

Getting in the spirit

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

KILLINGLY — Karen LeBeau has been doing cheer as long as she can remember. In fact, she was part of the Killingly High School's 1986 cheerleading squad that competed in nationals in Nashville, becoming finalists in the televised event.

It was that passion for cheer that caught Coordinator for the Quinebaug Valley Special Olympics Geri White's eye. She saw an article about the cheer team's accomplishment and asked LeBeau if she'd like to become the coach for the Quinebaug Valley Spirit Squad.

It was perfect timing, said LeBeau, because her daughter, Ashley, had just quit cheerleading after quite a traumatic event. Even though she had fun performing, she became scared when her cheer squad

began crying after not winning. It caused her to quit, which broke LeBeau's heart.

For Ashley, the Spirit Squad was a totally different experience.

"I love being a part of the Spirit Squad because I have met a lot of people like me who have disabilities. They're amazing people. They don't give up. It makes me really happy to know they're like me," Ashley said.

The Spirit Squad is now comprised of over 100 athletes, ages 7 to 65. It's the only unified and co-ed dance team in Connecticut, established nine years ago with only eight athletes. The Spirit Squad has performed at Killingly High School and Woodstock Academy, and an Eastern Connecticut State University basketball game.

According to LeBeau, the team practices once a week for about two hours throughout the year. The team works



Courtesy photo
Karen LeBeau with her daughter, Ashley, who loves being a part of the Quinebaug Valley Spirit Squad.

things I experienced as a cheerleader," said LeBeau. "But it has grown to be something more than you could ever dream possible."

When they perform, she continued, the team looks so proud. Their eyes are glowing. They're so happy to be out there. And they also get the job done. When they finish a performance, the audience stand on their feet and clap. It raises awareness in the community, and inspires inclusion.

"When we go to events we're just so happy," said Ashley. "I love having time to shine. And it's not just me. It's the other

Please Read **SPIRIT**, page **A6**



Olivia Richman photo
Memory Lane Cafe Care Activity Coordinator Charla Beattie and her assistant Barbara Smith are passionate and creative individuals who love making seniors happy.

Making special memories

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

PUTNAM — The Memory Lane Cafe is a place where seniors can go to socialize, have fun, and recall their favorite memories. Memory Care Activity Coordinator Charla Beattie and Assistant Barbara Smith are passionate and creative individuals who love making seniors happy.

"I love everything about this job," said Beattie. "Both of my parents had dementia, and I do this program in honor of them. I wish my dad could be here. He was such a fun guy. He would have danced. He would have laughed. This would have really helped him."

According to Smith, about one fourth of elderly people have some form of dementia or Alzheimer disease, conditions that often come with depression, anxiety and isolation. If their mental health is not looked after then their

physical health will soon follow, and they will deteriorate each day they have nothing to get up for. This type of sad scenario is becoming more and more common as the community begins to live longer.

Unfortunately, many places do not know how to deal with such a serious mental illness, said Smith, who recalled the mistreatment of dementia patients back in England.

"It was heartbreaking," Smith said of the time she first walked into a dementia unit. "Many didn't know if they'd eaten breakfast yet or what their daughter's name was."

She started to look after the unit, making sure the patients were receiving better treatment. This included more interaction, more of a social life. She wanted to make sure they were engaged, and had a life worth living. She started coordinating activities and

contests related to their former careers or interests.

"I just didn't want them to feel left out. I looked into what we can do to make sure they have something to get up for in the morning. It's a hard thing to do, but it's probably the most rewarding thing to do," she said.

That is the type of activity and care that is provided at Memory Lane Cafe. For the first hour, the group gathers in a cozy lounge space, drinking tea and cocoa, talking about the theme of the day, and any stories and memories the seniors have. Sometimes they just talk and laugh. This is followed by crafts, games, and puzzles.

Last week, the Memory Lane Cafe celebrated the Academy Awards by watching the Wizard of Oz, bringing in an old-fashioned popcorn popper, and

Please Read **MEMORY LANE**, page **A4**

Protection sought for QVCC



Courtesy photo
From left, State Representative Pat Boyd, QVCC student RoxAnn Huckaby, QVCC student Jacqueline DuFour, and State Senator Mae Flexer in Hartford on Feb. 21.

DANIELSON — The state's Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee held a public hearing at the state capital in Hartford on Feb. 21 and heard testimony on Senate Bill 749, "An Act Requiring Legislative Approval for the Merger or Closing of Institutions within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities." The bill was introduced by State Senator Mae Flexer (D-Killingly). Quinebaug Valley Community College's future is a consideration of the bill.

State Representatives Anne Dauphinais (R-44, Killingly), Rick Hayes (R-51, Putnam, Thompson), and Pat Boyd (D-50, Woodstock, Pomfret), have also backed legislation that would seek to prevent Quinebaug Valley Community College and other Connecticut institutions within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities from merging or closing without legislative approval.

The Board of Regents for Higher Ed governs

the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities (CSCU) which includes 12 community colleges, four universities, and Charter Oak State College. A previous legislature granted the Board of Regents' predecessor the ability to make all decisions that relate to the community college operations. The board enacted the controversial 'Students First' plan to allow the 12-school merger by consolidating these colleges into one single accredited institution.

"Passing this legislation is essential in preventing not only Quinebaug Valley Community College but other local institutions around the state from becoming another program run by individuals in Hartford," Dauphinais said. "Many of these types of decisions are made in a vacuum and without much familiarity with how these schools operate and their uniqueness to the area residents in which they serve."

Please Read **QVCC**, page **A6**



GETTING BY

Charlie Lentz photo
PUTNAM — Putnam High's Kayleigh Lyons moves upcourt past Westbrook's Jami Sacco in the first round of the Class S state tournament on Monday night at Putnam High. Story on page B-1 of The Villager sports section.

Photo show at Thompson Library



Olivia Richman photos

Steve Veilleux loves playing with his photographs, creating unique images with hidden stories.

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — Local photographer Steve Veilleux currently has his photography exhibit on display at Thompson Public Library. “Portrait of an Artist” is a show that reflects different sides of Veilleux and his life. Join Veilleux for his reception on March 7, 6:30 pm. to 8 p.m. He spoke about the inspiration behind his collection.

The photography in the exhibit has some nature photography, some architecture, and some appear more abstract.

My favorite is just playing with photographs, mixing things, hiding things. For example, one photo in the show has two cats that are actually images from a frame I bought. There’s also a ship in the picture from New Orleans, where I’ve been a couple of times with my son. The water the photo is set in is from Thompson, one of my favorite spots, West Thompson Lake.

So by looking at this photo you wouldn’t know where these items were from without knowing you, or being you.

I write poetry as well and you do the same thing with poetry – the visible and then what’s behind the words. There’s things available to the public as they read or look at the artwork, and then there’s the stuff that’s only available to the creator. That’s what really drives me.

Why is it so important for you to have these hidden factors in your photos?

It’s the state of humanity. There’s so much hidden from us. Even our closest friends and relatives have secrets. The more fantasy-like the photograph is, the more that can exist within it. It’s often even a mystery to me. A few years back,

for six years, I hosted a thing called 100 Days of Photography. I would try to do some kind of theme each time, for the day or week. Then I would challenge the people who belonged to the group to portray that in any way they wanted. Whatever it brought to mind. You can’t always predict what people will do with that. I would spend three or four hours playing with images, putting things together. It’s subconscious, a lot of it. Then it will come together, and I know exactly what I’ve done.

What do you do when you play with images?

It’s about trying to get back to what I saw in my eye. Some cameras don’t capture that and I have to pull it out again. Editing the brightness, saturation of color... It’s also the excitement of the unknown. Like if I took a photo of your face and my face, just see what would happen. It’s like playing with clay. You make a mess with clay and ultimately you come up with something that looks interesting. Maybe abstract. Maybe surreal. Or even a reflection of something you’ve seen. All of those have a beauty and strangeness.

How did you get into photography?

When I got my first camera, I brought it the World’s Fair in ‘64 in NYC. I was 10 years old. I took photos of my family, and the exhibits. Like these exhibits that made promises about flying cars. It was fun.

That’s quite an interesting start.

The first several years were all about taking pictures. But towards the end of high school I started doing creative writing. It was playing with words, and it triggered me to try playing with photographs. We weren’t digital back then. One time I had my camera set up. I started teasing my cat so he would



Cape Kiwanda, Oregon

stand. I took the shot, a full-frame shot. Then, after, I just photographed myself standing to one side of the photographs looking up. We had to wait to get them developed back then. When they came back I was able to put them both together and now it was a picture of a cat being much larger than me, and me looking up at it. The whole reason for doing this was that I told a friend of mine’s kids that I had a giant cat at home. I do that now with my grandkids. Like a photo of me petting a giraffe in my backyard.

That’s hilarious. How do you feel about having your work on display at the library?

It’s funny I haven’t done this yet. I have had work displayed throughout Putnam since when I first moved out here six years ago. Last year they had a community show in April and I thought, ‘Why not?’ I’ve done that at other exhibits before. I was asked if I would want to do my own solo show and I thought, ‘Why not?’ It was cool thinking about it over the past few months, planning what photos to include. I was thinking of things I will do with this show. It will be a multi-media show. On one of the walls I’ll have a projector showing slides, which will be much more of my ‘strange’ work.



Crossing the Tiber



The reception for “Portrait of an Artist” is March 7

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VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Feb. 18: Turkey Vultures, Raven, Fox Sparrow, Bluebirds, Red-winged Blackbird, American Kestrel, Robin, Red-tailed Hawk, Carolina Wren, Brown Creeper, Purple Finch, Goldfinch, American Tree Sparrow. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home

DON'T MISS A BEAT
CHECK OUT THE
SPORTS ACTION!

Putnam's Boy Scouts celebrate Scout Sunday



Putnam's Boy Scout Troop 21 marched its flags at St. Mary Church.

John D. Ryan photos



From left, Quartermaster Hunter Breyette, Scout Raihden Albino, Patrol Leader Jared Jordan, St. Mary's Pastor and Troop 21 Chaplain Very Rev. David Choquette, Scribe Joseph Choquet, Scout Cody Keene, and Assistant Patrol Leader Timothy Maltais.



Putnam's Boy Scout Troop 21 attended mass.



Boy Scout Troop 21 waited for mass to begin.



Troop 21 Boy Scout Joseph Vergoni attended services.



Pastor and Troop 21 Chaplain Very Rev. David Choquette celebrated mass.

PUTNAM — Boy Scout Troop 21 recently took part in Scout Sunday observations at its home, St. Mary Church of the Visitation, as well as at the Putnam Baptist Church and the Congregational Church of Putnam. Scout Sunday is held every February, as part of the annual celebration of the Boy Scouts of America's founding in 1910.

"A Scout is reverent toward God, in the way that their parents see fit," said Troop 21 Scoutmaster John D. Ryan, of Putnam. Troop 21 is chartered to, and meets at, St. Mary's on Providence Street, but Troop 21 accepts boys of all faiths, so the Scoutmaster said that needs to be taken into account.

This included the Scout Sunday custom of Scouts and adult leaders wearing their distinctive two-tone green uniforms to church.

"It's great to see that Troop 21's Scouts are following their Christian faith and being 'fishers of young men,'" said St. Mary's Pastor and Troop 21's Chaplain Very Rev. David P. Choquette, himself

a former Scout. "Troop 21's Scouts are practicing what being reverent means in real life. It's still a priority for them, no matter where they are or what the circumstances. That's a great example for everybody."

Troop 21 also visited Congregational Church of Putnam and Putnam Baptist Church.

"We're pleased to have the Scouts here," said Congregational Church Pastor Rev. Thomas Meyer. "It's good to see what they're doing. They can come back any time."

Troop 21 will be doing just that in March, when the troop will once again visit all three churches, to collect food for Putnam's Daily Bread food pantry, as part on the annual, nationwide "Scouting for Food" program.

Ryan noted that a Boy Scout troop's operations are run by the boys, with the adults overseeing transportation and making sure everyone is healthy and safe.

"Right now, Troop 21 needs more Scouts," the Scoutmaster said. "We



KILLINGLY VILLAGER

ACCURACY WATCH

The *Killingly Villager* 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.



Hunter Breyette with Baptist Church Pastor Rev. Gil Bourquin.

have an active, fun program here in Putnam. We do the kinds of things that many boys wouldn't be able to do otherwise. We help our young men to develop character and leadership and have fun doing it. We're looking for boys and their parents to come and join us. We'd be happy to have you."

Among other activities, Troop 21 started last summer's program with a week at Boy Scout camp in July, followed by a hike on the Airline Trail in Thompson, a weekend helping out at the annual "Circle of Fun" carnival at St. Mary's, a wilderness survival camping trip, two winter camping expeditions and a special local-history hike in Putnam.

After the March food drive, a fishing trip and separate rifle and archery programs are planned, before Troop 21 heads back to its annual week at summer camp.

Troop 21 is looking for boys ages 11 to 17, is open to all faiths, welcomes boys with special needs and never turns any boy away for financial reasons. For information about Troop 21, call Scoutmaster Ryan, at (860) 928-7241.



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POLICE LOGS

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

TROOP D LOG

DAYVILLE

Sunday, Feb. 17

Daniel Jacob Stanley, 19, of 204 Hartford Pike, Dayville, was charged with sale and possession of a controlled substance (over half an ounce of marijuana).

Monday, Feb. 18

Candi Verrette, 53, of 85 Dog Hill Road, Dayville, was charged with disorderly conduct

Steven Miguel Rosa, 31, of 85 Dog Hill Road, Dayville, was charged with disorderly conduct

Theodore Cyr-Patridge,

24, of 27B Sayles Avenue, Dayville, was charged with possession and intent to sell/dispense narcotics

DANIELSON

Monday, Feb. 18

Oscar McDuffee, 41, of 137 Reynolds Street Apt. #A, Danielson, was charged with a warrant



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Lewis and Graves join WHZ team



Beckie Lewis

POMFRET CENTER — The Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors team recently welcomed two new members to their team, Kelly Graves and Beckie Lewis. Graves, from Woodstock, joins Weiss, Hale & Zahansky after 17 years as a paralegal, bringing a broad knowledge base in matters such as bankruptcy law and litigation in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, civil litigation in the U.S. District Court, U.S. District Court of Appeals, and the Massachusetts State Courts, as well as insurance defense and loan modifications. She is a graduate of Becker College where she studied business administration. Graves will be working in the firm’s Client Operations & Service department, helping to ensure timely and dedicated service on new accounts, transactions, and investment portfolio account management. Lewis, from Pomfret, comes to the firm with more than 20 years of experience in client support, including positions with American Airlines, American Express Travel, and Electric Boat. She

also holds a B.S. from the University of Massachusetts. As the Administration & Client Services Associate, Beckie will be managing daily office operations, working to ensure every client’s experience is at the highest level. “We are delighted to bring two very talented and committed individuals to our team to support our unique and strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process. We know our clients will benefit from these additions as they work to help better support our clients’ strategic financial goals,” said Principal & Managing Partner, Jim Zahansky. “Kelly and Beckie are truly aligned with our core values of competence, trust, transparency, and accountability. Their hiring is a commitment to our promise to deliver an exceptional wealth management experience, and we’re looking forward to having them grow and develop with us for the benefit of our client experience,” said Laurence Hale, Principal & Managing Partner.



Kelly Graves

Roads impacted by O’Putnam 5K

PUTNAM — The Courthouse O’Putnam 5K road race on Sunday, March 10, will affect traffic with limited road closures from 10:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. On Main Street, from Bundy Street to Front Street, the road will be closed from 10: 30 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Main Street from Massicotte Circle to Bundy Street, the road will be closed from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Canal Street will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Minor delays are expected on Kennedy Drive (between Canal Street – Sunset Avenue); Sunset Avenue (Kennedy Drive – Park Street); Park Street; Arch Street (Park Street – S. Main Street); S. Main Street (Arch Street – Front Street); Front Street (S. Main Street – School Street); School Street (Front Street – Providence Street); Providence Street (School Street – Kennedy Drive); Kennedy Drive (Providence Street – Massicotte Circle); Massicotte Circle (Kennedy Drive – Main Street).

