



“All your life,
you will be faced with a choice.
You can choose love or hate.
I choose love.”
- Johnny Cash

KILLINGLY VILLAGER

Friday, April 15, 2022

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Rotary Day of Service benefits local homeless population



Photo Jason Bleau

Putnam Interact Club members pose with donations collected during the Rotary Day of Service on April 9.

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM – The Putnam Rotary Club and Interact Club came together on April 9 as part of the Rotary Day of Service to collect donations to assist the homeless through a local coalition of social service entities.

Rotary and Interact members stood outside the WINY Broadcast House in Putnam braving the rain as they collected both physical and monetary donations to benefit the local homeless population through care packages and housing assistance. The personal care items donated throughout the day will be sorted and packaged by members of the Interact Club, a youth-based offshoot of the Rotary Club, to be given out to the homeless community while the \$1,100 collected will help the Interfaith Human Services of Putnam (IHSP), TEEG, and the no-freeze shelter in Danielson work to provide temporary accommodations for homeless individuals as they work their way through state resources to find permanent housing.

IHSP President and Rotary Club member Karen Osbrey said she felt the event was a great success and enjoyed having the Interact Club involved to give them the opportunity to be a part of a larger mission in the Quiet Corner.

“This event will allow our Interact members to put together kits for the homeless while the funding will help us assist those with more extreme emergency housing needs,” said Osbrey. “These young Interact members are wonderful. They’re caring and interested in what’s going on in the community. They want to make the world a better place. Our future is in good hands.”

Emily St. Martin, a member of the Interact Club, complimented the generosity of the community and hopes their efforts will make a difference.

“We got a lot, and we also had a bin at the YMCA that was very successful,” St. Martin said. “It makes me feel great to be part of a community that’s so open to helping those in

Please Read **SERVICE**, page A2

Concert raises funds for 4-H dam repair



Photos Jason Bleau

Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp Director Heather Logee (far right) and her crew pose for a photo during the “Dam” Fun Time Benefit Concert.

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

HAMPTON – After a nearly two-year delay the Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp and Foundation hosted their “Dam” Fun Time Benefit Concert on Wednesday, April 6, bringing together 190 guests to help raise money to support repairing the dam along the 4-H Camp’s pond in Pomfret.

The concert was held at Stonehurt at Hampton Valley which was donated by Craig Gates and his crew to host the event in 2020. However, the COVID-19 pandemic put a pause on the festivities and the fundraiser was finally able to be rescheduled for 2022. The Great Garage Band Reunion provided the music with Gary O of WINY serving as Master of Ceremonies while a basket raffle, silent auction, 50/50 raffle and more provided plenty of opportunities for guests to have a bit of fun donating money to the cause.

Camp Director Heather Logee spoke about the significance of the night and the

Camp’s gratefulness for the generosity and patience of the community at large.

“We have to raise about a million dollars to fix our dam and make sure our pond can stay intact,” Logee said. “The support we’ve seen today means a lot. We have 23 table sponsors, all local businesses. It’s just great that the community can come together and really help us out during this difficult time. It’s not the first time and it won’t be the last time we ask them for help with this project. It’s been a few years and it’s taken some time to work around the schedule and get this booked, but we’re glad we’re able to have this and get this project underway sooner rather than later.”

Jane Ryder, President of the Windham-Tolland 4-H Foundation, thanked all the supporters as the event got underway pointing out the history of the Camp’s pond and how the funds raised will help preserve the beauty of the Camp for generations to come.

Please Read **CONCERT**, page A4

Senior laden Centaurs hope for strong baseball season

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — With eight seniors on the team, many of whom were in the lineup on a regular basis last year, and several underclassmen who will figure prominently on this year’s team, Woodstock Academy varsity baseball coach Brian Murphy is optimistic about the Centaurs’ chances for success this season.

“I do have confidence in this group. They proved themselves last year. I know that they have great potential,” Murphy said. “The important thing to me is

that they know they’ve got to do it on the field now. They’ve got to grind every day, work hard every day, and keep getting better every day. If they do that, we know we can have something special this year.”

Last season Woodstock Academy finished 17-6, playing well enough to earn the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) tournament. The Centaurs, however, were upset by ninth-seeded East Lyme in the first round. Woodstock fared better in the Connecticut Class L Tournament, defeating Bristol Eastern in a first-round

game before losing to Wilton in the second round.

One week into this season Woodstock Academy is off to a 2-1 start, having lost its season opener to Waterford, 5-4, on Saturday, April 2, before rebounding with wins over Norwich Free Academy (9-5, Tuesday, April 5) and Ellis Tech (6-2, Thursday, April 7).

Please Read **CENTAURS**, page A5

Photo Courtesy



Tourtellotte NHS holds annual Food “Drive”

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON – The Tourtellotte Memorial High School National Honor Society in Thompson held their annual “Food Drive” on Saturday, April 9, with members literally driving around town collecting food to benefit TEEG, a food security hub in North Grosvenordale.

The event was a modified version of the 2021 “Drive,” this time incorporating specific locations into the mix as students from the NHS drove around town picking up boxes of food to help fill TEEG’s Community Market. NHS President Keira O’Brien said they

learned some lessons from their modified event in 2021 where they made trips to specific homes rather than drop sites and incorporated new ideas into the 2022 version.

“We’ve had a food drive for the past several years around April and March and we’re trying to build on it every year and make it better and better,” said O’Brien. “Last year, we individually drove to everyone’s houses and picked up the donations, but this year we wanted to change it up because there were some flaws last year. We found several different locations to place the bins so the community would



Photo Jason Bleau

have a designated spot to drop things off. It made pick-up a bit easier for us and got different entities directly

Members of the Tourtellotte Memorial High School National Honor Society show off the collected food from their annual Food “Drive” event on April 9.

Please Read **FOOD DRIVE**, page A2

A look at the 1950 Census

Did you realize that the 1950 U.S. Census is now available? Bruce Weaver brought a donation to the Killingly Historical Center last week and said that he had been busy browsing it. If you are interested in seeing what it says about your family and neighbors, you, too will have to browse. Unfortunately, it is not yet indexed, but it nice that it is finally available.

Now, my curiosity was really peaked since this is the first census in which I appear. I have a personal subscription to Ancestry.com where I found the following: "A U.S. census record is only available to the general public 72 years after Census Day. This (1950) census may help you discover more about how the Great Depression, World War II, and the start of the Baby Boom affected your family. Images for ALL states and territories are available to explore using the browse feature or searched by address in the 1950 Census district finder experience. (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/62308/)." Some of the questions which were asked on the 1950 Census included age, gender, race, marital status, occupation, Nationality, Citizenship, Veteran status, Family members, Residence, Enumeration district, highest grade level completed, How much they earned. (www.ancestry.com/search/collections/62308/)." Both Killingly and Putnam Public Libraries have library subscriptions to Ancestry, which must be used at the library, not from home.

However, if you wish, you can also go to <https://1950census.archives.gov/> The Official 1950 Census Web site. It includes census forms, questions asked on the forms, and enumeration district maps. "Enumeration District Maps show names of political jurisdictions (counties, cities, townships, and so forth), roads, waterways, and large properties, such as parks, cemeteries, prisons, golf courses, and so forth. In cities, maps may indicate boundaries of Wards and other subdivisions."

I grew up in the tiny borough of Dauphin, eight miles north of

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Since there were only about 600 residents when I was little, I figured I might have some luck fairly quickly finding my family. On Ancestry you can enter State, County, and City or Town so that wasn't difficult. Then I had to browse, page by page, looking for my family. (It will be a few months before you can search this census by surname). Names of streets were written along the left side of the census. After some searching I found my parents (with my maiden name Markunas misspelled with a "c" instead of a k), myself and three siblings. I was disappointed to discover that at number of the houses no one was home and no name had been written. I was anxious to see how many of the neighbors I recalled. I didn't realize until later that they were on listed on separate pages at the end of the census. If you can't locate yourself where you think your family should be, look for notations about pages from when the census taker returned to the street.

Killingly is much larger, so has a number of enumeration districts. You will want to check a map before you browse in this town. Enjoy! I'm sure you'll come across many families you remember. If you are not yet in this census, you might want to search for parents, grandparents, and other relatives. Have fun!

I've been playing with genealogybank.com again to see what I can find of interest. I love old newspaper ads which easily transport me to a bygone era. "Thomas Bradford, manufacturer of and dealer in CARRIAGES, Danielsonville, CT. A full stock on hand at all times, of my own and other's make of Phaetons, Open Buggies, Express Wagons, Jump Seat Carryalls, New Haven Wheels, Rims, Shafts, Hubs, Spokes. And all other Carriage parts. New open Buggies



KILLINGLY
AT 300
MARGARET
WEAVER

from \$75 upwards; and New Phaetons from \$125 and upwards. (Windham County Transcript, Sept. 21, 1876; genealogybank.com). Doesn't it seem strange to think of Northeastern Connecticut without automobiles! We

couldn't exist without them now. "Almost a serious accident was (?) mishap which befell Mr. S. D. Danielson's 'Black Charlie' on Saturday morning. While Mr. D. was feeding the horse the stable floor broke through beneath the stamping feet and one hind leg of the animal went through the opening. Mr. Mr. 'lifted speedily, after old Atlas's best style and 'Charlie' was rescued, but neither horse or owner are anxious to try again. Had the accident occurred the night, good-bye to black Charlie." (WCT Sept. 21, 1976; genealogybank.com).

"From Attawaugan. The school in District No. 8 closed Nov. 22nd. Number of scholars registered during the term, 100: Average attendance, 86. Names of those who attended school every day: Mary Moflitt, Emily Moflitt, Mira Moflitt, (Should these be Moffitt?), Lillian Chase, Cora Chase, Nell Caffrie, Mary Caffrie, Bridget Caffrie, Chlora Lagassa, Elvina Rosebush, Eva Chapman, Charlie Lovett, Clarence Chase, Augustus Cardinal, Joseph Rosebush, Willie Calvert, Clarence C. Chase, Rema Rookie, Delia Goddard." (WCT Sept. 21, 1876; genealogybank.com). It is likely that the families of some of these students worked in the local factory in Attawaugan. Since mill families moved frequently, perhaps this will help you place an ancestor in Killingly at particular place in time. (I found it strange that this article and the next were in a September paper since they say Nov., Sarah Lock. Names of those who have had perfect recitations: Sadie Burlingame, Marian

Chollar, Grace Spaulding, Adabelle Lyon, Charlie Stone. Those who have not been absent: Sadie Burlingame, Gracie Spaulding, Charlie Winkleman, and Herbert Coddling." (WCT, Sept. 21, 1876; genealogybank.com). Imagine being in the paper for not whispering! I included both the school articles since I thought perhaps some of you would discover relatives.

Putnam Heights. "Our people raised their beautiful banner on Monday, dedicated, of course, to Hayes and Wheeler, our probable next President and Vice President. Mr. Harris of St. Louis, though a born Democrat, made a telling speech in our favor. The bell was rung and the enthusiasm that prevailed in our small community was a sufficient guarantee of our good intentions for November Republican." (WCT Sept. 21, 1876; genealogybank.com). I am fairly sure that Mr. Harris is William Torrey Harris, who was born in Killingly, was Superintendent of Schools in St. Louis and went on to become U. S. Commissioner of Education. He is buried on utnam Heights.

"All the mills at East Killingly were closed a few days ago for want of water, and a part of the mill machinery in this village were idle at the same time for the same reason. The heavy rain of Sunday will start up many looms." (WCT Sept. 21, 1976; genealogybank.com).

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian April 2022. Special thanks to Bruce Weaver. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or contact the Killingly Historical Society at www.killinglyhistorical.org. Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

ACT presents original musical review "The Grand Parental Playlist" May 5-7

WILLIMANTIC — EASTCONN's Arts at the Capitol Theater (ACT) magnet school will present The Grand Parental Playlist: The Harmonies of High School, an original musical review created by Director of Theater Sandra Evans-Abbott, on the Capitol Theater's main stage, 896 Main St., Willimantic. Performances will take place on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 5, 6 and 7 at 7 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday, May 7. This family-friendly performance is open to the public.

The Grand Parental Playlist was created as a "thank-you letter" to all of the ACT parents and grandparents who tirelessly supported students for the past two years of learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To create the "playlist," ACT show performers asked family members what years they graduated from high school and what their favorite songs were from those years. Out of a total of 140 songs, the cast chose 29 to perform in the review, all of which were top 10 hits in their heyday and are still highly recognizable today. The cast will invite audience members

to sing along to some songs, and will even invite special guests onstage to sing karaoke-style with the performers.

"This is our 'love letter' to our families, our ACT family, and our community for making it through a theatrical black out," said Evans-Abbott. "The Grand Parental Playlist is an evening of music and community, bringing us back together in the same space!"

ACT music teacher Katherine Popovic will serve as musical director. The cast includes senior Morgan Hrymack (Franklin); juniors John Margeloney (Rockville), Kylie McArthur (Putnam), Jay Barbeau (Canterbury), Immajin Santerre (Griswold) and Samantha Mallory (Coventry); and sophomore Savannah Bryer (Killingly). Junior Allison Root (Southington) will serve as Production Stage Manager.

To reserve tickets, call the Capitol Theater Box Office at 860-465-5636 or visit the Box Office prior to the show. A \$5 donation per person will be accepted for admission. All proceeds from the show will be donated to the World Central Kitchen to help feed Ukrainian refugees who were displaced by the Russian invasion.

