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# PUTNAM VILLAGER

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Photos Jason McKay

Killingly quarterback Thomas Dreiholz looks over the line before firing off a pass.

## ‘How you respond to that adversity is key’

### KILLINGLY NARROWLY ESCAPES CONTEST AGAINST BLOOMFIELD WITH VICTORY

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — Championship teams are referred to in that manner for lots of reasons, but every coach worth his whistle knows that the teams who have a large quantity of collective intestinal fortitude have an inside track to becoming one of those teams.

The Killingly High football team, the reigning Connecticut Class M champions, showed Friday, Sept. 23 against Bloomfield High — a perennial Class S power — why it might be on its way to a second straight state title.

Killingly High defeated the Warhawks, 28-22, at Morgan Field, despite trailing at all the stops — 8-0 at the end of the first quarter, 14-7 at halftime and 22-14 after three periods — except the last one.

How did Killingly engineer such a stirring comeback victory? Because head coach Chad Neal is worth his whistle and his team does have a huge amount of intestinal fortitude.

“All the credit goes to the kids,” Neal said. “We practice situations. We practice putting them through adversity. We practice failure. We set them up for failure during practice to see how they’ll respond. I think that’s important.

“Football’s a lot like life. You’re going to face adversity, you’re going to face difficult times and difficult things and how you respond to that adversity is the key,” Neal continued. “The kids just responded to the challenge. It was a great feeling to see that. Even more than the win, just seeing how they refused to give up on each other was rewarding for the coaching staff.”

Bloomfield used its speed in the running and passing game to jump out to a 14-0 lead.

The game started to turn for Killingly, ever so slightly, late in the first half. It all started with a 54-yard Tom Dreiholz punt that was downed at the Bloomfield 1-yard line. The Warhawks gained four yards on their ensuing possession and had to punt, and the punt traveled five yards.

On first-and-goal from the Bloomfield 9, Dreiholz hit Keith Perry in the end zone to get Killingly on the board. Perry made a great catch on the play, changing direction, leaping to grab the ball, and then maintaining possession of it as he tumbled to the ground. Dreiholz tacked on the extra point and, just like that, with 2:07 left in the first

Please Read **FOOTBALL**, page **A7**

## Thompson adopts PA-490 regulations for open space assessments

THOMPSON — At a Town Meeting held on July 26 of this year, the town of Thompson authorized the Assessor to accept applications under the Open Space classification of Public Act (PA) 490. The town took this action when the Assessor discovered, during the process of reviewing a new application, that the town had never followed the full legal process to allow residents access to that program when it was first put into practice in 1979; therefore, there was no legal ability for the town to accept new applicants, and in order to do so it was necessary for the town to correctly go through the steps to formally adopt the Open Space classification.

In the State of Connecticut, PA 490 and its related Statutes (CGS 7-131c and 12-107a to 12-107e) enable municipalities to reduce the tax assessment on land that is classified as Farmland, Forest Land or Open Space Land. Recognition of the Farmland and Forest Land Classifications is mandatory for all Connecticut municipalities. Acceptance of the Open Space Classification of PA 490 is left to the discretion of individual towns. Neither the reduced tax assessment nor the classification of Open Space afforded by PA 490 protects any land permanently; rather, there is a minimum enrollment period of 10 years during which the designated parcel must remain undeveloped or risk financial penalties. Enrollment runs with the owner, not with the land; therefore, with each change of ownership the classification must be sought again

by any new owner.

During the Town Meeting to adopt the required Ordinance authorizing the Open Space Classification, the Assessor proposed the following provision for valuation under Open Space:

“Any land that receives Open Space Classification shall have an assessed value set at 25 [percent] of the excess acreage value set at the time of revaluation.”

This was proposed in order to remove subjectivity from the valuation process, and was calculated by the Assessor to provide a more favorable assessment for the majority of the participants in the prior, improperly administered Open Space program. During that meeting, a group of residents successfully overrode the Assessor’s recommendation and compelled the Town to change the text of the Ordinance. A motion was made by William Warner and seconded by Sarah White to strike the recommended 25 percent valuation and instead state that the assessed value shall be “by the State of Connecticut Office of Policy Management PA 490 State Wide Recommended Land Use Values.” The rationale presented for this amendment was that those who proposed it believed that it would keep the assessed values as they had been in the improperly administered program. The Ordinance was passed with that amendment.

The result of this change has been that, while most property owners have seen an insignificant

Please Read **P490**, page **A5**

## Aspinock Historical Society celebrates 50 years

BY JASON BLEAU  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM — The Aspinock Historical Society celebrated 50 years of preserving Putnam’s history on Saturday, Sept. 24 with a special reception and presentation on the history of the School Street area of town at Putnam’s new town hall.

The Historical Society has gained significantly increased attention in recent years as Putnam Mayor Barney Seney and others in town have worked to help increase awareness of the Society’s mission and important role of preserving Putnam’s storied history. The Society was gifted space in Putnam’s new town hall during its construction, providing them with a new meeting area much larger than their previous home, and in January the Society opened a time capsule that was locked for 25 years. The Historical Society operates a research center and museum at the town hall as well as the popular Boxcar Museum, a tribute to Putnam’s own Gertrude Chandler Warner,

who created the beloved “Boxcar Children” book series and was reopened in April after a lengthy renovation.

While their official anniversary wasn’t until Sept. 26, the Society held a public gathering a few days early to thank members and supporters for helping the Society become one of the most visible and notable historical preservation efforts in the Quiet Corner and beyond.

“I want to say a special thanks to our members, our supporters, and a special ‘thank you’ to all of the Aspinock’s volunteers that research, archive, greet visitors, and staff the Boxcar. They all work hard to keep our mission alive to preserve our local history,” said Historical Society President John Miller.

Mayor Seney also shared some works for the Historical Society which he praised as one of the best in the state.

“It’s because of the people within the society that make

Please Read **ASPINOCK**, page **A5**

## “Clue” takes the stage at Bradley Playhouse



Photo Courtesy

Front row: Robert Ellis III (Professor Plum) and Rose Gage (Miss Scarlet). Back row: Neal Martel (Colonel Mustard), Krissi Forgues (Mrs. White), Wadsworth (Nicholas Magrey), Preston Arnold (Mr. Green), Christine Crugnola Petruniwi (Mrs. Peacock).

PUTNAM — Mrs. Peacock in the library with the candlestick? Colonel Mustard in the billiard room with the knife? A lot of us spent hours trying to solve murders with a board game called Clue. You can relive these memories, or participate for the first time, when the Theatre of Northeastern Connecticut at the Bradley Playhouse presents “Clue: On Stage.” The show opens on Oct. 7 and runs for three weekends.

Join us for a madcap, slapstick evening full of murder, mystery and laughs. Come to Mr. Boddy’s dinner party and see if you can solve the murders.

Performances are Oct. 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 9, 16 and 23 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$18 for seniors, students, veterans and first responders.

“Clue: On Stage” was written by Sandy Rustin, with additional material by

Please Read **CLUE**, page **A4**



# The history of Putnam Heights



KILLINGLY  
AT 300  
MARGARET  
WEAVER

Mark your calendars: The Killingly Historical Center will be closed Saturday, Oct. 8. Instead of doing genealogical research, help celebrate the 50th anniversaries of the Killingly Historical Society and the Aspinock Historical Society of Putnam at Walktober at the Cady-Copp Anniversary Walk on Putnam Heights (Route 21) from 10 a.m.-noon. The Cottage, which is usually closed, will be open during the walk. Park on the common near the meetinghouse. The walk is #104 in the Last Green Valley Walktober calendar (p.23). Visit [TheLastGreenValley.org](http://TheLastGreenValley.org) for walks, changes, additions, and cancellations.

First, I have a correction to the Sept. 23 column. Marian Hallowell is the Vice-Regent and Registrar of the Sarah Williams Danielson Chapter of the D.A.R. Angela Fichter is the Regent. My apologies for the incorrect identification.

This week, I thought I'd give you a little background information about Killingly Hill/Putnam Heights in preparation for our Walktober Walk on Oct. 8. There will be no way to talk about everything that has transpired there on the day of the walk. Most of the earliest inhabitants of present-day Putnam Heights lived north of the junction of present-day Heritage Road, Five Mile River Road, and Liberty Highway (Route 21). Richard Evans and his adult son Richard Evans, Jr. had settled near present Fox Road in Putnam circa 1693.

Members of the Cady family arrived about 1704 and owned rich land near present-day Upper Walnut Street and Tourtellotte Road. John Allyn purchased a farm, which extended from the bottom of the hill to present-day Pierce Road. Peter Aspinwall and his step-sons Joseph and James Leavens lived on the westerly side of the hill. The earliest road wound around the hill and was not formally laid out over the top until about 1730. John Fisk was ordained as minister of Killingly's First Congregational Church in 1715; his home was on the southerly side of present-day Heritage Road near the intersection with the road to Oxford and Boston (Route 21). The first meetinghouse for Killingly was at erected at the base of the hill, a little south of the present Killingly-Putnam town line in 1715. During this earliest settlement phase, the houses were spread out so there was not really a little village. At this early date Killingly extended from Plainfield to the Massachusetts colony line.

Until Putnam was incorporated in 1855, present-day Putnam Heights was known as Killingly Hill. It was the oldest "village" in Killingly, developing around the circa 1745-6 meetinghouse that was constructed at the brow of the hill, south of the present structure. What I consider its colonial period and ran until the Revolution and the Declaration of Independence and encompassed the ministries of Rev. Perley Howe and his successor Rev. Aaron Brown who married Howe's widow Damaris (Cady). The home of minister Perley Howe and his family was located north of the present-day common. This ca 1745/6 dwelling, the Cady-Copp Cottage, is still standing, and is now owned by the Aspinock Historical Society of Putnam. It has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places. Reverend Aaron Brown tutored a number of Killingly

young men for Yale there including Manassah Cutler who entered Yale in 1761. As a member of Congress Cutler was the co-author of the Ordinance of 1787 that led to the settlement of the future states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Cutler insisted that these not be slave states. During the 1740's-1780's the residence of the local physician Dr. Thomas Moffitt was located across from the present Putnam Heights cemetery. The ca 1742 Felshaw Tavern, still situated at the junction of Route 21 and Five Mile River Road, was another important fixture of this earliest Killingly village. In the 18th century, the village tavern was a gathering place and the source of the latest news from elsewhere. The village pound was close by, near the intersection of Wilson Road and Five Mile River Road. A blacksmith shop was not far away on Five Mile River Road. On the easterly side of Killingly Hill, Five Mile River provided abundant waterpower and was utilized for grist and sawmills beginning in the 1720's.

The Walktober walk will concentrate on the buildings around the training field/common and will go from the meetinghouse to Cady-Copp Cottage. However, since you might drive past the other old homes on the hill, the above information provides a little background on the area.

Residents of Killingly and Northeastern Connecticut had many family and economic ties to the greater Boston area. During the Revolutionary period, the British closing of the port of Boston and the Lexington Alarm impacted most local families. In early 1775 the present common was purchased and became the training field for the local militia.

The death of Reverend Aaron Brown in the fall of 1775, while returning home from the funeral of his stepson minister Joseph Howe, followed by the demise of the grieving mother and

widow Damaris Cady Howe Brown in February 1776 occurred near the end of the colonial period of Killingly Hill's development. These deaths paved the way for the "Copp" era of the Cady-Copp Cottage. Next week I'll write about the Cops, the Howe Turnpike, the construction of the houses across from the training field/common, the Putnam Heights Cemetery, U.S. Commissioner of Education William Torrey Harris, and the tower that once stood on Putnam Heights.


Sunday, Oct. 9 from 3-4:30 p.m., join the Unitarian Universalist Society in Brooklyn at 7 Canterbury Rd. at Route 6 for their Walktober Walk: Social Ferment and the Old Meetinghouse (Ages 12 and up only). Visit the restored 1771 Meeting House and hear about its history and this part of Windham County. Learn about religious crises and impassioned social movements (1815-1875) that emanated from the Meeting House and nearby citizens' homes. Subjects include Israel Putnam, Josiah Whitney, Samuel J. May, (anti-slavery and women's rights activist), Bronson Alcott (the father of Louisa May Alcott) and early female minister Celia Burleigh.

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



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## WA increases student support with addition of substance abuse counselor

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Academy has proudly partnered with Project Courage, a behavioral and mental health center specializing in substance use prevention and recovery, for

the 2022-23 school year. The partnership agreement will provide a trained substance abuse counselor on-site at The Woodstock Academy two days per week to support students in need.

With concern for youth mental health and substance abuse on the rise across the country, The Woodstock Academy is dedicated to prioritizing the health and well-being of its students and supporting local families. This additional layer of support will allow struggling students to work with a certified counselor to address the underlying causes of their substance use, while also providing training and education to faculty, staff, and the greater community.

"We are excited to begin our partnership with Project Courage to establish a drug and alcohol counseling office at The Woodstock Academy," said Dean of Student Affairs Karin Hughes. "Expanding education within our local area is a necessary strategy for preventing future substance use among our youth."

In spring 2022, The Woodstock Academy secured a grant of \$200,000 to launch a substance abuse counseling office for the first time in school history. The grant was made possible with the support of State Representative Pat Boyd.

"This funding will allow The Woodstock Academy to fill a critical need in the area, and we are proud to help support students, families, and the local community by approaching this issue head-on," said Boyd.



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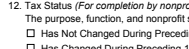
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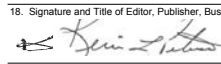
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# Sandy Kirca named Employee of the Month at Country Living at Westview Commons



Sandy Kirca

DAYVILLE — Sandra Kirca, RN has earned the August Employee of the Month award for Country Living at Westview Commons. She takes on important roles and responsibilities as the Nurse Supervisor of Westview Commons’ Assisted Living Services Agency; strategizing and implementing additional health care provisions for the residents who utilize assisted living care within this Dayville living community. Sandy started with the Westview family of companies at Westview Health Care Center in August of 2019; initially providing nursing care at the skilled nursing facility. In April of 2021, as Westview Commons’ assisted living services expanded in capability and demand, Sandra accepted the offer for the position she currently holds as the Nurse Supervisor of Westview Commons’ Assisted Living Services.