PUBLIC MEETINGS

BROOKLYN

Monday, March 4
Ethics Board, 7:27 p.m., Town Hall
Conservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Clifford B. Green Memorial Center
Wednesday, March 6
Budget, 5:30 p.m., Town Hall
P&Z, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall

Saturday, March 9
Town Council Goal Setting Session, 8:30 a.m., Town Hall

PUTNAM

Monday, March 4
Board of Selectman, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Thursday, March 7
Democratic Town Committee, 6 p.m., Town Hall

Special Board of Selectmen, 9 a.m., Town Office Building
Crystal Pond Park Commission, 6 p.m., Town Hall
Friday, March 8
Board of Assessment Appeals, 7 p.m., Town Office Building
Saturday, March 9
Board of Assessment Appeals, 9 a.m., Town Office Building

WOODSTOCK

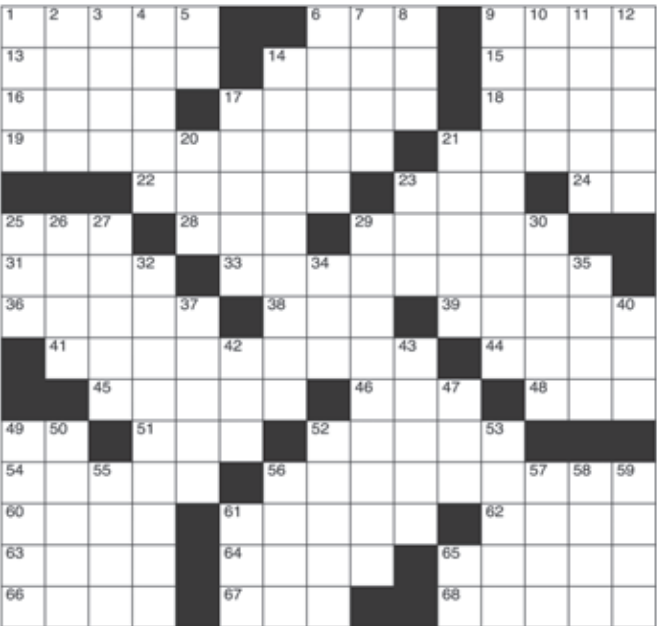
Monday, March 4
Board of Assessment Appeals, 6 p.m., Town Hall
Woodstock Business Association, 6 p.m., Town Hall
Economic Development Commission, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Tuesday, March 5
Board of Assessment Appeals, 6 p.m., Town Hall
Board of Finance, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Wednesday, March 6
Crystal Pond Park Commission, 6 p.m., Town Hall
Thursday, March 7
Board of Selectmen, 4 p.m., Town Hall
PZC Subcommittee, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall

KILLINGLY

Monday, March 4
Ordinance Subcommittee, 2:40 p.m., Town Hall
IWWC, 7:30 p.m, Town Hall
Tuesday, March 5
Special Town Council, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Wednesday, March 6
Board of Education, 3 p.m., Town Hall
Charter Revision, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall
KCG, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Permanent Building Commission, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Thursday, March 7
Killingly Business Association, 7:45 a.m., Killingly Community Center Auditorium

POMFRET

Monday, March 4
Board of Selectmen, 7 p.m., Senior Center
Wednesday, March 6
IWWC, 7 p.m., Senior Center
EASTFORD
Monday, March 4
Board of Selectmen, 7 p.m., Town Hall
Tuesday, March 5
School Readiness Council, 5:30 p.m., Eastford Elementary School
Conservation & Historic Preservation, 7 p.m., Town Office Building
Democratic Town Committee, 7 p.m., Eastford Public Library
Wednesday, March 6



CLUES ACROSS

1. Iranian village

6. Duct

9. Holds potatoes

13. Plant of the goosefoot family

14. Spoken in Cameroon

15. Students’ rights document (abbr.)

16. Skin lesion

17. Went over the airwaves

18. Nestle malt drink

19. Rockets’ point guard

21. Developed the polio vaccine

22. Businessmen

23. Animals have it

24. Atomic number 58

25. Cycles/second

28. Japanese classical theater

29. Slow nocturnal primate

31. Used in a play

33. One that breaks apart

36. Yellow-fever mosquitos

38. Bag-like structure in a plant

39. Simple wooden shoe
41. Leeches

44. Tide

45. Fathers

46. Decay

48. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

49. The Golden State (abbr.)

51. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand

52. Unique garments

54. True firs

56. One who’s not on time

60. Angry speech

61. Young children

62. About aviation

63. This (Spanish)

64. Earns a perfect score

65. People of Ghana

66. Founding member of The Grateful Dead

67. Of she

68. Genus of lichens

CLUES DOWN

1. Variety of pear

2. Curved symmetrical structure

3. A demon in some cultures

4. Cricket frogs

5. Atomic #45

6. Abnormal bone joint

7. Cain and ____

8. Unhappy

9. Dogooder

10. Most babies need ____ when they eat

11. Abdominal pain suffered by babies

12. Monetary unit

14. Tendency to suffer from a particular condition

17. Genus of flowering plants

20. It comes up some days

21. Koran chapters

23. In support of

25. One who crunches numbers

26. A type of school

27. Pops
29. Tears

30. Not influenced by drugs

32. Forms a boundary

34. Touch quickly and gently

35. Stray

37. A period between solar and lunar eclipses

40. Third-party access

42. A very large body of water

43. Infections

47. It might be due to nerves

49. Hall of Fame ballplayer Rod

50. Belittle

52. Type of sword

53. Makes very wet

55. One-time Peruvian money

56. A shoe typically has one

57. Not nice

58. Sea eagle

59. Civil Rights figure Parks

61. Humbug

65. A precious metal (abbr.)

PUZZLE SOLUTION

B	A	Z	A	R		V	A	S		S	A	C	K	
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E	S	T	E		A	C	E	S		A	K	A	N	S
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MEMORY LANE

continued from page A1

dressing up for a Red Carpet. “A lot of people can be reluctant to come at first,” admitted Beattie. “They think we’re a nursing home. But it’s really just one big three-hour party. We just play and we laugh and we dance. We have live entertainment. They make friends.” “When you look at someone and you think they’re old and frail, but then they can kick their legs higher than you can. They just have a great sense of humor. We want to encourage

that and their individuality,” Smith said. Memory Lane Cafe has been around since 2014, started by the Day Kimball Hospital Homemakers. Beattie herself started as a personal care assistant who would take care of people at their house. When she heard of the opportunity to be a part of Memory Lane Cafe she jumped on it. And she immediately saw the difference the program made in the seniors’ lives. “It really boosts their self-confidence to have friends and engage in conversation,” she said. “They still have memories they can share. It makes them

happy.” Smith said that the seniors who attend the program also love interacting with Beattie. They love her enthusiasm. “Everyone is a friend to her,” said Smith. “She’s always making them laugh with er really bad jokes.” If you’re interested in learning more about Memory Lane Cafe, call (860) 963-1077.

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

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Day Kimball Holiday Drive



From left, Kristen Willis and Brian Hawes, donate to Karen Osbrey, for distribution to those in need.

Courtesy photo

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare’s (DKH) Warmth and Wellness Holiday Drive returned for a second year collecting over 40 cases of personal care and warmth items, including hats, gloves, blankets, and more, for those in need across Northeast Connecticut.

“Our mission is centered on healthcare, but good health begins with caring for the whole person, ensuring their needs for things like basic warmth and personal care are met,” said DKH President and CEO, Anne Diamond. “It is our responsibility to support the health and wellness of our neighbors in need, and our annual Warmth and Wellness Holiday Drive is one way we are able to accomplish this.”

Hundreds of donated items were delivered the week of January 28 to community agencies such as TEEG, Interfaith Human Services’ food pantry, and the DKH Family Advocacy Program, and new this year, distributions were extended to DKH’s own outpatient services including Diagnostic Imaging and Behavioral Health.

“We are really grateful for these items,” said TEEG Executive Director Anne Miller about the donations.

“Not only will these personal care items be helpful to those struggling with housing stability, but they will also serve to stretch family budgets.”

The drive was held throughout December and into the first week of January. DKH staff and the community were invited to drop donations at designated Warmth and Wellness holiday trees at various DKH locations. Items collected included hundreds of toothbrushes and related dental hygiene products; containers of body wash, shampoo, and deodorant; toilet paper and feminine products; facecloths and hand towels; laundry detergent and wet wipes; pillows, sheets, blankets; socks, hats and mittens for children and adults.

“Thanks to the generosity of our staff and the community, we doubled the results of last year’s drive,” said DKH Director of Development, Kristen Willis. “These donations make a big difference for individuals and families in our community when they need it most. This spirit of generosity and thoughtfulness is at the heart of all we do at Day Kimball Healthcare and throughout the Northeast Connecticut community.”

Free performance on Irish heritage

POMFRET CENTER — In advance of St. Patrick’s Day, Quiet Corner Shouts will host a free program about the struggles and achievements of Irish immigrants on Thursday, March 14, at 5:30 p.m. at Pomfret Senior Center.

First there will be a short meeting and the serving of Irish Soda Bread, followed at 6 p.m. by a performance by Kathleen Hill titled “Pre-Famine Irish Immigration.” The Pomfret Senior Center is located at 207 Mashamoquet Road (Route 44 just west of Route 169/Route 101), in Pomfret Center. The event is free and everyone is invited. For more information, go to facebook: QuietCornerShoutsInfo or call (860) 377-1456.

Courtesy photo

Performance artist Kathleen Hill will appear at Pomfret Senior Center on March 14.



Pine Wood Derby set for March 3

THOMPSON — Neal Ferri, Cub Master of Pack 66 in North Grosvenordale, invites all to Pack 66’s annual Pine Wood Derby. The event is at Camp Waldron, 108 Mountain Hill Road in North Grosvenordale and is scheduled for Sunday, March. 3.

Registration begins at noon. Races start at 1 p.m. Races are open to all. Registration is free to all scouts. All non-scouts will be asked to make a \$5 donation to race. The Pack will be having three different race heats: 1. Cub Scouts; 2. Scouts BSA; 3. All non-scouts the Out Law classic.

There will be a gift basket raffle as well as lots of food. Those who attend are asked to bring a dish or dessert to share.



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LEARNING

Friends of Learning receives donation



Thomas Borner and Janice Ahola-Sidaway

Courtesy photo

KILLINGLY — The Friends of Learning in Killingly recently announced the receipt of a \$1,000 grant from the Putnam Bank Foundation in support of its grant making program for the benefit of Killingly children and youth. This program, known as the FOLK Fund, is an educational endowment initiative started in 1998 by Killingly Alumni from the Class of 1966 as a way to give back to their original school community. The Fund awards annual mini-grants to support innovative school-based enrichment projects proposed and carried out by Killingly educators for the benefit of their students.

From its start, thanks to the collective generosity of its many donors the fund has grown to become a thriving educational initiative that has enriched the lives of thousands of Killingly youngsters. Past grants have focused on literacy, science and technology, history, and the arts, among other disciplines.

“As of the end of 2018, the Fund has awarded 149 enrichment grants totalling close to \$50,000,” said Janice Ahola-Sidaway, Chair of FOLK’s Advisory Committee. “Putnam Bank and its Foundation sponsor and support so many worthy causes and organizations within and across the communities it serves. We are deeply honored and grateful to count the Putnam Bank Foundation as a supporter of our mission as well. Their generosity will help enhance the impact of the FOLK Fund, and also help transform the Fund into a vibrant community-supported educational legacy for the children of Killingly.”

“We are pleased to assist in this worthy initiative. Investing in our youth is one of the most important missions of the Foundation”, said Thomas A. Borner, President of the Putnam Bank Foundation.

Slots remain for performing arts magnet school

EASTCONN’s Arts at the Capitol Theater (ACT) magnet high school has a limited number of seats remaining for academically motivated, grade 9-12 students seeking intensive study in the performing arts.

Partnership with Quinebaug Valley Community College (QVCC) allow qualified ACT upperclassmen to enroll in college classes and earn free college credits through the state university system, while still attending ACT.

ACT, housed in Willimantic’s historic Capitol Theater, enrolls approximately 120 students from 37 towns in its NEASC-accredited, interdisciplinary and arts-infused academic program with a 96 percent graduation rate. Each grade is limited to approximately 30 students, making ACT an intimate, highly focused learning environment.

Auditions and an applicant “Meet and Greet” will be held on Saturday, March 2, from 9 a.m. to noon. For more information, to download an application or to schedule a Shadow Day, visit www.eastconn.org/act or call ACT’s main office at (860) 465-5636.

Once enrolled, ACT students select a major focus area from among five arts disciplines that include acting/vocal performance, dance, audio/video production, creative writing and theater

production (set design, lighting design and costuming).

Students have daily creative experiences in ACT’s state-of-the-art facility that features a fully equipped theater, a set shop, audio/video editing suites, dance studios, a costume shop and a café.

Students in all grade levels have the opportunity to participate in numerous professional-quality performances, and showcase their artistic talents throughout the year.

Among student awards and recognitions last year: 17 students won 26 regional awards, including seven Gold Keys, in the prestigious Scholastic Art & Writing Awards contest; 19 students received awards for writing and poetry from UConn’s 2018 Connecticut Writing Project; video production students placed top 6, and received an award for best use of humor, in the DMV-Travelers Teen Safe Driving Video Contest.

ACT’s school hours are a plus for many students, with its later start time of 8:30 a.m., and its extended-day schedule, ending at 3:35 p.m., Monday-Thursday. On Fridays, classes run from 8:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Learn more at www.eastconn.org.

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

COLLEGE NEWS

The following local students earned academic recognition for the fall 2018 semester at their respective college or university.

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Syracuse University Dean’s List: Cameron Chahanovich, from East Killingly.

DANIELSON — Quinebaug Valley Community College Dean’s List:

Brooklyn: Emily Beaudry, Chad Bell, Avery Benton, Valerie Brodeur, Kimberly Byrne, Mary Coraccio, Summer Coraccio, Andrew Davis, Cody DeGray, Trenisa Findlay, William Hamill, Tyler Hawes, Marrisa Herring, Leah Janetatos, Anthony Jean, Sherry Lowe, Sarah McMerriman, Jesse Paredes, Chad Petitpas, Nicholas Smith, Kylie White

Danielson: Christopher Arpin, Jasmine Ashmore, Nicole Auger, Ryan Ballard, Tyra Bergstrom, Meghan Briquier, Kyla DesRoberts, Kerri Fulton, Meghan Galloway, Alexander Hopkins, RoxAnn Huckaby, Jeremy Kolodziejski, Michaela Marshall, Nila Mejia-Soto, Samantha Morowski, Abigail Newman, Jenna Normandin, Katherine Perry, Michaela Raymond, Alan Reynolds, Yvonne Roberts, Isabel Rodriguez-Mendez, Rebecca Roy, Monique Sanborn, Spencer Terwilliger

Ballouville: Jens Hansen

Dayville: Nicholas Allaire, Khamvongsouk Bandith, Paul Brisson, Patricia Jacques, Isabella Notarantonio, Vincent Pontarelli, Edward Pragana, Jenna Rodrigues, Maria Rodriguez, Megan Vertefeuille

North Grosvenordale: Tyler Baker,

Kaylah Brace, Mia Krysa, Savannah Loiselle, Sara Watson

Pomfret: Hannah-Rose Andrews, Alyssa Becker, Olivia Chambrello, Gabrielle Cimino, Tanya Durand, Sydney Feragne, Brandy Hebert, Thomas Kacerik, Stephanie Keith, Gabrielle Larrow, Robert Tripp, Lacey Wood, Eric Yost

Putnam: Rebecca Adams, Ethan Berriault, Matthew Brisco, Ethan Bruso, Avery Choti, Angelica Desrosiers, Kristina Dyba, Christopher Heaney, Mason Lafleur, Zachary Lavoie, Joshua McFadden, Saige Morin, Linda Paradis, Jacob Phaneuf, John Smith, Jamie Soroka, Courtney Scott, Garrett Sward, William Walsh, Evan Zach

Thompson: Anna Carr, Kirsten Creighton, Cameron Huizenga, Elizabeth Jourdan, Lindsey Julian

Wauregan: Gina Maddox

Woodstock: Robert Baldino, Kaylea Bessios, Willard Brin, Jacqueline Dufour, Korrin Durning, Ana Ficher, Julia Fox, Jacqueline Kidd, Rachel Labak, Jared MacDonald, Jacob Parent, Morgan Reynolds, Emily Rosaci, Joseph Thompson

Woodstock Valley: Patricia Decin, Harrison Frost, Jocelyn Matulis

BOSTON — MCPHS University Dean’s List: Nicholas Bennett, Danielson; Cheyenne Perron, Danielson; Toni Ramos, Pomfret Center.

FRAMINGHAM, Mass. — Framingham State University President’s List: Gabrielle Costello of Dayville.

Town tennis courts set for renovation

WOODSTOCK — The town of Woodstock and The Woodstock Academy recently reached an agreement on the shared use and renovation of the town tennis courts located adjacent to Woodstock Middle School and The Woodstock Academy South Campus.

The agreement allows for use by The Woodstock Academy tennis teams for practices and matches as well as continued use by residents of the town. The town and school will partner to revitalize the two tennis courts and improve playing conditions.

QVCC

continued from page A1

“I am honored to have taken part in testimony related to SB-749,” said Hayes. “We continue to worry about the fate of QVCC year after year. This legislation, if passed, will help alleviate those fears moving forward. I am also pleased at the way our Northeast Delegation came together across party lines in support of our community college. I’m certain we all have the best interest of QVCC at heart.

“The Board of Regents is a body that is not elected and not accountable to the taxpayers. The General Assembly must retain the authority to approve any closures or mergers of our institutions of higher education. We owe it to the taxpayers to make the big decisions and not delegate the authority” said Boyd.

