THOMPSON VILLAGER

Friday, January 25, 2019 *Serving Thompson since 2005* **Complimentary to homes by request**

Building a better life

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

PUTNAM — Being a woman isn't the only thing that sets Jessica Gervais apart in the construction world. Her work speaks for itself. The owner of construction company, Girls N' Tools, LLC., Gervais wakes up every day with a smile on her face.

"I like a lot of things about this business," she said. "It's always changing. Even if I do four to five bathroom projects in a row, they're all completely different locations, products, problems to solve, clients. I love the problem-solving aspect. It's a very creative and challenging process, finding things that work and please the client."

Gervais started Girls N' Tools 10 years ago, and while they specialize in bathrooms, they are an interior and exterior remodeling company that does "just about everything." In fact, just this past weekend she finished up a large project that included turning the downstairs of a colonial into a master bedroom, bathroom, closet and hallway. This included installing new wiring, new plumbing, new tiles, painting and even reinstalling the antique floorboards.

That's a lot.

But it's exciting for Gervais.

When she was younger, Gervais bought a rental property that needed a lot of work. She started to realize that she had a knack for construction, that she even loved it.

"I was better than the guys I was hiring," she said with a laugh. "So I started doing the work myself."

Then she started doing construction for friends and family. Word got around from there, and she hasn't looked back. She loves owning her own business, and loves how busy it's been getting. They're even hiring more people.

But it wasn't always like this.

In the first few years, Gervais noticed that many people were shocked when she showed up, despite the name of the company. They'd think she was just the receptionist, and wouldn't expect to see her once construction began.

"Sometimes they'd even

Please Read ***GERVAIS,*** *page* ***A12***

Courtesy photos

"I worked an office job before and looked really nice,"Jessica Gervais said with a laugh. "Now that I'm working construction, I don't!"

FASTBREAK

Charlie Lentz photo

PUTNAM — Putnam High's Abby St. Martin goes up for a layup in a 36-24 win over St. Bernard on Tuesday, Jan. 22. Putnam travels to Killingly High to face the Redgals at 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25. High school sports coverage begins on page B-1 of today's Villager sports section.

It's in the cards

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

WOODSTOCK — A lot of people don't know what tarot card reading is. And some people are even scared of it. There's a lot of misconceptions about what tarot reading is, and Woodstock resident Isabella Maluf wants to show people what tarot cards can do for them.

"I believe we are one with the cosmos and its energy," she said. "We are one with the universe. You can find answers to a lot of things from tarot cards."

With a special interest in astrology, Maluf has always wanted to know about, well, everything. She wanted to understand things that sometimes cannot be explained.

"The tarot is the best tool for that kind of thing," she said.

Maluf explained her relationship with tarot card reading.

What are tarot card readings for?

It depends how you see the tarot card. I do not believe in future telling. That's not my approach to tarot. I take a more analytical approach. The most important thing is spiritual growth. It's self-knowledge. You get to know yourself better and make more informed decisions. Tarot cards are a bridge between the unconscious to the conscious mind, and it helps a lot of people. Psychiatrists have even

Olivia Richman photos

Isabella Maluf has learned a lot about herself through tarot card reading, and now offers tarot card readings to others as well.

started using tarot cards.

How are tarot cards read?

The images on the card, the symbols, the colors, the archetypes... The things you see on the card give you insight for things you already have, but it may be blocked by stress or life. It's about your energy, not mine. I'm just the person reading the message. Believe it or not, it works that way.

Do you feel like a lot of people don't understand what tarot cards are?

There's a prejudice against tarot because people confuse religion and spirituality. Those are two different

Please Read ***TAROT,*** *page* ***A7***

NOW honors long-time volunteers

Courtesy photo

From left, Northeast Opportunities for Wellness Board Emeritus member Eric Quinn and NOW Board member Julie Quinn with NOW Immediate Past-President Allan Rawson on Jan. 9. The Quinns, from Putnam, were recognized for their volunteerism.

DAYVILLE — Two long-time volunteers for Northeast Opportunities for Wellness were honored at the local non-profit's Board of Directors meeting on Jan. 9. Eric and Julie Quinn, two volunteer Board members, were recognized for their years of service to the youth wellness organization. Each received plaques in honor of their long dedication and various contributions to NOW, which has entered its ninth year serving the 10-town area of Northeast Connecticut.

Presented by NOW founder and Immediate Past-President Allan Rawson, the awards marked milestones for each recipient. Eric Quinn, from Putnam, is a long-time member of the NOW Board of Directors. He transitioned to an Emeritus member of the Board in 2018. Joining the organization only a few years after its inception, Eric's involvement in NOW evolved from his interest in promoting youth football in the region, with the creation of Quiet Corner Football. Eric's involvement in NOW resulted in a very successful annual Football and Cheerleading clinic, which attracts between 100 and150 children each year and includes coaches and players from local high schools working with local youth to introduce the sport.

The clinic also includes a highly popular cheerleading component, led by New England Patriots Cheerleading Coach Tracy Sormanti. Eric has also been a leading voice on NOW's Programming Committee, helping to shape the organization's youth sports scholarship program, and fitness and nutrition outreach. Since 2018, Eric has also served on the NOW Building Committee, a group which has been exploring the potential for a multi-sport complex building project in the area. Eric was recognized with a plaque honoring his service and his status as a Board Emeritus member.

Soon after Eric joined the NOW board, Eric's wife Julie was asked to join the organization to serve as treasurer. As an all-volunteer organization at the time, Julie's skills were crucial to NOW's growth and quickly she became one of NOW's most valued volunteers. Specifically, Julie was instrumental in the development of NOW's scholarship program, ensuring clear guidelines and a structured

Please Read ***QUINN,*** *page* ***A15***

Putnam woman charged with operating drug factory

PUTNAM — On Jan. 16 at approximately 6:45 p.m., members of the Troop-D Quality of Life Task Force, the Putnam Police Department, and officers assigned to the Danielson Probation Office executed a narcotics related search and seizure warrant on the person of Melissa Carroll, 30, and of her residence located at 175 School Street in Putnam.

The search warrants were obtained after a lengthy investigation revealed that Melissa Carroll was selling fentanyl, heroin, cocaine and crack cocaine from her residence. Task Force Personnel executed the search warrant on Carroll's person while she was operating her 2009 Mazda sedan in the Town of Killingly. While executing the search warrant on her person, approximately 95 bags (21.4g) of fentanyl/heroin; 13.5 grams of crack cocaine packaged for sale and $1,151.00 was seized.

When members of the Troop-D Quality of Life Task Force, the Putnam Police Department and Officers assigned to the Danielson Probation Office executed the search warrant at Carroll's residence, a systematic search was conducted. During the search, investigators located and seized 530 folds (162 g) of heroin/ fentanyl prepackaged for sale; 45 grams of crack cocaine prepackaged for sale, scales, packaging equipment, and $4,167. As a result of the investigation, Melissa Carroll was taken into custody for Possession of Narcotics 21a-279a, Possession of Narcotics WITS 21a-278b, Operating a Drug Factory 21a-277c and Failure to Keep Narcotics in the Original Container 21a-257. She was held on a $75,000 dollar cash/surety bond and appeared at Danielson Superior Court on Jan. 17.

Courtesy photo

Melissa Carroll

Courtesy photo

Evidence seized in search warrant.

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

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Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse agenda

DANIELSON — On Jan. 29 the day will be involving the Easterseals Capital Region and Eastern Connecticut Rally Point Team at the Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse.

Team members visiting the coffeehouse will be BG (ret.), Ron Welch U.S. Army (VP Military Services and Economic Development); Lori Marriott, Capt. U.S. Army veteran (Sr. Director, Military Services & Philanthropy); Josh Salazar, Army veteran (Sr. Director, Military Services); Beth Pritchard. EVP, Chief Operating Officer. Pritchard hails from seven generations of American Warriors, including her husband - Capt. U.S. Army veteran.

They will be providing an update on the free Rally Point services, including the $2.5 million expansion. Additionally, they will be available to meet and provide services to veterans that need a Rally Point Hand Up, after the meeting.

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AT CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Jan. 14, 2019: Fox Sparrow, American Kestrel, Snow Goose, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Red-tailed Hawk, Great-horned Owl, American Tree Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Brown-headed Cowbird, Flicker, Robin, Mockingbird. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home

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Pomfret holds rally in support of women

BY CAROL DAVIDGE
FOR THE VILLAGER

POMFRET — They waved, they sang, they rang bells, and they observed one minute of silence at 1 p.m, in Pomfret on Jan. 19. Forty people — men, women, girls and one puppy — came to the Quiet Corner Shouts! rally in support of the nationwide Women's Marches.

At 1 p.m. QCS Co-Founder Cris Cadiz called for one minute of silence in support of the 1@1 Minute for Women's Equality. (At one o'clock U.S. Eastern Standard Time, people around the world stopped for 60 seconds to acknowledge the importance of women's lives, struggles and contributions.) Following that minute, the Pomfret crowd rang bells. Then they spread out along Routes 169 and 44 opposite the Vanilla Bean Cafe and waved to cars that passed by.

Ralliers came from Thompson, Putnam, Vernon, Tolland, Woodstock, Eastford and other towns in northeastern Connecticut. Drivers in pickup trucks, small sedans and vans honked and waved as they passed the busy corner.

At 2 p.m. folksinger Sally Rogers led the crowd in "This Little Light of Mine," and the crowd headed home.

"This is my third's Women's March. We started this group, Quiet Corner Shouts!, after the first march when I traveled to Washington D.C. Today, we are still here, protesting! I'm proud of all the people who came out in Pomfret to voice their ongoing concerns about the current administration and the trauma it is inflicting on our nation in so many ways. We will not be quiet until our concerns abate. And we want our neighbors to take an active role in helping make our world a better place for everyone. Maybe next year, we won't have to march anymore," Rogers said in exclamation.

Quiet Corner Shouts! is a grass-roots organization providing opportunities for individuals to engage in their local communities and unify efforts for social causes through civic engagement. The group's next meeting will be Feb. 7 at 5:30pm at the Vanilla Bean Cafe. For information, go to facebook Quiet Corner Shouts Info.

Carol Davidge photos

Among the 40 ralliers at the Women's March in Pomfret on Jan. 19 were, from left, Sally Rogers and Tima Smith of Pomfret, invited guest, Laura Moorehead of Putnam, Valentine Iamartino of Thompson, First Selectman Maureen Nicholson of Pomfret, and Susan Mundy of Tolland

Bill Dauphin of Vernon and David Hussong of Pomfret stand at the junction of Routes 169 and 44 during the rally.

A view of the corner of Routes 169 and 44 during the rally in Pomfret.

Monica McKenna of Thompson held two posters.

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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Freeze benefits Pomfret Community School

POMFRET —Pomfret Community School has scheduled its fifth annual February Freeze 5K Run/Walk event for 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 2. The race course is on the campus of Pomfret School at 398 Pomfret Street (Route 169) in Pomfret Center. The event benefits PCS's eighth grade class trip to Washington, D.C. next spring.

The trip to Washington is a tradition that started over 40 years ago – the first trip was in 1976 – in honor of our country's bicentennial celebration. Since then countless PCS students have visited the Capitol, museums and National Monuments that make Washington D.C. so unique. For many, it serves as a rite of passage as it is often the first time they have travelled without their parents. Michael Galligan, Assistant Principal at Pomfret Community School, has been organizing the trip for the past 18 years.

"The Washington D.C. trip is such an important learning experience for all Pomfret children in eighth grade. I have been going on the trip for 18 years and each year it is still memorable. It takes a village to make sure we offer this opportunity to the children in Pomfret," Galligan said.

The idea for the February Freeze was conceived five years ago by Pomfret residents, Monique Wolanin and Kathleen Johnson. Both runners themselves, they saw the potential of getting the community together for a fun, healthy event which at the same time could raise money for the eighth graders. New for this year, there will be a shorter Fun Run at 12:40 p.m. for children from preschool through fourth grade.

Pomfret School has been a sponsor of the race since its inaugural event in addition to donating the use of its campus and Parsons Lodge. The 5K (3.1-mile) course consists of three loops and winds through the campus and along the quad with a downhill finish to the lodge. Finishers are rewarded for their effort with hot chocolate and refreshments by the warm fire in Parsons Lodge.

For more information for signing up or sponsoring visit the website: www.pomfretcommunityschool.org/februaryfreeze. Cost is $30 per runner. All proceeds go to the student trip.

Charlie Lentz photo

Runners begin last year's February Freeze.

The Arc Eastern Connecticut receives donation

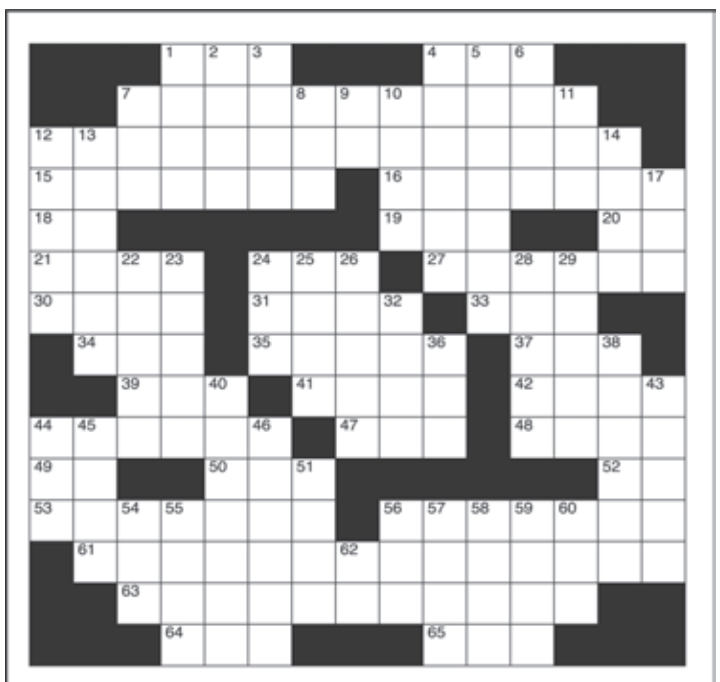
DANIELSON — For the second consecutive year The Arc Eastern Connecticut received donation from Amarante's Winter Wonderland. Donation boxes were set up nightly at the entryway for organizations which benefited from the event and included Bags of Hope and Make-A-Wish CT.

This $2,500 donation will be used towards The Arc's Sensory Garden project at their Cook Hill Office location in Danielson.

Recently, The Boards of Directors of The Arc Quinebaug Valley and The Arc New London County, including family members on both Boards, announced they will be establishing The Arc Eastern Connecticut, merging operations to augment and strengthen service provision for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).

Courtesy photo

Kathleen Stauffer, CEO of The Arc Eastern Connecticut, Noella Amarante, Alexis and Daniel Amarante of Amarante's Winter Wonderland and Susan Desrosiers, Executive Consultant of The Arc Eastern Connecticut.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Political action committee
4. One point north of due east
7. Marital
12. Religious building
15. Intrinsic nature of something
16. Safe to drink
18. Letter of credit
19. Single Lens Reflex
20. Keeps you cool in summer
21. Monetary unit
24. The Eye Network
27. Moving with a bounding stride
30. Figures
31. Of the pia mater
33. Male offspring
34. Indicates near
35. Calvary sword
37. South American plant
39. Doctor of Education
41. Something to take
42. Remove the edges from
44. Inattentive
47. Pick up
48. Latch for a window
49. Region of the U.S.
50. Windy City ballplayer
52. The NFL's big game (abbr.)
53. Be permanently present in
56. Novice
61. Pirate novel
63. In a law-abiding way
64. Where one sleeps
65. Criticize

CLUES DOWN

1. Bullfighting maneuver
2. Egyptian Sun god
3. Predatory semiaquatic reptile
4. Register formally
5. Eating houses
6. Japanese port
7. Genus of rodents
8. Nigerian city
9. Milliwatt
10. Mistake!
11. Women's __ movement
12. Greeting
13. Songbirds
14. An arrangement scheme
17. Heartbeat test
22. Push back
23. Intended for the audience only
24. Cycles per second
25. Impartiality
26. Polio vaccine developer
28. Bowel movements
29. South American Indian
32. Queen of Sparta
36. Confederate soldier
38. Emerged
40. Death
43. __ and flowed
44. Folk singer DiFranco
45. Email folder
46. Throbbed rhythmically
51. English rockers
54. Disaster relief operation
55. American model and TV personality Katherine
56. Potable
57. Tough outer layer
58. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
59. Troubles
60. Negative
62. Camper

PUZZLE SOLUTION

Valley opens grant round

DANIELSON — The Last Green Valley, Inc. recently announced round two of a new small-grant program, the Heritage Transaction Fund, for non-profits, towns and cities in The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor.

The grants will be awarded to projects that will permanently protect significant historic properties or structures, agriculture or forested lands, important wildlife habitat or open spaces suitable for passive, nature-based recreation. The grant funds can be used for closing costs such as filing fees, title work, attorney fees, surveys, appraisals and other costs associated with projects that are "nearing the home stretch" but need additional funds to complete the deal.

"We're trying to fill in the gaps for organizations with this grant program," said Lois Bruinooge, executive director of TLGV. "We think it will pair well with other funding opportunities and be helpful in addressing the costs federal, state and private grants won't fund. This grant can provide that extra funding to get a project to the finish line."

TLGV is a non-profit, member-supported organization charged with oversight of The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor. The National Heritage Corridor covers 35 towns and cities from Preston, Connecticut in the south to East Brookfield, Mass., in the north.

Grants will range from $2,000 to $3,000 and must be spent within a year of approval. The deadline for grant applications is 4 p.m. March 29. All applications must be received or postmarked by the deadline. Applications should be sent to LyAnn Graff at lyann@tlgv.org or mailed to P.O. Box 29, Danielson Ct., 06239-0029.

Funds will be dispersed on a reimbursement basis and must be matched at least 1:1 by cash or in-kind contributions. All grant applications will be reviewed by a committee and then approved by TLGV's Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors. To learn more about the grant program details visit thelastgreenvalley.org. To discuss a proposal prior to submission, please contact Lois Bruinooge at (860) 774-3300 or lois@tlgv.org

The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor is the last stretch of dark night sky in the coastal sprawl between Boston and Washington, D.C.

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NOW Road Race & Walk returns for 2019

DAYVILLE — Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, Inc. (NOW) recently announced that the eighth annual NOW Road Race & Walk will return on Sunday, September 15, 2019. Held annually since 2012, the Road Race features a scenic run along the quiet streets of Alexander's Lake in Dayville and raises funds for NOW. Putnam Bank will return to the event as the Race Day sponsor for 2019, continuing a long tradition of supporting the Road Race.

Subtitled, "Lap the Lake" the race is a traditional timed 5K (3.1 miles), starting at The Lake Tavern on Upper Maple Street in Dayville, with one "lap" around Alexander's Lake and finishing back at The Lake Tavern. The event is inclusive of runners and walkers, with individuals of all levels of fitness encouraged to participate. The top overall male and female runners will each receive a $100 cash prize, with awards to the top three finishers in each 5-year age bracket. The event also features a Kids Fun Run, with children of all ages invited to participate.

For several years, the Road Race has been sponsored by Putnam Bank, which shows additional support with dozens of employees walking and running in the event. In 2018, over 40 Putnam Bank employees turned out to participate, a record number for the event sponsor.

"We are so appreciative to Putnam Bank for coming back year after year to sponsor our Road Race. With so many of their employees coming out to participate, including Bank President and CEO Tom Borner, Putnam Bank truly has embraced the mission of wellness that the NOW Road Race promotes," said NOW Executive Director Sarah Wolfburg.

For 2019, runners will receive a long-sleeved, moisture wicking tech T-shirt as an add-on to registration. The shirt will feature the event logo on the front, with sponsor logos on the back. A variety of sponsorships, including T-shirt sponsorships, are currently available as an opportunity for local businesses to show support for NOW. All proceeds of the Road Race will support NOW youth programs and scholarships.

NOW is a non-profit human services organization focused on youth wellness. NOW provides children with the opportunity to participate in area wellness activities and athletics programs, offering scholarships to the youth of the community with up to 95 percent of the cost being subsidized by NOW. The mission of the organization is to provide all children, regardless of financial resources, equal opportunities to achieve & maintain youth wellness, beginning at an early age.

Registration is currently available online, with early-bird reduced rates offered for the winter and early spring months of 2019. To learn more about NOW, or to register, visit: www.nowinmotion.org or call (888) 940.4669.

Charlie Lentz photo

Runners begin the 2017 NOW Road Race & Walk.