Kirca’s career has accumulated to this point with complementary experiences leading to her present role. She began her professional path as a Certified Nursing Assistant in another skilled nursing facility, and while working there, she pursued a degree as a Registered Nurse from the Community College of Rhode Island; graduating in 2001. At other stages of her career, she has also provided nursing services in patients’ own home-care settings. According to her, she loves how her position at Westview Commons aligns some of her favorite aspects of senior care: personal connections established by caring for residents in their individual units, while simultaneously having

a centrally-organized facility to make the logistics of multiple care cases that easier.

No matter what her role is, Kirca will always remain a nurse in her heart and mind.

“Although Country Living at Westview Commons isn’t a skilled nursing care setting, my work here still benefits from the critical thinking I have learned to apply from my experiences as a Registered Nurse at places like Westview Health Care Center,” she stated. “When someone is having a medical issue in either setting, I always take a careful look at the patient or resident themselves; directly analyzing their appearance and presentation with as much concentration as I use when I am looking at their health records and laboratory results.”

Her education provides her with the knowledge to understand complex medical issues, and her experience provides her with the wisdom to use common sense when applicable.

Kirca lives in Killingly with her German Shepherd “Leyna” and her Silky Terrier “Bella.” Her parents, Janice and Arthur Craven, Jr., live in nearby Willimantic, and she appreciates spending time with them as often as she can. She and her two sons, Jeremy and Seth, share strong bonds together and are very proud of their collective accomplishments in life. Sibling harmony is felt throughout many generations in Sandy’s family. She cherishes her connections with her sister Carolyn Shegonee and her brothers Arthur Craven III, George Craven, Michael Craven, and Robert Craven.

For recreational activities, Kirca enjoys playing disc golf, card games, and pool—particularly, in competitive pool tournaments that have provided her with the chance to travel all across the United States. She loves to throw rounds of disc golf at the numerous public courses in Connecticut and Massachusetts, or at the private course that a friend recently built on their property. Aerobic dance classes are another favored athletic venture for her; with Sandy appreciating its unique blend of exercise and fun. To nurture her creative passions, she reads fictional murder-mystery novels, and delights in acrylic painting and household do-it-yourself projects like refurbishing furniture. Sandy has fun attending sporting events to root for baseball’s Boston Red Sox and football’s Pittsburgh Steelers whenever possible. She finds further entertain-

ment through her passion for planning robust concert experiences with her friends and family; especially appreciating the contemporary country music artists and classic rock legends that she has been fortunate to see performing live.

Kirca hopes to continue evolving her work with the residents at Westview Commons by sharing more education about their individual and group needs. She believes that many of the challenges that seniors deal with can be alleviated—and in many cases, prevented—with proper knowledge. In receiving this Employee of the Month designation, her reaction reflects her satisfaction and sureness in the daily joy she finds at Westview Commons.

“Earning Employee of the Month was a complete surprise to me—and it is well appreciated! It is such a pleasure coming to work here at Westview Commons each day; working with a great group of residents and working alongside a great group of colleagues! I’ve never seen a happier and more helpful group of people. It’s great to see how our staff help residents to accomplish their goals, and it is especially heartwarming when I see residents helping other residents,” she remarked.

Country Living at Westview Commons’ Executive Vice President David T. Panteleakos has high praise for Sandy in achieving this accomplishment. “Sandy offers a tremendous resource to our residents here as our Assisted Living Services Nurse Supervisor with years of experience in senior care settings. Our residents are well considered and cared for by our leadership team, and I am very apprec-

iative of Sandy’s thoughtful insights during our discussions. I celebrate this recognition for her—congratulations to Sandy!”

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

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## Putnam Library Author Series continues this month

PUTNAM — The Putnam Library Author Series continues this fall with events in October and November.

On Saturday, Oct. 8, from 1-2:30 p.m., Pomfret Poets Laureate Christine Kalafus and Nancy Weiss will switch it up and read from their prose work (memoir and other nonfiction writing). They will also talk about how writing prose challenges them differently than writing poetry. Christine is an award winning writer (memoirist, poet, and novelist) who lives here in the Quiet Corner, teaches through the Westport Writers Workshop, and is a past editor of The Pitkin Review. Nancy Weiss is also writer with many hats; besides being a poet, she is best known in the area as a regular columnist for the Putnam Villager writing about the seasons, her travels, and so much more.

Then, on Saturday, Nov. 5, from 1-2:30 p.m., debut novelist Susanne Davis, from northeast Connecticut, will be the Author Series’ featured reader. She received her MFA from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop, America’s most prestigious writing program. Her work has been published in American Short Fiction, Notre Dame Review, descant, Clackamas Literary Review; Amethyst Review, Fredericksburg Literary and Art Review, and numerous other journals. She will be reading from her debut novel, “Gravity Hill,” that is set here in the Quiet Corner and features the Sterling landmark named in the title. A new novel, “Stray Dog, Watch Over,” was a finalist for the novel prize at Black Lawrence Press.

The Putnam Library Author Series will continue in April and May 2023.

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# Eastern to host Second Congressional District debate

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University will host a debate for the Second Congressional District on Oct. 4 as part of a series of election-season debates sponsored by Connecticut Public and the Connecticut League of Women Voters. Occurring at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Instructional Center Concert Hall, the debate will feature incumbent Democratic Sen. Joe Courtney and Republican candidate Mike France, and is moderated by Connecticut Public reporter Catherine Shen.

The event is part of a series of eight debates host-

ed at colleges and universities statewide in advance of the November 2022 general election. This year's elections include offices of Governor, U.S. Senate, Secretary of the State, and Connecticut's five U.S. Congressional districts.

The location of the Congressional debates at colleges and universities in the districts was designed with the goal of including as many students and young people as possible in the debate process. A limited number of tickets will be available to Eastern students, staff and faculty. Ticketing information will be

released at a later date.

Each debate will feature a live audience and will be broadcast and streamed on Connecticut Public platforms, including CPTV, ctpublic.org, YouTube and Facebook Live, as well as the LWVCT website and YouTube channel. The debates will also be simulcast on Connecticut Public Radio (WNPR 88.5 FM and 90.5 FM, and streaming at ctpublic.org). Each debate will be moderated by Connecticut Public journalists. The debate series will also be produced as podcasts, accessible via the App Store, Google Play and other common podcast platforms.

In addition, a live stream will be offered to any media outlet or organization in the state that would like to stream

the debates through their platform.

"We are thrilled for the opportunity to collaborate with the League of Women Voters to bring these debates to the people of Connecticut," said Tim Rasmussen, Chief Content Officer of Connecticut Public. "This ambitious, comprehensive debate series will provide voters with direct access to candidates—something that is essential for a healthy democracy and building trust in our election process. As Connecticut's non-profit public media source, Connecticut Public and our journalists are highly trusted by our viewers and listeners, and we are pleased to be able to help inform and educate our electorate and hold our elected representatives accountable."

"The League is very excited to partner with Connecticut Public to bring these debates to the public," said Laura Smits, President of the League of Women Voters of Connecticut. "We both share a vision of offering voters direct access to the candidates in a straightforward and non-partisan way. Right now, in a world with so much access to information, it's important that voters can hear from voices they can trust. Connecticut Public's reputation for solid journalism combined with our expertise in hosting fair debates is a terrific combination and should give voters confidence that, in the century-old tradition of the League, we will ensure the fairness and transparency of the electoral process."



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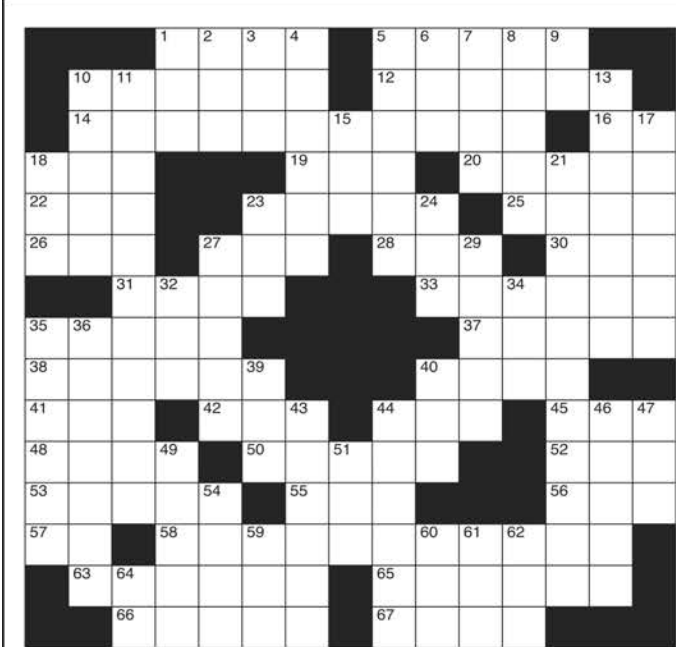
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Crops sown in winter in India

5. Nursemaids in East Asia

10. Investigates

12. Treated like a child

14. About religious belief

16. Widely used exclamation

18. Car mechanics group

19. Not good

20. Indigenous people of Alberta

22. Everyone has one

23. Fencing sword

25. Soaks

26. The human foot

27. Of she

28. Erythrocyte (abbr.)

30. Soldiers

31. Energy, style and enthusiasm

33. Playwright O'Neill

35. Stone parsley

37. Small stones
38. Gas descriptor

40. Monetary unit of Samoa

41. Jeans manufacturer

42. NHL great Bobby

44. Cool!

45. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!

48. Winged

50. Partner to "oohed"

52. Defensive nuclear weapon

53. Coated

55. Furry household friend

56. Chinese principle underlying the universe

57. Prefix meaning "within"

58. Makes easier

63. Transferred property

65. Branched

66. Hillsides

67. Abba \_\_, Israeli diplomat

CLUES DOWN

1. Eggs in a female fish

2. Military mailbox

3. Unit to compare power levels

4. Line on a map connecting similar points

5. One who accepts

6. Partner to cheese

7. Ancient Greek sophist

8. About hilus

9. Southeast

10. Where actors ply their trade

11. Beloved Philly sandwich

13. Intend

15. Talk excessively

17. Bronx cheers

18. Drain

21. Renews

23. Monetary unit in Asia

24. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)

27. Carthaginian statesman

29. Aged
32. Mauna \_\_, Hawaiian volcano

34. Firearm

35. Consolation

36. An island in the north Atlantic

39. Pitching statistic

40. Disconsolate

43. A part of a river where the current is very fast

44. Call it a career

46. Behave in a way that degrades someone

47. Health insurance

49. Recommend

51. Baltic peninsula

54. Father

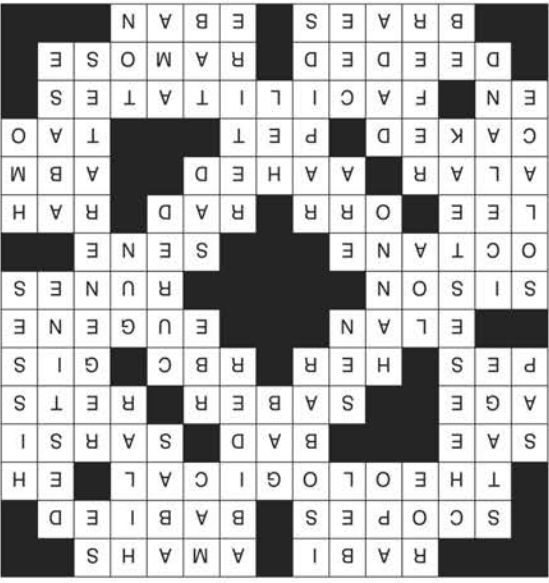
59. After B

60. Bar bill

61. Doctors' group

62. 2,000 lbs.

64. Equal to one quintillion bytes.



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Photo Courtesy

AMAC GrandMaster Ken Saucier is pleased to announce their newest 1st Dan Blackbelts! Congratulations to Donna Gilbert, (Webster), Tyler Benoit, Chris Benoit, Heather Benoit, (Sterling, Conn.).

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## CLUE

continued from page A1

Hunter Foster and Eric Price, and based on the screenplay by Jonathan Lynn from the 1985 film and the Hasbro board game Clue. The film featured Martin Mull as Colonel Mustard, Madeline Kahn as Mrs. White, Christopher Lloyd as Professor Plum, Tim Curry as Wadsworth and Lesley Ann Warren as Miss Scarlet.

It's a dark and stormy night, and you've been invited to a very unusual dinner party. Each of the guests has an alias, the butler offers a variety of weapons, and the host is, well . . . dead. So whodunnit? Join the iconic oddballs known as Scarlet, Plum, White, Green, Peacock, and Mustard as they race to find the murderer in Boddy Manor before the body count stacks up. Based on the cult classic film and the popular board game, Clue is a madcap comedy that will keep you guessing until the final twist.

The TNET production of Clue: On Stage is directed by Jeremy Woloski. The suspects include Wadsworth the butler, played by Nicholas Magrey, who is assisted by Yvette the maid, portrayed by Laurie Neal. The madcap and possibly murderous guests include Rose Gage as Miss Scarlet, Christine Crugnola Petruniw appearing as Mrs. Peacock and Krissi Forgues as Mrs. White. The gentlemen are Neal Martel playing Colonel Mustard, Robert Ellis III as Professor Plum and Preston Arnold appearing as Mr. Green. The cast is completed by Alex Gardner, Maegan Kelley and Wladimir Petruniw.

Masks are encouraged for anyone who is unvaccinated or at high risk, but they are not required. This policy is subject to change, so check the Bradley website for any updates prior to attending.

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



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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 Sept. 19: Connecticut Warbler, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Parula Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Merlin, Black and White Warbler, White-eyed Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, White-throated Sparrow, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Hummingbird, Chimney Swift, American Redstart, Scarlet Tanager. Visit [ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home](http://ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home).



