



Putnam hosts Cookie Crawl



Photos Jason Bleau

Little Falls Nutrition provided new cookie-themed creations for their touch of Christmas during the Cookie Crawl.

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM — The town of Putnam rang in the Christmas season with yet another unique event that put the businesses of town center stage. On Saturday, Dec. 4, the Putnam Business Association sponsored a Cookie Crawl with seven businesses providing special cookie-themed dishes and drinks throughout the day.

The event included several familiar businesses in the lineup, it also shined some light on newer businesses in town including Chubby Dog Coffee Company and Little Falls Nutrition. Adam Rondeau, proprietor of Chubby Dog Coffee Company complimented the Business Association for continuously pushing out new events and giving small business owners a chance

Please Read **COOKIE CRAWL**, page **A14**

E+R=O the winning formula for Killingly to advance to State Final

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — Theoretical physicist Albert Einstein gave the world the formula $E=mc^2$, which is also known as the theory of relativity. Heading into this season, Killingly High football coach Chad Neal has provided his team with a formula, too; event plus response equals outcome, which is better known to his players as $E+R=O$.

In its simplest form, $E+R=O$ is about overcoming adversity. Killingly used Neal's formula to near-perfection in the fourth quarter of its Connecticut Class M Tournament semifinal-round game against Branford and the result was a come-from-behind 13-12 victory and a trip to the Class M championship game.

Undefeated Killingly (11-0), the No. 1 seed in Class M, plays second-seeded Rockville (9-2) for the Class M state title at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at Veterans Memorial Stadium in New Britain. Killingly, which captured state titles in 1981, 1996 and 2017, last played in the state final in 2019, losing to Weston, 27-6.

The win over Branford on Sunday, Dec. 5, at Morgan Field, was Killingly's 32nd consecutive home win. Killingly last lost at home to Brookfield on Dec 7, 2015.

"Coach always talks about $E+R=O$. How we respond to every event during a game is something that we talk about all the time," said Killingly linebacker Seth Dootson, who had a key fumble recovery with 5:19 to play in the game and Branford driving for the go-ahead score. "They owned the third quarter. At that point we just wanted to own the fourth quarter. We just tried to come back and hit them



Photos Jason McKay

Ben Jax of Killingly pushes through the defensive tackle provided by a Branford player.

hard."

Adversity reared its ugly head in the third quarter for Killingly, the Hornets scoring on two straight drives in less than 10 minutes, turning a 7-0 halftime deficit into a 12-7 lead.

"The third quarter was tough to watch, but in the end we found a way to handle the adversity," Neal said. "The storm was coming from the other side of the field and we had to withstand that storm. In the fourth quarter we were able to make a stop and get the ball back."

Upon getting the ball back with 10:14 remaining in the game, Killingly embarked on a seven-play, 79-yard drive which

culminated in a fourth down touchdown pass from Thomas Dreiholz to Soren Rief that vaulted Killingly into a 13-12 lead.

"Coach told me I had to sell the block on the defensive end and I did that and he left me wide open," Rief said. "I jumped up, caught the ball, stiff-armed to a kid and went into the corner of the end zone. There was no way, in that situation; I wasn't going to get into the end zone. I was ready to sacrifice everything to get into the end zone. I was not going to be denied."

Dreiholz, who rolled out to

Please Read **E+R=O** page **A8**



Photo Jason Bleau

State Police Trooper Pickard and MSgt. Hagland pose with toys collected from the Putnam Walmart during the Dec. 4 State Police Tommy Toy Fund Toy Collection.

State Police collect donations for Tommy Toy Fund

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

REGION — The Connecticut State Police held their annual toy drive for the Tommy Toy Fund on Saturday, Dec. 4, setting up collection sites at numerous different stores in Putnam and Killingly to collect gifts for children in need this holiday season.

Troopers from the Connecticut State Police and the Killingly Constables were station at the Walmarts in Putnam and Brooklyn, the Ocean State Job Lot in Brooklyn and the Target in Killingly Commons

where customers could drop off toys they purchased in the stores. Master Sgt. Eric Hagland of the State Police was stationed at the Putnam Walmart and said the event will help bring a smile to the faces of countless children when Christmas comes around in only a few weeks.

"It's a great event. It's not just what it means for us, but for the people that are on the receiving end too. At the end of the day people are inherently good and this is just another way to see that come to life,"

Please Read **TOY FUND**, page **A3**

EARLY DEADLINES FOR CHRISTMAS

To ensure that the Dec. 24 editions of the Killingly, Putnam, Thompson, and Woodstock Villagers arrive in subscribers' mail boxes on schedule despite the holiday, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication that week will be Friday, Dec. 17 at 4 p.m. Submissions can be

e-mailed to Editor Brendan Berube at brendan@villagernewspapers.com.

The staff of Villager Newspapers thanks our readers for their cooperation with this scheduling change, and wishes one and all a safe and happy holiday season.

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Family research



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Inclement Weather: December brings the possibility of wintry weather. If the Killingly Historical Center is closed, an announcement will be made on WINY. If you are not sure, call the Center at 860-779-7250 after 10 a.m. on a regularly scheduled day. If you get the answering machine, the Center is probably closed.
Christmas closing: Since both Christmas and New Year's Day are on Saturdays, the Killingly Historical Center will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan.

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Call the Agent for the Elderly, Su Connor, with any questions: 860-974-1705

1. It will be open on Wednesday, Dec. 29. First, thank you so much to the anonymous donor who gifted the Killingly Historical Society with a very generous donation. Thank you! Thank you also to the individuals who have contributed to the Society on Giving Tuesday. Your thoughtfulness is much appreciated. We have been working on a number of interesting requests at the Killingly Historical Center this past month, and I certainly have learned quite a lot in the course of my research. The most recent query was from the historical society of Stanford University in California for information about, and any photos of, Florence Harris Danielson Davis, the wife of a Stanford professor. We have an extensive Danielson family file, so Lynn LaBerge began searching that while I checked to see what I could learn from Ancestry. I discovered that she was a descendant of the first James Danielson of Block Island who arrived in Killingly about 1707 and purchased 2000 acres of land between the Quinebaug and Five Mile Rivers, which extended as far north as Alexander's Lake. Florence was the daughter of Simeon and Mary C. (Harris) Danielson and was born in Killingly in 1886. We were thrilled when Lynn discovered Florence in a family photo in the archives. I found an article about her Sept. 7, 1916 marriage to Joseph Stancliffe Davis at newspapers.com in the Sept. 1,1916* issue of the Norwich Bulletin. It was not necessarily the custom to marry on a

Saturday, for they were married on a Thursday at the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Simeon Danielson of Main Street ---but records seem to indicate Cambridge. "The ceremony was performed by Rev. S. Ralph Harlow, of Symra, Turkey, assisted by Rev. Clarence H. Marber, pastor of the Congregational Church. The marriage ceremony was in the parlor, which was prettily decorated with laurel and asters, the decorations by Harold Hall, of Taunton, a cousin of the bride... The bridal party's entrance to the parlor was through an aisle of young ladies holding chains of asparagus ferns...After a wedding journey Mr. and Mrs. Davis will live in Cambridge, Mass., where Mr. Davis is an instructor at Harvard University, of which he is a grad-

uate." *(Something is off with the date of the paper, p. 9, or the marriage date in the newspapers.com marriage index on Ancestry). Of course, I have much more research to undertake. Florence died in May 1974 and once again I came across something interesting. She is listed in Westfield Cemetery, Danielson and also Alta Mesa in Palo Alto, California (findagrave). She is not in the Killingly Sexton Returns or Mortality Notices, and her husband is also interred in Palo Alto so her remains are probably in California. Note that an inscription on a tombstone is not conclusive proof that the body is in that location. Always search for a corroborating document if you are doing genealogical research and are uncertain. Florence's husband, Joseph Stancliffe Davis was apparently quite important in the field of economics. The following is from a death notice: "Stanford, Calif. 23 April 1975. Joseph Stancliffe Davis, 89, a member of President Eisenhower's Council of Economic Advisors, died today in a convalescent home. He also headed Stanford University's food research institute and taught at Harvard for several years. His most recent book, "The World Between the Wars, 1919-1939; An Economist's vies," warned that confidence in the nation's ability to avoid a second major depression was 'ominously reminiscent' of the overoptimistic thinking of the late 1920s." (New York, NY; Daily News; April 24, 1975; an internet search). When I'm writing, one thing leads to another. I like to think of it as my domino effect. Lynn LaBerge came across the following interesting article while searching the Danielson files for Florence Danielson Davis. "Historic Danielson Property is sold. In possession of Pioneer Family for 239 Years--To be Subdivided. Albert Bernier announced on Saturday that as agent for the owner he has sold the historic old Danielson farm on Maple Street to Adelaide Verone of Providence who plans to develop 40 of the 68 acres into a residential section to be known as Colonel William Danielson Acres. The work of surveying the property has been entrusted to William H. Pike, whose plan will subdivide the land into 103 lots in addition to space allowed for roads. The proposed development when completed will greatly enhance the financial standing of the community, adding considerably to the grand list of taxable property as well as creating a boom in the building trades... The work of laying out the project is to start within the next two weeks..." The homestead was recently owned by Misses Katherine and Ruth Danielson. Lynn noted that the development contains streets named after both women. How many of you knew that? I didn't. According to the article until the time of the sale, "seven generations of the family have lived on the land and five in the old homestead." The article stated, "the first James Danielson, who gave what is now known as Westfield Cemetery, was the first to be interred there, Jan. 23, 1728. (The graves of his five slaves are also in his lot)." The house on Maple Street was built in 1786 by Col. William Danielson, grandson of the original James Danielson. William was active politically and in 1788 was chosen one of the town's two delegates

to the State Convention to be held in Hartford about the new United States Constitution. It was William's son James who invested in the first Danielson cotton mill in the area which opened about 1810. A second mill was completed by 1819. Deacon Elisha Danielson, son of James, and Elisha's son George continued the Danielson legacy. George "was with the Pope Manufacturing Company in Hartford for many years, and returned to his home here in the latter part of his life. His children are Miss Katherine Danielson of Pomfret, Miss Ruth Danielson of Boston, and Thomas Danielson of Maple Street. A fourth child, Robert, died in infancy. Capt. Elisha Danielson's only other grandson is Lt. Col. Richard Ely Danielson of Boston and Washington." (Norwich Bulletin or Windham County Transcript-paper unmarked- Aug. 7, 1944; Killingly Historical Center family files). Newly Arrived at the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center: Copies of "Images of America Killingly" by Natalie L. Coolidge and Robert A. Spencer. This first book of Killingly photos has been out of print but is now available just in time for Christmas. Copies are \$20 if purchased at the Center; \$25 for postage and handling if the book must be mailed. Copies will be available during regular Center hours on Wednesday and Saturday from 10-4. Checks accepted but not credit cards. Please send a letter with your name, address and a check for \$25 if you wish to have a copy mailed to you. No phone orders, please. The second volume, "Killingly Revisited" by Natalie Coolidge, is also available for the same price. Are you looking for an unusual Christmas gift for someone who grew up in Killingly or the vicinity? If you have a Civil War buff in the family, be sure to come to the Center and look at Dear Transcript, which contains letters from Windham County soldiers during the Civil War. Mills Along the Whetstone would be perfect for those who are interested in Killingly's mill heritage. It contains many photos of mills that are no longer standing. There are also a number of postcards from Northeastern Connecticut and many other places for sale (\$1), reproductions of old maps from area towns including those dating back to 1855/6 and 1869 (\$3-\$5), and old journals with interesting short stories (\$1). Stop in during regular hours and see those and many other items. Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian December 2021. Special thanks to Lynn LaBerge for her help. 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 10-4. 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.

Winter coats available for children in need

PUTNAM — Free new warm winter coats will be offered for needy local children Sunday, Dec. 19 from 3 until 6 p. m. at Cargill Council 64 Knights of Columbus Hall, 64 Providence St., Putnam. Santa will be there! All local children in need, with their parents or guardians, to be fitted for a brand new, free, WARM winter coat they can wear home. No charge, no obligation...for all local children, ages three to 17. Children's Sizes: Small to Extra Large, in styles for Boys and Girls, with various colors to choose from The coats are for children

regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, or any other criteria other than need. If you have a child in need, you are welcome to bring him or her for a new coat. For information, please call Grand Knight John D. Ryan, at (860) 928-7241.

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Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Nov. 29: Sora, Bald Eagle, American Kestrel, Pheasant, Bluebird, Northern Harrier, Brown Creeper, Great-horned Owl, Eastern Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Carolina Wren, House Finch, Mockingbird, Junco, Peregrine Falcon, Common Grackle. Visit ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home.

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IT'S GOIN' DOWN!

CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

Anna Sekula honored as Westview Employee of the Month



Anna Sekula

DAYVILLE — Anna Sekula, RN has been bestowed the distinction of November 2021 Employee of the Month at Westview Health Care Center.

Sekula (whose first name is pronounced Ania) has been a member of the Westview nursing team since her hiring in September 2009 and has previously earned the Employee of the Month award in February 2015. No doubt—she is a dedicated, determined health care professional. In her commentary upon being named for the 2015 award, she mentioned her passionate pursuit of a nursing degree. Six years later, she is a well-liked Nursing Supervisor at Westview Health Care Center; one fellow staff member cheerfully referring to her as her unit’s “Fearless Leader!” when her portrait for this honor was displayed.