Courtesy photo

Putnam Bank President and CEO Tom Borner and SVP and Branch Administrator Lynn Bourque presented NOW Executive Director Sarah C. Wolfburg with a $1,500 check in support of the eighth annual NOW Road Race & Walk — Lap the Lake, set for Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019.

Courtesy photo

Putnam Bank team members pose for a group photo at the 2018 NOW Road Race, this past September in Dayville. Putnam Bank had over 40 employees participate in the event.

SAVE THE DATE
For these upcoming 2019 Events

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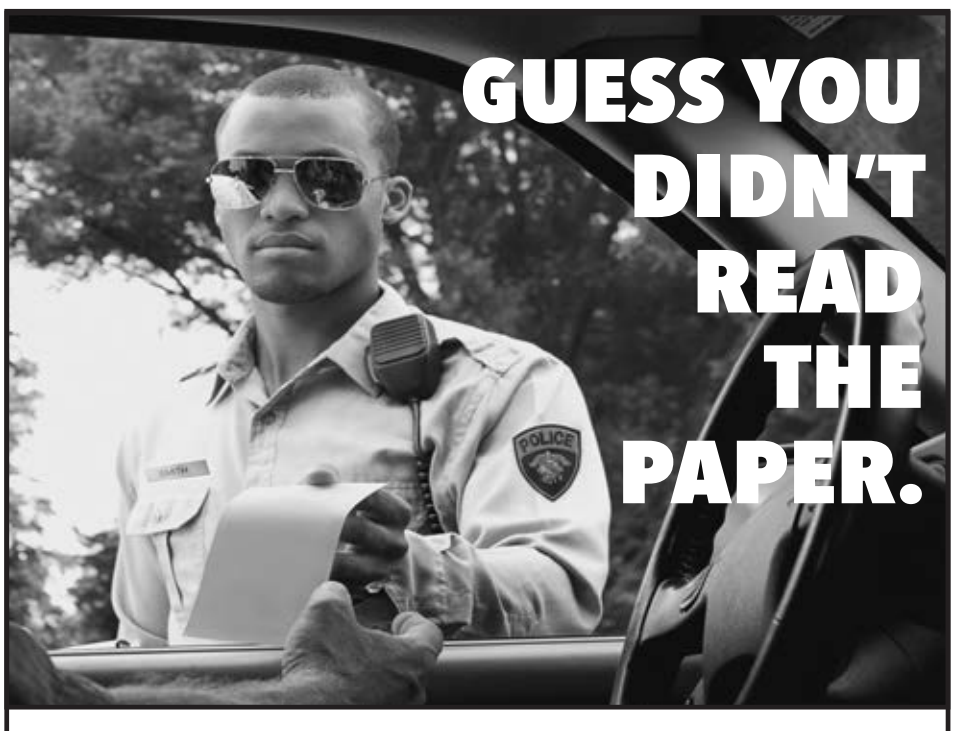

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LEARNING

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

Bickelhaupt is in Tourtellotte spotlight

THOMPSON — Each month Tourtellotte Memorial High School's Student Spotlight program recognizes a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement, character, leadership, attitude, and/or contributions to the school and community. January's Student Spotlight honoree is junior Jonathan Bickelhaupt. Bickelhaupt was nominated by fellow junior Jesse Trottier. In Bickelhaupt's nomination, Jesse states, "Bickelhaupt genuinely believes in giving back to the community and wants the best for his peers and those around him."

Bickelhaupt actively participates in his school community. Bickelhaupt is a member of the National Honor Society through which he has participated in regular volunteer work and events such as Homelessness Awareness Night. Bickelhaupt also serves as a peer tutor in the TMHS writing center called The Peer Point. As a Peer Point Tutor, he was selected to be part of a team of presenters at this year's high school writing center conference at UConn. When asked what motivates him.

"I'm motivated by my future. I have plans for what I want to do in the future and I know that that future starts now. I know I need to do well now in order to reach my dreams and be successful in life, so I give everything my all," Bickelhaupt said.

Throughout his four years at TMHS, Bickelhaupt has also earned a number of awards and recognitions including the Superintendent's Award and the Freshman English Award.

"I'm interested in going to college to become an author. I'm also interested in video production and game design, so I have plenty to choose from," Bickelhaupt said.

Bickelhaupt's message to his school community is "Knowledge is power and you should use that knowledge to prepare for your future so you can be successful."

Courtesy photo

Jonathan Bickelhaupt

QVCC full scholarship set for Putnam High grad

DANIELSON — The Quinebaug Valley Community College Foundation, Putnam High School and Steven and Marjolaine Townsend recently announced The Steven and Marjolaine'87,'88 Townsend Putnam High Scholar's Scholarships, beginning with the 2019 academic year.

A full-tuition scholarship of $5,000 will be awarded to one student and is renewable for a second year as long as the recipient continue to meet eligibility requirements. There will also be three $1,500 scholarships awarded to Putnam residents. The cost of tuition and student fees for two-semesters, full-time (more than 12 credits) at QVCC is $4,400. The full scholarship allows for money for textbooks, as well as any additional fee required by some degree programs.

"QVCC, The Foundation and QVCC students thank Steve and Marge Townsend, once again, for their continued generosity. The Townsends care deeply about residents of Northeast Connecticut and strive to provide debt-free educational opportunities at QVCC," said QVCC Director of Institutional Advancement, Monique Wolanin.

Steven Townsend is a nationally recognized business leader who co-founded United Natural Foods (UNFI) in Danielson. A long-time member of the QVCC Foundation, in 2012 Steven Townsend was honored with emeritus status for his "extraordinary contribution to the Foundation's mission." Marge Townsend is an active community volunteer whose hard work and dedication has helped many. Steve and Marge are proud Putnam High School graduates and the first members of their respective families to attend college, starting at QVCC. They hope that in providing these scholarships, students will pursue their dreams and one day be in a position to help others do the same.

Putnam residents are encouraged to apply for the scholarships beginning Feb.1, through the annual QVCC Foundation scholarship process. Application and additional requirements are online www.qvcc.edu/scholarships . Contact Wolanin for additional information at (860) 932-4174.

School Menus

MARY FISHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

January 28, Monday – Cheeseburger OR vanilla yogurt, muffin, cheese. Oven baked potatoes, baked beans, cucumber wheels.
January 29, Tuesday – WG mozzarella sticks, dipping sauce OR Sun Butter jelly sandwich with cheese stick. Mashed potatoes, fresh carrots, juice.
January 30, Wednesday – Pasta & meat sauce, garlic breadstick OR vanilla yogurt, cereal, cheese stick. Spinach salad, cucumber wheels.
January 31, Thursday –.Cheese pizza OR Ham/cheese sandwich. Spinach salad, fresh carrots, juice.
February 1, Friday – Crispy Breaded Chicken OR Vanilla Yogurt-Muffin-Cheese Stick. WG Mac & Cheese Seasoned Broccoli

POMFRET COMMUNITY SCHOOL

January 28, Monday – Cheesy pizza slice, three bean salad, baby carrots, assorted fruits, milk. Breakfast: breakfast pastry
January 29, Tuesday – Beef and cheese nachos National corn chip day! Zesty tomato salsa, sweet steamed corn, refried beans, assorted fruits, milk.
January 30, Wednesday – Toasted cheese sandwich, vegetarian baked beans, sweet potato fries, assorted fruits, milk. Breakfast: breakfast pastry.
January 31, Thursday – Brunch for lunch, French toast sticks, egg patty, tater tots & grape, assorted fruits, milk. Breakfast: mini waffles.
February 1, Friday – Chicken tenders, seasoned brown rice, steamed broccoli, golden carrots, assorted fruits, milk. Breakfast: egg and cheese

PUTNAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL & PUTNAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

January 28, Monday – Crispy chicken sandwich, potato smiles, veggies with dip.
January 29, Tuesday – WG mozzarella sticks with zesty marinara, dipping sauce, seasoned corn.
January 30, Wednesday – Chicken tenders, WG macaroni and cheese, seasoned broccoli.
January 31, Thursday – Toasted cheese sandwich and zesty tomato soup, cheddar goldfish crackers, baby carrots with hummus.
February 1, Friday – WG stuffed crust pizza, fresh Caesar salad with seasoned croutons and parmesan cheese

THOMPSON MIDDLE SCHOOL & TOURTELLOTTE (GRADES 5-12)

January 28, Monday – Rodeo BBQ cheeseburger (BBQ sauce, onion rings, bacon) OR Sloppy Joes potato bowl. Oven baked potatoes, baked beans.
January 29, Tuesday – Mozzarella sticks, dipping sauce OR Manager's Choice. Mashed potatoes, seasoned carrots.
January 30, Wednesday – Fiesta mac, garlic breadstick OR BBQ pizza. Mixed vegetables.
January 31, Thursday – Big Daddy pizza OR Hot buffalo turkey grinder with cheese. Hearty vegetable soup, seasoned green beans.
February 1, Friday – Crispy Breaded Chicken OR Managers Choice. WG Mac & Cheese Broccoli w/ Cheese Sauce

WOODSTOCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

January 28, Monday – Chicken patty/bun, oven baked fries, fruit, milk.
January 29, Tuesday – Penne pasta, meatballs, zucchini/roll, fruit, milk.
January 30, Wednesday – Mozzarella stix, marinara sauce, tossed salad, fruit, milk.
January 31, Thursday – Taco boat, refried beans, fruit, milk.
February 1, Friday – Pizza, carrot stix, fruit, milk

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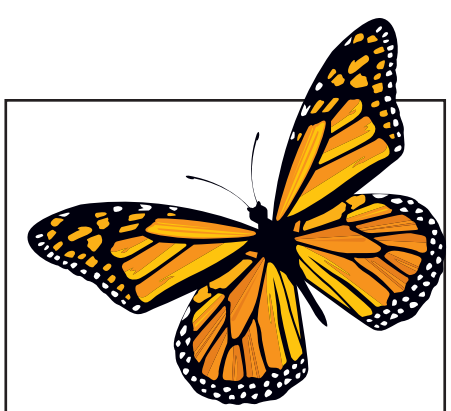

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COLLEGE NEWS

The following students have earned academic honors for the fall 2018 semester at their respective colleges or universities.

CASTLETON, Vt. — Kaetlyn Collins of Danielson , was recently named to the Castleton University President›s List.

MANCHESTER, N.H. —Hayley Schnatter of Danielson, Savanah Kyllonen of Brooklyn, and Mary Neal of Putnam were named to Southern New Hampshire University's Dean's List.

EASTON, Mass. — Jacob LaFiandra, from Woodstock has been named to the Dean's List at Stonehill College.

Local residents make Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology BOSTON —Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology: Camile Renee Harvanek of North Grosvenordale; Nathan Deluca of Woodstock.

BANGOR, Maine —Thompson resident Breanna Rice, has been named to Husson University's Honors List.

FITCHBURG, Mass. — Fitchburg State University Dean's List - Fall 2018: Danielson's Eliana A. West; Thompson's Abigale J. Binette.

BOSTON — Xinyi Jin, Woodstock Valley, has been named to the Emerson College Dean's List.

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Contact us at 860-779-5390 for information or for ticket purchases. Facebook; The Little Theatre on Broad Street

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Fire & Ice Festival set for Feb. 9

PUTNAM — In less than a month, downtown Putnam will once again host the largest single ice block competition in the United States — the ninth Annual Fire & Ice Festival. From noon to 9 p.m. on Feb. 9 the public is invited to visit this community event, boasting more than five dozen ice carvings, ice photo opportunities, 30-foot inflatable igloo, Anna and Elsa meet and greet, a stilt-walking fire princess, glowing fire torches, fire-dancing performances, rose sales, a cake decorating contest, and more.

Ice carvings will decorate the streets of downtown Putnam with both pre-carved ice blocks and live demonstrations. Throughout the day, patrons can watch as 300-pound ice blocks are transformed into a variety of shapes and figures – all sponsored by local businesses. Watch as professional, amateur and group carvers create their masterpieces, from noon to 5 p.m., with an awards ceremony at 6 p.m. at the Congregational Church of Putnam on Main Street.

Other not-to-be-missed carvings include: event-inspired photo opportunities, sand art community sculpture, a unicorn, a golf bag, and more.

Despite the icy February weather, there will be plenty of ways to keep warm with dinner and drink specials available at local restaurants and new this year a 30-foot inflatable ice igloo. Anna and Elsa will be available from noon to 4 p.m. inside the igloo for a meet and greet, as well as a stilt-walking fire princess roaming around the outside of the igloo.

The festival also invites newcomers to discover the many shops and galleries of Putnam. The Congregational Church of Putnam will be a hot spot of activity throughout the event, featuring roaring fire pits and free hot chocolate. The church will also feature a special cake contest, aptly titled, "Love is in the Air." Professional and novice bakers from around the area will be showing off their culinary masterpieces. All entrants will be judged based on originality, best flavor and artistic creation. Submissions are accepted, the application available on www.discoverputnam.com.

As the sun goes down at the Fire & Ice Festival, fire torches will fill downtown Putnam with an ambient glow. The ice sculpture masterpieces will be lit with color effects. Adding to the spectacle of the festival, visitors will be wowed by fire-dancing performances from Sasha the Fire Gypsy, and will take place at 6:15, 7:15 and 8:15 p.m. with Sasha combining choreography, theatrics, acrobatics, and dance with speed, difficulty, and excitement.

It is sure to be another impressive day of ice carvings, fire performances, and so much more. Parking is free and available in the municipal lots around town and Kennedy Drive. To learn more about Fire & Ice, or for more on how to participate, either as a carver, a volunteer, a cake contest participant, or as a visitor to this unique festival, visit www.discoverputnam.com.

Lajoie installed as president of realtors

POMFRET — Realtors from all over eastern Connecticut met on Jan. 10 to install newly elected officers and directors for 2019 in Pomfret. Realtors and friends were present as 2019 President Ryan Lajoie took the oath of office. He is a realtor with Johnston & Associates Real Estate, LLC in Thompson, and resides in the same town. ECAR member, Marilyn Lusher, RE/MAX Home Town, 2017 President of the Eastern Connecticut Ass ociation of Realtors was the installing officer and Master of Ceremonies.

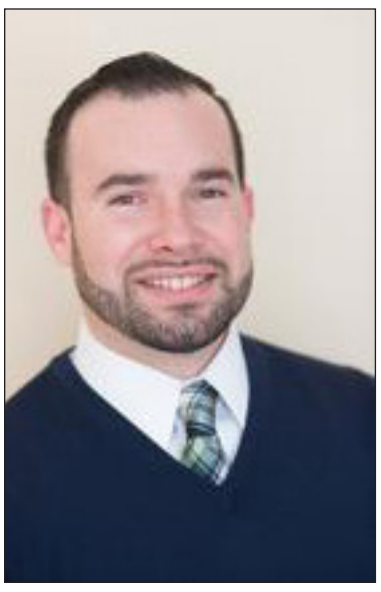
"I wouldn't change this year for the world. Not having taken a vacation in eight years, one of the greatest things I learned from this year is that I can actually step back from my business a little bit and enjoy other things as well," said 2018 President Mat Lisee in his outgoing remarks.

In his incoming remarks, 2019 President Ryan Lajoie quoted Mark Twain.

"The trick to getting ahead is getting started," Lajoie said.

Expounding on his theme for the year, If Not Now, When, Lajoie encouraged attendees to ask themselves, why procrastinate?

"There is never really a good time to start," Lajoie said. "Step ping out of our comfort zone and taking a leap of faith applies to all aspects of our lives including personal, business and our association lives. Now is the time to step up and take action."



Courtesy photo

Ryan Lajoie

QUIET CORNER GARDEN CLUB

Courtesy photo

The Quiet Corner Garden club had a "Winter Wonderland" floral centerpiece workshop on Wednesday, Jan. 16 at the Northeast Placement Services' Symphony Flower Farm. The club meets there once a month for a garden club garden-inspired craft workshop. They have made dried flower wreaths, Thanksgiving table centerpieces, volunteered to make balsam wreaths, and have now created beautiful winter arrangements to boost our spirits during the cold days of winter.

TAROT

continued from page **A1**

things. They think it's something bad, that's not allowed.

You said that tarot cards give people insight. What kind of insight?

What happens a lot when I read for people is that they realize how they may be self-sabotaging themselves. The reading helps them get more grounded, to make better decisions. Usually they find out something they couldn't see at first because of stress. It can be like a form of medication, a self-growth tool. You can clarify things. If you ask me the lottery numbers, that won't happen. I can't tell you if you'll get married, or if you'll have kids. It's more of a tool for spiritual growth. That's the most important thing.

How long did it take you to learn how to read tarot cards?

It didn't take long for me to learn to read tarot cards, but it's learning for life. You'll always see something you didn't see before. You can't know everything. One card can mean something different for a different person, all depending on their situation and their energy.

What have you learned about tarot card reading that surprised you? Did they teach you anything about yourself?

It doesn't matter if you like to hear it or not – the cards will say exactly what it is. I've learned a lot about patience and faith, things that are hard for me sometimes.

When did you start getting interested in tarot card reading?

I started four years ago. It was the history behind it. People can't prove where it came from, but some say ancient Egypt. Some say 1600s in Europe. I like to know more about those things. For me, it's an art. And I love the arts. That's another reason I was attracted to it.

What else should people know before they get a reading?

The images on the cards have different meanings, but they mean something completely different for each person. It's all about the person's energy, said Isabella Mulaf.

You're entitled to ask questions about the reading. Tarot reading is private and confidential. People will ask, 'Will I die?' 'What did I get on my exam?' That's not going to happen. Tarot card readers cannot give medical advice, financial advice... I cannot make decisions for you.

If you want to learn more or get a reading, reach out at BellaMysticalTarot@gmail.com.

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

EASTFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT HAS THE FOLLOWING POSITION OPEN FOR SY2019-20:

Special Education Teacher

Current CT Special Education Certification 165 required. Experience with upper elementary/middle school students preferred. Training and experience with inclusion, differentiation, behavior management strategies and co-teaching practices preferred. Applicant must possess the ability to work in a collaborative setting.

Salary and benefits are as outlined in the contract between the Eastford Board of Education and the Eastford Teachers Association. This position will begin the week of August 22, 2019. The certified staff application can be found on the school website, www.eastfordct.org under the 'Employment' tab.

Please submit completed certified teacher application, letter of intent, resume, current CT special education certification, transcripts and 3 letters of reference to:

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
P.O. Box 158 Eastford, CT 06242

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Small gestures, big results

Never doubt how much a simple, kind word or gesture means.

Imagine a typical Monday morning scenario - some traffic, a few minor annoyances, misplaced files and other "Monday things". Maybe it's also raining. A very "Monday" kind of day, for sure. You stop for coffee.

As you wait in line, you mentally began running down the list of bad things already piling up in your morning. When it is time to pay, the woman at the counter makes eye contact, smiles and tells you she hopes you'll have a good day. She really seems to mean it.

You leave the shop with your coffee, a smile on your face and a feeling of appreciation for that cashier and her expression of kindness. The day already starts to look up. Small gestures really do matter.

Our world loves to celebrate and reward BIG gestures – remember the Walmart stories from December, when athletes and other celebrities secretly paid off the balances for customers with items in layaway? The big gesture gets recognition and celebration and lots of media coverage. Sometimes the big gesture deserves that kind of attention – people helping one another in a big way IS big news, and very GOOD news. We need more of that.

But what about the small things? Don't they deserve recognition somehow? The cashier's smile and wish for your day would only take a fraction of a minute, but it could turn around another person's mood and possibly his or her day.

Holding the door – anyone for anybody – is another small gesture that reminds us that more than anything else, we need to treat each other well. How about letting the person with fewer items get in line in front of you at the grocery store? That small act of kindness just might allow that person to arrive somewhere on time, instead of a few minutes late. Leaving a few extra quarters in the parking meter might help someone who's caught short of change. And a smile and nod to anyone you pass just might lift someone's mood, as that hypothetical cashier's would do.

Do these gestures get media coverage? No. And most aren't done for that purpose anyway. Do we KNOW that our small gestures make an impact? Not always. But knowing the outcome isn't the point.

A small, kind gesture bridges the space between people. It costs nothing. It never hurts. It almost always helps. It just might cause the recipient to offer their own small gesture to another person. And that's a BIG result.

From the Publisher

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

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

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Student asks for info on Quiet Corner

Ladies and gentlemen: I am a student at Cascade Christian Schools, and I am writing a report on the state of Connecticut. We are responsible for gathering as much information as we can about our state. If any of your readers would like to help me by sending any pictures, postcards, used license plates, facts, products, etc. from your state, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you very much. Yours truly.

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Trump has created a threat to U.S.A.

