUINdIpooanVnUT09>

Passcode: 335246
Located on the Air Line State Park Trail, the site of the wreck has been a popular destination for annual guided walks by mem-

bers of Thompson Historical Society. Since January of 2020, NPS RTCA partners have been working with the Historical Society, Thompson Trails and the Office of Planning & Development to brainstorm design ideas. For the 2020-2021 academic year, the working group has expanded to include a senior student team from the UConn School of Engineering. The presentation on 12 May will feature the student team’s final designs, along with live polling questions for public input on the shared options. The web event will also feature the results of a youth engagement project of the Putnam Rotary Interact Club; and an update from the NPS partners on the progress toward

a “Trail Town Action Plan” for Thompson, mapping out next steps in the development of the Town’s outdoor recreation assets.

Participants in the Web event will also have the chance to be randomly drawn for the gift of one of Thompson Trails’ popular “More Than Just a Train Wreck” long-sleeve t-shirts.

Please help us spread the word about Thompson’s Connecticut gateway to the Air Line State Park Trail; the unique historical event that took place there; and this opportunity to provide input on the design of the future Train Wreck Park. Share the zoom link widely! We hope to see you there!



EYE OPENING

Town of Thompson - Budget Referendum

Monday, May 17, 2021 from 12:00 (noon) - 8:00 p.m.

Voting will take place on the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget.

The Ballot Question is: “Shall the Town of Thompson approve the fiscal year budget for the period beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022 in the amount of \$27,286,857.00 as recommended by the Board of Finance?”

The full budget is posted on our website at www.thompsonct.org

Voting will be held at all regular polling stations:
District No. 1 — Thompson Public Library, 934 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale
District No. 2 — Town Hall Office Building, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale
District No. 3 — Quinebaug Fire Department, 720 Quinebaug Road, Quinebaug
District No. 4 — East Thompson Fire Department, 530 East Thompson Road, Thompson

Voter Registration - For those not yet registered to vote, you may:
1. mail in an application which must be received by the Town Clerk by 12:00 pm (noon) on Friday, May 14. Mail to Town Clerk, PO Box 899, N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255.
2. register on-line up until 12:00 pm (noon) on Friday, May 14, 2021 via the link to the voter registration system found on our website www.thompsonct.org on the Town Clerk Department page.
3. deliver in-person applications to the Town Clerk at Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive in North Grosvenordale, CT by 2:00 pm on Friday, May 14, 2021.

Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk’s office.

Questions? Contact the Town Clerk at 860-923-9900.



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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

High School Roundup

Killingly baseball team's historic 8-0 start best in school history



Courtesy Photo

The entire Killingly baseball team waits for Bo Yaworski at home plate after Yaworski belted a three-run, first-inning homer against Wheeler on Saturday, April 24.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The Killingly High baseball team improved to 8-0 for the first time in school history, pounding Windham High, 13-1, on Wednesday, April 28, at Owen Bell Park.

Killingly made the most of its seven hits, four of the seven being extra-base hits. Trevin Russ led the offensive attack, with three hits, including a triple, and two RBI. Nate Keefe, Tate Larrow, and Bo Yaworski all smacked doubles in the victory. On the mound,

Cole Lavigne was in control throughout, allowing five hits, while striking out five in four innings of work.

The day before its win over Windham (Tuesday, April 27), Killingly picked up a road win, defeating Putnam High, 11-0. The score, however, was not indicative of the competitiveness of the contest as Jay Grzysiewicz and Putnam's Colby Livingston were locked in a pitcher's duel for the first four innings. Killingly led, 1-0, as play headed to the fifth inning.

Killingly broke the game open in the fifth and sixth innings, scoring 10 runs. Russ plated a pair of runs in the fifth — to make the score 3-0 — with a double down the first-base line. Russ then scored to make it 4-0 on an RBI single by Chris Jax. Killingly's seven-run sixth inning was highlighted by doubles off the bats of Yaworski and Justin Baker. Grzysiewicz picked up the win on the mound with an 11-strikeout, complete-game, one-hit shutout.

Killingly began its four wins in five days stretch on Saturday, April 24, sweeping a home doubleheader from Wheeler, 13-3 and 9-1.

Yaworski paced Killingly's 13-hit attack in the opener, going 3-for-3, including a three-run homer, and four RBI. Jax added a two-run homer, while Keefe finished with three hits and Larrow two. Killingly put the game away early, scoring 10 runs in the first inning. Lavigne picked up the win on the bump, striking out six in four innings of work.

In the second game of Killingly's doubleheader with Wheeler, Keefe broke open a scoreless contest with a fourth-inning grand slam. Yaworski added a three-run double in the fifth inning to extend the lead. Yaworski picked up the win on the hill, striking out eight and not allowing a hit in four innings of work. Aaron Dionne relieved Yaworski and hurled two scoreless innings before giving way to Brady Waterman, who pitched the seventh inning.

Elsewhere in the Quiet Corner:

Woodstock Academy improved to 5-3 with a 10-0 win over Grasso Tech on Wednesday, April 28, and 11-1 win over Lyman on Tuesday, April 27, and a doubleheader sweep of St. Bernard, 8-4 and 12-5, on Saturday, April 24.

In the home win over Grasso Tech, leadoff hitter Hamilton Barnes smacked a pair of singles and scored three times while Jacob Hernandez, batting second, added two hits and two runs scored for Woodstock Academy.

In the win over Lyman, also at the Bentley Athletic Complex, freshman Riley O'Brien picked up the win in his first varsity start, limiting the Bulldogs to three hits while striking out five in five innings of work. Brendan Hill drove in four runs for the Centaurs while Kaden Murphy added two hits and drove in three runs.

In the first game of its dou-

bleheader with the Saints, Woodstock entered the seventh inning trailing 4-2, but rallied to score six runs in the frame to pull out the win. Murphy knocked in the go-ahead run with a two-run single in the seventh. Jon Smith picked up the win on the mound, going seven innings, giving up four runs on just three hits while striking out eight.

In the second game the Centaurs scored five runs in the first inning and cruised to victory. Jackson Goetz was 3-for-3 with a double and three runs driven for the Centaurs. Murphy, the winning pitcher in game two, knocked in two runs, as did Hamilton Barnes.

SOFTBALL

Killingly improved to 6-1 with victories over Putnam, 10-5 on Tuesday, April 27, and a doubleheader sweep of Wheeler, 16-4 and 17-1, on Saturday, April 24.

In the win over the Clippers, Casey Beauregard was the hitting star, with a home run to go along with two walks, a stolen base and three runs scored. Lexi Faucher picked up the win on the circle, striking out 10. In the doubleheader sweep of Wheeler Faucher and Emma Carpenter both picked up pitching wins while Beauregard and Hannah Cozza had multiple extra-base hits.

Woodstock Academy scored 48 runs in a three-game stretch while picking up a road win over Lyman, 18-6 (on Tuesday, April 27), and a home doubleheader sweep of St. Bernard, 11-2 and 19-1 (on Saturday, April 24).

In the win over Lyman, Sarah McArthur and Delaney Anderson each had three hits in the Centaurs (6-2 overall, 5-0 ECC Division 2) 15-hit attack, with McArthur driving in five runs and Anderson three.

In the first game of its doubleheader sweep of the Saints, WA scored four runs in the first inning and seven in the fourth. Mackenzie Leveille pitched a four-hitter with 14 strikeouts to pick up the win. She was also 3-for-3 with a couple of RBIs at the plate. Madison Martinez and Meg Preston both added two hits and two RBIs in the win.

In the second game of their doubleheader sweep, an 11-run third inning by the Centaurs was highlighted by a two-run triple by Lexi Thompson and a two-run double by Sarah McArthur.

In the circle Thompson gave up just one hit, and struck out 12.

BOYS' LACROSSE

Guerin Favreau scored five goals and assisted on another while Colin Liscomb made 22 saves in net for Woodstock Academy (3-3), which withstood a late-game rally to defeat visiting Norwich Free Academy, 8-7, on Tuesday, April 27.

BOYS' GOLF

Woodstock Academy won twice in three days defeating Griswold, 5-2, on Wednesday, April 28, and Putnam-Tourtellotte, 7-0, on Tuesday, April 27, after losing to

Norwich Free Academy, 4-3, on Monday, April 26.

Kyle Brennan earned medalist honors for the 3-2 Centaurs (3-1 in ECC Division 2 action) against Putnam-Tourtellotte and Norwich Free Academy, firing a 36 in both matches, which were held at Thompson's Quinnetis Country Club.

Brennan was WA's top finisher against Griswold, shooting a 43. Griswold's Lucas Hanley was the medalist in that match, finishing with a 40. The Centaurs defeated the Wolverines on the strength of match wins by Davis Simpson, Adam Thompson and John Armstrong.

GIRLS' GOLF

Woodstock Academy won three matches in as many days, defeating East Lyme, 188-216, on Wednesday, April 28, Norwich Free Academy, 207-260, on Tuesday, April 27, and Suffield, 216-275, on Monday, April 26.

Kaily LaChapelle was the medalist in all three matches for the 5-0 Centaurs (4-0 in the ECC), shooting a 42 against East Lyme, a 46 against NFA, and a 50 against Suffield. Alex Vaida fired a 47 against East Lyme, and Vaida and Ciara McKinnon each shot 53 against NFA and Suffield.

GIRLS' TENNIS

Killingly won a pair of singles and doubles matches to defeat St. Bernard, 4-3, on Tuesday, April 27. Singles winners were Taylyn Lemoine (6-0, 6-1) and Rachel Sanchas (2-6, 6-4, 6-1). Doubles winners were Marcy Ferraj-Ava Johnson, 6-1, 6-4, and Nicole Cicchetti-Jessica Long, 7-6 (7-4), 6-3.

BOYS' TRACK & FIELD

Woodstock Academy defeated New London, 102-45, on Wednesday, April 28, Ian Hoffman leading the way with wins in the pole vault and the 400-meter run. Eric Phongsas also won two events, the 100- and 200-meter runs and Adam Schimmelpfennig captured both hurdle events for the 2-1 Centaurs (2-0 ECC Division 2).

Phongsas also won the 100 and 200, and was a member of the winning 400-meter relay team against Killingly on Saturday, April 24, in a meet won by WA, 106-40. Hoffman won both the pole vault and the 800-meter run against Killingly while Keenan Lamontagne finished first in the discus, second in the shot put and third in the javelin. For Killingly (0-2) Noah Colangelo (high jump), Jack Sharp (long jump) and Devin Exarhoulias (shot put) earned first-place finishes.

GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD

Woodstock Academy won a pair of home meets recently, defeating New London, 116-29, on Wednesday, April 28, and Killingly, 77-73, on Saturday, April 24.

Against New London, the 3-0 Centaurs (2-0 ECC Division 2) captured 14 of a possible 18 first-place finishes. Multiple winners were Jillian Edwards, in the 100 hurdles and the high jump, and Leila MacKinnon in the 800 and the javelin.

Against Killingly, Woodstock Academy, missing some key athletes due to spring break, was led by Ksenija Martinovic who won both the 100 and 300 hurdles. Leah Castle (800 and 1,600-meter relay), Linsey Arends (1,600 and 1,600-meter relay), and Carah Bruce (3,200 and 3,200-meter relay).

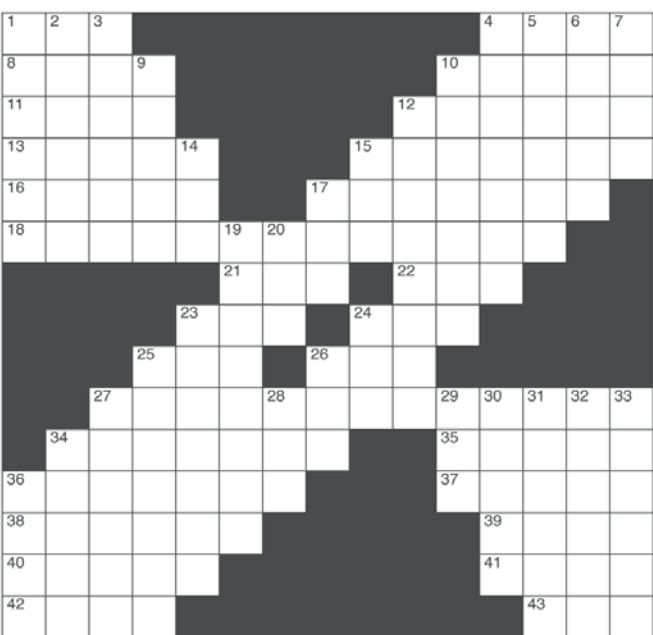
Abby Burgess took first in the 100, long jump, and triple jump for Killingly (0-2, 0-1) while Sydney Rosen won the discus and javelin.

CAMERA

continued from page A1

Faucher added that the cameras are “a great direction” for the town that will help the communities in the present and future.

The camera conversation will be continued at upcoming meeting of the Public Safety Committee.

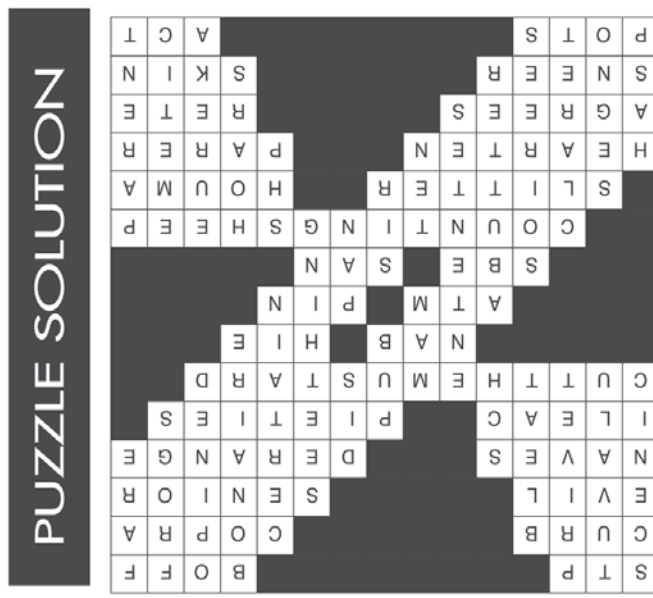


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Engine additive
- 4. A hearty laugh
- 8. Restrain
- 10. Dried coconut kernels
- 11. Nefarious
- 12. Elderly
- 13. Central part of a church building
- 15. Throw into confusion
- 16. Intestinal
- 17. Qualities of being religious
- 18. Live up to a standard
- 21. Seize
- 22. Go quickly
- 23. Automated teller machine
- 24. Bowling necessity
- 25. One point east of due south
- 26. Japanese honorific
- 27. A way to induce sleep
- 34. Makes cash register rolls
- 35. A city in S Louisiana
- 36. Make more cheerful
- 37. Manicurist
- 38. Consents
- 39. Network of nerves
- 40. Mocking smile
- 41. It covers the body
- 42. Partner to pans
- 43. Perform in a play

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Beautiful
- 2. Polynesian island country
- 3. Shrub of the olive family
- 4. Self-governing Netherlands territory
- 5. Shared one's view
- 6. Tailless amphibians
- 7. Charge passengers must pay
- 9. Sound sheep make
- 10. Known for sure
- 12. Filled with unexpressed anger
- 14. Student (abbr.)
- 15. Criticize
- 17. Gathering place
- 19. Informal alliances
- 20. One's mother (British)
- 23. Landholder
- 24. Peter's last name
- 25. Parties
- 26. Title of respect
- 27. Red wine
- 28. Pearl Jam's debut
- 29. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
- 30. Frosts
- 31. Cry of joy
- 32. Induces vomiting
- 33. Mother or father
- 34. Dal _ : Musical navigation marker
- 36. Door fastener part



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Wyndham Land Trust protects two properties

POMFRET CENTER—A pair of properties in the Quiet Corner have been preserved by the Wyndham Land Trust.

The Wyndham Land Trust recently acquired two properties that add to the 5,000 acres of forest and grasslands already protected by the land trust in Connecticut's Quiet Corner. The new 86-acre Cartier Preserve is located north of Quarry Road in Woodstock. The new 65-acre Potrzeba Preserve sits a short distance away to the west of Swedetown Road in the northwest corner of Pomfret.

"There's something about these woods that never fails to help me refocus on what's truly important in this life," says the land trust's treasurer, Penny Foisey. "As the saying goes 'And into the woods I go, to lose my mind and find my soul.' The Cartier and Potrzeba Preserves are great places to enjoy the beauty of nature. I always feel like I've stepped back in time

walking these paths that were here long before I."

Both preserves are part of a large undeveloped area of forested habitat covering several thousand acres that is important for storing carbon and fighting climate change. Land manager Andy Rzeznikiewicz is excited about the new acquisitions: "The diversity of birds is very high—an indication of the health and the size of the forest. Species like black-throated blue warblers, hooded warblers, black-throated green warblers, and scarlet tanagers breed here. Bird species that I don't find in most parts of our area are attracted to the large stands of thick mountain laurel, where they nest and raise their young.

"The land trust is focusing on acquiring large, unbroken blocks of land, and we're hoping for additional donations to protect this valuable habitat in our region. I've long admired the wild feeling of this area,

and I'm grateful we have managed to protect some of it."

The Cartier Preserve rises to over 900 feet in its center and is traversed by a mile-long trail that runs through the dense mountain laurel. Foisey will lead a walk through the Cartier Preserve on June 13 as part of the Last Green Valley's Spring Outdoors event, and the walk is timed to coincide with the spectacular bloom of the mountain laurel. Scouts from BSA Troop 27 in Woodstock recently cleared fallen trees and brush along the trail in preparation for the event.

The Wyndham Land Trust was formed in 1975, and the work of the all-volunteer group is possible only through the generosity and dedication of its members and donors. To learn more about the Wyndham Land Trust visit wyndhamlandtrust.org. You can also follow them on Facebook and Instagram.



Photo Courtesy

A babbling brook cuts through the Potrzeba Preserve. Protecting critical wetlands is one of the missions of the Wyndham Land Trust.

Rotary Club, community partner to support community “Superheroes”

PUTNAM — Eager to help boost the morale of frontline workers in the depths of the COVID-19 morass, the Putnam Rotary Club raised almost \$5,000 for schools and healthcare organizations to let their workers know they are appreciated.

The Superheroes Phonathon was held at the end of January. Kristen Willis, Putnam Rotary president, said the original goal was \$2,500, but \$4,800 was raised, thanks to hard work by Rotarians and a generous community. The radio phonathon was hosted by WINY Radio, owned by Putnam Rotarians Gary Osbrey and Karen Osbrey.

Willis said, “We sponsored this event to provide a morale booster and heart-felt gratitude to our local healthcare workers and educators who have been tirelessly dedicated to keeping our community safe and healthy -- in body, mind and spirit. It was our hope that each organization would utilize the funds to provide an activity or gift of their choice as an expression of gratitude to their staff on behalf of our entire community.”

Donations included Eastford Elementary School, \$300; Pomfret Community School, \$375; Generations Healthcare, \$325; Woodstock Public Schools, \$550; Thompson Public Schools, \$875; Putnam Public Schools, \$875 and Day Kimball Healthcare, \$1,500.

All the organizations were appreciative, and many chose to buy lunches or snacks.

One of those picking the lunch gift was Putnam Public Schools. Timing is everything. Putnam Schools Superintendent Daniel Sullivan III said the gift came just as the Board of Education was considering what they could do to say “We appreciate you” to educators. Rotary’s gift was matched by the Board of Education and the district ordered bagged lunches from a local business, Renee’s Bistro and Catering.

The district chose the day that all the teachers would be at the middle school getting their second vaccinations. Educators picked up packaged lunches that included a variety of sandwiches, salads, soups and even desserts.

BUDGET

continued from page A1

place on Monday, May 17 from noon until 8 p.m. in all four of Thompson’s voting districts. A full copy of the proposed budget can be found on the Town of Thompson website.

The remaining three items on the agenda were all approved unanimously without debate. The first was to ratify and approve the town’s \$87,259 capital improvement plan. A second item asked voters whether or not to adopt an amended ordinance of an annual tax exemption for members of Thompson’s five volunteer fire departments. The ordinance change includes volunteer firefighters, ambulance personnel and emergency management personnel and allows for an up to \$60,000 tax exemption depending on how active the volunteer member was during a calendar year among other benefits. The final item was the conveyance of seven parcels of land from the Town of Thompson to the Wyndham Land Trust including six properties on West Thompson Road and one property on Ravenelle Road.

Sullivan estimated that some 230 educators were honored with the meals.