ACT is a public, performing arts magnet high school administered by EASTCONN.



Photo Courtesy

Cast and crew members at a rehearsal for ACT's "The Grand Parental Playlist."

ACT is currently recruiting academically motivated students who will enter grades 9-12 in the 2022-2023 school year. To learn more about ACT or to download an application, visit www.eastconn.org/act or call 860-465-5636.

EASTCONN is a public, non-profit Regional Educational Service Center that has been serving the education needs of northeastern Connecticut schools and communities since 1980. Learn more at www.eastconn.org.

FOOD DRIVE

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involved with the cause." Drop sites were set up for 24-hours at the Thompson Common, Town Hall, Thompson Speedway, West Thompson Fire Department, and TEEG itself. The donations filled a table providing a variety of goods including proteins and healthy side options to

support TEEG's mission of not just providing food resources, but healthy options for their clients.

"Seeing the turnout makes me feel really happy," O'Brien said after sorting through the final donations. "I'm glad people really do care about TEEG and our community. We want to help anyone struggling and it feels great that people took the time to help in that mission."



GOOD NEWS

JOSPEH GNAZZO NOW HIRING COMPANY INC. Entry level construction laborers

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SERVICE

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need or people who may not have a roof over their head."

While the Day of Service was a huge success, the Interact Club didn't rest there. Throughout the morning members also worked on another project, creating tie-dyed socks that will be sold at Relay for Life in June.



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A lesson in “Endurance”

When you're on a mission to accomplish your dream, you'll sail through vicious storms. Waves will be high, and winds strong. When this happens, you must endure with a positive attitude.

Ernest Shackleton, a born adventurer, tried three times to get to the South Pole. He failed twice, but Shackleton was optimistic to the core. His third journey was legendary.

We can learn much from studying Ernest Shackleton's third trip to Antarctica.

In 1914, Shackleton left England with 27 men, bound for the South Pole aboard his ship “Endurance.” They were aware that they might never return, but Shackleton's enthusiasm was so powerful they couldn't help but believe in their success.

They began their approach to Antarctica in dangerous waters. Whalers warned them not to proceed, but Shackleton staked everything on this mission; it was his last chance to achieve his dream.

They had to navigate through one thousand miles of thick ice fields. After six weeks, they were only one day away from Antarctica.

Suddenly, the sea froze around them; they could not move in any direction.

The crew was troubled, but this is when Shackleton showed his greatness. He didn't show the slightest sign of disappointment. He calmly told them they must stay for the winter, never losing his optimism.

“Difficulties are just things to overcome,” said Shackleton. After ten months, their ship sank. They were now living on shifting ice, with a fraction of their supplies and three lifeboats.

Forces beyond your control will try to shatter your determination. You must stay optimistic.

Shackleton recognized he wouldn't accomplish his dream. He changed his plan to achieve something more purposeful, to bring all his men home alive.

If you must retreat from your dream, you can transform it into something more meaningful.

Melting ice eventually forced them into their boats. Searching for a distant island and altering course for another, morale was low, and death seemed inevitable. One sailor marveled, “Shackleton never appears to be anything but the acme of good humor and hopefulness; he is one of the greatest



POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY MOORE

optimists living!”

Some thought he was foolish, a blind optimist who falsely thought everything would be alright. Shackleton maintained his faith even when fiercely preventing a mutiny with his revolver.

At night, they slept on icebergs. One night, the ice split open, and a man fell in; risking his life, Shackleton was quick to pull him back.

They suffered constant storms, frost-bite, frozen clothing, little food, and killer whales. The men broke down and wept, only able to continue because of Shackleton's sheer will. He never said a negative word; he always maintained every one of them would reach safety!

Eventually, they found their island. The island had no supplies; there was no chance of rescue. Undaunted, Shackleton chose six men and set out for help eight hundred miles away through the world's roughest ocean, promising to come back and rescue the rest.

Soon the water was pouring into their boat. Around the clock, they bailed out water and worked the sails. Wave after wave almost flipped them into the icy waters. When all seemed lost,

Shackleton demanded they be cheerful. Often, they whistled and sang songs in defiance of the terrible conditions.

Miraculously, they made it through 17 days of violent storms to land on the wrong side of the island. Knowing they couldn't survive another day on the water, and with three of his men almost dead. He hatched a plan to climb through the icy mountains twenty-two miles to the other side.

They didn't have the proper equipment, and twisted screws from their boat into the bottom of their shoes for traction. They went into the mountains, walking through ice fields, jumping crevasses fifty feet deep as they made their way. One slip would end them. Through it all, they never said one negative word, never one complaint. Thirty-six hours later, they reached a whaling station. Shackleton was true to his word. He went back and rescued every man.

Like Shackleton, when you find yourself in desperate circumstances, keep an attitude of optimism, knowing you'll come out on the other side better than before. Any negative thought, word, or action could make the difference between life or death.

Army Corps of Engineers, TLGV & Thompson celebrate new footbridge

THOMPSON — The US Army Corps of Engineers is excited to announce the official re-opening of the new Blain Road footbridge! USACE, The Last Green Valley and the Town of Thompson have joined together to plan a ribbon-cutting event to mark the official re-opening of the bridge on Friday, April 22 at 3 p.m. Prior to the ceremony there will be opportunities to join a ranger-led hike or paddle, timed to convene at the new bridge in time for the public presentation, which will include remarks from invited federal, state and local dignitaries.

The new 85-foot steel-truss pedestrian bridge at the Blain Road crossing of the Quinebaug River replaces the former dilapidated 54-foot steel truss bridge. While the early 20th century-era bridge served its purpose for many years, repetitive damage to its steel supports and rock abutments from years of flooding proved too costly for further repairs, and so the old bridge was removed in 2012 due to safety concerns. The loss of the footbridge removed an important link in the West Thompson Lake trail system, one particularly keenly felt by locals who could no longer make the shorter hike across the river between West Thompson and North Grosvenordale. To assist the

Army Corps in planning for a replacement bridge, the Town engaged a team of senior engineering students from the class of 2015 to develop a concept plan, which was shared with USACE upon completion. Federal funding was finally obtained in 2019, which kick-started the construction phase of the new bridge. That construction was completed in March of 2022 and now we are ready to celebrate the re-opening of a very popular bridge that will improve access to over 14 miles of trails on both sides of West Thompson Lake and miles of other connecting trails in Thompson.

Both the hike and the paddle are 1.1 miles one-way to the bridge. To join either the hike or the kayak trip to the ceremony, plan on meeting at the boat ramp on Reardon Road at 1:30 pm. Participation in the paddle will require registration in advance. Please contact The Last Green Valley at www.thelastgreenvalley.org (860-774-3300) to register. For more information, please contact West Thompson Lake Park Office (860-923-2982). We hope to see everyone there to celebrate this momentous occasion! The event is co-hosted by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Thompson Trails Committee and The Last Green Valley.

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Killingly Library announces vacation week events

KILLINGLY — The Killingly Public Library is excited to host the following events during school vacation week.

Touch a Truck event - all ages
Tuesday, April 19, 10 a.m. - noon
Meet our local volunteer firefighters, check out their fire engines, & learn fire prevention through fun activities.
No Registration Required

Po-e-trees Workshop - ages 6-12
Friday, April 22, 10 - 11 a.m.
Top of Form
Celebrate Poetry Month by creating a poem & tree at the same time. We will have all the supplies to create your beautiful Po-e-tree!

Bottom of Form
*Registration is required.
For more information please visit our Web site at www.killinglypl.org or call The Killingly Library at: 860-779-5383.

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How to build up your credit score so you can build out your life

As a financial advisor, I work with many people in their thirties and forties who are in the “accumulating” phase of life – the time when they’re building their careers, buying a home, building a life for themselves and their young families, and beginning to build up wealth for long-term life goals as well. There’s a lot that goes into creating a solid financial strategy to help achieve all of that, but there’s one thing that can stop those plans at square one: a bad credit score.



FINANCIAL FOCUS
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Your credit score is based on information provided by your creditors to the three credit reporting agencies: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. Because each agency may have different information about you, your score may differ slightly among the three.

What affects your credit score? Although judgments, liens, and bankruptcies can have a damaging effect on your score, it is the little things that count. In fact, 65 percent of your FICO score is based on two

key factors: your payment history and the amount of debt you carry versus the amount available to you (i.e., your credit card limits). Also important are your length of credit history, how much new credit you have applied for, and your mix among credit types. For more detailed information, visit www.myfico.com/crediteducation.

Tip #1: Get your score. Although you can get a free credit report once every 12 months through www.annualcreditreport.com, the report does not include your score. You get a free score only if you have been denied credit or insurance. Many lenders will provide your score upon request, after your application has been approved. If you want to know your score before applying, you can pay a small fee to one of the credit reporting agencies or go to www.myfico.com. Offers for free scores are usually tied to monthly credit monitoring services.

Tip #2: Correct your information. It is a good idea to check your credit

reports annually to ensure that they are accurate. Correct mistakes immediately, with both the institution and the credit reporting agencies; they have a responsibility to correct errors under the Fair Credit Reporting Act. Be sure to send copies of supporting documentation and keep a record of your request.

Tip #3: Understand your rating. FICO scores range from 300 to 850, with 850 being the best possible score. Generally, a FICO score above 700 is good; scores below 600 indicate a high credit risk.

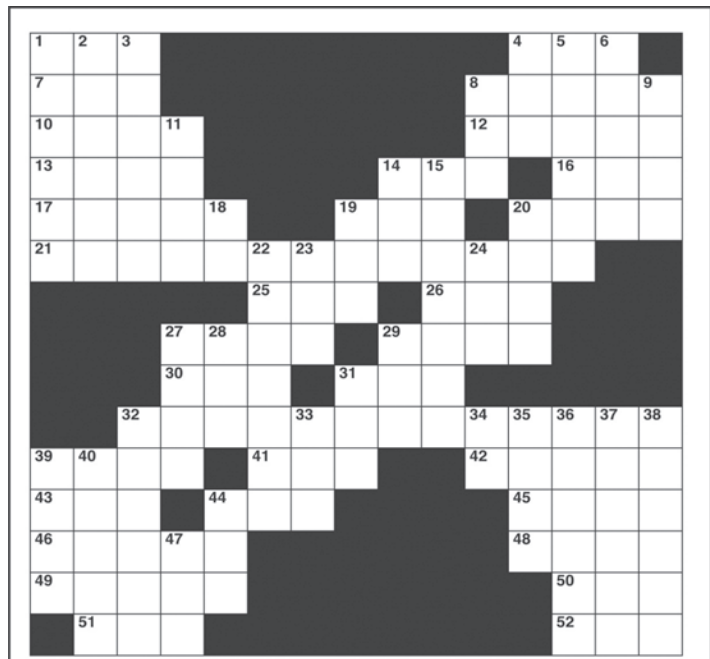
Tip #4: Know how to improve your score. You can take the following actions to help improve your score: Pay bills on time. Pay down credit card balances. (Reduce the credit card balances you carry to below 35 percent of your available credit limit; 10 percent is ideal – use the paydown calculator on our website at whzwealth.com/financial-calculators for help.) Cut up unnecessary cards but don’t close the accounts. (Because your utilization rate counts as 30 percent of your FICO score, don’t reduce your available credit by closing old accounts. Instead, train yourself not to carry unnecessary cards or cut them up.) Lastly, remember that the trend is your friend – as your credit “blips” recede into the past, your new habits have more weight.

Tip #5: Avoid debt negotiation companies. Don’t be taken in by ads for companies that offer to get you out of debt by negotiating with creditors. You may get a reduction in your credit balance, but not without paying a high price. Moreover, if the company encourages you to walk away from your debt, you will also likely damage your credit

score and wind up paying additional taxes. You don’t need a third party to work out a modified repayment plan. Call the number on the back of your credit card, explain your situation, and ask to restructure your payments.

Building and maintaining a favorable credit score is an important step in reaching the goals you’ve set for yourself, your family and your finances, but it’s far from the only one. To have the best chance at achieving your dreams you need a solid financial plan. At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors we help our clients to pursue their goals fearlessly, through our strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process. To get started on your personalized strategy for success, contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com and learn more at www.whzwealth.com.

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Runs PCs
- 4. An entertaining, eccentric person
- 7. Small, faint constellation
- 8. Indigo bush
- 10. Not excessive
- 12. African antelope
- 13. A way to fly a glider
- 14. Tough softly
- 16. In the course of
- 17. Early Mesoamerican people
- 19. A way to drop down
- 20. Mistake!
- 21. Housing developments
- 25. Baseball stat
- 26. No (Scottish)
- 27. Type of cuisine
- 29. British Army infantrymen (abbr.)
- 30. Marry
- 31. Buffer solution
- 32. Legendary rock band
- 39. Recording industry show
- 41. A way to consume
- 42. Lake in Botswana
- 43. Political action committee
- 44. Field force unit (abbr.)
- 45. Very eager
- 46. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues
- 48. Nocturnal insect
- 49. Challenged to perform
- 50. Thus far
- 51. Famed NYC arena
- 52. Commercials

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Small, purple-black fruit
- 2. Baltimore ballplayer
- 3. Highly seasoned sausage
- 4. Split pulses
- 5. Northwestern Mexico town
- 6. Edible fruit
- 8. Upper-class southern young woman
- 9. Sums up
- 11. The most worthless part
- 14. Dash
- 15. Sufferings
- 18. Clearinghouse (abbr.)
- 19. Indian title of respect
- 20. Poems meant to be sung
- 22. Actor Cooper
- 23. Luke’s mentor __-Wan
- 24. Clumsy person
- 27. Figures
- 28. Polish Baltic coast peninsula
- 29. Old cloth
- 31. Explosive
- 32. Automobiles
- 33. 007’s creator
- 34. The Volunteer State
- 35. Old Irish alphabet
- 36. Japanese city
- 37. Portrayed emotion
- 38. Observers
- 39. Mimicked
- 40. Polite reference to a woman
- 44. Male parent
- 47. Peter Griffin’s daughter

Gertrude Chandler Warner Boxcar Children’s Museum rededication set for April 30

PUTNAM — The Gertrude Chandler Warner Boxcar Children’s Museum re-dedication will take place on Saturday, April 30, at 11 a.m. Following major repairs, the genuine 1928 rail car houses artifacts about the life and times of the fictional children’s characters Henry, Jessie, Violet and Benny Alden. The public is welcome to join us for the ribbon cutting and comments by Mayor Barney Seney, the Putnam Town Historian, Bill Pearsall and others, followed by light refreshments.

