



WOODSTOCK VILLAGER

Friday, December 16, 2022

Serving Eastford, Pomfret & Woodstock since 2005

Complimentary to homes by request

North Haven ends Killingly's bid for back-to-back state titles



Courtesy

Head coach Chad Neal and assistant coach/defensive coordinator Gary Brine (far right) lead the Killingly High football team back to the locker room after pregame warmups for the team's Connecticut Class MM championship game with North Haven, played Saturday, Dec. 10 at Rentschler Field. Killingly lost the contest, 51-34, in its bid for back-to-back state titles.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

EAST HARTFORD — One of the most often used sports clichés is about football being a “game of inches.”

Killingly High, however, in its Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) Class MM Championship Game against North Haven, played on Saturday, Dec. 10, at Rentschler Field, was thwarted in its bid for a second straight state title by a lesser known but equally as important cliché — “the difference between winning and losing often comes down to a handful of plays.”

North Haven ended up defeating Killingly, 51-34, but the game was not always headed toward that seemingly lopsided final score.

Third-seeded Killingly rallied from a 14-0 deficit to tie the game, 21-21, at half-time. Optimism about Killingly's chances to win the game, which had waned when the fifth-seeded Nighthawks jumped out to a two-touchdown lead in the first 10 minutes of the first quarter, had returned to the Killingly fans in attendance.

Adding to that confidence level at half-time was the knowledge that Killingly would receive the second-half kickoff.

Killingly (11-2) began the opening drive of the third quarter on its own 20-yard line.

On third-and-eight, quarterback Tom Dreiholz (20-for-30, 313 yards, 4 touchdowns) hit classmate Braden Petersen (5 receptions, 85 yards, 1 touchdown) for a

Turn To **KILLINGLY** page **A1**

Day Kimball hospice program earns five-star rating

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) is pleased to announce that Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut, a service division of Day Kimball Healthcare at Home, has been recognized as a five-star hospice agency by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The new CMS star ratings for hospice agencies were released in August and are based on the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) Hospice Family Caregiver Survey.

Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut is the only organization in the state of Connecticut to receive a five-star rating, an achievement that plac-

es the agency among the top 10 percent of all hospices in the country. More than 2,000 hospices in the United States met the eligibility criteria to be assigned a star rating, and only 195 of those were awarded five stars.

“We are extremely proud to be recognized as the only hospice organization in Connecticut to receive this prestigious honor, and to be ranked among the nation's best hospice agencies is an incredible achievement for us,” said Renee Smith, Vice President, Post-Acute Services, Day Kimball Healthcare. “Our incredible hospice team of compassionate caregivers works tremendously hard to bring dignity and comfort to those in

our community facing life-limiting or life-threatening illnesses, and this distinction is validation of the team's dedication and commitment to our patients.”

“Our close-knit community knows the compassionate care our Hospice & Palliative care program provides throughout Northeastern Connecticut,” said Kyle Kramer, CEO of Day Kimball Healthcare. “Achieving national recognition by a trusted organization like Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services certifies that Day Kimball values providing the highest quality of care to our patients. I am exceedingly proud of

Turn To **FIVE-STAR** page **A9**

Nelson mines gold in Texas

TOP GAME INSTRUCTOR CAPTURES PAIR OF TITLES AT USA JUDO'S PRESIDENT'S CUP

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

PLAINFIELD — Leana Nelson, a member and instructor at Top Game Martial Arts, located in the Moosup River Commons strip mall on Norwich Street, closed out her junior division judo career on a high note last month, winning a pair of national titles.

At the 2022 USA Judo President's Cup, held in Irving, Texas, on Sunday, Nov. 20, Nelson fought in the International Judo Federation (IJF) Junior Female/Under 57-Kilogram Division and the Senior Elite Women/57-Kilogram Division.

Turn To **NELSON** page **A9**

Courtesy

Top Game's Leana Nelson, right, executes a throw on her opponent at the 2022 USA Judo President's Cup, held in Irving, Texas, on Sunday, Nov. 20. Nelson went 7-0 en route to winning the International Judo Federation Junior Female/Under 57-Kilogram Division and the Senior Elite Women/57-Kilogram Division.



Roy E Nanjo

VFW Post 4908 collects gifts for Tommy Toy Fund



Courtesy

Volunteers from the VFW Post 4908 Auxiliary pose for a photo celebrating the fourth year of the VFW's Tommy Toy Drive.

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The East Killingly VFW Post 4908 hosted its fourth annual Tommy Toy Drive on Saturday, Dec. 10 to help give local children and families a wonderful holiday. The VFW began this modern holiday traditional the year before the COVID-19 pandemic, but they haven't slowed down continuing to help support the Tommy Toy Fund for nearly half a decade.

The VFW Auxiliary put a lot of work into the 2022 toy drive which was more than just a collection of toys. It was also a way to help build community among the veterans and patrons who each brought unwrapped gifts to partake in the celebration. Lynn Rabor, Treasurer of the VFW Auxiliary, said the event also served as a holiday celebration of sorts for the VFW includ-

ing a potluck dinner and music by Gene Harrison who donated his talents as the entertainment for the day. Rabor said it all spawned from a desire to give back and has evolved into an annual event.

“We wanted to collect toys for Christmas and we looked at a couple of avenues. Toys for Tots does not have a local chapter in Windham County, so we turned to the Tommy Toy Fund who is very present here, so we started this event, and it turned out to be a great thing,” said Rabor.

Cindy Gent, President VFW Post 4908 Auxiliary, called 2022 one of, if not the biggest years yet showing just how dedicated to the cause the VFW patrons have become.

“It's been a great turnout. It's certainly given. We still had it even through the pandemic, but now that the pandemic is over, we have even

Turn To **VFW** page **A9**

Kimberly Byrne earns Westview Employee of the Month award

DAYVILLE — Kimberly Byrne, RN was honored with Westview Health Care Center's October 2022 Employee of the Month distinction.

Byrne has worked as a Registered Nurse at the Dayville skilled nursing facility since July 2021; having started her career at Westview as a Certified Nursing Assistant in October 2004. She expresses gratitude for the facility's support of her educational path, as she obtained her CNA certification through Westview's "Earn While You Learn" initiative. This program trains new CNAs in the clinical setting of Westview and provides them with employment throughout the process. Her additional academic accolades include the Associate's degree in Science that she earned from Quinebaug Valley Community College and the Associates Degree in Nursing that she earned from Three Rivers Community College. Prior to working at Westview, she worked as a dietary aide in another skilled nursing facility, and she cites that she has always had a passion for taking care of seniors. She hopes to further advance her career to become a nurse educator and pass along her knowledge and expertise to future generations of nurses.

Byrne greatly values her experiences in different levels of nursing—initially as a CNA team member and now as a Registered Nurse who leads care teams. She states that her first-hand knowledge from those two stages of her nursing career have given her strong insights about how the whole team at Westview can work together to provide optimal care.

Despite the immense challenges in skilled nursing homes over the last few years, Byrne is inspired by the deter-



Kim Byrne

mination exhibited among her team at Westview, stating, "If we can persevere through the previous couple of years, we can get through anything!"

She went on to express her gratitude towards Westview and her colleagues.

"I'm honored to be selected as Employee of the Month!" she said. "After 18 years, Westview Health Care Center has become my second home and family. I take pride in working with such amazing people and working at such a wonderful facility. Westview has enabled me to advance my career—encouraging me throughout the pro-

cess—and I am especially grateful for that."

Byrne, her boyfriend Jason, and their sons Jayden and Kai live in Brooklyn with their cats, Ruby and Pearl. Myriad interests are enjoyed by Byrne to nurture her creative side. She enjoys painting—whether it is refinishing furniture or craft painting projects—and finds that it has a therapeutic impact on her. Soap-making is another hobby of Byrne's; creating and selling handmade soaps for family, friends, and other patrons. Tarot card reading is more than a pastime for her, as she appreciates living her whole life with

what she calls a "metaphysical mindset." She also loves to dive into good pieces of literature when she has quiet moments. She is captivated by a wide range of book genres in both fiction and non-fiction. Some of her favorite narratives are suspense thrillers and historical novels, and she proudly describes how she is fascinated by reading science and medical journals; proving that her passion for health care is thorough.

Westview Health Care Center Administrator David T. Panteleakos is happy for Byrne's success and growth in her time at Westview.

"I am so impressed by Kim's devotion and determination throughout her career as a health care provider," Panteleakos said. "It takes a lot of consistently challenging work to advance in the nursing field, and she possesses an inspiring level of perseverance to achieve her goals. I value Kim's role here at Westview for the compassionate care she provides as well as the leadership qualities she exhibits to all of her colleagues. Congratulations to Kim!"

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

Tourtellotte Student Spotlight: Briana Martin

Each month, Tourtellotte Memorial High School's Student Spotlight program recognizes a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement, character, leadership, attitude, and/or contributions to the school and community.

December's Student Spotlight honoree is freshman Briana Martin.

Briana was nominated by Hanna LeClaire, Ily Martel, Mrs. Lennon, and Mrs. Ouillette.

In Briana's nomination, Hanna states, "I haven't known her long, but whenever I am around her, she is such a ray of sunshine. She is very personable and always willing to step up. She is very involved in the school with Yearbook, Leadership and more, and is always ready to take a leadership role when it is needed. Briana is friendly to all and deserves this recognition. She demonstrates all the qualities a student spotlight should have."

Briana's friend Ily says, "Briana Martin isn't the typical person. Being new to the school, I was scared and worried I would be lost. Except it was completely different, all because of

Briana. She was welcoming and open to meeting new people constantly. Soon enough, she became my best friend. I'd just like to say thank you to her, on behalf of myself and others for checking in after a bad day, for always being there with no questions asked, and for always offering the best advice and help that she can. Briana creates such an impact on others' lives without noticing it."

Mrs. Lennon says, "Briana Martin is one of those students who genuinely wants to do well, but more importantly wants those around her to do well. I am constantly overwhelmed by how selfless she is, even when other people may choose to advance themselves. She is the definition of the kind of person who makes everyone feel like someone. She is a conscientious student who has a bright future ahead of her in whatever she chooses to do, given her work ethic."

Finally, Mrs. Ouillette adds, "Briana has hit the ground running in high school and has made a great impres-



sion on the staff and students here at TMHS. She was elected by her peers to be Vice President of her class and quickly became an active member of the Student Council and Tourtellotte Student Leadership Team (TSLT), having already volunteered for several events including TMHS Expo Night, Thompson Community Day, the TMHS Promotion Assembly, and Alumni Career Day. Briana is a fine example of how to make the most of your high school experience from Day One and I look forward to seeing how much more she will impact TMHS in the coming years."

Briana is not only involved in her school community, but is also an excellent student. She achieved high honors throughout middle school and has maintained these grades in high school.

When asked what motivates her, Briana says, "My greatest motivations would have to be my family, friends, and my teachers. These people play an important part in my life because they are constantly supporting me in every-

thing I want to do, and help me accomplish all of my goals I aim to complete. Seeing success from the people around me makes me strive to be the best I can be and put 110 percent into everything I do. They affirm to me that I can do anything I want to do if I put my mind to it."