If passed into law this bill would prevent Quinebaug Valley Community College in Danielson and other Connecticut institutions within the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities from merging or closing without legislative approval.

“Each campus has a unique personality and diverse culture,” said Jacqueline DuFour, a student at Quinebaug Valley Community College. “Our school provides students with a strong, nurturing environment, which helps give many of us the confidence to move on to four-year schools. For others it is their final destination, which helps to feed our local businesses. Many of our programs are tailor made to meet the needs of our local industry. If we were to make any changes regarding the consolidation bill, we would be removing the ‘community’ out of community colleges.”

The bill would change state law to require the General Assembly to approve any action the Board of Regents for Higher Education might take regarding merges or closures of any community colleges.

“It was inspiring to hear the testimony from community leaders and

students as they highlighted the critical role our community colleges play in their own lives and in their towns,” Flexer said. “Our community college system is able to meet the specific needs of students and employers in various regions throughout the state and we need to ensure that this relationship is maintained. The legislation we have proposed would stop any short-sighted attempt to close or consolidate our community colleges and protect these critical local institutions. I was especially touched by the written testimony of QVCC founding President Bob Miller that was presented by Linda Colangelo, a QVCC alum. His vision brought QVCC to our corner, his leadership created the college we love and I hope his words today will inspire the legislature to maintain the independent gems that our community colleges are.”

Currently, The Connecticut Board of Regents has the authority to merge or close institutions within the Connecticut State University System and the regional community-technical college system. Board of Regents President Mark Ojakian put forth a plan in April 2018 that would have merged all 12 state community colleges into one accredited body. The plan, called “Students First,” was later rejected by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. A revised proposal followed in June that would have consolidated the 12-state community colleges in five years instead of two.

“We need the legislature to be our representation when it comes to making decisions about our schools,” said RoxAnn Huckaby, President of Quinebaug Valley Community College’s Student Government Association. “The Board of Regents are making decisions with no concept of checks and balances and accountability and no input from Northeast Connecticut. We need the legislature to be our voice.”

The bill awaits further action by the Higher Education and Employment Committee.

SPIRIT

continued from page A1

people on the team also. If it’s their first time they might be nervous, but I tell them, ‘You got this.’ ”

“My husband has overheard people in the audience saying, ‘Oh my god, this is amazing. I can watch them all day long,’” said LeBeau.

The confidence she’s gained from

being on the Spirit Squad has led Ashley to represent herself and the Special Olympics at a variety of events, reciting speeches and singing. This includes Fenway Park and the Mohegan Sun.

“The Spirit Squad just brings happiness to all of us,” she said.

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

NOW and Tri-Town American Legion clinic

THOMPSON — On Sunday, Feb. 24, Northeast Opportunities for Wellness (NOW) teamed up with Tri-Town American Legion Baseball to host a free indoor baseball clinic at Tourtellotte Memorial High School in Thompson. Seventy-four children, ages 7 through 14, participated in the clinic, learning a variety of skills from American Legion coaches and teen athletes. The two-hour event saw participating children rotate through six skill stations, including: Throwing/Pitching, Catching, Batting, Fielding, a NOW Fitness Agility Obstacle Course, and NOW Nutrition class. The clinic is the second in a

series of free 2019 events hosted by NOW designed to introduce sports and wellness activities to children in the 10-town area of Northeast Connecticut. This was the second time NOW has held a clinic focused on baseball. The coaches with the Tri-Town American Legion Baseball were enthusiastic about the event and the turnout. “We were very pleased to participate in the Baseball Clinic and have received great feedback on the event. Our organization is passionate about the sport of baseball and we appreciate the work that NOW is doing to encourage young athletes,” said Ron Coderre,

Chairman of the Tri-Town American Legion Executive Committee. Tri-Town American Legion Baseball welcomes players, ages 13 to 19, from Putnam, Woodstock, Thompson and Eastford to participate in the league each year. Continuing the youth clinic series, NOW will host a Running Clinic on March 3 at Tourtellotte Memorial High School, and a Yoga Clinic for youth at the Yoga Farm in Central Village on April 7, 2019. All clinics also feature a fitness and nutrition activity. NOW is a non-profit human services organization focused on youth well-

ness. NOW provides children with the opportunity to participate in area wellness activities and athletics programs, offering scholarships to the youth of the community with up to 95% of the cost being subsidized by NOW. The mission of the organization is to provide ALL children, regardless of financial resources, equal opportunities to achieve and maintain youth wellness, beginning at an early age. Registration is currently available online for the March 3 Running Clinic. For more information on NOW or to sign up for the upcoming clinic, visit: www.nowinmotion.org.



NOW held a baseball clinic in Thompson on Feb. 24

Courtesy photos



EASTFORD MAN ON TV

Courtesy photo

EASTFORD — On March 11 at 9 p.m., chef Nick Lupacchino, an Eastford resident, will be part of The Cooking Channel’s “Best Thing I Ever Ate” episode. Lupacchino is shown holding one of his Red Potato Pizza before it goes in the oven.



LINCOLN REPLICA CASKET

PUTNAM — The Gilman and Valade Funeral Homes & Crematory are celebrating their 100th Anniversary this year. As part of the celebration, the company honored President Abraham Lincoln during President’s week by displaying a replica of Lincoln’s casket and other memorabilia in events open to the public. Funeral Director Bill Juzwic is pictured speaking to members of the Putnam Rotary Club who were in attendance on Feb. 19

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King of the road

Without toll booths, it is easy to lose track of where I am on the Massachusetts Turnpike, although I should know every bump by heart as I drive on it all the time. The road is a concrete ribbon between here and there that offers some real surprises. When I am driving alone, I wonder what the other drivers are doing and thinking. I'll bet I'd be truly surprised if I knew.

Toll booths were dangerous and once they were replaced by the overhead collection system, traffic was supposed to move more safely and quickly. The improvement is obvious most of the time, but look at what we lost. We can't have conversations with the people who once worked at the booths or ask for directions. Several times, drivers ahead of me paid my toll, giving me the joy of an unexpected gift and the worry that they were creepy, but at least the gestures were memorable. I knew a commuter who dropped off sweet corn at the toll book on summer mornings because she liked the workers.

While Governor Lamont and the Connecticut legislature debate reinstating tolls, Massachusetts is merrily collecting quite a haul. I'm among the out-of-staters paying for the privilege of driving through potholes The Commonwealth hasn't fixed this year. If my toll money helps repair the road, that's fine with me, although it creates a traffic nightmare when the workers cordon off lanes and slap down asphalt that will disappear again next winter.

I tend to drive in the middle lane and often find myself surrounded by giant trucks. The vehicles are so large it is almost impossible to see the driver. It must be exhilarating and exhausting to control such complex machines. A friend wanted to travel in a big rig across the country, so he hitched a ride with a long-haul trucker. He said it was fun for the first day and then terribly boring for the rest. The romance of being "King of the Road" may exist more in song rather than real life.

Much of the time, I drive alone. Everyone else does too. Sensible ideas, like ride sharing and diamond lanes are great, but we often think they are for other people. These systems also wouldn't get me where I am going. Mass transit wouldn't work either. It was easier to get to the Boston or Hartford area by train a hundred years ago than it is now. Besides, I like being in my car by myself, especially now that in addition to audible books, I can listen to podcasts. If you haven't dipped into the amazing world of podcasts, you might try Krista Tippett's "On Being" or "Hidden Brain" or even "Crimetown".

On the Mass Pike, I amuse myself reading bumper stickers as many motorists happily share their opinions, including a few that are fairly vulgar. They are not as eager to share their lane, avoiding eye contact when another motorist tries to merge. I love to watch the singers and the talkers as they bob along in their cars oblivious of the rest of us on the road.

At first it seemed invasive that the EZ Pass gantries tracked where we were, but we have gotten used to giving up information in return for what we see as convenience. Also, we don't really have a choice.

Connecticut will bring back tolls and when it does, we will fuss a bit and adjust. Driving along in our private worlds is amusing, educational, functional and a good place to lift our voices in song.

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

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

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No to tolls

How to pay for maintenance and improvement of public transportation infrastructure is a challenge. The problem is not having a lack of money to pay for it. The problem is how government uses your hard earned money (taxes).

It has been too easy to levy taxes. Two massive tax hikes (\$2.8 billion) were not able to dig us out of a fiscal hole. Large deficits still loom on the horizon. Governor Lamont, Lt. Governor Bysiewicz, and the majority Democrats in the Legislature are following the same path with \$1.4 billion in new taxes, including tolls. Why would it work this time? Doing the same thing over and over again, expecting a different result, is a definition of insanity.

Governor Lamont quickly breaking his campaign promise to toll only out of state trucks has added to the lack of public trust in state government. It is not for me to comment upon what others are alleging about Governor Lamont having lied during the campaign in order to get elected or not having been properly knowledgeable of things beforehand.

The Reason Foundation compared each state's highway expenses. Connecticut ranked #46 out of 50 (a "very bad" category) and its ranking worsened compared with earlier data. Per each mile of state roads, Connecticut is #20 in maintenance spending (\$35,384 compared with a national average of \$28,020). It is #1 in administrative spending (\$99,417, which is 9 times the national average of \$10,864). Our state government spends more than 30 other states on maintenance spending per mile, yet still is #44 out of 50 in state rankings for the number of deficient bridges.

The Department of Transportation's estimates \$450-\$635 million to install tolls, occurring before any revenue would be generated. Where will the money come from in the meantime to pay for tolls? Other tax increases will be needed. Out-of-state drivers would account for only 30% of toll money raised. The other 70%? All of you Connecticut citizens, who already pay many types of state taxes.

Speaker Aresimowicz's and Senate Majority Leader Looney's idea of creating another layer of bureaucracy in the form of a transportation authority does not engender trust. It is an "abdication of power", as House

Minority Leader Klarides rightfully called it, so that a quasi-public agency not accountable to you makes the decision to set toll prices and future toll increases. This is not the way to run state government by alienating itself from you.

These facts highlight that the problem is how Connecticut spends money. If money can be redirected toward its primary purpose of maintaining and upgrading public infrastructure, instead of administering the process, then there would not be a need to rush into tolls.

Installing highway tolls is not a viable answer. Unless and until state government takes seriously its responsibility of common sense fiscal stewardship, any new money raised will be spent quickly and we will face the same deficit problem again, only worse than it was before.

We need a New Way of doing things.

House and Senate Republicans did propose a new way. Create a sustainable funding and spending formula for transportation infrastructure of \$1 billion each year for the next 30 years by setting aside a defined amount of general and special tax obligation bonds. Foster a more efficient, effective, collaborative, and community-oriented working of the Transportation Strategy Board and the Department of Transportation. No tax increases. No tolls. Although no plan can be 100% perfect, nevertheless, this plan is a good, prudent, strong step forward.

Connecticut's economy has not fully recovered from the Great Recession and many job gains have not been to the same pay/benefit levels as were enjoyed pre-recession. Growing the economy, not stunting it, is needed. I understand the need for public transportation infrastructure and the role it plays. I know it requires money. Tolls are not the answer. State government has not earned taking more of your money because it has not tackled the real problem of how it spends your money. Until it does so, taking more money in the form of tolls would be unfriendly to hard working families and to businesses that create jobs during times of ongoing economic challenges.

JEFFREY A. GORDON, M.D
WOODSTOCK

Hunters are respectful

Energy and Environmental Protection for the statistics on Hunting accidents for the last 20 years you would see that Mr. Cotnoirs concerns for the safety of life and limb are exaggerated. In fact he is much more likely to be at serious risk to life and limb driving to the area he wants to hike.

Every year the Officers who patrol our State Forests, Sate Parks and Wildlife Management areas deal with more lost hikers, more fallen hikers, or injured swimmers etc. than any hunting related injuries. I am not saying that accidents do not happen. They do. But when they do they are almost always injuries to the hunters themselves, or members of their hunting parties. In all the years I worked for the Department I never investigated a hunting accident involving injuries to a hiker or bird watcher caused by a hunter.

FRED RUHLEMANN
DANIELSON

Green New Deal is a bad deal

In the alarmist climate change article by Robert Schultz of Thompson (Letter to the editor, Feb. 22), He does not give any reason to be alarmed. I grew up in CT and have lived in Pomfret longer than Robert has been alive. I also care about my children and grandchildren. In my time I have seen many so-called "truths" come and go.

In the '60's, we were told that the earth was overpopulated and that we would see mass starvation and death worldwide by the year 2000. In the '70's, the "experts were telling us to prepare for a coming "Ice Age" which would result in worldwide devastation and famine. In the '90's it was "Global Warming", along with massive flooding and storms. None of these doomsday predictions have come about. Of course, climate change is real. It changes all the time, even daily! And within a day, cloud cover and sunlight impact surface temperature hourly.

From eyewitness history, we know that the earth was significantly warmer than today about 1000 A.D. (the medieval warm period) since grapes could be grown in England and the Vikings had settlements in Greenland. This is not possible today. We then had gradual cooling for 500 years (the Little Ice Age), followed by gradual warming until recently. For the last 20 years or so the temperature has stabilized and even gone down slightly. So where is the reason for panic?

Even the deficient climate models used today, which largely neglect clouds and humidity, predict a sea level rise of 16 inches

maximum over the next 100 years. The 20ft. predicted by Al Gore 10 years ago has been completely discredited. Even assuming that the maximum 16 inches is realized, how does that threaten our state?

Even if all of the draconian solutions proposed were implemented worldwide, this would drop the average temperature by less than one degree. For the sake of argument, suppose we do nothing and the alarmists are right after all. If global temperatures rise by a degree, this would result in longer growing seasons in colder areas. Why is that so bad?

In addition, remember that water vapor (H2O) represents over 95% of all greenhouse gases. Question: Why aren't we trying to regulate water vapor? The answer should be obvious; we can't. Meanwhile we try to control carbon dioxide (CO2) which accounts for only 1-2%; and is a vital plant food, not a pollutant. Remember that plants use CO2 to make oxygen (O2) so that we, and animals, can breathe. CO2 is "green"; without it, all life dies.

The so called "Green New Deal" is a very bad deal which wastes trillions of dollars we don't have, on a "problem" which doesn't exist. If implemented, it would reduce our standard of living significantly while devastating the poorest people in the third world; resulting in millions of needless deaths. Let's take that seriously.

HELMUT EISELE
POMFRET

The net investment income tax



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INVESTMENT
ADVISER

If you are thinking about tax season already, you are not the only one. Tax efficiency is a part of any investment strategy and it is important to consider how it will fit into your entire financial picture. Our unique and strategic process considers your specific circumstances and builds a plan to help you achieve your financial goals with the end in mind: "Living Well."

If your income hits a certain level, you may face an additional wrinkle in calculating your taxes: the net investment income tax. This 3.8% Medicare tax applies to some or all of your net investment income if your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) exceeds certain thresholds. The tax is in addition to any other income tax applicable to such income.

If the net investment income tax applies, your long-term capital gains and qualified dividends may be subject to a combined federal tax rate of as much as 23.8% (the top long-term capital gains tax rate of 20% + 3.8%). Your other taxable investment income may be subject to a combined federal tax rate of as much as 40.8% (the top regular income tax rate of 37% + 3.8%). Your investment income may also be subject to state income tax.

Calculation of net investment income tax: The net investment income tax is equal to 3.8% of the lesser of (a) your net investment income or (b) the excess of your MAGI over: \$200,000 if your filing status is single or head of household. \$250,000 if your filing status is married filing jointly or qualifying widow(er) with dependent child. \$125,000 if your filing status is married filing separately.

For purposes of the net investment income tax, MAGI is generally equal to your adjusted gross income (AGI). However, if you are a U.S. citizen or resident living abroad, you must include in MAGI the foreign earned income that is generally excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes.

You and your spouse file a joint tax return. Assume your net investment income is \$50,000 and your MAGI is \$270,000. The amount of your net investment income subject to this tax is equal to the lesser of (a) \$50,000 or (b) the excess of \$270,000 over \$250,000, or \$20,000. Your net investment income tax is equal to \$20,000 x 3.8%, or \$760.

Net investment income: Net investment income includes gross income from interest, dividends, non-qualified annuities, royalties, and rents that are not derived from the ordinary course of a trade or business. As well as net gain from the disposition of property not used in a trade or business.

Gross income and net gain (or loss) from a trade or business may be included in net investment income if the trade or business is (a) a passive activity or (b) engaged in trading financial instruments or commodities.

In general, a passive activity is a trade or business in which you do not materially participate. Rental activities are treated as passive activities regardless of whether you materially participate, but there are certain exceptions.

Net investment income is reduced by any income tax deductions allocable to these items of gross income and net gain that are included in net investment income.