Greg Morissette of Trackside Restorations and his team, will be honored at the dedication. They have spent three years restoring the Boxcar, peeling the wooden slats down to the 1928 steel frame. Greg fabricated missing metal parts, replacing the outer-wood sheathing and flooring, and repaired the sheet metal roof. Chabot Electrical replaced the electrical wiring, along with Shawn Sullivan who donated a new door and window. The handicap ramp was donated by National Seating

& Mobility NE and installed by local Putnam resident Rob Baummuller.

Following the re-dedication the GCW Boxcar Museum will be open Saturday and Sunday, May through October from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., our by special arrangement. Volunteers are needed to work one shift per month from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. or 1:30 to 4 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday. It’s easy and training will be provided. Call Renee at 860-974-0325.



The Great Garage Band Reunion provided the music for the “Dam” Fun Time Benefit Concert raising money to repair the dam at the Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp in Pomfret.

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CONCERT
continued from page A1

“We estimate that in the 68 years that our pond has been there, over 100,000 kids have either swum, fished, canoed, kayaked, or even just watched a grey heron fish in the pond or the beavers make their mischief. If we can fix our pond, which is our goal, we can look forward to another 100,000 kids or more enjoying what we all have over the years,” said Ryder. “Every little bit helps, and we’re so appreciative. We want that pond to be there for another 68 years. Saving our pond is vital.”

At the end of the night the fundraiser netted over \$12,000 towards the dam repair. The 4-H Camp will need plenty more support to reach its million-dollar goal. Those wishing to donate or learn more about the Windham-Tolland 4-H camp, visit www.4Hcamp.org.

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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A	R	A						D	A	L	E	A					
M	I	L	D					E	L	A	N	D					
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SPORTS

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Two high-scoring wins for Killingly girls' lacrosse last week

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Killingly High School girls' lacrosse team won two games in three days on its home turf, defeating New London, 16-2, on Thursday, April 7, after beginning its week by beating St. Bernard, 10-5, on Tuesday, April 5.

In the win over New London senior Hailey Radtke led the way with three goals while classmates Makala Dube, and Sage Lamparelli, junior Aila Gutierrez, and sophomores Laura Farquhar and Sage Lamparelli all scored two goals each. Dube and Emily Lamparelli also recorded two assists. Sophomores Illy Malarkey and Selina Metzermacher each added a goal and an assist and freshman Gina Soraseun also scored.

In the win over St. Bernard, Emily Lamparelli scored three goals, assisted on two others and caused three turnovers. Dube added two goals and two assists and controlled two draws. Radtke scored two goals and caused a turnover. Farquhar scored a goal, controlled a draw and caused three turnovers. Sage Lamparelli scored a goal and caused two turnovers. Malarkey also scored.

Killingly's week ended, however, with a 10-7 loss at Norwich Free Academy to drop its overall record to 2-2 (2-0 Eastern Connecticut Conference Division III).

Elsewhere:

Woodstock Academy improved to 3-1 with a pair of wins, 13-8 over Griswold on Saturday, April 9, and 9-6 over St. Bernard on Thursday, April 7.

In the win over visiting Griswold the Centaurs rallied from a three-goal, first-half deficit. Woodstock trailed 6-3 midway through the first half, but senior Shannon Gagnon scored three goals in three minutes to tie the game, 6-6, at halftime. Woodstock wrapped up the win in the second half, Caroline Harris and Sydney Haskins each scoring three goals. Harris finished the game with five goals while Haskins scored four times.

The Centaurs' road win over St. Bernard was the Stella Brin show. The senior scored five goals, assisted on another and controlled seven draws.



Photos Courtesy

Killingly High seniors Emma Carpenter and Ryan Miller were named 2022 Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Scholar Athletes. Carpenter played soccer, basketball and softball (for three years) at Killingly, serving as captain for soccer and basketball her senior year. Miller played football (a captain his senior year), plays tennis and was a member of the wrestling team. After graduation Miller is headed to Keene (N.H.) State College, where he plans to major in architecture and minor in journalism, while Carpenter will attend the University of Saint Joseph in West Hartford, where she has already been accepted into the direct entry Physician Assistant Program.

Gagnon helped out the winning effort with four goals while senior Sofia Murray picked up the win in net, finishing with seven saves.

Boys' Lacrosse

Woodstock Academy rebounded from a 10-7 loss at Waterford on Tuesday, April 5, with a pair of wins, 18-7, on the road against Ledyard-Griswold, on Thursday, April 7, and 18-12, against St. Bernard-Wheeler, in Uncasville, on Saturday, April 9.

In the win over St. Bernard-Wheeler the attack line of senior Jonah Libby, junior Zach Gessner and sophomore Jared Neilsen keyed the offense; Libby scored five goals and Gessner and Neilson four each. Junior Jacob Jurnovoy added three goals.

In the win over Ledyard-Griswold Libby and Jurnovoy scored five goals apiece while Gessner and Neilsen added three apiece for the 3-1 Centaurs.

Baseball

Killingly High School picked up its first win of the season in its home opener, defeating St. Bernard, 5-1 on Tuesday, April 5. Starting pitcher Brandon Baker, a senior, led way, allowing three hits in five innings while striking out five. Freshman Dominik Kubera closed out the victory with two innings of hitless relief. Senior Trevin Russ led the offense with two hits and senior Justin Baker broke the game open with a two-run single in the third inning.

The next two games didn't go as well

at third base, Murphy and Morrisette will both split time between the mound and first base — and Morrisette will DH, too — and Gallagher is a utility player who could see time at second base and behind the plate.

Sophomores on the team are Eric Mathewson, who will play second, and Riley O'Brien, who's a pitcher.

Murphy said the Centaurs' pitching rotation will feature Murphy (5-2, 2.53 earned run average), O'Brien (3-0, 0.91) and Hill. Morrisette, who had Tommy John surgery last year, is also back and will be gradually eased into pitching duties when needed. Smith, Roethlein, Blow, Wallace, McGregor and Mathewson all could see time on the bump, too.

"We're deeper than we've ever been," coach Murphy said about the number of players who could serve as part of the team's relief pitching corps.

The batting lineup starts off with Barnes, who hit .417 last year, with Roethlein, McGregor and Smith somewhere between Nos. 3-5 in the order. The No. 2 spot in the order and Nos. 6-9 are fluid right now, but the likes of Hill (.375 last season), Goetz (.333), and Smith (.292) all figure to be in there, as does Murphy, who led the team in RBI last year while batting No. 7 in the order.

CENTAURS

continued from page A1

Seniors on the Centaurs' 2022 roster are Zach Roethlein, Jonathan "Jon" Smith, Hamilton Barnes, Jackson Goetz, Brendan Hill, Brennan Blow, Ethan Davis and Shawn Wallace.

Roethlein is WA's starting left fielder, Smith is the starting catcher who can pitch, too, and Barnes is the Centaurs' starting shortstop and backup catcher. The trio will serve as the team's tri-captains.

"My three captains are three great young men," Murphy said. "Zach is one of those 'whatever you need, coach,' kids. If you ask, he'll do it. He's an unbelievable team player. He's really come along nicely for us. He's a big piece of us."

"Jonathan is a top-notch catcher who was big for us last year as a pitcher (5-1, 1.83 earned run average), Murphy said. "We're not ruling out him pitching for us because he's a gamer no matter what you do with him, but we want him behind the dish and in the lineup because he swings a good bat." In addition to starting at short, Barnes is Smith's unofficial designated catcher.

"When and if I have to use Smith on the mound, Hamilton will go behind

for Killingly (1-3) as the win over the Saints, the team losing at Waterford, 12-9, on Friday, April 8, and at New London, 8-7, on Saturday, April 9.

Softball

Woodstock Academy dropped a pair of games recently, losing to visiting E.O. Smith, 8-3, on Saturday, April 9, and visiting Norwich Free Academy, 5-2, on Tuesday, April 5. Sophomore short-stop Sarah McArthur's fifth-inning solo home run was the hitting highlight for the Centaurs against E.O. Smith.

In its game with NFA, Woodstock had chances to pick up its first win of the season, finishing the game with 10 runners left on base. The Centaurs (0-3) scored their runs in the fourth innings. Junior Madison Martinez singled and later scored on an error and senior Jenna Bankowski reached on a fielder's choice and came home on a single off the bat of junior Lexi Thompson.

Elsewhere:

Killingly scored four runs but wasn't a match for East Lyme's powerful offensive attack, losing its season opener to the Vikings, 18-4, on Tuesday, April 5, at Owen Bell Park. Junior Lyana Cuevas led Killingly with two hits and two RBI, while junior Hannah Cozza, sophomore Izzy Robbins, and freshman Addy King all finished with two hits each.

Girls' Tennis

Killingly opened the season with a 6-1 win over visiting Windham on Friday, April 8. Singles winners for Killingly were Rachel Sanchas, Laylah Zea, Nicole Cicchetti, and Payton Cathell. Doubles winners for the home team were Kaitlyn Tingle and Malia Taylor-Robichaud, and Caitlin Oleszewski and Caleigh O'Brien.

Elsewhere:

Seniors Addy Smith, Jackie Trudeau, Sydney Schuler and Alex Fernandez guaranteed Woodstock Academy a season-opening victory in Uncasville against St. Bernard, 6-1, on Tuesday, April 5, by sweeping the singles matches.

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Sandra Kallio named Employee of the Month at Country Living at Westview Commons



Sandra Kallio

DAYVILLE — Sandra Kallio has earned distinction as the March Employee of the Month at Country Living at Westview Commons. Prior to this award, Westview Health Care Center honored Sandra as the 2009 Employee of the Year. Kallio has worked at Westview Health Care Center as a Certified Nursing Assistant since 1983, and in the past year, she began applying her special caregiving ways towards the Assisted Living Services Agency that operates within Westview Commons. Guided by the encouragement of her mother who worked in home care, she applied to become a

CNA at the age of 17—quickly realizing that she gravitated to that vocation naturally.

As a CNA at Westview Commons, she begins her day by helping the client population with their morning routines. This can include assisting with elements like hygiene, getting dressed, basic housekeeping—as Sandra puts it: she’s there for anything they need. Later in the day, she fulfills a role in the Great Room at Westview Commons; aiding in the mealtime lunch service. But to her, it’s more than that. She truly enjoys these dining room responsibilities as much as her primary role as a CNA. Being able to assist in lunch service affords her even more opportunities to get to know the residence’s community. She describes all of the residents at Westview Commons as friendly, wonderful, and sweet.

Kallio’s bond with her children, Brian and Brittany, has always been strong and she maintains familial strength as a pillar supporting her life. Family and friends form a foundation for her soul. She spends as much time as possible with her daughter and granddaughter; celebrating the three generations among them. More tri-generational connections are cherished between Sandra and her sister Cindy, her niece Megan, and Megan’s son Chase. The bond shared with her best friend Gina is another important touchpoint. She loves to be around Gina’s two sons,

Devin and Trevor: to her, they are nephews. She is an avid fan of their sports careers, particularly wrestling, and she loves the way they make her laugh. At every turn in life, she and her loved ones are there for each other.

Originally, Kallio is from West Warwick, R.I.; now living in Putnam. She is anticipating and appreciating the return of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation’s Great Strides walk returning to Putnam on Sept. 17 this year. Staying conscious of health and civic activity is very important to her. Going to the gym and walking with her dog are her preferred methods of exercise. Sandra insisted that any story about her include her beloved dog, Killian Kallio. The comfort that he provides to her, a fellow comforter, is a soothing presence to her soul. For getaways, Kallio and her friend Gina like to take vacations to Hampton Beach, New Hampshire every summer.

According to Kallio, working at Westview Commons excites her each day as she looks forward to creating a new set of joyous moments with the residents there.

“I love it here—it’s amazing! Having been a part of Westview Health Care Center for so long, it’s overwhelming to be given this opportunity at Westview Commons,” she commented. “I am honored to be chosen as Employee of the Month. Working at Westview Commons is a wonderful experience for

me, the residents and the staff are all so kind. My job here is a dream come true.”

Having known her for almost her whole career, Westview Health Care Administrator and Country Living at Westview Commons Executive Vice President David T. Panteleakos knows the value that Sandra brings to both organizations.