# Harvesting red and green tomatoes



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

Nothing beats the flavor of fresh-from-the-garden tomatoes. Harvesting when they are fully ripe ensures the best flavor for eating fresh, cooking, and preserving.

Visit your garden often and watch for the fruit to turn from green to fully colored. Then leave them on the plant for five to eight days. Vine-ripened tomatoes have the best flavor for using fresh or preserving.

Check plants regularly and keep harvesting, so the plants continue to produce. This also reduces problems with insects and disease organisms attacking overripe or rotting fruit. Store mature, fully colored tomatoes in cool, 45-to-50-degree conditions with high humidity. They will last about seven to 14 days in these conditions.

When growing indeterminate tomatoes, you will notice the plants keep growing and producing more flowers and fruit until the frost kills the plant. Redirect the plant's energy from sprouting new blossoms and fruit to ripening the fruit that is already on the plant. Prune off the stem tip of indeterminate tomatoes about a month before the average first fall frost in your area. This allows the existing flowers to develop into fruit and the existing fruit to mature before the end of the growing season.

Extend the harvest season with the help of floating row covers. These fabrics allow air, light, and water through, but trap heat around the plants. Protecting plants from the first few fall frosts often provides time for more tomatoes to ripen.

Sometimes you cannot protect plants from frost or hungry critters prevent you from leaving the tomatoes on the plant to fully ripen. You can pick any tomatoes that are starting to show color before the killing frost and finish ripening them indoors. The blossom end should be greenish white or starting to color up. Use blemished and cracked fruit right away since these do not store well.

Store green and under-ripe tomatoes in a cool 60-to-65-degree location to maximize their storage life. Set the tomatoes on heavy paper spread apart so they are not touching. Or wrap them individually in newspaper so the fruit do not make direct contact. This helps prevent rot spreading from one fruit to the next.

These tomatoes will ripen over the next few weeks. You can speed up the process by moving a few tomatoes to a bright, warm location a few days before they are needed.

Extend the tomato season next year by growing a Long Keeper. The flavor is not as good as vine-ripened fruit, but you can pick these before the first fall frost and enjoy garden tomatoes for up to three months.

And don't let the rest of the green tomatoes go to waste. Use them for frying, chow chow, green salsa, and other tasty treats.

Keep harvesting and enjoying your garden-fresh tomatoes as long as your growing season allows. Then make



Photo Melinda Myers

**'Tye Dye' tomato in the garden with red and green tomatoes to harvest.**

space to store them a few weeks after the first fall frost.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardeners Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).



Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.  
– Benjamin Franklin  
[www.860Local.com](http://www.860Local.com)

## P490

continued from page A1

nificant change in their assessed land values, many of Thompson's largest landowners have seen a substantial increase in their tax assessment. This is because the Town has access to better, more accurate data than was available in 1979. Due to this unexpected result, some residents have made allegations of impropriety; however, following a very detailed review of all parcels previously assessed as Open Space, the Assessor has created a classification process that is verifiable and repeatable, uses the best tools available to the Town and treats all parcels and landowners equally within that process. As required by the adopted Ordinance, all classifications of Open Space types have been determined by using the State of Connecticut's recommended

land use values, as determined by the Office of Policy Management.

The enrollment period for the PA 490 Open Space classification is currently open through Oct. 31 to Thompson landowners who have property fitting the criteria for consideration (three or more acres of unbuilt and undeveloped land). Residents with questions regarding the program, or the reasons for any changes in their assessment under the program, are encouraged to reach out to the Assessor for a thorough review of their applications.



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## ASPINOCK

continued from page A1

it work," said Seney. "I can't thank the Historical Society enough for what they've done – I'm just so proud of them because this is our history. I'm a history buff myself, and we have to preserve history because that's what it's all about. We can look back fifty or sixty years ago and that's all part of our history that should be preserved."

The 50th anniversary was accompanied by a special presentation called "History of School Street Area in Putnam" which chronicled the historical significance of Putnam's School Street and its ties to the growth of the town in both the past and present.



Photo Courtesy

**John Miller, President of the Aspinock Historical Society, welcomes guests to the Society's 50th Anniversary Celebration.**



## Our momentum began with a covenant 128 years ago. Today, it's time to soar.

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# SPORTS

## Centaur's narrowly lose back-and-forth decision to Windham



Photos Jason McKay

Samuel Clark of Woodstock Academy runs toward Windham's quarterback in an attempt to block his pass.

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — The third time was definitely not the charm the Woodstock Academy football team hoped it would be in its game with Windham High on Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Bentley Athletic Complex.

Twice in the first three quarters the Centaurs fell behind the Whippets and both times Woodstock Academy came back to take the lead. The third time Windham went ahead in the game, however, the Centaurs tried valiantly to again reclaim the advantage, only to come up a few yards short.

Because of that, the end result of the game for Woodstock Academy was a 20-14 loss to the Whippets before a vocal, enthusiastic and supportive Homecoming crowd.

"That's a really good football team. They have a lot of experience, a lot of starters back," Connor Elliott, Woodstock Academy's interim head coach said, noting that 30 members of

this year's team — including 15 seniors and four juniors — were on the 2021 Windham squad, which finished 5-5. "That team is a state tournament-quality team in my opinion. They gave us all we could handle last year [in a 40-27 Woodstock win], too."

Elliott continues to fill in as head coach for Sean Saucier, who remains away from the team to be with his son, Braiden, a senior at Woodstock Academy and the Centaurs' starting quarterback.

Braiden Saucier remains hospitalized after suffering what the school called a "serious medical emergency" in Woodstock Academy's season-opening game at Enfield High on Friday, Sept. 9. The game was suspended after Braiden Saucier was taken from the game to Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, Mass.

Kaylee Saucier, wearing her older brother's No. 10 home game jersey, participated in the coin toss prior to the game, taking Braiden Saucier's spot at



Woodstock Academy quarterback Teddy Richardson hands the ball off to teammate Trevor Savoie.

midfield with the Centaurs' other captains — Trevor Savoie, Austin Amlaw, Evan Roy and Jared Eaton. Kaylee Saucier is a freshman at Woodstock Academy.

"He's doing OK, he's continuing to get better," Kaylee Saucier said when asked how her brother's recovery is progressing. "He's just chilling out today, watching the game."

Windham (3-0) went ahead for the final — and most important — time, with 10 minutes remaining in the game. Whippets' quarterback Zach Robinson-Smey turned a 14-12 deficit into an 18-14 lead when he found the end zone on a 4-yard, left-side run on first-and-goal. Robinson-Smey then pushed the lead to 20-14 when he hit Travis Mangual Jr., with a two-point conversion toss.

Woodstock (1-1) began the ensuing drive at its own 36-yard line and moved methodically down the field, picking up three first downs, the last of which came at the Windham 18-yard line. On first-and-10 at the 18, Amlaw powered his way for four yards, setting up a second-and-six situation at the Windham 14-yard line.

On second down Woodstock quarterback Teddy Richardson (13-of-27, 136 yards, one TD) was sacked while drop-

ping back to pass, losing five yards on the play. Richardson then threw an incomplete pass on third down. On fourth-and-11 from the Whippets' 19-yard line, Richardson hit senior Carter Morissette over the middle, but Woodstock could only manage to pick up 10 yards on the play, so possession of the ball went over to Windham with 4:10 remaining.

"We had a pretty good drive going, but we had some miscommunication [on the sack] and that ultimately forced us into a fourth-and-11 to keep the drive going," Elliott said. "On the fourth down play I feel we didn't get a favorable placement from the official when he was spotting the ball."

The Centaurs' defense quickly forced the Whippets into a three-and-out and, after a 10-yard punt return by Amlaw, Woodstock had one final chance to win the game, starting its final drive on the Windham 45-yard line.

Everything that could go wrong on that drive seemingly did; Richardson was sacked three times and the Centaurs were called for two false-start penalties. The drive, and the game, ended with an incomplete pass from the Woodstock

Turn To **CENTAURS** page **A11**

## HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

### Two-win week for Woodstock Academy volleyball

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

The Woodstock Academy girls' volleyball team won its first two matches last week before suffering its first loss of the season, 3-2, at Norwich Free Academy (NFA) on Friday, Sept. 23. Earlier in the week the Centaurs defeated Coventry (3-2, Wednesday, Sept. 21) and Killingly (3-0, Monday, Sept. 19) on the road.

In the loss to NFA the teams split the first four sets with NFA taking the first (25-22) and third (25-21) sets while Woodstock took the second and fourth by identical 25-19 scores. NFA (2-2) won the fifth set, 16-14. Liliana Bottone led the Centaurs (6-1) with 17 kills, Morgan Bonin added 10 and Sophie Gronski had 35 assists.

In the win over Coventry WA lost the first set (23-25), won the second and third (25-13 and 25-15, respectively) lost the fourth set (22-25) and then won the match-deciding fifth set (16-14).

With 25 digs Ellie Nunes was the Centaurs' defensive standout while opponents Reegan Reynolds had 16 kills and Bottone added 14. Gronski set up the kills executed by Reynolds

and Bottone all night, finishing with 26 assists.

In Woodstock's straight-set (25-14, 25-21, 25-11) win over Killingly Gronski recorded 22 assists and 11 digs. Bottone had 12 kills and Nunes added seven digs defensively for the Centaurs. Killingly was led by Hailey Merritt (three blocks, three kills), Shanaya Brown (six kills), Chloe Yip (13 digs), Chloe Difusco (two blocks, five assists), Grace Deslauriers (five assists), and Jocelyn Crowley (four kills).

**Girls' Soccer**

Ellis Tech improved to 1-1 with an 8-3 road win over Grasso Tech on Tuesday, Sept. 20. Striker Tori Iozzi led the Golden Eagles to the victory by scoring six goals while Liliana Wong Kam netted a pair. Emily Fryer recorded two assists while Allie Calle had one. Julie MacCracken (10 saves) and Hailey Keefe (six saves) split the win in net.

**Elsewhere:**

Woodstock Academy went 1-0-1 last week, defeating NFA, 3-2 in overtime, on Tuesday, Sept. 20 before tying Valley Regional 1-1 on Saturday, Sept. 24. In



Photo Courtesy

Woodstock Academy's volleyball-playing seniors are, from left, Ellie Nunes, Jade Desmond, Morgan Bonin and Leila MacKinnon.

the road win over NFA Bella Mawson won the game for the Centaurs, scoring in overtime off an assist from Leah Costa. Also scoring in the game for 2-3-1 WA were Costa and Grace Gelhaus. Costa, off an assist from Gelhaus, scored the Centaurs' lone goal against Valley Regional.

**Boys' Soccer**

Cameron Fulone scored two goals and assisted on another to lead visiting Ellis Tech past Cheney Tech, 4-1, on Thursday, Sept. 22. Hunter Giovanni and Cody Cramer also scored and Cramer picked up an assist for the 2-1-1 Golden Eagles.

**Elsewhere:**

Ethan Lackner and Harry Giambattista each scored twice for Killingly in

a 5-0 road victory over Wheeler on Tuesday, Sept. 20. John Fitzgibbons scored Killingly's other goal while Ryan Rattray recorded two assists. Trent Pichie posted the shutout in net, making nine saves. Killingly (3-2-1) was shutout by Montville, 2-0 on the road on Saturday, Sept. 24.

**Field Hockey**

After beginning the season 0-2, Killingly High has won three straight, including a road win over Woodstock Academy (2-0, Thursday, Sept. 22) and a home victory over NFA (3-2 in overtime, Tuesday, Sept. 20). In the win over the Centaurs Lilah Dunn and Aila Gutierrez both scored, and Alexis Rainey notched an assist. Gutierrez led the way against NFA, scoring two goals — including the game winner — and assisting on the other, which was scored by Dunn.

Turn To **NOTEBOOK** page **A14**

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# SPORTS

## Youth hockey returns to Northeast Connecticut

POMFRET, Conn. — The long-time tradition of youth hockey in Northeastern Connecticut is about to enter a new chapter. Beginning this season, the Connecticut Outlaws will provide learn-to-skate, learn-to-play, and hockey skills programs at Pomfret School's Jahn Rink.

Outlaws Hockey will continue the tradition of Griffin Youth Hockey which over the past 50 years has established a rich legacy of teaching hundreds of children in our area to skate, play, and love the game of hockey.

Now, those opportunities will be provided by the Connecticut Outlaws, a program affiliated with the Central Mass Outlaws who play out of the New England Sports Center in Marlboro. The Central Mass Outlaws feature learn-to-play and hockey skills programs under the tutelage of former

### CT OUTLAWS TO OFFER INSTRUCTIONAL AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS AT POMFRET'S JAHN RINK



NHL and NCAA Division 1 stars.

Long-time GYHA coach skating instructor Andre Bessette will oversee skating and hockey skills programs for the coming year and will continue to team with several of his experienced GYHA coaches. Andre has helped hundreds of young kids learn to skate, play their first hockey games, and devel-

op into high school and hockey players.

Over the past 10 years, the Outlaws have grown into one of the largest programs in the Premier Hockey League of New England. Under the current board of directors the program more than doubled in that time, with 18 Outlaws teams competing at various levels last season. The Outlaws

first-time beginners to accomplished players. Additionally, top players will be offered to opportunity to play in Tier 1 leagues through the Outlaws.

House League programs will continue for all players ages five and up for the coming season. Young players will progress from half-ice to full-ice games.

"We are thrilled to share our passion and experience for the incredible game of hockey with young players in Northeast Connecticut," said the Outlaws Hockey Board of Directors. "We look forward to building upon the great history of Griffin Youth Hockey in the coming weeks."

Programs at Jahn Rink will begin in October. All players interested in learn-to-skate, learn-to-play, and House League hockey should register immediately at <http://www.outlawshockey.com>.



### FOOTBALL

continued from page A1

half, Killingly was back in the game, trailing 14-7.

Bloomfield answered Killingly's touchdown with one of its own on the opening drive of the second half. The Warhawks then added a two-point conversion to push their lead to 22-7.