Ronald Reagan, the patron saint of the Republican Party, put forth the trickle down theory of taxation. Give the rich and large corporations gobs of money through reduced taxes and all that money will trickle down thru the economy and benefit the middle and low classes. Well, thru Reagan, two Bush's and Trump it has been proven to be a massive con job.

For instance, instead of increased salaries to the average worker and making capital investments, Goldman Sachs said corporations spent a record of $1 trillion in 2018 on stock buybacks and large dividends to their stock investors, most coming from their tax windfalls,. Last May, S&P Dow Jones Indices estimated that corporations spent $564 billion on buybacks and $428 billion on dividends in one year through that month.

Oh yes, as a side note, our deficit, aka federal borrowing, will be about $1 trillion. Such a coincidence.

But wait, maybe there is something to the trickle down theory. However, I think it should be considered in negative terms, a negative trickle down fact. Instead of throwing dollars to the rich, let's see it as taking dollars out of the economy by furloughing 800,000 federal workers. We're seeing that their lost income is trickling down into the economy widely and quickly. It bypasses the rich and corporations and has it initial and immediate negative effect of the middle and low classes.

And it's so much more than the income loss and cruelty to the 800,000. It's all those people and businesses that are losing the income and profits they would be getting from those 800,000. And businesses who support those. That income is irrevocably lost. They won't be reimbursed when the shutdown is over. A restaurant won't sell 2 dinners to a couple to make up for the one they didn't eat during the shutdown.

So this negative trickle down is working, very quickly and widely. For example, take the small island of Sitka, Alaska. Of the 1,600 inhabitants, 300 are Coast Guard people. Without the Coast Guard's having any money to spend, where are the rest going to go to make up the difference? The economy is so small that there are no other sources of income. What is that entire island going to do? They are screwed. And what about the mainland businesses supplying the island? They're screwed too. And so on.

Trump has created a huge threat to America with his shutdown. Much more so than illegal immigrants pose. But, of course, the real hitch here is that no one has sufficient data to prove things one way or the other. However, I'm convinced he is undermining the very structure of the government and America.

He is holding hostage good people and necessary government operations having no connection to the immigration issue because of Trump's perverse view of reality. Oh wait, I forgot the irony that Homeland Security, who is responsible for protecting us from illegal immigrants among others, is also shutdown. Trump really knows how to take multiple complexities into his vaunted art of negotiating. Bah.

And let's not let Mitch McConnell off the hook either. He can put pressure on Trump to resolve the situation. But he is too much a coward and too much a duplicitous toad to work for America.

And finally, Trump has now made a proposal which includes saving DACA. A similar proposal put forth by the Democrats and agreed to by the GOP's when they had both houses. Trump vetoed it. When will Trump's supporters come to realize their hero wears shoddy clothes of never keeping promises, of never being concerned about anyone but himself, of never having any ethical, religious or moral philosophy of life or of never being accused of straight dealing.

STEPHEN ETZEL
PUTNAM

Danielson reader offers thoughts on governing

Responding to the letter to the editor on Jan. 18, concerning comments on Trump.

The writer does make many good points that many of the people in this country can agree with, myself included.

Our government is awash in cash and people who are supposed to be our representatives in the government have not done anything close to a good job, for the middle class, specifically. They cater to special interest groups with money and influence.

We have a worsening discourse in this country to listening to each other, regardless of the aisle you sit on.

Like most American we worry about health care, our kids' education worsening road and infrastructure. We are getting stale with all this infighting in Washington

Trump has made everything political and thereby making working together harder.

He likes the discord he promotes, as it keeps most people from foucusing on the problems and solutions.

I ask the writer, that if Trump were to release his taxes and prove that he and his businesses have no entanglements with Russia, by the way they are still a bitter enemy of what we all stand for, I think it would lessen the rhetoric in and around Washington.

Lastly, the GOP in this last few years has sold its soul. They used to be small government, fiscal restraint and sound foreign policy, not anymore. Both parties have sold their souls to the devil of money and power. This at the expense of the middle class.

Remember, you reap what you sow.

DAVID CASSETTARI
DANIELSON

Chartier has deep roots in New England

KILLINGLY AT 300

MARGARET WEAVER

Before Christmas Normand Chartier visited the museum at the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center. In the course of our conversation, I asked about whether the family had any genealogical material that could be copied for the files. A quick check of the family files had revealed only write-ups on Normand in connection with his artistic achievements. He knew some of the early history of the family in what is now the United States and related how the family name came to be changed from Carter to Chartier. I found it quite interesting and think you will too. The following is from materials he later brought on loan to the Center, Chartier Family Roots compiled by (Marie Coutu Chartier and Joy Bellavance Chartier).

At the beginning of the 17th century the family of Samuel Carter resided in Deerfield in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. This remote settlement was a target of the French and Native Americans. Although there was a stockade around the dwellings, it was not adequate in preventing what became known as the Deerfield Massacre. "About 2 a.m. February 29, 1704 the 'army' (of 200 Frenchmen and 142 Caughnawagas and Abenakis, under the command of Sieur Hertel de Rouville) crossed the Deerfield River. There was three feet of snow, but the crust on top was strong enough to support the weight. Snow had drifted high enough at the northwest corner of the stockade to make an effective ramp. In a matter of minutes, the whole mob had gained entry. Blood-curdling whoops resounded as the reign of murder, arson, and pillage began…

Many died and "one hundred and eleven captives were taken to begin the 300 mile trek to Canada." Among the dead and captives were members of Samuel Carter's family. "Carter was away at the time of the raid. On his return the next day he found the body of his child Thomas lying on the doorstone. His wife and the other children were gone. Mara aged 3 was killed; baby Hannah, seven months was killed on the second day of the march and her mother Hannah (Weller-second wife) was killed on the fifth day when they were on the ice of the Connecticut River. Four Carter children reached Canada. They were Samuel, 12, Mercy, 10, John 8, and Ebenezer 5."

In 1707 Samuel moved from Deerfield to Norwalk, Connecticut. His son "Ebenezer was redeemed for twenty-four pounds (borrowed). Samuel, Jr. (22) was drowned while crossing the St. Lawrence River. Mercy married an Indian and lived at Caughnawaga. In 1714 John (ancestor of the Killingly Chartiers) elected to remain in Canada (near Montreal) at Pointe aux Trembles. He had been naturalized in 1710, and in 1718 as Jean Chartier received a land grant at Riviere-des-Prairies. On October 27, 1718 Jean (John) Chartier contracted marriage with Marie Courtemanche, daughter of Antoine, and two days later they were married at Riviere-des-Prairies. Jean Chartier died August 4, 1772; his wife in 1760. Both are buried at St. Antoine-sur-Richelieu."

I'm sure many of you have ancestors who were immigrants and eventually chose to become citizens of the United States. Have you ever thought about the tests that were required? Leon Renaud brought a small book to the Killingly Historical Center entitled Thirty and One Reading Tests For Voters and Citizenship by Alfred E. Rejall. "New York State Regents Literacy Test." It belonged to Sophia M. Ankiewiz and was dated December 1, 1938. "This book contains thirty-one examinations so that you can find out how well you can read and

Turn To **WEAVER** *page* **A15**

Pay attention, be astonished

Several years ago Pomfret School welcomed poet Mary Oliver to the community as part of the Schwartz Lecture series. The program, offered once a year, includes an invitation to the public to attend a talk by the visiting luminary. We missed seeing her in person and I've regretted it ever since. She died last Thursday. She was 83.

NANCY WEISS

I love the poetry of Mary Oliver. Mary Oliver's poetry is often dismissed by critics as too simplistic and repetitious. It is easy to read, easy to understand on several levels and perhaps entirely too popular to be taken seriously by heavy duty intellectuals. Fortunately for us, she didn't seem to care what critics had to say about her work. She kept on writing and publishing throughout her life and gave us memorable images of the natural world and animals, especially dogs and birds, to fill our minds. She also was the best-selling poet in the country.

Here's a line where she asks her dog, Percy, how to live: "Love, love, love says Percy. And run as fast as you can/along the shining beach, or the rubble, or the dust./ Then, go to sleep./Give up your body heat, your beating heart./Then, trust."

We can relate to the poems because they are often about walking in the woods, strolling through a field or observing life on the sea shore. Oliver died in Florida, but spent much of her life in Truro and Provincetown. Her frame of reference is much like ours' with her sense of the seasons, the effects of weather, nature, our emotions and the way we take solace in simple things. She reminds us to look down at the ground to see the complexity in the jaws of a grasshopper and to look up to see the infinity of the night sky.

There is also a strong sense of loneliness that feels familiar. There is something quite delicious in being alone and untethered as well as the conversation of another person, longing to be connected. She wrote about the push and pull of that feeling.

Here's a line from one of the most famous of her poems, Wild Geese: "Whoever you are, no matter how lonely/ the world offers itself to your imagination/ calls to you like the wild geese, harsh and exciting-/over and over announcing your place in the family of things."

In her poems we have the essence of spirituality. She finds value, divinity and grace in every living thing, including plants and trees. She embraces the daily miracles we see around us, especially in nature, and puts into words, simple words, images that are memorable as well as enlightening.

She sums up what to do with one's life in the poem, Sometimes: "Instructions for living a life: Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it."

After missing her reading at Pomfret School, I talked with the owner of the B&B where Mary Oliver stayed. I learned that Oliver was a chain smoker, who had to step outside often for a cigarette. At breakfast she entered the dining room and saw the owner's Labrador and rolled under the table to play with the dog. Not the image one has of a famous poet!

Death features in her poems. Mary Oliver gives us a mission in When Death Comes: "When it's over, I don't want to wonder/if I have made of my life something particular, and real. /I don't want to find myself sighing and frightened, /or full of argument. I don't want to end up simply having visited the world."

On a cold winter morning it is rewarding to bask in simple, poetic images that put our emotions into words.

Financial Focus

JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT ADVISER

3 Steps to reaching financial goals

We all have dreams and aspirations. For some, it is to travel the world, payoff a loved one's college tuition debt, or buying a forever home. If you want to reach your financial goals (big or small), it›s important to have good financial literacy.

Here are three quick and easy tips you can follow to give you the knowledge, skills and tools to manage your money and plan for the future.

Know where you stand: Before you can do anything, you need to know where you stand today. Not just the numbers in your bank accounts, but your holistic financial picture. This means knowing three key numbers: your income or how much money you're making, your credit score and your debt-to-income ratio, also called DTI.

While the credit score is one of the most commonly known indicators of your financial health, it often doesn›t paint your full financial picture. That›s where your debt-to-income ratio comes in. This number shows whether you›re living within your means, essentially whether or not you›re spending more than you earn.

Ideally, you want to keep your DTI at 36 percent or less. To figure out where you stand, divide your monthly debt obligations by your gross monthly income and multiply that number times 100 to get your number.

Why is it important to know all of these numbers? They can impact things like the loan rate you get when you go to by a car, a home or refinance student loan debt.

Know where your money is going: To reach your financial goals, you've got to know your spending habits. That means setting a goal, developing a budget and tracking where you›re spending and saving. There are many popular budgeting applications for Android or iOS. Mint, is one budgeting app that can help you track expenses and set spending limits.

It is important that you keep a few things in mind when developing a budget. First, track all your expenses and set reasonable spending guidelines. Keep a record of your monthly spending that includes everything from groceries, transportation (gas and/or ride-hailing services), clothing, dining out, medical bills, monthly payments, debt owed and more. You want to be sure that your record is an accurate picture of how you spend your money.

Eliminate unnecessary expenses and identify easy ways to cut down areas that may be too high, such as limiting how often you go out to eat.

Lastly, start saving now. Try to save at least 15 percent of your gross pay for short-term goals, long-term goals and unexpected expenses. By setting up an automated transfer or manually moving the money to your savings account as soon as you get your paycheck, rather than waiting to save what's left of your paycheck, you can prioritize building your savings.

And don't forget that it's OK to revise your budget as necessary. If your bills increase or you pay off a looming debt, your day-to-day budget will likely change as well. The same goes for any increases or decreases in your income. Your budget must be flexible for you to stick with it.

Know where you want to be: Before you start putting money away, ask yourself what exactly you're saving for. Do you want to buy a home but also need to lower your DTI? Are you and your partner considering starting a family and want to boost your savings?

Goal-based financial planning maximizes how effectively you manage your money and creates a guiding point to help you track your funds, especially with milestones that are a year or two away.

In order to start saving for the future, the general rule of thumb is to save about 20 percent of your income. But if you have a lot of debt to pay off, you can adjust the 20 percent rule to make it work for you. By regularly setting aside money for savings and paying your bills on time, you may also see your credit score increase and DTI decrease over time.

Plan well: Taking a step back and checking yourself in each of these categories will be helpful in completing your goals. Each of these steps is important to consider as it will help you develop what is unique to your goals. Although retirement is a common goal for everyone, each individual's road to retirement may look a little different.

Our qualified and innovative team will listen to the circumstances unique to you and help formulate a plan based on those on your needs and choose an investment strategy based on your risk tolerance to ensure that you can ultimately Live Well by achieving the goals you set out to accomplish.

Presented by James Zahansky, AWMA, researched through 2018 © U.S. News & World Report L.P. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. 697 Pomfret Street, Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860.928.2341. www.whzwealth.com. You should consult a legal or tax professional regarding your individual situation as all investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal, and there can be no assurance that any investment strategy will be successful.

Why is it called football when they use their hands?

Red's Word

BRENDA PONTBRIANDA

Woot! The Pats are in the Super Bowl again, and I'm quite certain that everyone except New Englanders are upset about it. The game last Sunday was heart-pounding in the last quarter to say the least. Sean, his son Joseph, and my brother John gathered around the wide screen to pay homage to Tom Brady, Gronk and a guy named Endelman (Always makes me think me of Entenmann's baked goods).

The guys were yelling at the refs, the players, and the commercials. My brother started nearly every sentence with "Well if they were smart they would blah, blah, blah". I sat on the sofa and read my newest Ann Rice novel I bought at Pourings and Passages but I kept getting pulled into game. Knowledge-wise I try to keep up, I really do, but something about football just doesn't stick…like all the rules, the calls, and the positions. That would be pretty much the whole game wouldn't it? I mean, I get the point of the whole thing, and it's exciting when it's a close game like Sunday was - but there's so many rules and calls involved! If it was baseball we were discussing, I could tell you anything you wanted to know. I love going to Red Sox games but you have to remortgage your house just to buy two seats behind a pillar at Fenway, so I try to win some every year. Unfortunately Sean thinks baseball is the most boring sport ever, and complains that is five innings too long.

One thing I have learned about football is exactly what questions to ask to elicit a sidelong, eye-roll, an audible sigh, a headshake, or a confused "What are you taking about?". If you know nothing about a sport, it's difficult to gauge what is a ridiculous question, and what is legitimate. "Why are they walking up and down the field with those upside down exclamation points?" I asked Sean. "What?" he asked knitting his eyebrows together. "Those big orange things with the chains." I said. "You mean yardage markers?" he exclaimed. I think back on some of the football questions I have asked, and now know the answers to, and I audibly laugh when I think of the reactions I have received. "So what inning are we in?" "Why is every position have the word "back" in it?" "What's the point in having referees when there are cameras?" "Well why does Tom Brady throw himself on the ground so he doesn't get tackled?" I asked during a game last year. "He doesn't throw himself on the ground" Sean replied. "He takes a knee, and it runs the clock down, and he won't get hit". "Then why doesn't everyone do that, then no one will get hit" I recommended. "Because it doesn't work that way." He answered with a sigh. I guess it's not any different than when I am applying makeup, and Sean is asking me insane questions. "So putting on your blush?" "It's contour" I replied. "Is that a new lotion?" "Ummm nope, it's foundation", and he almost always hits the brakes when I'm trying to apply lipstick in the car so I can hit myself in the teeth with it or write all over my face. That's fine, because he's the one that has to walk around with the woman from Ringling Brothers.

Stay Warm!

Brenda Pontbriand is an advertising account executive for the Villager Newspapers. She can be reached at (860) 928-1818, and brenda@villagernewspapers.com

For love

Beyond the Pews

JOHN HANSON

Lorenzo couldn't believe his eyes or his luck. He was vaguely aware of his uncle's chatter and of his friends who were busy capturing photos for their social media posts. But his attention was focused on the beauty that sat before him. His heart raced as he surveyed the 129-hp, 200-cu in straight-six engine, the leather seats and the classic curves of the Caspian blue, 1965 Mustang coupe whose keys had just been handed to him. What a feeling!

It had always been a dream of Lorenzo's to finish restoring the car his uncle started working on when he was only six. Now, because his uncle was moving across country, his dream was coming true. He was having difficulty standing still long enough to listen to the long list of instructions his uncle was now providing. All he could think about was what he could do with this classic. His mind jumped ahead to the day he would cruise through his neighborhood in this glimmering jewel, enjoying the rumble of the engine and the feel of the refurbished leather seats.

He zoned back in as he heard his uncle say, "Now, this 'stang will cost you as much as redoing a GT 350. It will probably take you 80-1000 hours to fix it up right. You'll have to take it apart, piece by piece, sand it down to the frame, and then repaint almost every piece. It will mean spending a lot of time in junk yards, finding missing parts, and it may cost you more than you could get out of it if you sold it. But here's the title, and you can always call me with any questions.

Lorenzo reached for the title and hugged his uncle. He knew his uncle was right; this would be the toughest thing he had ever done. But it would be well worth it. He already loved this car and he had only tinkered with it whenever his uncle had given him the chance. He didn't plan on fixing it up to sell it; he planned to fix it up and enjoy it for years to come. He was taking on this restoration project for love.

Lorenzo's mindset is not far afield from the mindset God has toward you and I. He redeems us and restore us because he values us. He chases us down and convinces us to give our lives to Him, because He sees potential in us that others do not see. He knows it may take years, but He stands ready to restore broken, rusted, dysfunctional lives — for love.

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

Mystery of the winter bat

Quiet Corner Memories

ASA SCRANTON

Here is a seasonally appropriate Quiet Corner memory I thought I would share. When I was young (back in the 1970s), like many kids back then, and to this day, I ran in "a pack". Probably not much different than the pack of kids from the movies Stand by Me and A Christmas Story, just to brush a bit of comparative color on what I am talking about. Our pack did not have a member named Eye-Ball or Grover Dill, however, we did have a Spike and Ace, some other interesting names, and there usually was a "Ralphie-type" member tagging along. (You see, there is strength, comradery, more fun to be had, etc. in numbers).

The mystery that I am about to unfold occurred one winter in the early 1970s and is as true a story as any story goes.

As I recall, we had a couple inches of snow on the ground and ice on the ponds. Apparently, the ice was not yet thick enough for hockey, as we would have been doing that instead of exploring a small marshy-wooded area nestled between a couple of pastures behind my house (Old Colony Road, Eastford). We were doing the usual stomping and breaking of ice, mucking around, throwing sticks, and just messing around. Trying to not go over our buckle boots in the mud and icy water (boots were never tall enough, and we were probably not trying too hard to keep our feet dry; that's what the bread bags within our boots were supposed to do).

Suddenly, there was a shout….."BAT!" The alarm call sent a lightning bolt shiver down my spine. As the adrenaline rush hit me, and my brain was processing the question… where and how? "UP IN THE TREE!" Ok, I saw it, but my feet were already churning and now it was time to retreat (i.e. run like hell). We all ran out of the swamp as fast as we could (side note, it is always best to be the fastest runner in the pack and that was me. I could always out run the others in the "every man for themselves" moments and knew that whatever we were running from; a slower pack member would get attacked and eaten first. Survival of the fittest/fastest as it were, and there was much comfort in that); but I digress.

We regrouped a few hundred feet away under the protection of some thick hemlock trees. All of us were accounted for (this time). But I was missing a boot which apparently got pulled off by the mud somewhere during my Johnny Lightning-exodus from the swamp. (Momentarily, I thought that curious as I did not recall ever touching the ground). Anyway, the loss of only a boot was a small price to pay for survival. We all were talking wildly about what we had encountered. "Ace, that was a bat and it was a really big one….up in the tree". A bat hanging in a tree in winter; how could that be? That was the mystery of it and such a strange occurrence made the mystery all that much more eerie and ominous. Our imaginations were on fire and the fear of this bat was incredible. Back then we fed our minds on Creature Double Feature (channel 56, 1:00 pm Saturdays, on our black and white TVs). Our worlds and imaginations were loaded up with Japanese Kaiju monster movies like Godzilla, (Gamera was my favorite), and other movie creatures like Wolf Man and Frankenstein, but I digress.