“Sandy is a very special person and wonderful addition to our assisted living services team. After working with her for several decades at Westview, I knew she would be a great addition to the staff of our brand-new Westview Commons. This award is an indication that the residents and her colleagues certainly agree. Congratulations to Sandy!” Panteleakos said.

Country Living at Westview Commons is a 75-unit independent and assisted living community conveniently located in picturesque Northeastern Connecticut. Affiliated with Westview Health Care Center, a nationally-ranked nursing facility according to CMS and U.S. News and World Report for the past 14 years consecutively, Westview Commons is a catered living facility dedicated to a genuine 5-star experience including outstanding service, culinary expertise, and professional in-house entertainment. Located in Dayville, Westview Commons combines convenience, tranquility and comfort; providing a lifestyle that seniors deserve.

Rectory School employees receive Kellogg Grant awards

POMFRET — Senior Enrollment Manager Evan Campbell and Grade 4 Teacher Melissa Zahansky are the 2022 recipients of Rectory School’s prestigious Kellogg Grant Award.

The Kellogg Grant Award, established in 1993 by Rectory alumnus Peter Kellogg ‘57 in honor of his mother, Mrs. James Crane Kellogg III, recognizes Rectory employees for their dedication to the school.

In his address to students and faculty in early March, Head of School Fred Williams lauded Mr. Campbell and Mrs. Zahansky for their contributions to the Rectory community through their continuous work with students and commitment to their colleagues.

Since he started at Rectory in 2010, Mr. Campbell has been a learning specialist, an English teacher, a dorm parent, a soccer coach, a placement officer, a tennis coach, an assistant athletic director, an enrollment officer, a mentor, and, beginning next year, Dean of Students. Along with the breadth of tasks, there is consistency as he performs all of these roles with equal doses of skill, enthusiasm, good nature, and incredibly clever wit.

Mrs. Zahansky has also been at Rectory since 2010 and taught in the K-1 classroom before moving to fourth grade in 2012. When you walk by her



Photo Courtesy

Rectory School Head of School Fred Williams (center) presents Mr. Evan Campbell (left) and Mrs. Melissa Zahansky (right) with the 2022 Kellogg Grant Award.

classroom, several things are immediately apparent: it is clear the children love being there, a feeling matched by their teacher, and while Mrs. Zahansky

makes the experience look effortless, this is anything but the case. Her teaching philosophy is that each child in her classroom develops to their fullest

potential while existing in a welcoming, innovative, and high-character environment. In addition, she serves as Rectory’s Director of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion and works directly with the middle school Student Happiness, Inclusion, Equity, Leadership, and Difference (SHIELD) student association.

Rectory School’s Kellogg Grant Award is presented annually to two employees because of their many years of service to the school and their special help to the school and students.

About Rectory School

Established in 1920, Rectory School is a private school for boarding students in grades 5-9 and day students in grades K-9. Rectory’s priority is understanding each child and furthering their personal growth. Individualized attention to a student’s academic, physical, social, and moral development has been a keystone of Rectory School since its founding 100 years ago. As a vital component in the School’s overall capability to fulfill its mission—nurturing the whole child within a caring, personalized learning environment—Rectory’s Learning Services program continually seeks to grow and stay on the forefront of evidence-based practices and current research.

Pomfret Town-Wide Tag Sale turns Sweet 16 May 7

POMFRET — Visit Pomfret for its 16th Annual Town Wide Tag Sale on Saturday, May 7. The Pomfret Proprietors Association created the region’s first and best town wide sale, which draws thousands of visitors to the Quiet Corner for tag sale treasures galore with over 50 locations throughout town. Many sales benefit local organizations and charities, so your bargains are also meaningful to the community.

Starting at 7 a.m. on May 7, purchase a print map for \$2 at Pomfret Community School (20 Pomfret St.) and at Christ Church (521 Pomfret St.). Popular annual group sales and fundraisers include The Friends of Pomfret Public Library’s Used Book Sale at the Old Pomfret Townhouse 7 a.m. - noon. It will feature current fiction, non-fiction, children’s books, and biographies. The Windham Tolland 4-H Camp (4hcampct.org) will host a huge indoor & outdoor tag sale on May 6 and May 7 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (plus early bird deals, see their Web site) at the lodge on Taft Pond Road, rain or shine.



You can also support the Pomfret Lions Club, CT Audubon Society and more. Consult your map for these and dozens more tag sale locations all over town. Every year, the Pomfret Proprietors Association gives back to the community by giving profits from map sales and registrations to a local need or organization. Also consider donating food or cash to the Food Pantry at the Pomfret Community Center (207 Mashamoquet Rd.) for our monthly collection from 9 to 11 a.m. on May 7.

There’s much to do in this tiny town, so spend the day! Bring

your boots & take a hike, bring the kids for ice cream and to see farm animals, bring your bikes and ride the new mountain bike trails at Pomfret Forest or hop on the Air Line Rail Trail State Park for a gravel bike ride or a walk. Eat at our great restaurants, do a tasting at our winery or distillery and spend the night in a lovely B&B or AirBnB. See VisitPomfret.com or find us on Facebook @ PomfretProprietorsAssoc for ideas and information. Questions? Contact Martha Emilio (860) 974-1583 / Martha@majilly.com.

JILL ST. CYR NAMED LEGION’S VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Photo Courtesy

On Sunday, April 3, the American Legion Post 67 in North Grosvenordale presented Jill St. Cyr the Volunteerism of the Year Award. St. Cyr is a Thompson resident and founder of the It Starts At Home Foundation that helps local families in both Northeast Connecticut and Southeast Massachusetts families with things such as winter coats, shoes, and the crockpot program showing school age children how to prepare meals for their families using donated crock pots and ingredients. Jill has also volunteered her time on many events at the American Legion. The award was presented to St. Cyr at her new bistro, Jill & G’s Bistro, located at 27 Main St. in North Grosvenordale. Pictured are Lisa Martin, Post Junior Vice Commander (left), Jill St. Cyr (center) and William “Bill” Juzwic, Commander of the Sons of the American Legion.



In the Studio



CYNTHIA SAARI

"In the Studio" features artists from the Quiet Corner—home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, handcraft, performing art, art education, and graphic art. In this semi-weekly series, we'll talk with our artist neighbors and learn about their careers, current projects, and connections to our towns. We'll also learn some "artspeak" terms in our conversations, demystifying some of those "artist words".

At "Symphony Flower Farm" in South Woodstock, I discovered glamorous hand-painted watercolor cards and just HAD to know who the artist was. It turns out that, Cheryl Fogg, who oversees the NEPS day and horticulture programs in South Woodstock, is she.

The five-by-seven-inch pencil sketches are hand colored with subtle color washes or accents and, in the example image (right), an occasional sprinkle of texture.

A resident of Hampton, Cheryl works intuitively as is apparent in the flower arrangements, and displays at the Symphony Flower Farm shop (306 Route 169). The work is produced by Ms. Fogg with a cadre of assistants and program participants who enjoy welcoming and helping customers selecting blooms organically grown on the adjacent NEPS property. Officially, "Symphony is a division of Northeast Placement Services, a non-profit entity which provides horticulture-based opportunities for people with disabilities."

Cheryl, this is a shop of treasures. Tell me more about your handmade

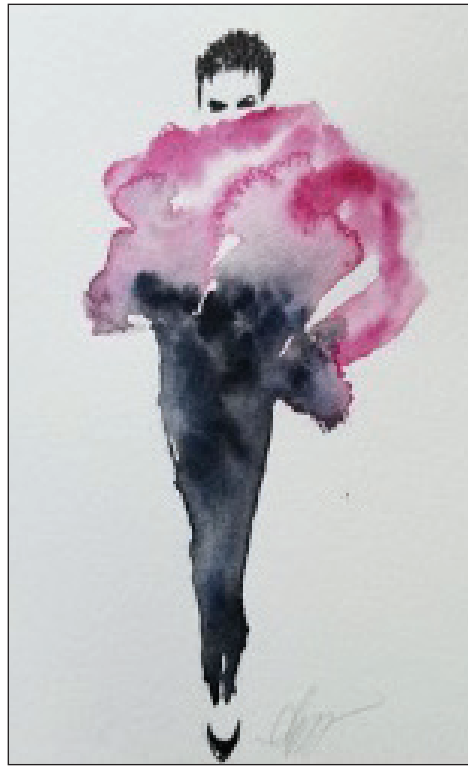


cards.
The cards are made here, with helpers perhaps filling in backgrounds, cutting shapes, or stamping sections. I did a series of hats and high-heeled shoe paintings and left the embellishments to one of our participants who added brilliant color to a marabou pouf on one of the shoes—it was quite spectacular. Everyone works according to their ability. Generally, I demonstrate the outline of a figure in pencil and how to add detail with pastels or watercolors in the example of our cards. I enjoy the exaggerated model-y poses and fashions.

Did you study art?

No. I've always made things, however, and enjoy painting, collaging, photography, and gardening; occasionally, I find a few hours at home to paint.

I think this shop is a perfect fit for your creative spirit and abilities. It has such a happy vibe.



Yes, we have a good time here and get lots of great feedback from the community on our unusual selection of giftware and organic-looking floral arrangements for parties. In fact, we've made many of our vases here using concrete, bark, and the like. We upcycle as much as possible.

You must always be thinking "... what can I do with this?"

That's right. The buckle on an old belt might become a pendant, or the selvedge edge of a blanket might become a belt.

What is your "dream" art project?

That's a great question. I'm not sure if it would be one project in particular. I love to brainstorm with other creative people and come up with original art projects that can be created collaboratively. That being said, I love nature and thoroughly enjoy searching for beautiful mosses, branches and vines to



use in organic, unique creations. The next project in my head is to plan and create a stumpery on my property.

Word of the day

Marabou: A type of down which takes dye well and has been widely used as a fashion trimming since the late 19th century.

Stumpery: A garden feature using parts of dead trees such as stumps, logs, bark pieces.

About the writer: Cynthia Saari (Woodstock) is a nationally recognized framework glass artist. She has exhibited her work & taught for over 20 years; her glass beads have been included in numerous publications & invitations. Significant projects include costume work for the Santa Fe Opera, and framework demonstrator at the Peabody Essex Museum. Cynthia offers talks & workshops in the Quiet Corner; she is an adjunct professor of art at a local college.

"Young Frankenstein" opens April 22 at Bradley Playhouse

PUTNAM — The Theatre of Northeastern Connecticut at the Bradley Playhouse is excited to bring some needed laughter into your life when it presents "The Mel Brooks Musical, Young Frankenstein," which opens April 22 and runs for three weekends. You probably remember the movie, now come see what the addition of music and dance brings to this crazy tale.

Performances are April 22, 23, 29, 30, May 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. and April 24, May 1 and 7 at 2:00 pm. Please note that there are two performances on May 7 at 2 and 7:30 p.m. There is no performance on Sunday, May 8th which is Mother's Day. Tickets are \$26 for adults and \$23 for seniors, students, veterans and first responders. Young Frankenstein is recommended for mature audiences.

The musical version of "Young Frankenstein" opened on Broadway in 2007, with book by Mel Brooks and Thomas Meehan. Music and lyrics are by Mel Brooks. The play is based on the 1974 film written by Mel Brooks and Gene Wilder. "Young Frankenstein" is a hilarious take on the classic horror story, combining zany antics and a witty script, leading to an unforgettable, hilarious adventure in Transylvania.

Victor von Frankenstein has died and left everything to his grandson, Frederick, who wants nothing to do with the family's notorious legacy. To settle his inheritance, he travels to Transylvania where he meets the grandson of Victor's loyal henchman Igor, beautiful lab assistant Inga, and the mysterious Frau Blucher. Songs include "The Transylvania Mania," "He Vas My Boyfriend" and "Puttin'



on the Ritz." Will Frederick repeat the mistakes of his grandfather, or will he succeed where others have not?

The TNECT performance of "Young Frankenstein" is directed by John K. McElroy II. E. Justin Simone is the Music Director, Lari Bailey and Brenna Griswold are the Choreographers. Aidan Horrigan appears as Dr. Frederick Frankenstein and Alison Wiza is Elizabeth Benning, his fiancée. The Monster is played by Marc Cerrone, Brenna Griswold is Inga, Dean Hernandez plays Igor and LaDelle Arnold appears as Frau Blucher. They are supported by a singing and dancing ensemble of villagers and other memo-

orable characters.

Wearing a mask is optional if you are vaccinated. For the safety of patrons, cast, crew, and volunteers, we do request that a mask be worn by those who are not vaccinated.

The Bradley Playhouse is located at 30 Front Street (Route 44) in Putnam. All seats are reserved. Reservations may be made with a major credit card online at www.thebradleyplayhouse.org or by calling 860-928-7887. Tickets may be purchased at the theater box office, either before the performance, or at the door if available. Purchasing your tickets ahead of time is always a good idea.

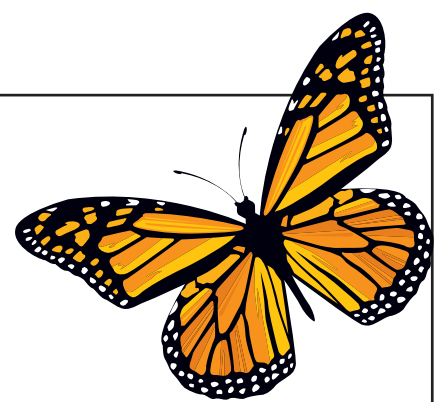
Caroline Wilcox named to Elms College Dean's List

CHICOPEE — Caroline Wilcox, of Pomfret Center, was named to the College of Our Lady of the Elms fall 2021 Dean's List.