"That was very deflating. We had them backed up and they got out of it, but we didn't have time to focus on that. We had to move on to the next play," Neal said. "At those times, especially football, is about believing in each other. It's about believing in the guy next to you, and it's about believing in yourself. These kids do that. This was a tremendous win. This was a program win."

Killingly cut its deficit to eight, 22-14, with 2:57 remaining in the third quarter, thanks to a one-play drive that was set up by the defense, cornerback Braden Pedersen (six tackles, two interceptions) jumping on a Bloomfield fumble on the Warhawks' 38-yard line.

As he was being drilled in the chest by a blitzing Bloomfield linebacker Dreibholz (12-of-17, 157 yards, 4 touchdowns) deliv-

Killingly's Soren Rief carries the ball and employs a stiff-arm to a Bloomfield defender.

ered a perfect pass to Ben Jax (5 catches, 92 yards) who split between two defenders and leaped high in the air to make the catch. As soon as his feet hit the ground Jax raced into the end zone. Dreibholz, again, added the extra point.

On the first play of the fourth quarter Pedersen stopped another Bloomfield drive, intercepting a pass at the Killingly 5-yard line. Pederson's pick led to a 95-yard, nine-play drive which was capped by a 5-yard scoring strike from Dreibholz to Noah Colangelo, on fourth-and-goal. Soren Rief (17 carries, 111 yards) had runs of 20 and 50 yards on the drive.

With seven minutes left in the game Killingly had cut its deficit to two points, 22-20.

On Bloomfield's ensuing possession the Warhawks committed their third straight drive-ending turnover, quarterback Darren Foster fumbling as he was sacked by Brady O'Donnell. Killingly's Terrence Allen recovered the ball at the Bloomfield 44-yard line. The ball-hawking Killing defense came up with five turnovers in the game (three interceptions and two fumble



Ben Jax of Killingly gains some valuable yardage after dragging down a Bloomfield defender.



Devin Exarhoulias of Killingly sizes up Bloomfield's ball carrier, going in for the tackle.

down," Colangelo said. "I just tried to keep my eyes on it. I didn't want it to hit my face-mask."

Bloomfield's final drive of the game went nowhere, and the Warhawks gave the ball back to Killingly on its own 36-yard line with 52 seconds remaining. Dreibholz took a knee and the win was secured.

"This win was all about how we responded. We were down

14-0, we come back and cut it to 14-7 at the half and then we just went out and played our game in the second half," Dreibholz said. "We knew we were the better-conditioned team and that worked in our favor. We knew we had the win in us, but we also knew to win the game we had to come out and play our best half of football."

Dreibholz and his teammates certainly did that.



Kham and Seuth Phongsas are happy to announce that their restaurant, Thai Chili Pho, is now open at 604 School St., Putnam. They look forward to serving authentic Asian food to the community for years to come and also being part of the Putnam Business Community. They offer Take-out or Dine-in Thai Food, as well as multiple flavors of Bubble Tea. Their number is (860) 315-9888 and Instagram is @thaichilipho. They look forward to seeing you!

Photo Courtesy



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**FRANK G. CHILINSKI**  
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

# The voice of the young is more important than ever

We have heard much buzz from younger voters recently regarding the upcoming midterm elections, and the overwhelming consensus among them, is that their votes do not count. While there are exceptions to this rule, we figured we would stress to our younger counterparts how important it is to pay attention and to head to the ballot box.

The youth voice is important whether you are a Republican, Democrat, Independent, Libertarian, or something in between. Important issues in every election directly relate to concerns students and young professionals have, which is even more reason to arm yourself with knowledge. Truth be told, younger voters are needed now more than ever. Issues that concern students are college tuition reform, healthcare and federal job programs to name a few. You may not care now, but you may care a few years from now when choices politicians make, begin to affect your life, and they will.

Young voters make up almost 50 percent of the voting population, giving you a stronger voice than you think, making your votes collectively more influential across the board. An interesting bit of trivia is that youth votes declined by 2 percent from a record of 52 percent in 2008. In 2016, 19 percent of those ages 18-29 voted in the presidential election. Those ages 45-64, however, made up for 49 percent of the vote.

You may not think your vote counts, but, every vote counts. Oftentimes, politicians will win by a small margin as low as 20 votes, especially in local and state races, proof that your vote DOES matter. Young people that want to inspire change need to find the candidate who represents their values best, and cast their votes.

With news at our fingertips these days, it's easier now more than ever to educate yourself regarding politics. Sure, it may seem boring and often times it is, but educating yourself on current events and the issues will serve you well. One bit of advice is to not believe everything you read or see and to always fact check your sources. Protect your interests and use your voice, after all this is what democracy is all about.

Do not be discouraged or intimidated to vote, it's easy. You have a right to be at the polls just like every other American. Bring a friend and go grab some lunch or breakfast afterwards, making it a fun occasion.

## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to [Brendan@villagernewspapers.com](mailto:Brendan@villagernewspapers.com)

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

## Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Gabrielle Labonte for Probate Judge

To the Editor:  
When I was in need of information and guidance regarding elder law, a friend recommended Gabrielle Labonte. My consultation with her was thorough and unhurried. Gabby addressed all my concerns with patience and compassion. Doesn't it make sense to elect a specialist in elder law and probate as Probate

Judge?  
Based on my experience, I believe Gabby will be responsive to the needs of our citizens. Please join me in voting for Gabrielle Labonte!

JOANN BALDWIN  
POMFRET

### Let's take a cue from Rick Hayes and vote "No"

To the Editor:  
As a longtime resident of Killingly, I just learned from the debate on the radio on Sept. 23 that Rick Hayes said he supports Killingly's mental health program. In fact, he voted against the mental health bill in 2022. He also voted no for affirming reproductive healthcare rights, no for climate change adaptations and education, no for capping the insulin prices at \$25 per month for all

Connecticut residents, and no for increasing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour. I say we vote no for him, and for an intelligent person who cares about people, and not just about businesses. Please vote with me for Christine Maine for State Representative for the 51st district.

FLO DUSSEAULT  
DAYVILLE

### Time for a compassionate Probate Court

To the Editor:  
Increasingly all citizens are finding themselves subject to services from the government, and the sense we get is that many government officials have forgotten who the customer is. In the case of Probate Court those who face the daunting challenge of dealing with the death of a loved one, need extra care and compassion. A Judge with experience in probate like

"Gabby" Gabrielle Labonte knows how people feel because she has dedicated her legal career to helping people in tough times. I think everyone should vote for compassion and elect Gabrielle Labonte for Judge for Probate Court District 26.

BRIAN MAYNARD  
PUTNAM

### Dauphinais will get my support this November

To the Editor:  
I would like to tell you how thankful I am for the hardworking job my state Representative, Anne Dauphnaï, has done for our state. She is not afraid to stand alone for what is right! As a Christian, husband, father of five children, farmer, and sole provider for my family, I feel my more traditional views are often dismissed as outdated, but not by Anne. She is not afraid to stand for our shared values, even if it's unpopular amongst her statehouse

colleagues. She has supported our small farm and others at the statehouse. She does a great job representing us, the silent majority, in the quiet corner. Anne does what she says and sticks to her promises. She will again get my support this November. Sincerely,

BRENT MCCULLOUGH  
KILLINGLY

### Join me in voting for Leah Schad

To the Editor:  
I write in strong support for re-electing the Honorable Judge Leah Schad to the Northeast Probate Court. She has served our community and earned our trust over her many years of service. As an attorney who practiced in her courtroom before leaving private practice, my endorsement of Leah Schad comes from real world experience. I saw first-hand how every decision she made was thoughtful, grounded in the law and well-reasoned. As an independent, fair and impartial judge, she truly

embodies the qualities necessary in a judge. Probate judges decide matters of great significance — let's vote for the candidate who has proven she is qualified for this role. Leah Schad's demonstrated integrity and competence more than qualify her for re-election and as such, I urge my neighbors to vote for Leah Schad, Judge of Probate, on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

AILLA WASSTROM-EVANS  
BROOKLYN

### Re-Elect Schad for Judge of Probate

To the Editor:  
Twelve years ago, Judge Leah Schad consolidated the probate courts of seven local towns to create the Northeast Regional Probate Court. This year Leah is running for re-election to continue to work for the people of the district. This includes Ashford, Brooklyn, Eastford, Pomfret, Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock. I have known Leah for almost thirty years; her character, qualifications, dedication, professionalism and extensive experience as Judge of Probate make her an outstanding candi-

date. She promised 12 years ago to stop practicing law to focus full time on the Court and has kept that promise. Leah has the compassion, integrity and experience to continue to make the Regional Probate Court run smoothly and efficiently. She has faithfully served us all for the last 12 years. I encourage you to cast your vote for Leah Schad on Nov. 8.

ERIN WILCOX  
POMFRET CENTER

### Leah Schad has the qualities and qualifications our Probate Court needs

To the Editor:  
Leah Schad not only has the qualifications, being licensed to practice law in Connecticut, to be probate judge, but has so much more. Leah has experience having been the probate judge for the town of Pomfret for five years, and then after the formation of regional probate districts, elected as the Northeast Regional probate judge in 2010. Leah not only has the experience of being a probate judge but demonstrated managerial and administrative skills in running the court. In 2013, Leah was appointed Administrative Judge of the Children's Court, overseeing four judges in 22 towns. Leah demonstrated her innovative managerial skills when she

guided the probate court through the challenges of Covid. As well as keeping the court open, Leah made the court available through many outreach programs. Leah has the qualifications, management skills and as importantly, the person to person caring to continue to be a great probate judge. I would urge all in the towns of Ashford, Brooklyn, Eastford, Pomfret, Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock to vote for Leah Schad. Sincerely,

JOHN FOLSOM  
POMFRET CENTER



## Is Your Advertising A Little Stale?

Contact Mikaela at 508-909-4126  
[mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news)  
for some fresh ideas!

# The meaning of home

Out of the corner of my eye, I saw something coming toward my face. I was planting bulbs in a corner of the garden. The pile of tulip bulbs was resting on the dry ground, full of spring promise. Suddenly, I was in a whirl of pain and confusion. Bees were flying up my shirt, buzzing under my hat, landing on my wrists. They were stinging me with furious energy. I had disturbed a ground nest of yellow jackets and they were mad.

Once as a child, playing with my friend Eliza, we stepped on a log full of bees. They went up my pants and down my shirt. I was frightened and embarrassed. I didn't want her parents

to treat the stings, so I acted as if it wasn't so bad and asked to go home. This time as an adult with no one around, I ran to our back door as tears filled my eyes. It really hurts to get stung multiple times. The little monsters were cavorting under the brim of my hat. I wondered if I was allergic to bee stings.

I called my husband and my daughter. Both were miles off. My husband called our neighbor. He was away but contacted his daughter, who came over to see me as soon as she got home from high school. Imagine how odd it must seem to a teen-ager to help her neighbor count bee stings! She took photos of the welts I couldn't see behind my ears and on my neck. What a smart way to use a cellphone! What a fine neighbor.

Vespula, Dolichouespula, Paravespula, that's the scientific names of the insects that stung me. It sounds like the names of places in the news. For the bugs and me, it is very real. I dug a hole into their home, and they were offended.

This is the season to focus on living arrangements for the upcoming chilly months. As New Englanders, we love the changing seasons. we can't imagine living in a place with merely subtle alterations. The slant of light at sunset, the maples, colorful perhaps because of the drought, and the crazy behavior of the squirrels as they hurl themselves across the roads tell us where we are on the calendar. Every creature works to store up resources or like the beautiful butterflies passing through my garden, know it is time to head south. Just don't mess with the yellow jackets.

What is the real meaning of home? During a recent thunderstorm, I watched the trees turn in the wind and looked for lightening strikes. In the ancient farm where we lived for years, I believed we wouldn't get struck because the place had stood for more than 200 years unscathed. Of course, it is magical thinking to believe such things, but it is comforting, and it works for the human psyche.

When I saw the photo of a young Venezuelan boy staring out of a bus window in Martha's Vineyard, I wondered what he thought about the island's similarities and differences to his home. The tired eyes of a Ukrainian soldier taking a long drag on a cigarette remind me that some people have to fight to have any home at all.

The yellow jackets were protecting their home from a huge, alien invader: me. They can have their space and the bulbs I dropped as I ran away from them. I bought some creams and lotions, but the stings still itch. As they settle down for the winter, they can enjoy the buzz of their victory.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Let’s send Pat Boyd back to Hartford

To the Editor:  
This letter is offered in wholehearted support of Pat Boyd’s re-election campaign for state representative in the 50th district. As a lifelong educator, a forester and a certified tree farmer, I know Pat to be a strong supporter of both quality education and a clean, healthy, productive environment.  
Pat has believed in the importance of public service since his days as a Boy Scout. He follows through on that belief every day with his volunteer service to numerous groups including the Pomfret Volunteer Fire Department, of which he is president, the Windham County 4-H Foundation and numerous others. Pat has been named state legislator of the year by both the Connecticut Firefighters Association and the CT Motor Transport Association. As

Chairman of the Veteran’s Affairs Committee, Pat works to see that our vets are treated with fairness and the respect they deserve.  
Perhaps most importantly, Pat is a perceptive, intelligent hard worker and an independent thinker. Rather than hewing to either party line, he takes the time to study each issue and form his own opinion based on the needs of those of us he represents. That is exactly the kind of representation we need, and it can be hard to find in today’s political world.  
Please vote to send Pat Boyd back to the Connecticut State Legislature in November.

STEVE BRODERICK  
EASTFORD

We must elect leaders who put America’s interests before their own

To the Editor:  
It’s safe to say that most of us are fed up with politicians who talk out of both sides of their mouths and have a casual relationship with the truth. Too many members of both parties have been guilty of that for as long as I can remember. Donald Trump has taken that dishonesty to an even higher level. Our former president has lived a life (personal and public) devoid of any moral compass, only concerned with his immediate wants and needs. His grip on much of the Republican Party has given rise to a group of pathetic wannabes hoping to borrow from his playbook.  
With all the important issues facing our country, we should be focused on voting for candidates who have a histo-

ry of courage and moral integrity, not loudmouth buffoons who can whip up a crowd with lies and soundbites. Anyone who will cozy up to White Nationalists and Neo-Nazis to get votes should have no place in our government ... period.  
Our democracy is in a fragile state, and being threatened from within. We need to use our power as voters to elect strong, responsible leaders (regardless of party) who put the American people’s interests before their own. It’s long overdue for Republicans and Democrats to be working together on our nation’s problems, instead of just blaming each other for the lack of solutions.