Sekula first moved to the United States from Poland as a teenager. Initially living in Massachusetts through her high school years, she went on to earn a Bachelor’s degree in Business with a concentration in Management from Worcester State University. As mentioned, she began working at Westview in 2009 as a Certified Nursing Assistant—and with the support of Westview’s Tuition Reimbursement Program—Anna ultimately worked towards her Nursing Degree while also working to care for patients at the Dayville skilled nursing facility. In 2018, she graduated with her Associates Degree in Nursing from Three Rivers Community College. Since that time, and with great devotion, she guides multiple units of nurses in the wings of Westview during her second-shift Nurse Supervisor role. During those hours, as day turns into night, she is a constant beacon of encouraging energy to help the other nurses go above and beyond expectations.

Presently, Sekula lives in Putnam with her husband Lukasz, their daughter

Ewa, and their son Adam. She is a fan of many different styles of music—as long as it has a good melody and a good beat for her to dance along with. It certainly seems that her life plays to an upbeat soundtrack, as good energy is standard daily procedure for her. In her free time, she enjoys hiking, especially in the form of long walks with her husband and walking on the Putnam River Trail with the whole family. The Sekulas delight in their vacation time together and list the beautiful landscapes of New Hampshire’s Green Mountains and New York’s Catskill waterfalls as some of their favorite destinations. Sekula’s culinary creativity comes alive with her love of cooking and baking; especially by making traditional perogies and experimenting with new recipes when she’s feeling extra ambitious. She looks forward to baking more of the pumpkin rolls she recently learned to make this fall. As the New England weather turns colder, Anna can be seen warming up at her favorite spot next to the backyard fire pit.

One of many things that brings Sekula so much appreciation from her Westview colleagues is the appreciation that she has for them. This is clearly shown in her response to receiving the November 2021 recognition: “I would like to thank everyone who believes in me at Westview. I’m so happy to be one part of a great team! Go Westview Warriors!”

David T. Panteleakos, Administrator of Westview Health Care Center, has long admired Sekula’s commitment to making the best of every day, every shift, and every team that she works with at Westview. Furthermore, he is proud to know of her continued achievements in education and how she applies her accumulated knowledge on a daily basis.

“Anna has proven her comprehensive healthcare skills since she began

at Westview, along with her fun-loving spirit and encouraging approach to our Nursing Department,” Mr. Panteleakos said. “In her role as one of our trusted Nursing Supervisors, I take great comfort knowing that Anna is an excellent example and a strong leader for others to follow.”

Westview Health Care Center is a 103-bed inpatient skilled nursing facility, which includes a distinct and self-contained 28-bed sub-acute short term rehabilitation unit and outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapies including: Sports Medicine, Adolescent/Pediatric, Adult, and Aquatic Outpatient Centers, all dedicated to providing outstanding quality health care services. The Dayville, Connecticut facility is consistently ranked among the top nursing facilities in the nation, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as well as U.S. News and World Report, consecutively for the past 14 years.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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



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In accordance with Section 7-109 of the General Statutes, revision of 1977, as amended, and with the State Department approval, the **Special Education Department of Woodstock Public Schools** will destroy all special education student records that became inactive (exited, graduated, turned 21) prior to 7/1/2015 on 12/17/2021.

If the owners if these records wish to claim them, please contact the Special Education Department of Woodstock Public Schools at 860-928-7453 Ext. 323. These records may be needed at some future date for social security benefits or for other purposes.

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TOY FUND

continued from page A1

Hagland said. “It’s great to see that people do care. People want to help others and that’s what this season is all about.”

The toy drive also serves as a yearly opportunity for the local police officers to connect with the people they protect, both young and old. Over the 15-plus years of the partnership, the Tommy Toy Fund toy drive has been a highlight event for all the officers of the force.

“This is just another opportunity for us to come out and engage with the public and, as a community, do something that is for the betterment of everyone else,” said Hagland. “It’s an opportunity for us to come out and engage with people, talk to families and talk to kids and collectively work toward the common good.”

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Brighten someone’s holiday season with Christmas cactus



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

The holidays have arrived and so has the Christmas cactus. Set this favorite holiday plant in a basket, decorative pot or foil wrap and it will be ready to give as a gift or add to your holiday décor. With proper care this holiday favorite can flower for four to eight weeks and grow for decades, becoming a family heirloom handed down from one generation to the next.

The plant sold as a Christmas cactus may actually be a Thanksgiving cactus. The true Christmas cactus blooms later and has small segments with rounded edges. The Thanksgiving cactus, though often sold as the Christmas cactus, has toothed or jagged segments and typically blooms prior to Christmas.

Fortunately, their growing requirements and care are basically the same so the plants will do fine no matter the name on the label. These, or hybrids of the two plants, flower with cool nights and long uninterrupted dark periods. A third holiday plant, the Easter cactus, sets flowers in spring as the days start to lengthen.

Christmas and Thanksgiving cacti are epiphytes that naturally grow on trees in shaded and humid forests along the coast of Brazil. They all prefer bright indirect light, high humidity and a thorough watering when the top few inches of soil begins to dry. Don't over water but don't let the soil dry completely. Water a bit more often when the plant is in bloom.

Grow them in an organic well-drained potting mix for best results. Water thoroughly and pour off the excess that collects in the saucer to avoid root rot. Reduce maintenance and improve the growing conditions with the help of gravel trays. Place a layer of pebbles, decorative stones or marbles in the saucer or bottom of the foil wrap or basket. The pot will be elevated above any excess water that collects in the pebbles. As the water evaporates, it increases the humidity around the plant.

Keep your flowering cactus in a cool bright location to extend its bloom time. Avoid drafts of hot and cold air, moisture stress and other changes in the environment that can cause buds and flowers to drop.

Fertilize with a dilute solution of flowering houseplant fertilizer once it has finished blooming and throughout spring and summer as needed. Grow your cactus in a north-facing window or set back from an east- or west-facing window where it receives bright indirect light throughout the year. Too much sun turns the leaf segments dark red.

Don't be anxious to move these plants to a bigger container. They prefer to be somewhat potbound and can remain in the same pot for years.

Encourage a new flush of flowers with cooler night temperatures around 55 to 60 degrees and slightly drier soil. An uninterrupted dark period will also help promote flowering.

Start the dark treatment in early to mid-October for holiday flowers. Cover the plants or move them to a location free of any artificial light, indoors or outside, each night and provide bright indirect light each day. Any interruption in the dark period from outdoor, street or reading lights can delay or prevent flowering.

Many experts find providing the same dark treatment as poinsettias, 14 hours of dark each night, promotes flowering. Michigan State University recommends providing 16 hours of total darkness and eight hours of light for at least eight days to promote flowering.

Add a Christmas cactus to your indoor plant collection and share a few with friends and family over the holidays. These easy-care flowering beauties are sure to brighten the recipient's mood and holiday décor.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www.melindamyers.com.

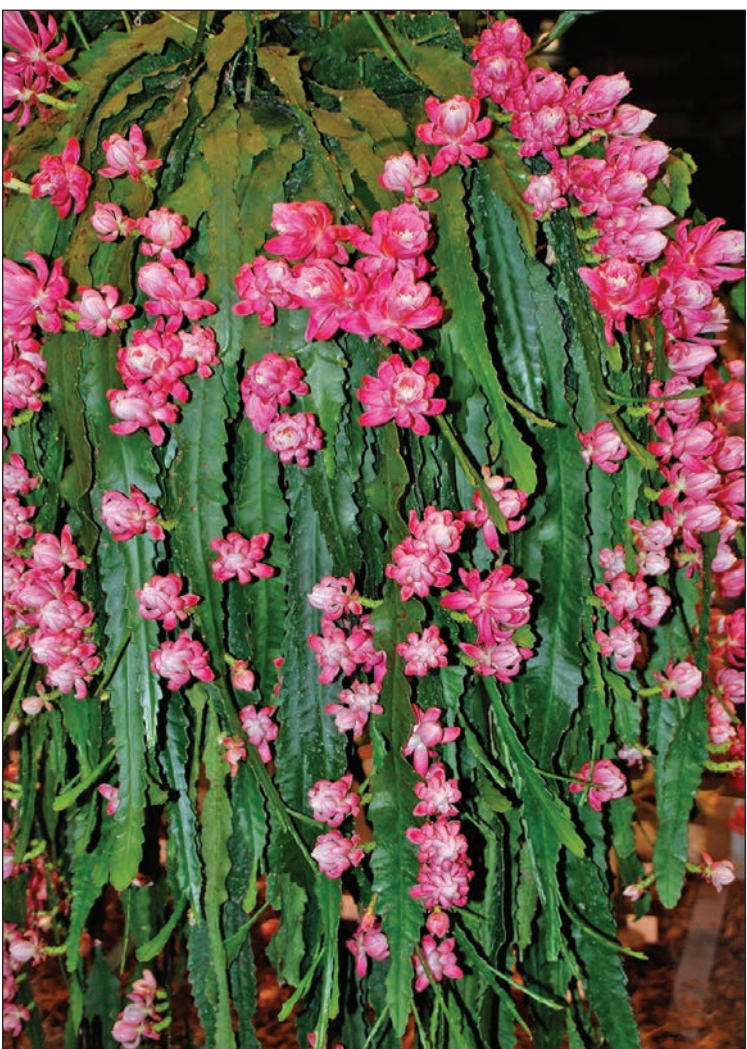
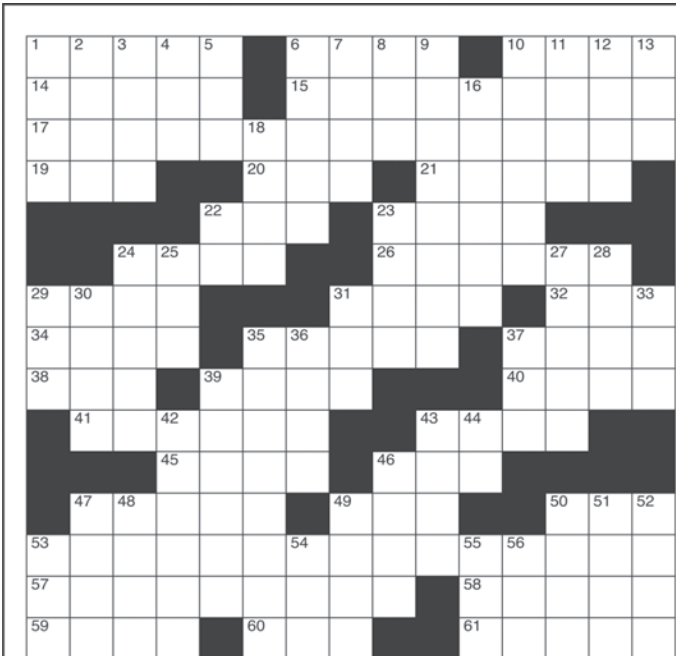


Photo Melinda Myers

Christmas cactus is a general name given to a small group of cacti called Schlumbergera that are native to southeastern Brazil's coastal mountains.

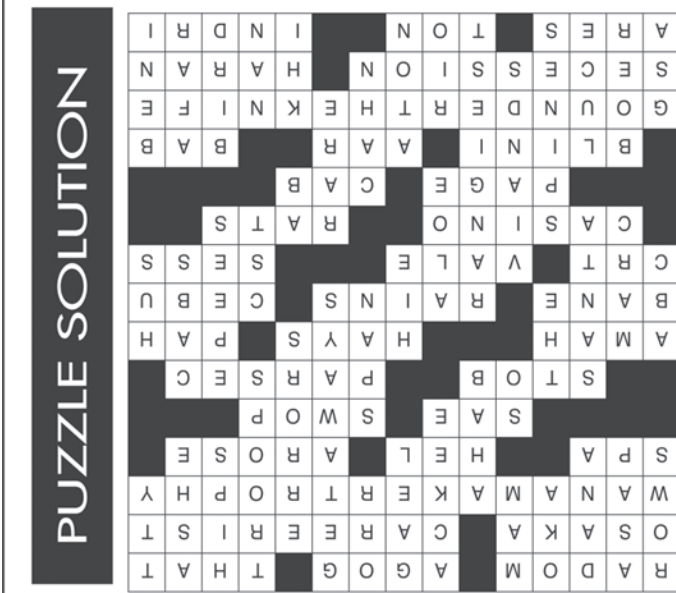


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Polish city
- 6. Very eager
- 10. Identifies a specific person or thing
- 14. Tennis great Naomi
- 15. One concerned by professional advancement
- 17. PGA Championship reward
- 19. A fashionable hotel
- 20. Norse mythology afterlife location
- 21. Stood up
- 22. Car mechanics group
- 23. Weather forecasters use it (abbr.)
- 24. Broken branch
- 26. Astronomy unit
- 29. East Asian nursemaid
- 31. "Airplane!" actor
- 32. Exclamation that denotes disgust
- 34. "Batman" villain
- 35. Downfalls
- 37. Philippine province
- 38. Once-vital TV part
- 39. Valley
- 40. Tax
- 41. Classic Scorsese film
- 43. Subway dwellers
- 45. Book part
- 46. Taxi
- 47. Pancakes made from buckwheat flour
- 49. Swiss river
- 50. Founder of Babism
- 53. Have surgery
- 57. Withdrawal from a larger entity
- 58. Lot's father
- 59. Greek war god
- 60. 2,000 lbs.
- 61. Lemur

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Quarrels
- 2. Right away
- 3. Comedian Carvey
- 4. Egyptian unit of weight
- 5. A Brit's mother
- 6. Tropical tree
- 7. One who speaks Gaelic
- 8. NHL legend Bobby
- 9. Vacation spots
- 10. Military personnel
- 11. Shakira's don't lie
- 12. Wimbledon champ
- 13. Teletypewriter
- 16. Mistakes
- 18. Whale ship captain
- 22. Thus
- 23. From end to end
- 24. Kids love him
- 25. One and only
- 27. Fencing swords
- 28. Taxis
- 29. Basics
- 30. Refuse of grapes
- 31. Go quickly
- 33. French ballet dynasty
- 35. Most open
- 36. Popular soap ingredient
- 37. US time zone (abbr.)
- 39. Items of food
- 42. Backbones
- 43. Infrequent
- 44. Blood type
- 46. "Let It Snow!" songwriter
- 47. Dutch colonist
- 48. Pike
- 49. Egyptian sun god
- 50. A cardinal is one
- 51. From a distance
- 52. Bolivian river
- 53. N. American student organization (abbr.)
- 54. River (Spanish)
- 55. Chinese life force
- 56. Chinese surname



INTERNATIONAL AWARD GIVEN TO POMFRET AUTHOR



Photo Carol Davidge — Courtesy

Congratulations to author Julia Kneeland of Pomfret and illustrator Rachael Budd of Woodstock, for their "Jig Gets Lost" book which has been awarded the 2021 Royal Dragonfly Book Awards winners honorable mention in the pet and animal category. The Royal Dragonfly Book Awards is an international competition. "Jig Gets Lost" is an adventure story about a dog named Jig who lives in a big city and decides he wants to go exploring. It is a book for young readers. "Jig Gets Lost" is available from Amazon or visit Julie's Web site: juliakneeland.net.