“We are so grateful to the Putnam Rotary for this gift,” Sullivan said.

Willis said it was the club’s hope that the schools/healthcare organizations would use the funds to provide a special thanks and gesture of appreciation to the staffs for all they have done and continue to do for the community.



Photo Courtesy

The Putnam Rotary raised almost \$5,000 recently to help schools and healthcare organizations boost morale and say “you’re appreciated” to the community’s “Superheroes.” Pictured are Putnam school district teachers with Superhero lunches.



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Soap converted into water buffalos through Rotary

PUTNAM — It was like transforming ethereal soap bubbles into the tangible --- water buffalos and bees.

The Putnam Rotary Club's Interact Club, for its international project this year, decided that a car wash, strategically placed at the finish of winter, would be an excellent fund-raiser for its International Heifer project. The project converts donations into animals, insects and seeds that help those in need halfway around the world help themselves.

The trifecta of Rotary workers --- the Interact Club, the Putnam Rotary Club's Rotaract Club and a couple Rotary Club advisors --- raised \$525 in three hours washing cars April 24 at the Hale YMCA Youth and Family Center. They didn't set a price; instead they asked customers to donate.

The Rotary Club thanked Rotarian Amanda Kelly and the Hale YMCA Youth and Family Center for hosting/providing the venue for the April 24 fundraiser.

Interactors voted to use the \$525 to buy one water buffalo, trees and garden seeds, four flocks of chicks and two beehives.

Interact Advisor Roberta Rocchetti said Rotary International "encourages



Interact Club member Emily St. Martin hoses off a car from on high.

Photo Courtesy

Interact to do at least one international project each year."

Last year, she said, "we used the money we had earned at the 2019 Putnam car show and combined with the Putnam Rotary Club to assist in

(former Rotary Club President Richard Naumann's) clean water project in Ecuador."

Past Putnam Rotary Club Interact Clubs had contributed to International Heifer, Rocchetti said, but this small, but hard-working current club really made it happen, and in three short hours.

She said, "We were very excited to earn \$525 in three hours by washing cars. The Rotaract Club had a team and the Interact club had a team, so we were able to wash a lot of cars in a short period of time. They worked well together."

Interact President Brayden Cutler said, "Thank you, Kevin Davis and Rotaract members. Our car wash was a success because of your help."

Interact members who took part include: Cutler, Ethan Staples, Emma Braithwaite, Laylah Chavez, Abby St.Martin, Emily St.Martin plus Rotary advisors Marcy Dawley and Rocchetti. Rotaract members included: Kevin Davis, Quinebaug Valley Regional Rotaract Club president; Elle-Jordyn Goslin Tayler Shea (also representing NOW), Megan Berkery, Kelli O'Brien, and Douglas Henry. Also helping was a QVRR guest, Matt Sanchas

Pet Pals to host rabies clinic

DANIELSON — Pet Pals Northeast, a local animal welfare organization, is holding a low cost rabies clinic at the Quinebaug Valley Veterinary Hospital, Route 12, Danielson/Plainfield town line on May 22 from 2 to 3 p.m. Cost is \$15.00 CASH per animal. Pre-registration and appointment is required. No walk-ins, please.

For information, registration and appointment contact Pet Pals at 860-317-1720.

www.860Local.com

Westview Commons names Employee of the Month

DAYVILLE — Mary Blais of Danielson graciously received the accolade of Employee of the Month at Country Living at Westview Commons for the month of April 2021.

Hired as an Administrative Assistant in August 2020, Blais' bright and cheerful presence has quickly become a staple for the residents and guests of the facility. With poise, grace and determined professionalism, she is at her best while balancing the many duties and responsibilities of her position - a testament to her dexterity and multitasking capabilities.

Mother of three and soon-to-be grandmother of two, Blais has happily been planning and preparing for the upcoming wedding to her fiancé, Billy, in July 2021. She is also the proud parent to their two Yorkshire Terriers: Pudding and Bella. Outside of work Mary enjoys spending time planting and tending to her flower beds as well as relishing in the precious time spent with her family and friends by a fire while cooking and enjoying a cold beverage.

"I am so happy to receive Employee of the Month," exclaimed Blais. "Knowing that I am appreciated by the residents and staff means the world to me. I really do love my job and stand by the motto: 'Choose a job that you love and you will never have to work a day in your life.'"

"Mary effortlessly makes those around her feel like family," stated Donna Copeland, Executive Director. "Her genuine concern and warm approach to the matters and requests made by the staff or residents is highly commendable. We couldn't ask for a better mix of personality, hospitality and reliability than Mary has to offer."

Country Living at Westview Commons is a 75-unit independent and assisted living community conveniently located in picturesque Northeastern Connecticut. Affiliated with Westview Health Care Center, a nationally-ranked



Mary Blais

nursing facility according to CMS and U.S. News and World Report for the past 13 years, Westview Commons is a 115,000 square foot catered living facility dedicated to a genuine 5-star experience including out-

standing service, culinary expertise and state-of-the-art facility. Located in Dayville, Westview Commons combines convenience, tranquility and comfort; providing a lifestyle that seniors deserve.

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ELLIS TECHNICAL HONOR ROLL

DANIELSON — Ellis Technical High School has released its honor roll for the third quarter of the 2020-2021 academic year.

High Honors

Grade 9: Kylie Damble, Ella Gisleson, Nia Soleil Jordan, Haley Newell, Addisyn Karin Herdic, Robyn Shawna Tetreault, Lauren Alvarez, Drew Noble, Emma Lucille Bessenaire, Madeleine Elizabeth Louise Brisson, Kyla Gadbois, Jessie Charron, Katelynn Collelo, Hailey Gregorzek, Walker Hanes, Elizabeth Hooper, Haley Johnson, Brady Nottage, Abagayle Roberts, Nicholas Ryan, Joshua Huber, Colby Smith, Michael Armstrong, Giana Cinque, Keegan Lyons, Tyler Parmentier, Autumn Taylor, Javien Vazquez, Joseph Cadieux, Christian Simon Carpentier, Hannah Dunn, Emily Fryer, Aniya Maria Jones, Brooke Montecalvo, Evangeline Moran, Cameron Fulone, Brandon McClure, Natalie Polsky, Alec James Rawson, Daenie Cabrera, Isaid Galdamez, Stefany Lopez, Asher James Prosperie, Yeraldine Rodriguez Salvador, Anderson Ventura-Calderon, Richard Grendell, Jarrett Towne

Grade 10: Wesley Deal, Ethan R. Love, Colin Willour, Joshua A. Brousseau, Jayson S. Ives, Hailey R. Chykov, Jace M. Lindell, Alec e. Zevetchin, Braden W. Ayer, Ethan T. Marshall, Xavier J. Dietz, Philip Johnson, Caleb J. Evans, Quintin P. Departie, Celia R. Lee, Daniel D. Nammachack, Dominic J. Poissant, Benjamin J. Rondeau, Liliana Jade Wongkam, Mackenzie E. Gifford, Tyler D. Diamond, John D. Miller, Jacob A. O'Connell, Jasmyn A. Robitaille, Kameren F. Siener, Joseph E. Taylor, Cody J. Bemis, Seth L. Dunton, Sierra J. Tamalavic, Olivia M. Girard, Drew A. Turcotte, Seth J.

Wenzloff, Keira Jordan Giles, Skyler J. Martin, Sophia Ann Sezenias, Matthew R. Siegmund, Samuel W. Sroczenski, Aidan J. O'Brien, Joana N. Negron Alaniz, Karen Vanessa Platas

Grade 11: Derek A. Davis, Allyson M. Roberts, Angelo P. Siwko, Elizabeth R. Thorstenson, Elyjah Wright, Mackenzie M. Ruley, Sean Liam Shotts, Benjamin Joseph Blair-Combs, Gracie May Deveny, Cole D. Lane, Alexis B. Archambeault, George M. Neely, Lee J. Schiavetti, Mason Todd Bartlett, Lucas Emmanuel Johnson, Joseph B. Young, Cade T. Fulton, Alexis L. LeBlanc, Michael P. McQuesten, Daren M. Paquin, Rosalie P. Santerre, Jacob A. Tate, Madison P. Tatro, Mkenzy M. Alvarez, Shanelys M. Busanet, Jordan M. Daoust, Lucas T. Engle, Nathan L. Gregorzek, Aiden P. Johnson, Marissa A. Laitres-Wakefield, Kendyll P. Petty, Connor Reid Stoyanovich, Owen W. Donovan, Preston R. York, Margaret Sage Bowers, Zachary T. Truppa, Brett M. Gile, Samuel H. Nunn, Mackenzie A. Dickinson, Ayden C. Papuga, Owen M. Reinhart, Adam E. Salisbury, Evan M. Collette, Cameron L. L'Heureux, Jesse R. Ratliff, Emma O. Terranova, Nicholas Samuel Britt, Marisa L. Lavell, Elijah D. Bean, Zoe E. VanHoose

Grade 12: Isabella M. Lyman, Noah T. Ahmad, Walter P. Hagge, Leo R. Lavigne, Mason A. Sorel, Dartagnan R. Bruneaux, Brandon D. Miller, Joren T. Ayer, Emily I. Hull, Brandon A. Collelo, Hailey L. Deojay, Jacob T. Dingman, Matthew R. Dingman, Kora L. Peterson, Joseph A. Blain, Ashley N. Bowden, Hunter O. Bryer, Jocelyn N. Collin, Jacquelyn N. Gervais, Allison R. Guskey, Zackary E. Kallgren, Brenna R. O'Connor, Connor B. Tellier, Christopher I. Windrow, Jonathan Gary Fitzpatrick, Anthony R.

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Honors

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Eastern students honored at Health Sciences award ceremony

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University's Department of Health Sciences held its Fifth Annual Health Sciences Awards Ceremony on April 22. The ceremony combined the years of 2020 and 2021 and inducted 36 students into the Phi Theta Delta Honor Society, awarded 23 teaching assistants and distributed awards based on class.

Among the inductees and awardees were senior Morgan Harriott of Danielson, who majors in Health Sciences, and senior Zachary Cutler of Putnam, who also majors in Health Sciences.

The goal of Phi Theta Delta is to provide opportunities, workshops, outreach and professional development to promote students' careers in a variety of health fields. To be eligible, students must major in health sciences, be either a junior or senior, have a minimum of 16 credits within the program and have a major GPA of 3.5.