We looked back and there the bat hung; like dark-gray hairy blob up in the tree at the edge of the marshy area we been messing around in. Gosh, that thing was right over our heads! It could have swooped down and gotten any one of us. Well, as scared of this bat as we were, the temptation to sort out this mystery and destroy this creature was too much (much like the temptation to mess with a whiteface hornets' nest). The stakes were higher though, someone could get hurt or worse….oh, we had to mess with this and had to go back, but we needed a plan. The plan was of our usual variety. We rooted around in the barn and shed and gathered some of our common weaponry from the eclectic arsenal. Stuff that would be good for catching and/or defending against a bat (long sharp-pointed sticks, a couple fishing nets, baseball bat, a bow and arrows, Red Ryder BB gun, hockey sticks, bottle rockets and other fireworks, winter face masks and hoods, and thick gloves). Check, check, ok we are ready. A quick huddle (Musketeer-style). Someone muttered "ok we are going in and some of us might not be coming back". You could cut the air with a knife (yes, we had one; a machete).

We started the approach but did not get far. You see, the closer we got, the bigger that bat got and then you could see the hairiness of it, and part of a wing. Our courage ebbed away with every step closer and then a couple members of the pack stalled out, and one started stepping back. Yes, this was a bad one, one of the worst and scariest missions yet. Oh, but as scary as it was, the feeling was awesome, and now this mission had become "a quest". We could go no further, and we needed more courage. We needed Spike who was not with us. You see, Spike was the bravest of our pack, perhaps because he was the oldest and strongest, or perhaps he was just born that way. The rest of us had varying levels of "wimpiness". There was quick agreement that this was a mission/quest for Spike. We knew we

Turn To SCRANTON page A12

Plotting some respect

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — After walking by the North Grosvenordale Cemetery every day with his dog, and seeing all the debris and trash littered throughout, Thompson resident Dino Laparle knew he had to do something.

"My family goes to our family plot a few times a year, picking up flags, making sure it's clean. I felt the people in this cemetery deserved the same respect," he said. "If you're going to be here for 70 years, paying bills, paying taxes, this shouldn't be what you get. Your stone should be groomed, sitting up. I did it because it helped give my kids knowledge of how you should be respected after you're gone. It's just one of those things I wanted to do."

Included in the small cemetery across from the Thompson Public Library are six veterans from the Civil War, and one veteran from the War of 1812. But despite this immense history, the stones had fallen over, there were branches all over the ground, overgrown bushes, trash

Laparle saw it the week before Veteran's Day.

And then after.

Then the holidays, and New Years.

He'd had enough.

Courtesy photos

A Civil War veterans stone after the clean-up. "The people in this cemetery deserve respect," said Dino Laparle.

Before the team came to clean up, the North Grosvernodale Cemetery had many fallen over stones.

Olivia Richman photo

Dino Laparle and Alison Boutaugh stand in the cemetery they worked so hard to clean up. "It was about doing what was right by these folks – former members of the community," said Boutaugh.

Laparle went to the Knights of Columbus and told them about his desire to clean the cemetery. They immediately backed him up. For one full day, Laparle and other volunteers completed most of the cleaning.

This included Dicky Birch bringing some cleaning equipment, along with his wife Maureen, Laparle's son Harley, and William Denham. Library Director Alison Boutaugh also took part in the first round of cleaning.

"We all take great pride in our community. And this is a high visibility neighborhood site that should be taken care of. I felt it was important to do what was right," Boutaugh said.

She and the rest of the volunteers followed Laparle's lead.

"The vision was clear," said Boutaugh. "It was about doing what was right by these folks, former members of our community. It's important that they not be forgotten and be shown some respect."

The community was quick to rally behind Laparle and his effort. But they credit him with starting the project, for igniting the community's passion for cleaning up the cemetery.

"I wasn't surprised he wanted to do something like this," said Boutaugh. "He takes great pride in his community. And however we can support that, I'm open to it for sure."

The cleaning crew will be continuing their efforts, doing some more landscaping and cleaning in the near future.

"I think it's awesome," said Vice Chair of the Board of Finance – and former First Selectmen – Larry Groh. "What a great job the Knights of Columbus did, with Dino organizing everything... It really helps the town and makes the town look better."

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

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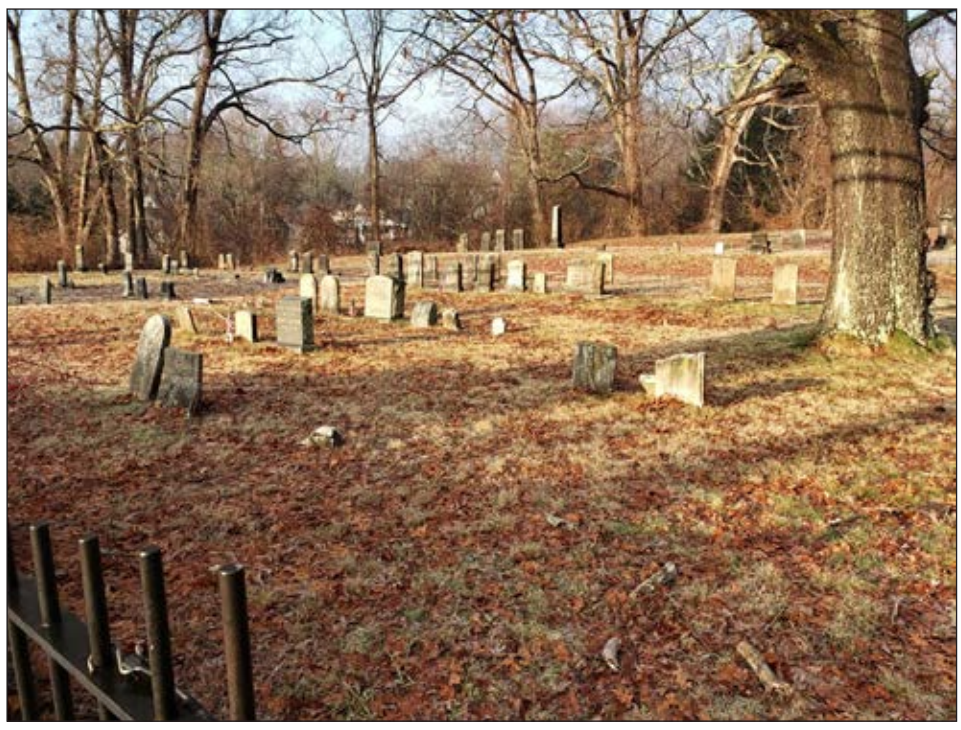

After the cleanup, the cemetery was restored to its peaceful, beautiful former glory

Some volunteers from the Knights of Columbus cleaning up debris and sticks.

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Program offered for parents

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

PUTNAM — The Putnam Family Resource Center is offering a program for parents in March. On March 6, 13, 20 and 27, join Director Patty Bryant for Managing Children's Behavior and Reducing Family Stress. This program is about helping parents manage their children's big emotions, and intervening before their behaviors escalate.

While the Family Resource Center offers a parenting series every year, this is the first time they're doing one on this specific topic.

"We surveyed parents and providers, and their number one concern are kids with behavioral issues who have tantrums. We want to support them and help them work through these situations. We want parents to understand that if you can react appropriately, you can cut off the whole blow-up and power struggle," said Bryant.

While people may think of impulsive children with ADHD, or defiant children who don't know how to process negative emotions, Bryant said that this course deals with "pretty much every kid in the world." Because all children, she said, are not equipped to deal with big emotions yet. They don't know how to calm down and problem solve. They're not at that point. So they need their parents help sometimes.

One technique that Bryant will discuss in the course is giving children choices. For example, if a child fights every morning about eating breakfast, put out two options for them to choose from.

"That sometimes puts the control back to the child and alleviates the struggle," said Bryant. "Instead of saying, 'No, you have to.' Now the child has some responsibility and more control over their choices, and thus their emotions."

Bryant has been the Director in Putnam for the past 18 years, and has been involved with Family Resource Center work for 25 years.

"I love working in Putnam," she said. "It's a very giving community. It's very supportive. There's great activities and support for families in town, more than any towns around us. I love the families here."

She started as a teacher in Plainfield. But when she heard of a resource center opening in town she felt it was a "novel concept" she wanted to be a part of.

According to Bryant, teachers have kids for eight hours a day. But the children have a life and family outside of school, and understanding their entire life helps their performance in school.

"That idea fascinated me," said Bryant. "It's about connecting with families. And that's a model that works for us. By helping families with every aspect, making their lives easier in any way we can. I want to make sure I'm meeting all the children's needs."

If you would like to sign up for the program or learn more, reach out to Bryant at (860) 963-6940.

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

Smoking cessation program offered

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

BROOKLYN — For the first time, the Northeastern District Department of Health offered a free Freedom From Smoking program from January to the end of February. Held at the Department of Health's Brooklyn office, the group program aims to help people quit smoking once and for all.

Offered through the American Lung Association, this program was developed in the 1980s and continues to be successful today. Participants set a quitting date and then create a personalized plan leading up to it. By building strategies for managing stress and sharing experiences with others going through the same thing, people in the Freedom From Smoking program learn what it takes to quit in a healthy way and better their lives in the long run.

"There's a lot of scientific support behind it," said Public Health Nurse Janine Vose. "They research what works, what doesn't. They come from many different angles."

Around 14 people are participating in the current program, which is almost max capacity.

Thanks to a grant the Uncass Health Department received from the Connecticut Department of Public Health, the NE District Department of Health was able to provide this free program to the community.

"I think there are a lot of people who struggle with smoking," said Vose. "They've tried quitting before, but weren't successful. This is a proven system. We want to make our community healthier. This is one of the ways we can do that."

Smoking can lead to lung cancer, cardiac disease and stroke, as can second-hand smoke. But quitting has very drastic effects.

According to the American Lung Association, smoke and tar-damaged lungs can completely regenerate after 10 years of being smoke-free. But even after two weeks of quitting, lungs show drastic improvements. Risk of a stroke is also reduced to that of a non-smoker, so 50 perfect, which is the same as lung cancer death rates.

"I think, as a nurse, going into this field I always wanted to help people," said Vose. "Helping people is in our nature. We want to be preventative rather than only treat people once they're ill. It makes me feel good. I really want people to live healthier lifestyles. I feel really great about it."

Right now, the NE District Department of Health is offering free radon test kits at their office.

"Smoking is the number one cause of lung cancer, but radon is second," said Vose.

Among many of their other programs and services, the NE District Department of Health is also offering two more Freedom From Smoking programs this year, one in the spring and one in the summer.

These fill up fast, so call (860) 774-7350 ext. 24 to learn more or sign up.

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

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NECASA's Brex honored for years of service

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

POMFRET — On Thursday, Jan. 17, Northeast Communities Against Drug Abuse held a Legacy Event honoring former board members and officially closing the door on the organization. Northeast Communities Against Substance Abuse closed in June, but retired Executive Director Bob Brex said they're not done helping the community just yet.

Using left over funds, NECASA will be establishing a grant fund run by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, continuing drug, suicide and violence prevention services in this area.

After the state decided to head in the direction of regionalized systems of drug prevention, smaller organizations like NECASA did not receive a contract to continue their work.

"We fought as hard as we could," Brex said of the unfortunate turn of events. "We didn't just give up. But the state had made up their minds and went ahead with it. It was difficult, but all things change at some point. We all have to move forward."

After 28 years of running NECASA, Brex retired.

But the Legacy Event was the perfect time to look back at all the hard work NECASA put into bettering the Quiet Corner.

According to Brex, he started working at NECASA before they even had a phone or office. Having experience with drug prevention programs and personal family issues related to substance abuse, Brex said he had a "personal interest" in trying to prevent drug abuse.

NECASA was the second group formed in the state by the Regional Action Council in Connecticut, receving a $75,000 grant to open an office. Eventually there would be 14 offices.

So what did NECASA do in their 30 year run?

State Senator Mae Flexer presented Bob Brex with a plaque, recognizing him for the 30 years of work through NECASA.

NECASA brought close to $3 million into Northeastern Connecticut towards drug prevention work (through grants, fundraising etc.), and more funds to the communities themselves, overseeing councils and programs. They also used grants to help update the health curriculums in over 10 school districts.

NECASA also did a lot of training, working with the Statewide Narcotics Task Force to create the Drug Endangered Children program.

"Those are kids caught in houses where family members are using or dealing drugs, and the idea was to have schools and police be able to recognize the symptoms and intervene early, to get children out of those circumstances," said Brex.

The last training NECASA did before their end in 2018 was training how to administer NARCAN across the Quiet Corner.

"I trained thousands of people over those 28 years," said Brex.

Courtesy photos

Former Board members and volunteers gathered on Jan. 17 to celebrate NECASA.

While many people think of Pomfret, Woodstock, and all of the other seemingly quiet areas in Connecticut, can't possibly need organizations like NECASA, that's sadly not the case. According to Brex, the Quiet Corner has "just as big a problem" as every other county has when it comes to drugs. The only difference is how spread out the towns are.

" I always told people that the pretty trees and bushes are just a cover," he said. "Whether that was back when we first started – when it was more alcohol – or now, with opioids, the situation is still the same. The problems are still there and need to be addressed."

NECASA was very involved with the drug epidemic 18 years ago, when a nationwide story was published called "Heroin Town" about Willimantic.

In the aftermath of that article, NECASA and other local groups started bringing drug intervention programs into the superior court in Danielson. Their goal was to provide treatment to non-violent offenders, instead of just sending people to jail.

"It's still operating today," he said. "It's something we worked very hard to bring into the courts, to work with offenders to get them help, to get them off of drugs."

Right now, Brex said he is fearful of the state's changes. When funding comes from the state, it traditionally gives most of the money to larger cities. Smaller towns in Connecticut may not get the services they need, although it's still too early to know what the state's plan will entail.

Despite this uncertainty, Brex and the community fondly look back at the successes NECASA had these past 30 years.

"I think we did a good job," he said. "We did what we were supposed to do. We collaborated, coordinated, supported people and programs."

Made up of police officers, hospital representatives, school staff, and business owners, NECASA had represented the Quiet Corner and all of its people. And they all worked together to help their community.

"That, to me," said Brex, "was the strength of NECASA."

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

Bringing poetry to the Quiet Corner

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

POMFRET — This is something local author Christine Kalafus has been wanting to do for a while: Bring more poetry to the Quiet Corner. Joining the likes of Boston and New York, the Quiet Corner is launching a Connecticut Poetry Society Chapter and a series of Spoken Word nights.

The Connecticut Poetry Society was launched in the 70s in Hartford, with the mission to encourage a community devoted to poetry through chapter meetings, education, and events.

The first meeting of the Quiet Corner chapter will be March 11 at 7 p.m., at the Town House, 11 Town House Road, Pomfret. According to a press release, subsequent meetings will be held the second Monday in the months of January-June, and September-December.

The first Spoken Word night will be on Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m., at the Vanilla Bean. Called "My Word," this night will bring all kinds of writers together, give them a microphone, and let them share their work.

"These meetings offer offer poets workshops, readings, and publishing opportunities," said Kalafus.

Before this chapter opened, the closest chapter the Quiet Corner had was in Manchester, an hour away, despite the large population of poets and writers in the area.

"I knew I couldn't be the only one," she said.

After teaching writing workshops around the area, she saw firsthand the desire people had for access to new poetry.

There is a lot of different types of poetry out there. Not all of it rhymes. And there are a lot of different people who love poetry. It's not just for a "certain kind of person," said Kalafus. "Poetry is for everyone, from all walks of life. With all different experiences."

With the monthly meetings, poets can all meet each other – along with publishers and authors. They are learning about local contests. And most importantly, they're learning more about poetry and more about other local people who love poetry. It allows people to enjoy poetry even more, whether they are writing it, reading it, or listening to it.

"Poetry forces us to slow down," Kalafus said. "I, for one, with my busy schedule – I'm so thankful for the music and rhythm of poetry. To hear someone read their poem to you is a gift. It's something special to be experienced. There's something about recited poetry that's reverential. It elevates language in a way that we sorely need. I love when I'm exposed to that. It's like an exhale, when you read or listen to a poem."

For more information, reach out to cekworks@charter.net.

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SCRANTON

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could coax or dare him into it. Spike was not around that day, so we would have to come back tomorrow.

I know that the bat got bigger in my dreams that night. But the next day we regrouped with Spike among us. Spike had said "you guys are a bunch of wimps, let's do this". We peered across the marsh and there was the bat. I remember thinking, hmmm…. that must be his roosting place because certainly he had been flying about the night before feeding on some poor victim. With weaponry in hand and as much courage as we could muster, with Spike leading the pack; "Let's go boys" (the fact that some of us might not be coming back – did not need to be spoken). We crept in and fed by the courageousness of Spike, like mighty warriors taking on an opposition foe's slowly turning howitzer/tank (yes, we fed on WWII movies too). Nearing ground zero, anything might happen, but there would be no turning back.

A war cry rang out, then another, an arrow whizzed, the BB gun popped like a machine gun, bottle rockets shooshed and boomed, and spears flew. "I GOT IT!" someone screamed…."LOOK OUT, HERE IT COMES!". As the big hairy bat, and the branch it was hanging from, broke free and came falling down. "KEEP SHOOTING BOYS AND DON'T LET UP!" then there was a huge BOOOOM, and an M-80 went off throwing snow and marsh grass in the air.

When the smoke cleared; there was the bat, smoldering on the ground; with in arrow stuck in it. "Hey, looky here" said Spike reaching down and picking up the skewered bat by the arrow. "It's a soggy wool mitten" and he looked around (at the rest of us). "Oh wow, but hey, I was not scared for one second" someone said. "Yeah, me neither" was said all around. We had a good laugh a patted each other on the back as we collected up the arrows, spears, and my lost soldier/General Patton's buckle boot (still stuck upright in the mud), joking about the fact that nobody had lost an eye (but there had been some close calls). I remember feeling overcome by a sense of victory and at the same time, disappointment that the battle was over, the mystery was solved, and the mission/quest was completed. I wondered what next would fill the void of the excitement of so much scariness and winter fun. It was time to bask in the moment, drink some hot chocolate, and further laugh about, and share this fresh new story of yore, and glory with my pack.

I knew there would be other equally scary missions/quests and mysteries to follow. There had been a rumor of a werewolf sighted in the old derelict 1956 Chevy Nomad station wagon that resided out in the pasture over the hill behind my house. We needed to discuss that mystery further and formulate a plan….and the brain functioned better, fueled by hot chocolate. The mystery of the werewolf is another story.

Nobody ever did fess up to who's mitten that was (i.e. who was the owner of the mitten) and for the life of me, I can't even guess of how that mitten got 15 feet up in the tree (I have some theories related to the events of the elevated-mitten occurrence – and wool mittens are a hindrance to and cause problems to the thrower [think deflate-gate football kind of stuff) in snow ball fights, if you have ever had the joy to be part of one). The best making and throwing accuracy in throwing a snowball is using what God gave you. A bare hand. Just saying.

Back when I was young, mothers made their kids wool mittens with crazy long thumbs (like you were part squid or something)….and pinned them to your snow suit sleeves. Try wearing them when wet. I digress. That is the biggest mystery that remains, at least to me. I suppose, that mitten might even have been mine (ala Peter Rabbit). Thus, I have concluded the story of The Mystery of the Winter Bat.

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

GERVAIS

continued from page A1

think my husband was the one doing the work," she chuckled. "Trust me, if he was the one showing up the work wouldn't be pretty!"

Instead of being discouraged, Gervais used the customers' reactions as fuel to succeed. It was very satisfying to see a man's concern disappear once they saw the work she was doing on their home.

"It's my profession," she said. "I'm good at it. I get respect. They see what I can do and they come around. They'll tell me it's better work than what they would have been able to do themselves."

Now Gervais has a reputation. People know her. They've seen her work. So the last few years people call and can't wait for her to show up.

Before starting her own business, Gervais was doing children's photography and working as a dispatcher for a local cable company. That helped her form a strong customer service background, which helps a lot when dealing with clients now. But that's the only similarities, she noted.

"I worked an office job before and looked really nice," Gervais said. "Now I don't."

What makes Girls N' Tools different, according to Gervais, isn't just that she's a woman and hires both men and women. It's how the business is run.

She explained: "We do only one project at a time. When we start your project we are there every day until we finish it. Then we go to the next one. We do make sure we are very neat and tidy, and clean up after every job. Everything is always installed properly."

When she's not working, Gervais enjoys doing side projects for friends and family. She is also looking forward to picking up another rental property and renovating it in the spring.

"I just love what I do," she said. "I wake up with a smile on my face. I'm exactly where I'm supposed to be and doing exactly what I'm supposed to be doing in life."

