

# Country Antiques Show celebrates 30 years

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DANIELSON — The Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School once again played host to its Country Antiques show on March 23, celebrating the event's 30th year. The annual show, which debuted in 1992 and took a few years off due to the COVID-19 pandemic, hosts between 50 and 60 vendors every fall drawing in antique lovers from across New England and beyond.

The 2024 show brought in around 55 different vendors that Show Coordinator Jan Praytor said mostly focused on "country antiques." The event is a full community effort with local businesses advertising in the program and students from Ellis Tech helping create the display walls, electrical setups, and serving as porters for the vendors throughout the day. Even the culinary arts program gets involved creating food for people to enjoy during their visit. When asked about the show's longevity and success, Praytor explained that collectors love to get involved. The money raised from the show goes right back to the Ellis Tech students and the local community.

"People just start collecting certain things and maybe there's something else they start to enjoy, and they start collecting those things. The customers and vendors here are truly passionate about what they do and what they collect," said Praytor. "The money goes to covering our expenses and what's left all goes to projects of the Parent Faculty Organization at Ellis Tech. Every bit of that money is destined for students in some way."

The 2024 event featured a mix of both new and familiar vendors showcasing their merchandise. Rona Andrews of Worcester has been part of the show for over a decade and called it one of the most active antique markets she visits each year.

"It's a wonderful event. Early things are here, great antiques at good prices. The activity and enthusiasm of the crowd is always wonderful. It's a great group of dealers. The energy here is excellent compared to a lot of other shows," said Andrews.

That sentiment was shared by first time vendor Eric Swanson of Golden Ampersand, who, after 25 years of collecting, decided to join the Antique Show for 2024.

"It's a great crowd of people who are all very knowledgeable. This show is consistently busy, and everyone has been super nice and welcoming. People know what they're looking at. It's an educated group of clients so it's nice to talk to them."

With 2024 once again proving the staying power of the Country Antique Show, the event looks



Courtesy

Nikki's Dog House is a premier and authentic family restaurant that has been proudly serving the Putnam area and beyond since 1980. John and Sandra Johnson opened Nikki's Dog House, featuring their famous Coney Island Hot Dogs on April 1, 1980. Nikki's is named after their daughter, Nichola, who was six months old at the time the Dog House was born. John and Sandra ran this Putnam hot spot until 2010 when their son, David Johnson, and his family took over. Since then, our mission has been to provide comfort food for the whole family in a fun and feel-good environment. On April 1, 2021, Nichola and her family took over the reins. The original Nikki ran the restaurant until Larry and Erica Groh bought it Nov. 27, 2023. Larry and Erica will continue the time-honored traditions, quality food, and fun atmosphere that the Johnson Family started.

# FOLK celebrates 25 years supporting education

BY JASON BLEAU  
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The Friend of Learning in Killingly, also known as FOLK, has spent the last 25 years supporting local educators and school personnel through countless grants designed to promote a love of learning and enrichment throughout the town.

On March 13, FOLK marked its first quarter century by announcing 13 more grants while the Board of Education marked the occasion by recognizing the organization's Chair Janice Ahola-Sidaway.

FOLK started the evening with a special ceremony recognizing the grant winners before officially presenting the list in public before the Board of Education. Since 1998, FOLK has distributed over 200 mini-grants managed by the Great Worcester Community Foundation to support Killingly children and education depending heavily on volunteers led by Chair Janice Ahola-

Sidaway. During a special presentation before the Board of Education, Ahola-Sidaway discussed the distinction of reaching 25-years saying the organization has been grateful for the many opportunities to support teachers and students.

"This 25-year milestone wouldn't have happened without the dedication and the resourcefulness and the professionalism of the more than 125 individual Killingly teachers over the years who have proposed and carried out FOLK supported projects," Ahola-Sidaway said. "We simply wouldn't be here tonight, because that's the key to this. Yes, of course, it's donors and the support of individuals, but it's also those teachers that take the time from their very busy schedules to complete our online application, which is not really all that straight forward, and then successfully wind up with a grant. We feel very privileged to support their innovative work."

The 2024 slate of

grants included three awards sponsored by the Killingly Class of 1969. Those grants were \$750 to Alexandra Grigg at Killingly Central School (KCS) for Adaptive & Language Enriched Teaching Aids, \$200 to Sarah Parsell for Family Art Project Kits, and \$400 to Kimberly Vincent at Killingly Memorial

School for two VEX Go Kits for Robotics & Code. The remaining ten grants were as follows: \$763 to Mandy Jarvis at Goodyear Early Childhood Center (GECC) for three STEM wall stations for the playground, \$500 to Lorie Nordman at GECC to go towards re-painting playground pavement games, \$387 to Brittany

Varone at Killingly Memorial School (KMS) for the Koala Choir Music Library, \$400 to Kelly Andrews-Babcock at Killingly Intermediate School (KIS) to support Habits of Work Recognition to purchase bracelets as incentives to encourage persever-

Turn To **FOLK** page **A10**

# Woodstock plans for replacement of Kenyonville Road Bridge

WOODSTOCK — Jay Swan, First Selectman, has announced that the Town of Woodstock is contemplating a project to replace the Kenyonville Road Bridge (Bridge No. 04814) over Still River in the Town of Woodstock. The bridge replacement project would receive Federal funds under the Federal Local Bridge Program administered by the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

If undertaken, the project design would be expected to begin in March 2024, with construction likely in 2027.