Planning for the net investment income tax: For a particular taxable year, the net investment income

America’s first female dentist practiced in Danielson



KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER

Do you ever think about how uncomfortable it must have been to travel in the early 1800’s prior to the coming of the railroad to Northeastern Connecticut (1840)? I see visitors to Old Sturbridge Village taking stagecoach rides, but I have yet to follow suit. In the 1830’s Franklin Street in Danielson was a main east-west road from Hartford to Providence. (If you’re new to the area think about where St. James Church is). About 1831 a tavern was erected on the westerly side of that street near the Dyer Street intersection by Randall and Joseph Davis. In 1837 it was conveyed to Silas Hutchins and soon became known as Hutchins Tavern. The tavern provided housing for mill workers and those who came to help construct the railroad. It is no longer standing. Another tavern was erected about 1835 a little to the east at the intersection of Green Hollow Road/Broad Street a north-south stagecoach road) and Franklin Street. Originally called The Benjamin Franklin House, it was purchased by Harris Kies and became known as Kies Tavern. Kies Tavern is still standing on the southeast corner of that intersection. (Photos of both taverns can be

seen on p.11 of Images of America Killingly by Natalie L. Coolidge and Robert A. Spencer). One of “Killingly’s” oldest taverns, Felshaw Tavern, is now located on Putnam Heights on the northeast corner of the Liberty Highway/Route 21 and Five Mile River intersection. Built by John Felshaw in 1742 it was not only a popular place for travelers to stop, but was also a meeting place for politicians, and the site of local “balls.” (See Killingly Revisited by Natalie Coolidge, p. 38). Although opening of the railroad in 1840 quickly led to the birth of what is now the Danielson business district, stagecoaches continued to operate especially between Providence and Hartford. What a mess it must have been to try to travel in the wintry conditions that we’ve been experiencing! When I’m tempted to grumble about icy roads and sidewalks, I should be thankful for paving and cement. I checked The Diaries of Dr. Edwin Allen Hill 1851-1896, edited by Marcella Pasay, and turned to March, to see his comments about the weather. Interestingly, he noted March 1, 1874 as “The first day of Spring.” March 4’s first entry read, “Mud.” March 19 of that year was also muddy. Dr. Hill was having a very lonely and difficult time since his wife Sarah had passed away on January 25th of that year of heart disease. I looked farther back in the Diary to 1868 to read about the early March weather, and how very different travel was then.

March 8. “Pleasant, warm. Thaws fast.” March 9. Pleasant and very warm. Sleighing tough though I have ridden twenty eight miles today in a sleigh going to Glocester twice. Snow bank and mud. Good resolve not to sleigh ride anymore unless there is good sleighing.” March 10. Drove my buggy over Killingly Pond. Ice soft.” At least buggies weren’t nearly as heavy as automobiles are. No one will be driving buggies over Old Killingly Pond this month! March is Women’s History Month so I want to jog your memories about women in Northeastern Connecticut who have made significant contributions in their fields of expertise. Notables include Prudence Crandall, Gertrude Chandler Warner (Boxcar Series), and Ellen D. Larned (History of Windham County, Connecticut). Does the name Emeline Roberts Jones sound familiar? Perhaps not, since she and her husband lived in Danielson in the 1850’s and 1860’s. Emeline Roberts Jones, is considered to be the first female dentist in the United States. According to the Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame she became her husband’s dental partner in 1859 after performing numerous fillings and extractions on her own. That makes Killingly the home of the first female dentist in the United States. Ads in the Windham County Telegraph (later the Transcript) list D.A. Jones, resident dentist, as having an office over S. Hyde and Co.’s Store near the Depot in Danielsonville as early as March 1856 (3/6/1856). By

late 1859 Daniel Jones had gone into partnership with Joshua Perkins and had offices in Jones’ house east of the Congregational Church and then in the Arcade building in Danielsonville. Apparently R.D. Brown was being trained by Dr. Jones in dentistry (Windham County Telegraph and Transcript 10/13/1859,1/12/1860,2/16/1860). Rumors that Daniel Jones and his wife were leaving Killingly turned out to be true. Jones and Perkins dissolved their partnership April 2, 1860 although Dr. Jones intended to return the beginning of each month and “remain in the employ of Dr. Perkins” (WCTr 4/5/1860). The 1860 United States Census, taken July 19, 1860, found the Jones family in Barkhamstead, Litchfield County, Connecticut at a Pleasant Valley postal address. Daniel and Emeline also had a two-year old daughter in their household. Their absence from Killingly was a fairly brief one since an April 17, 1862 Transcript advertised that D. A. Jones had returned and was located in an office on Main Street. By March 1864 he had relocated his offices to his new house on Reynolds Street, several doors east of the Congregational Church (WCT 3/24/1864,5/5/1864). How terribly sad it was to read of his death in June of that year (WCT 6/30/1864). Emeline Jones then obtained short-term dental assistance from Dr. St. John’s of Danbury and former Danielsonville resident Dr. R. D. Brown (WCT 9/1/1864, 10/20/1864). However, the January 5, 1865 Transcript contains an ad for Mrs. D. A.

Jones, dentist. Her association with another dentist, Horace S. Young, would prove to be a lasting one in more ways than one since they were married in 1866 (Killingly Vital Records, Vo. 2, p. 352). From 1876 until 1915 she practiced dentistry in New Haven, CT. Emeline died in 1916. (Wikipedia) For a photo of Emeline Roberts Jones see Wikipedia or dent.umich.edu. Another female “first” from Killingly belongs to Mary Dixon Kies of South Killingly who is considered to be the first female in the United States to be awarded a patent in her own right (1809) for her weaving of straw with silk. In honor of Women’s History Month I will be doing a program on Mary Kies, Her Life and Times, at the Killingly Public Library, 25 Westcott Road on Saturday, March 9 at 1:30 p.m. The presentation will last about 45 minutes with time afterwards for questions. A sample of the original weaving will be on display. All are welcome. Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, February 2019. For additional information e-mail her at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, Ct. 06329.

FINANCIAL FOCUS

continued from page A8

tax applies only if your MAGI exceeds the appropriate threshold based on your tax filing status. Also, the net investment income tax applies to the lesser of (a) your net investment income or (b) the excess of your MAGI over the appropriate threshold. So you may be able to reduce exposure to the net investment income tax by controlling the timing of items of income or deduction that enter into the calculation of net investment income or MAGI. For example, you might consider increasing your net investment income in a year in which your MAGI does not exceed the threshold. Conversely, you might consider decreasing your net investment income in a year in which your MAGI exceeds the threshold. In general, you may be able to increase net investment income in a particular year by pushing income into that year and deductions into another year. Conversely, you may be able to decrease net investment income in a particular year by pushing deductions into that year and income into another year.

Tom, a single taxpayer, is considering selling some stock, either at the end of Year 1 or at the beginning of Year 2, with the effect of increasing his net investment income by \$10,000 for one of those years. To keep things simple, assume that an increase in net investment income would result in a dollar-for-dollar increase in MAGI. Before taking into consideration the proposed sale of stock, Tom expects to have \$190,000 of MAGI in Year 1 and \$200,000 of MAGI in Year 2. If Tom sells the stock in Year 1, he would not be subject to the net investment income tax because his MAGI of \$200,000 (\$190,000 + \$10,000) would not exceed the \$200,000 threshold for single taxpayers. If Tom sells the stock in Year 2, he would be subject to the net investment income tax because his MAGI of \$210,000 (\$200,000 + \$10,000) would exceed the \$200,000 threshold and he would have \$10,000 of net investment income. Invest well: Maximizing tax efficiency is an essential part to your portfolio. You work hard to earn money and deserve to maximize your potential income so you may use those dollars for whatever your “Live Well” aspirations look like. Visit www.whzwealth.com/

resources to view an exclusive checklist on choosing an accountant. Presented by James Zahansky, AWMA, researched through Broadridge Investor Communication services. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. 697 Pomfret Street, Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860.928.2341. www.whzwealth.com, Neither Weiss, Hale & Zahansky

Strategic Wealth Advisors nor Commonwealth provide tax or legal advice. Please consult a tax or legal professional for advice regarding your specific situation. You should consult a legal or tax professional regarding your individual situation as all investing involves risk, including the possible loss of principal, and there can be no assurance that any investment strategy will be successful.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Don’t trash our towns

I have been somewhat encouraged by several other people in the area expressing their thoughts about our lovely countryside being trashed by litter and garbage tossed out of their vehicles without any thought to what this does or causes. I am happy to know others feel as I do and who take measures to keep their areas clean. I wrote last summer to The Villager about cleanup efforts in the Putnam area voicing my displeasure about how Putnam itself is spruced up every year, but certainly not any of the local roads and areas beyond city limits. I did get a phone call last year from a gent who had called The Last Green Valley. Seems that grant money must be applied for and granted before a certain area is cleaned

up. After hearing this, I felt like barfing. More politics ! Why don’t people have enough pride in their homes and areas to just get out there and pick up the crap others senselessly toss out? They like to complain about it, but, when it comes to action, it’s beneath them. Thanks to others who unselfishly pick up for the slob. As for me, guess I’ll just keep on what I do maybe once a week in my local area. Gives me a little pride when I have filled a trash bag of other people’s crap and I have re-vealed nature again as it should be.

RANDALL LAW
PUTNAM

Keep sidewalks clear

When you see something – say something: I don’t like being the “badger” of the area, but once again, I’m going to complain about something that could be easily fixed. As I was driving past, the Price Chopper plaza on Valentine’s Day, I noticed an elderly couple walking in the street! One was using a cane, the other a walker. The sidewalk was not cleared and was icy and snowy. Some folks have to walk to their destination but on the busy street? I see this all too often in Putnam.

OK – No. 2 complaint – laziness over

consideration for others: an SUV driving in front of me with snow on their front hood and on top of the vehicle – all beginning to blow on the street in front of me. Wish a policeman had seen that! It’s the law to clear off one’s vehicle of snow and ice as I understand it. Just a citizen observing simple fixable things that would show consideration of others.

SUE WHEELER
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Villager Newspapers

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

“Shining a light on community events”

Thursdays 11-1pm
First Congregational Church of Pomfret has a Knitting Group that meets Thursday’s 11-1pm making hats for the needy. No experience necessary! Contact Penny Bennett for details 860-412-9811.

March 4, Mon., 6:45pm
The Quiet Corner Garden Club at South Woodstock Baptist Church, 23 Roseland Park Rd., Woodstock: Caring for your houseplants, everything you need to know to have beautiful plants. Presented by Danny Briere, from Logee’s Greenhouses A \$5 donation for non-members.

March 5, Tues., 6pm
Commission on Aging Meeting, Ella Grasso Community Room, 65 Ballou St. Putnam.

March 6, Wed., 7pm
Bingo every Wednesday night at St. James, 12 Franklin Street. Proceeds benefit St. James School.

March 6, Wed., 10-10:40am
(& March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24, May 1) Preschool Storytime, Killingly Public Library, held on Wednesday mornings for children ages 3-5. Registration required. To register for children’s programs at the Killingly Library go to www.killinglypl.org or call 860-779-5383.

March 7, Thurs., 6:30-8pm
Art @ the Library, Portrait of an Artist by Steve Villeux. On view: Feb. 19-Mar. 28. Opening Reception: Program supported by the Friends of the Thompson Library, Thompson Public Library www.thompsonpubliclibrary.org

March 8, Fri., 7pm
The Guess Who at the Center for the Arts, 150 Rt. 169, Woodstock, CT. Tickets start at \$39. Purchase tickets at wacenterforthearts.org

March 8, Fri., 5pm
Killingly Grange will offer either a baked fish or a fried fish dinner with baked potato or fries, and coleslaw every Friday though Lent. \$11. Located at corner of Dog Hill and Hartford Pike in Dayville. Available for take-out or

eat in.

March 8, Fri., noon-8pm
Club 2087 will hold a Lenten fish fry from in its hall at 1017 Riverside Drive, North Groves-nordale. Fish and chips (\$10); baked haddock or fried shrimp (\$11); fried scallops (\$12, \$15); fried clams (\$16); seafood platter (\$17), and more. 860-923-2967, council2087@gmail.com.

March 8, 9:30-11:30
Stoncroft Women’s Connection Brunch at The Inn at Woodstock Hill. Irish Tales and Tunes. Inspirational Speaker Meryl Bishop Reservations REQUIRED by March 4, cancellations essential. Call 860-774-5092, 860-455-7671 or email: wccwc81@hotmail.com. Brunch \$13.

March 9, Sat. 9am
Mr. Joseph DeAngelis of DeAngelis Counseling presents a seminar entitled “Understanding Mental Illness” presentation at Creation Church, 47 W. Thompson Rd, Thompson (near the damn) www.creationchurch.org

March 9, Sat., 7pm
The EC-CHAP Acoustic Series presents an evening of authentic blues and *Americana* flare with Eric Sommer in The Packing House. Showcasing his amazing guitar stylings, he is a musical force of nature. Tickets \$20. “BYOBF” (wine & beer only). Info and table reservations: 518 791 9474. 156 River Road, Willington. www.thepackinghouse.us

March 8 - 10
Spring Teen Weekend from Friday at 5:30pm (dinner included) until Sunday at 9am (breakfast included) at the Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp (326 Taft Pond Rd., Pomfret). Food, games, sledding, hiking, leadership skills and lots of fun for teens 13-18. \$50. Please register by March 1. Call 860-974-3379 to register or email: registrar@4hcampct.org

March 9, Sat., 9:30
Book Club, *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*. Bracken Memorial Library, 57 Academy Road, Woodstock.

This page is designed to shine a light on upcoming local nonprofit, educational and community events. Submissions are limited to 50 words or less and are FREE to qualifying organizations, schools, churches and town offices. To submit your event contact:

Teri Stohlberg at 860-928-1818 ext. 105, or teri@villagernewspapers.com.

Deadline for submission is Friday at Noon

Please turn to A10 for more Letters to the Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Against gun hunting on Sundays

I am writing to voice my strong opposition to the proposed bill HB-5310, “An Act Authorizing Sunday Hunting on Public and Privated Lands by Shotgun and Rifle”. As reported in the Feb 15, 2019 Woodstock Villager, the bill is proposed by representative Rick Hayes (51st District) and is co-sponsored by representative Anne Dauphinais (44th District) and Rep. Craig Fishbein (90th District).

I oppose this bill because it reduces safe opportunities for non-hunting activities in Connecticut State Forests. I also also oppose this bill because has the potential to create complexity and confusion around where and when hunting activities can take place.

I am not an opponent of hunting. It has an important place place in the management of wildlife in our state. When we have robust and thriving populations of wild-life that can be managed by hunting, it says that we are being good stewards of our environmental resources.

In Connecticut we manage our forests for multiple use. Multiple use means we balance wildlife conservation, forestry, watershed preservation, historical preservation and recreational use. Recreational use of our state forests includes hunting but also includes activities such as: hiking, bike riding, fish-

ing, horseback riding, running, camping, picnicking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, canoeing, kayaking, and fishing. Hunting is recreational, but also provides the benefit of wildlife management. Because it is an inherently dangerous activity it is closely managed to minimize danger to hunters and others who might be using the public lands. As a person who actively uses the state forests for non-hunting recreational use, I take special care when I know I am sharing the forest with hunters. I frequently double check the DEEP Hunting Regulations. I often find other places to go during the very active seasons. And if I am not certain, I put on my orange safety clothing before I go into the forest.

It is not always easy to stay on top of all hunting seasons. The major seasons for deer and turkey, sure, but of lots animals can be hunted in seasons that span the entire year. Per DEEP regs, you can hunt crows in August. Gray squirrels, rabbits and hares can be hunted in January and February. There is a spring turkey season in April. You can hunt coyote all twelve months of the year with no seasonal or daily bag limit. If you like to recreate in the state forests you are often sharing the woods with overlapping hunting seasons. It

should be expected that you may encounter hunting activity if you use the forest.

How do I decide if and when I can take my grandchildren into a state forest to learn about geocaching? If I am training for a marathon and want to take my long runs in the forest, when should I go? When should I hike a state blue trail that runs through a forest? If I want to go zooming down the forest roads on a mountain bike without fear of bothering the hunters, when? Under current state law the answer is of course, on Sunday. That is the one day where we all can be sure there is no hunting allowed on state land in Connecticut, and we can all visit the forest for other recreational purposes, safely.

And, on Sunday, I will not be bothering those who are able to hunt the other six days of the week. Put differently, state forests are open for hunting related activities 85.7% of the year. The non-hunting public is allotted 14.3% of the year, one day a week, where you can be sure there is no hunting. HB-5310 proposes to take away this one day of safe, publically accessible, weekend time and open it to hunting.

The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and others have documented a decades-long, nationwide decline in hunting activity. It is generational. Baby boomers are aging out of their

hunting years and not being replaced with younger hunters. It is also clear there are increasing numbers of younger outdoor enthusiasts who are getting outside and enjoying a broad collection of recreational activities. Instead of squeezing them out of prime weekend recreational time in the forest by permitting hunting on Sunday, we should be looking long term to develop opportunities to increase non-hunting recreational use. At a minimum we should keep Sunday free from hunting and keep the regulations the way they are.