About her future, Briana states, "Although I'm not sure about what I would like to do, I do know that I'm looking forward to embarking on the journey to discover my passions in life and form goals for the future at TMHS."

Finally, Briana's message to her school and community is, "Thank you to the people who have supported me and nominated me for this award. I am so happy to be a part of this welcoming community full of kindness. It truly feels great to be recognized for just being myself, and it shows that the saying 'you get out of life what you put into it' is true. Thank you again, and I can't wait to continue leaving my mark at TMHS."

VILLAGER ALMANAC AT CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Dec. 5: American Kestrel, Red-tailed Hawk, Bluebird, Junco, Mockingbird, Pheasant, Great-horned Owl, Carolina Wren, Cardinal, House Finch, Blue Jay, Crow, Raven, Red-bellied Woodpecker, White-throated Sparrow. Visit ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home.

Country Crafts & Spa Shoppe
357 RIVERSIDE DR., N. GROSVENORDALE, CT.

BLACK FRIDAY SEPCIALS

In Store Door Busters!

Wednesday 11/23 - Saturday 11/26
30% OFF Come In For Details

Monday 11/28
CYBER MONDAY DEALS!

860-315-7065
OPEN: Mon-Sun 9am Daily

Enjoy Life with Better Hearing!

Call **860-315-9656** to schedule a hearing evaluation.

amplisound
HEARING CARE CENTERS

Does your insurance cover hearing aids? Let us check for you. We work with Anthem BCBS, United Healthcare, Hearing Care Solutions, Amplifon, Nation's Hearing, American Hearing Benefits, and CT Medicaid.

19 Quinebaug Ave, Putnam
351 Merline Road, Vernon
www.amplisound.com

Hearing Solutions for all Lifestyles and Budgets since 1981

Showplace Cabinetry is made in America by employee-owners who take great pride in every cabinet they craft for you. Your creative choices are nearly unlimited, and it's all backed by the assurance of a lifetime warranty. Call us to learn more about what we can do for your dream.

SHOWPLACE CABINETRY
EMPLOYEE OWNED MADE IN AMERICA LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

YOUR DREAM, CLOSER TO REALITY

Transform Your Home Today!

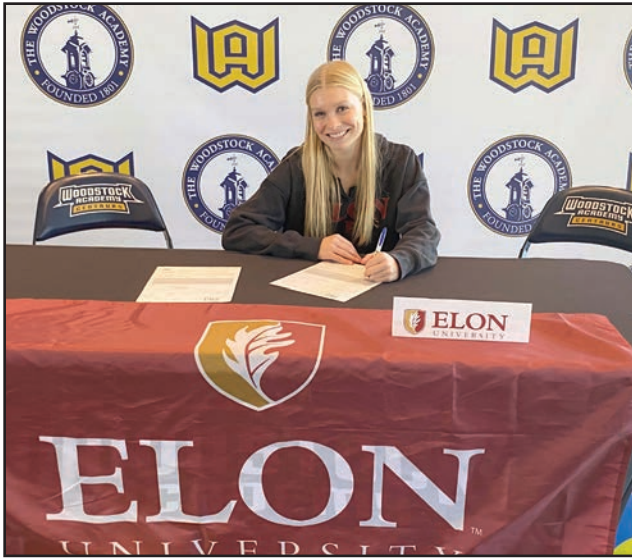
We are authorized retailer of Benjamin Moore Paints & Stains. Our Staff Makes it easy to find the right color, paint and supplies to ensure a successful project!

EASTFORD Building Supply

189 Eastford Rd., Eastford, CT 06242
ph: 860-974-1924 • fax: 860-974-0099
eastfordbuildingsupply.com

Monday-Friday 7am-5pm
Saturday: 8am-12pm
Sunday: Closed

Trio of Centaur seniors sign National Letters of Intent to further athletic careers



Courtesy — Marc Allard/Woodstock Academy

Woodstock Academy senior Grace Gelhaus signed her National Letter of Intent (NLI) to play collegiate soccer for Elon (N.C.) University last month at Woodstock Academy's Loos Center.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — Three of the more prominent female student-athletes in the Woodstock Academy Class of 2023 — Grace Gelhaus, Taylor Markley and Lexi Thompson — solidified their college plans last month, all three signing a National Letter of Intent (NLI) to continue their academic and athletic careers at a Division I or Division II university.

Gelhaus signed with Elon (N.C.) University, where she will continue her soccer career, while Markley — a state champion and elite-level gymnast — signed with the University of Bridgeport, and Alexandra “Lexi” Thompson, a strike-out machine for the Centaurs’ varsity softball team, signed with Assumption University.

Elon is a Division I school while Bridgeport and Assumption compete at the Division II level.

Gelhaus, who verbally committed to Elon several months ago, is joining the Phoenix off a very

successful senior season, during which she scored 25 goals, recorded 11 assists, and finished with 36 points. Woodstock finished the season 14-5-2, winning both the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Division I and tournament titles.

Gelhaus played a pivotal role in the Centaurs late-season charge into the Connecticut Class L Girls’ Soccer Tournament this fall. Woodstock advanced to the quarter-final round of the tournament for the first time since 2003 — thanks to victories over Windsor and Daniel Hand high schools. In the quarter-finals Wethersfield High dashed the Centaurs’ state title dreams, 2-1. Gelhaus scored eight goals in Woodstock’s three postseason games.

“After how the season went, winning the division and the ECC tournament, it will definitely be a huge confidence booster for the rest of my career,” Gelhaus said to Woodstock Academy sports information director Marc Allard. “I loved



Woodstock Academy senior Lexi Thompson will continue her softball career at the Division II level after recently deciding to commit to Assumption University in Worcester, Mass.

the team and didn’t want the season to end, so I just gave it all I could to keep it going.”

Even though Gelhaus will be nearly 700 miles from Woodstock, she will be surrounded by family.

“My whole family is down there; all of my siblings are in the Carolinas,” Gelhaus told Allard. “I will have them if I need them. My brother (Huck Gelhaus, WA Class of 2021) will be 30 minutes from me.”

Signing an NLI to attend the University of Bridgeport allowed Markley to realize a lifelong dream.

“Ever since I was really young, I’ve always wanted to do college gymnastics,” Markley told Allard. “It was never, ‘I want to go to the Olympics.’ It was always, ‘I want to do college gymnastics,’” she said.

While Markley will get to ‘do gymnastics’ at Bridgeport, she won’t get to do them right away, having suffered a serious elbow injury in April at a USA Gymnastics regional meet.

“I had to get Tommy John surgery. I’m out, I’m pretty sure, for another six months. I don’t think I will have a season this year,” Markley told Allard. “When I get to college, my goal is to make it to Regionals and Nationals.”

Markley finished the 2021-2022 high school gymnastics season as the ECC individual champion and the Connecticut Open individual champion and she finished second in the New England championship. With Markley leading the way Woodstock Academy won its 12th consecutive ECC title and 11th straight state championship (this year it was in Class M).

Markley was being heavily recruited by Division I colleges and universities before that USA Gymnastics regional meet in April. After suffering the elbow injuries, many schools stopped checking in with her.

“After the injury I really didn’t know if any school would actually want me,” Markley said to Allard.

Bridgeport never



Purple was the “in color” last month when Woodstock Academy senior Taylor Markley signed her National Letter of Intent (NLI) to attend the University of Bridgeport to compete for the Purple Knights in gymnastics.

stopped checking in.

“It seems like they really care,” Markley told Allard. “They still took me even though they knew I will have to have a lot of rehab once I get there.”

Thompson’s decision to attend Assumption, at the end of the recruiting process, came down one thing — it just made sense. And how could it not; it’s close to home, it has a nursing program, and a family member may end up there as well.

“Ever since I visited, Assumption just checked off all my boxes. I really like that it is a faith-based school, that the softball program is really competitive, and the coaching staff is great,” Thompson told Allard. “It’s in a great area with a great environment. It’s perfect for me.”

Thompson was recruited by Assumption as a pitcher but so was another player who has committed to the Greyhounds’ program. There will be competition for playing time. Thompson is fine with that.

“Life is a competition,” Thompson told Allard. “I

don’t mind being a team player; I think that’s something that’s really important. I don’t mind waiting my turn if I have to. Everyone wants to play. I’ll take what I can get.”

Thompson pitched 119.2 innings for Woodstock last year, finishing with 177 strikeouts while walking 78 and giving up 123 hits. At the plate she hit .360 with 23 RBI, two doubles and two home runs.

At Assumption, Thompson will be playing for Stacey Mayer. The St. Joseph’s of Pennsylvania graduate, who served as an assistant coach at Providence College, is in her first year as the Greyhounds’ head coach.

“The coach is so great. She is super sweet and so nice. She’s from Rhode Island (Lincoln), so she’s local,” Thompson told Allard. “She knows what she’s talking about and is bringing in a new coaching staff and rebuilding the program a bit. I’m really excited for the next four (years) and what we’re going to be able to do.”

EV charging stations added to Eastern parking garages

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern is upping its energy sustainability profile with five new car chargers added recently to the six already installed at the Shakespeare and Cervantes garages. The chargers were funded by a federal grant, said Renee Theroux-Keech, director of facilities management and planning. As a condition of funding, the general public must be allowed to use them as well as Eastern students, faculty and staff.

If more EV funding becomes readily available, she said, “We have been exploring electrifying a portion of the Facilities maintenance fleet and would look to locate chargers in areas where the fleet vehicles park.”

The 11 chargers installed so far have been getting regular use, she said. Drivers are asked to observe a two to four-hour charging limit. Campus police are aware of the limit and are

monitoring it, she said. Charging is free.

“It’s timely in that energy costs are going to increase dramatically,” said Patricia Szczys, executive director, Institute for Sustainability. Involving students in sustainability is a priority for her, she said, and she envisions future projects for them to track how many EVs are on campus and possibly map charging stations around the county.

Locals earn Head of School Scholar Honors at Pomfret

POMFRET — Students named to this list earned a grade point average of at least 4.00 and received no grade lower than an A- for the Fall 2022 Term.

Meredith Bergendahl of Pomfret Center

- Maya Bullied of Pomfret
- Lucas Canavan of Pomfret Center
- Robert Ellsworth of Eastford
- Kale Hart of Pomfret Center
- Maxtin Hart of Pomfret Center
- William Leary of Pomfret
- Fergus Litowitz of Pomfret
- Luke Litowitz of Pomfret

Delaney Williams of Brooklyn
Founded in 1894, Pomfret School is an independent coeducational college preparatory boarding and day school for 350 students in grades 9 through 12 and postgraduates. Set on a stunning 500-acre campus in Northeastern Connecticut, Pomfret empowers students to pursue lives of purpose and meaning by inspiring the next generation of change makers and problem solvers. Learn more at www.pomfret.org.

Pomfret School announces High Honors List

POMFRET — Students named to this list earned a grade point average of at least 3.670 and received no grade lower than a B+ for the Fall 2022 term.