Wilcox was among more than 525 students named to the fall 2021 Dean's List.

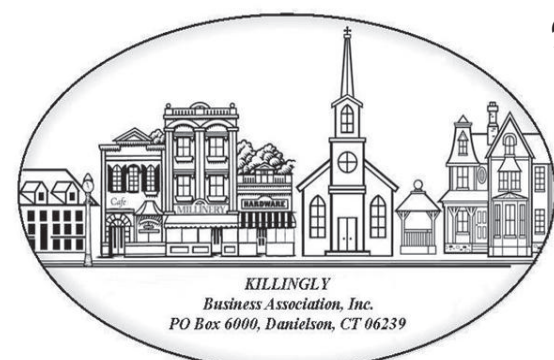
To qualify, a full-time student must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher, without incompletes.

Elms College is a co-educational Catholic college offering a liberal arts curriculum that prepares students holistically for a purposeful life in a diverse and interconnected world. Founded in 1928 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Elms College has a tradition of educating reflective, principled and creative learners, who are rooted in faith, educated in mind, compassionate in heart, responsive to civic and social obligations, and capable of adjusting to change without compromising principle.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
 PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

Legends of spring

The first day of spring just passed us by on March 20. Now that we are over the hump and into the rainy/muddy season, we thought we would share some fun myths surrounding this blooming time of year.

The first story begins with Persephone and Demeter. Persephone was the goddess of spring and holds the most well known story of the season to date. Persephone is the daughter of Demeter, the goddess of agriculture and Zeus, the king of the gods. Persephone married Hades who kept her hidden against her will. Demeter set off to find her daughter and for every minute she was lost, not a crop would grow. Zeus then ordered his daughter to remain in the underworld for half of the year because she ate all of the fruit (pomegranate seeds), the other half of the year she spent with her mother. The idea is that every time Persephone goes into the underworld, winter arrives and the crops die, when she is with her mother, crops bloom.

According to Cherokee legend, the reason trees lose their leaves in the fall is because of the communication between animals and humans. Apparently, animals were able to communicate with humans and the world was utopian. Every year the birds would fly south for the winter. During one particular year, a Sparrow who was injured was not able to fly south, he sent his flock ahead without him so the would not freeze, meanwhile he sought shelter. The bird flew to an old Oak tree and was told that he could not seek shelter in its branches, the same thing happened with every tree the bird visited until he was finally granted permission to stay in a pine tree. The pine tree, not popular with the others because of its hard, sharp leaves welcomed the little bird. The Sparrow was forever grateful.

The Sparrow survived the winter and welcomed his family home during the warmer months. Because the other trees, turned on the Sparrow during a most vulnerable time, the creator cursed their leaves to die during the winter except for the pine tree.

The Shinto Sun Goddess and Bringer of Light, Amaterasu, according to legend, is in control of the sun's movement to insure rice and other crops will grow. This goddess is well known for her ability to spin satin. Her fame caused her brother Susanoo, the god of storms, to become extremely jealous. The angry deity destroyed his sister's weaving loom and wrecked her rice fields. The rampage caused one of Amaterasu's closest friends to parish, as a result she locked herself inside a mountain resulting in the disappearance of light. Because of this, crops would not grow. Uzme, the goddess of laughter traveled to the mountain where Amaterasu was hiding. She placed a shiny necklace on a tree, then began to dance causing the other gods to laugh. When Amaterasu heard the laughter she peeked out of her cave and slowly began to walk towards the necklace. At this, Uzme had the cave blocked and light was restored to the world.

Some actual facts concerning the spring season are as follows; in 1582, if Pope Gregory XIII would not have established the Gregorian calendar, then every 128 years the vernal equinox would have come a full calendar day earlier, which would put Easter in the middle of winter.

The famous myth about being able to balance an egg on its end on the spring equinox is not true. Attempting to balance an egg on its end is no easier on the spring equinox than on any other day.

During the springtime, birds are louder as they sing to attract mates and to warn enemies to steer clear.

The term "spring fever" refers to the psychological and physiological symptoms that go along with the arrival of spring, which include, daydreaming and restlessness. Over the years, scientists surmise the cause in the hormone shift could be due to the increase in sunlight and increased physical activity.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thompson's road cleanup

To the Editor:
 The other day, I was driving down Interstate 395 and saw several orange signs on the side of the road and thought construction was coming up; however, no! Little refuse bags lined the side of the road for long distances where the state workers had cleaned up the litter along the highway. It was quite impressive to see how much area they had covered!
 So that's what volunteer folks do here in Thompson; all 125 miles of roadsides — in the woods, along streams, cleaning up our

town once again. A neighbor of mine, with dog in tow, has already begun her section of cleanup, and will probably continue doing it throughout the month of April.
 It's amazing how much poundage of trash is collected when you see the big yellow bags piled up! Let's all pitch in and clean up our wonderful town! Thanks so much!

SUE WHEELER
 THOMPSON

The GOP is the real threat to our republic

To the Editor:
 The real threat to America and our Republic is not Russia, Al-Qaida, socialism, China, cannibalistic pedophiles, or even Trump. It is the Republican Party. Going back to the days of Reagan and Gingrich, the GOP has set out to undermine the will of the electorate and gradually establish authoritarian rule. Under the banal guise of being conservative, the GOP has progressively installed laws, representatives and judges that have outrageously turned their backs on the Constitution and the basic concept of a Republic.

It is Republican Party supporters that:
 Refuse the 2020 election returns in spite of more than 60 judicial findings, recounts and audits of no fraud

Threaten school board members and election officials with violence
 Comprise most of the followers of QAnon, Proud Boys, Breitbart, Fox News and Newsmax

Pass laws to limit voter access to elections and to ensure voting outcomes by gerrymandering

Support outrageous gun laws that ensure over 37,000 are killed each year by guns — such as no permit-concealed carry laws

Instigated and made up the attack on Congress on 1/6

Advocate armed rebellion to thwart legal elections

Refused to impeach and still support an obvious felon who praises and supports enemy leaders

Refuse to oust Greene, Boebert or Gaetz for dereliction of duty

Refuse to raise a hue and cry over Trump's lying

Refuse to admit that Trump so obviously incited Jan. 6

Refuse to acknowledge their hypocrisy, lying, shame,

Make up most of the far right, insurrectionists and evangelical right

Did not and still does not have a national election platform — only slogans

Support a president who routinely refused to obey federal document, gift and emoluments laws

Enact voter suppression laws undermining the Voting Rights Act

Support anti-vaccine rules, laws and lies

Undermine environmental laws and regulations

Want to rescind Obama Care that provides medical coverage for millions

Set up fake electors

I could go on and on, but I think I've made my point.

After the meeting where the Constitution was signed, Benjamin Franklin was asked if we had established a monarchy or republic. He replied, "A Republic — if you can keep it." I fear we are losing it at an accelerating rate. And in the process, we're losing our ability to face and solve the myriad problems that beset us in ways that benefit the majority of Americans, not just a minority faction that is the GOP. If the GOP carries the midterms at the local, state and Federal levels, the Republic is lost. We must not let that happen.

STEPHEN ETZEL
 PUTNAM

Comrade cult leader

To the Editor:
 Just when you started to feel that it was safe to go in the water, it is not really safe; the Comrade Cult Leader strikes again. What is it with this guy? We know most of all the downside of this guy, but he still surprises you with some new, dangerous and un-American things.

In the 1950's, an era of Communist extremism was ushered in by Sen. Joe McCarthy of Wisconsin. With no proof but plenty of bluster, he made life very dangerous for many people who did nothing wrong. Sort of guilt by fantasy; make believe. He went around calling people Communists with no proof and ruining many people's lives because of it.. Google it; it still is a sad chapter in American history, prodded on by a gentleman named Roy Cohn. Some were Communists, but many, many more had their professions and lives forever scarred by these allegations. Called the Red Scare at a time when Communism led by Russia was considered a threat to democracy in this country. Why was Roy Cohn mentioned above? It is due to the fact that the Comrade Cult Leader, in his younger days, studied at the foot of the above mentioned Cohn. Throw [slander] against the wall about someone and see what sticks, then play innocent, never taking any of it back and return to it later. Make them disprove the allegations. Republicans at the time led the onslaught against Communism. It was a focal part of their party.

What should disgust and worry most Americans is the Comrade Cult Leader, twice impeached and who tried to overthrow the government by force, is now supporting "the Butcher of Bucha," Putin, who would rather kill innocent Ukrainian citizens, including children, the elderly, the defenseless in terrorizing them into submission. His great army has failed vs. the Ukrainian soldiers, he bombs daycares, hospitals; latest is a train

station, and the Comrade Cult Leader calls him 'smart and savvy' and asks for dirt on the US President for his benefit; remember, it is always about him. We have a former US President, two times impeached, supporting basically a serial killer of innocent civilian people. With the backing of some 50-plus Republicans in Congress and Tucker Carlson, who we will call Comrade Cult Leader 2 in waiting, Comrade Cult Leader 1 and Comrade 2 and Republicans in Congress are providing priceless propaganda for Putin to provide to the Russian people that only serves to help "the Butcher of Bucha" hid what he is doing in Ukraine. They are aiding and abetting Communists in the pursuit of overtaking a democracy that has done nothing to the Russian people. They are working in lockstep with Putin in helping him kill people in Ukraine for no apparent reason, or one that only Putin understands.

One thing to dispel about how "The Comrade Cult Leader" held pack Putin from doing this during the years that two times impeached was President — it is simple; Putin was too dumb to do it when it would have easier, since it is most likely that NATO would never have been organized to help the Ukrainians, Trump would have not moved a finger to organize and motivate NATO into helping. it would have been a walk through the park for him (Putin) to take over the country. Trump would have said take it; it is yours, just send me dirt on every Democrat or opponent in America so I can be elected President for life.

One last thing — it has become known that another of Comrade Cult Leader's business ventures has gone bust; his social media platform is a failure. Please check the box if anyone is surprised. _____

DAVID CASSETTARI
 KILLINGLY

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

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

Prove it

In the 18th century, a German physicist did something world-changing. He invented a scale of measuring temperature based on the freezing and boiling points of water. After some old-fashioned scientific testing, Daniel Fahrenheit settled on a scale that set 32 degrees as the freezing point of water and 96 degrees as its boiling point. He did not start with his preferences or opinions. He started with the absolute truth of when water freezes and boils, then built his scale around those truths. He discovered the truth about water, by proving it many times, and then found a way to measure when it changed states.

If I would have been the first to quantify when water froze or boiled, I would have wanted to share that information. It is the kind of information that can be crucial; it is a truth that could save lives. One might even argue that someone with that kind of knowledge is morally obligated to share it with mankind, because the truth benefits everyone. Some truths need to be shared.

Suppose the morning news announced that someone now believes that water freezes or boils at a different temperature? They might be famous or smart, but we would all be confident that they are wrong. Suppose a group of colleges, or a supreme court, or a legislative body declared that water freezes at 20 degrees Fahrenheit? They too would be wrong, because the truth has been proven too many times; truth is not socially or politically adaptive. No particular group of people owns truth. No group of people can make up the truth. Nobody — not even a large or powerful group of people — can change the fact that water changes states when it does. God established that and man figured out how to measure it.

There are other similar truths that have been proven throughout the ages, such as the ten commandments. People can argue with them, but since they are truth, anyone can prove them. And those who come to know such truths are morally obligated to let others know, because their lives may depend on it. That is what Jesus did. He spoke truth and He demonstrated its power. Grant it, He was politically railroaded for speaking truth. The elites of His day "cancelled Him" for not agreeing with "their truth," by lynching Him. But billions have since followed His lead and proven the truths he taught for themselves.

Water still freezes at 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Water still boils at 96 degrees Fahrenheit. If someone tells you otherwise, don't believe them. But you can always test it for yourself. Here are some even more important truths you can prove for yourself:
 God answers prayer.
 God loves everyone and forgives all who ask.
 God still fills people with His spirit, and this is evidenced by speaking in tongues like Jesus' mother and disciples did on the Day of Pentecost — hundreds of millions alive today have proven it.

These are truths anyone can test for themselves. So, prove it. Then share the truth you have discovered, because it can save lives.

Bishop John W Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. For video sermons and other resources, please visit www.ActsII.org.

Bishop John W Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. For video sermons and other resources, please visit www.ActsII.org.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's time to end the overreach in Thompson

To the Editor:

Last summer, Thompson woke up when the Planning and Zoning Commission attempted to regulate firearms and shooting ranges. Over 500 citizens attended a public hearing to stop the overreach of the P&Z. The board killed the proposal that night, but have said they wish to revisit the issue. This attempted overreach caused a group of concerned citizens to investigate what other plans the P&Z Commission had.

What we found out was, during the Covid lockdown, the Thompson P&Z Commission had multiple Zoom meetings and revised the Thompson zoning regulations. These new regulations have removed much of the liberties Thompson residents had enjoyed for decades, including:

Before 2020, you were permitted by right to have up to 150 fowl (chickens, turkeys, ducks, pheasants, etc.) in the R40 and R80 zones; now you need a permit for more than 10 fowl anywhere in town. You also need a permit for less than 10 fowl for the coop, which you need to protect them from the foxes, bobcats, fisher cats, etc.

Before 2020, slaughtering of animals, except animals raised on the premises, was prohibited; this was changed to slaughtering and butchering, meaning hunters are no longer allowed to dress animals at home.