TODD PATRIE  
POMFRET CENTER

A few questions for the DKH administration

To the Editor:  
Over the past several weeks, numerous questions have been asked in various forums of both Day Kimball Hospital and Covenant Health regarding the effect on the community of the sale of the Hospital to Covenant Health. The response has been ... nothing. What are they hiding?  
Exactly how will care change for our community?  
Why won’t they answer or meet with the community or make efforts to find out what the community actually needs as opposed to what highly paid consultants and CEO’s want?  
Our questions boil down to the following:  
If Day Kimball hospital is sold to Covenant Health;  
Will DKH Medical Group and Emergency physicians be able to prescribe all forms of contraception?  
If not, how do they propose to make sure that patients get the birth control that they need?  
How does Covenant Health expect to recruit good OB/GYN physicians to this area if they are not able to practice

the full scope of their specialty?  
Why is Covenant Health interested in purchasing Day Kimball Hospital? How do they believe Day Kimball will contribute financially to their organization?  
Where will patients who need tertiary care be transferred?  
How has Day Kimball hospital assessed in the past and how does it propose now to assess the medical needs of the community?  
If a woman has a Caesarean Section at a Covenant Hospital and wants her tubes tied will that be able to be performed at the same time, or will she need to go to another hospital, with another physician, at another time, thereby increasing her overall risk, much greater cost and inconvenience to the patient?  
Will the morning after pill be prescribed?  
None of the Day Kimball Hospital advertisements have answered any of these questions; the community wonders why.

ELIZABETH CANNING  
POMFRET

Biology alone does not determine when life begins

To the Editor:  
In her latest letter in this space on Sept. 23, Susan Emerson-Hill cherry-picks a few quotations from scientists in which they assert that the determination of the beginning of human life is cut-and-dried. But, conveniently, she (and they) ignore the fact that being human is about much more than biology. In the standard textbook of developmental biology by Scott Gilbert and Michael Barresi, Gilbert identifies five developmental stages that might plausibly be the “beginning” of human life.

In a wonderfully clear and concise article published in “The Conversation” on Sept. 1, 2021, Sahara Sarkar, Professor of Philosophy and Integrative Biology at the University of Texas, reviews these possibilities: “The first of these stages is fertilization in the egg duct, when a zygote is formed with the full human genetic material. But almost every cell in everyone’s body contains that person’s complete genetic DNA sequence. If genetic material alone makes a potential human

Turn To **DAY** page **A10**

Skepticism is healthy; denial is not

To the Editor:  
I would like to take issue with several comments made by Mr. Niedzialkoski in last week’s Villager regarding environmental issues. By way of credentials, I am a retired science teacher with a workable knowledge of the scientific process, and I hold a Master’s degree in Science Education. I am also a natural skeptic.  
Skepticism is good – all things should be questioned. But there is a great difference between skepticism and denialism. Many of Mr. Niedzialkoski’s comments show that he is in denial.

The American Caliphate

To the Editor:  
A young Iranian woman was recently arrested and beaten to death in police custody. She and tens of thousands of women were protesting the mandate to wear the hijab, a fundamentalist interpretation of sharia law enforced by the so-called “morality police.” As in Afghanistan, the women of Iran are fighting for their rights to pursue their education and careers, whom to marry and when to start a family as well as control over their own bodies, a civil right American women may have

taken for granted until the overturning of Roe V. Wade by the Caliphate Superior Court of the United States.  
Fascism is so easy to recognize from afar and frighteningly invisible when it lurks upon our own doorstep. We value our liberty. Yet We the People have fallen prey to the false idols of those who promise to protect our freedom. We have supped upon the propaganda of fear screamed at us from the political pulpit of “Fox in the Henhouse

Turn To **DUFRESNE** page **A11**

Vote for Dave Randall

To the Editor:  
I’m so excited to tell you that we in Connecticut’s 44th District finally have a great alternative who will actually represent all of us in Hartford -- Dave Randall.  
Dave Randall served our great country in the US Army and in the National Guard. He served 27 years in law enforcement, working his way up from patrolman to police chief. He now runs a small business, is a substitute teacher, is a property owner and taxpayer, and father to seven children and stepchildren. He is a strong supporter of our second amendment and Backs the Blue.  
In every aspect of his life, Dave Randall has proven that he can reach out to those who disagree with him and work with them effectively. Dave

ROBIN LOFQUIST  
DANIELSON

Jeff Gordon for the 35th State Senate District

To the Editor:  
I know Dr. Jeff Gordon. He is a longtime community volunteer who has served as Chairman of Woodstock’s Planning and Zoning Commission for over a 15 years. He has worked as a hematology-oncology doctor for over 28 years, caring for people who have cancers or blood disorders. He previously served as President of the Connecticut Medical Society and continues to be a physician leader in Connecticut.  
Now, he’s running for State Senate in our 35th District. Jeff has my strong support.  
Jeff believes in our communities. He knows that for many and more hard-working people, it is no longer affordable to raise a family or retire in the state they’ve called home. He knows that many job-creating small businesses in Connecticut are struggling to survive. He knows that Connecticut needs to do better, especially during this time of sky-high inflation and high taxes.  
Jeff is committed to making Connecticut more affordable for every-

one. He wants to suspend the tax on diesel and reversing the diesel tax hike that went into effect on July 1. He wants to extend the gas tax cut. He wants to cut the tax expansions on foods and goods you need. He will fight for common sense, long-term solutions, all with the goal of keeping more of your hard-earned money in your pocket.  
Aren’t you tired of politicians who work only for special interests and during election time try to buy votes with your tax money?  
We need someone who truly believes in our communities and in honest government. We need someone who will fight for you. Jeff Gordon is that person. He has the public policy experience, work ethic, and proven track record of working with people, working for people, and always being on your side.  
On Nov. 8, vote for Jeff Gordon for State Senate.

BARRY SHEAD  
WOODSTOCK

Economic strength and low inflation are the keys to saving the planet

To the Editor:  
Due to a technical glitch, part of Ms. Allen’s letter was appended to my letter. For that, I apologize; below is the context of my letter in its entirety.  
In a recent Villager, Ms. Allen implied that the use of fossil fuels, caused the drought this summer, and families were unable to bring their families to picnic and cool off at Quaddick Park. She further states our planet is on the brink of environmental disaster, neither is true.  
As an abutter of Quaddick Lake, I have been monitoring the lake for over

30 years, taking temperature, dissolved oxygen, and water clarity measurements. I can assure her that with the drought conditions of this summer, Quaddick Lake was only down about 10 inches at the spillway, not much lower than a normal year. With the rain (over 11”) over the past 2 weeks, Quaddick is again overflowing the spillway.  
This ebb and flow of the lake is normal, at no time was it dried up. Each year they do a draw down, to allow residents to work on their properties

Turn To **NIEDZIALKOSKI** page **A10**

Request your reassessment now

To the Editor:  
Aug. 24, 2020, the Thompson Planning and Zoning commission voted to adopt updated zoning regulations, 8th Edition, with an adoption date of Sept. 15, 2020. The new regulations changed the zoning for over half the town.  
Most residents in Thompson are still unaware of the zoning changes and their ramifications. Around Schoolhouse (Little Pond) Pond and Quaddick Lake a new district was created, Lake District (LD), that allowed for smaller lot sizes and denser housing, even without a sewer system in the area. Along Route 131 and Route

12 another new district was created, Thompson Corridor Development District (TCDD), that allows for mixed use in previously residential areas.  
The biggest change, though, was the merging of what was the R40 district, with the district previously known as R80 into a combined Rural Residential Agricultural District (RRAD). In the old R40 district, 40,000 square feet of land was required for a house lot, in the old R80 district, 80,000 square feet of land was required for a house lot, In the new district, 40,000 square feet is required for a house lot everywhere. For land-

Turn To **WARNER** page **A10**

Does Biden have blood on his hands?

To the Editor:  
Recent response letters from Mr. Cassettari and Billy G. Taylor certainly came as no surprise. You gents can continue with “orange man bad,” and that the Republicans are always to blame all you want to, but neither of you have ever said anything about what a great job (?) the current President and his administration are doing. (Is it because you can’t?)  
Mr. Taylor’s defending of Liz Chaney is most laughable because if she was on Trump’s side, he wouldn’t even be mentioning her name except if it was to criti-

cize her. CNN reported that she will not remain a Republican if Donald Trump is the GOP nominee in 2024. She also cried that today’s Republican party isn’t the same as her daddy’s was, so let the Democrats have her because they are such a moral and virtuous bunch now, aren’t they? (JFK must be spinning in his grave.) Does Mr. Taylor remember when he went on a caps locked rant and said that he was “PROUD” to have voted for Joe Biden? What would really be “jaw dropping” would be to have him

Turn To **DELUCA** page **A11**

Setting the 490 record straight

To the Editor:  
On July 22, Bill Warner wrote in this publication, “with the ‘write in’ Commissioners elected last November in the lead, the Planning & Zoning Commission voted to keep ‘as is’ the PA Open Space program.” I’ll note these are the commissioners championed by Mr. Warner.  
He then went on to write “If PA490 passes as presented, most property owners of open space in Thompson will be seeing a tax increase.” Then in the next paragraph he wrote “If PA490 does not pass as presented, all property owners of open space in Thompson will be seeing tax increases.”  
So we start there. Mr. Warner said “please vote yes” but he has just said most owners would see a tax increase if

it passes and if it doesn’t pass.  
Fast forward to Sept. 22. Mr. Warner now has levied a series of complaints about the ordinance he encouraged be passed, and it was.  
I want to set a couple things straight and I’m sure listening to the meeting recording will bear this out.  
The town meeting held on the subject was overwhelmingly attended by open space owners. Sadly, property owners that owned less than four acres were not in attendance - not realizing that the less that is paid on large acreage, the greater share of the town budget is borne by smaller property owners. That did not stop him from portraying the vote as “the citizens of

Turn To **LOFFREDO** page **A10**



# OBITUARIES

## Claire M. Sarette, 93

Claire M. Sarette, 93 of Putnam died Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at Westview Health Care in Dayville. Beloved wife of the late Gerard R. Sarrette, he died in 1999. She was the daughter of the late Arthur and Delora (Marion) Jolicoeur, born in Putnam on November 17, 1928. Claire worked at G. Sarette and Sons Construction, Rubbish Removal and The Texaco Gas Station and as a Seamstress for Belding Heminway and as a Cook with the St. Mary School Cafeteria. In her 70's she was involved with the Grandmother Program to help teach Putnam Elementary School chil-



dren to read. She enjoyed playing cards and Dominos. She leaves her children Maurice, Donald, Robert and Michael Sarette all of Putnam, sister Muriel Denomme of Taftville, 22 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, two great great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by two children Roger and Anne Sarette, siblings Raymond Jolicoeur, Jeanne Denomme and Rita Veltheim. A Funeral service will be Thursday, September 29, 2022 at 11:00 AM at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam, calling hours from 10:00 to 11:00 AM. Burial to follow at St. Mary Cemetery, Putnam, CT. In lieu of flowers donations may be made. Share a memory at [Smithandwalkerfh.com](http://Smithandwalkerfh.com)

## David J Huchowski, 41

David J Huchowski, 41, passed away unexpectedly on June 17 in Clermont FL, where he was residing. David is survived by his mother Ann (Vien) Huchowski (Melbourne), sister Andrea Huchowski and her fiancé Christopher Jankowski and their three children (Danielson), his sons Dominik Acker (Idaho) and Ryan Huchowski (Plainfield),



and several aunts, uncles, and cousins. He was predeceased by his father David R Huchowski (2001). David was a friend to many and had a love for life. He enjoyed new experiences, meeting new people, and the thrill of rollercoasters. He always had a joke to tell and a smile on his face. He worked many jobs, most recently as a forklift operator. A private gathering is being held by the family. In lieu of flowers, please share a fond memory or picture of David on his Facebook page. Thank you.

## WARNER

owners of the old R40 district, this is no change, but for the landowners of the old R80 district, only half the land required before, is now needed for a house lot.

A classic case of supply and demand — if you double the amount of buildable land, the price will drop. This lowers the value of land that was in the old R80 zone, as you now only need 40,000 square feet for a housing lot. Any land you have more than the new zoning requirements is assessed at a much lower rate. In Thompson, the use assessment for improved

property is currently \$49,875 an acre, while the use assessment of excess or surplus property is \$1,900 an acre. This will drop the use assessment of most residential properties in the previous R80 zone about \$44,000. Since Connecticut taxes are based on 70 percent assessment, your assessment would drop \$30,800, a decrease of \$770 in taxes at our current mil rate of \$25.07. Of course, each property is different, and these numbers are general, but most properties in the old R80 District are eligible for a tax reduction.

The assessor will typically come out and reassess your property when

you make improvements. They monitor building permits, but not when your assessment is going down, so you won't see a change in your taxes until the next reassessment. But you do have the option to request a reassessment from the assessor at any time.

The Thompson Assessor is working on the Grand List for next year; if you reside in the old R80 district and you want to see your taxes go down next July, you need to contact the Thompson Assessor and ask to have your property reassessed before Halloween.