Carson Ames of Pomfret

- Olivia Crawford of Pomfret Center
- Amelia Duquette of North Grosvenordale
- Maya Gerum of Pomfret Center
- Sophia Grassi of Pomfret Center
- Remy Jacquet of Pomfret
- Max Ring of Pomfret
- Shepherd Wilcox of Pomfret Center
- Calvin Wolanin of Pomfret Center
- Chloe Woodard of Pomfret
- Mary-Aliya Turay of Rogers
- Clayton Lehmann of Putnam

Founded in 1894, Pomfret School is an independent coeducational college preparatory boarding and day school for 350 students in grades 9 through 12 and postgraduates. Set on a stunning 500-acre campus in Northeastern Connecticut, Pomfret empowers students to pursue lives of purpose and meaning by inspiring the next generation of change makers and problem solvers. Learn more at www.pomfret.org.

Local students named to Pomfret School Honors List

POMFRET — Students named to this list earned a grade point average of at least 3.330 and received no grade lower than a B for the Fall 2022 term.

- Jack Heroux of Pomfret Center
 - Dylan Johnson of Pomfret Center
 - Matthew McClure of Woodstock
 - Gabriella Nsubuga of United States
 - James Rice of Pomfret Center
 - Adam Tillinghast of Danielson
 - Brody Zahansky of Pomfret Center
 - Mirabelle Cole of Brooklyn
 - Gabriella Nsubuga of United States
 - Adam Tillinghast of Danielson
- Founded in 1894, Pomfret School is an independent coeducational college preparatory boarding and day school

for 350 students in grades 9 through 12 and postgraduates. Set on a stunning 500-acre campus in Northeastern Connecticut, Pomfret empowers students to pursue lives of purpose and meaning by inspiring the next generation of change makers and problem solvers. Learn more at www.pomfret.org.

Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD

Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Hull forest products Best Value & Quality from CT's Largest Sawmill

Conserving Forests / Crafting Wood / Since 1965

Custom and Stock Wood Flooring Mill Direct
Made from Locally Grown Wood

Flooring showroom hours
8:30-4:30 Mon-Friday
Appointments Preferred

CONNECTICUT GROWN

Come see what we saw!

Family Owned & Operated since 1965
www.hullforest.com • (860) 974-0127

PAQUETTE ELECTRIC CO., INC. CONNECTICUT MASSACHUSETTS RHODE ISLAND JOURNEYMAN ELECTRICIANS WANTED

NOW HIRING!

Excellent Wages & Benefits Including:

- Medical / Dental / Prescription Insurance
- Disability Insurance • Life Insurance • HSA Plan
- 401K Plan • Paid Vacations & Holidays
- Performance Bonus

Apply in person or online at: www.paquelec.com

Paquette Electrical Co., Inc.
368 Killingly Rd., Pomfret Center, CT 06259

860-963-7078

CT Lic#0198020 RI Lic #A-004955 E/O Employer MA Lic #20353A

Winter Festival continues Woodstock tradition



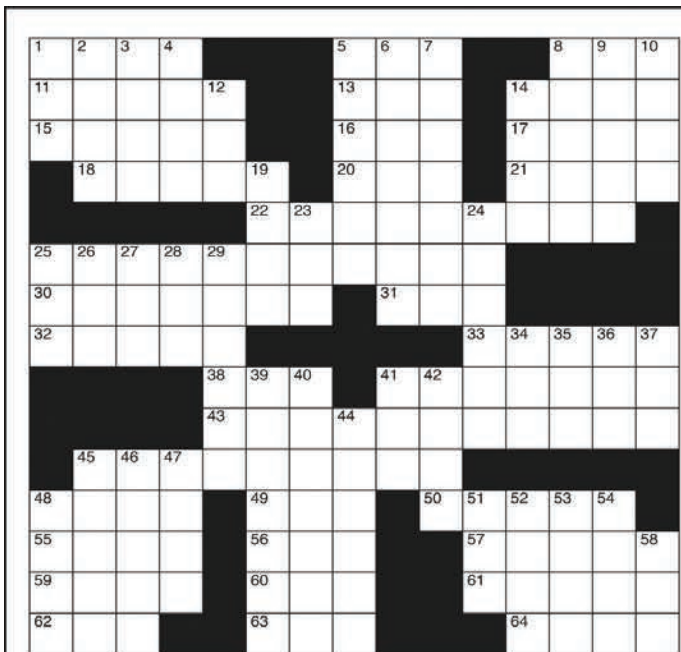
The BankHometown crew pose for a photo as they try to stay warm in the RoselandPark barn.



CR Premier Properties offered holiday themed goodies as they greeted guests to the Winter Festival.



Lisa Andrews of Peas and Paws serves customers at her booth during the Winter Festival in Woodstock.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A people of Eastern Afghanistan
- 5. Supervises interstate commerce
- 8. Touch lightly
- 11. Relating to bees
- 13. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
- 14. Mosuo culture religion
- 15. Italian village
- 16. Stiff bristle
- 17. Wealthy enclave in Rio
- 18. Cause to lose courage
- 20. Examines animals
- 21. Ethnic group of Laos and Thailand
- 22. Gets rid of
- 25. Having easily perceived thoughts
- 30. Removed surgically
- 31. Principle underlying the universe
- 32. Popular airline
- 33. Antelopes
- 38. Peacock network
- 41. Utter repeatedly
- 43. One from the Golden State
- 45. Photographers
- 48. Father
- 49. Popular BBQ dish
- 50. Cavalry sword
- 55. Ancient Greek sophist
- 56. Atomic mass unit
- 57. Afflicted in mind or body
- 59. Indian mythological figure
- 60. Mild expression of surprise
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Brew
- 63. Doctor of Education
- 64. Impudence

CLUES DOWN

- 1. State attorneys
- 2. Imitated
- 3. Latvian capital
- 4. Irish goddess
- 5. Taste
- 6. Dried
- 7. Spanish saloon
- 8. Mother of Perseus
- 9. Evergreen coniferous trees
- 10. Refuse to comply
- 12. Negative
- 14. Hyphen
- 19. A way to record
- 23. Not good
- 24. One who tends the furnace
- 25. Small amount
- 26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 27. The whole quantity
- 28. __ King Cole, musician
- 29. One's opinion
- 34. Holds ashes
- 35. Stablecoin cryptocurrency
- 36. Side-blotched lizards genus
- 37. Legislator (abbr.)
- 39. Concentrated bombardment
- 40. Took for oneself
- 41. Nigerian City
- 42. Thousands of pounds
- 44. Inspired
- 45. Secret clique
- 46. Expression
- 47. Dough made from corn flour
- 48. Comedian Carvey
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Resistance fighters
- 58. Criticize



Guests to the Winter Festival were given the chance to try their luck winning any of these decorative wreaths, each with a different theme and personality and some with special added prizes.

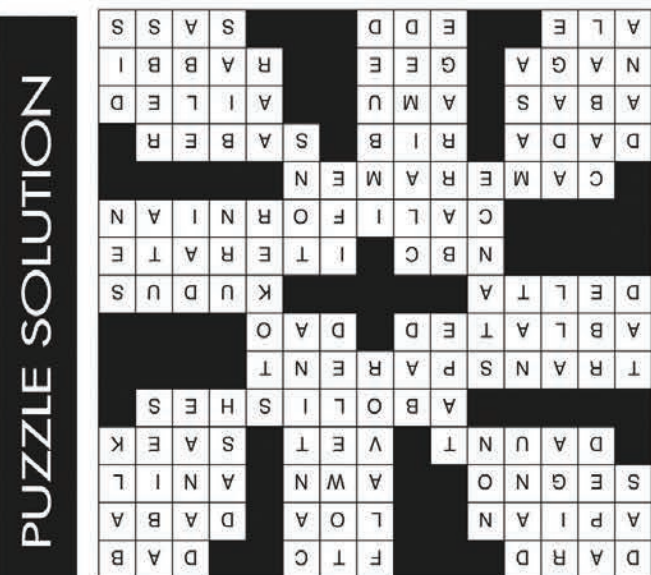


Volunteers Kathy Labonte and Sue Swan embraced their holiday spirit as they helped make the Winter Festival a big success.

WOODSTOCK — The Roseland Park Barn was the site once again of a new annual tradition in Woodstock, the 3rd annual Woodstock Winter Festival. The small but homey event featured a variety of local sponsors turning out to meet and greet guests with crafts based around the winter season. A dash of Christmas spirit helped complete the package as did a special holiday raffle that allowed visitors to take a chance on winning one of a variety of creative themed wreaths to help compliment their holiday and winter décor.



This large Christmas tree served as the centerpiece of the event, literally positioned at the center of the Roseland Park Barn.



THE SIDING STORE INC.
Siding • Roofing • Windows • Decks • Sunrooms

FALL SPECIALS NOW IN EFFECT
\$\$\$\$

Financing available to qualified customers!
thesidingstoreinc.com

860.423.7771 860.963.9035
860.886.1718 860.564.7088

References Galore • Fully Licensed • Senior Discounts • Lead Safe

Villager Newspapers

TO PLACE A BUSINESS AD:
MIKAELA VICTOR
RETAIL ADVERTISING
860-928-1818 EXT. 313
mikaela@villagernewspapers.com

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:
KERRI PETERSON
860-928-1818, EXT. 303
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:
E-MAIL
obits@stonebridgepress.news
CALL: 860-928-4215
OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR: OR PRESS RELEASE
E-MAIL:
brendan@villagernewspapers.com
OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
860-928-1818 EXT. 103
frank@villagernewspapers.com

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DiNICOLA
508-764-6102
jdinicola@stonebridgepress.com

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
860-928-1818 x 323
brendan@villagernewspapers.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
860-928-1818, EXT. 305
julie@villagernewspapers.com

The Putnam Villager (025-154), The Thompson Villager (024-998) The Killingly Villager (025-004) and The Woodstock Villager (024-999) are published weekly by Villager Newspapers, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Woodstock, CT and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: send address changes to the Villager Newspapers, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

THE LAW OFFICE OF
GABRIELLE LABONTE
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

WILLS AND TRUSTS
MEDICAID PLANNING
PROBATE

Happy Holidays

5 VINA LANE • P.O. Box 709
BROOKLYN, CONNECTICUT 06234
PHONE: 860-774-3700 • FAX: 860-774-6300

YMCA hosts Holiday Bazaar



Jason Bleau

One of the first crafters visitors could enjoy was this display which featured a wide variety of hand made and themed goods.



Local Cub Scout Pack 93 was the very first booth guests saw walking into the YMCA as they sold a variety of items including coffee, treats, and more.



This selection of goods by Cynthia Caskey provided some holiday cheer for those looking to add to their decorative displays.



PUTNAM — The Hale YMCA Youth and Family Center in Putnam got into the holiday spirit early on Dec. 10 by hosting a Holiday Bazaar that filled the buildings with creative gifts and crafts. The event saw much of the facility filled with a large selection of crafters and vendors offering a massive selection of fun gift ideas and personal care products for purchase while also adding that special touch of community togetherness unique to the Quiet Corner. The event proved to be a big success, helping not only provide an outlet for crafters to connect with customers but also allow visitors to learn more about the YMCA and its programs.