Woodstock hosting Winter Festival Saturday

WOODSTOCK — Saturday, Dec. 11 from noon to 4 p.m. Woodstock Recreation presents the Second Annual Woodstock Winter Festival. Celebrate Woodstock this holiday season! Visit participating

Woodstock businesses for activities, promotions and refreshments!

Pick up or download a Winter Festival Map (coming soon), get your passport stamped, enter a drawing to win great prizes! Maps will be available at Woodstock Town Hall and all participating locations.

Check out Craft Corner at the Grange, 628 Route 169 · Pottery, handmade plasma ornaments and signs, Painted Boards, Watercolor Cards & Stationary, Handmade soaps, lip balms, tints, candles & MORE!

The Roseland Park Barn, 205 Roseland Park Rd. · Day kicks off with the Christmas Run at 9 a.m. · Activities, refreshments and promotions from several local organizations from noon to 4 p.m.!

· Drawing held at 4 p.m., enter your stamped passport for a chance to win great prizes!

· 4:30 p.m. Tree Lighting Ceremony, presented by the Woodstock American Legion Benson-Flugel Post 111.

More information and a downloadable map will be available at: <https://www.woodstockct.gov/recreation-department/pages/events>.

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POMFRET – Christ Church in Pomfret held its annual St. Nicholas Fair on Saturday, Dec. 4, inviting guests into the church to purchase gifts, food and more. Volunteers from the church and local schools came together to make the event a success continuing an annual local tradition that returned to an in-person event in 2021. The profits from the event will help with several local outreach programs including TEEG, Access Agency, Battered Women's Shelter, Hospice, ARC of Quinebaug Valley, Relay for Life, Habitat for Humanity, Deary Fund, and the Community Kitchen.



Caroline Sloat and Peter Mann volunteered to help serve customers during the fair.



Volunteers sell homemade dog treats designed with a festive flair.



A large crowd filled the room for the annual The Annual St. Nicholas Fair at Christ Church in Pomfret.



Students from Marion polis and Woodstock Academy helped out by selling baked goods during the fair.



Customer examine jewelry for sale that could make for gorgeous gifts or for a fun addition to someone's Christmas wears.



Guests could pick a tab from the bottle board where they would win a special prize depending on the bottle they drew. Each one contained something different and festive.



Delicious options from Grafton Village Cheese made for a delectable purchase for visitors to the fair providing a literal taste of Vermont fresh-made cheese.



The Christ Church bakery sold a variety of homemade goods all created by members of the church.

DANIELSON — High school students attending Killingly High School, Ellis Technical School and QVCC Middle College and home-schooled high school students are invited by L'Homme-Burdick Post 21 of the American Legion to compete in the annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program. The invitation to enter the competition is extended by Post Commander Charlie Crowley.

The subject in the prepared oration portion of the contest must be about some phase of the Constitution of the United States, emphasizing the duties and obligations of a citizen to the U.S. government. The prepared oration must be the original effort of each contestant, and must be eight to 10 minutes in length.

Danielson Post 21 will award the contest winner a scholarship of \$150.

In addition to the awards by winners of the various elimination rounds

of competition, college scholarships of \$25,000; \$22,500; and \$20,000 will be awarded to the first through third places in the national finals. Each state winner who competes in the first round of the national contest will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Participants in the second round who do not advance to the national final round will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship. The top three youth orators who have won all previous elimination rounds of the contest will vie for top honors in the national contest in April in Indianapolis.

The American Legion will pay the expenses of state winners at the national contest.

High school-age students who are interested in entering the competition will find complete rules and contest information at legion.org/oratorical.

Contact Charlie Crowley at chuck.crowley392@gmail.com or (860) 481-2963 for more information.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

From apples to oranges (in stockings): The origins of Christmas traditions

Driving about town is fantastic this time of year, as more and more homes are decorated with bright lights to welcome the holiday season. Some people go all out, and others...well, they don't, and that's OK too. The important thing to remember as we get older is that right now, as you read this, there are countless children counting down the days until Santa arrives, or just finishing up with Hanukkah.

As our Editor was dragging their family tree into the house over the weekend, they started to think about how silly this tradition was. Why cut down a tree and drag it indoors, decorate it, and vacuum up pine needles all month long? We will admit, having the tree is fun, especially at night. With that, the research into holiday traditions began.

Did you ever wonder where the tradition of the Christmas stocking came from, or why traditional Christmas colors are red, green and gold or why Kentucky Fried Chicken in Japan is so busy on Christmas? There are endless myths and fables surrounding the Christmas holiday, but there are even more interesting facts. While researching Christmas, and digging deep, we found a plethora of fun and thought-provoking facts worth sharing with our readers.

The first one notes that early images of St. Nicholas depict him as a strict disciplinarian rather than the overweight, jolly man in the red suit we see today. Way back when, a common Christmas eve tradition was to tell scary ghost stories by the fire, boo.

In 1914, during the Great War, a truce between the United Kingdom and Germany was held. They decorated their shelters for the holiday and exchanged gifts and even played a game of football with each other.

When a child drops a letter in the mail to Santa in America, the mail is sent to Santa Claus, Ind.

Thanks to the province of Nova Scotia, which, since 1918, has been sending the city of Boston an enormous Christmas tree as a thank you for supporting them during the Halifax explosion.

Pope Julius I proclaimed Dec. 25 as the official day to celebrate the birth of Christ in A.D. 350.

For the past 40 years, people in Japan eat Kentucky Fried Chicken for Christmas dinner and must make their orders two months in advance.

British illustrator John Callcott Horsley invented the first Christmas card in 1843.

In England from 1649-1660, Puritanical guardian of the realm Oliver Cromwell outlawed Christmas celebrations and carols, which he and his fellow Calvinists viewed as vestiges of Catholic excess.

The first artificial Christmas trees were made in Germany out of dyed goose feathers (we're still trying to picture this one).

X is the Greek letter "chi," which is an abbreviation for the word "Christ" in Greek — hence the abbreviation X-mas being used so often.

Several European countries thought that good and evil spirits were active during the Twelve Days of Christmas. These 'spirits' then became known as Santa's elves.

Have you ever wondered what a 'Yule' log actually is? We have too. It is a large log that is burned during the Twelve Days of Christmas as a symbol of health, fertility, luck and is said to ward off evil spirits.

In Bolivia, there is a celebration called the 'Mass of the Rooster' that takes place on Christmas Eve. Some folks bring roosters to the mass to symbolize the thought that a rooster was the first animal to announce the birth of Jesus.

In 2010, the Columbian government hung lights on jungle trees. When the FARC guerrillas sauntered by, the trees lit up and released banners asking the terrorists to lay down their weapons. As a result, 331 guerrillas peacefully re-entered into the community.

Here's an interesting one: the Bicycle card company created playing cards during WWII that revealed an escape route for POW's in Germany.

In the song "The Twelve Days of

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Opinions should be founded in reality

To the Editor:

I appreciate Mr. DeLuca pointing out my gun identification guffaw. An AK47 and an AR15 are different weapons. Moreover, I would like to thank him for showing how people on different sides of the political spectrum can find common ground. Mr. Rittehouse's behavior should in no way reflect on the overwhelming majority of law-abiding gun owners who have taken the time to learn gun safety and would never place themselves intentionally in a potentially dangerous situation. Indeed, the majority support stricter oversight. In this way, an individual like Rittenhouse, or for that matter another teen, Ethan Crumbley, who used a gun given to him as a gift by his parents to massacre his school in Michigan, would never have been given an opportunity.

I agree with him that violence and looting have no place in a civil society that upholds peaceful protests. Nor should politicians involve themselves directly in the legal system. Kamala Harris and AOC were wrong, but so were Marjorie Taylor Greene, Matt Gaetz, and Louie Gohmert for engaging themselves in the Jan. 6 insurrectionist lockups. Nor was Ms. Greene's call for Rittenhouse to receive a Congressional Medal of Honor a sensible endeavor. Two wrongs most definitely do not make a right.

We also would agree that Mr. Brooks should never have been given the chance to drive his car into the crowd in Wisconsin. Our

legal system has flaws, but judges and DA's supported by right wing organizations are just as guilty of abusing the system as any on the left. What is important is that concerned citizens like Mr. DeLuca shed light on the imperfections.

And while we certainly do not currently have machine guns on the streets, I remain concerned that eroding gun restrictions could allow this to become a future scenario. The Second Amendment states "a well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." The Supreme Court has already ruled that the Militia piece lacks pertinence. Could a future court decide that any arms (which would include machine guns which currently can be legal but difficult to obtain) be sanctioned?

When we all present our opinions based on facts and reality and show mutual respect, we all benefit. That is why I am also compelled to point out to Ms. Wykes that the 25 percent of immigrants being transported and testing positive for Covid were ones being deported, meaning they were being sent out of our country. Not in.

Still, I always look forward to reading the opinion of others, and applaud the Villager for providing this valuable forum.

LEE WESLER
WOODSTOCK

Zoning regulations have only "enhanced" Thompson's coffers

To the Editor:

A couple of weeks back, I wrote that during 2020, while we were all concerned with the Covid pandemic, the Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission revised the zoning regulations and removed our "uses permitted by right." At a recent meeting, a member of the board stated they hadn't removed any rights, they had enhanced them.

With winter coming, like most homeowners, I am trying to clear out the garage to place the cars inside during the cold and snowy weather that will soon be here. The garage is full of stuff like bicycles, lawn mower, gardening tools, etc. that have seasonal uses. The thought was to order a shed to place them in. I don't need something huge, just about 10 by 12 feet. A building permit is not required because the shed is less than 200 square feet. Two years, ago if you wanted a 10 by 12 foot shed, you just bought or built one, end of story.

Today, with the new "enhanced rights" given you by the Thompson P&Z Board, you now have to apply for a permit for that same shed. To apply, you need to fill out a permit application and pay \$100, then you get to go to the P&Z meeting to explain where you want to place your shed. For me, that would be off my driveway in front of my house. The P&Z doesn't like sheds that aren't located behind

the primary structure, so they will most likely refuse my request unless I relocate the shed to a spot they prefer.

If I don't agree, I can file for a variance with the Zoning Board of Appeals. The application fee is about \$350, and you need to attend two ZBA meetings, one to apply and a second for a public hearing to see if any of your neighbors object to your shed's location. There is no guarantee that even then, they will allow your request if they do not like your location.

Your option is either place your shed where it is inconvenient for you to use or forget the whole idea. This little exercise will cost you about \$450 and delay your project at least three months. The only thing "enhanced" is the town's coffers, which are \$450 richer.

As long as the shed location is outside of the setback requirements, which my shed would be, I don't need the government to tell me where the shed should go. Have we lost our "uses permitted by right?" You bet we have! It is vital that we stay active and prepare for the next election to remove the P&Z members who took away your rights and install freedom loving citizens to restore them. Contact ThompsonTaypayerAlliance@gmail.com to get involved.

BILL WARNER
THOMPSON

Character driven for 40-plus years

To the Editor:

This letter appears two weeks after the 16th Putnam Razzle Dazzle parade, originated by WINY owner Gary Osbrey. Lots of fun, super participation and attendance and larger/better/brighter than ever. But this letter of appreciation could have been written in any season to show appreciation for all that WINY owners Gary and Karen Osbrey do year-round.

WINY Radio has been Northeast Connecticut's Radio Station since 1953. Gary joined WINY in 1981 and in 2001, Gary and Karen became owners. 40 years of involvement and 20 ownership years. Having a business of our own back at that time, my wife and I met Gary & Karen almost right away. Our first impression was that they were really going places. How wrong we were- and in a good way. They did not go places-instead, they have grown places. Those places being all of NE CT.