BILL WARNER  
THOMPSON

## LOFFREDO

Thompson" when it was closer to 'the open space property owners'. A weakness of a town meeting format, one concerned group can easily overcome another. But that can happen with any vote, often the greater turnout wins. Disclosure, I was there, like Mr. Warner I have 7 acres and I'm in the open space program, but I'm concerned that large landowners keep their land for next to nothing in taxes. Pretty good deal. Why sell if it's essentially free? Let the little guy pay the taxes. At this meeting, after the usual moderator was chosen, Mr. Warner quickly introduced an amendment to the ordinance that he was so proud of in July because the write-in commissioners allegedly 'took the lead.' I guess it wasn't what he wanted. Per Roberts' Ruies discussion ensued. Or it was attempted. Most of the questions were about PA490, and were shut down because they didn't pertain to the Warner Amendment. During these discussions,

the Town Assessor attempted to clarify that GIS would be used as a tool to determine property standing, and he also tried to explain that the original proposal would put all open space at \$450/acre. For many people this proposal, the one that was submitted BEFORE Mr. Warner's amendment, would have represented up to a 75% discount over the amended ordinance and eliminated inspecting properties, simple, fair. By adopting Mr. Warner's amendment, many people will find themselves paying up to \$1800 an acre. Oh by the way if that happens to hay fields in town, someone like me would, in turn, be charged more for hay to cover the tax increase.

After some discussion and many silenced questions, a vote was taken and the amendment passed. Then rather than discuss the overall PA490, a motion was made, by none other than Bill Warner, and seconded to shut down all debate. Those who side with Mr. Warner got their amendment and wanted no further discussion. Apparently, Roberts' Rules required this to happen; there is still some debate as to whether

Kyle Brenton died peacefully at home in his sleep on September 12, 2022. Kyle was born in Putnam on November 20, 1963 to Joseph and Pauline Breton of Danielson, CT he was one of two sons. Kyle married Mary Ross of Putnam, CT. Together they had one son. Spencer Christian Breton, for whom pre-deceased them. Kyle leaves his wife Mary of 34 years. His mother Pauline Breton of Danielson and brother Jay Breton of Dayville, CT. Kyle leaves brothers-in-law; Eugene Ross of Thompson, Roland Ross of Pomfret, Leonard Ross of East Putnam. Sisters-in-law; Nancy Ross of Bristol, Joyce Ross of Danielson, CT, Tammy Ross of Bristol, CT and many nieces and nephews. Kyle enjoyed the great outdoors. He took family trips yearly up north. He

was a master chef at the barbeque, he mastered beer and wine making. Loved Blues music and John Wayne. He loved his cats Coacoa, Benji, Peanut (his children). Kyle was a very hard worker and acquired the nick name "Bull". He was a communicant of St. James Church and in his early years was educated there. He worked the American Standard until it's closure. And then went on to acquire his CDL licensure as well as a Diesel Mechanics certification. He worked at Coff-Coff Corp., then Dick Trainer Trucking. He then acquired more skill with handling explosives and worked at Austin Powder Company. Per Kyles request he wanted a very small intimate family gathering as a celebration of his life and your prayers.

## NIEDZIALKOSKI

or for weed control, but that is only when man intervenes to control the lake level.

As far as families not being able to use the park, there were a couple of days when DEEP closed the park, but that was because the parking lots were full. It is laughable when people using 100 years of temperature data infer the planet is on the brink of environmental disaster. In the 1970's they used

this data to suggest "global cooling" and that we were entering a "mini-ice age." When that didn't happen, we got "global warming"; that didn't happen either. Now we have "climate change." Is there "climate change?" Of course there is. The earth's climate has been changing since the beginning of time and will continue to change no matter what man does. A hundred years ago, Logan Airport was just being built, it didn't even become the official weather station until 1936. Even so, using 100

years of data to predict the next hundred years of temperature is like using a yardstick to determine the depth of the ocean, both foolish endeavors. If you really want to save the planet, we need a strong economy and low inflation. The path we are being led down by the "climate change" crowd will only impoverish us and help countries like China who don't care at all about the environment.

JIM NIEDZIALKOSKI  
THOMPSON

## DAY

being, then when we shed skin cells - as we do all the time - we are severing potential human beings." "The second plausible stage is called gastrulation, which happens about two weeks after fertilization. At that point, the embryo loses the ability to form identical twins - or triplets or more. The embryo therefore becomes a biological individual but not necessarily a human individual." "The third possible stage

is at 24 to 27 weeks of pregnancy, when the characteristic human-specific brain-wave pattern emerges in the fetus's brain. Disappearance of this pattern is part of the legal standard for human death; by symmetry, perhaps its appearance could be taken to mark the beginning of human life." "The fourth possible stage, which was the one endorsed in the Roe v. Wade decision that previously legalized abortion in the U.S., is viability, when a fetus typically becomes viable outside he uterus with the help

of available medical technology. With the technology that we have today, that stage is reached at about 24 weeks." "The final possibility is birth itself." "The overall point is that biology alone does not determine when life begins. It is a question that can only be answered by appealing to our values, examining what we take to be human."

JOHN A. DAY, JR.,  
M.D.  
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

this was handled appropriately. Many people were shaking their heads. Many had no idea what transpired. Even First Selectman Amy StOnge had her hand raised to comment or question and was not allowed to speak. Thanks to Mr. Warner's strategy of trying to use the town meeting format to achieve his goals, it would appear he has created a system that will raise the taxes for many property owners unless they can get enough land categorized under less taxed options including woodland, scrubland, and permanent grazing. I can't speak to Mr. Warner's claim that 'some property owners are not receiving forms.' If they participated and did not, yes they should contact the assessor. I received mine. Then he complains about use of the GIS system even though this was clearly stated at the town meeting. The GIS system is not the final determination, that is why the forms were sent. Property owners are given the chance to contest the estimates. In my case I had no acreage listed as grazing when in fact I have grazing for my horses. I submitted my correction request with detailed explanation. If the ordinance had been allowed to pass without the amendment, GIS mapping would have played no role. He also contends pasture was changed to tillable. There is a category

for pasture and if it qualifies, anyone can contest this as I did. In my personal opinion, Mr. Warner attempted to do what he thought was a good thing for open space owners (but not good at all for the average taxpayer), and he is now realizing that his interference is likely to cost at least some landowners a significant increase in taxes. So instead, he has, as he has done before, attacked a town employee. First he attacked our Town Planner on another issue, who has helped bring in nearly 5 million dollars in grants in less than three years. Now he's trying to place the blame on the Assessor for doing exactly what the Assessor said he would have to do if the Warner Amendment passed. Maybe it's time Mr. Warner stopped interfering in town government. Sure, it's his 'right,' but attacking first someone who has brought a ton of money into public works projects and now another person who clearly explained how he would have to execute this process if the amendment passed, maybe it's Mr. Warner who is the problem. If your taxes go up, it's not the fault of planning and zoning, it's not the fault of the assessor, look no further than Bill Warner and his so-called 'taxpayers' alliance' for your new tax bill.

BRIAN LOFFREDO  
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

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# Learning to lead



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING  
  
**TOBY  
MOORE**

Lately, I have been trying to read more. I bought a book I have been told to read many times, but I have never been interested enough till now. Reading it has caused me to have significant reflections on the last few years.

Do you have a dream you want to accomplish? Does it seem too big? Does it seem like maybe if you tried to accomplish it, you would be biting off more than you can chew?

It would be wise for you to examine the conditions before you commit. Look at the market you are trying to enter, give yourself and your abilities an honest assessment, read the

necessary materials, and listen to the experts. These will serve as your roadmap that you can navigate to success should you decide to commit.

I never thought the dream I was trying to accomplish was too big, but I heard from my business partner that my dad confessed to him early on that he thought what we were trying to accomplish may not be possible!

One of the chapters in the book discusses that to navigate successfully to your dream, you will need to find a balance between faith with facts! Some people have their heads up in the clouds so high that they never bother to look at the facts. It is essential to assess the situation and strike a balance. Also, you do not want to be so fact-oriented that you cannot dream and have faith, but knowing the facts of the situation will keep you grounded and let you know if you need to

scale it back.

Once you find the balance between faith and facts and decide to keep moving forward, it is important to realize something. It was the biggest realization I have had in a long time; a reality check.

For the last few years, I have worked with a team of people who are all experts in their field to accomplish a big vision. I believe in the dream and what we are doing; I have balanced the faith with the facts, and I was naive enough to think that is all I needed; a great team and a grand vision.

I learned something while reading this book that I should have known, and maybe subconsciously, always have known. Just because you have an excellent vision for the future, a great team, have balanced faith with facts, and are willing to work hard to make your dream a reality does not mean you will get there.

The book I am talking about is “The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership” by John C Maxwell.

In it, I discovered something quite profound. No matter how positive you are, how beautiful your vision is, or how hard of a worker you are. You will never rise higher than your leadership ability.

If your vision is a 10, but your leadership is only a 5, you will only accomplish half of your vision. Wow! If you have a big dream, you would like to accomplish, that should send shivers down your spine.

It is not the size of the vision and the execution of it that will ensure success. It is not your work ethic; it is not your positive attitude. All of these are essential, and combined, these qualities will take you a long way, but one of the determining factors in how far you can advance your vision is your ability to lead!

According to Maxwell, your success will never surpass your leadership ability. Your leadership level is the cap on how high you can take your vision.

That made me nervous to read that; I have never thought of myself as much of a leader.

book was worrisome in many ways but also provided strong reassu

Maxwell says, “Champions don’t become champions in the ring- they are merely recognized there...if you want to see where someone develops into a champion, look at their daily routine.”

In the same way that investing in the stock market will not make you instantly rich, you can never become a leader in a day. It only happens through consistency, regular learning, practice, and focus. You can learn to lead!

## CENTAURS

continued from page A6

19-yard line.

“We really have to be better with our execution,” Elliott said regarding his team’s final drive of the game. “We got the ball with two minutes to play and we went backward on every play.”

Woodstock took its first lead of the game, 7-6, with 2:07 remaining in the first half. Richardson tied the game, 6-6, on a quarterback draw and classmate Seamus McDermott pushed the Centaurs in front, 7-6, when he tackled on the ensuing extra point.

The nine-play drive was set up when Windham senior Darwin Melendez, trying to

gain possession of a punt off the foot of McDermott, had the ball squirt out from under him at the Whippets’ 35-yard line. Centaurs’ senior Brandon Nagle quickly recovered Melendez’s miscue.

Woodstock grabbed its second lead of the game, 14-12, with 3:22 to play in the third quarter, Richardson hitting senior Lucas Theriaque with a 7-yard scoring strike. On the play Theriaque (7 catches, 78 yards) caught the ball in the right flat at the 5-yard line, stutter-stepped past one defender and cut around another to get into the end zone.

Elliott said he was pleased with Richardson’s play against Windham, especially given the fact he was sacked nine times.

“Teddy did a great job staying

**Dylan Phillips of Woodstock Academy attempts to break free from a Windham defender while carrying the football.**



focused and keeping his poise,” Elliott said. “That defense was really beating him up all day long but, to his credit, he kept getting up. I’ll ride with a quarterback like Teddy.”

Elliott confirmed that senior Carter Saracina, the Centaurs’ leading receiver last season, is not currently with the team.

“Carter is taking some personal time away from the team. His not being with the team right now is a huge loss for us, especially with the way this game played out,” Elliott said. “We expect him back at some point this season.”

## CLARK

continued from page A9

River in Putnam? Did that get drawn down for weed control also? My well went dry in August, in a summer where we were very conscious to conserve water. Can he explain that away also?

He is right to say that using 100 years of temperature data to infer that the planet is warming is wrong, but that is not what climate scientists do. They use hundreds of thousands, even millions of years of data, collected in ice bores, land bores, tree rings etc. The planets climate history is well stored in the geological strata. This is how we know there have been several periods of glacial ice ages as well as periodic inter-glacial warm periods. Since he mentions that the climate has been changing since the beginning of time, he must be aware of this. He selectively picks and chooses which information he wants that supports his position, instead of looking at all the data. This is shown by his comments about the cooling period in the 1970’s. But that was the

media making those predictions based on short term models. Most of the peer reviewed papers from that time pointed toward warming.

We are currently in an inter-glacial period and the planet is warming. This warming has greatly accelerated since the start of the Industrial revolution when we began rapidly pumping CO2 into the atmosphere that had been stored underground for hundreds of millions of years, from a time before the dinosaurs when the planet was much warmer than today. That carbon was stored in the form of oil, from the sea bed, and coal from the first land plants. Looking at the geological data we should be entering another cooling cycle, but warming is continuing to accelerate. The planet is now warmer than at any time in human history. The climate fluctuations of the planet show a direct correlation with the CO2 concentration in the atmosphere. For the last 600,000 years the CO2 level in the atmosphere has fluctuated between 180 PPM and 300 PPM, never rising above 300 PPM until now. The

current level is over 380 PPM, and it is continuing to rise. There is no question among scientists that study this that it is humans, burning fossil fuels and deforesting the rain forests that is the cause of this rise in CO2.

The change in climate due to this warming will cause many weather anomalies that have not been seen before, such as extended droughts, floods, more severe and frequent storms etc. The 10 warmest years on record have all occurred since 2005, with 2022 on track to be the 6th warmest. Glaciers are melting at a rapid rate, oceans are rising, droughts, forest fires, floods, and severe weather are much more common and widespread, but Mr. Niedzialkoski denies all of this. For everyone else, I suggest you do proper research. Look to the scientific papers, look to reliable sources such as NASA and NOAA as well as from similar organizations in other countries. We are running head first into an ecological disaster, let’s not do it with our eyes closed.

**DAVE CLARK  
THOMPSON**

## DELUCA

continued from page A9

just for once admit that the man he was “PROUD” to have voted for and his administration aren’t doing that well, or that the democrats need to take some blame for the mess that this nation is in. Donald Trump warned the American people of the consequences of electing this buffoon, and you guys got what you voted for, but neither of you will ever admit to having any buyers remorse. And if any doubt remains in his mind, the final sentence of Mr. Taylor’s last letter has definitely answered his own question as to whether TDS ever existed or if it still exists today.