Crafter Gale Girard shows off some of her hand-made stuffed animals based on pop culture icons. These were popular items at the bazaar with numerous crafters showing off their own versions of the dolls.



The Hay Burr Inn Equine Rescue continued their mission of outreach meeting with locals and selling some goods at the bazaar.



CARPENTRY SERVICES CT, LLC
Remodeling Kitchens, Baths and More!
 CALL Gene Pepper at 860-230-6105
 carpentryservicesct.com
 CT #0606460 • #MA-HIC#196807 • RI #763
 Veteran owned and operated since '89



NOW Executive Director Tayler Shea continued to make the rounds at local holiday events selling coffee from Putnam's own Chubby Dog Coffee to help support the organization.

LEONARD ZADORA & SONS, LLC
 DEMOLITION, SEPTIC SYSTEMS & EXCAVATION
 FREE ESTIMATE

- New & Repaired Septic Systems
- Landscaping
- Stumping • Drainage Systems
- Sewer Connections
- Frost Walls • Cellar Holes
- Snow Plowing
- Loam • Sand • Gravel • Fill

860-774-1737

108 Thompson Pike, Dayville, CT 06241
 40 Years Experience • Licensed & Insured



This table by Buzzed Up Birds showed off quite the unique selection of bird feeders reusing alcoholic beverage bottles to create refillable bird feeders to allow owners a unique way to get in touch with nature.

Above: This was possibly the most festive table at the event showing off a wide selection of fun Christmas-themed goods.



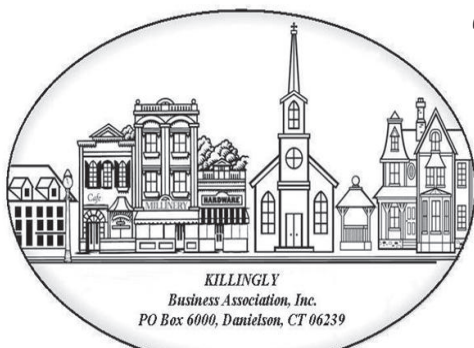
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS IN BUSINESS
Overhead Door Of Windham County

OVERHEAD DOOR

Two 9'x7' Garage doors & Two Electric Openers
Now \$3,100
 Exp. 12/31/2022

- ✓ Two Remotes & Wall Button
- ✓ Take Down Of Current Door
- ✓ Wireless Outdoor Keypad
- ✓ Photo Safety Eyes

CALL 860-889-3848 / VISIT OHDCT.com
 93 Hartford Rd, Brooklyn, CT 06234



Buy Local • Dine Local • Invest Local • Think Local • Support Local

SHOP LOCAL SHOP KILLINGLY

For Advertising Information
 Call 860-928-1818
 email: ads@villagernewspapers.com

Crooked Creek Farm
 ~est. 1992~
 East Brookfield, Massachusetts

Stock up now!

Retail Cuts, Quarter, & Half sides of beef Available!

To purchase your meat packages
 CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
 www.CrookedCreekFarmMA.com

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

Find Us on Social Media

TAILORED KITCHENS
 by Ann-Marie

Planning your new kitchen?
 Give us a call!

We offer all-wood cabinetry, countertops, tile, plumbing fixtures, bar stools and more.
 Great service too!

Jolley Commons Plaza
 144 Wauregan Rd (Rte. 12) • Danielson, CT • 860.774.5554
 TAILOREDKITCHENSANNMARIE.COM

Villager Newspapers
 P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550
 TELEPHONE: (860) 928-1818
 FAX: (860) 928-5946
 WWW.VILLAGERNEWSPAPERS.COM

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
 PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

Asking the right questions

It's holiday party season, and for most of us, that is a good thing. We get together with friends and family, enjoy some eggnog and a plethora of our favorite appetizers. However, we do know that often, we are invited by our significant others to attend a work soiree, or we are attending one ourselves. Being in a room where you only know one or a few people could seem like a daunting task for our introverted readers, but have no fear, below we have ways for you to have memorable conversations that you may end up enjoying.

Instead of discussing the weather or asking the mundane questions such as "Where are you from?" why not simply ask, "What's your story?" Other conversation starters include, "How do you know the host?" "What was the highlight of your week?" or "Are you working on anything exciting?"

If you're shy or feeling a bit awkward, you can keep the conversation going by talking about the food being served or the venue where the event is taking place. Asking a person what they have tried so far, and how they liked it is an easy conversation starter. If you research the history of a place, you can always begin with the "Did you know?" questions. We know everyone loves a good history story and bits of local trivia.

If the person you are speaking with is from the area, ask them what they do for entertainment in town, including where and what their favorite restaurants are. Looking up recent sports standings is never a bad idea, even if you don't particularly care for sports. This way when you nod and smile, you can have some confidence in knowing that you are at least somewhat in the loop. If you've bumped into a fellow skier, discussing snow conditions and ski hills is an easy topic. Look up a recent odd news story that is interesting and humorous, that way during a lull, you can say, "So I was reading about a man who appeared before a Dutch court and requested that he legally be made 20 years younger." (Yes, that actually happened. If we see you at a holiday bash we will fill you in.)

Most conversations remain on the surface, which is appropriate when you don't really know someone. However, if you feel comfortable and are enjoying the conversation don't be afraid to go a bit bolder. Generally, most people like to talk about themselves, not necessarily for selfish reasons, but who doesn't want to be known and appreciated? We all have unique personalities that are worth sharing.

Such questions that go beneath the surface may include, "What is your biggest fear?" "When you were growing up, what was your dream job?" "Have you been to any interesting places lately?" "Have you learned anything this week, that you weren't aware of last week?"

The easiest thing to do while in conversation this month is to ask how a person celebrates the holidays. Asking about traditions and the best holiday a person has ever had brings up fond memories and positive energy.

These questions tend to snowball naturally, and before you know it, a solid, meaningful conversation has been had, and you could even make a new comrade along the way.

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

Hats off to Hakeem Jeffries

To the Editor:
 I have to give the nod to Hakeem Jeffries, who, unlike our gutless President, has a backbone. Jeffries sent a public message to the rank and file that the caucus won't be ruled by the demands of the far left, and especially by AOC, who once plotted to oust him from office. Veteran Democrats say Mr. Jeffries is well-positioned to manage divisions in the ranks and, in particular, members of the ultra-liberal "Squad" who promoted views that include defunding the police, implementing drastic green energy policies and passing massive social welfare spending, often at odds with the rest of the caucus. Jeffries feels that key voters had soured on some of the policies promoted by the party's most liberal faction, and that their far-left ideas such as defunding the police likely cost Democrats the majority in swing districts. (It's apparent that it's his goal to unite the democratic party and maybe the republicans should take a page from that playbook?)

It's my opinion that Mr. Guertin didn't «correct» anything when he responded to my previous letter. He did add some additional information which I respect; however, "reform" and "proposed changes" is definitely not the same thing as "doing away with" social security and Medicare. Maybe the writing is on the wall, but because my wife and I, as well as many other people I know, are recipients of both Social Security and Medicare, I certainly would not be in favor of anything that would be detrimental to those benefits.

If there is any protocol that we have to follow as to whom we are allowed to disagree

with, or of how we have to say it, I'm certainly not aware of it. The only person I have to answer to here is our fine Editor, and I'm surprised that Biden's corrupt FBI hasn't come knocking at his door. I'm probably the most critiqued writer here, and I don't mind that at all because like that old saying goes: "you must be doing something right if you're getting their attention." I think it's funny when people say that I "lash out" at the people I disagree with, but am I really the only one who does that? (Yup, wake up indeed.) At this point however, I have to agree with some of my critics and say that Donald Trump has to be much wiser when he chooses his dinner companions and especially about what he says about the United States constitution.

I just finished watching «The Nine Lives of No. 9,» a film by the Thompson Historical Society. I was surprised to find that it was narrated by G. Leslie Sweetnam, who, may I assume, is the same person who also writes here? Good job, Mr. Sweetnam. The music for that film was done by Dave Dick, who is a personal friend of mine, a fellow musician, and he does set-up work on my bass guitars at his shop in Sturbridge. Dave is quite an accomplished musician, but so am I. I've played with Jefferson Starship on several occasions, jammed with some of classic rock's greats, and my bands have opened for several more. And (again) you guys only thought...

ED DELUCA
 NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Bettering ourselves requires sacrifice

Everybody enjoys talking about being better because talking about it is easier than doing it.

To truly become better, we must be willing to sacrifice. The person you want to become will only come into existence once you sacrifice the person you no longer wish to be.

One definition says that "sacrifice" means "the surrender or destruction of something prized or desirable for the sake of something considered as having a higher or more pressing claim."

Throughout my life, I've always struggled with my weight. I've tried almost every diet, and I'm happy to say that they all work. I've tried low-carb, low-fat, low-sugar, fasting, juicing, vegan, vegetarian, fruitarian, all-beef diet, intermittent fasting, and calorie counting. I lost weight while trying all of these plans.

Although they've all worked for me, they only worked in the short term. They didn't work long-term because, eventually, I no longer wanted to abstain from certain foods that violated the tenets of the plan I was desperately trying to adhere to. In short, I stopped making the necessary sacrifices.

No matter what, my cravings for bad food eventually got the best of me.

Once I opened the floodgates, there was no stopping the torrent of bad food decisions that followed after.

When I was doing the low-fat plan, I eventually rolled through a KFC, got a bucket, and never looked back. When

POSITIVELY
 SPEAKING

TOBY
 MOORE

I was on the low-carb method, I soon discovered I had a new addiction to raw cookie dough that wouldn't go away. When I was counting calories, one day, I just wanted to eat as much as possible and not know if

I went past my calorie count; then, I just kept doing it.

I'm not here to endorse one weight loss plan over another, and I'm not here to give health advice. I am here to point out the commonality behind all of these plans.

The one thing that all of these plans have in common is they all require varying degrees of sacrifice. For most of us, if we're going to lose weight, we have to make sacrifices.

If you are on a low-carb diet, you'll have to sacrifice the bread, the sugars, and all the delicious starchy-fried things.

If you're on a low-fat diet, you'll have to sacrifice fast food and embrace a life of celery and cauliflower. Mmmmm!

If you're going to lose weight by being vegan, you'll have to sacrifice all animal-made products and learn to enjoy some avocado toast instead.

If you want results, you have to sacrifice. How are you going to lose weight without feeling hungry some of the time?

I've heard of diet plans where being hungry isn't a part of the deal, but most of us who've gone on diets would agree there is no such thing as losing weight without feeling hungry at least some of

the time.

Even when the plan allows me to gorge on bacon and ribeyes all day, I eventually feel like there's a hole in my stomach that not even bacon can fill.

Does change always require sacrifice?

What about accomplishing your dreams? Can you achieve them without sacrifice?

What will you have to sacrifice if you want to build a business but also work a full-time job?

Want a promotion at work? Would you like a better relationship with your family? What will you have to sacrifice?