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

What sets Girls N' Tools apart is their attention to detail, said Jessica Gervais. Everything is always neat and tidy, installed properly.

Temple Grandin visits Pomfret School

BY SARAH CHAMPAGNE
FOR THE VILLAGER

POMFRET CENTER — Dr. Temple Grandin sat on a chair on the makeshift stage in Pomfret School's Strong Field House just moments before her scheduled talk. A large audience had recently gathered for the acclaimed woman's visit to the Quiet Corner. After an introduction delivered by Head of School Tim Richards, Grandin approached the podium to discuss the topics that appear in her many writings: the autistic mind, humane livestock management, and her own remarkable career trajectory where those two seemingly disparate worlds meet.

Pomfret School was hosting Grandin as its 2019 Schwartz Visiting Fellow. The event had originally been scheduled to take place in the school's Hard Auditorium, but organizers had decided to move the event to the larger space of the field house to accommodate the outpouring of public interest in Grandin's talk. Somehow the particular setting in Pomfret, both rural and academic in nature, was remarkably well-matched to the speaker.

Grandin got right to the point in the first few minutes of her presentation, telling the audience with hearty conviction and unmistakable charm, "One of the things we need to do is get these kids off of the electronics and outside doing stuff!"

The audience seemed to agree wholeheartedly, greeting the declaration with applause and a few chuckles of recognition.

I had stood in line for a book signing before the presentation. I chose one of Grandin's most well-known books, The Way I See It: A Personal Look at Autism & Asperger's, for her to sign. When my turn came, I introduced myself and gave my copy of the book to her. She wore one of her signature western blouses with a pink scarf, and admittedly I was a little star struck. Grandin asked me if I was a teacher. I was surprised, and a bit honored too, that she might guess that I was teacher. In retrospect, I wish I knew what prompted her to ask.

I told her I was a journalist and she asked me about the publications I write for. With a line of people behind me also waiting to meet Grandin, it was not the time to ask her all the questions I had in mind. I could have spent a long time talking to her given the chance, coming from my background both as a journalist and as a mother of a child who has had diagnoses of autism and attention deficit disorder. Her shared wisdom about the minds of kids with autism had provided me with a measure of comfort and understanding at a very challenging time in my son's early childhood development, so many years ago.

I asked Dr. Grandin if I could have my picture taken with her, and she agreed. I walked around the table and crouched down near her for my photo-op. From this perspective, I could see that the line of people waiting for an autograph and a brief word with this remarkable woman had at least doubled in length. The room was getting louder by the minute as audience members continued to arrive at the field house.

"These things must really tire you out," I said to her as we smiled for a picture.

I thought of the ways that people with autism process sensory experience, such as the din of people filing into the large room or the sight of the long line of people eager to meet the famed author. Autism is known to exist on a spectrum, and sensory processing sensitivities can manifest in a variety of ways.

"Eh. I get used to it," Grandin replied before I thanked her and moved along to my seat.

Grandin was one of the first autistic individuals to explain to the world in common terms what it felt like to be autistic. When she was a child, doctors advised Grandin's mother to commit her to an institution. Instead, her mother raised her at home and pushed her to learn basic social and practical skills. She also sought speech therapy for her daughter. Grandin credits these advantages as a foundation for her successful life today.

Her presentation touched upon many topics including her own early journey trough navigating the world and finding her niche in livestock management design and how young people with autism can find their way and the outright need for autistic thinkers in world that can expect to be both safe and innovative.

In her early career, she faced many obstacles; not all were due to her autism. In her high school and college years, she broke into the male-dominated world of livestock management on cattle ranches. This part of her life is represented in the 2010 movie Temple Grandin, in which Claire Danes played the title role.

"Being a woman was much worse than the autism part," Grandin said of facing sexism in this early part of her life.

Grandin had a lot of practical advice for young people with autism and their parents. She argued for the need to develop hands-on, practical skills and creative outlets to develop problem-solving skills early on.

"Too many kids don't know how to tinker anymore," she said.

She argued that students with autism should find work or volunteer opportunities as early as possible, and before leaving high school, to develop both social and practical skills as a pathway into a productive career. She emphasized the importance of taking part in groups with shared interests and stretching just beyond one's comfort zone.

As a prominent thought leader who has taught the world how to understand the autistic mind, Grandin's purpose is clearly focused on helping families support their child's independence and unique character, not on expanding a sense of disability or to make excuses.

"There are too many kids becoming recluses in their rooms," she said. "That is something I wasn't allowed to do."

Grandin spoke about the need to find unique career opportunities and referred to "finding a back door" into the work world. Her mother did this for her when she advocated strongly for opportunities that may not have existed otherwise. Traditional career paths depend more heavily on social skills, but for those with autism, and those that support them, finding opportunities might require more creative approaches.

"When you're weird, you have to learn sell your work," Grandin asserted, with a humanizing authority.

Another theme in Grandin's talk was concern over how modern school systems educate students on the spectrum or with other special needs. She advocated for the importance of hands-on and creative experiences in subject areas such as theater, art, woodworking, cooking and other skills that she says allow different mindsets to develop problem solving and expressive skills. She emphasized the importance of these creative experiences in the lives of great thinkers like Steve Jobs or Albert Einstein, who had creative hobbies.

"Educators must not screen out students with unique skill sets," Grandin said.

She expressed concern that in the modern educational system, "I think they just teach them to take tests" and that "too much attention is paid to the deficit, with not enough building of the skills or strengths." Both the limitations and the endless possibilities of a neurodiverse population deserve the widest range of opportunity.

"Autism is an important part of me, but it is secondary in importance to my career," Grandin contends.

At TempleGrandin.com, a summary of Grandin's contribution to understanding the autistic mind states that, "At the heart of the message is this: Rigid academic and social expectations could wind up stifling a mind that, while it might struggle to conjugate a verb, could one day take us to distant stars."

In person, Grandin charmed and impressed the audience at Pomfret School. A woman next to me turned to me after the talk and commented "She doesn't mess around, does she?"

Grandin's thoughts on the autistic mind, her plain talk about the topics we tend to complicate and her strength as a role model for others certainly impressed me as both a writer and as the mother of a child with special educational needs. The unique charm of Grandin's lecture came from someone whose condition is supposed to preclude social concepts like "charm." However, I think that great people like Grandin help enrich us, not just by sharing their wisdom and their knowledge, but by challenging our own assumptions and practices.

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National Opposite Day 2019 January 25

Most experts agree that National Opposite Day is observed on January 25th, but other experts claim it is celebrated on January 7th. Still others believe that it is to be celebrated every month of the year on the 25th day.

Is it National Opposite Day? Is it not Opposite Day? Or is it not not Opposite Day? Now even I am confused. Either way children across the country rejoice in this day as they declare they mean the opposite of whatever they say. I would love to do the dishes! Broccoli is my favorite food! I didn't push my brother in the mud! Here is a serious question… What is the opposite of Opposite Day?

National Opposite Day Activities

1. Call in Sick For Work, Then Show Up Anyway
Your boss will be confused for a minute, then it will dawn on them. Plus you shouldn't lose your job for this one, nor should you lose one of your sick days.

2. Say Goodbye When Greeting People
The confusion on their faces will be worth it. If you pair this with the number one on our list, it will only get better.

3. Don't Do Anything for Opposite Day
Saying it's Opposite Day negates that it is opposite day. So don't do anything for opposite, but know in your heart that it really is National Opposite Day.

Why We Love National Opposite Day

A. The Pranksters in All of Us Rejoice
Class clowns who grew up to be office jokesters, and even that really quiet co-worker on the third floor can enjoy opposite day. There is a built in excuse for joking, pranking, and tricking, everyone you know. You are only limited by your imagination.

B. It's Kind of Like, April Fools' Day Has An Awesome Little Sibling
What's better than pranking someone and saying you didn't prank someone. The answer is nothing is better than that. "No, I didn't turn all our appliances around and flip your furniture upside down."

C. Spongebob Squarepants Has an Episode About Opposite Day
Nothing says cultural relevance like a children's TV show creating an episode about a holiday. Spongebob + Opposite Day = entertainment for all ages.

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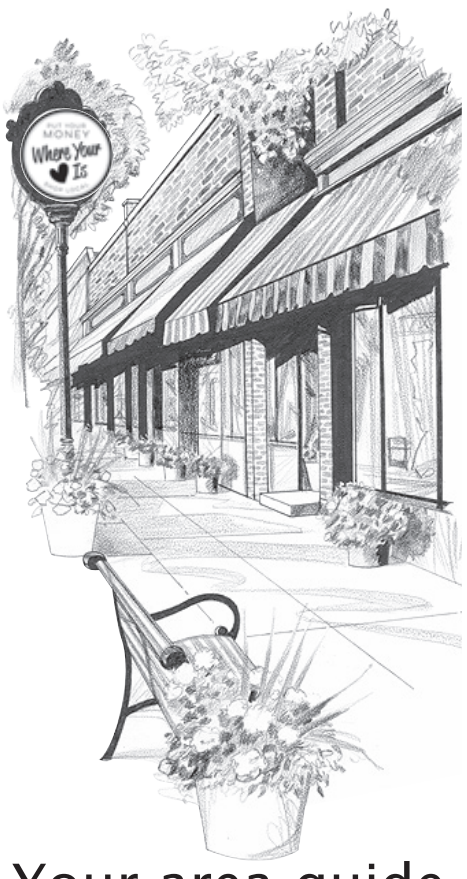

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WEAVER

continued from page A8

write English. If you can pass these tests, you know that you can read and write well enough to be allowed to vote in New York State." The book also contained a list of four thousand words that every citizen and voter ought to know.

Following is a sample test: "The American flag was first displayed by George Washington at Cambridge, Massachusetts on January 1, 1776. On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress adopted the flag of the United States. It was decided that the flag should be composed of 13 red and white stripes and 13 white stars in a blue field. In 1818 Congress voted that the number of stripes should remain 13. The stripes represent the original number of states. One star is added to the flag when a new state is admitted to the Union. There are today 48 stars arranged in 6 rows of 8 each. The answers to the following questions are to be taken from the above paragraph. Who first displayed the American flag? Where was the flag first displayed? In what year did the Continental Congress adopt the flag? How many stripes was it decided that the flag should have? What colors are the stripes? What color are the stars? What do the stripes represent? When a new state is admitted into the Union, what is added to the flag? How many stars has our flag today (1938)? Lynn LaBerge wondered how many of us would be able to pass the tests today.

Do you remember whether Alaska or Hawaii was the 49th state? Do you know when they were admitted to the Union? Alaska became the 49th state January 3, 1959; Hawaii was added August 21 of that year. (http://www.americaslibrary.gov).

Tucked inside the book was a St. James Church Bulletin from December 1958. Masses were listed for the entire month. Perhaps you recall these priests. Pastor: Rev. A. G. Nadeau, M.S., Curates: Rev. Joseph Markowicz, M.S., Rev. Francis X. Baldwin, M. S.,Rev. Henry Sampson, M.S., Pastor Emeritus: Rev. A. Mollard, M.S. Daily masses were 6:30 and 7:30. Sunday masses were 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 a.m. Holy Day Masses: 6:15, 7:15, 8:30, and 6:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Devotions were Sundays at 4:30 p.m. Special events for the month included a visit of the Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima with a Triduum on November 30, December 1 and 2 at 7:00 p.m. Ember days were December 17, 19 and 20th. St. James still had a C.Y.O., which held its Christmas party on Friday, December 19.

All these "tidbits" tell much about everyday life in years gone by. If you think you have something of interest, please consider letting us copy the materials. Just stop in at the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center during regular hours.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian. Special thanks to Normand Chartier and Leon Renaud for materials used in this article. For additional information email Weaver at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call (860) 779-7250. Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, Ct., 06329.

Police Logs

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

TROOP D LOG

DANIELSON

Wednesday, Jan. 16

Michael Chauvin, 44, of 45 Judd Avenue, Danielson, was charged with a warrant

Thursday, Jan. 17

Ralph Pierce, 37, of 148 Furnace Street, Danielson, was charged with breach of peace and threatening

Jade Simone Walker, 22, of 7 Otis Street Apt. #C, Killingly, was charged with interfering with an officer/resisting

PUTNAM

Tuesday, Jan. 15

Brian Allen Jenkins, 29, of 58 Thurber Road, Putnam, was charged with a warrant

WOODSTOCK

Friday, Jan. 18

Danielle Rene Kandolin, 40, of 298 Child Road, Woodstock, was charged with illegal operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol/drugs

QUINN

continued from page A1

paperwork process. For over five years, Julie has overseen all NOW scholarships, with over 1,000 children receiving financial assistance from NOW since 2015, covering upwards of $75,000 in registration fees. As treasurer, Julie donated countless hours of her time to NOW, with detailed reports and the responsibility of handling all financial matters, including deposits, bills, and taxes. In addition to her duties as treasurer, Julie lead NOW's Finance, Scholarship, and Legal Committee, was an active member of the Programming Committee, and volunteered at many of NOW's annual fundraising events and clinics. Julie made the decision to step down as treasurer in December of 2018 but remains on the Board of Directors for 2019. To honor her dedication and many contributions, Julie was presented with a Special Appreciation plaque for her time as treasurer.

"I have learned that one of the big benefits of becoming involved with a non-profit such as NOW, is the people you meet and the friends you make. Eric and Julie Quinn are the perfect examples of this and on behalf of NOW, I would like to thank them both for their years of service to the children of NOW," said Rawson during the award presentations.

Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, is a non-profit human services organization focused on youth wellness. Serving the 10-town area of Northeast Connecticut, NOW provides children with the opportunity to participate in area athletic programs and activities, offering scholarships to the youth of the community with up to 95 percent of the cost being subsidized by NOW. The mission of the organization is to provide all children, regardless of financial resources, equal opportunities to achieve and maintain youth wellness, beginning at an early age. For more information on NOW, please visit www.nowinmotion.org.

Public Meetings

BROOKLYN

Wednesday, Jan. 30
WPCA, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall
Thursday, Jan. 31
Board of Selectmen, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall

KILLINGLY
Monday, Jan. 28
Republican Town Committee, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Wednesday, Jan. 30
Public Safety Commission, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Thursday, Jan. 31
Ordinance Subcommittee, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall

PUTNAM
Monday, Jan. 28
Library Board, 7 p.m., Putnam Public Library

WOODSTOCK

Monday, Jan. 28
Ag Commission, 1 p.m., Town Hall
Conservation, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Historic Properties, 7 p.m., Town Hall

POMFRET
No meetings scheduled

EASTFORD
Monday, Jan. 28
American Legion, 7:30 p.m., Town Office Building

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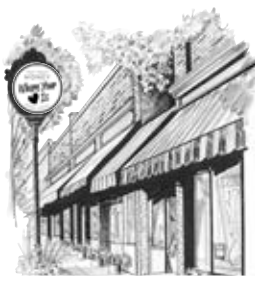

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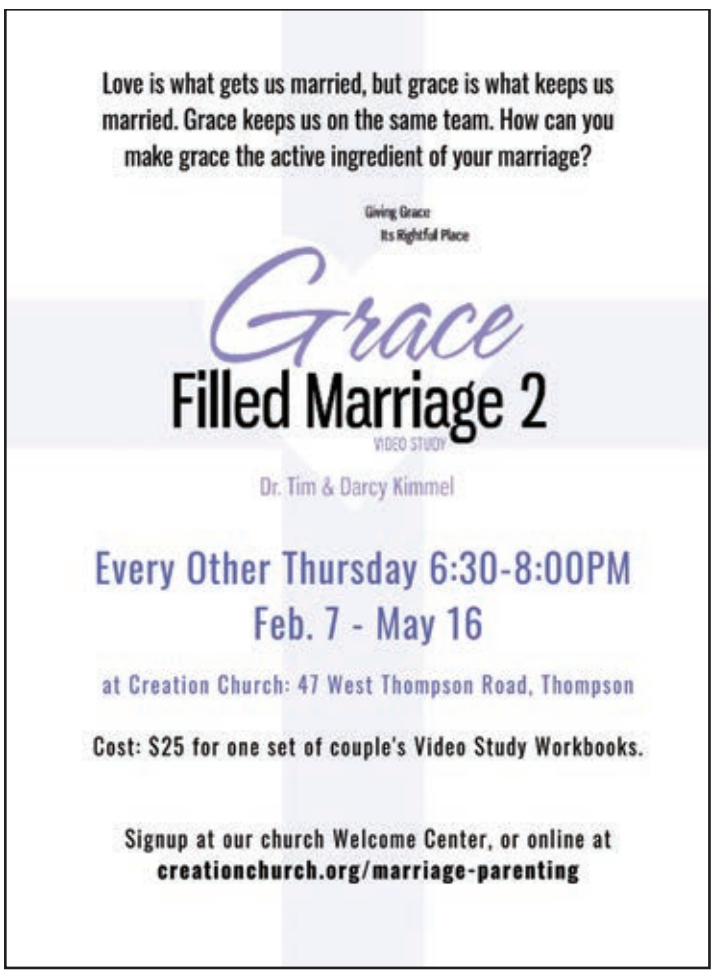

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B Section

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St. Martin and Putnam race past St. Bernard

Charlie Lentz photo

Putnam High's Abby St. Martin works in the paint against St. Bernard on Tuesday, Jan. 22.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

PUTNAM — Abby St. Martin is Putnam High's soft-spoken sophomore power forward who's letting her skills do the talking. As a freshman she was primarily a presence in the paint, quietly doing the dirty work off the boards, scoring from the close range. Just one year later she's blossomed into a versatile weapon who's expanded the Clippers' arsenal.

"Abby's come a long way and she's worked really hard. She's getting more confident and comfortable with the ball. Obviously she's expanding her game from inside to outside and now at the point guard position," said Putnam coach Mandi Hogan. "And she's a sophomore. I can't wait to see her get better in the next two years. She's got a great shot. She's smart. She sees the floor."

Witness St. Martin's game-high 17 points in a 36-24 victory over St. Bernard on Tuesday night at Putnam High — scoring on a putback in the first quarter, knocking down a three-pointer in the second quarter, dribbling coast-to-coast for a layup in the third quarter, connecting on 15-foot jumper from the free throw line and another 13-footer from the right wing in the fourth quarter. Making some noise but quietly deflecting credit for her performance.

"My teammates are really pushing me to get better and always shoot the ball when I'm open and that's what I'm doing," St. Martin said.

St. Martin's outburst against the Saints came just six days after she scored a career high 25 points in a 59-26 win over Wheeler on Jan. 16. She credited hard work over the off-season with raising her overall game.

"I play AAU in the spring so I think that has boosted my confidence. We play against tough teams and that's when I work on everything," St. Martin said.

St. Martin now has the confidence to take shots she might have passed on last season.

"When I'm open I want to shoot it and drive to the hoop," St. Martin said. "My teammates help me a lot."

Putnam junior point guard Kayleigh Lyons is the Clippers leading scorer and distributor. She welcomed St. Martin's transformation into another option on offense — a big in the frontcourt who can score from anywhere.

"It's great having a big because you know our team is so small. Having her just in there, having the power and just the confidence lifts us all up. Once we see her put that ball in the hoop it gets us so hyped as a team. It just brings us all up, builds us up," Lyons said.

Lyons smiled when recalling St. Martin's three-pointer against St. Bernard.

"I thought almost to just keep feeding it to her. If she's going to make those then why not just keep feeding them to her instead of outside guards? I'm really proud of her. She keeps doing great things for us. We're such a young team and having her there is just amazing for us. She has improved as

Turn To **PUTNAM** *page* **B10**

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OPEN HOUSE SAT 1/26 10:00-11:30

6 Poulin Drive
Putnam $262,500 NEW PRICE
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Stephanie 860-428-596

OPEN HOUSE SAT 1/26 1:00-3:00

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31 Kearney Fork Rd., Pomfret
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OPEN HOUSE SAT 1/26 12:30-2:00

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Charlotte 860-931-6006

Killingly $249,000 NEW LISTING

Cathedral ceilings, open living. 3 BR, 3 full BA, and family room.
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Woodstock $289,500 NEW PRICE

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Gelhaus Realty Group:
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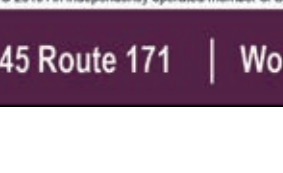

3 bedroom Cape, 1st floor bedroom & a large finished basement! Private yard with in ground pool!
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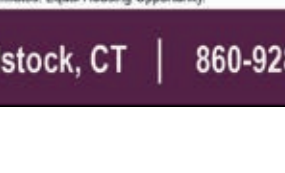
Brooke Gelhaus 860-336-9408

Woodstock $795,000



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Woodstock $425,000

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Woodstock $204,900

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Norwich $186,500

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Woodstock freezes up against E.O. Smith

Charlie Lentz photo

E.O. Smith's Gavin Till gets a shot past Woodstock goalie Dylan Shea at 9:02 of third period on Monday, Jan. 21, at Jahn Rink.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

POMFRET — Only two results can come from any hockey game according to Woodstock Academy coach Kevin Bisson. He absorbed this math from former coach Mike Myers when Bisson was a defenseman for Assumption College.