Im going to give Mr. Cassetari credit for being open-minded because he recognized the lack of our politicians’ willingness to work together as a problem. Will Mr. Taylor ever do the same? Until now, it seems to me that beside myself, there is only one other writer here to ever do such. In my letter of Sept. 23, I mentioned that “until the finger-pointing stops nothing will ever change.” Ned Lamont, in a campaign ad, took that

a step further and said that until both the democrats and the republicans finally come to the table nothing will change. I’ll also give credit to Mr. Lamont for saying that and I wish that more of our politicians felt the same. And yes, Mr. Cassetari, I am in total agreement with you on how tiring the campaign ads have become. I also think they’re as tiring as Mr. Taylor’s constant crying about name-calling.

Does President Biden now have blood on his hands as a result of his speech where he called all Trump supporters extremists and a threat to our democracy? Did you hear about the North Dakota teen who said he wanted to vote for Donald Trump in 2024 that was killed after a political argument by a drunken man who dubbed his victim a ‘Republican extremist?’ You certainly didn’t if you only listened to the liberal media news outlets, but had it been a Trump supporter that ran over and killed a Biden voter it would be plastered all over their networks and mentioned 24/7. It’s unclear to me who instigated the confrontation

but ignore that detail and continue to only pay attention to the actions of Donald Trump and those evil Republicans.

The migrants/illegals that were sent to Martha’s Vineyard stayed there for a total of 44 hours before being sent to Otis Air Force base in Bourne, and by the way, one of them was photographed wearing a Waterfront Mary’s (of Webster) sweatshirt. That destination is two miles from my brother’s house so they were basically sent to his backyard, but he’s not crying about it. Certainly not a fan of the Brandon Bunch, he feels that these migrants will eventually be “quietly dispersed into the country.” Is there really any difference between Biden sending illegals all over the country in the middle of the night, and DeSantis and Abbott sending them to destinations up north? And to end this, isn’t it funny how Martha’s Vineyard, New York City, D.C. and Chicago were all “Sanctuary Cities” (or destinations) until the buses started arriving?

**ED DELUCA  
NORTH  
GROSVENORDALE**

## DUFRESNE

continued from page A9

News.” We turned our heads away from the tell-tale signs of fascist rhetoric spewed by Donald Trump and the uber right republican party: anti-immigration, white supremacist narratives, fear mongering, the dissemination of lies, corruption, and the dismantling of voting rights, and civil liberties. And we ignored the emblematic banners of fascism in the guise of “patriots” parading around town with larger-than-life Confederate flags alongside Trump slogans on their diesel trucks. And while we looked away, Trump stacked the courts with a Caliphate and the intent to erase our civil liberties on behalf of the not so moral majority. Nothing good comes from a Theocracy.

There is good reason the writers of the Constitution insisted on a separation of church and State. Many in New England who fought in the Revolutionary War, including our own Israel Putnam, born in Salem in 1719, were only a generation removed from the Salem Witch Trials. It is no accident that the majority of female accused witches were independent, free-thinkers, or widows who owned property and chose not to marry. The world was changing rapidly. There was a shortage of land and labor. The economy was shifting. Fear and dam-

nation rang from the pulpits, the lynch pin of political manipulation. Women became both the target and the perpetrators of misogynistic wrath in the theocracy of Massachusetts Bay Colony.

While Iranian women struggle for their fundamental rights women in the United States have been robbed of the right to make reproductive choices. The nation-wide fallout has catapulted us into a healthcare crisis reaching far beyond the womb. The draconian and punitive laws in some states have already left a wake of death. Hospitals and physicians, afraid of breaking the new caliphate laws, have refused to treat women who have miscarried. Women whose health and lives are at risk from atopic pregnancies have been turned away while our own version of the “morality police” litigate our bodies.

Like the women of Iran, our fight goes deeper than the right to choose. Being pro-choice does not make one pro-abortion. This is a fight for our civil liberties and well-being. We are not baby machines. A woman has the right to live and to choose life when a pregnancy goes wrong. The radicalized anti-abortion movement has little to do with the sanctity of life. It has become the political base of neo fascism no different than the Taliban, acting as a

political body cloaked in religious law and throwing women back to the dark ages. While claiming the sanctity of life the same body politic votes against policies that would support women and children. The anti-abortion movement has proved to be only a sanctimonious ruse which has strayed far from being “prolife.” One cannot claim to be pro-life while supporting capital punishment or the NRA and its campaign to arm young white men with weapons of mass destruction. While the Trumpian republicans were dismantling the rights of women to have control over their bodies, they refused to pass sensible gun laws. Apparently, the Second Amendment trumps a woman’s right to live.

Oh, the irony of America, where a black man risks state sanctioned murder for driving with a broken taillight while Kyle Rittenhouse, a white boy under the age of 18 can easily get his hands on a semi-automatic rifle, openly murder Black Lives Matter protesters, and walk away with a not guilty verdict. Oh, the irony of America when 20-year-old Adam Lanza used his 2nd amendment right to acquire an AR-14 and murdered twenty-six children. God Bless the sanctity of the second amendment Amen. Oh, the irony of America when a woman who has suffered a natural miscarriage cannot get medical

care because of the draconian laws that prohibit her physician from performing a life-saving DNC leading to death from infection. So much for the sanctity of life.

The women of Iran are risking their lives by cutting their hair in public, burning their hijabs, and standing up to a totalitarian regime that threatens to dismantle what’s left of their civil liberties. The Trumpian Republicans and their Superior Court Caliphate would do well to remember that “Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned.” Women carry the backbone of this country. We can shape or break the future with strikes, protesting and voting. God Bless the sanctity of women.

**DONNA DUFRESNE  
POMFRET**







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Medicare’s open enrollment period happens once a year between Oct. 15 and Dec. 7. During this time, current Medicare beneficiaries have the option to adjust their coverage for the coming year – do you know if you’d benefit from making any adjustments? Here’s how to know what adjustments you might want to make, and how to make them.

1. Understand if you’re eligible to enroll and make changes

It is important to remember that Medicare’s Open Enrollment Period is only for those who are already existing Medicare beneficiaries. If you have yet to sign up for Medicare, your period to do so runs between the three months before and three months after you turn 65. If you miss this initial enrollment period, you cannot sign up for Medicare during the open enrollment period beginning in October. Instead, you must wait until Medicare’s general enrollment period, which runs from January 1st through March 31st. Furthermore, the changes you elect to make during Medicare’s open enrollment period will not go into effect until Jan. 1, 2023.

2. Review what your current plan covers

Each year, you should receive information from the government regarding your current Medicare coverage and other options available to you. Even if your coverage hasn’t changed within the last few years, it’s important to still take time to review your current coverage and identify any areas for improvement.

3. Think about any recent changes in your health

While reviewing your current coverage, think about any changes in your health or your life over the last year. Might they result in greater healthcare expenses in the year to come? If you’ve recently changed or added a medication, discovered that you underutilized your current coverage this year, or found you could use additional benefits due to a specific condition or need, you should see if changing your coverage will accommodate these needs with less out-of-pocket expense.

4. Know what changes can be made during open enrollment

During the open enrollment period, you are eligible to change your Medicare coverage, and you also have the option to switch between different Medicare plans. If you

determine that switching to a new plan would be best, you can use Medicare’s online Plan Finder tool at [medicare.gov](https://www.medicare.gov) or call 1-800-MEDICARE to find out about new Advantage plans in your area.

You may also want to consider adding, dropping, or adjusting the following key coverage options depending on your needs for the new year.

Medigap Coverage is a supplemental insurance policy designed to help cover the costs of certain medical expenses that Medicare doesn’t cover, such as copayments, coinsurance, deductibles and medical care when traveling abroad. Whether you’ve had Medigap coverage in the past or you’d find it beneficial moving forward, you can adjust, add or drop your Medigap coverage during open enrollment.

Medicare Advantage (or Part C) is a type of healthcare plan offered by private companies contracted through Medicare. It’s designed to combine Part A (hospital insurance) and Part B (medical insurance) as well as, in some instances, a prescription drug plan or other additional coverage. During open enrollment, you can choose to switch from an original Medicare plan to back to a Medicare Advantage plan, or

you can switch back to an original plan from an Advantage plan if you found it did not fit your needs. Just be sure to shop around for different options if you’re switching to a Medicare Advantage plan, as you’ll have several choices from various providers to consider.

Medicare Part D is a prescription drug plan. If you’re utilizing a Medicare Advantage plan, this may not apply to you. But for those who have an original Medicare plan, it’s important to check for changes to your Part D coverage every year. Coverage through your plan can change yearly, and your prescription needs may change as well. Make sure your current plan has your needs covered through the next year. If not, now’s the time to look around for new coverage.

5. Consider your insurance needs and costs in the context of your overall finances

Medical expenses can add up quickly and are often one of the largest expenses we all must plan for as we age. Ensuring you have the best coverage possible, and the means to get the care you want, is critical. Reach out to us at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors for help in crafting a financial plan that will help to

set your mind at ease. Our strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process is designed to help you Live Well today while continually Planning Well for the future. Set up a commitment-free consultation on our website at [whzwealth.com](https://www.whzwealth.com), or contact us at (860) 928-2341 or [info@whzwealth.com](mailto:info@whzwealth.com) to get started.

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# In the Studio



CYNTHIA SAARI

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

In this interview, we’re meeting with fiber artist Mindy Hansen, owner of “Woolworks” yarn shop at 154 Main St. in Putnam. A long-time center for supplies and lessons as well as a gathering place for knitters, Woolworks has expanded offerings to include spinning, weaving, felting, and needlepoint. Step inside Mindy’s newly renovated space to enter an inviting world of colorful and textured yarns, roving, threads, and buttons.

Thanks for talking with us today, Mindy. Your shop continues to delight customers looking for beautiful fibers, help with projects, and classes.

Do you have a “personal favorite” when it comes to fiber work?

A few years ago, I would have said knitting. Since then, I have learned to love spinning and rug punch. I’m not sure which I love more. I think that’s what is so exciting about being a fiber artist. There is always something new to entice you, which is why I truly believe there’s something for everybody in fiber work.

You have some lovely samples here. Tell us something about the pieces here.

The “Shift Cowl” has been a favorite for the past five years or so. This one is using worsted weight yarn (KFT’s Painted Sky). Cowls are a very popular accessory amongst our knitters and crocheters.

The sweater is called “The Dustin”. What’s great about it is that it calls for a fingering weight yarn, which makes it lightweight. I used Queensland’s United to knit mine up. The cardigan has raglan sleeves and just enough cable work to keep you from getting bored. It is simple but elegant.

Do you do custom work or repairs?



Not as a rule. With the day-to-day activities at Woolworks, it’s difficult to fit that in. Every once in a while, I’ll have time to sneak one or two in.

Crazy question: in a previous career, you were in the U.S. Navy. Is there any relationship between what you were doing then and what you are doing now?

I was a Cryptographer in the Navy and I have a very easy time with patterns. I like to stick to a pattern and can readily see where the stitches should fall. I have a systematic way of looking at things and like clear and concise plans.

Did you learn to knit growing up in northern Vermont?

Yes, both my mom and grandmother taught me. They were always knitting, especially my grandmother. We lived on a dairy farm in Weathersfield Bow which is one of the first places where sheep were farmed in the U.S.

Knitting was a part of life. Of my parent’s seven children, I was the only lefty, so I was taught right-handed.

What do you like best about owning Woolworks?

The people who come in, their creativity and support. I love being surrounded by the fibers and notions. Being in the shop, especially after the renovation, makes my heart happy. Thinking about the future and the possibilities is exciting. I love being a part of this community.

Do any of your fibers come from New England suppliers?

Quite a number do. We have roving from Vermont and have had local fiber artists featured in the shop. We carry yarn from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island. I try my best to support the local artist.

Thank you for your time. I’d like to close with mentioning a few things I noticed on the WoolworksLtd Facebook page and in your windows, to highlight your community involvement and some fun events.

Right now, Woolworks is showcasing



Woodstock Fair winning fiber entries in its windows at 154 Main St. in Putnam.

On Sept. 17, the store featured its first “World Wide Spin in Public Day” in downtown Putnam, with completed yarns to be used in a shawl for breast cancer awareness month in October.

New weavers are cutting their first shawls from the looms.

And, for fiber fans, the Fall sale has begun! Shop hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday with extended hours on Tuesday and Thursday until 8 p.m.

Word of the day:

Roving: Wool roving generally refers to wool fiber that has been processed but not yet spun into yarn. It is used on a spinning wheel to create yarn. Wool roving is sometimes called spinning fiber or top. [[paradisefibers.com](https://paradisefibers.com)]

Fingering weight: Fingering weight yarn is defined as yarn for needle sizes 2.25 – 3 mm (U.S. size 1-3) and about 360 – 480 yards per 100 grams. Typically, it’s a 4-ply yarn and is often also called “superfine yarn”, “sock yarn”, or “baby yarn”. [[nimbleneedles.com](https://nimbleneedles.com)]





About the writer

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

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## 100th Anniversary

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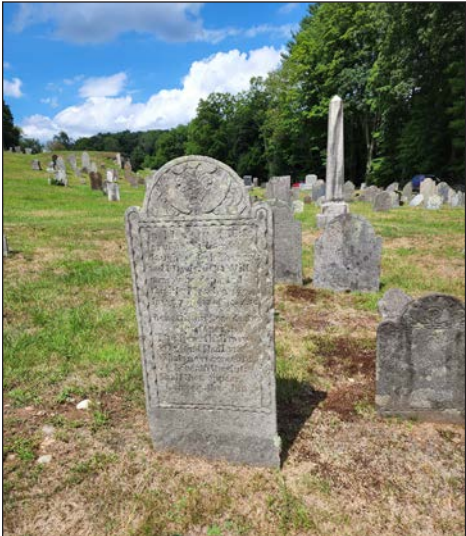
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## 100th Anniversary



# Connecticut Humanities funds gravestone carver’s workshop, virtual tour in Pomfret’s South/Sabin Cemetery



POMFRET — The Cemetery Corporation for the South Sabin Cemetery in Pomfret is pleased to announce receipt of a grant from the Connecticut Humanities to present a one-day workshop on the gravestone carvers represented in one of Pomfret’s earliest burial grounds. The burial ground features many of the remarkable 18th and 19th century gravestone carvers from Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and even as far away as Vermont.