I know of no station that keeps its surrounding community as completely informed- by excellent coverage of local news, through news on the hour, weather updates, Facebook, all local school sports news, the Community Calendar, talk show, and popular music throughout the day. What's the importance? Citizens here know "who, what, where, when" and usually the "how" about what's going on to a higher degree than towns that have no similar information central. And we need it- most towns in this area have a selectman type of government, meaning that citizens have the individual responsibility to become self-informed, speak and vote knowledgeably about local affairs. WINY keeps listeners up on all the important happenings good and not

so good—giving us a good sense of our own quality of life, what is working well, what needs improvement. So single dimension radio stations like 80's music only, Sports only, and the rest?...Ho Hum.

That's the station from the outside view. But who are Gary and Karen? They are both committed to this area and show it through their personal commitments, innovation, wholesome programming, a talk show that allows equal time to both sides of discussion, (but not hate). Individually and collectively, they give time and energy to life outside the station. Karen belongs to many local service organizations and chairs a few of them. Gary, the same- leadership and "spark" to motivate those around him.

You can feel that spark when in conversation with either. Could be at an event where WINY is broadcasting remotely; could be at an organization that they have selected to be a part of. Could be anywhere like at the Loos Center for the Arts, where they, too, enjoy the performance and radiate their energy out to everyone nearby.

Occasionally we see articles in publications which ask us to pick our most admired person- usually a politician with hyperactive backroom spin doctors. It is easy to allow ourselves to see right past the obvious. But in the case of Gary and Karen Osbrey, personally, and WINY itself as a responsible corporation integral to NE CT, take a moment to see, and appreciate 40 years of character driven dedication.

WOODY DURST
WOODSTOCK

The rituals of giving

Where is the snow? I spent a recent morning planting the last hundred daffodil bulbs I ordered. As I reached into the damp, but unfrozen earth, I felt adrift in properly sensing the season. Winter may turn up tomorrow, but as we move toward the shortest day of the year, it feels as if we live in Virginia instead of New England. At least we have our rituals to sustain us. Despite the awful sense that Covid is not behind us, a number of community events took place and to enliven the season. I hope they give you as much joy as they give me.

My husband and I sat down to sort through the many appeal letters we receive from various charities. We discussed schools, religious institutions, area non-profits, arts organization and land and nature groups. We made our choices and sent off our gifts. It is all quite satisfying, but not nearly as vivid as the encounters I have every year at the fair at my church at the give-it-again booth.

We sell mounds of stuff at low prices, but we are selling something more. We are allowing the buyer to be a giver. For a few dollars and little personal effort, an exchange is made and cash goes to local charities. Some think they are getting a deal because they leave with ornaments or incomplete sets of dishes, but the real bargain is the transaction goes to other people. There is always someone who beats me down on price. They will pay one dollar, not two. I give in, but fume that a person can be so cheap. Get over it, I tell myself.

We were given tickets to see the Boston Pops perform in Worcester. We were impressed with the precautions at the Hanover Theatre, where vaccination cards were checked and people were masked. The evening made clear how much live performance matters. Except for the woman next to me, who spilled red wine on my coat, and sang though the choruses, I had a better time than I thought I would. Get over, I said. Perhaps she hasn't been out in ages.

The Hospice Tree lighting ceremony illuminates how much being together matters. In Pomfret, Renee Smith, Exec. Director of Day Kimball Hospital Healthcare at Home, read a fine letter from Roger Franklin, board chair. Rectory School students sang sweetly in the darkness. The mother of a teenage boy who died from cancer stepped up to light the tree. There was a moment of profound quiet. In ten other locations other families honored their loved ones in the same manner.

Hold tight to this moment, I thought. We need each other on the journey through life and we are fortunate to have good people who help us.

The rituals of giving, receiving, being present for others in happiness and grief, holding on to gratitude and watching people sing through their masks makes this holiday season especially poignant. I was so happy to be at a theatre that I bounced up and down on the balls of my feet as I waited to be seated. I was so tired after working at the fair that I needed to put my feet up. At a small party, I wanted to squeeze my friends really hard, but instead, we bumped elbows. Our rituals are both interior in thoughts and feelings and exterior in tired feet and cold hands.

There will be snow this winter; eventually, and another time of uncertainty and worry. People will annoy us, touch our souls and make us laugh. There will be joy.



NANCY WEISS



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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Republicans are the ones suffering from “Trump derangement syndrome”

To the Editor:

So, Ed DeLuca writes in your Nov. 26 edition that he is “dissatisfied.” Then he proceeds to repeat the lies, half truths and false equivalencies being propagated by the current Republican Party that has forsaken any values that it once held for full blown lunacy. Witness Tami Jo Wykes’ absurd assertion in your Dec. 3 edition that the minority opposing efforts to fight the pandemic represent the forces of “good” fighting “evil.”

Notice that these people refuse to engage constructively in policy, refuse to, or cannot, propose realistic solutions and prefer to sow fear and hatred. Instead, the Trump cult has poisoned the discussion, using insults and threats of violence against anyone with whom they disagree. If any group has the “Trump derangement syndrome” that Mr. DeLuca likes to write about, it is the authoritarian GOP that won’t tolerate any dissent. Perhaps Mr. DeLuca could lecture Republicans Liz Cheney and Adam Kinzinger about cancel culture.

So, exactly what is he dissatisfied about? The supposed teaching of sexually explicit materials in schools? Politicians (and others) being criticized for their abhorrent comparisons of elected leaders attempting to mitigate a pandemic to Adolf Hitler? The Justice Department looking into incidents of school board members being threatened with death?

Are these “dissatisfactions” more important than over 750,000 Americans dying from Covid-19, many of whom died needlessly due to Republican lies or are they distractions? Are they more important than the attempted coup by a mob of right-wing extremists inspired by Trump’s lies? And more important than dealing with the existential problem of climate change? How about straight forward solutions to gun violence favored by the vast majority of citizens? Would Mr. DeLuca prefer authorities to ignore it if he and his family were the targets of violent threats?

We could list a dozen lies and half-lies

contained in Mr. DeLuca’s letter; but here are a few.

Lie: Attorney General Garland has called people domestic terrorists for merely speaking out at school board meetings.

Half Lie: President Biden has strained relationships with our overseas allies. In fact, relations were strained with France by the submarine deal with Australia but other allies are thrilled with Biden’s election.

Lie: President Biden’s approval rating is at “an all-time low.” In fact, a number of presidents, including the previous one, had lower ratings during portions of their administrations.

The Republican Party and right wing media, following Trump’s embrace of various conspiracy theories and lies, openly feeds fear, resentment and paranoia. They are destroying our democracy. When 78 percent of Republicans believe that Trump won the election, 28 percent believe or are unsure if the Covid vaccine contains a microchip and 23 percent believe the U.S. leadership are Satanist pedophiles, the country is in serious trouble. How can one have a normal conversation with people who hold such views?

Consider Mr. DeLuca’s false equivalencies. One stands out for its audacity: equating Trump’s tens of thousands of lies to any other contemporary politician, much less Biden. This is akin to a murderer claiming he is no worse than a jaywalker because both violated the law.

Over the past five or six years, I’ve come to understand that many of Trump’s supporters are motivated by the idea that they are losing their majority status and the perquisites that accompany it. But accusing their opponents of playing the “race card” is laughable. In fact, the GOP plays the race card by lying about the teaching of critical race theory in public schools and by trying to prevent the teaching of America’s genocide of indigenous peoples and enslavement of Africans. If

we are ever to get past our historic racism, we must start by acknowledging it, whether it makes some people uncomfortable or not.

For everyone enormously worried about the immigrants arriving at the border, I’ve got some advice: get used to it. Although our country historically benefited tremendously from immigration (recall the xenophobia that confronted Catholics, Asians, Irish, Italians, etc. upon arrival in the Land of the Free?), now we fret about people arriving from Central America, Afghanistan and Syria, worrying that they’ll take our jobs at a time when employers can’t find enough employees.

Another of Mr. DeLuca’s unsupported assertions is that President Biden, “has done absolutely nothing about the border crisis.” The truth is that our misguided foreign policy for decades and the completely ineffective War On Drugs have exacerbated the conditions causing desperate migrants to risk nearly anything to get here. And no president can do much about it. If you think the problem is serious now, just wait until climate change triggers mass migrations across the globe, not to mention wars over dwindling resources such as water and arable land.

So please put to rest the cynical labeling of President Biden and the Democratic Party as extremists and socialists. Most of the legislation they hope to enact is very popular with the American people. Therefore, if the Democrats are extremists and socialists, so are the majority of Americans. Republicans are the obstructionists, blocking such overwhelmingly popular programs like universal background checks, protection and expansion of voting rights, negotiating the cost of prescription drugs, expanding access to medical care, improved broadband access, universal pre-K and provision of clean water. They are also intent on banning abortion while Americans overwhelmingly support women’s right to control their own bodies.

In addressing the pandemic, Mr. DeLuca’s disingenuousness is breathtaking. Many Republican governors have taken action to prolong the dying by discouraging vaccination and prohibiting other measures to end the pandemic. Then they rush to blame Biden. The GOP is the pro-Covid party of death. Their supposed reverence for the sanctity of life ends at birth. They revere the zygote but can’t be bothered to protect the lives of children being murdered in their classrooms.

Not so long ago, there was a shared sense of the common good. No longer. Beginning around 1980, selfishness and obsession with personal rights began to overtake the concept that responsible citizens should make small sacrifices for the common good. Little wonder that so many refuse to wear masks or get vaccinated, actions that would save many lives of vulnerable Americans.

The red wave that Mr. DeLuca and others yearn for may well happen. After all, the political consultants tell us that presidential elections are all about, “the economy, stupid” so it’s not surprising that voters cast their ballots based on their own narrow self interests. In addition, Republicans are furiously working to suppress the vote, gerrymander congressional districts, and enact laws allowing state legislatures to overturn the will of the voters. Should those efforts fail, the Jan. 6 insurrection was practice for 2024. The Republican candidate has lost the popular vote in seven of the last eight presidential elections. Many Republicans, including Trump, openly admit that they can’t win national elections if everyone eligible to vote actually voted.

Voters in 2022 and 2024 have stark choices. Either vote for the party of death, authoritarianism, racism and white supremacy, that has no policies to improve people’s lives. Or vote to preserve our democracy.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
KILLINGLY

Six ways to give to the causes you care about



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JIM ZAHANSKY
INVESTMENT
ADVISER

For many, the holidays are a time for giving back. But before you give to the causes you care about – during the holidays or at any other time – it’s important to choose the right strategy, paying close attention to potential tax and legal implications. Here are some charitable giving options, along with some important points to consider.

1) Outright Gifts

Outright gifts of cash or property provide charities with immediate resources. Be sure to keep your receipts or bank records to validate any income tax deductions you wish to claim. Keep in mind that you may need a professional appraisal to qualify for a tax

deduction on certain noncash contributions.

2) Donor-Advised Funds

A donor-advised fund is a charitable giving vehicle managed by a public charity for the purpose of distributing funds to other charities. When you contribute to a donor-advised fund, you can advise the charity on the grants it makes, as well as take advantage of possible tax deductions. Be aware, however, that there may be a minimum donation amount, and administrative fees may cut into the funds available for grants.

3) Charitable Remainder Trusts

Charitable remainder trusts enable the donor to receive income from the trust for his or her lifetime, the lifetime of another person, or a period of up to 20 years. At the end of the specified term, the remaining trust assets are then distributed to a charitable beneficiary. The greatest benefit of a charitable remainder trust is that you can take advantage of

immediate tax benefits while continuing to utilize the assets, as you may deduct the present value of the charitable remainder interest. On the downside, charitable trusts tend to be complex to set up and usually require legal and administrative support.

4) Charitable Gift Annuities

A charitable gift annuity is a split-interest gift made directly to a charity that provides you, your spouse, or a family member with fixed income payments for life. The charity typically ends up with about half of your donation, while you get an immediate tax deduction and some guaranteed income. Keep in mind that an annuity is a contract between you and the charity, and your return isn’t guaranteed by the government.

5) Private Foundations

A private foundation is a charity established by an individual, family, or corporation. Although it offers donors a great deal of control over their gifts, a private foundation can

be costly to administer, and it must adhere to a strict set of rules designed to ensure that it carries out its charitable purpose.

6) Bequests


If you wish to give to charity posthumously, you may make bequests by way of your will, trust provisions, or beneficiary designations. Although bequests offer simplicity and are easy to set up, they are not income tax deductible during your life.

Do Even More Good by Planning Well

With all the options available, choosing the best way to give to charity or family members can seem overwhelming. But charitable giving is an important and meaningful component of financial planning for many people. If you’re one of them, it’s best to give as part of an overall financial strategy that’s designed to help you achieve all of your financial life goals, including supporting the causes you care about. We help our clients do this every

day through our strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process. Learn more at whzwealth.com and contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com any time to get started.

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POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
TOBY
MOORE

I encourage people to follow their dreams.

Following my dreams has been the single most excellent motivator in my life; it’s what gets me out of bed in the morning. My biggest dream I am still chasing today, although life has brought me to a place where I’m chasing it most unusually and uniquely, I’m more convinced of my destiny than ever before.

Dreams can change; old dreams can be replaced with new ones. If you didn’t pursue a goal earlier in life, it’s never too late to follow the same one or a new one now. I say go for it, and you’ll find that doors will open; you’ll be presented with opportunities you would never have had if you played it safe instead.

Through the years, I’ve often wondered why everyone doesn’t chase after their dreams. Is it because they don’t have them? Is it because they don’t believe it’s possible to achieve them?