Before 2020, you could add a small chicken coop, a dog house, a swing set

for your children, or even a playscape; now you need a permit for any structure on your property except a mailbox, fence, flagpole or decorative well.

Before 2020, land around Little Pond (Schoolhouse Pond) and Quaddick Lake was zoned R40, you needed a minimum of 40,000 square feet and livestock were allowed; now the land is in a new zoning district (Lake District) where livestock and roosters are banned and lot sizes can be as small as 4,500 square feet. This change affected hundreds of properties, yet no property owners or abutters were notified of the zoning change.

Before 2020, land along Route 12 north of North Grosvenordale, Route 12 south of Grosvenordale and along Route 131 was zoned R40 and R80 (residential/agricultural), you needed a minimum of 40,000 or 80,000 square feet respectively. The area is now rezoned (Thompson Corridor Development District) as a commercial/residential mixed development area. Minimum lot size is 40,000 square feet without sewer access, only 4,500 square feet with sewer access. This allows commercial development, business parks, adult entertainment establishments and warehouses in residential areas. This change also affected hundreds of properties, yet no property owners or abutters were notified of the zoning change.

These are a few of the more egregious

examples of overreach by the P&Z Commission during the Covid lockdown; there are more. And although some of these changes might stimulate development in Thompson, is it development we need or want? Do we need or want another hundred homes around Quaddick Lake? Do we need or want a couple of warehouses on Route 12? Do we need or want a McDonald's or Dunkin' Donuts on Route 131? Do we need or want strip clubs, tattoo parlors, cannabis shops and the clientele they attract in downtown North Grosvenordale?

We don't know the answers to these questions because the P&Z Commission never asked the people who live in the neighborhoods. How do you know what the people want when you don't believe they deserve to be heard?

These changes have created a lot of hard feelings in Thompson between its citizens and its P&Z Commission. Some of us believe the way to mend fences is to go back to the zoning in place before the Covid shutdown and proceed, with input from the citizens, to update the zoning regulations. Of course, the P&Z Commission is tone deaf, they don't understand why people are upset. So what if it costs \$150 for more than 10 chickens; it's only \$150. If you don't like a commercial property next door, then move.

We originally delivered a petition with 209 valid signatures for a town

meeting to reform the P&Z Commission by dissolving the commission, roll the zoning regulations back to the pre 2020 regulations, and then allow the Board of Selectmen to recreate the P&Z Commission with new members. The Board of Selectmen refused to honor this petition because the town attorney said only the P&Z Commission can roll back the zoning regulations.

Our attorney has developed a new plan where we call a town meeting, call for a moratorium on sub-division and zoning changes for six months, dissolve the P&Z Commission, and then ask the Board of Selectmen to call for a new election for P&Z Commission members. This plan addresses the concerns of the town attorney and allows the new Commission to decide whether to use the new or old zoning regulations once they are seated after an election is held. We submitted the petition Thursday, April 7.

If the citizens of Thompson agree with our plan, there will be candidates from both parties, maybe even write-ins, running for seats on the new commission, informing the voters of their positions, and all citizens will have a chance to decide Thompson's future. Contact ThompsonTaypayerAlliance@gmail.com to get updates.

BILL WARNER
THOMPSON

Putting young poets in the spotlight



NANCY WEISS

Several years ago, Avery Tillinghast, an area resident, gave a talk at my library about his encounters with the poet Robert Frost. Avery recalled being in college in a fraternity where Robert Frost liked to come for dinner. By then, the poet was a widower, and the company of young people and a good meal were attractive to him. The story reminded me that even the most accomplished artists among us are deeply human.

Much as I like to read Frost's poetry, he strikes me as rather crabby old man. Frost said: "One thing I care about and wish young people would care about is taking poetry as the first form of understanding."

Here are two poems by young people: Emma Heimgartner and Marrin Gorgone, students in the Class of 2022 at The Woodstock Academy, shared with us through courtesy of Richard Telford, English Department Chair. I think they exhibit deep and intelligent understanding. I look forward to reading more of their work.

The Ladybug
Emma Heimgartner
Woodstock Academy Poet Laureate,
2022

With your scarlet hue brightened by spots of pure night,

You landed on my sleeve, a blessing of light.

Gifting me something that, as of late, has been quite out of sight.

Leaving me wondering the cause of my plight.

You've managed so well so near to the sea.

Coexisting peacefully with its volatility.

While I stumble, pushed by a light summer breeze,

As I rush along, wishing to be care-free.

A proper lady amongst a collection of slugs.

I watch you fly,
Far away from me,
Whose worries consume her under the scorching sun.

Prayers For They
Marrin Gorgone

Praying isn't for me...

But I pray that your heart will be safe, and your soul will live on.

I pray that your life will be perfect, and you make it to where you want to be.

I pray that your smile doesn't grow old, and the world gets to see it.

I pray that your sadness behind your golden skin is resolved, and your eyes are still as bright.

I pray that the world still means so much to you.

I pray the world fixes its issues for your sake, and everyone carries on your legacy.

You never let anyone down so I pray we didn't let you down.

I pray that you're okay internally and eternally, I know you will live forever.

So I pray that you get to do it the way you want.

I pray that time doesn't age your legacy, and you can and will carry on forever.

I pray you have no regrets, and your decisions make you happy.

I pray for your sins, sadness, regrets,

and everything to be healed.

I want and care for you to live on because my world rose and set on you.

So I pray that the sun will go to earth again and see what happens to you.

I pray to keep you safe as long as you must live on.

Karen Houle lives in Dayville, and has been writing poetry for three years. She sent the following poem:

Here's the latest entry of my journal: Better get comfortable in the eternal.

With physical death always impending,

It's easy to forget the soul is never ending.

Because inside of you lives divinity.

You're a personification of the trinity. But you don't have a copy of their roster.

So it's hard to tell who's an imposter. You're here for the lessons that you learned.

Until the Library of Alexandria gets burned.

So there's only one thing you can do: To yourself, you must always remain true.

And at the same time everything crashes...

You'll be a phoenix rising up out of the ashes.

Donna O'Scolaigh Lange lives in Thompson. She is devoted to the arts as a painter, sculptor and poet. She has a fine sense of humor.

The Dog Got Out

The last time came quickly
As the tea kettle whistled on and on,
Escaping out the open door.

Of course,

The dog got out again,
Racing straight down the street

Into the fields,
Looking for her pack.

Asters bowed their purple heads,
Yielding to the machine

Of muscle and bone,
Teeth and fur.

Parting the fallow fields,
Warmed by ancient sun.

Like the just-hatched turtle
Scrambling to the sea,

The bee to the hive,
The redwing to the South,

She won't be tamed.
The man and woman tried;

She lay at their feet by the fire;
Obeyed them for the bone;

Loved them incompletely.
Then came the leash.

And the vet.
And the classes.

She forgets these things.
Ears flying,

Lungs filling with sweet summer air,
She doesn't look back when we call.

She runs until the sunny fields
Turn to dark forests

Of moss and mushrooms,
Twigs and ferns,

Owls and moon,
Rain and dark,

Rock and ravine.
"Come on, girl," the animal control

officer clicks a leash onto her collar.
"Let's get you home."

Enjoy the creative freedom of April.
If you wish to send in a poem, please contact:
brendan@villagernewspapers.com.

April 17 is International Haiku Day.
Write one for the fun of it!

Spring into the growing season



GARDEN
MOMENTS

MELINDA
MYERS

Spring flowering bulbs and perennials are filling our landscapes with color. As your gardens come alive this spring, start making notes on needed improvements and provide some early season color and nectar for the pollinators. This will keep your landscape looking its best all season long and for years to come.

Start a garden journal or photographic record of your garden. Make notes or take pictures of what is working in your landscape, plants that need to be removed or areas where more color or new plants are needed. These notes will help as you create a landscape filled with year-round beauty.

Make sure your plants receive sufficient moisture. It is easy to overlook watering during the cool and often wet spring months. A rain gauge can help you monitor the rainfall in your yard. Plants benefit from thorough watering that

encourages deep, drought and pest resistant roots. Check the soil moisture and water when the top four to six inches are crumbly and starting to dry. Established drought tolerant plants tolerate drier soil.

Start pulling weeds as they appear. Removing them when small makes removal easier and prevents them from flowering and producing seeds. That means fewer weeds to pull next year.

Disease and pest-free leaves, evergreen needles and other organic mulch covering the soil surface help suppress weeds, conserve moisture, and improve the soil as they break down. Leaves also provide homes for many insects, frogs, and toads. You'll achieve lots of benefits from this one task.

Leave perennials stand until daytime temperatures are consistently 50 degrees. This allows overwintering eggs to hatch and insects to exit their winter homes. If waiting is not an option, cut most stems back to the ground and stack them out of the way. This allows the insects to exit their winter homes when the time is right. Leave some stems standing eight to 12 inches above ground so insects can form new homes. Chop up the removed

plant material in mid-summer or fall to use as mulch in the garden or the compost pile.

Watch for animal damage and protect your plantings as needed. Fresh new growth in the spring garden makes a tasty treat for rabbits, deer, and other wildlife.

Many gardeners enlist the help of repellents to protect their landscape plants.

Always check the label for details on use, application rates and timing. Research has proven that odor-based repellents like rain and snow resistant Plantskydd (plantskydd.com) are more effective than other types of repellents. Plus, this will cause wildlife to avoid plants rather than taking a bite before they discover they don't like the taste.

Treat pathways used to access your landscape as well as key plants before the animals begin feeding. It is easier to keep them away before they find all the delicious plants growing in your garden.

Continue taking pictures of your landscape throughout the year. Make note of any challenges encountered and needed adjustments in care. Include any failures; all gardeners have them. These are just another step toward growing a health-



Photo Melinda Myers

Korean Spice viburnum adds beauty and fragrance to the landscape.

ier and more beautiful garden.

Then take time to enjoy the beauty of your landscape. Find a comfortable spot to sit, relax, listen to the birds, and take in all the wonders spring has to offer.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How*

to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Tree World Plant Care* for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

OBITUARIES

Robert 'Bob' Gomes, 85

PUTNAM -- Robert "Bob" Louis Gomes, 85, of Putnam and Webster (Lake), Mass., died Jan. 9, 2022. He was born Feb. 13, 1936, in Somerville, Mass., and was a 1953 grad of Dedham High School. He married Carol (Papanti) Gomes and they had a daughter, Donna (Gomes) Gilbert of Thompson. Later he married Dianne (Kearns) Gomes.



Blessed with hands gifted in mechanics and music, he started his career at 15 at the neighborhood garage. In 1984 he opened Gomes Total Chrysler. In 20 years he transformed it from a small former gas station into a Chrysler Five Star showplace. After that -- retirement being a foreign word -- he opened Woodstock Piano & Music.

He was known for working hard, projects, generosity, and always giving people a chance. He played six instruments by ear.

Lake Winnepesaukee was his favorite place; he built two island cottages there. He celebrated 50 years as a Master Mason and was a former member of automobile organizations and the Putnam Rotary Club. He was a member of the South Woodstock Baptist Church.

Visitation is 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, April 22 at the Gilman and Valade Funeral Homes and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, with a Masonic Service at 7:30. The Church Service is at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 23 at the South Woodstock Baptist Church, Roseland Park Road. In lieu of flowers, donations: South Woodstock Baptist Church, PO Box 86, South Woodstock, CT 06281. Attn.: Trish. (in memo: "Camperships"). Why? We passed by a church summer camp each week and without fail he would talk about how wonderful it was when he went to church summer camp when he was a boy. He wants to help children that otherwise might not get that experience of a lifetime he had. www.GilmanandValade.com.

Charles "Chuck" E. LaRoche, 73

Moosup -- Charles "Chuck" LaRoche, 73, of Alexandra Avenue, died Sunday morning, March 27, 2022. He was the loving companion of Sharon (Wakely) Keith. Born in Putnam, he was the son of the late Herve and E. Concord (Boutin) LaRoche.



Chuck was a proud United States Military veteran serving from 1968 until 1990 he was a member of both the United States Marines and United States Navy. After his military career he was a Medical Records Professional for the State of Connecticut Prison System.

He was a member of Pachaug Outdoor Club and American Legion Post 15 in Griswold. He also enjoyed shooting, quilting, woodworking, and going shop-

ping with his family and friends.

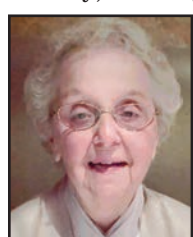
Chuck is survived by his "brother", Louis Grzyb of Dudley, his special cousin, Mathilda Andrzejewski of Quinebaug, and many nieces and nephews, and cousins. He was predeceased by his son, Jason LaRoche and his brother, George H. LaRoche.



Relatives and friends were invited to visit with Chuck's family from 10:00AM to 11:00AM on Saturday, April 2, 2022, in the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:30AM. in St. Joseph Church, 18 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, CT. Burial followed in St. Joseph Cemetery. For memorial guest-book visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Joan M. Kent, 91

Joan M. (Perreault) Kent, 91 of Thompson Pike passed away on Sunday, January 2, 2022.



She was born December 4, 1930, in Danielson, CT to the late Henry and Eva Perreault. She was the wife of the late James D. Kent Sr. who passed away in 2003. They were married on November 4, 1950, at St James Church in Danielson.