The HB-5310 bill also would expand Sunday hunting to all private land. I was opposed to Public Act 15-204 that allowed Sunday hunting on selected private lands and was glad that on final passage it limited Sunday hunting to bow and arrow and only on private land being managed for overpopulation. HB-5310 removes those limitations. I believe that HB-5310 will create confusion between private land open for hunting, private land closed to hunting and public lands. I would also oppose any amended variations of the bill such as keeping state forest lands closed to Sunday hunting, but opening additional private land to Sunday hunting.

It seems to me that hunting laws should be kept as clear and simple as as possible. I

live in an area where we have a mix of land owners abutting state forests. We have state forests, private forests, private and state campgrounds, the Air Line Trail, town recreation lands, land trust property and wildlife sanctuaries, all with a mix of differing management and hunting policies. It is often unclear if you have crossed over a boundary from state land to some form of private land and if this is still the land where you have landowners permission to hunt. What if a landowner allows hunting most of the time but closes it on Sunday for religious reasons or just to keep the area quiet one day a week? The hunter has to know, can I hunt here, and do I have permission on this day? Did I cross a boundary line onto a different property?

I believe private land opened for Sunday hunting creates undesirable complexity and increases safety concerns. What we have now is simple and is safe. You can't hunt on Sunday, except on very limited private parcels, period. Sunday Is the time when the woods are free for recreational, non-hunting use. The way we have things now are the way things should stay.

STEVE SOKOLOSKI
EASTFORD

QVCC celebrates Black History Month

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DANIELSON — In honor of Black History Month, Quinebaug Valley Community College presented a special program called “Southern Migration and the Transformation of African Americans in Connecticut, 1915-1970,” by Dr. Stacey Close.

On Tuesday, Feb. 26, students and classes attended the program, as well as members of the public. Sponsored by the Cultural Programming Committee and the Humanities Speakers Series, the event was free to attend.

Dr. Close, an associate provost/vice president for equity and diversity at Easter Connecticut State University, was named one of the top 100 most

influential African Americans in Connecticut by the NAACP.

“He knows how to communicate to the students,” said QVCC Professor of English and Chair of Cultural Programming Committee Jonathan Andersen.

The seminar focused on The Great Migration, which massively changed the US demographic. Many black people were moving to the south to the north, to more industrial cities. Close looks into how this migration specifically effected Connecticut, and how it continues to resonate today.

“The focus on Connecticut is interesting,” said Andersen. “Usually they have a more national scope, but for him to bring this to our home state, that makes it more real and more relevant.”

A lot of times, discussions like these are rare in the Quiet Corner. Andersen said QVCC’s population is comprised of only 15 percent people of color, primarily Hispanic. But this makes it “even more important” to celebrate Black History Month.

“We do have black students and it’s important for them to know that this is a place where they are recognized and validated,” he said. “And it’s important for non-POC to engage and pay attention to that history as well.”

At QVCC, the administration tries to encourage students to see their college education as not limited to what happens within the classroom.

“The college experience should be vibrant and full of discussion around controversial

issues and intellectually stimulating topics,” said Andersen. “It should be about the enjoyment of culture and the celebration of differences. That should all be part of the college atmosphere.”

This Black History Month program fits into that experience. Many people at QVCC made the program possible, including advisor Michelle Jones, who helped organize the event.

While QVCC is small, said Andersen, they value having a vibrant cultural life that speaks to all different kinds of students and interest.

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

Villager Advertiser Word Search

N E B N O J J Y H S B V P J W P F D U X P M X J
M L R I V Z U I H G X V Q Y S B C U N V F X Q I
H V A K J S E C N A R U S N I I D R A R E G E X
S Z D K K H Q U L E X F E N G R C O N A L K L E
I Z L O Y H S M M B H P H P C M R H Y Y P P A O
C Y E O L C Q F A D A D E B S P L A C E L W P N
I S Y I K G Y U G A F A I R W A Y M O R T G A G E
S I P L B L M C V K N A B M A N T U P V O M M F
U F L O Y A W A H T A H E R I H S K R E B H O J
L S A L B A C K A N D B O D Y W C M T B K M L Y
P D Y P G B V A H T L A E H W E I V T S E W N M
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R A O V R R T R I N K E T S H O P P E G M J B B
O R U T R X U K C M S W E R B D N O P K C A L B
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E A S T F O R D B L D G S U P P L Y W A M Z M J
M O W N L T Y M X K R N P L B D R K T I K G A P

Fairway Mortgage	Trinket Shoppe	Awards and Printing	Back and Body
Debs Place	Black Pond Brews	Day Kimball	Eastford Bldg Supply
Nikko Oil	Berkshirehathaway	Bradley Playhouse	Gerardi Insurance
Gilman Funeral	Johnston Real Estate	Woodstock Academy	Westview Health
Core Plus	Putnam Bank	Articles	

Homelessness here in Quiet Corner

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

THOMPSON — When it comes to the state’s issue with homelessness, the northeast corner is often forgotten in the conversation. That’s why Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group Executive Director Anne Miller and other local organizations and politicians formed the Homelessness Charrette.

Right now, the group is working on getting a more accurate homeless count for the Housing and Urban Development, after the “Forgotten Corner” was found to have zero homeless individuals.

Unlike cities like Bridgeport and Hartford, where the homeless community has areas to gather, it’s difficult to get an accurate count on homeless people in rural areas.

On Jan. 22, TEEG and the Homelessness Charrette held three dinners in Thompson, Putnam, and Killingly that were attended by a variety of people in the area, including homeless individuals. The numbers would have been even higher, said Miller, if it weren’t such a cold night, but she still felt they were able to get a better feel for the homeless population from these dinners.

“We can’t find everybody,” said Miller, who has ventured into the woods on a few occasions to visit the homeless population where they often reside.

The same night of the dinners, they started a Youth Homelessness Count, which includes youth that are couch surfing or sleeping at a friend. By getting into the school system to perform the count over two different lunch periods at Woodstock Academy, Ellis Tech, and Killingly High School, Miller is hoping they’ll have a number more representative of the homeless teen population in the Quiet Corner for when the Connecticut Coalition to End Homeless announces the statistics in May.

“Out here in this area, there’s a lot of ground work that must be done,” said Miller. “We couldn’t just sit anymore, talking about being forgotten. We had to get together and do something.”

By assessing a more accurate homeless count, the Quiet Corner won’t be forgotten when it comes to state and federal funding. This is funding that could be used to help with housing and transportation.

“If someone is sleeping outside tonight we aren’t there. We haven’t found a solution,” she said.

Having seen their living situation first-hand, Miller said that the homeless in the area have a “tough existence” and a “deep hole to climb out of.” People end up homeless for a variety of reasons and often their stories are heartbreaking. Unfortunately, the area only has one shelter in Danielson at the moment, which overfills quite easily.

“I’ve seen people in the winter and summer living in horrible situations outside,” said Miller. “Food is an issue. Safety is an issue. We have women alone. Our hearts really feel for that.”

TEEG and the other organizations and individuals involved with Homelessness Charrette are hopeful that they can make a difference, even if it’s just one person at a time, if they keep trying to get a more accurate count of the area’s homelessness.

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

“Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper”
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Employment and training workshops in Danielson

DANIELSON — The Danielson American Job Center, located at 562 Westcott Road, is offering a variety of employment and training workshops to area residents in March. Advance registration is encouraged due to space limitations. Please go to CTHires.com or call (860) 774-4077 to register.

The following workshops are offered. Get Back to Work – You can overcome job search stress. Stay connected, get involved, and know your next steps. Our staff is here to offer guidance, direction and opportunity. March 5 (1 – 3 p.m.) and March 18 (10 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Computers Made Easy – Learn the basic aspects of how computers work, basic computer operations and terminology for Windows 7. Topics include basic file management, using Help and Support features, Internet searches and how to identify secure sites. Geared for individuals who have never used a computer or who need a refresher on computer use. March 6 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Manufacturing Jobs for Everyone. – Manufacturing jobs are in huge demand. There is a job for just about everyone – from entry level to highly skilled. Find out about job opportunities and how to prepare for a career in manufacturing. Learn about the Manufacturing Pipeline and the free training – classroom or online – offered to help you get a great paying job in manufacturing. March 6 (1 – 2:30 p.m.)

Ticket to Work Orientation –

This workshop explains Social Security's Ticket to Work program and how it supports career development for people with disabilities who want to work. Social Security disability

Beneficiaries, ages 18 through 64 qualify. The Ticket program is free and voluntary. Learn how the Ticket program helps people with disabilities progress toward financial independence. March 7 (1:30 – 2:30 p.m.)

Creating A Job Search "Elevator Pitch" – Learn how to create the perfect 30- or 60-second "elevator pitch" to introduce yourself to potential employers. Explore how to identify or create a networking opportunity and effectively engage during a networking opportunity. Useful for all job-seekers unfamiliar or out of practice with networking, and those using LinkedIn. March 8 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Successful Job Search Strategies – Discover how to find and apply for jobs not listed in the classified section. Learn to use traditional job search techniques more effectively and how to research companies, use the Internet and search agents as a job search tool, and how to post your résumé on the CTHires online employment system. Explore CTHires and other sites for private, state and federal employment opportunities, as well as labor market information. Call (860) 848-5200 to register. March 8 and March 22 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.).

Manage Your Debt - Control Your Credit – What is credit and what is a credit score? What should you look for in your credit score? What do lenders consider? Learn how to fix discrepancies and recover from bad credit. March 12 (9 – 11 a.m.)

Confidence Makeover: Rebound & Recover – Offers an outline of how to work toward a concrete confidence makeover by suggesting a variety of specific techniques and practical confidence-building tips that can make a significant difference in being the right candidate. March 13 (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Word Made Easy – Designed for the beginner. Learn how to create, edit, copy and paste Microsoft Word documents and much more in a fun, stress-free environment. Hands-on workshop; no computer experience necessary. March 13 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Metrix Learning – Offers an orientation to online training through the Metrix Learning System. E-Training licenses allow 90 days of 24/7 unlimited access to more than 5,000 courses (IT, desktop computer skills OR healthcare education). Learn new skills or upgrade existing skills to help find a new job or enhance your career. March 13 (1 – 3 p.m.)

Fundamentals of Résumé Writing – Learn how to write a focused résumé needed to secure job interview and employment offers. Topics include thinking like an employer, developing essential

parts of the résumé, keywords, relevant vs. irrelevant information, formatting and cover letters. Call (860) 848-5200 to register. March 15 or 29 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Advanced Word – Bring your Word skills to the next level. Discover the best résumé format to use for an Applicant Tracking System, learn how to create bulleted lists, insert hyperlinks, tables and more. Hands-on workshop; some experience with MS Word preferred. March 15 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

E-mail Made Easy – Designed for the beginner; learn how to use email in a fun, stress-free, friendly environment. Create a job search email address, practice composing and replying to emails, and explore the features of Gmail. Hands-on workshop; no computer experience is necessary. March 20 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Health Careers Orientation – Provides an overview of in-demand careers in healthcare, job skills and available certificate and degree programs. Also offers information about financial assistance. March 20 (10 – 11:30 a.m.)

Networking with LinkedIn – Helps jobseekers create or update a LinkedIn profile. Learn how to build your online network and how to enhance a job search through online networking. You will be encouraged to join relevant professional groups available through LinkedIn to expand your electronic network. Course content includes how

to use Local Labor Market Information to identify, research, and approach local employers. March 20 (1 – 4 p.m.)

Applying Online: The Basics – Learn the basics of applying online, including use of job search engines, emailing employers, and attaching and inserting résumés to online applications and emails. March 22 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

CTHires: Résumé Builder – Provides help in building and completing a résumé in the CTHires online employment system. Offers opportunities to review and update your CTHires profile, including job skills, and do a comprehensive résumé build with the assistance of the workshop instructor. Also learn to download, print and email your résumé from CTHires. March 26 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Advanced E-mail – Learn how to effectively email employers, create an effective subject line, attach a résumé in the correct format, and practice writing/emailing persuasive cover letters. Please bring email address and password. March 27 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)

Job Corps Orientation (ages 17 to 24) – Provides an overview of Job Corps, where schools are located, trades offered, and expectations for Job Corps students. Also receive information about eligibility and the process to enroll in the program. This is the starting point for any prospective Job Corps student. March 29 (9 a.m. – 12 p.m.)



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Westview gets top rating

BY OLIVIA RICHMAN
NEWS STAFF WRITER

DANIELSON — Westview Health Care Center was in the federal government's Top National Ratings for nursing homes and health care

facilities for the 11th year in a row. Administrator and CEO Dave Panteleakos attributed their continued success to their staff's dedication and hard work.

"We love taking care of people. Seeing people get better and return home is what brings us great joy and a feeling of accomplishment," he said. "We want to see people receive highest level of quality care in a safe environment with dignity they deserve. We are all passionate about taking care of people. We want to provide ease of transition, comfort, as people age."

Westview Health Care Center currently has the highest staffed facility

in Windham County, according to Medicare's website, for nursing and therapy. This is a major part of why they have able to come out on top of the 15,000 nursing homes on the list.

Two other major components of the score come from health inspection and quality measurements. Information for the health inspection portion of the score is gathered by "trained, objective inspectors who go onsite to the nursing home and follow a specific process" to see if it meets Medicare's requirements.

The quality measure rating has information on 16 different physical and clinical measures for nursing home residents, according to CMS.gov. It's measured by how well the nursing homes are caring for their residents' physical and clinical needs.

Westview are the only nursing home to get a five-star rating in their first three years on the federal government's list.

"It means a lot to us, to achieve a perfect five-star rating with the federal government," said Panteleakos. "Being named America's Best for 11 years is significant. It speaks to our hard work and how much we care for

the people in this community."

Westview currently has 103 skilled nursing beds, where they provide in-patient and out-patient services. They have 400 people staying with them for long-term and short-term programs each year, providing occupational therapies and outpatient services post-hospital care. They have also achieved 70,000 treatments to people in the community last year.

"We appreciate that people trust us and receive their therapy services with us," said Panteleakos.

He has been with Westview since 2001.

"This has been a family affair," he said. 2001 is when he took over for his mom, Eileen, who had operated Westview since 1974. "She really paved the way," he continued.

Panteleakos is now a third-generation health care worker and administrator, with the mission of making Westview the best it can possibly be.

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

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Westview Health Care Center

Courtesy photo

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Home sweet home for Putnam girls



Putnam High's Abby St. Martin shoots with Westbrook's Kelly Donlan, left, and Olivia Archer, defending at Putnam High on Monday, Feb. 25.

Charlie Lentz photo

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

PUTNAM — Putnam High junior point guard Kayleigh Lyons says her teammates are family. So the Clippers return to this season's Class S state tournament on Monday night was a special family reunion. Lyons felt right at home — scoring 20 points to lead the sixth-seeded Clippers past No.-27 Westbrook 48-25 at Putnam High School.

“Having all my family out there, having my friends here, having my whole town support me — it's just really important game for these people — just proving our name, not just the name on my back but the name on the front,” Lyons said. “Just showing what Putnam's about.”

The win over Westbrook advanced Putnam to a second-round tournament game against 11th-seeded Bloomfield, a 58-11 winner over 22nd-seeded Abbott Tech in opening round action. The Putnam/Bloomfield game was set for Thursday, Feb. 28, at Putnam High. If the Clippers can get past Bloomfield they will advance to the quarterfinals, scheduled for Monday, March 4.

The Clippers led Westbrook 16-10 at halftime but broke the game open with full-court pressure in the third quarter, which generated turnovers and points off the fastbreak. Putnam outscored Westbrook 19-6 in the third frame and led 35-16 going into the fourth quarter. Putnam sophomore guard Laylah Chavez finished with 10 points including four buckets on layups generated by the transition game.

“The press always put pressure on the other team,” Lyons said. “It just gives you that momentum.”

Putnam coach Mandi Hogan waited until the second half to deploy the Clippers pressure defense.

“We just went in with a different game plan today. We were just going to see how we came out at the start, where the game was. We started a little slow so we put the press on. It just gave us the momentum that we needed,” Hogan said.

The Clippers seem to feed off their press and the transition game.

“We're a hard-working team defensively. They like the press. But again you have to press in the right situations, make sure the right kids are in, and see where our foul trouble is,” Hogan said. “We made the adjustments. We got a couple steals off the press, turned them into layups, it just motivat-

ed the whole team.”

The motivation is also to make a deeper run than in last season's state tourney, when the Clippers were upset in the second round.

“We've got to come out every single day and execute and practice hard. We're going to play Bloomfield next. We've got to come out prepared and execute,” Hogan said.

Last season Putnam High finished 17-5 overall and earned the No. 3 seed in the Class S state tournament last season. The Clippers defeated No.-30 seed Windsor Locks in the opening round but fell at home to No. 14 seed Lyman Memorial in the second round. Lyons envisions a different scenario this season.

“I'm expecting to come out stronger every game. We're shooting for that third game,” Lyons said. “Showing what Putnam athletics is all about. People have been down on us all these

years. We're finally coming back and showing what we have.”

Lyons was hitting on all cylinders against Westbrook, including canning a pair of three-pointers. It makes coach Hogan's job easier when her point guard is connecting from the perimeter.