I’ve heard people describe their dream as a pipe dream, defined in the dictionary as an unattainable hope or plan. I guess they say that because, at the outset, they told themselves it wasn’t possible, or maybe they tried, gave up, and decided it wasn’t meant to hap-

pen.

For those of you who do believe it’s possible to accomplish your dreams, you may have weighed the risk. Many people are risk-averse. Some might say that taking the risk of following your dream is careless and self-destructive. I believe the opposite. I would never categorize carelessness and self-destructive behavior in the same category as following your dreams - no matter how risky.

Many of you who were reading this were fans of my father, Gary W. Moore, who started this column four years ago. He was an author who is most known for his novel, “Playing with the Enemy,” which is still in print today. “Playing with the Enemy” earned him a great deal of fan mail. It was his first book, and everyone seemed to love it.

One person wrote to my father and told a story of how he was a successful lawyer with a great family and how “Playing with the Enemy” taught him to forgive himself. He had gone through many years of regret, beating himself up and feeling like a failure.

When my dad told me the story about this man, I thought to myself, “How could he possibly feel like a failure? He was a successful lawyer with a great family; what more could he want?”

It turns out he was an outstand-

ing boxer in his younger years. He decided to pursue a law career and give up his dream of being a professional boxer because it was just too risky. In the years after his decision, he began to have regrets; as time went on, the regrets started to grate at his soul. It wasn’t until he read my father’s book decades later that he decided he needed to forgive himself.

That story has stuck with me through the years. He didn’t follow his dreams because he felt it was too risky.

It reminds me of my favorite quote by Jim Rohn: “It’s all risky, the minute you were born it got risky, if you think trying is risky - wait till they hand you the bill for not trying. If you think investing is risky - wait till you get the tab for not investing. It’s all risky, getting married is risky, having children is risky, going into business is risky, investing your money is risky, it’s all risky; I’ll tell you how risky life is - you’re not going to get out alive....”

If you think following your dreams is risky - wait till they hand you the bill for not following your dreams.

It’s all risky. Are some dreams riskier than others? It all depends on what you’re willing to risk.

Are you willing to risk facing the consequences for not stepping into the fullness of your destiny?

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The Quiet Corner Page

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SPORTS

How They Got There

KILLINGLY SHAKES OFF SLOW START, BEATS GILBERT TO ADVANCE IN STATE TOURNAMENT



Ben Jax of Killingly barrels into Gilbert's Fred Calder-Camp.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — Survive and advance. Despite the one-sided score, that's exactly what the undefeated and top-seeded Killingly High football team did in its Connecticut Class M Tournament quarterfinal game against the eighth-seeded Gilbert School/Northwestern Regional/Housatonic Valley co-op team, at Morgan Field on Tuesday, Nov. 30.

Killingly (10-0) defeated the Yellow Jackets, 49-14, a final score that doesn't tell the story of what a dogfight the game was. Killingly was called for eight penalties and committed two turnovers, one on the first play of the game. It was a turnover that led directly to Gilbert taking an early 6-0 lead.

High school football fans in the Quiet Corner used to seeing a surgical offense and a ball-hawking defense instead had a front-row seat to an uneven execution on both sides of the ball. Killingly missed converting on several plays that usually go for big gains. The Yellow Jackets, especially in the first half, frequently looked like they were a play or two from getting back in the game.

"That was not our best performance. We were very sloppy, from top to bottom; on special teams, on offense and on defense," Killingly head coach Chad Neal said. "There were a lot of missed assignments and a lot of turnovers. It was not the way we are capable of

playing."

The win allowed Killingly to advance to Class M's Final Four, where it played fifth-seeded Branford High.

Gilbert (9-2) won the coin toss and chose to kick off. The kick was a low line drive that bounced off the turf several times before Killingly junior Colby Lopes attempted to field the ball. The ball bounced off Lopes' chest right to a member of the Gilbert kick coverage unit, who pounced on the ball at the Killingly 30-yard line.

Four plays and 46 seconds later, the Yellow Jackets were ahead 6-0, junior tailback Fred Camp scampering into the end zone from three yards out.

Killingly righted the ship on its ensuing possession. A two-yard run by Jack Sharpe capped an eight-play, 65-yard drive. Thomas Dreibholz then tacked on the first of his five extra points and Killingly led, 7-6, with 8:14 remaining in the first quarter. On the play before Sharpe scored, facing a third-and-17, Dreibholz hit tight end Nate Keefe with a short pass that Keefe turned into a 41-yard gain.

"They came in here ready to play; they punched us in the mouth early on when they took the lead," said Sharpe (23 carries, 145 yards, 3 TDs). "That definitely [lit] a fire under us and got us into the game. We definitely did not come out ready to play. We're happy with the win, but we're not satisfied, we're definitely not satisfied. We've got



Photos Jason McKay

Killingly's Colby Lopes tracks down Gilbert's Fred Calder-Camp.



Killingly's Jack Sharpe claws his way through Gilbert's defensive front.

a lot to work on."

Keefe pushed the Killingly lead to 14-6 when, on fourth-and-goal from the 10-yard line, he snared a laser beam of a pass from Dreibholz along the back line of the end zone. The touchdown was the finishing touch on a 17-play, 84-yard drive that took 7:22 off the clock.

"We're happy to be moving on, but not happy with our overall performance," said Keefe, who finished with three catches for 76 yards and a touchdown. "Honestly, I think we came in a little unprepared today and that's very uncharacteristic of us."

Special teams got involved next for Killingly, Justin Baker blocking a Gilbert punt, scooping up the loose ball and racing into the end zone. With 6:26 left before halftime, Killingly led, 21-6. Sharpe extended the advantage to 28-6 with less than two minutes to play

before intermission, scoring on another two-yard run.

Sharpe scored his third TD of the game on the first play of Killingly's first drive of the second half, bursting through a gaping hole in his offensive line and sprinting 44 yards untouched into the end zone. At that point Killingly led, 34-6, with 8:13 left in the third quarter.

Gilbert scored on its next possession to cut its deficit to 20, 34-14, with 5:51 remaining in the third period.

After that it was all Killingly. Dreibholz (8-for-11, 144 yards, two TDs) hit Ben Jax (3 catches, 56 yards, TD) with a 48-yard scoring strike, to push the advantage to 41-14 entering the fourth quarter, and Soren Rief (14 carries, 100 yards, TD) closed out the scoring when he scurried into the end zone from six yards out with 2:59 remaining in the game.



Killingly's Seth Dootson sees the loose ball on the field and jumps on it, giving control back to his offense.

E+R=O

continued from page A1

his right on the play, saw the winning score unfold.

"Soren sold the block, absolutely. Selling the block is a big part of the play because if he sells the block no one is going to go out and guard him, and after that he'll be wide open," said Dreibholz, who finished the game 6-of-16 for 121 yards and the scoring strike to Rief. "I saw the defensive end come up; he wasn't guarding him, so, I put a little bit of air under it and Soren caught it and ran it in. It was all Soren on that play."

On the winning drive, Dreibholz had a key 12-yard gain on a designed run and then on the next play hit Ben

Jax behind the defense for a 41-yard gain. Later in the drive he hit tight end Nate Keefe for a key five-yard gain, setting up a manageable fourth-down play that resulted in the go-ahead score.

"On the go-ahead drive we executed very well on some key plays," Neal said, "especially the scoring play. The kids really executed on that fourth down play. It was huge to get that play and swing the momentum back in our direction."

Killingly took a 7-0 lead with 1:42 remaining in the first quarter on a two-yard run by Jack Sharpe and successful extra point kick by Dreibholz. Sharpe, who finished the game gaining 33 yards on 14 carries, was instrumental in the drive, gaining 20 yards. Two plays

before his twisting, turning touchdown run, Sharpe had a 14-yard drive during which he broke five tackles.

"It feels great, but I'm not satisfied yet," Sharpe said of his second trip to the state final in three years. "I was in the same situation sophomore year and we came out and lost the state championship. I'm going to make sure that doesn't happen this year."

A key play in Killingly's first scoring drive was a 46-yard hookup between Dreibholz and Jax.

On third-and-11 from the Killingly 33-yard line Dreibholz launched a long, high pass to Jax who was streaking down the middle of the field. At the last possible moment Jax sliced between two defenders, gath-



Quarterback Thomas Dreibholz of Killingly passes the ball over the defensive reach and down the field.

ered in the ball and tumbled to the turf.

"To be honest, I don't know how I made that catch," said Jax, who caught three passes for 96 yards. "I was following the ball with my eyes and I just had good hand-eye coordination in the moment. The ball just fell into my hands and I was able to hang on to it. It was a perfect pass."

Killingly linebacker Keith Perry led his team's defensive effort with eight tackles, two

sacks and one tackle for loss. He said he was proud of how his team stepped up to win the game.

"We had no choice but to step up against this team. We just went out there, pulled together and did our jobs," Perry said. Coach is always telling us at the end of the day how we respond to adversity is what's going to determine the outcome of the game."

E+R=O.

OBITUARIES

Alan Scott Herman Esq. 69

Alan Scott Herman Esq. 69, of Green Acres Lane, Quinebaug, CT, died Wednesday afternoon,



December 1, 2021, at Massachusetts General Hospital after a brief illness. He was the loving husband of Patricia (Mattison) Herman. Born in Bridgeport, he was the son of the late George J. and Gertrude (Mendell) Herman. Mr. Herman graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Connecticut in 1979 and Magna Cum Laude from Western New England School of Law in 1982. Alan was a member of the Connecticut Bar Association, Connecticut Trial Lawyers association and the Windham County Bar Association.

After high school Alan worked for his Uncle Davey at the Duchess in Fairfield, CT. He loved working in the family restaurant business, but had always wanted to be an attorney.

Upon graduation from law school, Alan began working with Attorney Larry Bates. He later went on to work with Attorney John Asselin and Attorney Brian Mead. In 1988, Alan opened his own practice, The Law Office of Alan Scott Herman. Alan focused on personal injury and workers' compensation law. This area of law became his calling. Alan was a determined, hard-working attorney and loved working

for his clients. He always believed in giving them the truth no matter how hard and difficult. Alan had a dry sense of humor. One of his greatest enjoyments was having rousing arguments with his many colleagues and friends.

He was a loving and caring father to both his sons. He took great pride when his son, Matthew, decided to join him in his practice. He also loved being with his younger son, Justin, taking him on adventures and helping with his daily needs.

Alan had a love of history, current events and business. He enjoyed reading historical novels, trading in the stock market and was an avid "Yankee" and "Green Bay Packer" fan.

He is survived by his wife, Patricia (Mattison) Herman; his sons, Matthew-Alan Mattison Herman and Justin-Patrick Mattison Herman both of Quinebaug; and his sisters, Bonnie Quintana of McKinney, TX, and Diane Steeves and Cathy Salomey both of Fairfield. He was predeceased by his brother, James Michael Herman and his sister, Linda Susan Herman.

Relatives and friend are invited to visit with Alan's family from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm on Saturday, December 11, 2021, in the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St. Putnam, CT 06260, immediately followed by a service in the funeral home. Burial will follow in West Thompson Cemetery, 289 Riverside Dr., Thompson, CT. For memorial guestbook visit [www. GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com)

Blanche M. Currier, 91

Blanche M. (Seyford) Currier, 91, of Putnam, CT, passed away peacefully with her daughter Kathy and granddaughter Jayne by her side on November 21, 2021.



Blanche was born in Brooklyn, NY to Ernest York Seyford and Jane Farrell Seyford on December 12, 1929. She married Earl D. Currier on February 7, 1948 in Brooklyn, NY. They were married for 52 years before his passing in 2000.

Besides her parents and husband, Blanche was preceded in death by her brother Ernest F. Seyford and her grandson, Christopher P. Carter.

Blanche is survived by her daughters, Kathy Carter and her husband Keen of Putnam and Judith Hendrickson of Brooklyn, CT. Her grandchildren who affectionately called her Bamie, Jayne LeDuc (Paul), Brandon Carter (Erica), Jeremy Hendrickson (Tanya), Eric Hendrickson and Jason Joslin. Great grandchildren, Kaitlyn Carter, Kayelei Carter, Summer Carter, Lila Hendrickson, Brody Hendrickson, Amelia Hendrickson, Briar Hendrickson and Eliza Joslin. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Blanche had a great sense of humor and was always fun to be around. Her greatest love in life was her family

and she would do anything for them. She enjoyed traveling with her daughter Kathy and granddaughter Jayne and was ready to go anywhere with a minute's notice. One of her favorite places to visit was her grandson Brandon's house in North Carolina. She also enjoyed going to the movies, out to eat, shopping, music, family parties and dancing. Blanche loved spending time with friends in Florida at her winter home in Zephyrhills and was so happy to have family visit her there so she could bring them to Disney World and other Florida attractions to help make their vacation special. She will be missed by all that were lucky enough to know her.

Due to Blanche's wishes funeral services will be private. Arrangements are by Shaw Majercik Funeral Home, Webster, MA.

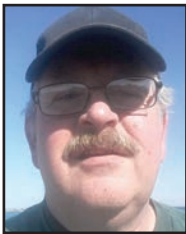
Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. ([www. alz.org](http://www.alz.org))

Blanche's family would like to extend their sincere thanks to the staff at Matulaitis Nursing Home for the years of excellent care given to Blanche and to Patricia Steen for her years of dedicated visits to Blanche while she was at Matulaitis.

A guest book is available at [www. shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com) where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Blanche.

Donald J. Grenier, 58

Donald J. Grenier, 58, of Danielson, was called home on Wednesday, November 24, 2021, at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam.