Joan attended St James School, graduating in 1944. She then attended and graduated from Killingly High School, where she served as class secretary and was a member of the Honor Society. Prior to graduating she began her lifelong career in 1947 at Danielson Federal Savings and Loan Association. She started her career in the mailroom and retired as vice president in October 1990.

Joan proudly served for many years as the trustee, lector, parish secretary, and bookkeeper for St. Anne's Church in Ballouville. People looked forward to seeing her impeccably dressed as the lector of the 5 pm mass. She was an active member of the Killingly High School Alumni Association. She was a member of the Dayville Fire

Department Women's Auxillary. She cherished her time with family and so created a Thanksgiving for upwards of 40 family members for 48 years. During the summer months, you could always find her floating in the pool that she and Jim installed that created many memories with their grandchildren.

Joan is survived by her son James D. Kent Jr. and wife Cecelia, daughter Jo Ann Long and husband David; Six grandchildren, Jay (Melissa) Long, Jamie Carver, James (Emily) Kent, Jordan (Nate) Tisler, Joel (Amanda) Kent, and Jesse (Kim) Long. She is also survived by 11 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by an infant brother Joseph, her sister Georgette Joly and brother Raymond Perreault.

A Calling Hour will be Friday April 22, 2022 from 8:45 to 9:45 AM at Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home, 33 Reynolds Street Danielson, CT. A Mass of Christian burial will follow at 10:00 AM at St. James Church, 12 Franklin Street Danielson, CT. Burial will follow in Holy Cross Cemetery Danielson, CT. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. James School, 120 Water St., Danielson, CT 06239. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Esther T. Phaneuf, 85, passed away Thursday, April 7, 2022 at Villa Maria Nursing Home in Plainfield, CT. She was born March 28, 1937 in Putnam, CT, daughter of the late Francis and Marian (Brousseau) LaChance. Her first husband was the late Boyce Clancy and her second husband was the late Robert Phaneuf.



Esther worked for Pratt & Whitney Aircraft for many years and then retired from Linemaster Switch. She enjoyed to shop, cook and was an avid vegetable gardener. Esther loved spending time with family especially around the holidays.

She leaves her daughters Debra Charland of Woodstock and Sharron Clancy of Woodstock; her grandchildren Amy Kollbeck (Jay) of Woodstock

Esther T. Phaneuf, 85

and Michael Charland (Holly) of Woodstock; her great grandchildren Blake Kollbeck, Dominick Kollbeck, Avery Kollbeck and Jasmine Charland, her sisters Carol Kennett of Pomfret and Shirley Lefevbre (George) of Ashford. She was predeceased by her son James Clancy and her siblings Beatrice Bruneau and Armand LaChance.

Calling Hours were held on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 from 10:30 to 11:30 AM at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street Putnam, CT. A Mass of Christian Burial followed at 12:00 PM at St. Mary Church of the Visitation, 218 Providence Street, Putnam, CT. Burial followed in St. Mary Cemetery Putnam, CT. Esther's family would like to thank Villa Maria Nursing Home & Rehabilitation and their staff for the loving care they provided to Esther. Share a memory at Smithandwalkerfh.com

Roland J. Lowe, 76

Roland J. Lowe formerly of Webster, age 76 passed away peacefully in his sleep surrounded by family on March 25, 2022. Born January 17, 1946, in Worcester, Massachusetts to his loving mother June P. (Lowe) Langlois. He was predeceased by his brother Richard Crimp, Eugene P. Langlois, Brenda J. Langlois and Jamie Learned.



Decorous throughout life, Roland emulated dignity with a sense of what is right, as the eldest of eight siblings, he was a member of the Mohegan Council, Boy Scouts of America, an altar server at St. Louis Church and attended Bartlett High School before joining the US Air Force.

A veteran of Vietnam Era & peacetime, MSgt Lowe (E-7) served from 1963 to 1989 as an Avionics Guidance and Con Systems Technician until promoted to Avionics Supervisor. He toured in the UK, Thailand, and Guam. Throughout his service he was stationed in Chanute AFB, Westover AFB, Ellsworth AFB, and Minot AFB, just to name a few.

After 26 honorable years in the military, he and his wife settled in Mesa, Arizona at which he dedicated an 18-year employment with the US Postal Service.



A jubilant personality, Mr. Lowe faced life with strength, courage, dignity and of course humor. A loving husband for over 35 years to Roberta S. Lowe who passed away in April of 2021. He is survived by his sisters, Susan R. Muise and her husband Paul J. of Dudley, Lynne M. Dougherty and her husband John of Webster and Debra M. Walkowiak of Thompson, CT, as well as his children James Lowe, Eric Lowe of SD, Norman Lowe and his wife Nicole of NC, Joanna Sherburn and her husband Ryan and Christopher Lowe of Gainesville, FL along with 5 grandchildren, Brittany, Nick, Alyssa, Seth and Brayden and many nieces and nephews

There will be no calling hours. The family kindly requests that flowers be omitted and donations in his memory be made to a charity of one's choice.

Funeral service was held at Calvary Cemetery, Old Cemetery Road, Dudley, MA on Thursday, April 14 at 11:00 a.m. graveside Section, Avenue A Extension left entrance.

Sheldon W. Bryer, 80

Sheldon W. Bryer, 80, of Brooklyn passed away peacefully in his home surrounded by his family on Wednesday April 6, 2022. He was born in Milo, ME June 2, 1941, son of the late Edwin and Beatrice (Russell) Bryer. Sheldon was the husband of Janet (Burgoyne) Bryer for 59 years. He served in the US Army. He was employed as a truck driver for 60 years retiring at the end of 2021 from his favorite employer Windham Container



Sheldon attended Westfield Congregational Church in Danielson. Besides his wife Janet, he is survived by his children Tammy J. Herrick and

husband Patrick of South Killingly, Roy W. Bryer and wife Melissa of Danielson, and Michael A. Bryer and wife Cheryl L. of Dayville. He is also survived by seven siblings, nine grandchildren, four great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his sister Maxine Bryer.

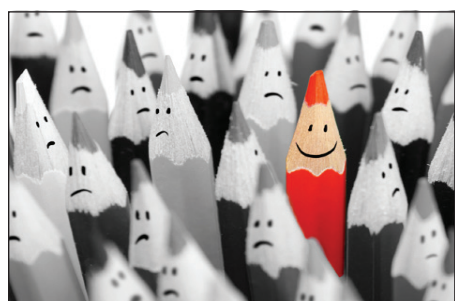
Calling hours will be held on Monday April 25, 2022, from 6-8 PM at Tillinghast Funeral Home 433 Main St. Danielson. A memorial service will be held on Tuesday April 26, 2022, at 11 AM at Westfield Congregational Church. Burial will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery Danielson with full military honors. In lieu of flowers donations in his memory may be made to Hartford Healthcare Hospice. tillinghastfh.com

Northwest Probate Court announces community outreach events

REGION — The Northwest Probate Court is holding ongoing community outreach events for the residents of the Northwest Probate District. Probate Judge Leah Schad and Chief Clerk Mary Ann Champney will visit the Putnam Municipal Complex on April 20 and the Pomfret Senior Center on April 27. The outreach effort has proven to be a successful way for citizens of the Northwest Probate District to learn more about the Court and the probate process. The Probate Court helps families who

have lost a loved one settle their estates, appoints conservators when a family member is no longer able to care for themselves, and appoints guardians to protect the intellectually disabled and handles matters involving children in need. The Northwest Probate District covers the towns of Ashford, Brooklyn, Eastford, Pomfret, Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock. Outreach events are scheduled for: April 20, 10 a.m. - noon at the Ashford Senior Center

5 Tremko Lane, Ashford April 20, 12:30 - 2 p.m. at the Putnam Municipal Complex 200 School St., Putnam April 27, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m. at the Pomfret Senior Center 207 Mashamoquet Rd., Pomfret All residents are welcome to any program. If you are a member of a group that would like to schedule an event, please contact Judge Leah Schad or Chief Clerk Mary Ann Champney at 860-928-4844.



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OBITUARIES

Jessie M. Wilkinson, 72

Woodstock, CT – Jessie M. (Duncan) Wilkinson, 72, formerly of Quincy, MA, passed away Sunday evening, April 3, 2022, at home surrounded by her family. She was the wife of her childhood crush, Richard T. Wilkinson, Jr. Born in Quincy, she was the daughter of the late George W. and Julia G. (Sears) Duncan. She was a graduate of the North Quincy High School.

Mrs. Wilkinson worked for many years as an administrative assistant at General Mills where she would joke it was her job to put the holes in the Cheerios. She was a member of the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, CT and could often be heard singing loudly off-key.

Jessie was an avid Red Sox fan and enjoyed playing cards, fishing, building puzzles, going to the casinos, and taking cruise ship and train vacations with her family. But, above all she treasured the quality time that she spent with her family and friends. Her greatest blessing in life was being a Nana to her two beloved granddaughters.



She leaves behind her beloved husband, Richard "Dick" T. Wilkinson, Jr.; her daughter, Julia G. Wilkinson Vicente, and her husband, Jacob Vicente, her grandchildren, Kelsey and Mya all of Woodstock, CT; her siblings, Julia Allen, Donna Leckenby, Helen Duncan, James Duncan and David Rhiner; her cherished friend, Brenda Rhiner; as well as many nieces and nephews. She was also the sister of the late George, Richard, and Joseph Duncan.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend a Memorial Service on Saturday, April 23, 2022, at 11:00a.m. in the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, 543 Route 169, Woodstock, CT 06281. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260.

Memorial donations in Jessie's name may be made to Hospice of N.E.CT, P.O. Box 632, Putnam, CT 06260 or Bungay Vol. Fire Brigade, 1256 Rte. 171, Woodstock, CT 06281. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com

Rita Page Kerouack

Rita Page Kerouack passed away peacefully on April 4, 2022 at the Villa Maria Home in Plainfield, CT. She was born to Alfred and Yvonne (Monty) Piche on July 23, 1920 in Plainfield, CT.

Rita was predeceased by her first husband and father of her children, Floyd James Page, in 1974. She later married Donat Kerouack who passed in 2006. Rita was predeceased by her parents, her sister, Alida Lambert, and her son-in-law, Joseph Bove.

Rita and Floyd enjoyed many years raising their family in Dayville. When Rita retired and married Donat, they spent many happy years touring the country in their Airstream and living in FL. Rita was very proud of her family and she loved visiting with family members and attending all gatherings. She leaves behind her love and her beautiful, sometimes humorous, memories for all to cherish. At 101 years old, she attended her last family event, great grandson Andrew's wed-

ding. Rita was a strong and determined woman who touched the lives of many as she traveled through her long and wonderful journey of life.

Rita leaves behind her sons, Robert Page and wife Nancy of FL, Ralph Page and wife Joyce of FL, and daughter Sandra Bove of Dayville. She is survived by seven grandchildren; Jennifer Dauphinais, Carla Page, Lauri-Anne Kenniston, Robin Kelly, Dennis Bove, Daniel Bove, and Michael Bove. She is survived by thirteen great grandchildren and four great grandchildren. She also leaves behind her stepson, James Kerouack of NH.

Rita's family is most grateful for her caring friends and the staff at Maple Courts II in Danielson where she lived for the past sixteen years. The family is also thankful to all at the Villa Maria for welcoming Rita into their home and giving her warm, friendly and understanding care as her health declined.

There will be a Christian Mass, interment, and celebration of her life at a later date. Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home in Danielson is in charge of funeral arrangements. Share a memory at Gagnonandcostellofh.com



Master the art of making grilled cheese



A grilled cheese sandwich is a simple pleasure enjoyed by children and adults alike. Knowing how to create a delicious grilled cheese sandwich is a handy skill. Even though the sandwich may seem simple, there are some tricks to the trade to achieve a golden, crispy-on-the-outside, gooey-on-the-inside finished product.

Start with homemade bread. Fresh, homemade bread can be customized so that you get the desired results in each slice. A bread that is sturdy enough to slice and close-grained enough that the cheese doesn't leak through should be the goal. While there are many homemade recipes available, this "Honey-Oat Pain de Mie," courtesy of King Arthur Baking, yields an ultra-

thin crust and slices easily.

Honey-Oat Pain de Mie

Yields one loaf

3 cups King Arthur Unbleached All-Purpose Flour
2 1/4 teaspoons instant yeast
1 cup old-fashioned rolled oats
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
4 tablespoons melted butter
3 tablespoons honey
1 cup to 1 cup + 2 tablespoons lukewarm water*

(*Use the smaller amount in the summer, or in a humid climate; use the larger amount in winter, or in a drier climate.)

1. Weigh your flour; or measure it by gently spooning it into a cup, then sweeping off any excess. Combine all of the ingredients and mix until cohesive. Cover the bowl, and let the dough rest for 20 minutes, to give the oats a chance to absorb some of the liquid. Then knead — by hand, stand mixer, or bread machine — to make a smooth, soft, elastic dough.

2. Place the dough in a lightly greased bowl, or in an 8-cup measure (so you can track progress as it rises), and let it rise for 1 to 1 1/2 hours, until it's risen noticeably. It won't necessarily double in bulk.

3. Gently deflate the dough, and shape it into a 9-inch log. Place the log in a lightly greased 9-inch pain de mie (pullman) pan, pressing it gently to flatten.

4. Place the lid on the pan (or cover with plastic wrap, for a better view), and let the dough rise until it's about 1 inch below the top of the pan/lid, 60 to 90 minutes. Towards the end of the rising time, preheat the oven to 350 F.