“Kayleigh was on tonight. She found her shot a lot, drove to the basket. It was just an all-around game from Kayleigh. I was happy to see that,” Hogan said.

The Clippers are a tightly knit bunch and that cohesiveness has been evident on the court. Their success was rewarded with a big crowd that came out to support them on Monday night.

“We do a lot of stuff with the community. We're a very close team. We're a family. To see everybody's family and then the community come out tonight and support the Lady Clippers, it's just a great feeling,” Hogan said. “They talk about it in the locker room. They say amongst themselves ‘Wow, look at our

gym tonight.’ It was packed. All these people came out to watch us. It's just a great moment for them. I'm proud of them.”

Motivating the team is hardly a problem with a gymnasium full of supporters.

“We just feed off each other. The crowd feeds off the players. The players feed off the crowd,” Hogan said. “It's just an overall great feeling.”

The win over Westbrook lifted Putnam's record to 18-5 overall. Kelly Donlan led Westbrook with 16 points. The loss ended the Knights season with a record of 9-12. The win kept the Clippers' season alive. In the state tourney it's ‘Win or go home’ — Lyons wants to keep winning in Putnam High's gymnasium — it's her second home.

“It's the best feeling in the world, especially when it's a home game. It just really pumps you up in your whole basketball career. You look forward to everything,” Lyons said. “The sport is just my life. This is my family. I couldn't be more proud of my team.”

CANTON 60, TOURTELLOTTE 37

CANTON — Tourtellotte Memorial fell to top-seeded Canton in the opening round of the Class S state tournament on Monday, Feb. 25, at Canton High School. The Warriors led 21-8 after the first quarter, shooting lights out from outside, including three three-pointers, and led the rest of the way. Abby Charron led Canton with 24 points. Lauren Puglielli and Paige Brown each added 10 points for the Warriors (20-1).

Junior guard Ashley Morin finished with 13 points with seven rebounds and three assists for 32nd-seeded Tourtellotte. Senior forward Lauren Ramos scored 10 points and hauled down 13 rebounds for the Tigers. The loss ended Tourtellotte's season with a record of 8-15.

E. HARTFORD 61, WOODSTOCK 41

EAST HARTFORD — The 25th-seeded Centaurs fell to No.-8 seed East Hartford in the opening round of the girls Class LL state tournament. The win lifted East Hartford's record to 17-4. Kayla Gaudreau scored a team-high 12 points for Woodstock Academy. The loss ended the Centaurs season with a record of 10-12.

HOUSATONIC 43, ELLIS TECH 15

CANAAN — Second-seeded Housatonic Valley Regional defeated No. 31 seed Ellis Tech in the opening round of the girls Class S state tournament on Feb. 25. The win lifted Housatonic's record to 20-1. The loss ended the Golden Eagles season with a record of 7-14.

WINDSOR 75, KILLINGLY 20

WINDSOR — The second-seeded Warriors defeated the Redgals in the opening round of the Class L state tournament at Windsor High School on Feb. 25. The win lifted the Warriors record to 20-1. The loss ended Killingly High's season with a record of 6-16.

KILLINGLY CO-OP GYMNASTS SECOND AT STATES



Courtesy photo

Killingly/Putnam/Tourtellotte gymnasts with their Class M runner up trophy. From left, Kiera O'Brien, Caroline Gagnon, Olivia Lamoureux, Maggie McKeon, Savannah Turner.

MILFORD — The Killingly High/Putnam High/Tourtellotte Memorial cooperative gymnastics team captured second place at the Class M Gymnastics Championships on Saturday, Feb. 23 at Jonathan Law High.

Wilton High, the defending Class M champs, won first place with a score of 131.975, edging out K/P/T (130.2) for top honors. The KPT of Maggie McKeon (Putnam), Kiera O'Brien (Tourtellotte), and Caroline Gagnon, Olivia Lamoureux and Savannah Turner (all from Killingly) led after the third rotation. Wilton's floor routines pulled it ahead for the team win.

K/P/T was led by McKeon who earned the second highest scores on vault (9.325) and floor (9.225) as well as the highest individual all-around (35.275). O'Brien finished with the second highest individual all-around score (34.950) including a tie for first on beam (8.675) and a second-place finish on bars (8.525). Both McKeon and O'Brien will compete in the State Open Championships on Saturday, March 2, at New Milford High School.

Putnam and Tourtellotte to clash in states



Charlie Lentz photo

Putnam High's Ezaviar Key shoots over Wheeler's Ian Spracklin on Feb. 21 at Putnam High School.

BY CHARLIE LENTZ
VILLAGER EDITOR

PUTNAM — What are the odds? It's a big state and Putnam High had only a 1-in-31 chance of facing backyard rival Tourtellotte Memorial in the first round of the boys Division 5 state tournament. Fate works in strange ways. The 15th-seeded Clippers will play host to No. 18 Tourtellotte in a state playoff opener on Tuesday, March 5, at Putnam High School.

The Clippers and Tigers both had plenty of time to prepare for their showdown. Griswold defeated Tourtellotte 70-64 in the first round of the Eastern Connecticut Conference Division 2 Tournament on Feb. 21. Wheeler High defeated Putnam 58-46 in the play-down round of the ECC

D-2 tourney on Feb. 21 — giving both the Clippers and Tigers almost two weeks to prepare for their showdown in the Division 5 state tourney. Before the brackets were set Putnam coach Shawn Deary pondered a game against the Tigers.

"There's a possibility right now that we would play Tourtellotte," said Putnam coach Shawn Deary after the loss to Wheeler. "It looks like it could line up that way. That would be a fun one."

The Clippers (10-11) and the Tigers (9-12) have already met twice this season. Putnam defeated Tourtellotte 67-42 on Dec. 21. Tourtellotte topped Putnam in overtime, 70-65, on Jan. 29. Coach Deary knew the long break between the loss to Wheeler in the ECC tourney on Feb. 21 and

the start of the Division 5 state tournament could make the Clippers rusty.

"We have to get our guys ready, try to keep the morale up, try to keep everybody coming to practice every day and working hard. And just talk about getting to the second, and third round of states," Deary said.

Last season 17th-seed Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy defeated 16th-seed Putnam 84-64 in the first round of the Division 5 state tournament. The Clippers finished last season with a record of 10-11. Tourtellotte was seeded No. 23 in last season's state tourney and fell to 10th-seeded Shepaug Valley 59-57. The loss ended Tourtellotte's season at 8-14.

Deary said he'll use a variety of methods



Charlie Lentz photo

Tourtellotte's Josh Dodd and his teammates will travel to Putnam High for the first round of the Division 5 state tourney on Tuesday.

to keep the rust off the Clippers during the down time before the Clippers take on the Tigers.

"We try to scrimmage. We try to get another team that's local that's waiting or somebody that's going to give us a good look going forward," Deary said.

Putnam's lineup has been unsettled down the stretch so Deary is still experimenting with different combinations on the floor. Junior center Justin St. Martin has been seeing more playing time of late and has responded.

"We've been putting different people together, different groups, to see works well together. (St. Martin) has been playing really well for us, as a young kid who really wasn't even in our forecast at the beginning of

the season. He's come a long way. For a jayvee guy he came in and has gotten some big minutes," Deary said.

Scott Pion led Wheeler (6-15) with 15 points in the win over Putnam in the play-down round of the ECC tourney on Feb. 21 at Putnam High School. Sebastian Ramos led Putnam with 20 points and Ezaviar Key added 11 points for the Clippers.

Ramos, Putnam's senior point guard, has been a competent floor general all season. Coach Deary said all his seniors are looking forward to states.

"It could be their last game so they're looking for their 'Me', so we try to talk them out of that and play team basketball. Keeping them really focused is tough when you have a long break

before the tournament," said Deary, in his 11th season. "You just try to prepare your guys for different scenarios."

Deary is looking forward to playing host to the Tigers. This is just the second season for Putnam High's recently built gymnasium and Deary said the Clippers will be ready.

"Some of our guys actually don't like to play at home. They say that our rims are not forgiving because they're so new," Deary said. "But I like a home crowd. I think the town's looking forward to it."

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



WOODSTOCK GYMNASTS WIN CLASS S STATE CROWN

MILFORD — Woodstock Academy won first place in the state at the Class S Gymnastics Championships on Feb. 24 at Jonathan Law High School. Woodstock's Lydia Taft won the gold medal in vault, beam, floor, and the all-around to pace the Centaurs championship effort. It was Woodstock's ninth consecutive state Class championship.

Taft scored 9.45 in vault, 9.2 in beam, 9.3 in the floor exercise, and took the silver in the uneven bars (9.1) — notching an all-around score of 37.05.

Woodstock's Ali Crescimanno won the gold medal in the uneven bars (9.6) and took bronze in the vault (9.3) — finishing in second place in the all-around (36.275). Woodstock's Jenna Davidson won the silver medal in vault (9.4) and beam (8.825), and won the bronze medal in bars (8.65).

Woodstock won the team state Class S championship with a score of 143.5. Stonington took second place (130.675) and Daniel Hand took third place with a score of 129.825.

The state high school gymnastics season continues this weekend with the State Open Championships, scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. at New Milford High School.

File photo

Woodstock Academy's Lydia Taft led the Centaurs to the team title at state Class S Gymnastics Championships.

Local wrestlers excel at State Open

NEW HAVEN — Killingly High's Danny Charron earned a silver medal and Derek Turner and Mike Charron each won a bronze medal the State Open Wrestling Championships at Floyd Little Athletic Center on Feb. 22 and 23.

Ellis Tech's Sean Johnson won a silver medal at the championships. Danbury High won the team title with 153 points, followed by Xavier (109) and Fairfield Warde (103) in third place. Killingly (60) tied for 12th place in the team standings and Ellis Tech (43) finished in 17th place among the teams.

Results from local wrestlers who placed at the Open are as follows. At 106 pounds: Championship match: Michael Rapuano (Xavier) decision over Danny Charron (Killingly), 11-8.

At 113 pounds: Third place match: Drew Currier (Hall) decision over Mike Charron (Killingly), 5-4.

At 138 pounds: Championship match: Justin Mastroianni (New Canaan) decision over Sean Johnson (Ellis Tech), 4-3.

At 170 pounds: Third place match: Derek Turner (Killingly) decision over Alec Arnold (Wethersfield), 3-0.

At 285 pounds: Third place match: Jameel Salami (Xavier) decision over Hayden Minski (Ellis Tech), 6-4.

OBITUARIES

John J. Swierzbins, 75



WEBSTER – John J. Swierzbins, 75, died Friday, February 22, 2019 in Saint Vincent Hospital, Worcester after a period of declining health. He leaves a sister, Carolyn Swierzbins of Webster with whom he lived; a son, Stephen J. Swierzbins and his longtime companion Jamie W. Belhumeur of Woodstock, CT; 3 grandchildren, Alisha, Katelyn and Paige; 2 great-grandchildren, Greson and Alexander; his good friend Barbara Solos of Yarmouth; and several cousins. He was born in Webster, the son of Joseph J. and Michalena T. “Nellie” (Sabaj) Swierzbins. He graduated from Bartlett High School. He completed courses at Worcester Junior College and then graduated from the Boston

School of Mechanical Dentistry. He also attended professional seminars at New York University. Mr. Swierzbins was a dental technician his entire life. He fashioned dental crowns and bridgework for several dentists in central Massachusetts. He owned and operated Lakeside Dental and CRO Lab in Webster. He was a member of Saint Joseph Basilica. The funeral will be held Thursday, February 28, from the Sitkowski & Malboeuf Funeral Home, 340 School Street, with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial will be in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. A calling hour will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 AM in the funeral home, prior to the Mass. Donations in his name may be made to Saint Joseph Elementary School, 47 Whitcomb Street, Webster, MA 01570. www.sitkowski-malboeuf.com



THOMPSON – Louise L. Gingras, 84, formerly of Soap Street, Dayville, passed away on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Westview Health Care Center where she was a resident for the past four years. She was the loving wife of the late Leonard R. Gingras and the daughter of the late Louis and Stella (Mandeville) Gibeault from Jewett City. Louise worked in customer service at Jacob’s Rubber and later at Lydall Manufacturing. In retirement, she enjoyed traveling, reading, bus trips with the senior citizen groups, and singing in the choir at St. Anthony’s in Dudley, Massachusetts. Louise is survived by her loving children, Deborah A. Gingras of East Hartford, Lorraine L. Lynch and husband Michael of Casa Grande, Arizona, James L. Gingras and wife Diane of Thompson, and Carol E. Rossetti and husband Vincent of N. Grosvenordale. She is also survived by her sister, Beatrice Denomme of

Griswold; nine beloved grandchildren and one cute great-grandson. Calling hours were held February 25, in the Valade Funeral Home, N. Grosvenordale. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Tuesday, February 26, at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Dudley, Massachusetts. Burial will follow at St. Joseph’s Cemetery, Dayville. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.

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Ruth (King) Bernier, age 97, of Webster died Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at Lanessa Extended care. Mrs. Bernier was born June 17, 1921 in South Grafton, MA. She is the daughter of the late Henry and the late Blanche (Drolet) King. She was predeceased by her husband, Edward Bernier in 1997. She is survived by one daughter, Gloria Cote and her husband Don of Madison, NH and two sons: Richard Bernier and his wife Donna of Quinebaug, CT, and Robert Bernier and his wife Rose of Norfolk, MA; She also has ten grandchildren, sixteen great-grandchildren, and several Cousins. Predeceased by her brother Norman King. Ruth enjoyed her time at Christopher Heights in Webster, previously she was at Joshua Place in Dudley and a Native of South Grafton. She enjoyed 17 years at Margate in Florida.

Ruth Bernier, 97

She was in Quality Control for 27 years at Tupper’s, of Farmville in South Grafton retiring in 1975. A memorial Mass was held at 10:00 am on Wednesday, February 27 at St. Stephens Church, Corner Of Route 197 & 131, Quinebaug, CT. Burial will follow in Sacred Heart Of Jesus Cemetery Webster. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers donations to Veterans Coffee House PO Box 3 Danielson Ct. 06239.www.bartel-funeralhome.com



DAYVILLE – Andrea L. (Deslauriers) Jacobi, 75, beloved wife of Frederick Jacobi, passed away Saturday, February 23, 2019. Born in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, daughter of the late Rene and Mary (Fontaine) Deslauriers, she was raised in Rhode Island, California, and Connecticut. She lived most of her life with her husband in Dayville. She graduated from Killingly High School. She was a Brownie and Scout leader and was the first female girls’ softball coach in Dayville. She was a member

of the Quinebaug Valley Senior Center and the Interfaith Stitchers as well as an avid Red Sox fan. She served as the president of the Killingly Housing Authority for many years. Besides her husband of 56 years, Frederick, she leaves a daughter, Lisa Baxter and her husband Roger of Killingly and a son, Eric Jacobi and his wife Heather of Willington; grandchildren Matthew Baxter and his wife Nancy of New Jersey, Kathryn Baxter-Tine and her husband John Tine of New York, Abigail Salcedo and her husband Lennard of Washington, and Jennifer Jacobi of Connecticut; great-granddaughters Olivia and Madelyn Tine. She also leaves three sisters, Jeannine Ruest, Susan Gregoire, and Elaine Deslauriers, and a brother, Richard Deslauriers and his wife Donna, and several nieces and nephews. Calling hours were held on Wednesday, February 27, at Tillinghast Funeral Home, Danielson. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, February 28, 2019 at Our Lady of La Salette Church in Brooklyn, Danielson, Connecticut. A reception will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Andrea Jacobi to the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, 125 Nashua Street, Suite 540, Boston, MA 02114. https://giving.massgeneral.org/cancer/donate/

er, Richard Deslauriers and his wife Donna, and several nieces and nephews. Calling hours were held on Wednesday, February 27, at Tillinghast Funeral Home, Danielson. A Mass of Christian Burial was held Thursday, February 28, 2019 at Our Lady of La Salette Church in Brooklyn, Danielson, Connecticut. A reception will follow the service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Andrea Jacobi to the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Center, 125 Nashua Street, Suite 540, Boston, MA 02114. https://giving.massgeneral.org/cancer/donate/

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Photos are welcome in JPEG format.

OBITUARIES

Ronald F. Samples, 74



DUDLEY – Ronald F. Samples, 74, died Friday, February 22, 2019 in UMass/Memorial University Hospital, Worcester, with family at his side.
He leaves his wife of 50 years, Jeanne A. (Beauchesne) Samples; a son Justin M. Samples and his wife Elizabeth of Woonsocket, RI; a daughter, Kristen A. Liberty and her wife Lisa Liberty of Thompson, CT; a brother Charles Samples of Woodstock, CT; 2 sisters, Evelyn Klein of New Port Richey, FL and Elizabeth Vinton of Dudley, and several nephews and nieces.
He was born in Webster, the son of the late Jesse and Cecilia (Corbin) Samples. He lived in Atlanta, GA for several years in the 1950's and then returned to Webster and settled in Dudley at the time of his marriage in 1968.
He was a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran of the Vietnam War, serving his country proudly just as his father and brothers did.