He had worked at Wal-Mart and was a small engine repair man. Don leaves behind his two daughters, Katie Vanderkooi and her husband Daniel, and Karen Clayton and her husband Nathaniel and his grandchildren Kylie Vanderkooi, Evelyn Vanderkooi,

and Elizabeth Clayton. Don also leaves behind his mother Maggie (Marguerite) Grenier; his brother Gary Grenier; and his sisters Louise Lee and Patty (Patrica) Lehoux; nieces and nephews Laura Grenier, Stephanie Lee, Michael Lee, Matthew Lehoux, Melissa Lehoux and Michelle Lehoux; his companion Ann Williams, and her children Craig and Heather Williams, and her grandchildren Makalya, Amiyah and Grayson. Don was predeceased by his father Richard Grenier and Ryan Lefevre. Funeral services will be private. tillinghastfh.com

Francis Emery Marion, "Franny", 74

Francis Emery Marion, "Franny", the beloved and loving son of Lawrence Joseph Marion and Marjorie Edith (Foote) Marion,



passed away at the age of 74 on Thursday, December 2, 2021 in Rocky Hill, CT after a lengthy illness. We take comfort believing that he has joined his wonderful Dad, Mom, and his gentle Brother John in Heaven. Franny was born in Putnam, CT on October 20, 1947 and resided there until his mid-twenties. He is survived by his brother Lawrence and sister-in-law

Joyce, his brother Robert, his brother Joseph and sister-in-law Patricia, his sister Margaret and brother-in-law Michael, and his brother William. He also leaves his dear nephews Robert Marion, Michael St. Denis, Daniel St. Denis, and his dear niece Lisa St. Denis, and many relatives and friends. He was predeceased by his Father Lawrence Joseph Marion in 2001, by his Mother Marjorie Marion in 2016, by his Brother John Paul Marion in 2009, and by his dear Sister-in-law Jacqueline Raszkowski Marion in 1998.

Franny was Baptized at St Mary's Church of the Visitation in Putnam, CT on November 9, 1947 by Rev. John Paul Wodarski. He served there as an Altar Boy when the Mass was still celebrated in Latin. He graduated from St. Mary's School where he was well educated by the Daughters of the Holy Spirit. He graduated from Marianapolis Preparatory School in Thompson where he received an excellent education from the Marian Fathers. He was mentored there by Father Casimir Kuckell, M.I.C. who was also a great friend of the entire Lawrence Marion Family. While at Marianapolis, Franny was a high performing student, who also excelled at baseball, basketball, and football. During one baseball game in the Putnam Babe Ruth League, he hit a home run batting left-handed and another home run batting right-handed. He worked side by side with his family at Marycrest Farm, and at other neighborhood farms while he was a teenager. He also built a pitching mound at the farm so that he could do more realistic training to improve his skills as a baseball pitcher. He was a wonderful brother and son who was always level-headed and even-tem-

pered. He attended Providence College for 2 years. He then transferred to the University of Wisconsin in Madison, WI so that he could learn the craft of writing well at their highly rated School of Journalism. He earned a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in Journalism. Upon his graduation, he was promptly hired by the Mobil Oil Corporation as a writer. He lived in Brooklyn, New York. The job enabled him to travel to many different countries of the world. He worked at Mobil for a few years and earned increased job responsibilities. He left Mobil when he was offered a position by Exxon Corporation. He loved his job, and also enjoyed meeting and collaborating with other journalists who were some of his New York City friends and acquaintances. He became President of the Deadline Club of NYC which was the NYC Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. He also liked to go on hiking trips with friends in the Sierra Club. He enjoyed music, including playing his guitar and singing. Then, while still a young man, he was stricken with a serious illness that precluded him from ever being able to work a regular full-time job again. He became interested in health foods and a simple lifestyle. He founded the Natural Food Institute and wrote a number of books and pamphlets. Some of these were Wonder Crops, Alternative Electricity, Powerhouse Plants, and how to construct a Sun King Food Dryer. Franny was a handsome, well built, amiable giant in his younger days. Standing 6'4" tall, his years of hard farm work had made him exceptionally strong. He was unusually kind, soft spoken, and gentle. He achieved a lot in the relatively short number of years of good health he had prior to his illness. The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to the many sincerely helpful staff members at the various hospitals and nursing homes who provided loving and compassionate care to Fran during his many years of disability.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with the Family of Francis from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2021 in the Gilman Funeral Home, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 12:00 noon at St. Mary Church of the Visitation, 218 Providence St., Putnam. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, Memorial Masses may be offered in memory of Francis. Donations can be made to Marianapolis Preparatory School, 26 Chase Road, Thompson, CT 06277.

Jacqueline Helen Greene, 84, of Alexander's Lake in Dayville, CT, passed away November 22, 2021.



Jackie was born May 24, 1937, in Putnam, CT to Stephanie (Natorski) and George Herr, who predeceased her. She grew up in Danielson and Canterbury, graduating in 1955 from Griswold High School. She worked for 30 plus years at William Prym manufacturing as an administrative assistant to the president. She retired from the Killingly Housing Authority at the age of 80.

For more than sixty years she made her home at Alexander's Lake that was decorated with everything in her favorite color blue. She sailed and swam and sunned and loved everything about "The Lake". Country western music was always playing inside and out, as she'd tell you to crank it up! 4th of July picnics were always her favorites as friends and family would gather for fun and food. One of her biggest joys were her flower and vegetable gardens, which grew in abundance under her expert green thumb.

When she wasn't gardening or sun-

ning at the Lake, you could find her traveling near and far with her sister Joyce Burdick. Together they cruised, trained, bussed and flew to many wonderful destinations.

She was a member of the Alexander's Lake Yacht Club. For many years she sat on the Board of Directors for the Adams Cemetery Association, serving as treasurer and secretary. She was a life member of the Windham County Agricultural Society.

She leaves behind her sisters, Joyce Herr Burdick of North Windham, Jane Herr (Eddy) Desrosiers of Baltic, Joan (Mike) McIntyre of Dayville, nieces and nephews, grandnieces and grand-nephews, numerous cousins, and her cat, Kitt.

A memorial service was held at Tillinghast Funeral Home, 433 Main Street Danielson, on Friday December 3, 2021 at 11AM with a graveside service immediately following at Adams Cemetery in Canterbury. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

In her memory wear something blue, put on your favorite sunglasses, have a spritz of perfume, find a sunny spot and play a little George Strait. tillinghastfh.com

Lorraine Savoie, 89

Lorraine Savoie, 89, of Danielson, CT, passed away November 27, 2021 at Davis Place in Danielson, CT. She was born



May 25, 1932, Taftville, CT, daughter of Joseph and Rose (St. Germain) Vezina. She was the beloved wife of Roland R. Savoie, they were married August 1, 1953 at St. James Church in Danielson, CT. Roland died September 20, 2020.

Lorraine attended St. James School in Danielson and upon completion of her education she worked at Wauregan Mills as a cleaner in the spinning room and then worked for Electro-motive and at Pryms. Lorraine also worked at Rogers in 1959 for 9 years as an assembler. She later worked for Savoie Sea Food for 8 years and then worked

at Kaman as a machine operator for 8 years. She was a communicant of St. James Church in Danielson. Lorraine and her husband enjoyed camping locally for 23 years and would winter in Florida.

Lorraine leaves a son Paul Savoie and his wife Debra of Union, CT; a grandson Brett Savoie of Queens, NY; a sister Cecile Barry of Florida and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a brother Richard Vezina.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 11:30 AM at St. James Church, 12 Franklin Street, Danielson, CT. Burial followed in Holy Cross Cemetery, Danielson, CT. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her memory to St. James School Danielson, CT 06239. Share a memory at [www.gagnonandcostellofh. com](http://www.gagnonandcostellofh.com)

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OBITUARIES

Tyler Ray Longland, 36

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Tyler at the age of 36. Tyler is survived by his beloved fiancé Sarah



Hughes of Scituate, MA, his pup Carolina, The Hughes family: Paul and Meg Hughes of Duxbury, MA, Elizabeth Hughes of Scituate and Mark and Kara Hughes of Plymouth his Coach and mentor Dan Murphy, his parents Jorie Hunken of Woodstock, CT and David Longland of Sudbury, MA and his sister Molly Longland Baker and husband Ray Baker of Brooklyn, CT. Also, his grandparents, Jane Irving of New York and Theresa Longland of Sudbury. He was pre-deceased by his birth mother Patty Anderson of Hull, MA. Tyler is also leaving so many friends that meant the world to him.

Tyler grew up in Woodstock, CT and attended Woodstock Public Schools before experiencing a life changing journey at Hyde School in his high school years. He graduated with honors from Hyde in 2003 with a distinguished record of athletic achievement on the varsity football, wrestling and lacrosse teams which included being the wrestling team MVP his senior year. Hyde provided mentors in his life, and he developed the leaderships skills that would lead to his successes as a scholar/athlete at UCONN and in the business world as well.

Tyler loved lacrosse and attended numerous NCAA Championships in his young life. After playing lacrosse at UCONN he was hired by Woodstock Academy to be their varsity lacrosse coach in the spring of 2009. Ty loved his lacrosse boys and they adored him. He related well to these teens at Woodstock Academy, and they thrived in his three years as their head coach.

Tyler relocated to the Hull, MA to connect with his birth mother Patty Anderson in 2011 and start his career in business. He loved being close to Boston and being able to get to Fenway Park, Gillette Stadium and TD Garden

to see his beloved Sox, Pats, Bruins and Celts! The 12 championships for Boston teams since 2001 was a source of great joy in his life, and of course bragging rights with his friends from other major sports markets! Tyler also continued to play lacrosse on some club teams and was a dependable goalie for his grateful teammates.

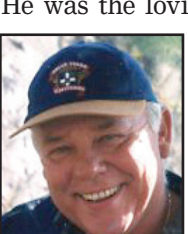
Tyler developed a love of snowboarding in his early 20s and became a Coach at Okemo Mountain in VT, and then moved to Loon Mountain where he coached from 2014 - 2018. His young pupils called their beloved coach “Uncle BUCK” because he was so young at heart and willing to make snowboarding and any activity so much fun. He leaves behind a huge extended family up at Loon who loved him dearly including the Bouressa family who housed him on his weekends up there.

Tyler met the love of his life Sarah Hughes in 2014. They had an incredibly special bond immediately; he was her whole heart and she was his biggest fan. Whether they were having drinks at L Street Tavern, watching Boston sports, or Tyler was cooking them a homemade meal, they always found a way to enjoy being together. The Hughes family loved Tyler from day one and he was at their Christmas dinner table within weeks. Their family became his family and he and Sarah enjoyed years of adventures with them. Tyler suffered an unexpected terrible stroke in January 2018 which set him back in many ways. Despite the challenges, it was truly remarkable everything he was able to overcome. During that time, he received incredible care from Boston Medical Center; Spaulding Charlestown and Tewksbury Hospital. We are incredibly thankful for all of those who took care of him during those times until he came home.

The family had a service at Richardson-Gaffey in Scituate, MA on Saturday, December 4th from 4-5:30pm followed by a reception. In lieu of the flowers, please consider donating to the Pat Roche Hospice Home in Hingham, MA.

Robert E. Viens, 74

Dayville—Robert E. Viens, 74, of North Rd, passed away on Monday, November 29, 2021, at Davis Place Nursing Home. He was the loving husband of Wendy



(Salzer) Viens. They were married on September 18, 1976. Born in Putnam, CT, he was the son of the late Rosaire and Agnes (Dupras) Viens. Mr. Viens earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Bryant College. He was a retired sales representative for Danco for 16 years and Hoechst Celanese Chemical Manufacturing for 26 years. He was a member of the Danielson Knights of Columbus, the East Killingly Fire Department and president of the East Killingly VFW Post # 4908 Auxiliary. He enjoyed golfing, softball, fishing, and

pitched for the Puerto Rican Softball League in Bridgeport. He also coached football for the Killingly-Brooklyn midget football Dolphins. Robert achieved every golfer’s dream of getting a hole in one on the 7th hole at Quinnetis Country Club.

In addition to his wife, Robert is survived by his sister in-law, Janis Salzer and many nieces and nephews and their families.

Services are private as requested by Robert. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT 06260. Memorial donations may be made in Robert’s name to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 417005, Boston, MA 02241 or to the American Cancer Society, 825 Brook St., Rocky Hill, CT 06067. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Ronald E. White

Ronald E. White 1947-2021. He was born in Putnam, CT, the son of the late Francis and Madeline White. The loving husband of Kathryn. He passed away unexpectedly at Hartford Hospital on November 23, 2021 after a brief illness with his wife and daughter by his side. He was a lifelong resident of Killingly. He graduated from Killingly High School on Broad Street in 1965. Ron worked at Anchor Glass in Dayville for most of his life, and went on to travel with Anchor Glass in Canada. He worked at Siri Wire, and retired from Day Kimball Hospital. He was a coach in the 1980’s with the Killingly-Brooklyn Football League, which he helped start. He loved to golf and was in many golf leagues over the years. Ron had a special place in his heart for his grandchildren, whom he loved to watch play sports. He had a special relationship with his



on Broad Street in 1965. Ron worked at Anchor Glass in Dayville for most of his life, and went on to travel with Anchor Glass in Canada. He worked at Siri Wire, and retired from Day Kimball Hospital. He was a coach in the 1980’s with the Killingly-Brooklyn Football League, which he helped start. He loved to golf and was in many golf leagues over the years. Ron had a special place in his heart for his grandchildren, whom he loved to watch play sports. He had a special relationship with his

grandson Logan and loved spending time with him. Ron loved to travel. His favorite trip was to Italy, where he found his grandparents hometown of Benevento. Ron loved to talk and would strike up a conversation with anyone. He especially enjoyed talking about his hometown and its history. After his retirement, he and Kathy loved kayaking and new adventures with their friends from Briarwood Falls. He leaves his wife, Kathryn. Sons Todd (Nadine) White, Derek (Jamie) Fuller, and a daughter, Melissa Fuller. 9 grandchildren, 3 greatgrandchildren, and many nieces and nephews. He also leaves his brothers, Ernest (Claudette) White, Scott (Susan) White, and his sister Karen (Mark) Robinson. Sister-in-law’s Debbie White, MaryAnn Selstad, and Alice Kammerman. He was predeceased by his parents, Madeline and Francis White, his brothers, Francis, Gary, and James. There will be no calling hours, and the family will have a graveside service in the spring.