Are you thinking of starting a family? What will you have to sacrifice?

What will you sacrifice to get rid of your debt, addiction, and negative thought patterns?

Many have sacrificed their own lives to change the world.

Although the modern world has produced products that can make sacrificing easier, there is still no magic pill you can take that gives you a perfect life without sacrificing anything.

How great a sacrifice must you make?

I'll leave you with a quote by a pioneer in the self-help movement James Allen, "He who would accomplish little must sacrifice little; he who would achieve much must sacrifice much; he who would attain highly must sacrifice greatly."

Fences and sentries



BEYOND
 THE PEWS

JOHN
 HANSON

We were just trying to help. Everyone had their best interest at heart - but they thought otherwise. Part of the problem was that some of us were city-slickers, and we underestimated our spooking power. Here's what I remember:

It was branding day near Pompey's Pillar, MT. My siblings, friends and shirt-tail relatives had been invited to my uncles' farm to give them a hand. It was a hot but beautiful day. We could see fields of grain, sage covered hills, and the beautiful Bighorn Mountain Range. My cousins had already rounded up the cattle with their horses. The women had prepared lunch. The fire was hot, and we preteens and teens had the dirty, challenging, and fun job of wrestling calves to the ground as the grownups branded them. There was plenty of help, so while some of us were waiting our turn to hold the calves down, we were asked to just make sure the adult cows didn't get in the way. That is when we turned a simple branding day into a more complicated branding, roundup, and "fix the fence day."

I don't remember whose idea it was, but when the 1,500-pound cows began moving toward the branding fire where their calves were calling out, one of us started waving our hands and shouting at them. This caused a minor stampede. They charged the nearest fence, which I was sure would stop them, because the corner fencepost also served as the gate post and was an 8 x 8 timber. But when that frantic cow hit the post, it snapped like a twig and, before anyone knew what had happened, a dozen cattle had sprung through the opening onto the dirt road. Now the cows were in danger, as were unsuspecting travelers.

Looking back, I realize that the cattle had no idea that the branding, the fences, and the teenage sentries were all designed to keep them safe. When spooked, they resented all three, and sprang for "freedom." It took hours to round up the cows and repair the fence, but I never forgot the lesson. Neither cows nor people always recognize the value of fences and sentries. God's moral laws are just such fences. They are there for our protection. We stampede them at our own risk.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. For information and resources, or to watch recent sermons, please visit www.ActsII.org.

Keep holiday greens looking their best

Wreaths, door swags, garlands, and containers filled with evergreens have long been part of winter celebrations and displays. Keep them fresh and looking their best throughout the holidays with minimal effort.

Fresh greenery with pliable branches and firmly attached needles will last the longest. Check for good color and an aroma you prefer. Consider buying extra greenery and storing it in the garage or another cool location. Use these to replace any indoor greenery that is starting to brown.

Recut the bottom of the stems with a sharp bypass pruner. Totally submerge the greenery in a tub of room-temperature water overnight to help rehydrate the needles. Gently crush the cut end to allow it to better absorb moisture.

Remove the cuttings from the water and once dry, seal in the mois-



GARDEN
 MOMENTS

MELINDA
 MYERS

sunlight outside.

Follow label directions for application tips and dilution rates based on what you are treating. Avoid using these on juniper berries, cedar and blue spruce. The waxy coating that makes these look blue can be damaged by these products. Apply anti-desiccant products outdoors during the day, as light is needed to activate some of these chemicals. Allow the treated greens to dry for three to four hours before moving them inside.

Display indoor greenery in cool locations out of direct sunlight. This reduces moisture loss and extends the life of

ture by spraying the greens with an anti-transpirant, often called anti-desiccant. These products seal in moisture, reducing drying due to warm, dry air indoors and drying winds and



Melinda Myers

When outdoor temperatures are cooler, green arrangements, like this winter container garden, last much longer than indoor displays.

your garland, wreaths, and arrangements.

Keep greenery away from heat sources that speed drying, decorative lights that generate heat, and flames from candles. Check the greens every few days and replace dry, brittle, and brown cuttings with fresh greens.

Eight ways to live well through the joy of giving this holiday season

The holidays are an especially wonderful time to give and serve others. Learning that “giving” goes beyond buying presents for loved ones and really means helping those in need can be an especially eye-opening experience for children. Even better, doing something to help others as a family can bring your family closer together and allows children to see the adults in their lives modeling the behavior as well.

Helping others to live well is a central focus of ours here at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, whether that be through our work with our clients or out in the community. While we know it’s true that planning and investing well is critical to empowering you to achieve the big goals you have for the future, giving to others is also a sure way to give yourself and them a taste of living well right now, and at any time.

With that in mind, here are eight ways you and your family can serve others this holiday season while spending quality time together and living well in the moment...

1. Bake Something Sweet for Those Who

Serve Your Community

Who doesn’t love baking during the holidays? This is an activity you can do alone or with the whole family (and have fun with!) Take a day to bake some cookies and deliver them to your local fire station, police station, hospital, senior center or somewhere similar. If you’re able, consider making your delivery day on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, when employees working away from their families will be especially appreciative.

2. Send Christmas Cards to Military Overseas

Military personnel can always use words of encouragement, love, and support, especially during the holiday season when they’re away from their families. Take some time to write holiday cards to service members. If you’re creating the cards with kids, you can make it extra fun by including stamps or stickers, and make it meaningful for them by explaining how the military members you’re writing to serve our country.

3. Prepare a Meal and



FINANCIAL FOCUS
LEISL L. CORDING

Deliver It to a Friend In Need

Do you have a friend that you know will be alone during the holidays, or a friend who you know could use some extra support and love during this holiday season? Prepare a meal for them and deliver it, along with a warm hug.

4. Pick a Day To Help Each Other

This is a great one in that we often go about our day-to-day routines without thanking our family members for all the things they do for us to make our lives better. Show your kids the importance of gratitude for the ones we love by helping each other out. Encourage your children to pick up their sibling’s room, take out the trash and show appreciation for one another. You could assign each child another family member to help for the day or assign each family member a “zone” of the house to be in charge of.

5. Donate to Those in Need, In Big or Little Ways

Giving to those who are less fortunate is a great

thing to do in any season, but during the holidays the opportunities are bountiful. Of course, you can always make a financial donation to a qualified non-profit (which could provide you with a deduction at tax time), but donating to others doesn’t necessarily have to cost a lot, or even anything at all.

For example, you could go through your books and donate the ones you’ll no longer read to your local library, school, senior center or other such organization. Do you have any old coats in your closet collecting dust? Donate them, or if your budget allows, you can also sponsor a family in need and buy them brand-new winter coats. You can also pick up a few extra groceries to bring to your local food pantry. Doing these things with children is especially powerful – they’ll learn first-hand that the joy of giving is powerful and doesn’t have to be a super-sized gesture, but something you can easily fit it into your normal errands and still make a big impact.

6. Go Shopping for A Cause

Select a tag from a giving tree to shop for a gift

for a child in need. Or put together gift baskets with small gifts and a homemade baked treat and deliver them to individuals who are in the hospital – they’re likely to really appreciate a little cheering up.

7. Volunteer to Babysit

Offer to babysit for a couple who has small children so that they can have the opportunity to go on a date during the holidays. This is another simple gesture that can have a big impact in helping others to live well.

8. Encourage More “Thank Yous”

This one may seem simple, but it’s very meaningful. During the holidays it is especially important to show thanks and gratitude. Encourage your kids to say thank you more often and give genuine compliments to those around them.

Hopefully this has given you some good ideas and inspiration to act when the spirit of giving strikes you. As you can see, even small gestures can have a big impact and, just like investments, the value of that impact has the potential to really accumulate over time. That’s what living well is all about. To learn more about how

we at WHZ work to give back to our community, or to find more tips about charitable giving, visit our website at whzwealth.com. While you’re there, you can also see how we can empower you to reach the big goals you have for your own future, through our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well strategic financial planning process. Feel free to call us at (860) 928-2341 as well.

Presented by Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, Leisl L. Cording CFP®. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. These materials are general in nature and do not address your specific situation. For your specific investment needs, please discuss your individual circumstances with your financial advisor. Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors does not provide tax or legal advice, and nothing in the accompanying pages should be construed as specific tax or legal advice. 697 Pomfret St., Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860.928.2341. <http://www.whzwealth.com>.

Seeing the extraordinary in the ordinary

The snow that fell on Sunday was perfect. It was perfectly ordinary. It is December. It is Connecticut. It is time for snow. My grandchildren had come to visit. We bundled up and ran outside



NANCY WEISS

to catch snowflakes on our tongues and see if we could find flakes that were identical. As the snow accumulated, I was as happy as if I had been given an extraordinary gift or a chance for an adventure beyond imagination. As the snow slowly softened the sharp edges of the landscape, it was the ordinary New

England afternoon that was precious.

The holidays naturally make us seek the special and the extraordinary. I search the Internet and shop in person to find the perfect gift for my husband. He has fine taste and strong opinions about certain items. It is rewarding when it is clear that I have ferreted out the right thing and he is delighted. He pretends well when the choice is off base, but I know I’ve missed the mark. Neither of us needs anything, but the tradition of giving gifts to each other in the quiet hours of Christmas Eve remains important

to us.

Holiday lights are especially welcome this year. The snowflakes overhanging the streets in Putnam are elegant. Santa flies across Cargill Falls with all his reindeer in perfect formation. A giant gold ball adorns Rotary Park, breaking the gloom of a wintry evening. Danielson is bright and festive. Town greens are tasteful with trees sparkling in the darkness.

Nothing exceeds Amarante’s Winter Wonderland in Dayville for pure, dazzling excess and holiday cheer. The website indicates that they fire up 180,000 lights. Those of us who

remember Whipple’s Winter Wonderland in Ballouville see the continuation of a tradition that for no identifiable reason seems to spring up and endure in our area. As with Mervyn Whipple’s decades long gift to the world, the Amarante’s do not charge. There are four collection bins, three for charity and one to help defray the electric bill. As we drove cautiously past, we saw scores of families edging along the road as others strolled the pathways at the site. Holiday memories were being forged.

Most days, I fill five bird feeders placed so that I can observe them from inside the house. I serve mixed seed, sun-

flower seed and suet. The squirrels do their best to upset my arrangements but there is enough for everyone. With a good pair of binoculars and two bird books, I easily identify my hungry visitors. This year I am focusing on the ordinary birds, the little brown and gray ones that persist in visiting despite hordes of cow birds descending like a motorcycle gang. The sparrows, the tufted titmouse, the peaceful mourning dove, juncos and my current favorite, nuthatch. I relate to the ordinary birds, despite the flash of the cardinal, the blue jays and the woodpeckers.

Writer Annie Dillard said: “How we spend our

days is, of course, how we spend our lives.” After several years of extraordinary disruptions, I think we are ready, even during the holiday season, to embrace the ordinary. We are ready to spend our lives catching snowflakes on our tongues, shopping mindfully, marveling at the lights in our communities, and the past generosity of Mervyn Whipple and now the Amarantes.