The Health Sciences Department provides outstanding experiential education to future health professionals to empower them to address current issues in health through education, service, advocacy, research and scholarly activities. A combination of coursework and experiential learning, internships, independent studies and faculty-directed research prepare students for entrance into graduate programs and employment in physical therapy, occupational therapy, public health, nursing and physician assistance.

Eastern students recognized at Psychology Awards and Honors Ceremony

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University's Psychological Science Department held its Psi Chi Induction Ceremony and Honors Recognition on April 30. Combining the years of 2020 and 2021, the ceremony inducted 53 students into the Psi Chi International Honor Society for Psychology and recognized 18 students for distinction.

Among the students recognized were junior Larda Yottivong of Danielson, who majors in Psychology, and sophomore Noelle Ciccarelli of Thompson, who also majors in Psychology.

Established at more than 800 colleges throughout the country, Psi Chi is affiliated with the American Psychological Association and the American Psychological Society. The goal of Psi Chi is to encourage excellence and foster advancement within the field of psychological science. To be eligible, students must major or minor in psychology, complete at least 12 credits in psychology and have a 3.5 major GPA.

To receive high distinction, students must achieve a 3.5 or higher GPA in the psychology program and complete select advanced level courses in the psychology major, among other qualifications. To receive highest distinction, students must also score at the 80th percentile or higher on the pre-graduation exit exam and present research at a state, regional or national conference.

VICTORIA STATION CAFÉ SUPPORTS LEGION'S FAMILY KIDS' WALK



Photo Courtesy

The staff at Victoria Station Café in Putnam supported The American Legion District #4 "Family Kids' Walk" with a donation to District Commander Ronald P. Coderre, who participated in the Walk at the Coventry High School Athletic Complex on Saturday, May 1. Pictured with Coderre (second from left) are (left to right) Jennifer DeLeon, Emily Beaudry and Brittany Nault. The Walk raised more than \$2,500 in support of Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Spring cleaning is about more than tidying up

It's been a rainy week, which means that spending time inside organizing and cleaning — along with watching the Red Sox hold steady in first place — was top on our to-do list. Spring cleaning, a chore that happens every year, feels great when complete. Why is it that something so tedious and boring could be so good for us?

Did you know that cleaning actually supports your immune system? Cleaning is of huge benefit especially to those with allergies. Getting rid of dust, pet dander, mildew and mold can trigger the immune system causing unnecessary illness. Those with cluttered homes tend to suffer the worst. To avoid indoor allergies, vacuum regularly, this to include your furniture.

Cleaning reduces stress. While cleaning, your brain is able to relax. This mindless activity can give you a chance to de-stress. Experts say that cleaning for as little as twenty minutes can reduce anxiety by up to 20 percent. It's a win-win — sure, it's no day at the spa, but constructive relaxation is always good. Using products with scents said to induce relaxation such as lavender is also an expert tip.

Heart health can be improved by cleaning by way of exercise. Just a half an hour of vacuuming can burn up to 100 calories. It's a known fact that people who like to keep their homes clean tend to take more interest in their overall health and well-being.

A tidy bedroom is said to help you sleep better. Individuals who make their beds are roughly 20 percent more likely to get a more restful night sleep. Seventy-five percent of people polled sleep better on clean sheets, in a room with less clutter.

When you are in a tidy area, your production increases. Less clutter means less distraction, which is said to clear up mental space. A study from 2011 published in the Journal of Neuroscience used MRI's to track the brain's response to cleanliness. More clutter was found to significantly limit the brain's processing capability.

Checking off the cleaning to do list can make you feel more satisfied and can boost your mood. A clean, fresh house is said to naturally boost endorphins and boost energy levels which leads to a decrease in depression.

Cleaning and organization can have a domino effect in that it can lead to sprucing up other areas of your life. Interesting, was the one finding that stated when individuals were placed in a clean, well-organized space they were more likely to choose healthier menu items.

Perhaps William Morris put it best: "Have nothing in your house that you do not know to be useful, or believe to be beautiful."

LETTERS POLICY

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

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



BEYOND THE PEWS

• • • • •

BISHOP JOHN W. HANSON

Motherhood is an adventure in loving. There are no guarantees and no guide-books that can adequately prepare mothers for their incredibly important task. Only massive doses of love can insure the job is done properly, because there is no tougher job than tending a garden of souls. Stories like this one remind me of how unpredictable and interesting a mother's job can be:

My niece was fixing lunch at the stove when her three-year-old daughter walked in and asked, "Is 'Tonic Water' water?"

The mother answered, "Not really. It's a little different. Why? Do you need some

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A farmer, or something more?

To the Editor:

At the Pomfret P&Z public hearing of April 21 for text language changes to a Farm Distillery, the public hearing was continued to the next meeting of May 19.

The owner of Watercure farm, a farm distillery, has now submitted new proposed text language in [brackets] asking that a farm distillery be granted the same privileges by adding the words [or farm distillery] in seven (7) new places to Section 12.9 Farm Winery Restaurant (Special Permit Required) and two new sentences.

12.9.1Intent. To allow the sale and service of food prepared and consumed at a farm winery [or farm distillery], as well as the accommodation of special group events such as weddings to be held at a farm winery [or farm distillery]. Such activities are to be a complement and secondary to a farm winery [or farm distillery].

Under 12.9.2 Definition. A Farm Winery Restaurant shall be a use incidental, complementary and secondary to a Farm Winery permitted by or legally existing prior to the adoption of Section 11.20 of these Regulations. [A Farm Distillery Restaurant shall be a use incidental, complementary, and secondary to a farm Distillery permitted by

Section 12.8.2 of these Regulations]. A Farm Winery [or farm distillery]Restaurant shall accommodate a maximum of one hundred (100) persons seated or standing indoors and one hundred (100) persons seated or standing outdoors on a patio area at any one time (for a total of 200 persons seated or standing.

12.9.3 Standards. a. The Farm Winery [or farm distillery] Restaurant must be located on a single parcel of land on which the Farm Winery [or farm distillery] is also located, and the parcel must be a minimum of ten (10) acres [for Farm Wineries and 5 (five) acres for Farm Distilleries]. b. The maximum hours of operation of a Farm Winery [or farm distillery] Restaurant shall be 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

In a nutshell, Watercure Farm is attempting to mirror the same standards of a Farm Winery Restaurant located on a minimum of 10 acres with his operation on a minimum of five acres.

Again, the question. Is the permittee a potato farmer selling his home-grown product, or wanting to be something else?

FORD FAY
POMFRET

Lost in the Páramo

BY DENNIS BLANCHETTE
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

"If I don't leave I won't go some place I've never been" – Memphis Rockabilly Band

My wife and I desperately needed a training hike before our upcoming trek to Ingapirca. El Cajas National Park was only an hour away and according to the Rough Guide, "El Cajas is one of the most beautiful wilderness areas in Ecuador: a wild, primeval landscape of craggy hills and glacier-scoured valleys studded with a breathtaking quantity of lakes." It also mentioned wildcat, pumas and deer. Nothing about feral cattle.

We usually travel alone to give us greater flexibility and opportunities for spontaneity not available in group travel. With a topographic map and a couple of blazed trees we can usually find our way anywhere. Various on-line sources said that topo maps for El Cajas are either readily available at the park, sometimes available or not available at all. Our experience has been that trying to acquire maps once in Ecuador is futile. Some say the military keeps them secret. Others say it is part of the full employment for guides act. I ordered some on line before the trip but they still haven't arrived.

Trails there are not well marked either. By not well marked, I mean there were no signs and no blazes, but at least there were no skeletons of lost hikers, either.

There was also the matter of transportation. The guide book said it was easy to get a bus to El Cajas in the morning, but one may or may not pick you up on the way back in the evening. We decided to skip the opportunity to be stranded all night in the middle of a national park at high elevation in potentially freezing weather and strolled into a travel office in Cuenca.

"We'd like a guide for a seven-mile hike in El Cajas," we said to the young woman at the desk.

"We have a nice two-mile loop around the lake," she said to the two elderly American tourists standing in front of her.

"That's too short, how about this one," Janet said, pointing at the map.

The woman demurred. "That's kind of long. How about this three-mile hike."

We countered with an eight-mile hike, she came back with a four-mile hike. Finally, we agreed on the six-mile Tres Cruces Hike. "Well," I said to Janet on the way out, "you can't always get what you want."

"Good tune," Janet said. "Rolling Stones, right? How's the rest of it go?"

"I don't remember. Something about 'if you try sometimes you get frustrated?'"

The next day our guide, Roberto, picked us up at the hotel. He was fully decked out in knee high gaiters, about 30 years younger than us and very personable. We drove to the Tres Cruces pass which is on the continental divide at elevation 13,651 feet. The three crosses have been erected in memory of the many people who died of altitude sickness trying to make the crossing from the coast to the Andes.

Then although we thought we were prepared for anything came the thing we had never thought of. "Time for calisthenics," he said. We looked at him for any indication that he was kidding, but he was already doing jumping jacks.

"You gotta be kidding me," I muttered.

"Shh, when in Rome...." Janet's comment tailed off as she started doing jumping jacks.

Halfheartedly I joined in, trying to avoid the stares of the other hikers going past. Fearing that yoga would come next, I began to formulate an escape plan.

After deeming himself sufficiently warmed up, we began the descent through the páramo to the three gorgeous lakes sprawled out in front of us. To the untrained eye it looked like a vast expanse of knee high grass. Páramo actually refers to an ecosystem found only in South America. A technical definition is: "the term used in Ecuador for the high (usually wet) areas above "timberline," with low-growing vegetation such as grasses, sedges, terrestrial bromeliads ("achupallas"), mosses, lichens, "stumpy" tree-ferns and several kinds of flowering vegetation which grow in the form of cushion plants." In lay person's terms, a swamp above the tree line.

The gray clouds hung over the mountains like a soggy blanket and dripped onto the lakes in creeping tendrils of fog. We beat the fog to the lakes and then began ascending. As we rounded a corner Roberto came face to face with a feral bull with dangerously sharp looking horns. The bull snorted once, then charged. Roberto vaulted over a rock like a trained matador and cowered behind it and I understood at that moment why he did calisthenics before hikes. The emaciated animal was staring at him as if he held Roberto responsible for everything bad that had ever happened in his life. Janet and I stood motionless as he charged, trying not to attract his attention and wishing now that we had put more effort into the jump-

Turn To **BLANCHETTE** page **A10**

An adventure In loving

water, Honey?"