KILLINGLY HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

KILLINGLY — Killingly High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.

The following Killingly High School seniors achieved High Honors: Brandon Baker, Georgia Barry, Kylie Beaudry, Madison Briere, Ayvril Brytowski, Nicole Cicchetti, Khloe Crossman, Payton Duquette, Quinn Ellis, Lennon Giambattista, Sage Lamparelli, Collin Loiselle, Ella Mandeville, Benjamin Mayo, Josephine Palmer, Katherine Poirier, Jason Simoneau, Jeyla St. Laurent, Kaia Torrente, Hailey Toth, Dylan Wynkoop.

First Honors: Shelby Bellows, Kayla Bonin, Rodrigo Candelario Jimenez, Emma Carpenter, William Carver, Olivia Ciccarelli, Makala Dube, MaryGrace Dufault, Marcy Ferraj, Emma Gilbert, Samantha Goulston, Lily Gutierrez, Ryan Holmes, Shawna Howard, Veronica Hussey, Maggie Jellison, Nathan Keefe, Payton Keefe, Jason Khaomongkhoun, Faith Klingensmith, Kenna Lavallee, Hailey Lawrence, Jessica Long, Julia Magao, Thomas Martell, Rhiannon Martin, Ryan Miller, Gianna Ormstead, Benjamin Percival, Kaylei Sirimongkhoun, Seth Varin, Alyssah Yater, Laylah Zea.

Second Honors: Corbyn Adams, Emma Barbeau, Gregory Bigelow, Sara Billington, Gavin Blackmar, Mackenzie Buell, Alex Caffrey, Payton Cathell, Jonier Cruz Diaz, Thomas Curran, Andraya Cutter, Connor Devlin, Aidan Grazulis, Ryan Griggs, Brian Kinney, Cadence Kirkconnell, Jake McAuliffe, Sophia Moore, Kyndal Murawski, Isaac Nanthavong, Rhea Palin, Mason Perry, Alyssa Rice, Brandon Rodriguez, Noah Russell, Alyssa Sheppard, Sara Stevens, Kathryn Strangman, Cynthia Vongkaysone, Lola Ward, Brady Waterman, Janessa Watson.

The following Killingly High School

juniors achieved High Honors: Elizabeth Alves, Nicole Blanchette, Matthew Card, Alyssa Caron, Guilherme Da Silva, Carley DiMartino, Ciara King, Hailey Magao, Anthony Purcell, Austin Stravato, Kaitlyn Tingle.

First Honors: Terrence Allen, Dylan Anderson, Kalob Barclay, Casey Beauregard, Lainey Buffington, Jordan Cardoso, Chloe DiFusco, Aiden Feeney, Logan Gagnon, Harrison Giambattista, Aila Gutierrez, Ryan Hansen, Ella Lach, Alexis Lane, Cameron Loeber, Kyla Lopes, Alexis Malbourn, Elizabeth Marcoux, Avi Miller, Aryn Nisbet, Anjolina Ortiz, Henrik Pawul, Connor Richardson, Jack Richardson, Rayne Rose, Savannah Rumrill, Moss Souksanti, Matthew Sprouse, Chloe St. Pierre, Connor Stravato, Salena Thongsouvanh, Joshua Torre, Matthew Viens, Evan Watling, Jadyn Williams.

Second Honors: Ryan Abdullofski, Evan Adams, Lena Alves, Heather Anderson, Yianni Baribeau, Jillian Bennett, Emily Benoit, Lyana Bott-Cuevas, Shannon Breen, Owen Brown, Renee Bunn, Tegan Chabot, Willow Charles, Caitlyn Claspell, Lucas Clayton, Grace Colangelo, Timothy Corello, Giovanni Couture, Amy Cruz-Landa, Hannah Donovan, Gabriel Dowd, Maxwell Eggers, Korina Frantz- Foote, Lavender Gaudette, Nathan Goss, Benjamin Jax, Owen Johnson, Danny Kien, Ethan Lackner, Rivers Levesque, Anthony Mallozzi, Olivia McOske, Hailey Merritt, Zoe Miller, Margaux Molyneux, Jada Neri, Brady O’Donnell, Braden Pedersen, Alexander Potapskiy, Zachary Rainville, Ryan Rattray, Cameron Seiffert, Jane Stockford, Isaiah Streich, Abigail Therrien, Connor Thompson, Maddison Walters.

The following Killingly High School sophomores achieved High Honors: Julie Carver, Amber Cobb, Elizabeth

Conway, Molly Crabtree, Sydney Crabtree, Madison Daniels, Darin Exarhoulias, Devin Exarhoulias, Lillian Gaudet, Rachael Hutchinson, Melody Kettle, Emily Lamparelli, Selina Metzermacher, Sai Patel, Alaina Salkiewicz, Sherrie Simoneau, Grace Sumner, Emma Vandale, Alicia Wynkoop, Chloe Yip, Julia Young, Lindsey Zicolella.

First Honors: Kiana Capiga, Xania Cherry, Juliana Clark, Jordan Curran, Annina Desabota, Colin Ericson, Laura Farquhar, Lila Fortin, Owen Glushchenko, Owen Gratton, Hannah Grudzien, Ross Hill, Erika Horne, Raigan Leveille, Illyana Malarkey, Sydney Mullen, Kelsea O’Rourke, Madilyn Provost, Christina Rattray, Benjamin Robinson, Peyton Rosen, Amani Samuel, Emma Seide, Carter Sullivan, Gabriel Torrente.

Second Honors: Lauren Alvarez, Adam Amine, Kaylee Baker, Harrison Bauer, Abigail Berube, Shanaya Brown, Avery Caisse, Domenico Capuano, Cassidy Card, Spencer Chviek, Kaitlin Cicchetti, Abigail Comtois, Deven Delaney, Isabella Graichen, Alina Hadley, Jonah Hussey, Ava Izzo, Sharon Jankowski, Ava Johnson, Isabella Lepine, Mercedes Manfredo, Zoey Masterson, Emma Miller, Madyson Mitchell, Zoey Moore, Sofia Morin, Layne O’Leary, Ava Peloquin, Soren Rief, Selina Rivera, Zaiden Rukstela, Sophia Scandalito, Kaylee Stillman, Ian Stone, Malia Taylor-Robichaud, Jayden Williams, Jailyn Williams, Cassidy Wilson, Gabriella Zink.

The following Killingly High School freshmen achieved High Honors: Abigail Anforth, Alekos Basley, Sage Bukowski, Olivia Denaker, Emma Desrosiers, Atila Dos Santos, Daniel Eldridge, John Fitzgibbons, Mason Gomes, Tobin Jarvis, Caydan Jonasch,

Emily Mancini, Landon Manzi, Anthony Navan, Phillip Purcell, Noah Reinhart, Karolyn Shulda, Tyler Silva, Lucy St. Germain.

First Honors: John Archambault, Mia Ayotte, Lila Beaudreault, Kyleigh Bigelow, Emma Chrzanowski, Gwilym Cook, Jacqueline Creswell, Grace Deslauriers, Lilah Dunn, Kathrin Fischer, Zachary Fucci, Kayla Gile, Gianna Henson, Julia Jarvis, Kylie Lawrence, Chloe Magao, Addison Montville, Kailyn Prata, Emma Rainville, Usa Sacksith, Annabella Sengvilay, Russell Sharpe, Leena Stanley, Kayla Tran, Ava Williams.

Second Honors: Robert Alves, Abigail Auclair, Violet Bernier, Thomas Berube, Morgan Blanchard, Dakota Bourbeau, Katelyn Bowen, Everton Brown, Dani Carlsen, Andrew Carlson, Courtney Courtemanche, Kailey Crump, Anthony DeMarco, Nataliya Delvalle, Norah DiMartino, Kenneth Do, Madison Dumas, Isabella Eaton, Penelope Fernandes, Savana Feuti, Bryan Garcia Lara, Rebecca Gardner, Alayla Gebo, Zachary Glushchenko, Ashton Goodwin, Eliza Greenhalgh, Kloe Guertin, Natalie Guzman, Ariaahna Headen, Alexander Hebert, Alexis Hunt, Katelyn Hyatt, Phillip Jones, Ioannis Kazantzis, Eliana Keomanivong, Cheyanne Kerrigan, Soudachane Khaomongkhoun, Addison King, Hayden Larrow, Knowledge Leslie, Wisdom Leslie, Adam Litke, Ella Marceau, Lilah Moran, Sasha Noury, Madison O’Donnell, Jadyn Oenning, Madison Paquin, Trent Piche, Madison Rondeau, Skylar Simmons, Jaxsun Smith, Katie Smith, Andrew Souriyamath, Noemi Spencer, Corey Stevens, Ivan Tang, Alexandra Tetreault, Christian Thompson, Lincoln Waterman, Brady Zadora.

Orthopedic practices join forces to enhance patient care in Eastern CT

PUTNAM — The Center for Bone & Joint Care, the premier orthopedic practice in Northeastern Connecticut, has announced that it will be joining forces with Orthopedic Partners as of Jan. 1.

Both practices are pleased to announce their collaboration under the Orthopedic Partners umbrella. This agreement will allow coordinated orthopedic care throughout the eastern region of Connecticut led by a combined group of 18 Physicians and 15 Advanced Practice Providers in four office locations. All existing office locations will remain active; East Franklin, Niantic, Putnam and Willimantic; and surgeries will continue to be performed throughout the region.

About The Center for Bone & Joint Care

The Center for Bone & Joint Care has been the largest physician owned orthopedic practice in Northeastern CT for over 25 years. With office locations in Putnam and Willimantic, the Surgeons, Advanced Practice Providers and staff of The Center for Bone & Joint Care have cared for the residents of Windham County since 1992 through surgical and non-surgical treatments.

The Center for Bone & Joint Care providers are proud to provide surgical care at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam and at Windham Hospital, a member of the Hartford Healthcare System, in Willimantic.

About Orthopedic Partners

Orthopedic Partners, formerly Norwich Orthopedic Group, has been a growing orthopedic and physical therapy practice since its founding in 1957. The Physicians, Advance Practice Providers and staff of Orthopedic Partners provide surgical and non-surgical care for the residents of New London County in their North Franklin and Niantic offices.

Orthopedic Partners Providers are proud to provide surgical care at Hartford Healthcare’s Backus Hospital, Yale New Haven Healthcare’s Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, Constitution Surgery Center East and River Valley Surgery Center.

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Mary Jean Baker (21-00427) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated November 29, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:

David E Gray, 1600 Old Brook Road, Charlottesville, VA 22901 Steven A Gray c/o EDWIN C HIGGINS, BACHAND, LONGO & HIGGINS, HIGGINS - 168 MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260
December 10, 2021

Day Kimball Healthcare receives \$2,500 from Putnam Police Department Pink Patch Project

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) recently received a \$2,500 donation from the Putnam Police Department's Pink Patch Project, a fundraiser created to help support local patients fighting breast cancer.

The Pink Patch Project is an innovative public awareness campaign, championed by law enforcement departments across the United States, designed to bring attention to the fight against breast cancer and to support breast cancer research organizations in combating this devastating disease.

This marks the fourth year that the Putnam Police Department has participated in the Pink Patch Project fundraiser, in which pink law enforcement patches are sold to the community and proceeds are donated to local cancer centers. The patches are intended to encourage discussion among citizens about the importance of early detection and treatment in the ongoing fight against breast cancer.

Putnam Police officers also replaced their standard shoulder patch with their variation of the Pink Patch and sold themed t-shirts and "No One Fights Alone" wristbands throughout the month of October to raise awareness while also raising funds for cancer care.

"Everyone in one way or another is affected by cancer, and we are no different," said



Photo Courtesy

Chief Chris Ferace and Captain Justin Lussier represented the Putnam Police Department and delivered the proceeds from this year's Pink Patch Project fundraiser, a spirited annual event that raises awareness and funds for breast cancer, to Day Kimball Healthcare. Pictured left to right: Captain Justin Lussier, Putnam Police Department; Kristen Willis, Director of Development, Day Kimball Healthcare; Kyle Kramer, CEO, Day Kimball Healthcare; Chief Chris Ferace, Putnam Police Department; Jayme Dandeneau, RN, BSN, Oncology Nurse Navigator, Day Kimball Healthcare.

Putnam Police Chief Chris Ferace. "The Putnam Police Department is proud to partner with Day Kimball through our 'Pink Patch Project' fundraising efforts to take up the local cause of the NECT Cancer Fund and the fight against breast cancer."