Like the persistent small birds at my feeder, we are all ordinary with a dash of the extraordinary when we least expect it. We can see the ordinary as extraordinary because of what we missed, what we lost, and what changed.

Christmas carol origins

Christmas Closing: The Killingly Historical Center will be closed both Christmas Eve, Dec. 24 and New Year’s Eve, Dec. 31. It will be open as usual on Wednesday, Dec. 21 and 28.



KILLINGLY AT 300 MARGARET WEAVER

Inclement Weather: If the Killingly & Genealogical Center is closed due to inclement weather, an announcement will be made on WINY. If you are not sure, call the Center at 860-779-7250 after 10:15 a.m. on a Wednesday or Saturday. If you get the answering machine, the Center is probably closed.

Congratulations to the Killingly High School football team for making it to the MM State Championship game against North Haven. Although they didn’t win, the players should be proud of what they accomplished. We, the residents of Killingly, are very proud of them.

“Deck the Halls with boughs of holly...Fa, la, la, la la; ‘Tis the season to be jolly...Fa, la, la, la, la, la, la, la la.” I’m guessing that most of you have done much decorating for the holidays with garlands of pine, a tree, lights, bows, candles, a crèche, and more. When I was in elementary school, many years ago, we sang most days, and this song was one the teacher always played, and we enjoyed. I love music,

so was curious about the origin of the melody. The Web site galaxymusicnotes.com said that the “carol was originally titled ‘Deck the Hall.’ The melody of the carol dates back to the 16th century, with the original music being Welsh. The music is also inspired by ‘Nos Galen,’ a Welsh carol (drinking song) created for New Year’s Eve that came out in 1794.” It was not until 1862 when the English version appeared, written by Thomas Oliphant, a Scottish musician.

When shopping for Christmas cards, I saw many that featured the Glorious Star above the city of Bethlehem. “O Little Town of Bethlehem” is a beautiful, inspirational Christmas carol. Did you know that it was originally a children’s hymn? I didn’t. “Many hymns that were written originally for children have captured the imagination of everyone. Such is the case with ‘O little town of Bethlehem.’ Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) wrote this beloved Christmas hymn for the Sunday school children at his Philadelphia parish, Holy Trinity Church, following a pilgrimage to Bethlehem in 1865, according to British hymnologist J. R. Watson. The hymn was printed on an informal leaflet in December 1868 and then appeared in The Sunday School Hymnal in 1871.

In the United States, the hymn is generally sung to its original tune, ST. LOUIS by Louis H. Redner (1931-1908), a wealthy real estate broker who served as a church organist for his avocation. UM Hymnal editor Carlton Young notes that Redner “increased Sunday school attendance at Holy Trinity Episcopal, where Phillips Brooks was rector, from thirty-six to over one thousand during his nineteen years as superintendent.”

“According to the story, Brooks traveled on horseback between Jerusalem and Bethlehem on Christmas Eve. ‘Before dark we rode out of town to the field where they say the shepherds saw the star. It is a fenced piece of ground with a cave in it, in which, strange-ly enough, they put the shepherds... Somewhere in those fields we rode through, the shepherds must have been. As we passed, the shepherds were still ‘keeping watch over their flocks,’ or leading them home to fold.’ Brooks participated in the Christmas Eve service, writes hymnologist Albert Bailey, ‘conducted in . . . Constantine’s ancient basilica (326 A.D.) built over the traditional site of the Nativity, a cave. The service lasted from 10 P.M. to 3 A.M.’ This sequence of events provided the backdrop for Brooks’ children’s hymn”. (www.umcdiscipleship.org/resources/history-of-hymns-o-little-town-of-bethlehem)

Have you finished sending your Christmas cards this year? Perhaps you won’t be sending any at all due

to the high cost of postage. I had no idea when or where the custom originated so once again went to the internet. I found the following at www.smithsonianmag.com: The idea seems to have originated in early Victorian England with a gentleman named Henry Cole. In 1843 it was considered very impolite not to answer mail, and Cole had numerous friends who were sending the customary Christmas and New Year’s letters. The British postal system had introduced the ‘Penny Post,’ which made it quite possible for all his friends to greet him. Sir Cole “hit on an ingenious idea. He approached an artist friend, J.C. Horsley, and asked him to design an idea that Cole had sketched out in his mind. Cole then took Horsley’s illustration—a triptych showing a family at table celebrating the holiday flanked by images of people helping the poor—and had a thousand copies made by a London printer. The image was printed on a piece of stiff cardboard 5 1/8 x 3 1/4 inches in size. At the top of each was the salutation, “TO: _____” allowing Cole to personalize his responses, which included the generic greeting “A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year To You. It was the first Christmas card.”

“Louis Prang, a Prussian immigrant with a print shop near Boston, is credited with creating the first Christmas card originating in the United States in 1875. It was very different from Cole and Horsley’s of 30 years prior, in that it didn’t

even contain a Christmas or holiday image. The card was a painting of a flower, and it read ‘Merry Christmas.’ This more artistic, subtle approach would categorize this first generation of American Christmas cards. ‘They were vivid, beautiful reproductions,’ says Collins. ‘There were very few nativity scenes or depictions of holiday celebrations. You were typically looking at animals, nature, scenes that could have taken place in October or February.’”

“People soon collected Christmas cards like they would butterflies or coins, and the new crop each season were reviewed in newspapers, like books or films today.”

“Jacqueline Kennedy painted two Christmas card designs for Hallmark in 1963. The designs, including Glad Tidings and the Journey of the Magi, were to be sold as a benefit for the Kennedy Center. Courtesy of the Hallmark Archives, Hallmark Cards, Inc., Kansas City, Mo.

Sterling artist Raymond Holden (d. 1993) “is credited with illustrating ten books and creating Christmas card designs for the American Artist Group of New York for forty years.” (askart.com)

Instead of a card, I will use this column to wish you, my readers, a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Holidays and a Happy Healthy New Year. Thank you all for being so supportive and for sending ideas for this column. Bless you all.

Gift Memberships: Do you live in an old house and would like to know more about who lived there before your family? Is someone you know researching Northeastern Connecticut, Massachusetts, or Rhode Island family genealogy and history? Consider giving a gift membership to the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society. Only \$10 will give unlimited access to the materials at the Historical Society and will enable the recipient to research in the ‘Town Clerks’ records, which are often restricted. Membership good until May 31, 2023. Stop at the Killingly Historical Center Wednesday or Saturday between 10 a.m.-4 p.m. to purchase a membership. (The same reduced rate applies if you would like a membership for yourself). See the various books, maps, and cards that are also for sale.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, December 2022. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329.

OBITUARIES

Claire K. Becia, 96



Claire K. Becia, 96, passed away at Westview Healthcare Center on December 5, 2022 following a period of declining health. She was a resident of Killingly since birth. She was predeceased by her husband Theodore P. Becia of 49 years; sisters Virginia Stoddard, Barbara Nelson and brother James Kent.

She is survived by her children, James K. Becia (Patricia Hotter) of Mt. Horeb, WI and Terri L. Beausoleil (Dennis Beausoleil) of Griswold, CT, as well as grandchildren Darren Beausoleil of Noank, CT, and Danielle Beausoleil (Jonathan Hvizdak) of Cary, NC.

Claire was a member of the Danielson United Methodist Church and loved supporting the church with time, crafts and baking. She was also a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and Order of the Amaranth.

Her primary happiness came from "everything" family. She loved baking, reading, word puzzles, spoiling the grand-dogs and pool get-togethers. She was an avid card player and enjoyed weekly games with her life-long friend Lorraine Wakely and with friends and family. Her card playing days continued until her passing.

A calling hour will be held on December 28, 2022, at Tillinghast Funeral Home 433 Main St. Danielson from 5:30 - 6:30 pm with a memorial service at 6:30 pm. Burial will be private. tillinghastfh.com

Henry "Dexter" Young, 88



Henry "Dexter" Young died at age 88 on December 2nd after a short illness.

He was very active in his community for most of his adult life and was a strong advocate of volunteerism. Among other things, he was an auxiliary with the Connecticut State Police, a member of the Woodstock Volunteer Fire Association, and was instrumental in starting the Woodstock Ambulance Service. He became an EMT and served on the Woodstock Ambulance. He was Director of the Woodstock Agricultural Society and served as Chairman of the Woodstock Townhall Building Committee. He was a founding member of Woodstock Planning and Zoning Committee and a Director of the Quinebaug Valley Emergency Communication.

As a lifelong farmer, he was a strong steward of the land at Valleyside Farm, which has been in his family for over 200 years. He was confident and grateful that the future of the farm was secure with the next generations. His proudest moments were when he was able to be part of the harvest with 4

generations.

Dexter went to Martha's Vineyard all his life, first to his Grandfather Child's cottage and then to his own cottage in Chilmark. He built his cottage with family and friends from lumber harvested on his farm. He loved traveling mostly with friends, RVing, a game of "pitch", "Farmers Weekend" on Martha's Vineyard and 4 generational gatherings.

Dexter was a devoted and proud father of his family. He leaves a loving family that was with him in his last days. His wife Nancy Young, his children Timothy D. Young and wife Wendy, Douglas Young and wife Donna, Carrie Walker and husband Allan, Curtis Young and wife Kathy, Rebecca Murray and husband Stephen, Ivy Blanchette and husband Donald, Scott Young and wife Lisa, Amy Young and husband Paul Mazzarulli. He was predeceased by his daughter Artelle Curtis. He has 18 grandchildren and many wonderful great grandchildren. He also leaves many wonderful friends.

Many thanks to all his Healthcare and Homecare Providers for their support and kindness.

Arrangements will be private at a later date.

Franklin A. Converse, Jr., 90



Woodstock - Franklin A. Converse, Jr., 90, of Prospect Street, died, Friday, December 2, 2022, at home. He was the loving husband of Patsy (Howard) Converse for 67 years. Born in Putnam, he was the son of the late Franklin and Bertha (Dodge) Converse. Franklin served with the United States Air Force during the Korean War, being honorably discharged on November 13, 1955, at Wolters Air Force Base in Mineral Springs, TX. He obtained the rank of sergeant during his service in Korea.

Franklin is survived by two sons, Glenn Converse and his wife Diane and David Converse and his wife Lynn; daughter-in-law, Susan Converse; Grandchildren Tom Jr (Amanda), Jillian (Jordan), Scott (Alyse), Ian, Adam (Allison), and Heather; Greatgrandchildren Abigail, Kaylyn, and Tommy; brother, John Converse. Franklin is predeceased by his son, Thomas Converse, and sister Pricilla Cady.

Mr. Converse worked for American Optical for over 47 years, primarily

in the powerhouse, retiring in 1995. In his youth he worked as a farm hand on the family farm on Converse Road.

Frank loved his family, more than anything. He also enjoyed golfing, gardening, and woodworking. He built the house he resided in since 1958. His woodworking skills were well known, and he generously gave many furniture pieces to family, friends, and neighbors. He was equally skilled at gardening. He took pride in having the first mature corn in town, and likely the only okra grower in East Woodstock. Frank was a three-season athlete during his time at Woodstock Academy, and awarded Outstanding Senior Athlete in 1950. He regularly attended his children's, grandchildren's, and great grandchildren's sporting events.