Charlie Lentz photo

Woodstock's Doug Newton, right, tries to get past E.O. Smith's Trystan Randazzo on Monday.

"You either win or you learn," Bisson said.

The Centaurs provided their coach with a teachable moment on Monday against E.O. Smith/Tolland at Pomfret School's Jahn Rink — surrendering 2-1 and 3-2 leads en route to 5-3 loss.

"It looked like a few of our guys that we normally have to rely on in some sense, as far as bigtime players, just weren't giving that 100 percent for one reason or another," Bisson said. "I know last week we had five kids who had to miss practices because of being sick. I'm not one for excuses though really. I can't even write it off in that sense."

Given the writing on the wall — the learning curve during the Centaurs' practices this week was likely greater than the curvature of any hockey stick.

"We need to learn from our mistakes and their success," Bisson said. "What did they do to us that we can do ourselves? Take a loss as an opportunity to improve ourselves."

E.O. Smith took a 1-0 lead at 2:49 of the first period before Woodstock's Austen LeDonne tied it with an assist from Matt Odom at 8:07 of the first. The Centaurs went up 2-1 at 5:26 of the second period on a goal from Liam McDermott with an assist from Connor Starr. E.O. Smith's Gavin Till tied at 13:16 of the second period.

Woodstock's Guerin Favreau scored at 2:23 of the third period with an assist from McDermott to put the Centaurs up 3-2 — but the Panthers tied it just 51 seconds later with Will Russel scoring at 3:14 to knot things at 3-3.

"That's really kind of one my frustrating points. I expect us to be strong defensively, especially when you have the lead," Bisson said. "They scored, it was a one-on-two. I am a defenseman — was a defenseman I guess we'll say at this point in my life — but if it was a one-on-one I was stopping him and I expect my 'D' to do the same. If it's a one-on-one or a one-on-two there is no way they should be able to get through us. And they did it repeatedly today."

Till scored the goal-ahead goal at 9:02 of the third period and completed his hat trick with an empty-netter at 13:59 close out the scoring.

E.O. Smith outshot Woodstock 39-27. Panthers goaltender Matt Schoen made 24 saves. Woodstock goalie Dylan Shea stopped 30 shots. The win lifted E.O. Smith/Tolland's record to 8-4. The Centaurs entered last Monday's game with a 7-3 record and perhaps the seven victories had made them too confident.

"I think sometimes when you win you get a little too complacent to the things that you really need to work on because of the success that you experience," Bisson said. "It's when the losses happen that you've really got to stop and say 'O.K. — what can I do better? What do I have to do differently?' And it's the same in the coaching aspect, what should my line combinations be? Who does balance out a line? What can we as coaches do to improve in practice?"

Woodstock is next scheduled to play host to the Redhawks on Saturday, Jan. 26, with the puck set to drop at 7 p.m. at Jahn Rink. The Centaurs had four days to ponder the loss to E.O. Smith before taking on the Redhawks — Bisson's practices were likely filled with many teachable moments this week.

"We've got three (practices) in a row here — Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. I've got to take a little time myself — today, tomorrow — to really think it through, what do we really need to really, truly, work on to improve?," said Bisson. "That way we can get back on that winning track again."

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

Killingly boys look for turnaround

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

DAYVILLE — The Killingly Redmen have about half a season left to turn their fortunes around — or not. It was an 'or not' night in a 74-52 loss to Griswold on Monday night at Killingly High School.

"If you don't want to execute the game plan. Or you just go out there and go through the motions, you'll get your butt smacked like we did tonight," said Killingly coach Jim Crabtree following the loss to the Wolverines.

After Griswold wore down the Redmen, Crabtree wore them down some more in a lengthy post-game locker-room lecture. The message was clear.

"We don't do the dirty work. Right now we're a bunch of individuals complaining about the referees. We don't work hard enough. We don't do the simple things," Crabtree said. "The team that gets the whistle, the team that gets the calls or the lucky breaks is the team that out-works everybody else. Right now, for the last two weeks we don't out-work anybody. We don't set any screens. We're a bunch of individuals all going our own way."

The coach said he would try and gauge their desire to finish out the season as a team.

"We'll see in the next few days in practice who wants to do some dirty work, who wants to buy in. And if not then we'll go find some youngsters down below and we'll work out the rest of the season," Crabtree said.

The loss to Griswold High on Jan. 21 dropped Killingly's record to 4-7. Killingly needed four wins over its last nine games to gain eight wins, the number of victories needed to guarantee a berth in the Division IV state tournament. Crabtree said there's still a chance to turn the season around but the effort must begin in practice.

"I don't think it's too late. The question is whether they want to do it or not. Like I just said to them, if not — then make it easy on yourself, because it's going to get difficult the next few days in practice. So if you're not having any fun now, in the next three or four days in practice, before an East Lyme team we're playing on Saturday — who's phenomenal — you're really not going to have any fun with me in the next few days," Crabtree said.

Nick Gileau scored a game-high 28 points to lead Griswold (8-3) to the win. Crabtree credited the Wolverines with playing as a team.

"They shared the ball. Defensively they had a game plan. They moved their feet," Crabtree said.

Junior guard Shayne Bigelow led Killingly with 27 points but he was the only player in double figures. Senior guard Luke Desaulnier, Killingly's leading scorer this season, was limited to seven points. The coach said it's up to Desaulnier to help rally his teammates toward a common cause — playing together.

"Right now we need better leadership and it starts at the top with Luke. We've got to understand that we're not going to do it individually. We're not that good. We have to do it as a team. And right now there's no team concept in the locker room or on the court," Crabtree said.

Things won't get any easier for Killingly in the near future. The Redmen are next scheduled to play host to East Lyme at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26. East Lyme's record was 10-2 through its first dozen games. Crabtree said he'd use the practices leading up to the East Lyme game to see if the Redmen want to turn their season around — or not.

"We'll find out who wants to be here," Crabtree said. "If you don't work in the next few days I'll make the decision for you."

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

Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly High's Luke Desaulnier drives between Griswold defenders, from left, Jason Hall, Matt Dembinski, and C.J. Mattson.

Killingly's cool customer at the line

Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly's Trinity Angel, white jersey, looks to score with Montville's Maya Hillman last Friday night, Jan. 18, at Killingly High School.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

DAYVILLE — Imagine the pressure. The final buzzer sounds in a deadlocked game as Trinity Angel is fouled nanoseconds before the scoreboard clock reaches :00. With no time left last Friday night at Killingly High she is the only player on the court — standing alone for a free throw with the game literally on the line. Make the front end of the one-and-one and the Redgals defeat Montville. Miss it and overtime awaits. Angel takes aim — reciting the mantra she repeats to herself each time she toes the stripe.

"I just think about the rim. I stare at the rim. And I just think 'Hand in the rim' every time," said Killingly's junior forward. "Follow through — that's all I think about — hand in the rim."

Angel's right hand shoveled the last bit of dirt on Montville, she buried the Indians with her free throw to give Killingly a 26-25 victory. The win lifted the Redgals record to 6-5 and gave them momentum heading into the second half of the season.

Angel finished with a game-high 16 points, grabbed nine rebounds, and went 8-for-8 from the foul line. She's been working on her free throws for years, becoming mentally tough at the line under the instruction of former coach Ed Pechie.

"I learned a trick from my old AAU coach. He taught me a lot about that shot," Angel said. "I just mastered it over the years."

The win came against a Montville team that entered the game with an 8-4 record. Killingly will try to knock off another solid squad when it plays host to Putnam High (11-2 through 13 games) on Friday, Jan. 25, with tipoff scheduled for 7 p.m. at Killingly High. The Redgals hope to harness the momentum from the Montville game down the homestretch.

"We're going to take it and run. We're going to hold on to it as long it as we can. I've said it a thousand times but it's about confidence. We had a slow start, two losses (to start the season) and it kind of took the wind out of our sails a little bit. But they come back to work every single day. We work a little bit harder, a little bit harder, a little bit harder. Things are just starting to click with us and they're buying in," said coach Gina Derosier. "It speaks volumes for our girls. We don't give up."

Killingly had to survive without Angel on the court throughout much of the first half. She committed her second foul and was banished to the bench with 1:26 left in the first quarter, not returning until the start of the third frame. Angel scored Killingly's first seven points and the Redgals led 7-3 when she departed. In a defensive skirmish the Indians clawed back and tied it at 12-12 at halftime.

"Trinity comes out and scores the first seven points of the game. The fact that we could play a whole quarter without Trinity speaks volumes about my girls. They never lost a lead in that second quarter and that was huge for us," said Derosier."

The Redgals had to rally past Montville and they did it with the help of a critical sequence midway through the fourth quarter. With Killingly trailing 24-22, Redgals sophomore center Maddie Sumner grabbed an offensive rebound and — before falling out of bounds — spun and dished to senior guard Kera Crossman, who connected from close range while getting fouled by Montville's Haley Kerwin with 4:45 left.

Charlie Lentz photo

Killingly's Kera Crossman tries to get past Montville's Emma Hillman last Friday.

"That's where it all shifted. For (Sumner) to come down, tiptoe that line, and then turn and dish it to Kera, who's wide open underneath, that was an excellent play on Maddie's behalf," Derosier said.

Crossman sank the free throw after her bucket from close range with 4:45 remaining to complete the three-point play and give Killingly a 25-24 lead. Montville tied it at 25-25 on a foul shot from Maya Hillman with 3:35 left.

The score remained knotted at 25-25 as both teams were thwarted from the foul line down the stretch. Sumner missed the front end of a one-and-one with 2:02 remaining and Montville's Kara Beaupre could not connect on a one-and-one opportunity with :42 left.

It was left to Angel to seize the spotlight — grabbing the rebound of her own miss and drawing a foul from Hillman as the buzzer sounded.

"She was in the position that every kid wants to be in," said coach Derosier. "Every kid dreams of scoring that game-winning basket — but nobody dreams of doing it on the foul line when nobody else is on the court. That is huge. That doesn't come from skill. That comes from inside."

Imagine the pressure. What pressure?

"It's just confidence. Just going back to basics," said Angel. "You have to buckle down."

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

Tourtellotte Tigers clawing for tourney berth

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

THOMPSON — Each basket, every free throw — each has had huge implications for Tourtellotte Memorial. Just past the halfway mark of the 20-game regular season the Tigers had won four games. Four more victories are needed to gain a berth in the Class S state tournament. It won't be easy with a daunting second-half schedule.

"Every bucket matters. Every layup, every easy underneath basket, those are the important ones that you have to put in because that takes the wind out of the other team and gives you confidence," said Tourtellotte coach Carla Faucher. "If we keep missing that makes it even harder and harder for us to come back from those misses."

Tourtellotte's record was 4-7 through 11 games but could easily have been 6-5 over that span. Over the first half of the season the Tigers let winnable games slip away against Griswold (a 36-34 loss on Jan. 8) and Windham Tech (a 25-24 loss on Dec. 22). Just one three-pointer or foul shot could have made the difference. Faucher knows each win seemingly becomes tougher when you're trying to reach the playoffs.

"I told them get the wins early because then you can relax and that makes the other wins come along easier. As we go further into the season down it puts more pressure on them every game and you can see it," Faucher said. "We don't play well under pressure like that."

The coach said the Tigers are at their best when their shots find their mark early.

"They take everything to heart and I can see when they're trying and forcing shots and they're not going in, they get down on themselves. We're trying to tell them 'Hey, that's over. It's in the past. Get something better down on the other end defensively. You'll get the next shot.' Just trying to get them to believe in themselves, that's the difference in the game," Faucher said. "When they believe in themselves or they see one of our players hitting their shots then that builds their confidence. When we're struggling to make our shots everyone starts forcing it. Forced shots just really never seem to go in for us."

Junior guard Ashley Morin has been the Tigers leading scorer this season. Senior forward Lauren Ramos is Tourtellotte's second-best point producer. Both players have been stalwart this season but the Tigers will need complementary scorers in order to make a run for the state tourney. Sophomore forward Leci Snow has emerged as one of the scorers off the bench.

"Ashley (Morin) has really stepped it up this year. She's really kind of taken the team on her back," Faucer said. "Off of our bench Leci Snow has been stepping up. She's been my first one off the bench. She's been contributing four, six points, that's huge. I need that. The others from the bench have to look for that. We always tell them to go in and play hard defense, anybody can play defense and protect the ball, but if you give us some points that helps the cause also."

The Tigers finished 9-12 overall last season and made the state tourney, now they're trying to get back there. Tourtellotte is next scheduled to travel to Lyman Memorial on Friday, Jan. 25. Lyman's record was 2-8 through the first half of the regular season so the Bulldogs are among the teams Tourtellotte has to beat — another game when every bucket will likely have playoff implications as the season heads down the homestretch.

"It's going to be a very tough stretch. It's going to be the fight right into the end. I don't think we're going to know where we stand until the last game is played," Faucher said. "Hopefully we continue to play hard. I tell them we have to get ahead early and maintain the lead in order for us to be able win those games that we have to win."

The coach and her assistant — Paul Faucher — believe the Tigers will fight for those eight wins and the tourney berth.

"I feel we can get them. Those games that we lost, I felt that we could have won, we should have won those. It's just a matter of who shows up each night. Paul and I keep saying at practice that we can get this," Faucher said. "It's just going to be a lot of hard work and the girls are working hard."

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

Charlie Lentz photo

Tourtellotte's Alysha Bugbee, right, and Ellis Tech's Jalissa Aguiar battle for the ball on Jan. 16 at Canty Gymasium. Tourtellotte won 48-16.

Charlie Lentz photo

Tourtellotte's Ashley Morin goes up for a shot against Ellis Tech on Jan. 16. Morin tallied 17 points for the Tigers in the win over Ellis Tech.

Ellis Tech girls focused on strong second half

Charlie Lentz photo

Ellis Tech's Amber Cutler drives to the hoop against Tourtellotte Memorial on Jan. 16 in Thompson.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

DANIELSON — The wins are out there. But Ellis Tech will have to work hard to find them if the Golden Eagles want to return to the Class S state tournament. The girls basketball program snapped a six-year drought last season when it qualified for the tourney — it was the first trip back to states since the 2010-2011 campaign.

Just past the midpoint of the season the Golden Eagles posted a 3-8 record. Eight wins are needed to guarantee a berth in the state tourney. Among its three wins through 11 games were victories against Vinal Tech and Grasso Tech. Ellis Tech plays both Vinal Tech and Grasso Tech again in the second half of the season so those are winnable game but the Golden Eagles have to get a few more wins to qualify for the state tournament. The first half of the schedule has been very competitive.

"We played a lot of ECC schools, we played Wheeler and Tourtellotte twice, we played St. Bernard. We played Putnam. Those teams are tough to compete against at our level," said coach Ryan Ouillette said. "We've still have Windham Tech a few times coming up, we've got Norwich Tech, Grasso Tech, Vinal Tech. So (wins) are out there, for sure."

Ellis Tech lost its leading scoring and rebounder (Sydney Tetrault) to graduation and her loss has been hard to replace. The Eagles play in the Connecticut Technical Conference.

"We're young, we have a lot of juniors and sophomores, trying to gel as a team. Learning the game of basketball. Some of them haven't played before so we've got to teach them the basics of how to dribble a basketball, how to cut, how to move," Ouillette said. "If they play in a zone situation we're not bad. (Opponents) go to man to man like most teams do, we've got to be able to deal with that pressure. I'm just going to teach them how to become a man-to-man team, put pressure on other guards in the Tech division and see what we can do, try to get steals ourselves, turnovers and layups."

Junior guard Kalista Lovely has been Ellis Tech's leading scorer thus far.

"When she's open she shoots. She can make some shots," said Ouillette of Lovely. "We practice, that's all we do, we shoot, we shoot, we shoot. We get shots off. They'll fall. We've just to keep taking them and keep getting better, keep practicing."

Junior point guard Breeanna Bentley has been running the show.

"She's getting there. We still have to get Breeanna to get by girls and continue to attack the hole," Ouillette said. "That's going to make the defense crash on her and leave somebody open so she that can dish out to that person."

Sophomore forward Vivianna St. Jean is among the newcomers who is expected to contribute.

"Vivianna is fairly new to the varsity program. So I'd say Viv has been a pleasant surprise. She works the middle very well. She's just a little undersized (5-foot-7) when it comes to being a big," Ouillette said. "And she's in there with some giants. She's got great moves but when she gets by it's tough for her to score so we've got to work on some up-fakes and stuff like that but she's been a pleasant surprise."

Ouillette is in his third year at the helm and sees good things ahead for a program that is drawing more girls with each season.

"They're open, they listen. They work for me. We've just to continue to keep working and hopefully they stick with me," Ouillette said. "We're going to stick with it."

Last season Ellis Tech finished with an overall record of 9-12. Last year sixth-seeded Sacred Heart defeated No. 27 seed Ellis Tech in the first round of the state Class S girls basketball tournament. Ouillette said the Eagles intend to return to the tournament — but they have to find the wins to get back there.

"They're out there," Ouillette said. "We're going to have to play our best games and put the ball in the hoop somehow."

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

Charlie Lentz photo

Ellis Tech's Kalista Lovely gets off a shot with Tourtellotte Memorial's Lauren Ramos defending on Jan. 16 in Thompson.

High school roundup

LYMAN 63, PUTNAM 54

LEBANON — In a game which determined the lead for first place in Division IV of the Eastern Connecticut Conference, Zack Dunnack scored 31 points to help host Lyman Memorial get past Putnam High in an ECC D-IV matchup on Tuesday, Jan. 22. The victory lifted the Bulldogs' record to 4-0 ECC-Division IV, 7-3 overall. Sebastian Ramos led the Clippers with 15 points. The loss dropped Putnam High's record to 3-1 ECC-Division IV, 6-5 overall. The Clippers are next scheduled to play host to Plainfield High on Friday, Jan. 25, with tipoff set for 7 p.m. at Putnam High School.

WINDHAM 44, KILLINGLY 32

DAYVILLE — Nicole Peralta led the Whippets with 12 points in the win over the Redgals in girls basketball on Jan. 22. Trinity Angel led Killingly with 14 points. Emma Carpenter and Kera Crossman each added six points for the Redgals. The win lifted Windham's record to 9-4. The loss dropped Killingly's record to 6-7. Killingly is next scheduled to play host to Putnam High on Friday, Jan. 25, with tipoff scheduled for 7 p.m. at Killingly High School.

ST. BERNARD 72, TOURTELLOTTE 52

THOMPSON — Max Lee tallied 15 points to help the Saints get past the Tigers in boys basketball on Jan. 18 at Canty Gymnasium. Josh Dodd led Tourtellotte with 22 points. The win lifted St. Bernard's record to 7-3. The loss dropped Tourtellotte's record to 5-6. Tourtellotte next plays host to Windham at 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25.

NFA 66, WOODSTOCK 44

NORWICH — Nolan Molkenthin scored a game-high 17 points to pace Norwich Free Academy past Woodstock Academy in boys basketball on Jan. 18. Mason Jackson had 15 points and Xavier Marquez added 10 points for NFA (8-3). Luke Mathewson led Woodstock (5-4) with 11 points. Woodstock is next scheduled to play host to Bacon Academy on Tuesday, Jan. 29.

PUTNAM 51, GRISWOLD 38

GRISWOLD — Molly McKeon scored 17 points to help the Clippers defeat the Wolverines in girls basketball on Jan. 18. The Clippers led 27-13 at halftime but the Wolverines outscored Putnam 19-9 in the third quarter, cutting the Clippers lead to four points. Putnam's Abby St. Martin scored eight of her 14 points in the fourth quarter and McKeon added four late free throws to help seal the victory. Bella Rubino and Sonja Matheson each scored eight points and Hannah Clark scored seven points for Griswold (8-5). The win improved Putnam's record to 11-2. Putnam is next scheduled to travel to Killingly High at 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 25.

FITCH 53, KILLINGLY 31

GROTON — Killingly's Trinity Angel scored nine points in the Redgals loss to the Falcons on Jan. 19 in girls basketball. Alyssa Virtue led Fitch (5-8) with 18 points. The loss dropped Killingly's record to 6-6.