"No thanks," her daughter replied, "I had some of the dogs'. It was real good."

My mom raised five children. When our family reminisces, many such stories surface. Some of the stories bring laughter and others bring tears. I am often amazed that we put our mother through the things we put her through. Nothing compares to a healthy mother-child relationship. My wife and I had a child of our own and I had front row seat as I watched my wife give her life for her son. In our case my wife forfeited a career in order to homeschool her only son. They explored books and museums. They did crafts and projects. As someone with a degree in teaching, I observed that they had a richer education than those who attended multi-million-dollar institutions. He far exceeded our expectations, graduated with a masters' degree from a highly rated college, and enjoys a great career as he raises children of his

own. It's no wonder tough guys get "mom" tattooed on their biceps.

Kudos to all the moms out there who are steering their brood through the many challenges of life. With the unexpected challenges of COVID added to the typical hazards that parents face, it is more important than ever that we make sure Mom knows we appreciate her and have her back. Maybe she deserves a little extra down time this month. How cool would it be if Mother's Day was more than a routine holiday, and more of a genuine celebration? That is what you can do to make sure the loving adventure continues in your world.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries, where a high value is still placed on the family. We are proud of the many mothers who lovingly serve raise their children. For information about our ministries, please visit www.ActsII.org.

Who says my “Smart TV” is so smart?



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

We are told that life as we know it has been forever changed by the computer. The most complicated equations are solved. We started at a desk, then moved to a mobile laptop. A few years later our phones became computers and now it can be as small as a watch on your wrist. (Calling Dick Tracey?). Technology is instantaneous and we are told it's made our lives easier, and it has in many ways, while complicating it in others. Who is it that's telling us this life in general is made easier by technology? Is it true?

Then, why do I have three remotes sitting on my coffee table to operate one so called "Smart TV?"

If it's so smart, shouldn't I only need a single remote ... or no remote at all?

As most of you know, we recently downsized and moved into town. The building I live in doesn't allow a dish to be installed so I called the local branch of the "mega-cable" service. I found in my call for installation that I could easily install it myself. They pushed the do-it-yourself option hard. It was obvious they didn't want to send anyone out, so I finally said yes.

The box of wires and devices arrived, and I was lost. I called my son-in-law Jeff (an engineer) and he made it look easy. It was ready to go ... but not so fast.

Jeff handed me five remote controls and said, "These three are for the living room and these two for the bedroom. The third for the living room operates your sound. The other two operate the TV."

Huh?

Easy for Jeff. He actually is a "Rocket Scientist." I think he can send us all to Mars using his telephone, an umbrella, and a Red Ryder Wagon. He gave me a quick tutorial and was out the door ... yet I wasn't even sure how to turn either TV on.

If they are so smart, why can't they figure out how to run on a single remote? If they are intelligent, why is it every time I talk into the voice activated feature on the remote, it answers, "There is no channel called ..." no matter what channel I choose. If they are smart, why did I walk out of the bedroom this morning to find Arlene holding one remote over her head and the other at knee level. "What are you doing," I asked. "Trying to turn on the TV," she responded.

Oh, before you ask, no, there was no instruction manual. I called to get one and was told I could access it on my smart TV. Right.

Over the last seven months, I've learned the basics of managing my TV with these remotes. We never get too old to learn and after I figured it all out, it's not that hard. But why should I have spent the first four months only watching Netflix because I couldn't figure out how to leave the streaming services and over to cable? And please do not tell me a really smart TV can't figure out how to operate with a single remote.

I'm sure my grandsons could have taught me. The nine-year-old down the street probably knows. I'm just not wired that way. I'm heavy on the creative side and exceptionally light on the technical, detailed stuff. I can write a column, book, or screenplay ... but if my screenplay was turned into a movie, I may miss the first half of the show while I struggle with the remote to find the channel.

Turn To **MOORE** page **A10**

Mistakes happen

Whenever there is a chance to make a mistake using technology, I make it. I have written this column for 16 years, and I still have moments when I think I have hit the “send” button and I have not. The Editor, always under the pressure of a deadline, has to ask me where it is. Red-faced, but fortunately alone at my desk, my heart beats fast. I hope I have saved the 600-word piece and not erased it. I find it. Hit “send” and promise myself that I will improve.



NANCY WEISS

In a recent column, I made a mistake. In sharing a fine poem by Woodstock resident Genie Johnson, I left out a stanza. Through Jon Andersen, Professor of English at Quinebaug Valley Community College, and my contact with the winners of the Julius Sokenu Award and other poetry awards, I was graciously alerted to the error. I felt awful. I wanted to celebrate poets and poetry and instead I offered something in print that was wrong.

Here is the poem from Genie Johnson

as it should have been presented. Genie was selected for the Connecticut Student Poetry Circuit in 2019. This poem won first place in the QVCC English category of the 12th Annual Julius Sokenu Poetry Awards in 2019. I have tightened the spacing.

They Said
By Genie Johnson

We heard about it on the morning news
as if you were a common stranger.
There was no carefully worded phone call,
no buffer from you name’s confirmation.

Just a picture of your charred brown house,
video of the blazing destruction, the torn
testimony of your next-door neighbor, words
broadcast through the screen to us as if
they were stricken
from a blacksmith’s hammer.

When we finally received the official

notification, they said
they found you laid out on your
unmade bed
preserved somehow—not taken by the fire.
You looked as if you were sleeping,
they said—
smoke inhalation: “She never felt a thing.”

I don’t know how they could presume
such a thing about you
I mean, for as long as I knew you
you felt every single thing.

Since childhood you craved favor
and recognition, you fervently tried
to persuade us all to listen, but with
calloused ears your friends and family
fixed iron tongues against you.

It’s why you turned to vodka, isn’t it?
To hush your beaten beating heart;
there was never any chance for you to
rise.
Not only was there no smoke alarm—
you were passed out drunk, they said.

Kim: I want to wrap my arms around
your swollen body,

put my mouth on your lips and breathe
for you.
But it’s too late to coax life into you,
too late
to wake you up and take you home.

Despite making mistakes in previously printed poems, I have enjoyed sharing the work of local poets with you. I think we are open to poetry because it requires us to condense our words and expand our thoughts.

With two shots of vaccine in my system, I am happily out in the world once again. I squeeze my grandchildren so tightly that they protest, but I can’t help myself. I want face-to-face encounters with old friends and time in public places. When I see people, we talk longer and more intensely than in the past, but we have all been changed by the months of isolation.

Technology will always bedevil me, but I am grateful the connections it provided. I fumble around on my computer and I still can’t operate the television efficiently, but I am grateful I can share what I think is important, including poetry.

Don’t depend on student loan forgiveness — plan ahead with tax-advantaged college savings

There’s a lot of talk in Congress right now about potentially canceling anywhere from \$10,000 to \$50,000 of federal student loan debt per person. But don’t be confused — if this debt cancellation even happens at all, it will be a one-time cancellation for those who currently have qualifying student loans. So, while it would provide some relief to existing borrowers it does nothing to alleviate the challenge of meeting the high cost of college that will still face current and future students.

That’s why it’s so important to plan well by creating a solid strategy to save for college costs. The best savings vehicles offer special tax advantages if the funds are used to pay for college. Tax-advantaged strategies are important because over time, you can potentially accumulate more money with a tax-advantaged investment compared to a taxable investment.

There are several tax-advantaged savings vehicles that you can consider, but the most popular and typically the most advantageous one is the 529 savings plan.

529 savings plans offer a unique combination of features that no other education savings vehicle can match. Here’s what you need to know:

A 529 savings plan lets you save money for college and K-12 tuition in an individual investment-type account, similar to a 401(k) plan. Some plans let you enroll directly, while others require you to go through a financial professional.

529 savings plans are offered by states (you can join any state’s plan), but they are managed by designated financial companies who are responsible for managing the plan’s underlying investment portfolios.

Anyone can open a 529 savings plan account, regardless of income level. You’ll typically be required to make an initial minimum contribution, however, which must be made in cash. You’ll then select one or more of the plan’s investment portfolios to which your contributions will be allocated.

Contributions to a 529 account accumulate tax deferred and earnings are tax free if the money is used to pay the beneficiary’s qualified education expenses. (The earnings portion of any withdrawal not used for qualified education expenses is taxed at the recipient’s rate and subject to a 10% penalty.) Most plans have lifetime contribution limits of \$350,000 and up.

In addition, many states offer income tax incentives for state residents, such as a tax deduction for contributions or a tax exemption for qualified withdrawals. However, be aware that some states limit their tax deduction to contributions made to the in-state 529 plan only.

529 savings plans also offer an estate planning advantage in the form of accelerated gifting. This can be a favorable way for grandparents to contribute to their grandchildren’s education while paring down their own estate, or a way for parents to contribute a large lump sum. Under special rules unique to 529 plans, a lump-sum gift of up to five times the annual gift tax exclusion amount (\$15,000 in 2021) is allowed in a single year, which means that individuals can make a lump-sum gift of up to \$75,000 and married couples can gift up to \$150,000. No gift tax will be owed, provided the gift is treated



FINANCIAL
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JIM ZAHANSKY
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mind, though:

Investment returns aren’t guaranteed. You roll the dice with the investment portfolios you’ve chosen, and your account may gain or lose value depending on how the underlying investments perform. There is no guarantee that your investments will perform well enough to cover college costs as anticipated.

529 savings plans have limited investment flexibility. Not only are you limited to the investment portfolios offered by the particular 529 plan, but once you choose your investments, you can only change the investment options on your existing contributions twice per calendar year. (However, you can generally direct how your future contributions will be invested at any time.)

Although there’s a lot of discussion among legislators right now about how to tackle the issue of the skyrocketing costs of higher education, for the moment there are no plans in place and the road to developing a solution is sure to be a long one. Saving for your child’s or grandchild’s education in smart, strategic ways is still the only way to ensure that he or she will have the resources required to benefit from the education they’ll need to live well in the future.

If you haven’t yet created a college

savings plan, or you have one but are unsure if it’s set up to best maximize your savings, you should talk with a financial advisor who can get you started off on the right foot and then guide you through the process, while also balancing your other financial needs and goals as well.