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



Send all obituary notices to Villager Newspapers, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to obits@stonebridgepress.news

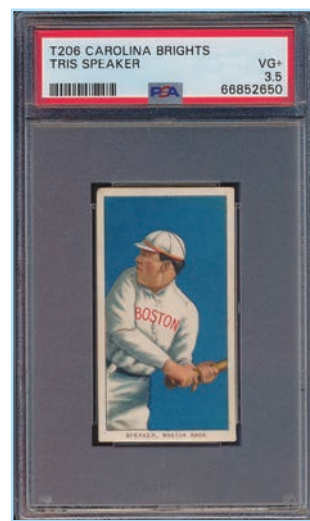


Latest auction, antiques, and collectibles news

There has been a lot of auction news since my last column, beginning with the sale of a dinosaur skull. The New York Times reported that the skull was discovered on private land in a section of Northwestern South Dakota known to contain large amounts of fossils. The fossil was reported to still have 30 of the 39 original bones. There were high expectations for the skull nicknamed "Maximus." A Deinonychus skeleton for \$12.4 million and a Gorgosaurus skeleton brought \$6.1 million earlier this year. It had an auction estimate of \$15 to \$20 million but sold for only \$6.1 million.

There was also some post-dinosaur animal auction news. A Charles Darwin manuscript on natural selection recently broke a record for a Darwin document, according to Yahoo News. The document was described as Darwin's "definitive statement on natural selection and his legacy". The English scientist theorized that all living creatures developed from a common ancestor through natural selection. After his death in 1882, natural selection was widely accepted as a key part of evolution by scientists. The previous record for a Darwin document was a little over \$400,000. This manuscript sold for \$882,000.

If you want to soar like the King of Rock and Roll did, you'll soon have the opportunity to buy his jet. The Smithsonian



Magazine reported that Elvis Presley's 1976 JetStar plane will soon be auctioned. The top of the line was "decked out with custom red velvet upholstery, gold-finish hardware, a microwave, a VCR player, a cassette player and other lavish amenities", according to the Smithsonian. The jet is in poor condition after sitting at the Roswell Air Center in Roswell, New Mexico and mechanics removed the engines and many other components.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA

The auction house hasn't estimated the value but believes that there will be plenty of interest from Elvis fans wanting to own a piece of his legacy.

In baseball auction news, Aaron Judge's 62nd home run ball will soon be hitting the auction block. The New York Times reported that Cory Youmans caught the ball at Globe Life Stadium in Arlington, Texas. Security ushered him inside the park and confirmed that the ball he

caught had the special markings that were used on balls pitched to Judge when he was nearing the American League single season home run record. After it was confirmed that he caught the record ball, he fielded offers from people wanting to purchase it. He placed it in a safe deposit box until it was moved to the auction house by armed guards. It is estimated to sell for \$3 million.

We also have our own baseball auction news to report. Our November sports cards and memorabilia auction brought some great results. We sold a collection of T206 (1909-1911) baseball cards in that auction. They were manufactured by the Carolina Brights Tobacco Company. A limited amount of these cards were produced for Carolina Brights and the cards are quite scarce. A Tris Speaker card graded at a 3.5 out of 10 sold for over \$30,000 and a 1.5 Fair condition Ty Cobb card sold for over \$50,000. We were pleased to see so many bidders step up to the plate for this great collection.

It was nice meeting the readers of this column who came to the Rotman auction of local memorabilia. We will also have a large auction of art, historical memorabilia and other antiques and collectibles online auction beginning later this month. Please visit our website <https://central-massauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

Please contact us at www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111) info@centralmassauctions.com for antiques and collectibles auction services.

Robert Loiselle Jr., 66



Ballouville, CT - Robert Loiselle, Jr., 66, of Chestnut Hill Road, passed away December 9, 2022, unexpectedly at home. Born in Putnam, CT, he was the son of Robert and Barbara (Jolicoeur) Loiselle of Ballouville.

Bob served in the US Navy from 1973 to 1976. Prior to his retirement, Bob worked for the Shipyard Technical Organization at Electric Boat and then was employed by the Naval Submarine Base in Groton as a boiler technician and later in the Motor Pool.

Bob enjoyed working on and restoring old cars, hunting, history and science fiction channels, movies, and hanging out in the garage with his friends. He loved his dog and always enjoyed spending time with him. Robert was known as a jack of all trades and would often use his skills to assist his daughter with her home. Bob was the Vice President of the Southeastern Connecticut Mustang Club, as well as a member of the Defenders of Charity CT, the Putnam Gun Club, and Tri-

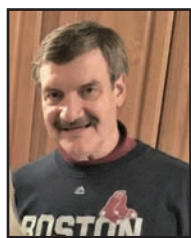
State Cruisers Classic Car Club.

In addition to his parents, Bob is survived by his daughter, Nicole Loiselle of Danielson, CT; two sisters, Debbie Weaver of Pittsburg, NH, and Elaine George of Alamogordo, NM; his brother, Dale Loiselle of Ballouville, CT; his grandchildren, Noah, Anthony, and Rowyn Loiselle; his girlfriend, Sharon Bingham Hart, and his former wife, Karen Loiselle of Brooklyn, CT. Robert is predeceased by his son, Robert Loiselle, III.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Bob's family from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Sunday, December 18, 2022, in the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church Street, Putnam, CT, followed by a Funeral Service for Bob at 6:00 P.M. in the funeral home. Burial with military honors will take place on Monday December 19, 2022, in the Connecticut Veterans Cemetery, 317 Bow Lane, Middletown, CT. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com



Randall Winslow Truax, 71





Randall Winslow Truax, 71, of Lebanon, passed away on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at Hartford Hospital. Born December 15, 1950, in Putnam, CT; he was the son of the late Delbert and Signe Truax. Randall grew up in Putnam and graduated from Putnam High School in 1969. He later went on to study at Ellis Technical School in Killingly, and then went on to obtain his degree in Civil Engineering from Hartford State Technical College. He worked for over 30 years at Northeast Utilities (Eversource) until his retirement. He will be forever loved and remembered


as a gentle giant who was a devoted husband and father; he was very active in his son's sports growing up and volunteered as a coach for the Lebanon Middle School Recreational basketball team. He is survived by his wife Linda Truax; children Steven and wife Stephanie Truax and Sarah Truax; sisters Andrea Truax, Paula and husband J.P. Saucier and Tina Petricola; and several nieces and nephew and numerous other extended family and friends. Private services will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorial donations be made to the American Cancer Society American Cancer Society www.cancer.org to share a memory or express a condolence to the family, please visit: www.auroramccarthyfuneralhome.com


Gilman & Valade 100th Anniversary
Funeral Homes and Crematory

"Living Up to a Tradition Started 100 Years Ago"
~ Bob Fournier


1919
Alexander & Senora Gilman


Eva & Leonard Gilman


Lawrence & Arlene Belterose


Robert & Adrienne Fournier

1919 2019

"A century of dedication, compassion and guidance."

Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory
104 Church Street, Putnam, CT 06260 • 860-928-7723 • GilmanAndValade.com

SMITH AND WALKER
Funeral Home and Cremation Service
148 Grove Street, Putnam, CT 860-928-2442
www.smithandwalkerfh.com

~ ~ ~

GAGNON AND COSTELLO
Funeral Home and Cremation Service
33 Reynolds Street, Danielson, CT 06239 860-774-9403

Funeral Directors
Timothy Farner, Steven Farner, Andrew Farner
Serving ALL Faiths with Dignity

KILLINGLY

continued from page A1

14-yard gain and a first down on the Killingly 36-yard line.

On Killingly's next play senior wide receiver Ben Jax (4 catches, 65 yards) gained two yards on an end around. Junior running back Soren Rief (14 carries, 56 yards) gained seven yards on a run up the middle on second down, leaving Killingly with a very manageable third-and-one situation.

Senior running back Keith Perry (8 carries, 14 yards, 1 touchdown) appeared to pick up the first down on third-and-one, slamming through the middle on a seven-yard gain, but Killingly was called for holding on the play, moving the ball back to the Killingly 38-yard

line. On the ensuing third down Dreibholz, back to pass, was hit as he released the ball and it fell incomplete.

After a Dreibholz punt on fourth down, North Haven took over on its own 32-yard line. The Nighthawks took the lead for good on the seventh play of the drive, junior Adam Pandolfi scampering into the end zone from five yards out, to give North Haven a 28-21 lead with 6:17 remaining in the third quarter.

"We needed to score to start the second half. That might have changed things a little bit," Killingly coach Chad Neal said. "I don't know if it changes the outcome, but it would have made it a little closer going to the end of the game. If we had scored to start the second half, we would have had a chance to play

with the lead and playing with the lead makes a difference."

North Haven (11-2) took full advantage of the momentum created by Pandolfi's touchdown. The Nighthawks scored on all four of their second-half possessions. North Haven ran the ball 50 times, gaining 488 yards. The Nighthawks, who attempted one pass in the game, scored all seven of their touchdowns on running plays.

In the second quarter Killingly played its way back into the game by scoring on its final three possessions of the first half. Senior Noah Colangelo (10 receptions, 157 yards, 2 touchdowns) put Killingly on the board with 10:27 remaining in the first half, hauling in a 31-yard scoring strike from Dreibholz to cut the Nighthawks'

lead to 14-6. Killingly tied the game, 14-14, with 4:36 left in the second quarter on a five-yard touchdown run by Perry. On the ensuing two-point conversion, Jax, in motion to the left, took a handoff from Dreibholz, ran laterally for a few yards and then stopped, spun to his right and threw the ball to a wide-open Perry in the end zone.

Trailing, 21-14, Killingly tied the game, 21-21, with 18 seconds left in the first half, Dreibholz hitting Perry with a six-yard touchdown toss to cap a nine-play, 57-yard drive.

North Haven took its largest lead of the game, 44-21, with 7:45 remaining in the game on an eight-yard touchdown run by senior Jeff Kavaras (17 carries, 156 yards, 2 touchdowns). Killingly then scored on its next two pos-

sessions on touchdown passes by Dreibholz of 45 yards (to Pedersen) and 38 yards (to Colangelo).

Dreibholz finished the season completing 68 percent of his passes (92-for-136) and throwing for 2,274 yards and 36 touchdowns. Rief finished with 1,932 yards and 28 touchdowns on 225 carries. Jax finished with 1,261 yards and 18 touchdowns on 43 receptions. Colangelo finished with 29 catches for 750 yards and 11 touchdowns. Perry rushed for 602 yards and 6 touchdowns on 73 carries and caught 4 passes for 48 yards and 3 scores.

Neal was disappointed by the loss, but was quick to take a long view of the season.

"It was an absolutely memorable season," Neal said. "We had some big wins this year, the win at home against

Bloomfield, on the road against Branford, against Woodstock on Thanksgiving Day, and the two playoff victories against Wethersfield and Masuk. Wethersfield and Masuk are, historically, very strong programs and we were able to beat them.