WINDHAM TECH 26, ELLIS TECH 25

DANIELSON — Dionna Roberts scored seven points to lead Windham Tech past the Golden Eagles in girls basketball on Jan. 18. Amber Cutler led Ellis Tech with 13 points. Vivianna St. Jean added eight points for the Eagles. The loss dropped Ellis Tech's record to 3-9. Ellis Tech is next scheduled to travel to Goodwin Tech on Friday, Jan. 25.

PUTNAM 59, WHEELER 26

PUTNAM —Abby St. Martin scored a season and career high 25 points in Putnam's win over visiting Wheeler in girls basketball on Jan. 16. Kayleigh Lyons added 16 points and Molly McKeon 10 as the Lady Clippers improved to 10-2 on the season. Molly Butremovic and Sam Casta each scored six points for Wheeler (4-7).

WOODSTOCK 39, LEDYARD 14

LEDYARD — Kayla Gaudreau scored 12 points on four three-pointers and Heather Converse added 11 points to lift the Centaurs past the host Colonels in girls basketball on Jan. 17. Samantha Money scored six points to lead Ledyard (4-7). The win lifted Woodstock's record to 7-5. The Centaurs are next scheduled to play at New London on Monday, Jan. 28.

TOURTELLOTTE 48, ELLIS TECH 16

THOMPSON — Ashley Morin tallied 17 points with three steals and three rebounds to help the Tigers defeat the visiting Golden Eagles in girls basketball on Jan. 16 at Canty Gymnasium. Lauren Ramos scored 10 points with 17 rebounds and seven steals and Mary Steglitz added seven points and grabbed six rebounds for the Tigers. Kalista Lovely led the Eagles with six points. The loss dropped Ellis Tech's record to 3-8. The lifted the Tigers record to 4-7. Tourtellotte Memorial is next scheduled to travel to Lyman Memorial on Jan. 25.

File photo

Woodstock Academy's Luke Mathewson scored 11 points in a loss to NFA on Jan. 18.

WOODSTOCK GYMNASTICS

NORWICH — The Centaurs swept a tri-meet on Jan. 16 at Thames River Gymnastics. Scores were: Woodstock Academy 144.1; Killingly-Putnam-Tourtellotte co-op 132.2; Norwich Free Academy 125.7. Lydia Taft led the Centaurs (5-0, 4-0 ECC) with first-place finishes in beam (9.5), floor (9.4) and all-around (36.95). Woodstock's Ali Crescimanno was first in the bars (9.5). Crescimanno and Putnam High's Maggie McKeon tied for first in vault (9.4). K-P-T co-op raised its record to 3-2, 2-2. Arianna Cohen was third in the beam for NFA (0-4, 0-3) with a score of 8.7

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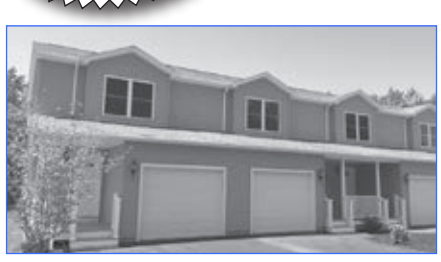

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OBITUARIES

Leon G. Green, 88

SOUTHBRIDGE- Leon G. Green, 88, died Thursday, January 17th, at the Holden Rehabilitation & Skilled Nursing Center. His wife of 47 years was the late Phyllis R. (LaRochelle) Green who died Dec. 21, 2007. He leaves his children Alan Green of Putnam, , Alice Clifford of Charlotte, NC, Renette Green of Auburn, and Lance Green of Southbridge, 5 grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his 2 brothers Lawrence Greenberg, and Edward Herman

He was born in Boston, October 5, 1930, son of Abraham and Leah (Walters) Greenberg and has lived here most of his life. He was a member of Notre Dame Church, and was a US Navy veteran serving in the Korean War. He retired from Shaw's Supermarket, and also worked in the restaurant business for many years.

His passion was to travel to different ballparks to see the Red Sox play a series. His dream finally came through when the Red sox won the world Series in 2004 for the first time in 86 years. He enjoyed lounging and relaxing in his backyard by the pool. He was an avid walker (up to 4 miles a day), but most of all he loved to make people laugh. He loved his family and although he worked many long hours to support them, he instilled great work ethics in them.

The family would like to thank the Holden Rehabilitation & Skilled Nursing Center in Holden for their care and support of their father and his family over the past couple of years.

Calling hours will be held on Monday, January 21, from 5-7P at Sansoucy Funeral Home 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA 01550. A funeral home service will be held at 10AM Tuesday, January 22, with Rev. Jonathan Slavinskas officiating. Burial will follow at New Notre Dame Cemetery, 746 N. Woodstock Road, Southbridge. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Brian A. DiGregorio Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 530, Sturbridge, MA 01566. www.sansoucyfuneral.com

David L. Brodeur, 81

SOUTHBRIDGE- David L. Brodeur, 81, passed away on Thursday, Jan. 17th, in the Harrington Memorial Hospital, Southbridge, after a brief illness.

His wife of 44 years, Ann Marie (Trudeau) Brodeur, passed away in 2013. He leaves his son, Kevin Brodeur and his longtime partner, Kevin Miers of Natchez, MS; his two daughters, Laurie Gadbois and her husband William of Brooklyn, CT, and Melissa Blanchette and her husband Thomas of Oakham; his sister, Pauline Beavis of Springfield; eight grandchildren, William Gadbois, Jake Gadbois and his wife Nikki, Sera Gadbois y Manning and her husband Ruben, Julia Gadbois-Light and her wife Crystal, Cassia Gadbois-Bloomberg and her husband Shane, Tara Fafard, Chad Fafard, and Kali Champagne; ten great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his daughter, Paula Champagne in 2003. He was also predeceased by his grandson, Jeremy Gadbois, his two brothers, Charles Brodeur and Louis "Lefty" Brodeur, and his two sisters, Ruth Powers and Lucille Royal. He was born in Southbridge the son Joseph Hector and Malvina (Valliancourt) Brodeur. He was a US Air Force Veteran.

David was a diamond tool maker at the American Optical Co. in Southbridge for 19 years. He later went onto serve on the Charlotte County Board of Engineers in Port Charlotte, FL for 4 years. He was a member of the Detrianna Council 199 of the Knights of Columbus in Southridge. David helped to organize and call bingo games for Sacred Heart Church in Webster and later for the Southbridge senior community at TAG and for the Senior Bingo at the Southbridge Armory. He enjoyed golfing and played in a league at Hemlock Ridge Golf Club in Sturbridge. He also enjoyed going to the casino. Most of all he enjoyed spending time with his family.

David's funeral will be held on Monday, January 28th, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 10:00am in St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton. Burial in New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge, will be held at the convenience of the family. Calling hours in the funeral home will be held on Sunday, Jan. 27th, from 3:00 to 5:00pm.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701 or to St. Joseph's Church, 10 H. Putnam Rd. Ext., Charlton, MA 01507.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Alice T. Larose, 88

NORTH GROSVENORDALE – Alice T. Larose, 88, formally of Vandale Street, passed away on Sunday, January 20, 2019 at Orchard Grove Specialty Care Center. Born in N. Grosvenordale, she was the daughter of the late Edward and Virginia (Marcotte) Larose. Ms. Larose worked as a packer for the American Optical Corp. in Southbridge, Massachusetts for 50 years. She enjoyed crocheting afghans and taking care of her shiatzu, "Heidi."

Alice is survived by her sisters, Lorraine Pellerin and her husband Roger of Brooklyn, and Doris Gagne of Niantic, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brothers, the late Armand and Leo Larose; and her sister, the late Rita Larose.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Alice's family from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Friday, January 25, 2019 in the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11:00 a.m. in St. Joseph Church, 18 Main St., N. Grosvenordale. Burial will follow in St. Joseph Cemetery. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

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Leo Robert "Bob" Faucher

Leo Robert Faucher was born in Southbridge, Massachusetts on June 17, 1939. Son of Leo A. Faucher and Antoinette Labonte Faucher Lord. He passed away peacefully at his home in Cape Coral, Florida on November, 19, 2018. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Patricia Faucher, sons Michael Faucher and wife Donna; Stephen Faucher and wife Leia, daughter Elizabeth Neigel and husband Richard, 7 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren, sister, Patricia Fisher of Sterling, Massachusetts and many nieces and nephews.

Bob proudly served in the Army National Guard from 1956-1959, he was a founding member of the Hot Sparks Car Club, a member of IBEW Local #42 and a longtime member of the Elks Lodge #574 of Putnam, Connecticut. Bob was an avid fisherman, he loved spending time on his boat and being out on the water. He belonged to Reel Angler Fishing Club and Tarpon Hunters Club of Cape Coral.

A "Celebration of Life" will be held Saturday, June 15, 2019 at the Putnam Lodge of Elks in the lounge from 1:00-3:00 pm. The Elks Funeral Ritual will commence at 1:00 pm. Following the ceremony anyone who chooses to say a few words may share a story or memory.

James Mayo, Jr. 87

BROOKLYN -- James Mayo, Jr. 87, of Brooklyn died January 18, 2019 at his home. He was the beloved husband of Claire A. (Beaudoin) Mayo. He was born November 30, 1931 in Albany, New York, son of James J. and Alphonsine (Bellanceau) Mayo, Sr.

Family was very important to him. He was a veteran of the Korean War serving in the Army. James was a great father and great guy that loved his family.

He leaves his children James F. Mayo and wife Sharon of Chesapeake, Virginia, Dennis H. Mayo of Brooklyn, Michael R. Mayo of Camden, North Carolina, Francis L. Mayo and wife Mary of Danielson, Gary J. Mayo of Foster, Rhode Island, Claire S. Mayo of Brooklyn, Richard L. Mayo of Westerly, Rhode Island, sisters Alice Bury and husband Eddie of Scotland, Rosemary Long and husband Herbie of Putnam, brother James C. Mayo "Uncle Butch" and wife Charlotte of Pomfret, many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a granddaughter Melissa Mayo. Thanks, Dad, for being our hero and protector, we love you and we miss you, till we meet again. You are forever in our hearts.

Calling hours were held on January 22, at Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home, Danielson. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday at St. James Church in Danielson, burial will be in Holy Cross Cemetery. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Debra J. (Gajewski) Marcinczyk, 62

THOMPSON- Debra J. (Gajewski) Marcinczyk, 62, passed away unexpectedly, Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at Hartford Hospital.

She leaves a daughter; Jessica V. Ward of Leicester and a son; Matthew J. Marcinczyk of Webster, 4 grandchildren; Amber, Brittany, Jacob and Paige.

Debra was born in Southbridge, daughter of Paul and Barbara A. (Pytko) Gajewski.

She worked as a coordinator in various health care facilities.

There are no calling hours.

Services will be private.

The ROBERT J. MILLER FUNERAL HOME and LAKE CHAPEL, 366 School St., Webster is assisting the family with arrangements.

To leave a message of condolence, please visit: RJMillerfunerals.net

Roland A. Servant, 71

STURBRIDGE- Roland A. Servant, 71, of Park Circle, passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 15th, in St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester, after an illness.

He leaves his two children, Keith R. Servant and his wife Christine of Rutland and Karen R. Brousseau and her husband Steven of Thompson, CT; his sister, Pauline C. Julian and her husband Ralph of Sturbridge; his four grandchildren, Ethan Servant, Noah Brousseau, Addison Servant and Ellyana Servant; several nieces and nephews; and many cousins. He was predeceased by his brother, Robert L. Servant. He was born in Southbridge the son of the late Leon A. and Lillian R. (Lescarbeau) Servant.

Roland worked in maintenance and custodial services for the Southbridge School System for 33 years, retiring several years ago. He was a lifetime member of the Optimist Club in Southbridge and served as president from 1986 to 1989.

Roland had a passionate interest in Civil War History and was a member of the Civil War Heritage. He would travel to Gettysburg, PA in July and November every year. There he would portray Gen. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain of the 20th Maine Inf., and tell his history to the public at the Gettysburg Museum.

Roland was well known for his love of the Montreal Canadiens and was also a fan of the NY Yankees and the New England Patriots. He was an avid card player who enjoyed playing pitch and cribbage. He also enjoyed candlepin bowling. Roland was also an avid golfer. Most of all he enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren.

His funeral was held on Tuesday, Jan. 22nd, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 10:00am in Notre Dame Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, 446 Main St., Southbridge. Burial was in New Notre Dame Cemetery, Southbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home were held on Monday, Jan. 21st, from 4:00 to 7:00pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to American Cancer Society, 30 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Luella (Hayes) Miller, 103

PUTNAM -- Luella (Hayes) Miller, 103, of Putnam, formerly of Middletown, wife of the late Arthur Miller, died January 15, at the Matulaitis Home. She was born in Middletown, daughter of Garrison and Anna (Saur) Hayes. Prior to her retirement, Luella was a billing clerk with Remington Rand and was later employed with F.W. Woolworth. She was a member of The Church of The Holy Trinity, Middletown.

Luella is survived by her sons, Richard Miller and wife Judy of Pomfret Center, Dennis Miller and wife Janice of Palmer, Massachusetts, and daughter, Carol Parker and husband Donald of Smithfield, Rhode Island, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Arthur, brother Clarence Hayes, sisters, Leona Mathews and Jeanette Cullinane.

Funeral service will be Saturday, February 2, at Biega Funeral Home, 3 Silver Street, in Middletown. Calling hour will be 10:00-11:00 with funeral service to follow at 11:00.

Those who wish may send memorial contributions to Matulaitis Nursing Home, 10 Thurber Road, Putnam, CT 06260 or to The Church of The Holy Trinity, 381 Main Street, Middletown, CT 06457

Gilman Funeral Home
104 Church Street, Putnam, CT 06260
Valade Funeral Home
23 Main Street, North Grosvenordale, CT 06260
860-928-7723
Robert R. Fournier Jr. - Funeral Director
Locally Owned and Operated
Gilman-Vdade LLC

OBITUARIES

James Bertrand Harmon, 88

WOODSTOCK – James B. Harmon, 88, of Prospect Streets, died unexpectedly on Wednesday January 16, 2019 at UMASS University Hospital. He was the loving husband of Grace Ann (Kelsey) Harmon for 61 years. Born in Torrington, he was the son of the late Charles and Antoinette (Coache) Harmon.

Jim was a graduate of Woodrow Wilson High School and proudly served in the Air Force Reserve and the Air Force National Guard of Connecticut, enlisting in 1951, and received his honorable discharge in 1954. Jim was a member of the Third Congregational Church of Middletown, honorary member of the Mattabassett Chapter of the Future Farmers of America, and Westfield Volunteer Fire Department. He was also a past member of the Connecticut Farm Bureau and the National Rifle Association.

James lived in Middletown most of his life, purchasing the family Spring Water Company in 1966 that he ran until 1977, and bought a farm in Woodstock, which is still owned and managed by his family.

Besides his wife, Jim leaves his son, Joel and his wife Sharon; two daughters, Judith Perkins and her husband Michael and Alyson Hebert and her husband Joe; seven grandchildren, Sarah, Patricia, Jason, Amelia, Rachel, Megan, and Stuart, four great-grandchildren, Landon, Hudson, Lincoln, and Linnea. One of eleven children, Jim is survived by his brothers, Paul and Sid; sisters, Joyce, Carolyn, and Denise, and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brothers Charles, Donald, and Doug, and sisters, Nancy and Muriel.

Jim will be remembered for his sharp wit, love of his family and farm, compassion for others and love of his dogs, Bobby and Roy, who miss him dearly. To honor his wishes, a private family memorial will be held later when his ashes will be broadcast under the beautiful lone pine tree overlooking his farm.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Patricia Mancini, 87

PUTNAM – Patricia (Osborne) Mancini, 87, of Tourtellotte Road, died Sunday afternoon at home. She was the loving wife of the late Joseph T. Mancini, Sr. Born in Wallingford, she was the daughter of the late Willard and Clementine (Hebert) Osborne.

On March 19, 1947, at St. Rose Church in Meridan, she was united in marriage to Joseph T. Mancini, Sr. He passed away on March 22, 2013. She worked alongside her husband on the family dairy farm, "Windy Hill Farms" in Killingly.

She enjoyed collecting music boxes, reading, crossword puzzles, backyard cookouts and making pasta on Sundays. Above all she cherished the quality time that she spent with her family.

Patricia is survived by five sons, Joseph Mancini, Jr. and his wife Marilyn of Pomfret Center, David Mancini and his wife Joan of New York, Peter Mancini and his wife Christina of Vermont, Paul Mancini of Killingly, and Mark Mancini of Putnam; a daughter, Christine Opperman of Dayville; a sister June Lopes; 15 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her sister, the late Barbara Veronasy and a granddaughter Deanna.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Patricia's family on Friday, January 25, 2019 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam with a Funeral Service in the funeral home at 1:00 pm. Burial will be in Elmvale Cemetery in the spring.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations in Patricia's memory may be made to the ASPCA or to the Humane Society. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Elizabeth "Betty" S. Woods

WOODSTOCK -- Elizabeth "Betty" S. Woods, of Woodstock, passed away on December 17, 2018. She was the wife of the late Stanley H. Woods and the daughter of the late Charles and Irene Splettstoeszer of New Britain.

Betty was born in New Britain, graduating from New Britain High School in 1943 and from Moody Secretarial School in 1945. After graduation, she worked as secretary for a law firm and then for the Middle Atlantic Transportation Company, both in New Britain. She married Stanley Woods in 1948 and the couple moved to Newington where they started raising their family. In 1959, they moved their family to a farm in Woodstock, when Betty went to work for the American Optical in Southbridge, Massachusetts until 1986 when the family moved to Putnam. She found a job at International Paper in Putnam and worked there for the next 7 years. For the following two years, she and her husband spent travelling the USA, Mexico, Canada, the Yukon Territory, and Alaska in their RV. Upon their return, they re-settled first in Putnam and then in Colchester in 2000. For the next four years, Betty was the caregiver for her husband Stan, who died in November, 2011. In 2012 she moved back to Woodstock to be close to her family.

She loved her family, her friends, animals, especially her cat Abby, music, and travelling around the country with her husband.

She is survived by her daughter, Sandra Rudin and her partner Laurence Rudin of Woodstock; her son Gordon and his wife Diane of Smithfield, Maine; and her son Ronald and his wife, June of Salinas, California; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Burial, along with her husband of 63 years, will be in Oxbow Cemetery, Newbury, Vermont at the convenience of the family. Services will be private.

Evelyn Baldyga, 89

SOUTHBRIDGE- Evelyn (Polomski) Baldyga, 89, formerly of Golf St., passed away on Sunday, Jan. 20th, in the Charlton Manor Rest Home, after a long illness.

Her husband, Edward J. Baldyga, passed away in 1991. She leaves her son, Edward W. Baldyga and his wife Donna of Southbridge; her two grandsons, Philip Baldyga and his wife Sarah Daigle of Woodstock, CT and Brandon Baldyga and his wife Rebecca of Fiskdale; and her two nieces, Caroline Warbreck of Avon, CT and Barbara Fernane of New Market, NH. She was predeceased by her two brothers, Joseph Polomski and Alex Polomski and her two sisters, Jeannette Falat and Victoria Polomski. She was born in Southbridge the daughter of Walter and Bertha (Grabowski) Polomski.

Evelyn was the Town Clerk for the Town of Southbridge serving from 1979 to 1991. She also served as Justice of the Peace and married numerous couples through the years. After retirement she volunteered with the Harrington Memorial Hospital Auxiliary in Southbridge. She also volunteered with the American Cancer Society driving patients to their appointments. Evelyn was a member of St. Hedwig's Church in Southbridge and a member and treasurer of the St. Hedwig's Holy Rosary Sodality. She was a member of the Pilsudski Polish American Club in Southbridge. She loved working in her flower garden. Most of all she enjoyed spending time with her grandsons who she loved dearly.

Evelyn's funeral will be held on Friday, January 25th, from the Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge, with a Mass at 11:00am in St. Hedwig's Church of the St. John Paul II Parish, Everett St., Southbridge. Burial will follow in St. Hedwig's Cemetery, Southbridge. Calling hours in the funeral home will be held on Friday, Jan. 25th, from 9:30 to 10:30am, prior to the Mass.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Jacob Edwards Library, 236 Main St., Southbridge, MA 01550.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

Martha E. Daniels, 67

LEE, MASSACHUSETTS – Martha E. (Surprise) Daniels, 67, of E. Center St, died Friday, January 18, 2019, at Day Kimball Hospital. She was the loving wife of the late John Daniels. Born in Putnam, she was the daughter of the late George and Mary (Perron) Surprise.