One hundred percent of

proceeds from the Pink Patch Project will go toward the NECT Cancer Fund of DKH which provides financial assistance for cancer-related screening and treatment services to individuals living in Northeast Connecticut who otherwise may not have the financial resources to obtain needed

medical attention.

"We are extremely grateful to the Putnam Police for once again choosing us as their beneficiary for the Pink Patch Project," said Kristen Willis, director of development, Day Kimball Healthcare. "This year, the Putnam Police were out in full force during the month of

October, from helping us kick-off Breast Cancer Awareness Month with our charity drive-through event at WINY Radio to celebrating survivors at our inaugural Canines for Cancer Care event held at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds in support of the NECT Cancer Fund."

The department's commitment to raising breast cancer awareness among those they serve doesn't end in October. A pink patch themed police vehicle featuring bright pink – the signature color of the breast cancer movement – can be seen around town and at local events throughout the year to raise awareness for the cure and prevention of breast cancer among the community.

"The Pink Patch Project is meaningful to so many people and brings our community together for one common cause," said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. "We are fortunate to have such a wonderful partnership with local law enforcement in our ongoing effort to increase public awareness about the fight against breast cancer. We also recognize and celebrate our officers for their heroic efforts in keeping our region safe every day, especially as they continue to serve on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic."

To learn more about the Northeast Connecticut Cancer Fund of DKH, visit www.daykimball.org/nectcancerfund.

Putnam Rotary Club collects mountains of games



Photo Courtesy

The Putnam Rotary Club collected more than 70 games in a couple short weeks. Dec. 7, TEEG and the Putnam Family Resource Center came to collect them for the kids they serve. From left: Liz Perry, TEEG program assistant; Rachael Johnston, chair of the club's Holiday Giving Committee; Chelsea French, TEEG's Community Program manager; Putnam Rotary Club President J. Scott Pempek; Rotarian and committee member, Rande Chmura and Shannon Haney, parent educator for the Putnam Family Resource Center.

PUTNAM — Generosity trumps virus-laden times, yet again.

The Putnam Rotary Club's Holiday Giving Committee collected from fellow Rotarians and friends, games for children who might not have much of a holiday.

And in a couple short weeks, the committee collected record-breaking 70-plus games, according to Committee Chair Rachael Johnston.

On Dec. 7, the club invited TEEG and the Putnam Family Resource Center to pick up huge stacks of games so they can give them to Santa in time for the holiday. Johnston thanked the rest of the committee and fellow Rotarians for their help.

J. Scott Pempek, president of the club, said "It's always a heartwarming feeling when we can brighten the lives of others."

The games span all age groups. The Holiday Giving project has been collect-

ing games or blankets and more for a few years. It's a great replacement for the club's longtime Yankee Swap

Chelsea French, TEEG's Community Program manager, said some 247 families are being helped. TEEG's Winter Wonderland on Dec. 18 will be filled with everything from toys to pajamas to personal hygiene items for those in need -- from kids to families to senior citizens.

Shannon Haney, parent educator at the Putnam Family Resource Center in Putnam, said so far 95 Putnam families have signed up "but we always have last-minute signups." The center, too, helps Putnam families with as many needs as possible, not just toys.

French and Haney were joined at the Rotary meeting by Liz Perry, program assistant at TEEG. Good thing because their vehicles were packed with games when they left.

Putnam Area Foundation awards grants to local organizations

Day Kimball Healthcare receives donated care packages from Trane Technologies for frontline workers

PUTNAM — Thomas A. Borner, President of the Putnam Area Foundation, announces the awarding of \$15,000 in grants to three local organizations with missions providing critical support to the residents of Putnam and the surrounding areas. The organizations awarded the grants are TEEG, headquartered in Thompson, IHSP Daily Bread in Putnam and Project Pin in Plainfield.

Karen Osbrey, President of IHSP, expressed appreciation on behalf of her organization for the grants being made at a crucial time.

Anne Miller, Executive Director of TEEG, commented that "The Putnam Area Foundation has, once again, stepped forward to assist our organizations in helping our neighbors through difficult and uncertain times. We are deeply grateful for their generous support."

"It is so heartening when we receive a gift like this from a generous donor like the Putnam Area Foundation. It allows us to say yes to one more child, family or deserving adult who needs Project Pin's services. More people than ever need the strength and comfort of our organization's important services. Because of donations like this, Project Pin continues to open our doors to deserving people experiencing finan-

cial hardship. This donation is much appreciated and will be used wisely," commented Tim Kettle, Director of Project Pin.

Mr. Borner commented, "We are pleased to provide meaningful support, now and for years to come, to organizations that help make Northeastern Connecticut such a great place to work and live."

Mr. Borner stated that the Foundation, originally organized in 1999, has a mission in supporting northeastern Connecticut philanthropic organizations.

"The charitable organization falls under the IRS Section 501 (c) (3), and continues to provide support for not-for-profit groups, institutions, schools and other organizations operating in the community as a way of adding to the quality of life in northeastern Connecticut," stated Mr. Borner.

The independent Foundation targets its areas of investing in the communities which relate to education, health and human services, art, cultural and youth programs. Grant applications and requests will be considered on a semi-annual basis and may be obtained by contacting Thomas A. Borner, P.O. Box 166 Putnam, CT 06260.



Photo Courtesy

Pictured left to right: Kobina Intsiful, associate manager, Trane Technologies; Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare; John O'Keefe, RN, MSN, chief nursing officer and vice president of patient services, Day Kimball Healthcare; Ben Charney, area general manager & systems sales leader, Trane Technologies; Mike Girard, operations manager, Trane Technologies; Deb Blackmer, RN, medical/surgical clinical manager, Day Kimball Healthcare; Daniel Durand BS, RN, ICU clinical manager, Day Kimball Healthcare; Patricia McLaughlin, RN, BSN, emergency department clinical manager; Paul Beaudoin, chief financial officer, Day Kimball Healthcare; and Cheryl Petrarca, RN, MSN, CNOR, Executive Director of Nursing, Surgical Services, Cancer Services and Maternal Child Health, Day Kimball Healthcare.

PUTNAM — This week, Day Kimball Healthcare's frontline workers received 100 donated care packages from Trane Technologies® – a DKH corporate partner and world leader in air conditioning systems, services and solutions – as a way of showing gratitude for their hard work and dedication amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Trane Team held an

employee fundraiser and put together the care packages which were filled with a variety of items including hand creams, lip balm, instant soups, cocoa, snack bars, chocolates, and a number of other comfort foods and care items. These care packages provide welcome relief to our dedicated frontline team who work tirelessly to deliver the best care possible to our patients.

A huge thank you to Trane Technologies and its staff for providing this timely and much appreciated donation. Special thanks to Gregg Jenkins, Trane's Account Manager for thinking about our hospital, and to their Associate Manager Kobina Intsiful for leading the charge with this wonderful employee initiative and community outreach.



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- Jeff S., Mystic, CT

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How to care for wild birds this winter

The arrival of winter forces everyone to confront the changes synonymous with the season, and local wildlife is no exception. Low temperatures, harsh winter storms and a scarcity of food can make it challenging for wildlife, including birds, to thrive throughout the winter.

Even though several species of birds are migratory and travel to warmer climates to wait out winter, many others stay put. The Audubon Society says that keeping close to home helps some species of birds maintain their territories.

Some birds will puff up to retain heat; others will seek shelter in dense foliage or cavities to avoid the elements. Many birds will huddle together to share warmth.

Another way of keeping warm is building up fat as an insulator and energy source. The Audubon Society says more than 10 percent of some birds' winter body weight may be fat. That can be challenging to maintain when common sources of food, such as insects and berries, disappear as winter wears on. This is when some human intervention can prove handy, advise ornithologists. A few simple efforts may benefit birds and other wildlife that may not hibernate winter away or escape to the tropics.



- Have a supply of food, bird feeders, houses, and any other bird-related gear at the ready before the storms really rev up.
- Invest in nutritious food, such as black oil sunflower seeds or blends that are high in black oil sunflower seeds. You also can make available more foods that are high in fat, such as suet, peanut butter or even whole peanuts. Mother Nature Network

also suggests adding meal worms if they can be found.

- Choose feeders that will keep seed dry; otherwise, it will be prone to bacterial and fungal growth.
- Don't discard fallen leaves or any downed twigs or pruned boughs from trees. This will give birds material for creating shelter or hiding away when the weather gets especially brutal. When the Christmas tree is finished for the season, place it in the yard as a windbreak for birds.
- Put shallow water sources around so birds can drink. Replace them frequently if water freezes.

Wild birds can benefit from some help when the temperatures start to drop in winter.

COOKIE CRAWL

continued from page A1

to shine.

"Being in Putnam the nice thing is I don't have to do any work I can just wait for events to come along. It makes it simple for me and especially with things like Pop Up Putnam and the Halloween events and this cookie event, as a business owner I've noticed that they generate a massive amount of people and awareness. The PBA likes to put on events to help people like us shine. I'm new, I don't know what I'm doing, and I've never run a business before. Events like this are just so great and helpful," said Rondeau.

For their contribution to the Cookie Crawl, the Chubby Dog Coffee Company provided traditional chocolate chip cookies and their "Chubby Santa" Christmas blend coffee brew. Rondeau said the event was a great opportunity to help spread Christmas cheer and get everyone in the holiday spirit.

"Christmas rules. I like that we're trying to get that old school 'be Christmassy' feeling out there," he said. "We're not quite to that old vibe yet but I like that business are trying to get back to that and I'm hoping that the more we do things like this that we can inspire people to embrace that spirit and go overboard and be like Clark Griswold, get that massive tree and embrace the Christmas spirit."

Right around the corner from the Chubby Dog Coffee Company is Little Falls Nutrition who created a small cookie dough shake and a winger hydration tea for the crawl. Owner Mariah Asadorian, who opened the business just this year, said the town of Putnam has been welcoming and events like the Cookie Crawl have created a lot of support for businesses like hers.



The Chubby Dog Coffee Company shows off the traditional cookies they included with their Cookie Crawl offering.

"It gives the customers a chance to try something different they maybe wouldn't have chosen normally. It allows us to create something and add something new to our menu. We love how everyone in town works together as a community and all the little events that they hold. It brings people in, and the businesses love to connect with each other. Everyone feels welcome in the area and our customers love it," said Asadorian. "Everyone is definitely getting more comfortable visiting shops, I hope. The Dazzle Light Parade was awesome. It was our first year and it was really busy so we're really excited to be in town."

Other businesses represented during the Cookie Crawl were 85 Main, Bill's Bed and Breakfast, the Courthouse Bar & Grill, Renee's Bistro & Catering Service, and Bear Hands Brewery.

Give yourself and others the gift of good health. Get vaccinated.

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective, with millions of doses given under the most intense safety monitoring in U.S. history.
- CDC recommends that everyone 5 years and older get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as possible and encourages a COVID-19 vaccine booster dose for all those eligible 18+.
- Cold and flu season is also here. Get your flu shot.
- Follow prevention strategies such as wearing a mask, washing your hands frequently, physically distancing from others, and staying home when you are sick.

NDDH COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Schedule for Unvaccinated Ages 5+ and Boosters

Tuesdays 10 am – 2 pm & Thursdays 2 – 6 pm
NDDH Office, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn

Walk-ins welcome • FREE • No insurance needed • No appointment needed for Tues/Thurs clinics

Vaccines Available	For Ages	# of shots needed to be fully vaccinated	WHO can get a COVID-19 booster and when you can get it
Pfizer	5+	2 (21 days apart) Minors must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian	Ages 18+ At least 6 months after a second dose of Pfizer or Moderna
Moderna	18+	2 (28 days apart)	
Johnson & Johnson	18+	1	Ages 18+ At least 2 months after a J & J vaccine

You may have a preference, but you can receive **any** authorized COVID-19 vaccine as a booster.

Vaccination offers protection *and* peace of mind.
Find a COVID-19 vaccination site near you:



<https://www.vaccines.gov/>
<https://www.nddh.org/>

This message is grant-funded by the CT Department of Public Health



A long awaited Memory Care community will soon be enhancing the Pierce Care continuity of care!

The renovations will soon be complete and anticipated to accept residents in January 2022.

We are looking to hire a dedicated group of certified nurses aides to provide quality, compassionate care to residents in need of memory care.

This brand new program will have exceptional staffing ratios in order to provide the attention the residents deserve.

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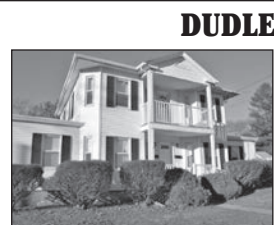
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Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
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DUDLEY
NEW LISTING:
3 units, Unique duplex style, 2 units- 2 bedrooms ea., modern bath & kitchens, 1st flr unit possible 3 bdrms, Sided, Detached garage, Updated electrical service
92 West Main St ~ \$425,000



WEBSTER
6 Units: Sided, 6 (1) bedroom units, Recent roof, Detached barn
227 School St ~ \$525,000

PRICE REDUCED
\$60,000



WEBSTER
1.5 acres, 26' living/dining room, Fireplace, 2 baths, 2100 sq.ft., 2 car garage
63 Klebart Avenue ~ \$429,900



WEBSTER
ON DEPOSIT
4 bedroom, 1/2 acre lot, Fireplace, Small barn or workshop
56 Ash Street ~ \$234,900

Ask about the Homes For Heroes Program for Buyers or Sellers

*Reward and Incentives
Call Diane or Jo-Ann