"The season didn't end the way we wanted it to end, but the journey and the ride, I think, is what this team will remember most," Neal added. "I think our players will remember the experience of state championship week and the experience of playing at Rentschler Field. This was a special team; a team that did a lot of great things. Moving up three divisions and making a state final says a lot about this team. That was quite an accomplishment."

NELSON

continued from page A1

Nelson, a member of the 2022 Junior World Team, won the gold medal in both competitions. The 20-year-old finished the day 7-0, winning all four of her fights in the junior female division and all three of her bouts in the women's senior elite division as well. Nelson tuned up for the President's Cup competition by finishing second in the Dallas Open Senior Judo Championships

on Saturday, Nov. 19. Nelson finished the event with a 5-2 record in the Senior Elite Women's 57-Kilogram category. The 2022 USA Judo President's Cup closed the book on Nelson's career as a junior (under-21) athlete. Nelson finished her junior division judo career ranked No. 2 in the U.S., and begins her first official year in the senior division — also referred to as the Olympic age division — ranked No. 6 in the U.S., a ranking based on her success against several opponents ranked higher in the division. Brooklyn resident Tayler Cummings also fought in the

Dallas Open on Saturday, Nov. 19. Competing in the Cadet (under-18) 52-Kilogram Division, Cummings medaled for the first time at a national-level event, thanks to a third-place finish. She won three of her four fights; her lone loss was to a 2022 Cadet Division World Team Member.

Cummings also finished third in the President's Cup competition, competing in the Under-18 57-Kilogram Division. She also competed up a division (in the under-21, 57-kilogram category) but was unable to secure a podium finish.

FIVE-STAR

continued from page A1

our Hospice & Palliative Care team for achieving this distinction, and I congratulate them all on this outstanding success."

The CAHPS Hospice survey star ratings allow consumers to compare hospice agencies, and provides a means to quickly and easily assess the family caregiver experience of care information provided on the Care Compare website. The star ratings are calculated using data from the CAHPS Hospice Survey, a 47-question survey administered by mail and telephone, and is completed by family caregivers of patients who received hospice care before they died. CMS plans to update the ratings every other quarter.

Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut is a program of Day Kimball Homecare, a Medicare certified home health care agency licensed by the state of Connecticut and accredited by The Joint Commission. Its mission is to enhance the lives of individuals and families through a personalized plan of care that meets physical, psychosocial, spiritual and emotional needs throughout the end of life.

For more information on Hospice & Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut, visit daykimball.org/athome.

VFW

continued from page A1

more people showing up and getting involved," said Gent. "The Defenders of Charity have also been doing a toy drive and they used to take it to Hartford, but now they got involved with the Tommy Toy Fund so they're a big part of this too and they're a much bigger group than our VFW which has also been growing over the years. This is becoming quite the event and we love doing it."

All the toys collected will be distributed to local families prior to the Christmas holiday with the help of the Tommy Toy Fund. Representatives of the VFW said they are already looking ahead to next year and the landmark fifth anniversary of the toy drive hoping to see it grow even more.

GARDEN

continued from page A8

Outdoor greenery lasts much longer when temperatures are cooler than indoors. Further extend their longevity by placing them in more sheltered locations, out of direct sunlight and wind where they suffer less drying. Avoid hanging wreaths and swags in front of windows in direct sunlight where the reflected light can burn the foliage. Use an anti-transpirant on outdoor greenery to help reduce moisture loss and extend your enjoyment.

Keep outdoor planters of greens looking their best throughout the winter. Keep the soil moist until it freezes when displaying spruce tips, cut holiday trees, and evergreen stems in outdoor containers. If and when the ground freezes, you can stop watering.

A bit of effort goes a long way in extending the beauty of holiday greenery.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's 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.

LEGALS**TOWN OF WOODSTOCK**

The Zoning Board of Appeals has scheduled a Public Hearing for December 19th, 2022, at 6:00 pm at the Woodstock Town Hall, 415 Route 169, lower level, conference room B, to hear the following application: Variance application to place a shed 10 feet from a property line where a 20 foot setback is required; #21-06 David Shaw, 1164 Route 198, (Map 5173, Block 012, Lot 10-1). Suzanne Woodward, Chair December 9, 2022 December 16, 2022

**TOWN OF THOMPSON
PLANNING AND ZONING
COMMISSION
LEGAL NOTICE**

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, December 19, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT, 06255 and via Zoom on the following application.

PZC #22-40 Applicant Spicer plus Inc – Jon Holstein, 0 Reardon Rd., Map 66, Block 101, Lot 6D, Zone BDD, property owner Thompson Rail Business Park LLC, requesting Special Permit to construct a propane bulk station. Initial construction will consist of a gravel driveway, stormwater basin and 30,000-gallon propane tank with safety and security accessories. Potential phase I construction may include a second 30,000-gallon tank, office building, well, and septic system. *File may be reviewed online, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission or in the Planning and Zoning Office. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting.*

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman
December 9, 2022
December 16, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

At the December 5th, 2022, Meeting of the Woodstock Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency, the following application was approved: 09-22-05 – Construction of Single-Family Home – Map 6385, Block 39, Lot 36A –James & Kathy Jean Barlow – 215 Crystal Pond Road.
Mark Parker, Chairman
December 16, 2022

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On December 1, 2022, the Planning & Zoning Commission approved the revised application and made recommendations for the following: #SP656-

09-22 Town of Woodstock, Center Cemetery Road – Activity on a Scenic Rd for road improvements adjacent to cemetery, landscape drains and widening the dry hydrant access.
Gordon, M.D., Chairman
December 16, 2022

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF WOODSTOCK**

The following ordinance amendments were approved at a Special Town Meeting held on December 6, 2022: AMENDMENT IV: INLAND WETLANDS & WATERCOURSES ORDINANCE by replacing Public Act references to statute references and reducing full membership from 7 to 5 and alternate members from 3 to 2 Adopted: December 6, 2022

TO REPEAL THE FOLLOWING: AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING INDIVIDUAL COST-BASED FEES FOR MUNICIPAL LAND USE APPLICATIONS ADOPTED FEBRUARY 26, 2013 EFFECTIVE: MARCH 22, 2013 (Originally Adopted: March 22, 1989), And the adoption of the following: AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING INDIVIDUAL COST-BASED FEES FOR MUNICIPAL LAND USE APPLICATIONS ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 26, 2013 EFFECTIVE: MARCH 22, 2013 (Originally Adopted: March 22, 1989) BE IT ORDAINED THAT THE TOWN OF WOODSTOCK HEREBY REPEALS THE MUNICIPAL LAND USE FEE ORDINANCE IN EFFECT AND ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCE AND FEES CONTAINED HEREIN IN LIEU THEREOF Adopted: December 6, 2022
ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS BECOME EFFECTIVE TWO WEEKS AFTER THIS PUBLICATION
THE FULL TEXT OF EACH ORDINANCE AMENDMENT IS AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK AND ON THE TOWN WEBSITE. WWW.WOODSTOCKCT.GOV
Attest: Judy E. Walberg, Town Clerk

December 16, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Michael Robert Gallo-way (22-00246) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated July 11, 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:
Mariah Chapman
c/o JAMIE DA VIS ALEMAN, LAW OFFICE OF JAMIE DA VIS ALEMAN, LLC, 559 HARTFORD PIKE, SUITE 208, DAYVILLE, CT 06241
December 16, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Jeannette M Corriveau (22-00420) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated October 13, 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:
Roger W Corriveau
c/o ANDREA L TRUPPA, LAW OFFICE OF ANDREA L. TRUPPA, LLC, 880 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281
December 16, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Anne M Dilko (22-00461) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 5, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Patricia Hall
c/o STEPHEN J ADAMS, STEPHEN J ADAMS, ESQ, 158 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 682, PUTNAM, CT 06260
December 16, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF William E. Pederson (22-00493) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 4, 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:
Robert R. Pederson,
5 George Ave., P.O. Box 229,
Quinebaug, CT 06262
December 16, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Jack D Brown (22-00436) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of North-

east Probate Court, by decree dated November 29, 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:
Gary Brown, 469 Liberty Highway,
Putnam, CT 06260
December 16, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Richard D Cooley (22-00415) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated October 12, 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:
Cynthia B. Cooley, 58 Eastford Rd.,
Eastford, CT 06242
December 16, 2022

December 31, 2022
Buell's Truck & Engine Repair, Inc.
NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION
and

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

1. Buell's Truck & Engine Repair, Inc.
2. Woodstock, Connecticut
3. Claims to be presented to:
Edwin C. Higgins, III, Esq.
Bachand, Longo & Higgins 168 Main Street, P.O. Box 528 Putnam, CT 06260
4. Claims to be presented by
February 15, 2023
By
John T. Buell, President
December 16, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Mark R Windrow (22-00485) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 8, 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:
Susan Winslow
c/o JAMIE DAVIS ALEMAN,
LAW OFFICE OF J
AMIE DAVIS ALEMAN, LLC,
33 BROAD STREET,
DANIELSON, CT 06239
December 16, 2022



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

Patio Door Special!

Window Special!

Special ends on
December 31

SAVE 20%
on patio doors¹

SAVE 20%
on windows¹

SAVE 20%
on installation¹

WITH

NO NO NO
Money Down Payments Interest

FOR 1 YEAR²



- Our patio doors will continue to slide smoothly for years using **Andersen's dual ball-bearing engineering**
- Our composite Fibrex® material is **twice as strong as vinyl**, so our weather-tight seals stay weather-tight
- We handle the entire process—from **selling to installation to the warranty**—on our windows and patio doors, so if you ever have an issue, you're covered
- Our **5-point locking system** on our patio doors provides top-of-the-line security and peace of mind

We handle every part of the replacement process

- ✓ **Sell**
- ✓ **Custom-Build**
- ✓ **Install**
- ✓ **Warrant**



“ My wife and I could not be happier with the product and installation of our Renewal by Andersen windows. We own a home that was built in 1839 and had the windows replaced in the first floor of the oldest section of the home. We are so pleased with the outcome, we are now planning on replacing the remaining windows ahead of other remodeling options. ”

- Jeff S., Mystic, CT

Connecticut: 4.9 ★★★★★ 1,910 Google reviews



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

CERTIFIED
MASTER
INSTALLER

Call for your **FREE**
Window and Patio
Door Diagnosis

959-456-0067

¹Subject to availability, on a total purchase of 3 or more. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for an appointment must be made and documented on or before 12/31/22 with the purchase then occurring on or before 1/10/23. ²No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available from third-party lenders to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Products are marketed, sold and installed (but not manufactured) by Renewal by Andersen retailers, which are independently owned and operated under CT HIC.0634555. MA 173245. RI 36079. Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. Southern New England Windows LLC is the authorized representative of Renewal by Andersen and the registered Home Improvement Contractor. Renewal by Andersen does not hold this HIC number. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard will be subject to an island surcharge. See complete information and entity identification at www.rbaguidelines.com. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.