At Weiss, Hale and Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors we help our clients to establish the college savings plan that best suits their individual needs and situation, so that they don’t have to wonder if they’re doing all they can to help their children or grandchildren get started off on the right foot in life. Take a look at the Resources page on our website at www.whzwealth.com/resources for some helpful information and guides to college planning, and contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com if you’d like a knowledgeable partner in the process.

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Grow Edamame for better health and nutrition

Add a bit of fiber to your garden and diet. Consider growing edamame (edible soybeans) in this year’s garden.

Soybeans help promote overall health reducing the risk of high cholesterol, diabetes, heart disease, and high blood pressure. Plus, the high fiber in soy helps fight colon and some other cancers.

Edamame is an ancient Asian vegetable and is often eaten right from the pod like peanuts. Edible soybeans are also used for making tofu, tempeh, soy nut snacks and more. In addition to their high fiber content, soybean’s high protein content has made them a popular meat substitute.

Soybeans can be grown in a variety of soils and climate. They tolerate adverse conditions but perform best in warm temperatures, full sun, and moist well-drained soils. Add organic matter to less-than-ideal soils to improve drainage in heavy clay soils and increase the water holding capacity in sandy and rocky soils.

Try growing one of the edible soybean varieties such as Agate, Chiba Green, Midori Giant, and Envy. These have a better flavor and are more suited to your garden and recipes than field varieties.

Wait for the soil to warm for quick germination and increased success.



GARDEN
MOMENTS
MELINDA
MYERS

Grow edible soybeans in a sunny spot. Plant and care for them the same as you would lima beans. Plant seeds three inches apart and one to one and a half inches deep in rows 24 to 36 inches apart. Once the plants sprout and grow, thin them out by removing the weaker seedlings, so the remaining plants are six inches apart.

Harvest the soybeans when the pods are plump, green, rough, and hairy. They are usually ready to harvest in 80 to 120 days, depending on the variety. Check frequently and pick when the seeds are fully enlarged but before they get hard. Waiting too long to harvest the seeds reduces the flavor and quality. Since all the seed filled pods usually ripen at the same time, you can pull up the whole plant and harvest the seeds from pods while sitting on a chair in the shade.

Use edamame within two to three days of harvest for the best quality. Store fresh edamame in the refrigerator in a perforated plastic bag.

Cook edamame by steaming, boiling, or microwaving the pods. Allow them to cool, then pop out the seeds to enjoy. Don’t let any surplus go to waste. Blanch, then freeze whole pods or the seeds. Or dry the shelled edamame in the oven or dehydrator to use through-



Photo Melinda Myers

Edamame pods are ready to harvest when they are plump, green, rough, and hairy.

out the year.

Purchase seeds and carve out some space in your garden or containers for this nutritious vegetable.

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.

OBITUARIES

Alfred “Al” Charles Grenier

Alfred Charles Grenier, “Al”, passed away unexpectedly while at home on Friday, April 30, 2021. He was born June 10, 1926, in Norwich, CT to Charles and Marie Grenier. He is survived by his wife Joyce Grenier, daughter Debra Savoie, son Scott Grenier, 2 stepdaughters, 1 stepson, granddaughters Jennifer Savoie and Stephanie Donovan and 4 great granddaughters that he adored. He is also survived by his sister Alma Lenz. AL was a member of the Navy serving in World War II. He was a proud member of the CT State Police as an auxiliary



trooper for 35 years. He was also an honored member of the Moosup Fire Department for 25 years. He also owned and operated his own business for 26 years, “Al’s Superette” and took pride in everything he did. Al was a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather. He was extremely hard-working and selfless. Everyone who knew him respected him and admired his character. He was a very special man who will be sorely missed and fondly remembered. Services will be private. tillinghastfh.com



Pamela S. Verheggen, 73

Enfield – Pamela S. (Surprenant) Verheggen, 73, of Green Valley Dr., formerly of North Grosvenordale., died Sunday, April 25, 2021 at her home. Beloved wife of William F. Verheggen. Born in North Grosvenordale, she was the daughter of the late Henry E. and Alice (Aucoin) Surprenant. Mrs. Verheggen was retired after 45 years in the Banking Industry and enjoyed volunteering at the Enfield Food Shelf. Pam is survived by her husband, William Verheggen of Enfield; her children, Kevin and his husband David of

Poultney, VT, Heather and her husband Mark; and grandson Zachary of Bradenton, FL; her brothers, Dennis Surprenant of Medfield, MA, and Richard Surprenant of Thompson. Funeral services are private and have been entrusted to the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale. For memorial donations, please donate to the Enfield Food Shelf, Inc., P.O. Box 699, Enfield, CT 06083. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Roland Demers, Sr., 89

NORTH GROSVENORDALE- Roland Demers, Sr., 89, of Forest Hill Dr., passed away on Thursday, April 29, 2021 at Harrington Hospital in Southbridge, MA. He was the loving husband of Beatrice (Wetherbee) Demers for 70 years. Born in Thompson, he was the son of the late Ulric and Diana (Marcoux) Demers. Roland worked as a supervisor and machine operator for Webster Spring Co. for 45 years. He enjoyed fishing, hunting and going on trips to aviation museums



and casinos. In addition to his wife, Roland is survived by his sons, Roland Demers, Jr. and his wife Linda of N. Grosvenordale, and Todd Demers and his girlfriend Maureen Brown of Quinebaug; his daughter, Debbie Despelteau and her husband John of Thompson; six grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his son, the late Michael Demers. Funeral arrangements are private and have been entrusted to the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale. Memorial donations may be made to Community Fire Company. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Anna Thayer

Anna Thayer of Eastford, CT formerly of Castleton VT, peacefully passed April 23, 2021 at The Davis Place in Killingly, CT with her loving family by her side, after a battle with Dementia. She was born May 16, 1932 in Hubbardton, VT. Anna was the daughter or Frank and Pauline Farkas. Anna met the love of her life Chester “Ted” Thayer on the school playground. They married September 8, 1951 in Bridport, VT. Together they celebrated 59 Amazing years until Ted’s passing in 2011. In her younger years, Anna worked at The Trak Inn, Bomoseen, VT doing laundry. Throughout her life Anna lived in Hubbardton, Poultney, Fair Haven and Castleton all in VT and Eastford, CT. Anna always had a smile on her face and loved everybody. Anyone that knew Anna well, knew of her love for Dolls. She would make an old doll new again from her finds at thrift stores and yard sales by knitting clothes for them and donating them to non-profits. She loved to knit, play cards, play Bingo



and enjoyed volunteering in the Bingo kitchen at Castleton American Legion in which she was a member of unit 50 Auxiliary. Her greatest joy in life was her family. Anna is survived by her children: 5 daughters: Bonita King (Steve) of NC, Donna Spink (Peter), Anna Bryant and Mary Freeland all of CT, Paula White (Herbert) of MA. 2 sons: Frank Thayer (Beth) of CT and John Thayer (Lisa) of VT, her sisters Betty Benson (Gus) of NY and Edna Lawrence of CT a brother Robert Farkas (Lola) of VT, 24 grandchildren, 39 great grandchildren and 8 great-great grandchild. She was predeceased by an infant brother Frank, a son Chester Thayer 3rd, a daughter-in-law April Bourn Thayer and grandson Christopher Michael Thayer, son-in-law’s: George Freeland and Terry Bryant. Viewing Hour was Wednesday April 28th 11:30-12:30 at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam, CT. Graveside service followed at 1pm at Grove Cemetery, Eastford, CT. Memorial contributions can be made to Tatum’s Totes, 175 W Ridge Ter, Rutland, VT 07501. Share a memory at smithandwalkerfh.com

Gregory E. Hetu, 73

PUTNAM, CT – Gregory E. Hetu, 73, passed away suddenly at home on Friday February 12, 2021. Gregory was born in Putnam, CT on April 24, 1947, son of the late Arthur and Gladys (Benway) Hetu; he lived in the Pomfret and Putnam areas for all his life. Gregory was a long-time member of the Abington Congregational Church; he was also one of the dedicated members of the Interfaith Stitchers of the Westfield Congregation Church in Danielson. Gregory helped to make countless hats for newborn babies at the Day-Kimball birthing Center; he also helped make hats for local shelters to bring warmth to those less fortunate. Despite his physical ailments, Gregory was a very upbeat and loving person who valued his independence and was



readily available to help those in need. Gregory will be deeply missed by his three brothers: Arthur Benway of Abington, CT, Ronald Hetu of Missouri, and Richard Muldoon and his wife Karen of Cranston, RI; three sisters: Joyce Davis of Thompson, CT, Donna Olsen of Putnam, CT, and Patricia Wing of Danielson, CT; he also leaves his best friend and longtime caregiver Steve Coderre of Putnam, CT, as well as many nieces, nephews, relatives, and dear friends. A graveside service will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday May 8, 2021 at the Abington Cemetery. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may offer condolences, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Gregory.

Got Space? we do.

Contact Mikaela Today,
860-928-1818, EXT. 313

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Francois “Lem” Lemieux

A graveside service with full military honors for **Francois “Lem” Lemieux** will be held on **Saturday May 8, 2021** at **Riverside Cemetery** in **Sterling, CT.**
tillinghastfh.com

BLANCHETTE

continued from page A8

ing jacks. It was a good plan as the bull ignored us completely and focused his unmitigated hatred on Roberto. Finally, after what seemed like minutes, but was probably only seconds, the bull wandered off down the trail. Roberto got up, brushed off his dignity and we continued up the trail. Soon Roberto began cutting diagonally across the side of the mountain and we realized we were no longer on a trail. We reached a grove of trees, but they were the wrong trees. Roberto turned around and headed back the other way. Eventually he decided to go straight up the side of the nearly vertical face, and we had to hold onto the grass to keep from tipping over backward. Every now and then I saw him surreptitiously looking at his cell phone. After wandering around aim-

lessly for a while he finally found the grove of trees he was looking for. When he was out of earshot, I said to Janet, “did you see him looking at his phone? I think he was lost.” “Yup and just think, we could have gotten lost by ourselves for free,” she said “Yeah, but it wouldn’t have been nearly as much fun,” I replied. As we approached the end of the trail Roberto flopped down on a patch of grass. Must be yoga time I thought. Instead, he lit a cigarette and announced, “You guys are in way better shape than I am.” Reflecting on the hike later that night, I remembered the rest of the words to the Stone’s song. And it wasn’t about getting frustrated. This was hiking in South America after all. It was “Sometimes you get what you need.”