Mr. Samples worked as a machinery mechanic at Guardian Industries in Webster and then at Worcester Envelope Company. In 1988, he established the Dudley Wine & Spirit Shoppe which he owned until 2005.
Mr. Samples belonged to the PPPOD. John, Wayne, Paul, and Ron met on Thursday nights for 30 years to play cards. He enjoyed golfing and was a handyman. He also loved family gatherings.
A celebration of his life will be held on Thursday, March 7, from 4pm-7pm at the Publick House in Sturbridge, MA. Lite refreshments will be served. There are no calling hours. Donations in his name may be made to the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council, 3 Veterans Way, Webster, MA 01571. Arrangements are under the direction of Sitkowski & Malboeuf Funeral Home, 340 School Street, Webster.
www.sitkowski-malboeuf.com



Joseph L.(Paul) Roy



VERO BEACH, FL - Joseph L. (Paul) Roy, 83 formerly of Thompson/Brooklyn, CT died April 20, 2018 following a long illness. He is survived by his wife Dorothy of Very Beach, his sisters Jeanne Spence of Anaheim, CA, Judith White of Uxbridge, MA and Lucille Dover of Deer Park, TX. Joe was the son of Felician and Adrienne Roy of Linwood, MA. He leaves his six children, Paul (Leslie) of Myrtle Beach, SC/ Eastford, CT, Peter (Deborah) of Clover, SC, Denise Lafortune (Jim) of Seabaston, FL, Valerie Strunk of Tampa, FL, Michelle Lamothe (Jim) of Conway, SC and David (Corey) of Summerville, SC, twelve grandchildren, six great grandchildren.
A graduate of Northbridge High School, Whitinsville, MA, Joe joined the Marines, and was a combat veteran of the Korean War.

His law enforcement career began in 1964 with the Northbridge Police Dept. In 1967 he became a proud member of the Connecticut State Police serving at Troop C and Troop D, he spent 14 years as a Detective with the State Fire Marshall's Association. He retired in 1987 and then served as the Killingly, CT Town Fire Marshall. He is sadly missed by his family and friends.
Funeral services were held in Vero Beach, FL at St. John of the Cross Church on August 15, 2018, followed with burial at Cape Canaveral National Cemetery, Cape Canaveral, FL.

Nancylee Oliver, 82



U X B R I D G E - Nancylee (Dunn) Oliver, 82, of Uxbridge passed away Friday February 15, 2019 at Milford Regional Medical Center, Milford with her children by her side. She was the wife of the late Theodore B. Oliver who died in 2011.
She was born in 1936 in Bristol, CT to the late Wallace F. and Madolyn (Beach) Dunn and in her youth was a Gold Star Girl Scout in CT.
Mrs. Oliver had been employed as a lab technician at Tri-River Health Center in Uxbridge for 30 years.
Nancylee possessed a strong sense of community. She was a longtime active member of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Whitinsville. She loved music and was a former director of the Blackstone Valley Heritage Chorale and had sang with a music group "The Love Notes". Mrs. Oliver was a former member of the Uxbridge Board of Health, a former director of the Pout Pond revitalization group and a member of the Red Hat Society.

She loved being with her family and friends. Her home was open to anyone and she was always willing to help anyone in need.
She is survived by her sons, Scott B. and his wife Deirdre Oliver of Harrisville, NH and Stephen R. Oliver and his fiancée Samila Sousa of Uxbridge; a daughter, Janet L. Oliver of Putnam, CT; her sister, Suzanne and her husband Bob Halibozek of Fallbrook, CA; a brother-in-law, Harold Oliver of Roslindale; 6 grandchildren, Nicholas, Kailyn, Jason, Michael, Kelly, and Zarah; 5 great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a brother, Richard Dunn.
A memorial service will be held Sat. March 2, 2019 at 11 AM in Trinity Episcopal Church, 33 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville.
In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Trinity Episcopal Church, 33 Linwood Ave., Whitinsville, MA 01588 or to the Massachusetts Humane Society, Inc., 445 North Franklin Street, Holbrook, MA 02343. www.bumafuneralhome.com

Clarence L. St. Jean Sr., 88



BROOKLYN -- Clarence L. St. Jean Sr., 88 of Brooklyn was reunited with his wife, Mona on Friday, February 8, 2019. Clarence was born July 30, 1930 in Lille, Maine. Son of Randolph and Olive (Daigle) St. Jean. He was the husband of the late Mona St. Jean who passed away just 9 months ago. They were married September 24, 1951. He is survived by his children Nancy (Malcolm) Rhines, Garry (Donna) St. Jean, Larry (Janet) St. Jean, Cindy (Carlisle) Hewes, Clarence Jr. (Wendi) St. Jean. Grandchildren Shawn Rhines, Darrell St. Jean, Jason St. Jean, Darcy Green, Sadie Hewes, Keegan St. Jean and Hunter St. Jean. Great grandchildren Kelsy Rhines, Myah Rhines, and Kendall Green. He also

leaves his brother Chanel St. Jean and wife, Jeannine, and three sisters Edwina Rossignol, Olida Masse, and Merilda Jambard and husband, Leo. Clarence was predeceased by his granddaughter, Jennifer Lynn St. Jean, daughter of Garry and Donna St. Jean, and his brothers Sylvio, Roland, Conrad, Alde, Rudy, and Norman, and one sister, Anita Morin. Clarence served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War and also served as an Assistant Chief and volunteer for 42 years with Mortlake Fire Company. He enjoyed working and pulling with his antique tractors at many fairs. Burial will be at a later date at the family's convenience. tillinghastfh.com



Christina Lee Rafferty Cruz-Garcia, 39



Christina Lee Rafferty Cruz-Garcia, of Washington North Carolina, formerly of Webster Massachusetts, has died Friday, February 15, 2019, at the age of 39, in her home.
She leaves behind her children, Tabitha Lomba and Keith Mason. Her parents Ann Fuess and Jim

Rafferty and step father, Bill Fuess. Her brothers, Jason wonoski and Thomas Rafferty and their wives, her sister Nicole Rafferty, step sister, Jackie Phelps, her husband and step brother, Robert Sikorski and his wife, along with her many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and Grandmother.
Calling hours will be Saturday, March 2, 2019 at High Pointe Church, 1208 Thompson Road, Thompson, CT from 11am to 12pm, followed by a memorial service from 12pm to 12:30.
In lieu of flowers, if you wish, you may donate to either the ASPCA or the NA World Services, ASPCA-<https://secure.ASPCA.org/donate/ps-memory>, NA World Services-<http://m.na.org>. Arrangements are under the direction of Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, Webster, MA 01570. www.scanlonfs.com



DUDLEY - Donna M. (Szamocki) Jarominski, 58, died Thursday, February 21, 2019 with her family by her side.
She will be deeply missed by her husband of 38 years, David A. Jarominski; 3 children, David A. Jarominski and his wife Aimee of Sandwich, Brian M. Jarominski and his wife Lauren of Dayville, CT, and Megan E. O'Leary and her husband Timothy of Berwick, Maine; 6 grandchildren, Meredith O'Leary, Jack Jarominski, Amelia Jarominski, Ethan Jarominski, Evangeline Jarominski, and Breton O'Leary; 3 brothers, Norman Szamocki and his fiancé Carol Digenakis of Montgomery, PA, Michael Szamocki and his wife Barbara of Auburn, and John Szamocki and his wife Gerri of Thompson, CT.; several nieces and a nephew. She was preceded in death by her sister Sandra Strzelewicz in 1965.
She was born and raised in Webster, a daughter of the late Anthony W. and Lorraine C. (Cazeault) Szamocki. She graduated from Bartlett High School in 1978 and completed further studies in the insurance field. She made Dudley her home since 1985.

Mrs. Jarominski was currently a statistical manager at MAPFRE Insurance (formerly Commerce Insurance Company). She worked there for 42 years and was one of the longest tenured employees. She enjoyed her work and considered many of her past and present colleagues to be her friends.
Donna was a caring and supportive person and was always willing to help a close friend or perfect stranger. She had a positive outlook on life that only waived after dealing with serious illness for many years. Donna loved family vacations to Florida and the trips to the White Mountains with all of her grandchildren. When home, she enjoyed dinners at local restaurants, reading thriller novels, staying sharp with crosswords or solving the Wheel of Fortune puzzle before anyone else.
The funeral was held Tuesday, February 26, from Scanlon Funeral Service, 38 East Main Street, with a Mass at 10:00 AM in Saint Louis Church, 14 Lake Street. Burial was in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Visiting hours were held Monday, February 25, from 4:00 to 7:00 PM in the funeral home. Donations in her name may be made to Donna's favorite charity, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. www.scanlonfs.com

Donna M. Jarominski, 58

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Doris B. Soltesz, 90

DANIELSON -- Doris B. Soltesz, 90 of Danielson passed away on Wednesday February 13, 2019 at Davis Place in Danielson. Doris was born in Killingly on December 29, 1928, daughter of the late Ernest and Leona (LaCross) Besette. She was the wife of the late Michael A. Soltesz. Doris had worked for Electric Motors in Willimantic. She is survived by her son Michael Soltesz and wife Karen of Moosup and granddaughter Samantha Soltesz of Manchester, New Hampshire. Arrangements are private and at the convenience of the family. tillinghastfh.com

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OBITUARIES

Christine Hallbergh Southam



C h r i s t i n e Hallbergh Southam, died peacefully in her sleep, on January 21, 2019 after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. She was born June 28, 1941 in Bronx, New York to Hermine and John Hallbergh. Later she moved to Demarest, NJ where she met her future husband, Larry Southam, while they were students at Northern Valley Regional High School. They met while being given a ride home from school by the school nurse.

She attended Douglass College in New Brunswick, NJ, majoring in Home Economics and Education. She sang in the college chorus and with that group had the opportunity to sing at Carnegie Hall in Manhattan under the direction of Leonard Bernstein. She received her Bachelor's degree in 1963. Chris and Larry were married on August 24th, 1963 and moved to Springfield, OH. There she taught home economics at Tecumseh High School and had her first son, Peter, in 1965.

She and Larry later returned to Closter, NJ where she had her second son, Andrew, in 1968. Once Andy reached kindergarten age, Christine decided that she wished to return to teaching. The family moved to Pomfret, CT and she continued her teaching career at Putnam High School. In 1986 she moved to Killingly High School, finishing her teaching career in June 2003. During her thirty year teaching career she taught home economics, including cooking and sewing, as well as child development and nutrition. She even served as advisor to the alpine ski club, taking kids to Mt. Wachussetts for many winters. She loved her students and felt the need to teach them the skills they would need to grow up to be self-sufficient people.

During her retirement, Chris was extremely active. She coached the middle school track and cross country teams at Pomfret Community School, served as a substitute teacher and developed the school's sound garden.

Her other gardening pursuits included being a Connecticut Master Gardener. She ran a small plant sharing business, the Sharing Garden, and loved to take people on tours of her gardens. She was always happy to dig up plants to share.

Chris loved to travel. Her adventures included trips to Europe, Senegal, Machu Picchu, and a special trip to Israel with her granddaughter to visit

her niece Amy and Amy's family. Most summers, Chris and Larry traveled to the National Speleological Society conventions held all over the United States.

The love for singing that Chris showed in college played on for many years with Chris' involvement in the Northeast Concert Choir. She and Larry were also in many musical productions staged at Pomfret School and the Bradley Theater in Putnam. Not only did she enjoy being on stage as a musical performer, but she could also tell wonderfully funny jokes that entertained many people, especially her family. She was an active member of the Cornerstone Baptist Church in Danielson, CT, and played hand-bells and sang for many years in the church choir.

Christine took up distance running in 1979, a pursuit she continued for the rest of her life. She ran in many Deary Road Races, and the Manchester Road Race became an important part of her Thanksgiving family tradition. She raced in Manchester with her children and grandchildren until she was in her 70's. She was known by all in her Murdock Road neighborhood for her presence on the roads and trails.

She loved to read and was a member of several book clubs. In addition, she would give copies of books she had enjoyed to members of her family so that they, too, could join in the conversation. Chris believed firmly that every child should be read to every day, even calling her grandson, Xander, in Seattle most evenings to share a book.

Chris is survived by Larry, her husband of 55 years, her son Peter, of Bethel, Maine, his wife Sarah and their children Samantha and Max, her son Andy of Seattle, Washington, and his wife Christine and their children Bella and Xander. She also leaves her brother John Hallbergh and his wife Janet of Myrtle Beach, SC (formerly of East Killingly, CT), and her sister Marie Ruel of New Bern, NC. She was predeceased by her sister, Ann Bentkofsky. Chris was great at keeping in touch with her nieces and nephews: Mike Bentkofsky, Amy Bentkofsky, Mandy Hallbergh, Dawn Van De Mark, Ali Southam, Molly Southam, Abbie Southam, and Tim Southam.

A celebration of Christine's life will be held during the month of April when the daffodils will be blooming. Donations in Chris' name can be made to the Quiet Corner Garden Club, PO Box 1007, Woodstock, CT 06281 (<http://www.quietcornergardenclub.org>)

Roland A. Paulhus, 77



S T U R B R I D G E-Roland A. Paulhus, 77, died Tuesday, February 19, 2019, at Bay State Medical Center in Springfield surrounded with his family by his side. His wife of 25 years was the late Elizabeth A. (Morrell) Paulhus, who died August 4, 1994.

He is survived by his children, Shari Carrington and her husband Christopher of Southbridge, Mark Jourdenais and his wife Karen of Southbridge, Kevin Paulhus and his wife Deborah of Dudley, Sheila Landry and her husband Dana of Putnam, CT, and Cheryl Seidel of Putnam, and 6 grandchildren Steven Carrington, Brian Carrington, and Corinne Jourdenais all of Southbridge, Lynne Paulhus and Alyssa Johnson both of Sterling, CT, and Amanda Fenner of Griswold, CT, and 5 great-grandchildren. He also is survived by 2 sisters Louise Westwell and her husband Joseph of Southbridge, and Beverly Paulhus of Sturbridge, a nephew Joseph Westwell III of

Southbridge, and 2 nieces Lori Bourdelais of Thompson, CT, Lynn Rizzo of Sturbridge.

Roland was born in Southbridge, son of Raymond A. and Florida (Boutillette) Paulhus, and lived in Sturbridge for many years.

Most recently, Roland was a school bus driver at the former Southbridge Livery, and AA Transportation, he previously worked as a truck driver at the American Optical Co, Young's Express, Deary Bros. in Dudley, and St. Johnsbury Trucking in Shrewsbury. He and his wife previously owned and operated R&B Antiques in Sturbridge for many years. He enjoyed motorcycle riding with his friends, socializing at Dunkin Donuts with his many friends, but most of all loved spending time with his family.

The funeral will be Monday, March 4, 2019, from Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, with calling hours from 10AM-12 (Noon) with the burial to follow at North Cemetery, Maple Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566. A prayer service will be held during calling hours with Rev Juan Herrera. www.sansoucyfuneral.com

Gladys G. Przystas, 97



W E B S T E R-Gladys G. (Knych) Przystas, 97, died Tuesday, February 19, 2019 in Webster after a period of declining health. Her husband of 38 years, Frank J. Przystas, died in 1986.

She leaves 3 children, Kenneth F. Przystas of North Grosvenordale, CT, Michael R. Przystas of Webster and Cathleen Holmberg and her husband Craig of Oxford; 4 grandchildren, Christine and Adam Przystas, and Nicole and Aaron Holmberg; 2 great-grandchildren, Donald "Donny" and Laurana; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by 5 sisters, Sophie Saucier, Anna Knych, Mary Marcustry, Viola Gawle and Frances Petrin, by 3 brothers, Peter, Albert and Joseph Knych, by her daughter-in-law, Judith Przystas and by her grandson, Kyle Przystas.

She was born in Webster on April 15, 1921, the youngest of the 9 children of Stephen and Catherine (Sikora) Knych and lived here all her life. She graduated from Saint Joseph Elementary School and then from Bartlett High School in 1939. She completed studies at Louis Bregou Salon in Worcester. During World War II she worked on the assembly line at Harvey Electronics in

Southbridge and eventually became line supervisor.

After the war, Gladys joined her sister Anna Knych to open her beauty salon (The Coronet) where she worked for several years. After her marriage she worked at Ethan Allen in Dudley, at Mammoth Mart and at W. T. Grant Company, both in Webster, retiring in 1973.

She was a communicant of Saint Joseph Basilica, and a member of its Holy Rosary Sodality and the Saint Joseph Polish Women's Club. She enjoyed volunteering at the parish festivals and was active in the former Friends of Saint Joseph School. She enjoyed bowling in leagues at the Mohegan Bowl-A-Drome. She was a member of the Polish American Veterans Auxiliary for many years.