5. Remove the plastic (if you've used it), slide the pan's lid completely closed, and bake the bread for 30 minutes.

6. Remove the lid, and bake for an additional 5 minutes, or until an instant-read thermometer inserted into the center registers at least 190 F.

7. Remove the bread from the oven,

and turn it out of the pan onto a rack. Run a stick of butter over the top, if desired; this will yield a soft, buttery crust. Cool completely before cutting; wrap airtight and store for several days at room temperature.

Test your cheese

Check to see how well your cheese melts by putting a piece of it in the microwave for 10 seconds. Cheese that melts quickly will need to be cooked on medium to high heat for grilled cheese so the bread toasts and cheese melts. A cheese that is slow to melt will need to be cooked on low and longer for the perfect results. American cheese often

is a popular choice because of the way it melts.

Switch up your spread

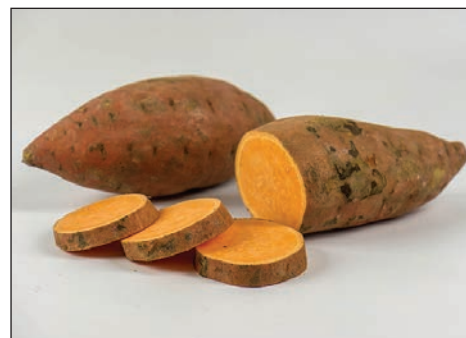
Butter is often the go-to to get that crispy outer bite on grilled cheese. However, mayonnaise spreads easily and browns very well. It also may add a depth of flavor that differs from butter.

Resist the urge to "squish"

Think twice about pressing down on the product during cooking. Otherwise you'll end up with a flat, mushy grilled cheese sandwich and the cheese may run out of the sides unnecessarily.

Grilled cheese is a classic, simple recipe that's made even better when prepared with the right technique.

Sweet potatoes are the star of this tasty dessert



Many people crave a sweet treat from time to time, even if they don't want to confront the side effects of a little indulgence. However, when healthier ingredients are in the mix, a dessert can fit in with healthy eating plans.

This recipe for "Sweet Potato Chewy Bars" features vitamin-rich sweet potatoes and pecans, which boast heart-

healthy fats. You can experiment with the recipe and reduce the sugar content if you want to make this recipe even healthier. Enjoy, courtesy of the Mississippi Sweet Potato Council.

Sweet Potato Chewy Bars

Makes 12

4 eggs
3/4 cup cooking oil
1 cup coconut
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 16-ounce box dark brown sugar
2 cups Bisquick
1 cup chopped pecans
1 cup finely shredded sweet potatoes

Combine all ingredients and pour into an oblong pan (9"x13"). Bake 45 minutes at 350 F. Cool and cut into 12 squares.

LEGALS

TOWN OF BROOKLYN LEGAL NOTICE

The **FOURTH** installment of real estate and personal property tax of 26.42 mills on the dollar levied on the assessment of Oct 1, 2020 becomes due April 1, 2022. Bills will become delinquent on May 3, 2022 and subject to interest from the due date at 1.5% per month as prescribed in the General Statutes of the State of CT. Minimum interest penalty is \$2.00. The Tax Office's hours are as follows: Mon-Wed 8AM to 5PM, Thursday 8AM to 6PM, and CLOSED FRIDAY. If you wish to pay by mail, enclose coupon of bill and address to: Revenue Collector, PO Box 253, Brooklyn, CT 06234. If a receipt is desired, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. **ATTENTION:** You can pay via credit/debit card online or in the office. There is a processing fee of 2.50%. For more information, go to our town website www.brooklynct.org.

Jocelyne Ruffo, CCMC,
Revenue Collector
April 1, 2022
April 8, 2022
April 15, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

At the April 4, 2022, regular meeting of the Woodstock Inland Wetlands Agency, the following application was approved: 03-22-09- 15 Laurel Hill Drive-

Karen & Randy Lebeau- construct wall on lake. Chair Mark Parker
April 15, 2022

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 25, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT on the following application.

PZC #22-07 – Applicant Jessica Deary, property owner Shawn Deary, 377 Brandy Hill Rd, Map 141 Block 17, Lot 49, Zone LD (Lake District) request for a Seasonal Country Inn/Bed and Breakfast.

File may be reviewed online, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission or in the Planning and Zoning Office. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting
April 15, 2022
April 22, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Joseph D Chartier (22-00074) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 5, 2022, 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:
Elizabeth M Chartier
c/o ERNEST J COTNOIR, MAHER AND COTNOIR, 163 PROVIDENCE STREET, P.O. BOX 187, PUTNAM, CT 06260
April 15, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF William Cournoyer, AKA William Rex Cournoyer, AKA Bill Cournoyer (22-00064) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 17, 2022, 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.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Marysia Devil,
64 Smith Street, Putnam, CT 06260
April 15, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Cynthia Arlene Firer (22-00119) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad,

Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 5, 2022, 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:
June B Maciolek
c/o JAMES T RYAN, JAMES T. RYAN, 175 MAIN ST, SOUTH, P. O. BOX 695, WOODBURY, CT 06798
April 15, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MarJorie D Griffes (22-00126) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 7, 2022, 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:
Jon R Williams
c/o MICHAEL C MAGLIOCCO,
MICHAEL C. MAGLIOCCO, ATTORNEY AT LAW, 14 MANSFIELD AVE, WILLIMANTIC, CT 06226
April 15, 2022

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Adventure Park at Storrs announces annual "Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees"



STORRS — The Adventure Park at Storrs, the area's best zipline and climbing adventure experience, is happy to announce its annual "Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees."

"This is not your typical Easter egg hunt," said Candie Fisher, President of The Adventure Park. "It is a fun scavenger hunt through our treetop trails."

Printed "eggs" are placed throughout several of the trails, each with a different word. Participants find the words in the trees and win a prize. The "eggs" can also be found in the Adventure Playground with pictures in place of words for younger participants.

"Our non-traditional Easter egg hunt is a big hit with guests," added Park Manager, Jesse Pasacreta. "They enjoy the unique scavenger hunt in

the trees and, of course, the prize at the end."

Participation in the "Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees" is free, but guests will need to purchase a ticket for climbing at myAdventurePark.com/SAP. Dates for the "Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees" are April 8 through April 17.

The Adventure Park at the Long Island has also released its Spring Break schedule with daily extended hours from April 9 through April 24.

The nine trails at The Adventure Park consist of various challenges in the trees, including bridges, tightropes, ladders, and 28 ziplines. Participants wear harnesses with clips that connect to the trail's safety system, ensuring that they are always locked on to the course until they reach the end. The main trails are designed for

ages seven to adult, and an Adventure Playground provides a low-to-the-ground adventure experience for little climbers ages three to six.

Non-climbing participants are admitted free of charge to share the experience on the ground and enjoy the property's nature trails, picnic tables and community firepit.

The Adventure Park at Storrs is open to the general public and is located minutes from the UConn Campus. The address is 2007 Storrs Rd. in Storrs. Walk ins are welcome on a space available basis, but guests are encouraged to book ahead on the Park's website or by calling 860-946-0606.

The Adventure Park at Storrs is designed, built and operated by Outdoor Venture Group.

New pilot Scouting program underway in Windham

WINDHAM — The Windham Region Chamber of Commerce and the Connecticut Rivers Council are working with the Windham Before and After School Program to provide Scoutreach, a Scouting experience to youth attending the Windham Center Elementary School. We are looking for adults who would like to become leaders and volunteers and sponsors to cover the cost of the program. This is a pilot program this spring with a goal of providing the program to all elementary students in the before and after school program in Windham next school year.

ScoutReach gives unique leadership and emphasis to urban and rural Scouting programs. ScoutReach is the Boy Scout of America's commitment to making sure that all young people have an opportunity to join Scouting, regardless of their circumstances, neighborhood, or ethnic background. It reaches all age levels and programs that are associated with Boy Scouts of America.

Scouting, by emphasizing ethics and moral values, addresses many of the social concerns of parents and youth in our country. Scouting prepares urban and rural youth to be leaders, accept responsibility,

and care about principles and causes beyond their own self-interest. Our biggest asset in urban and rural neighborhoods is a well-defined program based on values, learning-by-doing, fun, and positive role models.

If you are interested in supporting this amazing program for Windham boys and girls, please contact the Chamber at 860-423-6389 or diane@windhamchamber.com. The total cost of the program is \$3,000. This covers all expenses for the child so there is not financial burden for any student in the program. Sponsors will be recognized with their names on the back of the uniform t-shirts.

Rectory School to commemorate centennial celebration with fireworks display

POMFRET — Rectory School will celebrate its Centennial during the week-end of April 22-24. Current students, faculty, staff, and families as well as alumni, past faculty, and friends will take part in a variety of activities to honor the school's first 100 years of service. Postponed from 2021 due to COVID-19, Rectory anticipates a festive, fun, and safe event honoring this momentous occasion.

If you live in Pomfret or one of the surrounding towns, please be advised of two things related to the celebration. First, we anticipate higher traffic than usual on the stretch of Route 169 in Pomfret that passes Rectory's campus on Saturday, April 23. Use additional caution if you are passing by on that day. Also, on the evening of April 23, a fireworks display will take place beginning at 9:40 p.m. and lasting until 9:55 p.m. If you, your loved ones, pets, and/

or animals are sensitive to loud noises, please take whatever precautions are necessary prior to and during that time.

About Rectory School
Established in 1920, Rectory School is a private school for boarding students in grades 5-9 and day students in grades K-9. Rectory's priority is understanding each child and furthering their personal growth. Individualized attention to a student's academic, physical, social, and moral development has been a keystone of Rectory School since its founding 100 years ago. As a vital component in the School's overall capability to fulfill its mission—nurturing the whole child within a caring, personalized learning environment—Rectory's Learning Services program continually seeks to grow and stay on the forefront of evidence-based practices and current research.

Danielson voters approve proposed budget

DANIELSON — The Borough of Danielson's budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year was passed at the April 11 Annual Budget Meeting. There were 15 eligible voters in attendance, 14 of whom cast votes. Twelve people voted in favor of the budget, one person voted against the budget, one person formally abstained, and one person did not cast any vote.

The approved budget totals \$841,414, which is an increase of \$16,779, or 2.03 percent, over the current 2021-22 budget. This budget will result in the property tax rate holding the same at 5.05 mils. This is the same mil rate the Borough has had for the last three years.

A few things planned for in this budget include the full replacement of all five of

the fire department overhead doors for approximately \$80,000 (to be completed within historic district guidelines), additional funding to the fire truck and sidewalk reserve accounts, and \$14,000 to the Fire Department Capital Expense account earmarked towards the SCBA replacement plan.

The next regular meeting of the Borough Council is scheduled for Wednesday, April 20, at 7 p.m. in the second-floor meeting room located at the Danielson Fire Department, 47 Academy St., Danielson. Any Borough residents that may have questions regarding the Borough can contact the Borough Administrator at duchesneau.b@boroughofdanielson.org.

Eastern to hold first community service expo in three years

WILLIMANTIC — The Center for Community Engagement (CCE) at Eastern Connecticut State University will hold its Annual Service Expo and Awards Ceremony on April 18 from 2-4 p.m. in the foyer of the Fine Arts Instructional Center. This is the CCE's first in-person expo since before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic in spring 2020.

Students who have volunteered with more than 15 community organizations in the Windham area over the past year will present posters describing their work. Guest judges from the community, as well

as Eastern faculty, staff and alumni will present awards for the best programs. The program will begin at 2 p.m. with keynote speaker Kim Silcox, director of the CCE.

Awards will also be given to the following individuals for their exemplary service: Sociology Professor Nicolas Simon (Service Learning Award) and Dianisi Torres of the Puentes al Futuro program (Community Program Award). Community Engagement Awards will go to Chinindozi Tucci, site coordinator at Windham Center School Before/After School Program;

Education Professor Laura Rodriguez; and Muneeb Butt, volunteer at the Dr. Helen H. Baldwin Middle School Boys Mentoring Program and Shawn's Cupboard.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the CCE transitioned its programming to a virtual or hybrid model. However, this past academic year has been fully on-ground, as the CCE has worked hard to return to normal operations.

For more information, contact the Center for Community Engagement at silcoxk@easternct.edu and (860)465-0090.

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or email resume to: ejolyandsons@att.net

Omicron Delta Kappa celebrates new members

LEXINGTON, Va. — Omicron Delta Kappa, the National Leadership Honor Society, welcomed 578 new initiates from 25 universities during March 2022.

Students initiated into the Society must be sophomores, juniors, seniors, or graduate/professional students in the top 35% of their class, demonstrate leadership experience in at least one of the five pillars, and embrace the ODK ideals. Fewer than five percent of students on a campus are invited to join

each year.

Noelle Ciccarelli of Thompson - Eastern Connecticut State University

Alex Rooney of North Goshen - Eastern Connecticut State University

Omicron Delta Kappa Society, the **National Leadership Honor Society**, was founded in Lexington, Virginia, on December 3, 1914. A group of 15 students and faculty members established the Society to recognize and encourage leadership at the collegiate level. The founders established the ODK Idea—the concept that individuals representing all phases of collegiate life should collaborate with faculty and others to support the campus and community. ODK's mission is to honor and develop leaders; encourage collaboration among students, faculty, staff, and alumni; and promote ODK's leadership values of collaboration, inclusivity, integrity, scholarship, and service on college and university campuses throughout North America. The Society's national headquarters are located in Lexington, Va.