The program, “Written in Stone,” will take place on Oct. 22, from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. The workshop and tour will be led by gravestone carver scholars, Keegan Day and Ruth Shapleigh Brown, and local historian, Donna Dufresne. The workshop/tour will feature some of the

region’s renowned gravestone carvers as well as the lesser-known locals with unique styles.

Keegan Day will lead the tour of gravestone carvers, explain the funerary art, symbology, spiritual evolution of the carvings from the austere Puritan era to the Age of Enlightenment, the geology of the stones and geographic connections to other parts of New England.

Ruth Shapleigh Brown will tutor those interested in preserving early gravestones in cleaning techniques and reading and interpreting written data, while Donna Dufresne will highlight social history derived from the epitaphs and vital data recorded on the stones.

The grant is also funding a twenty-first century tool: “Written in Stone:

The Virtual Tour” of the South/Sabin Cemetery. The virtual tour will be accessible by QR codes. The “Written in Stone” Web site is being developed by Janet Booth of Brooklyn. Visitors will be able to access extensive information about individual burials, gravestone carvers, genealogy, and primary sources through an interactive map. The virtual tour will be ideal for researchers, educators and those interested in local history.

The “Written in Stone” workshop, which is also listed as a Walktober event, is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is recommended as parking is limited. Contact: windsong@snet.net.

# Putnam Rotary Interact launching 25th annual Salvation Army kettle campaign

PUTNAM — On Saturday, Nov. 19, the Putnam Rotary Interact Club will be kicking off their 25th year as organizers for the Putnam Salvation Army Office kettle campaign. The kickoff will be held in front of the Putnam Municipal Building at 10:30 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Debbie White, Salvation Army Service Extension Coordinator. The public is welcome.

Since 1997, when the Interact club was chartered, students from local schools stood by the red kettles and rang the bell for our local Salvation Army.

The original organizers and advisors to the Interact Club were Pam Brown, Barbara Schreier, Paul Desautels, Bill McCloud and Dena Baskin. At that time there were kettles located at K-Mart, Stop & Shop, Price Chopper, Walmart and Putnam Supermarket. A friendly competition between schools began with Putnam High School, Putnam Middle School, Tourtellotte High School, Woodstock Academy, Marianapolis, Killingly High School, St. Mary’s School, St. Joseph’s School, Ashford School and Putnam Science

Academy. Rotarian Karen Osbrey, an Interact advisor, designed the Ring-a-Ling Trophy award for the student with the most bell ringing hours. This trophy has been passed down from winner to winner over the years. The most recent winner was Abby Smith from Woodstock Academy.

From December 1997 to December 2021, the Interact club has helped raise over \$233,200 for Putnam’s Salvation Army Office. Kathi Peterson, Community Service Coordinator of the Putnam

office, explained that the money received in our kettles is used for the needy in Northeast CT for utilities, rent and fuel oil. Recently there have been other groups to assist the Interact Club in this endeavor, Boy Scout Troop 21 and 25, Creation Church, the Leo’s Club, the Rotaract Club, TEEG and the Ashford Social Services.

Look for our kettles at the Putnam Stop & Shop, Putnam Price Chopper, Putnam Walmart and Putnam Supermarket. A tap

payment devise is on our sign for easy donations. The Interact Club is excited to celebrate 25 years of bell ringing and looks forward to another successful year.

# Local poets to launch new books at UConn bookstore

STORRS — Two area poets will launch their new books at Barnes & Noble, 1 Royce Circle, Storrs, on Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. A reading and reception with light refreshments will follow. This event is free to the public, recommended for ages 14 and up. Sharing the stage will be Woodstock resident Karen Warinsky, retired from careers in media and teaching, and former UCONN Creative Writing Instructor Pegi Deitz Shea, of Vernon.

“Karen Warinsky’s ‘Sunrise Ruby’ is an unwavering window into a wise mother’s heart, a fierce interrogation of humanity’s toxic exploits and a poetic reprieve in the resonating movement of spirit and hope,” says Kai Coggin, poet and recipient of the 2021 Arkansas Governor’s Award.

Warinsky began publishing poetry in 2011 and was named as a finalist for her poem “Legacy” in the Montreal International Poetry Contest in 2013. Her work appears in several anthologies, including Nuclear Impact: Broken Atoms in Our Hands, the 2019 Mizmor Anthology, and lit mags including Blue Heron, Circumference and Consilience. Her books, “Gold in Autumn (2020), and Sunrise Ruby (2022), are from Human Error Publishing. Warinsky’s work centers on mid-life, relationships, politics, and the search for spiritual connection through nature. She currently coordinates poetry readings



Karen Warinsky



Pegi Deitz Shea

under the name Poets at Large in CT and MA. Learn more at karenwarinsky-poetry.wordpress.com; contact: karen.warinsky@gmail.com.

Deitz Shea’s The Weight of Kindling (Grayson Books) examines her roots of inspiration including her grandmother’s history, her own world travels, and the family she helped create. Regina Barreca, UCONN Board of Directors’ Distinguished Professor of English, says: “The Weight of Kindling demands to be read for strength and with courage. Each poem does its own hard work, whether its

job is to lighten the heart or eviscerate the innards, without forsaking clarity or precision.” Deitz Shea, a two-time winner of the CT Book Award, taught Children’s Literature and Creative Writing from 2007-2020 at UCONN. She is the author of more than 450 published articles, essays, poems for adult readers and 16 books for young readers. She was the inaugural Poet Laureate of Vernon, and directs Poetry Rocks, a quarterly reading series she founded in 2017. Learn more at www.pegideitzshea.com; contact: pegideitzshea@gmail.com.

## LOCAL MARTIAL ARTIST SHINES AT RHODE ISLAND COMPETITION



Photo Courtesy

Third Degree black belt Audrey Hussey, representing Village Martial Arts, in Burrillville, R.I., recently competed in the KRANE Triple Crown Fall Classic Karate Championships, in Warwick, R.I. Ms. Hussey lives in Brooklyn, and has been training in the Korean art of Tang Soo Do, for 12 years. At 56 years old, she owns and is chief instructor at Village Martial Arts, a martial arts academy just over the border in Burrillville. She has been in the martial arts for 23 years. Competing in both forms and sparring, she took first place in the 50 to 59-year-old division.

# LEGALS

**TOWN OF WOODSTOCK**  
The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, October 6, 2022, at 7:45 p.m. to be held at the Woodstock Town office, 415 Route 169, Lower level, Meeting Room 1, to amend the Woodstock Zoning Regulations to EXTEND the current Temporary and Limited Moratorium on Cannabis Establishments in the Town of Woodstock; Zoning Regulations, Article III.A.2.e.A.4.  
Dr. Jeffrey Gordon, PZC Chairman  
September 23, 2022  
September 30, 2022

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**TOWN OF THOMPSON**  
Notice is hereby given that the contract between the Thompson Board of Education and the Thompson Association of School Administrators for the period of July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2026, is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, Ct.  
Dated at Thompson Ct.  
September 30, 2022  
Renee Waldron

Town Clerk  
September 30, 2022

**TOWN OF THOMPSON**  
**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**  
**LEGAL NOTICE**  
*The Thompson Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255 to hear the following application:*  
ZBA Application 22-01 Mark P. LaMontagne, property owner of 458 Fabyan Rd, Map 19, Block 85, Lot 161, Zone RRAD, request a 12-foot side set back variance to construct a 30.4 foot x 22.4 foot detached garage.  
*File may be reviewed online, Town of Thompson website, Zoning Board of Appeals, or in the Zoning Office.*  
Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Beno, Chairman  
September 30, 2022  
October 7, 2022

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
ESTATE OF Alice Y Evans (22-00359)

The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated September 21, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Diane M Dungey  
c/o ALYSON R ALEMAN, BORNER SMITH ALEMAN HERZOG & CERRONE, LLC, 155 PROVIDENCE STREET, PO BOX 166, PUTNAM, CT 06260  
September 30, 2022

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
ESTATE OF Frank F Evans (22-00358)  
The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated September 21, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on

such claim.  
Brenda Duquette, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Diane M Dungey  
c/o ALYSON R ALEMAN, BORNER SMITH ALEMAN HERZOG & CERRONE, LLC, 155 PROVIDENCE STREET, PO BOX 166, PUTNAM, CT 06260  
September 30, 2022

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
ESTATE OF Anthony J. Tarascio (21-00387)  
The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 14, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.  
Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Rachel M. Scott,  
93 Summer Street, Newport, NH 03773  
September 30, 2022



# Killingly Library holds Comic Con event

KILLINGLY – Comic Conventions, or Comic Cons, have become increasingly popular over the last 20 years thanks to the relevance of nostalgia and comic book and fantasy properties in mass media. The Killingly Public Library decided to embrace this by holding a

Comic Con of its own on Saturday, Sept. 24. A costume contest, crafts, face painting, appearances by “Star Wars” characters, and more made for a fun day for superhero, sci-fi, fantasy, and comic books fans both young and old.



Participants line up for the children’s costume contest.

Photos Jason Bleau



A visitor to Comic Con gets their face painted like a superhero.



Visitors to the Killingly Public Library could purchase tickets in hopes of winning a special gift basket including merchandise from Batman, “Star Wars” and Marvel’s “Avengers.”



the staff of the Killingly Public Library fully embraced the Comic Con theme, dressing up as superheroes and other fantasy characters to greet their patrons.



Children at Comic Con take part in some fun arts and crafts.



A caricature artist was on hand to provide kids and adults with images painting them as their favorite fantasy character or superhero.



Even the Killingly Public Library’s famous T-Rex skeleton got in on the superhero theme of the day.



Participants in the adult costume contest line up to be judged by spectators.



Members of the “Star Wars” universe stopped by to meet visitors at the Killingly Public Library.

## NOTEBOOK

continued from page A6

Girls’ Cross Country Woodstock Academy went 2-1 in a quad-meet, winning against Ledyard (25-33) and Tourtellotte (15-50) and losing to host East Lyme (23-32) at Rocky Neck State Park in Niantic on Tuesday, Sept. 20. For the 4-1 Centaurs Leila Kwairedinord finished sixth, followed in succession by Olivia Tracy, Lauren Brule and Julia Coyle.

At the Ocean State Invitational in Warwick, R.I., on Saturday, Sept. 24, Woodstock finished eighth in the Girls’ Varsity 2 Race. The Centaurs were led in the competition by Tracy, who finished 41st and Coyle, who finished 47th.

Boys’ Cross Country On the strength of top-five finishes by Christian Menounos (third) and Vincente Bastura (fifth)

Woodstock defeated Ledyard (26-29) and Tourtellotte (15-50) in a quad-meet at Rocky Neck State Park in Niantic on Tuesday, Sept. 20. Host East Lyme captured the top two spots in the race, however, and beat the 3-2 Centaurs, 27-37.

At the Ocean State Invitational in Warwick, R.I., on Saturday, Sept. 24, Woodstock finished fifth in the Boys’ Varsity 2 Race. Menounos led the way, 13th-place finish, while Bastura was right behind him, finishing 14th.

Football Quarterback Robbie Minor completed 8-of-10 passes for 191 yards and two touchdowns to help lead the undefeated Quinebaug Valley Pride (QVP) past visiting Montville, 21-14, on Friday, Sept. 23.

Trailing, 6-0, The Pride — a co-op team which includes students from Ellis Tech, Putnam and Tourtellotte — tied the

game, 6-6, on a 41-yard screen pass from Minor to Dan Boutin late in the first half.

QVP took the lead for good midway through the third quarter when Minor and Mateo Alvarez (three catches, 11 yards, touchdown) combined on a 77-yard, catch-and-run touchdown toss and Devon Lamothe added the extra point, putting the Pride ahead, 13-6.

In the fourth quarter, following an inspired goal-line stand by the defense, QVP drove 95 yards for an insurance touchdown, which was scored by Lamothe on a 77-yard run. After Minor scored the two-point conversion on a quarterback sneak, the Pride led, 21-6, with 5:34 remaining in the game.

After Montville scored to pull within seven, 21-14, with 4:01 left, QVP took the ensuing kickoff and picked up three first downs, running the clock out in the process.



Killingly Public Library Director Claudette Stockwell interacts with visitors to Comic Con who could pick from a selection of comic books donated by Killingly’s own Uncanny Collectables.

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# Woodstock presents Art in the Park

WOODSTOCK — The barn at Roseland Park was a busy place on Sunday, Sept. 18 as the location of Art in the Park, an event showcasing numerous local artists from the Quiet Corner and beyond. A variety of styles and inspirations were on hand both inside and around the barn throughout the day as artists showed off their creati-

ty while visitors had the chance to purchase some of the one-of-a-kind pieces to add a splash of color to their own living spaces. The event was a celebration of all things art from paintings and photographs to decorations and everything in between.

*Photos Jason Bleau*



This Artwork by Annette showed off the artist's ability to capture characters both real and imaginary in a sketch.



Paintings from Little River Studio show off the beauty of the countryside and beyond.



Frank Zilinskas shows off his painting of the barn at Roseland Park, which is exactly where the Art in the Park took place. His works are so lifelike you could mistake them for photographs.



These unique monprint collages were provided by local artist Lisa Davidson.



A selection of the fine art creations from Laurel Wreath Farms.



Local artist Lucas Reardon presents on of his many art pieces, each with this own unique personality.



Artist Pam Lee discusses one of her works with a potential customer.



This table of art pieces embraced the upcoming fall and Halloween season.

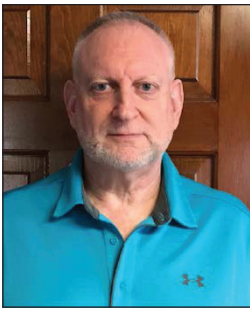


While Art in the Park showed off a number of different art styles, Grace Gourmet showed off some art of their own as the food vender of the event. Culinary cuisine is certainly an art in its own right.

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