Mrs. Daniels worked for many years as a clerk at Price Chopper.

Martha is survived by three daughters, Betsy Leite and her husband David of Danielson, Diane Daniels her companion Howard Baird the 2nd, and Elizabeth Daniels and her companion Shawn Kingsbury all of Lee, Massachusetts; stepchildren, Lisa Houghtling her husband Charles, John Daniels, and Bruce Daniels all of Pittsfield, Massachusetts; a brother, David Surprise of Tennessee; a sister, Marianne Vallee of Massachusetts and many grandchildren whom she adored. She was predeceased by a stepson William Daniels.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations in Martha's memory may be made to Relay for Life North Eastern Connecticut under KHS footnotes name of Hunter Leite her grandson who will be participating in the walk or to your local animal shelter. Funeral services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Patricia (Stocks) Day, 83

EASTFORD -- Patricia (Stocks) Day, 83, of Eastford went home to be with her Lord and Savior on January 19, 2019. She was the wife of H. Warren Day. She was born in Putnam on September 12, 1935, daughter of the late Edward and Agnes (Woznicki) Stocks. She was a graduate of Putnam High School class of 1953. After graduation she was employed by the Windham County News and later worked at the Cargill Trust Co., where she met her husband to be. She moved to Eastford in 1964 and over the years worked for the Tatem Manufacturing Co., Eastford Building Supply, Still River Wood Co., Hull Forest Products, and the Town of Eastford for one school year as a crossing guard at the intersection of Rt. 198 in the center of town. Because of this she was instrumental in having stop signs erected at this location. She also owned and operated the Eastford Rubber Stamp Shop for 28 years, retiring in 2002,

She loved to fish, hunt, knit, read, garden, do stained glass projects and travel. She and her husband enjoyed many hours watching birds at their many feeding stations. She served on many committees over the years including being a Cub Scout Den Mother at St. Mary Church in Putnam in the late 50's. Eastford 4-H Horse Club Leader, P.T.O., EIFD Women's Auxiliary, Library Board, Women's Fellowship at the Eastford Assembly of God and Eastford Congregational Church, Hospice and Red Cross volunteer for many years, and was also a member and volunteer of the Ashford Senior Citizens Organization.

She was predeceased by her husband and best friend of 51 years, H. Warren Day who she married at St. Mary Church on April 12, 1958. She leaves a son Denis A. Day of Eastford and his wife Marcia, a daughter Valerie (Day) Breton and her fiancé Mike Gauthier Tilton, New Hampshire, granddaughter Master Sgt. Michelle Hoover, USAF and her husband Walter of Alpena, Michigan, grandson Joseph Breton of Woodstock, great grandchildren, Odin, Warren and Alaric, sister Martha (Stocks) Laakso and her husband Jack of Bluffton, South Carolina, brother Timothy J. Stocks and wife Margaret of Killingly, several nieces and nephews. She was also predeceased by her brother Edward and his wife Ruth (Murphy) Stocks.

A memorial service will be held in early Spring. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Patricia's memory to the Congregational Church of Eastford (Kitchen Fund), 8 Church Road, Eastford, CT 06242, where she was a member, or the Eastford Public Library (Book Fund), 179 Eastford Road, Eastford, CT 06242. Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam is in charge of arrangements. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
TAX COLLECTOR'S
NOTICE

The second installment of real estate and personal property taxes, sewer use bills, and motor vehicle supplemental taxes listed on the October 1, 2017 Grand List becomes due and payable to the Town of Woodstock on **January 1, 2019**. Payment must be postmarked or brought into the office by **February 1, 2019** to avoid an interest charge. Interest will be charged on **February 2, 2019** on all delinquent payments at the rate of one and one-half percent per month, or a minimum charge of $2.00 on each bill.

Motor Vehicle Supplemental taxes not paid by **February 1, 2019** will be reported as delinquent to the Motor Vehicle Department.

If you have any questions, please contact the Tax Collector's Office at 860-928-9469 ext. 318 or the Assessor's office at 860-928-6929 ext. 326.

The Tax Collector's office hours **during the month of January, 2019** are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. All other months, the town hall will be closed on Friday.

The office will be closed at noon on Monday, December 31, 2018 and will be closed on Tuesday, January 1, 2019 for New Year's Day Holiday and on Monday, January 21, 2019 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Linda Bernardi, CCMC
Woodstock Tax Collector
415 Route 169
Woodstock, Ct 06281

December 28, 2018
January 11, 2019
January 25, 2019

WITCHES WOOD TAX DISTRICT
NOTICE TO PAY TAXES

The second installment of taxes due to the Witches Woods Tax District on the Town of Woodstock Grand List of October 1, 2017 are due and payable on January 1, 2019. Payment must be postmarked or delivered by February 1, 2019.

Interest will be charged on February 2, 2019 on all delinquent payments at the rate of one and a half percent per month or a minimum charge of $2.00 per tax bill, in accordance with Section 12-146 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Failure to receive a tax bill does not invalidate the tax or the interest. (Section 12-130 C.G.S.) If you do not receive a tax bill, please contact the Tax Collector immediately.

Payments must be sent to:
WITCHES WOODS TAX DISTRICT
25 CROOKED TRAIL, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281-2601

Mail must be postmarked no later than February 1, 2019

Frederick M. Chmura
Tax Collector
January 4, 2019
January 25, 2019

TOWN OF THOMPSON
PLANNING AND ZONING
COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 28, 2019 at 7:00PM at the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT for the following:

PZC Application #18-24: Applicant - Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission, Amendment to Thompson Subdivision Regulation. Amend subdivision regulation Article IV – Requirements for the Subdivision of Land, Section 10, Bonding for Public Improvements to include Surety Bonds.

Interested persons may attend and be heard, and written communications may be received at or prior to the hearing. File may be reviewed in the Town Clerk and Zoning Offices during normal business hours.

Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman
Planning and Zoning Commission
January 18, 2019
January 25, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Anna Louise Gardner
(19-00015)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 15, 2018, 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:
John Lemire,
111 Connecticut Mills Ave.,
Danielson, CT 06239
January 25, 2019

TOWN OF BROOKLYN
PLANNING AND ZONING
COMMISSION
NOTICE OF ACTION

At the regular meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, the following action was taken:

1. SD18-004 One-Lot Re-Subdivision – Dennis Beausoleil, 1.08 acres, north side of Creamery Brook Road near intersection with Purvis Road (Assessor's Map 32, Lot 120)-

APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS.

2. SD18-003 Re-Subdivision of Grand View Acres – Brooklyn Builders, LLC and Charlotte Larrow, Trustee, 8.22 acres, westerly end of Grand View Terrace (Assessor's Map 32, Lot 36-1 through 36-6), Proposed reduction from 6 lots to 3 lots -APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS.

Dated this 16th day of January 2019.
Michelle Sigfridson
Chairman
January 25, 2019

OBITUARIES

Justin R. Dumaine, 36

EASTFORD -- Justin R. Dumaine, 36, of Eastford, died unexpectedly, Tuesday, January 15, 2019. He leaves his mother Karen Hall and Tom of Eastford, and his daughters and his four-legged friend Romeo. He enjoyed fishing and cooking. Justin was known for his big heart and caring for his friends and was a kind man. Calling hours will be Saturday, January 26, 2019 from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to an animal shelter or pet rescue of your choice. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

OBITUARIES are published at no charge.
E-mail notices to charlie@villagernewspapers.com or fax them to (860) 928-5946.
Photos are welcome in JPEG format.

Lavonnie "Bonnie" E. Tetreault, 88

SOUTH KILLINGLY -- Lavonnie "Bonnie" E. Tetreault, 88, of South Killingly died Sunday, January 20, 2019 at The Village at Waterman Lake in Greenville, Rhode Island. She was predeceased by her beloved husbands Rene G. Hebert, Sr, who died in 1970 and Leo E. Tetreault, who died in 2009. She was born on May 11, 1930 in North Uxbridge, Massachusetts, daughter of Furnie and Edith (Trainor) White.

She was a Communicant of St. Ignatius Church of Rogers, where she was an active member. She worked at Rogers Corporation for 33 years until her retirement. Her family has always been special to her as she remained close with her surviving siblings and children. Bonnie loved old movies, reading, drinking tea, desserts and ice cream.

She leaves her children Karen Osborne and her husband Gary of Southbury, Rene G. Hebert, Jr. and his wife Jayne of Brooklyn, Michael Hebert and his wife Ann of Meriden, stepchildren Jeannie West and her husband William of Plainfield, Denise DeFusco of Brooklyn, Diane Jones of West Hartford, Karen Marrone and her husband David of Westerly, R, siblings Frederick White and his wife Nancy of Brooklyn, Frances Coughlin and her husband William of Jewett City, grandchildren Erica, Jessie, Megan, Nicole, Michael, Mathieu, step grandchildren Trevor, Kyle, Korey, Kevin, Amy, William, Christopher, Trent, Jr., Alexa, many great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by eight siblings and two half-brothers.

Calling hours will be Friday, January 25, 2019 from 8:30 to 9:30 AM at Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home, 33 Reynolds Street, Danielson, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 AM at St. James Church, 12 Franklin Street, Danielson, burial to follow in Holy Cross Cemetery, Danielson. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Alzheimer's Association Connecticut Chapter, 200 Executive Boulevard, Suite 4B, Southington, CT 06489. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Villager Newspapers

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760 Vans/Trucks

2000 GMC 2500 SIERRA 4-door cab & 1/2, 4-wheel drive, no rot, with plow + truck mount slide-in Fleetwood Alcorn camper (2001) w/bath, fridge, a/c, kitchenette. $6300 **508-341-6347**

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SAVE $290 on windows[1]

SAVE $790 on entry and patio doors[1]

with **NO** money down **NO** payments **NO** interest until 2020![1]

- With our special Cold Weather Installation Method, our team works room by room, window by window, so your exposure to the cold weather will be minimal.
- Poor-quality vinyl windows can often crack, and cause drafts this time of year. Our windows' composite Fibrex® material is twice as strong as vinyl.
- Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, a family-owned American company that builds affordable windows for those with a deep sense of pride in their home.

Schedule your Free Window and Door Diagnosis before January 31st!

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[1]**Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England is an independently owned and operated affiliate operating in RI, CT and Cape Cod, MA.** Offer not available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative at time of contract execution and **applies to purchase of 3 or more windows and/or entry or patio doors.** Cannot be combined with other offers. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for a free Window and Door Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 1/31/19, with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. Not all customers may qualify. Higher rates apply for customer with lower credit ratings. Financing not valid with other offers or prior purchases. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Renewal by Andersen retailers are independently owned and operated retailers, and are neither brokers nor lenders. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only, and all financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Renewal by Andersen retailers, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all subject to credit requirements. Renewal by Andersen retailers do not assist with, counsel or negotiate financing, other than providing customers an introduction to lenders interested in financing. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket will be subject to an island surcharge. CT HIC.0634555. MA 173245. RI 36079. Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. Southern New England Windows LLC is the authorized representative of Renewal by Andersen and the registered Home Improvement Contractor. Renewal by Andersen does not hold this HIC number. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are marks of Andersen Corporation. ©2019 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2019 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *Using U.S. and imported parts.

Villager Newspapers COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

"Shining a light on community events"

January 26, Sat., 9:30
Cookbook club (cook's choice...bring your favorite breakfast or brunch dish). If you want to join us, we are always looking for new members. It is always a fun and yummy meeting. Bring a favorite dish to share and a copy of the recipe to share. Bracken Memorial Library, 57 Academy Road, Woodstock.

January 26, Sat., 1-3pm
Car Seat Clinic, King Cadillac, 139 Pomfret St, Putnam, Any questions, call 860-377-0755, Sponsored by Putnam Elks, SafeKids, King Cadillac & Osborne EMS education

January 27, Sun., 2pm
BROOKLYN - A Christian Healing Service, formerly held at St. Philip's Church in Putnam, will be held at Trinity Episcopal Church, 7 Providence Road, Brooklyn. Prayer teams will pray with individuals for healing. The service will include praise and worship music. Healing services will be held every fourth Sunday of the month. For info call 860-774-9352, visit www.trinitychurchbrookly.org or Facebook.

January 27, Sun., 8:30-11:30am
Breakfast and Open House-St. at Joseph School, 26 Main Street, North Grosvenordale. Tours available. Come see our wonderful school! Adults $10, Seniors, $8, Children $6. French Toast Casserole, scrambled eggs, pancakes, steak, Canadian bacon, sausage, bacon, roasted potatoes, fruit salad, muffins, beverages.

February 1, Fri., 5:30-7:30
H.H. Ellis Tech Class of 2019 Project Safe Grad Pasta Dinner on. In the Ellis Tech Cafeteria. Tickets are $7.00 each or a family pack of 4 for $25.00. For more information call 860-412-7579

February 2, Sat., 7-8:30am
The Soldiers, Sailors and Marines Fund (SSMF) assistance is available this Saturday and every Saturday morning, at the Pomfret Senior Center, 207 Mashamouquet Road (Rt.44) in Pomfret. Always free and confidential; call 860-928-2309 for questions. (The SSMF is administered by the American Legion to provide temporary financial assistance to qualified veterans.)

February 2, Sat., 9:30
Book club, Lab Girl by Hope Jahren. Bracken Memorial Library, 57 Academy Road, Woodstock.

National Opposite Day 2019 January 25

Most experts agree that National Opposite Day is observed on January 25th, but other experts claim it is celebrated on January 7th. Still others believe that it is to be celebrated every month of the year on the 25th day.

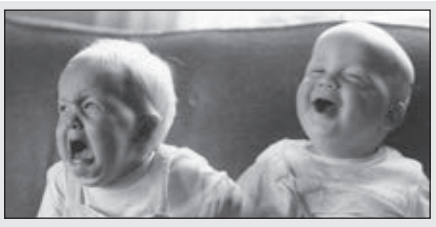
Is it National Opposite Day? Is it not Opposite Day? Or is it not not Opposite Day? Now even I am confused. Either way children across the country rejoice in this day as they declare they mean the opposite of whatever they say. I would love to do the dishes! Broccoli is my favorite food! I didn't push my brother in the mud! Here is a serious question… What is the opposite of Opposite Day?

National Opposite Day Activities

1. Call in Sick For Work, Then Show Up Anyway
Your boss will be confused for a minute, then it will dawn on them. Plus you shouldn't lose your job for this one, nor should you lose one of your sick days.

2. Say Goodbye When Greeting People
The confusion on their faces will be worth it. If you pair this with the number one on our list, it will only get better.

3. Don't Do Anything for Opposite Day
Saying it's Opposite Day negates that it is opposite day. So don't do anything for opposite, but know in your heart that it really is National Opposite Day.



Why We Love National Opposite Day

A. The Pranksters in All of Us Rejoice
Class clowns who grew up to be office jokesters, and even that really quiet co-worker on the third floor can enjoy opposite day. There is a built in excuse for joking, pranking, and tricking, everyone you know. You are only limited by your imagination.

B. It's Kind of Like, April Fools' Day Has An Awesome Little Sibling
What's better than pranking someone and saying you didn't prank someone. The answer is nothing is better than that. "No, I didn't turn all our appliances around and flip your furniture upside down."

C. Spongebob Squarepants Has an Episode About Opposite Day
Nothing says cultural relevance like a children's TV show creating an episode about a holiday. Spongebob + Opposite Day = entertainment for all ages.

This page is designed to shine a light on upcoming local nonprofit, educational and community events. Submissions are limited to *50 words or less* and are FREE to qualifying organizations, schools, churches and town offices. To submit your event contact:
Teri Stohlberg at 860-928-1818 ext. 105,
or teri@villagernewspapers.com.
Deadline for submission is Friday at Noon

PUTNAM

continued from page **B1**

a person, as a player," Lyons said. "I'm so proud to be her teammate, and the rest of these girls, just watching them all grow as a team and as basketball players and people — I'm just proud to call them my family."

Lyons tallied eight points and junior guard Molly McKeon added seven points for Putnam in the win over St. Bernard, lifting the Clippers record to 12-2. Emily Nelson scored 10 points and Carly Potts tallied eight points for St. Bernard (5-8). The Clippers are currently ranked No. 5 in the state in Class S. If Putnam can hold that No.-5 seeding throughout the rest of the season they will play host to first-round state tourney game. And if the Clippers can win in the first round they'll host another state playoff game in the second round.

"We want to get that home state game so we have that support so our families come out and support us. That's definitely our biggest goal, to have a home state game," Lyons said. "That's our goal right there, is to be able to have our people come out to our gym and cheer us on."

Coach Hogan won't worry about states but will focus on taking it one game at a time.

"I don't look ahead to that too much. Obviously we want a home game. It's great to get the community here. These girls work hard. They should have a home game. They still need to work hard every day to maintain that," Hogan said.

Putnam is next scheduled to travel to backyard rival Killingly High on Friday night, Jan. 25, with the game scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

"It's going to be a tough game," St. Martin said. "We just have to keep our heads up and always score and drive and work as a team."

Lyons said the Redgals will present a formidable challenge on Friday night.

"That's definitely going to be handful, especially because we didn't get to play them in the Clipper Classic this year. So it's definitely going to be an exciting and eventful game," Lyons said.

This will be the first time Putnam has traveled to play at Killingly High in coach Hogan's tenure at the school.

"I guess the kids are into it," said Hogan, in her sixth season as head coach. "It's going to be great, the local community's getting together, hopefully the gym's going to be packed. We like that kind of environment, a lot of energy. We're just looking forward to Friday."

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

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2015 GRAND CHEROKEE — #D9335L • LAREDO TRIM, 4X4, KEYLESS START, 17" ALLOYS — NEW Retail Price: $35,490 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $22,477 — SAVE $13,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 DODGE JOURNEY — #D9392R • 3RD ROW SEATS, SE TRIM, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, V6 — NEW Retail Price: $27,895 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $17,677 — SAVE $10,200 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 DODGE DURANGO — #D9531R • GT TRIM, 5.7L HEMI, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, ALLOYS, DVD — NEW Retail Price: $42,715 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $33,677 — SAVE $9,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 CHEVY CRUZE LT — #H8125A • TURBO, ALLOYS, HEATED SEATS, BACK-UP CAM — NEW Retail Price: $23,475 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $13,499 — SAVE $10,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2018 CHRYSLER PACIFICA — #D9390R • TOURING TRIM, NAV, HEATED LEATHER, 17" ALLOYS — NEW Retail Price: $34,340 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $27,277 — SAVE $7,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 FORD ESCAPE SE — #18694A • BACK-UP CAM, TURBO, ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH, SPOILER — NEW Retail Price: $24,845 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $15,855 — SAVE $9,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2017 GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO 4x4 — #D9488

NEW RETAIL PRICE: $37,490
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ALLOYS 4X4

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NEW RETAIL PRICE: $40,335
WHOLESALE PRICE: $26,799
Sport 2.0L Turbo Trim, Moonroof, Heated Leather, Alloys, Navigation.
SAVE $13,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 RAM 1500 EXPRESS — #H0552 • CREW CAB, 4X4, 5.7L V8, BEDLINER, 20" ALLOYS — NEW Retail Price: $39,930 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $27,999 — SAVE $11,900 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 HYUNDAI ELANTRA — #H8550A • GT HATCHBACK, HEATED SEATS, 17" ALLOYS — NEW Retail Price: $22,305 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $8,488 — SAVE $13,800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2013 NISSAN ALTIMA SL — #D9170L • 3.5L V6, 18" ALLOYS, MOONROOF, HEATED LEATHER — NEW Retail Price: $28,630 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $8,899 — SAVE $19,700 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2015 LINCOLN MKC SUV — #P11258A • ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, TURBO, HEATED LEATHER — NEW Retail Price: $33,995 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $22,355 — SAVE $11,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 HYUNDAI SONATA — #H0523 • SPORT TRIM, TURBO, HEATED SEATS, BACK-UP CAM — NEW Retail Price: $28,775 — WHOLESALE PRICE: $16,999 — SAVE $11,800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2017 FORD ESCAPE SE SUV — #39138A

NEW RETAIL PRICE: $28,045
WHOLESALE PRICE: $17,544
4x4, 17" Alloys, Back-Up Camera, Turbo, Bluetooth, Satellite Radio.
SAVE $10,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LIKE NEW 2017 CHEVY EQUINOX LT AWD SUV — #39339L

NEW RETAIL PRICE: $28,695
WHOLESALE PRICE: $20,544
All-Wheel Drive, 17" Alloys, Remote Start, Heated Seats, Back-Up Camera.
SAVE $8,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

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

NEW RETAIL PRICE: $38,965
WHOLESALE PRICE: $30,355
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