Dennis R. Blanchette is an environmental engineer and travel writer.

MOORE

continued from page A8

So, what is positive about all this? I didn’t give up and figured it out. We are never too old to learn and if we are optimistic and keep working on the problem, we can solve it. And what did I learn from all this? Well ... I don’t think the term “Smart TV” is fully accurate. I find both of my televisions to be less intelligent than Alexa (Amazon) or my iPhone. I guess my TVs could be classified as learning impaired, but that’s okay. They both now perform as needed when I have all the remotes at my disposal. The world is constantly changing around us, and we can choose to be lost within it or to keep up. I decided to keep up. What about you?

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @ GaryW Moore721 and at www.garyw-moore.com.

SMITH AND WALKER

Funeral Home and Cremation Service
148 Grove Street, Putnam, CT 860-928-2442
www.smithandwalkerfh.com

~ ~ ~

GAGNON AND COSTELLO

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33 Reynolds Street, Danielson, CT 06239 860-774-9403

Funeral Directors
Timothy Farner, Steven Farner, Andrew Farner
Serving ALL Faiths with Dignity

Baseball antique and auction news

There is some promising news for local antique shows. After all three Brimfield shows were cancelled last year due to the pandemic, Brimfield will be reopening, although it will be on a limited basis. Many of the fields have opted to remain closed for the May show. The website thebrimfieldshow.com lists Brimfield Auction Acres (formerly J & J) as the lone May show. It will open from May 12 through May 15. Expect to see more fields open for the July and September shows.

There has been a lot of recent antique news from outside of our area as well. A 1794 “No Stars Flowing Hair Dollar” far exceeded expectations when it sold at auction last month. ESPN reported that “while it closely resembles silver dollars that were later minted in Philadelphia, it gets its name because it is missing stars.” It sailed past the \$350,000 to \$500,000 estimate, reaching \$840,000. The reason that ESPN reported on the sale of a rare coin is because it was previously owned by Texas Rangers co-chairman Bob Simpson.

In other baseball related auction news, a Honus Wagner T206 tobacco baseball card will be offered with a \$1 million starting bid in an auction ending this month, according to a Bleacher Report article. David Sax of Smithsonian Magazine told the Bleacher Report that, “it’s believed that Wagner demanded the ATC pull his card from circulation because he didn’t want anyone else profiting from his likeness.” Other sources have reported that Wagner didn’t like tobacco and refused to allow his image on tobacco cards. NJ.com reported that a different Honus Wagner card sold for \$3.25 million at auction last year.

There is more baseball memorabilia news closer to home. I have loaned



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

many pieces from my personal collection of local baseball historical memorabilia to the Worcester Red Sox to be displayed in Polar Park. A large display piece of the 1880 Worcester Worcesters team will be the highlight of the exhibit. Lee Richmond is pictured who pitched the first perfect game in baseball, along with the rest of his team. I have also loaned the Worcester Red Sox a letter from the 1880 Worcester team requesting to be admitted to the National League. There are many other items with Hall of Famers Jesse Burkett, Gabby Hartnett, Connie Mack, and Sliding Billy Hamilton. Other great local players photos, programs from the Blackstone Valley League, and local industrial league teams will also be included. People who tour Polar Park will be able to see the exhibit in the DCU Club. I am always looking to acquire local baseball memorabilia from major league, minor league, and industrial league teams for my collection. I hope to see you in the stands at Polar Park this summer.

Our online auction of sports and non-sports cards all from one estate will soon be running. Our multi-estate online auction with Rock memorabilia from James Brown, Elvis Presley, Janice Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, and other famous performers will begin this month and end on June 9. We are nearing the deadline for accepting quality consignments for this auction. The third session of model trains, die-cast cars, and other toys is currently running and ends on May 12. See our Web site for details on upcoming events: <https://centralmassauctions.com>.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula
Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass



Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com

DKH *continued from page A1*

IHSP, on a monthly basis, Daily Bread is supplying Caitlyn’s Cupboard with fruit/vegetable and dairy coupons to be redeemed at local grocery stores. One hundred packets of these coupons were given to eligible Cancer Center patients in the month of March alone. Funding in support of this partnership comes from the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut.

In return, Caitlyn’s Cupboard is offering nutrition education programming to Daily Bread clients to further increase their capacity to adopt healthy food choices and habits. IHSP has also ordered food for the Cupboard from the Connecticut Food Bank and Feeding America® to help reduce the pantry’s operating costs.

“I’m thrilled to have the opportunity to partner with IHSP,” said Caitlyn Sward, registered dietitian nutritionist, Day Kimball Healthcare. “The work that Daily Bread does in the community is tremendous, and this partnership will only further the good they do. Daily Bread’s partnership will help our cancer patients access fresh produce, as well as provide purchasing opportunities for Caitlyn’s Cupboard through the Connecticut Food Bank. This benefit alone will stretch every monetary donation the pantry receives.”

“IHSP is so happy to partner with DKH Hematology/Oncology and Caitlyn’s Cupboard,” said Ann Kathi Peterson, program coordinator and Karen Osbrey, president, IHSP. “We all share the same goal of providing healthy food choices to those in need. These patients have enough going on in their lives, they shouldn’t have to

worry about food insecurity too.” “Food insecurity is a pressing issue in our community and impacts the health and well-being of many, especially those with chronic health conditions,” said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. “At DKH, our goal is ensuring that patients don’t have to choose between paying for their medications and treatment and buying groceries for themselves and their family. Our partnership with IHSP helps eliminate some of those difficult choices for our patients and demonstrates the critical role that local food pantries and healthcare providers can play in improving outcomes for the most vulnerable in our community.”

Caitlyn’s Cupboard accepts shelf-stable food and financial contributions including grocery store gift card donations. For more information about Caitlyn’s Cupboard or to make a food

or monetary donation to the pantry, contact Day Kimball Healthcare’s Development Office at (860) 928-7141.

To learn more about Interfaith Human Services of Putnam Food Pantry, Daily Bread, visit www.ihsp-putnam.org.

About Day Kimball Healthcare
Day Kimball Healthcare is a non-profit community healthcare system composed of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare at Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Healthcare’s comprehensive network employs more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its Web site is www.daykimball.org.

LEGALS

**TOWN OF THOMPSON
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
LEGAL NOTICE**
The Thompson Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 10, 2021 beginning at 7:00PM via Zoom.
ZBA Application #21-02-Bates Auto Parts, Inc., Owner of Record Linehouse Road LLC, c/o Maher and Cotnoir, PO Box 187, Putnam, CT, property located at 64 Linehouse Rd, Map 38, Block 71 and 71B, Lot 13 and 5, Zone RRAD. This is an application pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 14-67 for approval to use the premises for the operation or maintenance of a motor vehicle recycler’s yard or motor vehicle recycler’s business.
File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Zoning Board of Appeals. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting
Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Beno, Chairman
April 30, 2021
May 7, 2021

**Orient Heights Fire District
Notice of Annual Meeting**
The inhabitants of the Orient Heights Fire District who are legally entitled to vote therein are hereby earned to meet at the Killingly Public Library Community Room located on Westcott Road on Monday May 10, 2021 at 7:00 PM daylight savings time. This being the annual meeting to be held for the following purposes.
PLEASE NOTE FACE COVERINGS WILL BE REQUIRED AS WELL AS SOCIAL DISTANCING DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS
1: To hear and act upon the budget of expense for the year July 1, 2021 to June 30,2022 as prepared by the Board of Directors and to make the necessary appropriations.
2: To Levy a tax sufficient to meet the requirements of the District for running expenses.
3: To authorize the Board of Directors to enter into a contract with the Borough of Danielson to provide fire protection for this district.
4: To elect a President, Vice-President, Board of Directors and Clerk/Treasurer.

5: To authorize the Board of Directors to fill any vacancies that may occur during this year.
6: To transact any other business proper to come before such annual meeting.
7: To waive any property tax in and amount less than \$5.00.
8: To authorize the Board of Directors to exempt motor vehicles from being taxed by the district as provided in Connecticut General Statutes, Section 7-328b.
Cheryl Lukowski, Clerk/Treasurer
May 7, 2021

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, May 20, 2021, at 7:45 p.m., for application #648-04-32 – 115 Center Cemetery Road – Theresa Goulet & Tim and Danielle Heersink – new activity on a scenic road to be held in accordance with the Governor’s Executive Order 7B, conducted as a web-based virtual meeting via Zoom. Login information will be contained on the agenda found at the Woodstockct.gov website.
Chairman Jeffrey Gordon, M.D.
May 7, 2021
May 14, 2021

TOWN OF KILLINGLY
The Audit Report of the Town of Killingly for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 as prepared by Mahoney Sabol & Company, LLP, Certified Public Accountants, is on file in Killingly Town Clerk’s Office, 172 Main Street, Killingly, CT, and is available for public inspection in accordance with Section 7-394 of the Connecticut General Statutes.
Elizabeth M. Wilson
Killingly Town Clerk
May 7, 2021

**TOWN OF THOMPSON
PLANNING AND ZONING
COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE**
The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission held a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 26, 2021 via ZOOM at 7:00 PM and rendered the follow-

ing decision.
PZC Application #21-04 Applicant Keith & Carolyn Champagne, Property Owner Charles Adam, 230 Pleasant St., Seekonk, MA, for property located at 1321 Thompson Avenue, Map 114, Block 24, Lot 54, Zone RRAD, request for a 2-lot subdivision. Approved
Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman
May 7, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Carl J Anderson (21-00134)The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 22, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.
Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Lindsay Anderson, 203 Arvidson Rd., Woodstock, CT 06281
May 7, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Gail S. McElroy (21-00138) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 23, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.
Alysia Casiano, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Kevin J. McElroy,
c/o JAMIE DAVIS ALEMAN (attorney for Kevin J McElroy), LAW OFFICE OF JAMIE DAVIS ALEMAN, LLC, 559 HARTFORD PIKE, SUITE 208, DAYVILLE, CT 06241, (860)591-8880.
May 7, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF William J. Kingsbury (21-00125) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 29, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fidu-

ciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.
Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Ronald Kingsbury, 48 Kingsbury Rd, Thompson, CT 06277
Attorney: ERNEST J COTNOIR, MAHER AND COTNOIR 163 PROVIDENCE STREET PUTNAM, CT 06260
May 7, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF Richard P. Waido (21-00153) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 29, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.
Alysia Casiano, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
June M. Suleski,
c/o MARK R BROUILLARD (attorney for June M. Suleski), ST ONGE & BROUILLARD, 50 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281, (860)928-0481.
May 7, 2021

**Witches Wood Tax District,
Woodstock, CT
Notice of Annual Meeting**
The Annual Meeting of the Witches Woods Tax District will be held on Friday, May 21, 2021, at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be held on ZOOM (see below) and in person at Congregation Church of Eastford, 8 Church Street, Eastford, CT 06042.
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86391273054?pwd=dGNBLzluOWtWZGNUNkVzaTZRY1BMDz09>
Meeting ID: 863 9127 3054
Passcode: 108532
Phyllis Bonneau
Communication, WWTD
May 7, 2021

Woodstock Academy names co-valedictorians

WOODSTOCK —The Woodstock Academy recently announced their 2020-2021 co-valedictorians, Zhiyan (Stella) Du and Ethan Bove.