The funeral was held Saturday, February 23, from the Sitkowski & Malboeuf Funeral Home, 340 School Street, with a Mass at 10:00 AM in Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street. Burial was in Saint Joseph Garden of Peace. Visiting hours were held from 4:00 to 7:00 PM Friday, February 22, in the funeral home. Donations in her name may be made to either Saint Joseph Basilica, 53 Whitcomb Street, or to Saint Joseph School, 47 Whitcomb Street, both in Webster, MA 01570.

www.sitkowski-malboeuf.com

James J. Rzeszutko, 62



P U T N A M - It is with sorrow that we announce the passing of James Rzeszutko in his home Monday morning, January 21, 2019 after a lengthy illness. He was born on September 4, 1956 in Webster, Massachusetts. He was the son of the late Charles and Jennie (Zdrok) Rzeszutko.

James is survived by his wife, Linda (Wheeler) Rzeszutko; his stepson, Tyler Weiss; his stepdaughter, Jennifer Weiss; and two step grandchildren, Hannah and Nathan; his brother, Richard Rizutko and his wife, Jho Loyola; two sisters, Christine

Brodeur and her husband James Brodeur, and Marcia Jarosz; several nieces, Alison, Lisa, and Tara; father-in-law, James Wheeler, and his mother-in-law, Madeline Wheeler.

James was a very generous person with a great sense of humor. He loved fishing, hunting, hiking in the woods, long drives with his wife, and playing games.

Calling hours have been omitted and burial will be at the discretion of the family. Memorial donations may be made in his name to Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 450 Brookline Ave, Boston, MA 02215. For memorial guest-book visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Robert W. Whipple, Sr., 80



N O R T H G R O S V E N O R D A L E - Robert W. Whipple, Sr., 80, of Holmes St, passed away on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at UMass University Hospital. Born in Putnam, he was the son of the late William W. and Olga (Drescher) Whipple. Bob was a graduate of the Mystic Oral School class of 1957.

Mr. Whipple worked as a self-employed carpenter and antique refinisher. He was a member of the Worcester, Mystic, Hartford and Bridgeport Deaf Clubs. He played Norwich YMCA Basketball and Mystic Oral School Basketball. Then later was inducted into the "N.E.A.A.D." New England Athletic, Association of the Deaf Basketball Hall of Fame on March 5, 1988. He was an avid NASCAR fan and was himself a racecar driver and owner; racing in Waterford Speed Bowl and Thompson International Speedway.

Bob is survived by his wife, Betty (Greenlaw) Whipple, his sons, William Whipple and his wife Jennifer of

Eastford, and Robert Whipple, Jr. and his wife Jordan of Winstead; his daughters, Sharon Kalis and her husband Robert of St. Augustine, Florida, Georgia Pollard and Roberta Guadarrama and her husband Victor Albino of N. Grosvenordale, and Jackie Waldron and her fiancé Kevin House of Beaver Dams, New York; his brothers, Arnold Whipple of Stockton, California, and William Whipple of Woodbury; his sisters, Harolyn Anthony of Murrells Inlet, South Carolina, and Ruth Hopkins of Danielson; 17 grandchildren; and eleven great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his sisters, the late Diane Barber, Susan Metivier, and Barbara Murray; and a grandson.

Services have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT 06260. At the family's request, a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Whipple family c/o William Whipple, 1 Sprague Hill Rd., Eastford, CT 06242 or on line at www.gf.me/u/q2jj86.com. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

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Photos are welcome in JPEG format.*

LEGALS

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF BROOKLYN PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., at the Clifford B. Green Meeting Center, 69 South Main Street, Brooklyn, CT on the following:

SPG19-001 Gravel Special Permit-HM&E Co., LLC/Applicant, E. Arters/Owner, 120 acres, 291 Canterbury Road (Assessor's Map 23, Lot 1; Map 22 Lot 1-2; Map 22, Lot 1-4) Phased excavation of approximately 20,000 cubic yard of rock.

A copy of the above application is on file and available for review in the Land Use Office, located at 69 South Main Street, Suite 22, Brooklyn, CT. All interested parties may appear, be heard and written correspondence received.

Dated this 7th day of February 2019
Michelle Sigfridson
Chairman

February 22, 2019
March 1, 2019

State of Connecticut COURT OF PROBATE Northeast Regional Children's Probate Court DISTRICT NO. PD59 NOTICE OF HEARING TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS NOTICE TO

Morgan Haley McBain Ausburger, whose last known residence was in the town of Storrs, CT,

Pursuant to an order of Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge, a hearing will be held at Northeast Regional Children's Probate Court, 508 Pomfret Street, P.O. Box 471, Putnam, CT 06260 on March 28, 2019 at 11:30 AM, on a petition for Termination of Parental Rights concerning **Charles Patrick F.**, a minor child born to **Morgan Haley McBain Ausburger** on February 27, 2015 at Windham Hospital. The court's decision will affect your interest, if any, as in the petition on file more fully appears.

RIGHT TO COUNSEL: If the above named person wishes to have an attorney, but is unable to pay for one, the Court will provide xan attorney upon proof of inability to pay. Any such re-

quest should be made immediately by contacting the court office where the hearing is to be held.

By Order of the Court
Mona Fournier,
Clerk
March 1, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Stephen Joseph Dickson (19-00064)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 21, 2019, 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:
Kimberly Ann Dickson
1358 Riverside Drive
Putnam, CT 06260
March 1, 2019

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Nancy Ann Pershula (19-00048)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 8, 2019, 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.

Mary Ann Champney, Chief Clerk
The fiduciary is:

Joi A. Belforti
c/o Nicholas A. Longo, Esq.
Bachand, Longo & Higgins
168 Main Street, PO Box 528
Putnam, CT 06260

March 1, 2019

OBITUARIES

Helen Erskine Welch, 74

DANIELSON/PITTSFIELD, MAINE. -- Helen Erskine Welch, 74, passed away on February 9, 2019 at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam. She was born in Putnam on August 4, 1944, daughter of the late Reginald and Gertrude (Currier) Erskine of Pomfret Center. Helen attended Pomfret Community School and also Putnam High School. She worked at Rectory School in Pomfret, Danielson Curtain Shop in Attawaugan and Glass Container in Dayville before moving to Maine. She worked for over 32 years at the Edwards/UTC plant in Pittsfield, Maine, building various signaling devices. Helen worked her own line for a while building special smoke detectors, one of which hung at the top of the Statue of Liberty and also at local hospitals. She retired in 2009 to be her husband's 24 hour a day caregiver. She was married to the late Richard S. Welch for over 29 years. Helen enjoyed living and working in Maine. She left a wonderful family and many friends in Maine. Helen moved back to Connecticut after the passing of her husband, buying

a home in Danielson. She was often heard praising her brothers Herbie and Dick for all their help. Her family in Connecticut were so kind and helpful, because of her many illnesses her doctor limited her from doing many things that she would've loved to do. She is survived by her brothers Richard Erskine and Herbert Erskine and his wife Karen. Step-sons Mark and his fiancé Maria of Westbrook, Maine, Michael and his wife Michelle of Waterville, Maine and Donald and his wife Kristina of Winslow, Maine, 8 grandchildren, 4 great grandchildren all of Maine, and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and great great nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind two special grammar and high school friends, Elaine Collins of Pomfret and Gloria Plante of Brooklyn. Besides her parents and husband, she is predeceased by brothers Albert, Robert (Eddie), William and Reginald Jr. and sister Pauline Coon. A graveside service will be held in the spring at Abington Cemetery, Pomfret. tillinghastfh.com

Edward A. Barry, Jr., 79

DANIELSON -- Edward A. Barry, Jr., 79 of Danielson, and Rockledge, Florida, passed away on February 15, 2019 surrounded by family following a brief illness. He was the loving husband of the late Glenda J. (Wakefield) Barry who he peacefully journeyed home to join in Heaven. Ed was born in Putnam, son of the late Edward and Mildred Barry. He attended Putnam High School and then worked many years and retired from the former Glass Container Company in Dayville. He worked tirelessly and was the hardest of workers who gave his all to all his endeavors. He was a loving and supportive father and is survived by his three daughters, Lee Ann Barry, Tracy Lynn Barry and Jackie E. Sellars and son-in-law Dennis R. Tracy and one granddaughter (who he adored), Jessica Lynn Barry. He also leaves his sister Joan Harvey and her

husband Merton Harvey, Jr., brother-in-law George Wakefield and wife Elaine, sister-in-law Geraldine Lewis and husband Robert. He also leaves several nieces and nephews and many dear friends. He was predeceased by his brother Jack. Ed was an avid sports fan, he loved getting in the car and taking a drive around town or out of state, visiting friends. He particularly enjoyed shopping for a bargain at yard sales and flea markets. He spent the last few years enjoying his life and hobbies with his friend Janice Lalumiere of Griswold. He was enjoying the warmth he sought every year in Florida, when illness struck. Anyone who met him probably remembers him and he will be forever missed. The family will hold a private burial service.

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OBITUARIES

Edgar H. Wetherbee Jr., 92



THOMPSON — Edgar H. Wetherbee Jr., 92, a lifelong Thompson resident, died Wednesday at his daughter's home in Danielson.

Eddy was born May 10, 1926, in North Grosvenordale, to the late Edgar and Nina (Rhodes) Wetherbee, and attended Thompson schools. He served in the Pacific theater during World War II as a fireman 1st class in the U.S. Navy. He married Marguerite (Peggy) Fifield on Aug. 31, 1946, at the First Congregational Church in Thompson. She predeceased him in 2011. Eddy was a talented yodeler who performed locally for years. After retiring from Preferred Plastics in Putnam, Eddy enjoyed gardening and taking on projects around the house — he never met something broken he couldn't fix. He was a longtime member of Putnam Baptist Church and the American Legion.

He is survived by his three children, Linda Collins, of Danielson, Edgar Wetherbee III, of Thompson, and Diane Gratton and husband Roger, of

Pomfret; daughter-in-law, Cynthia, of Webster, Mass.; four granddaughters, Kathleen Collins and husband Jason Stradling, Dawn Shea and husband Richard, Nora Barrows and husband Robert, and Melissa Wetherbee and fiancé Bryan Ciaramitaro; and three great-grandchildren, Nathan Shea, Quinn Shea and Audrey Stradling. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by five brothers, Walter, Steve, Clarence, Ray and Herbert (Stub), and a sister, Dot Shippee.

Graveside service was held Saturday, February 23 at West Thompson Cemetery, Thompson. A gathering was held afterwards at Putnam Baptist Church in Putnam. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Putnam Baptist Church, 170 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260 or The Michael J. Fox Foundation, Attn: Tribute Gifts, P.O. Box 780, New York, NY 10008-0780. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com



Rae Burton-Williams, 95



WOODSTOCK — Rae Burton-Williams, 95, of Perrin Road, passed away on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 in the Davis Place Nursing Home. She was the loving wife of the late Carey M. Williams. Born in Clinton, Massachusetts, she was the daughter of the late Harry and Cora (Curtis) Williams.

Mrs. Williams, along with her husband, owned and operated the Trapalanda Stables. She was an artist and enjoyed making signs as a side business. She enjoyed painting, gardening, baking, cooking and playing

Rummy Cube. She enjoyed decorating and cooking for her annual Christmas party since the 1970's.

Rae is survived by her daughters, Jeanne Galuska and her husband Andre of Boca Raton, Florida, and Anita Williams of Woodstock; her nieces, Cora Howard and Michelle Cox; and her nephew, Harry Howard, Jr. and his family. She was predeceased by her daughter, the late Sandra Trombley, her grandson, the late Craig Trombley, her sister, the late Barbara Howard and brother, the late Albert Burton.

Services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Betty Louise French Perry, 89



Betty Louise French Perry, 89, went home to her Lord on February 24, 2019. She passed peacefully in the presence of her family. Betty grew up in Eastford, with her six siblings on a little

farm. She married James L. Perry on October 30, 1948. Their love was one for which to aspire. She loved this area so much that she only moved a short way down the road to raise her own family. Even after wintering in Florida for many years, only here, in this little piece of the world, she called home. Betty attended Woodstock Academy but her proudest academic achievement was credits from the Moody Bible Institute where she remotely took instruction and received top marks. In addition to her primary work of being a mother, she worked at General Lyon's Inn, Eastford, both in the kitchen, cooking and serving in the dining room. She was a skilled cook and talented server. Later Betty joined her husband Jim at their gas station in Sturbridge Massachusetts, where she kept the books and worked by his side washing windshields as he pumped gas and did repairs.

Betty loved her family. She had a deep devotion to her children. Her siblings were her dearest friends. She loved her nieces and nephews. Her memories of the times with them would always bring a smile and a story. Her connection to children and animals was unrivaled. There was never a baby she couldn't comfort. She raised a deer, a squirrel, and other orphaned animals. When she would go to her garden and call "Pretty Boy" a cardinal would fly down to eat from her hand. She could even be found telling the little garden snake to move aside so they could share the area.

Betty and Jim bred dachshunds and fancy foul on their little farm. They enjoyed growing vegetables and flowers together.

Later when they were able to spend winters in Florida, every evening they could be found as a quartet with Peggy and Charlie Bowen enjoying dinner out, followed by a few rounds of the cards

Betty's hobbies included baking, knitting and crocheting and most notably, joining her sister Peggy in an all-day Saturday adventure of bargain hunting and tag sale seeking. They had so much fun.

Betty leaves her sons James Perry Jr. of Hudson, Massachusetts and Edwin Perry, Sr. and his wife Pamela, of Woodstock; her daughter Audrey Martinez and her husband Jose of Southbridge, Massachusetts; her grandchildren Edwin Perry Jr. and his wife Lisa of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Peter Blash and his wife Rachel, James P. Blash, Sarah Blash, Julia Blash, all of Southbridge, Massachusetts and Caleb Blash of Kansas City, Kansas; her great-grandchildren Edwin and Samantha Perry and Jasper Blash; her sisters Irene Anderson, Dorothy Horton, and Lorraine Howlett of Connecticut, and many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her husband James; her sister Arlene (Peggy) Bowen; her brothers Milton (Kenny) and Russel; her granddaughter Helen Blash and her parents Clifford and Ruth French.

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to Hospice of NE CT, PO Box 632, Putnam, CT 06260.

Calling hours were held February 26 at Smith and Walker Funeral Home in Putnam. A funeral service was held Wednesday, February 27, at the Funeral Home. Burial will be in the spring at North Ashford Cemetery. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

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#39138A • 4x4, 17" Alloys, Back-Up Camera, Turbo, Bluetooth, Satellite Radio.
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$16,944
SAVE \$11,100 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 DODGE JOURNEY NEW Retail Price: ~~\$27,895~~
#D9392R • 3RD ROW SEATS, SE TRIM, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, V6
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$15,977
SAVE \$11,900 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 CHEVY MALIBU LS NEW Retail Price: ~~\$24,195~~
#39281L • BLUETOOTH, ONSTAR, LIMITED TRIM, 16" ALLOYS
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$10,944
SAVE \$13,200 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2009 FORD FOCUS SE NEW Retail Price: ~~\$17,195~~
#118358Z • 15" ALLOY WHEELS, FUEL EFFICIENT, POWER PKG
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$3,999
SAVE \$13,200 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2015 FORD F-150 4x4 SUPERCAB NEW Retail Price: ~~\$38,965~~
#P11746L • 2.7L V6 EcoBoost, Alloy Wheels, Bluetooth, SYNC, Back-Up Cam.
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$30,355
SAVE \$8,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 DODGE DURANGO NEW Retail Price: ~~\$42,715~~
#D9531R • GT TRIM, 5.7L HEMI, ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, ALLOYS, DVD
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$33,277
SAVE \$9,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 FORD ESCAPE SE NEW Retail Price: ~~\$24,845~~
#18694A • BACK-UP CAM, TURBO, ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH, SPOILER
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$14,955
SAVE \$9,900 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 HYUNDAI SONATA NEW Retail Price: ~~\$28,775~~
#H0523 • SPORT TRIM, TURBO, HEATED SEATS, BACK-UP CAM
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$15,999
SAVE \$12,800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2016 HYUNDAI SANTA FE SPORT SUV NEW Retail Price: ~~\$28,305~~
#H0560L • All-Wheel Drive, 27K Miles, Bluetooth, 17" Alloy Wheels, Satellite Radio.
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$16,999
SAVE \$11,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE SUV NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$26,470~~
#D9564R • 17" Alloy Wheels, iPod Input, 4x4, Remote Start, Back-Up Camera.
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$18,977
SAVE \$7,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2015 FORD EDGE SEL NEW Retail Price: ~~\$34,650~~
#P11988L • ALL-WHEEL DRIVE, LEATHER, NAV, TURBO, ALLOYS
WHOLESALE PRICE: \$21,355
SAVE \$13,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

SPECIAL PURCHASE #P11950R

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XLT TRIM 4X4
NEW RETAIL PRICE: ~~\$38,640~~
STARTING AT ONLY: **\$27,355**

9 Available

Heated Leather, Back-Up Cam, Nav, 8" LCD, Alloy Wheels!

SAVE \$11,300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

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