Du, from Foshan Guangdong, China, has been a student at The Woodstock Academy for four years. She has worked hard to make the educational and cultural transition to both The Woodstock Academy and the United States. Du has achieved high honors for all four years at The Academy and has been a member of a variety of clubs such as the Medical club, Science Olympiad, and Class Council. Additionally, Du is a member of over 6 Honor Societies at WA. Prior to the pandemic, Du earned a biology internship at Harvard Secondary School working with a Harvard Medical School Doctor. She will continue her educational journey next year at University of California – Los Angeles.

Bove, from Woodstock, has been a student at The Woodstock Academy for four years. Along with achieving high honors in the classroom, Bove has also been a key member of the Nationally-ranked Woodstock Academy Model United Nations team. He is also a member of the boy's lacrosse team amongst a number of clubs at The Academy. Additionally, Bove is an active member of the community where he strives to help better the lives of those around him and embodies the school's mission of growing into a global citizen. He plans to attend Northeastern University in Boston next school year.

The Woodstock Academy is an independent, day and boarding, co-educational, college preparatory high school



Photo Courtesy

Pictured, left to right: Head of School Christopher Sandford, Ethan Bove, Zhiyan (Stella) Du, Associate Head of School Holly Singleton '86.

for grades 9–12 and postgraduates located in Woodstock, CT. The mission of The Woodstock Academy is to prepare all students by providing diverse oppor-

tunities through a rigorous curriculum and a variety of programs in order to cultivate the necessary skills to become lifelong learners and global citizens.

Town of Thompson seeks resident input on affordable housing plan

THOMPSON — The Town of Thompson is the recipient of a grant from the Connecticut Department of Housing to develop an Affordable Housing Plan. The grants were awarded to help bring all of Connecticut's communities into better alignment with the requirements of C.G.S. 8-30j, which requires that every municipality write such a Plan every five years.

The goal of the local project team is to create a Plan that reflects Thompson's unique needs while simultaneously mapping a path to develop the kinds of housing options that will serve residents at all stages of life, and across income levels.

One of the most important elements in creat-

ing a workable Plan is to meet the priorities of residents. A survey drafted by project consultants Tyche Planning & Policy Group is available on-line and in hard-copy at several locations throughout Thompson. All residents are encouraged to access SurveyMonkey site or fill out a paper copy to provide their input, ahead of development of the Plan. All responses are completely confidential. The survey will be open throughout the month of May.

Find the survey online here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ThompsonHousing> Or fill out your paper copy and drop it at any of the following locations: Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Dr. Thompson Public

Library, 934 Riverside Dr. North Grosvenordale Post Office, 831 Riverside Dr. Quinebaug Post Office, 734 Quinebaug Rd. Thompson Hill Post Office, 366 Thompson Hill Rd. Tyche Planning & Policy Group joins Thompson's Director of Planning & Development and a project team made up of members of the Housing Authority Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission, Economic Development Commission, Mill Sites Redevelopment Advisory Committee and the Board of Selectmen. Presentation of a final draft to the public is anticipated in autumn of 2021.

Eastern's 21st CREATE conference available online

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University's 21st annual CREATE conference is being presented online for the second year in a row. CREATE stands for "Celebrating Research and Creative Activity at Eastern" and is the University's premier showcase of undergraduate research and creative activity. The public is invited to visit the 2021 CREATE Web site at <https://www.easternct.edu/create/create-2021/create-2021.html> to view the variety of student projects.

"Despite these extraordinary times, Eastern students have again risen to the occasion to present their work in a virtual format," says Eastern President Elsa Nunez in the welcome video on the CREATE homepage. "This website showcases an outstanding set of posters, oral presentation, visual art, performances and more The work being showcased here is not only of high quality, but it is rare among undergraduate circles."

This year's CREATE features more than 75 students from all academic majors who present projects spanning

the arts, sciences and humanities. Oral and poster presentations explore such topics as COVID-19's effect on relationships; social media's impact on the body; the brain's microbiome; queer art throughout history; freedom of speech and the use of political cartoons versus memes; virtual reality modeling as a tool to teach children with autism; and more.

Performing arts presentations include videos produced by students studying music, theatre, new media and film studies presenting music and dance performances, documentaries, day-in-the-life and other short video projects. Art presentations include brand and package designs, public service announcements and other digital artworks.

The CREATE 2021 website also profiles two students - Olivia Anderson '21 and Hannah Beazoglou '21 - who received this year's President's Award for outstanding research projects, as well as two faculty members - History Professor Thomas Balcerski and Marketing/Management Professor Fatma Pakdil - who received this year's faculty Mentor Awards.

ATTENTION
WOODSTOCK
MAY 11th • 12-8pm

VOTE

TOWN
HALL OR ABSENTEE
REFERENDUM

WEAVER
continued from page A1

of each other. Community Kitchens has been doing that for years so fundraising for them was an easy choice."

The Community Kitchen at the First Congregational Church of Woodstock is now distributing 150-160 free meals along with bags of groceries, produce, and baked goods every Monday from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Cars line up along Cemetery Road all the way back to the Woodstock Academy as they wait to be served.

Weaver's Woodstock marathon fundraiser was joyful and creative and fun. She was assisted by her sister Jessica Weaver Boose, who helped with the social media, creating movie-trailer type videos to promote the fundraiser. Nikki Auger, winemaker and owner at Taylor Brooke Winery—which sponsored the event—assisted with planning the marathon route and was one of several friends who helped to pace Seana during the run.

The date of the marathon fundraiser—Saturday, April 24—was Seana's birthday. Her goal was to run the 26.2 miles in 4:24 since it was April 24. She made it in 4:20!

"Seana Weaver is an amazing young woman," said Pat Monahan, president of Community Kitchens of NECT. "She set her goals higher this year, and she exceeded them. Our Community Kitchen volunteers couldn't do what we do without people like Seana."

Donations may be made directly to Community Kitchens of Northeastern Connecticut, Inc. by going to their website at communitykitchensnect.org and clicking on "DONATE," or by mailing a check to them at P.O. Box 502, Danielson, CT 06239.

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EDUCATION BRIEFS

Eastern student Kristen Moseley honored at Communication Department’s Celebration of Excellence

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University’s Communication Department held its annual Celebration of Excellence on April 28. This event inducted 30 new students into the Lambda Pi Eta national honor society for communication and recognized additional students for excellence in radio, journalism, television, video production, research and leadership.

Among those honored was senior Kristen Moseley of Plainfield, who majors in Communication. Moseley is a 2021 inductee.

Established at Eastern in 2005, Lambda Pi Eta is the official communication honor society with 400 active chapters worldwide. This honor soci-

ety recognizes students who stimulate interest in the field of communication, promote and encourage professional development, explore opportunities for graduate study and more. To be eligible, students must have completed at least 12 semester hours of communication study, have a GPA of at least 3.25, be in the upper 35 percent of their graduating class and display commitment to the field of communication.

Eastern student James Hemeon of Pomfret Center inducted into mathematics honor society

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University’s Mathematical Sciences Department inducted 19 students into the Connecticut Beta Chapter of the Kappa Mu Epsilon National Mathematics

Honor Society (KME) on April 23.

Among the students inducted was senior James Hemeon of Pomfret Center, who majors in Computer Science and Mathematics.

Established in 1931, KME recognizes students who have excelled in the field of mathematics. Eastern’ Beta chapter was created in 1981. To be eligible, students must major in mathematics, have a minimum overall GPA of 3.0, a major GPA of 3.3 and complete at least two 300-level mathematics courses at Eastern.

A degree in mathematics will prepare students for a range of career options in business, industry, government and education. The Mathematics major at Eastern offers new concentrations in actuarial science, data science, mathematical structures and application and mathematics for teachers.

Eastern Student Brandon Gaudreau of Rogers inducted

into political science honor society

WILLIMANTIC — The Political Science Department at Eastern Connecticut State University inducted 14 students into Pi Sigma Alpha, the international honor society for political science, on April 28.

Among the inductees was Brandon Gaudreau of Rogers, a senior majoring in Political Science.

To be inducted, students must have at least a junior standing with an overall 3.4 GPA, as well as a 3.2 GPA in the political science major.

Founded in 1920, Pi Sigma Alpha has been active for more than 100 years to support members with a shared interest in politics and government. Both students and faculty are involved in the society, which recognizes academic excellence, offers scholarships for graduate students and provides opportunities for student leadership.



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Car strikes utility pole in Putnam

PUTNAM — On April 29 at 8:13 p.m., the Putnam Emergency Dispatch Center received a 911 call reporting that a car had struck a utility pole in the area of Kennedy Drive and Bundy Street. Officers with the Putnam Police Department, Putnam Fire Department, and Putnam EMS responded to the scene.

Through on scene investigation it was determined that a 2007 Honda Accord being operated by a 28-year-old resident of Putnam was traveling southbound on Kennedy Drive, and for unknown reasons lost control of the vehicle and struck the utility pole at the corner of Kennedy Drive and Bundy St. The driver, who was the sole occupant of the vehicle, was transported to Day Kimball Hospital for minor injuries by Putnam EMS.

Kennedy Drive in the area of the accident was closed for a period of time until Eversource could secure the broken pole. The timeline for repair of the pole is unknown at this time.

This case remains open pending further investigation. Anyone with information or who may have witnessed this accident are asked to contact Sgt. Louis Cinque of the Putnam Police Department at 860-928-6565. Tips can also be called in to the tip line at 860-963-0000 or at our Web site, www.putnam-police.com.

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