Swan points out that local and state policy encourages early information to citizens on such projects and encourages people to raise any concerns with municipal officials early in the planning process. Persons wanting additional information should contact Jason Scranton, Director of Public Works, at (860) 974-0330.

The Town would receive at least 80% reimbursement from federal aid for all three phases of the project (Design, Rights-of -Way and Construction) with the remaining funds from the state to cover 100% of the costs associated with the bridge replacement.

The federal aid for the project was authorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) administered by the Federal Highway Administration and the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

# Woman's Board Valentine Dinner Dance at Day Kimball raises record \$20,300

PUTNAM — The Woman's Board of Day Kimball Hospital (WBDKH) raised \$20,300 at its annual Valentine Dinner Dance on February 10 held at Wright's Mill Farm in Canterbury. The funds will support the

WBDKH's \$250,000 pledge to support Day Kimball Hospital's da Vinci surgical robotic system.

With an impressive turnout of approximately 110 attendees, including Woman's Board members, DKH administrators and

staff, sponsors, and community supporters, the event featured dinner, silent auction, raffles, and entertainment by John DonFrancisco of JDF Entertainment.

"We are immensely grateful for the unwav-

ering support we receive from the Woman's Board," said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. "Their dedication and hard work are truly commendable, as demonstrated by the success of this

year's record-breaking event which I had the pleasure of attending. Their commitment to improving healthcare in our community is inspiring and essential in helping DKH to achieve its mission of improving the health and well-being of our community by providing the best medical care."

The funds raised from the Valentine Dinner Dance, combined with proceeds from the gift shop at Day Kimball Hospital and upcoming fundraising efforts will all contribute to fulfilling the WBDKH's current pledge.

Woman's Board of Day Kimball Hospital President, Valentine Iamartino praised the efforts of the fundraising chairs Linnea Sarantopolous, Arlene Baril, and Cheryl Medlyn, along with the Valentine's Dinner Dance Committee, for orchestrating a remarkable event. "Thanks to the collective efforts and a surge in sponsorships, the Woman's Board was able to raise \$20,300 to apply towards the group's



Courtesy

Members of the Woman's Board of Day Kimball Hospital pose for a group shot at a Valentine Dinner Dance held at Wright's Mill Farm in Canterbury on Saturday, Feb. 10.



# Katy Holzer earns Westview’s Employee of the Month award

DAYVILLE — Katy Holzer has achieved recognition from Westview as the organization’s March 2024 Employee of the Month.

Holzer is the Director of Westview Child Care Center: the newest member of Westview’s family of services. Joining the team at their Dayville location in April of 2019, she has been and continues to be a visionary leader for the child care program and an integral member of the continuum of services offered at Westview. She was instrumental in building the activities and educational programs before Westview Child Care Center opened as well as being considerably connected in discussions and developments of the physical structure of this space for care, learning, and fun alongside leadership and colleagues from Westview.

Since Westview Child Care Center opened in September 2023, Holzer has cultivated a culture of growth through play for children aged six months to 12 years old. The troupe of highly-qualified child care associates working at the center are proud and confident in her as a leader, and the families of the client children are embraced and engaged

through Katy’s thoughtfulness and communications. She refers to the children entrusted to her care as her “students,” and observations of their daily activities convey classrooms full of ear-to-ear smiles and cheer.

Holzer grew up in Northeast Connecticut, coming of age amidst the woodlands, hills, and pastures of Pomfret. She is the daughter of Dr. Marjorie Holzer and Dr. Neri Holzer, who had more than 50 years of combined service on Day Kimball Hospital’s medical staff as a pediatrician and an ear, nose, and throat specialist, respectively. After graduating from The Woodstock Academy, she earned a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology from the University of Connecticut. She went on to attain a Master’s degree in Business Administration from the Graduate School at Nichols College. When she and her husband, Alex Williams, welcomed their son Zachary to the world in 2020, she achieved another degree of knowledge through motherhood. Zachary was among the first class of students upon Westview Child Care Center’s opening, and he provided some key moments as a model in the early marketing of Westview’s new offering. He remains “happily enrolled to this day,” according to Holzer.



Katy Holzer

care to her horses. Her stable includes her son Zachary’s pony, Merlin: a pearly-white unicorn who may just make his way to Westview Child Care Center for a magical visit this summer! Fitness is important to Holzer and her husband Alex (as he is a Doctor of Physical Therapy and sports medicine specialist). She likes to take family walks and hikes around the Quiet Corner, and she gets even more physical activity as an avid tennis player.

Receiving Westview’s company-wide distinction of Employee of the Month provided Holzer with a powerful compliment. Ever the deft, deferential leader, she was stirred to acknowledge all of her allies in Westview Child Care Center’s passionate pursuit.

“I am deeply grateful for the support and encouragement of the entire Westview team. In particular, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to our Executive Vice President, David T. Panteleakos. His invaluable guidance has been a driving force behind this new

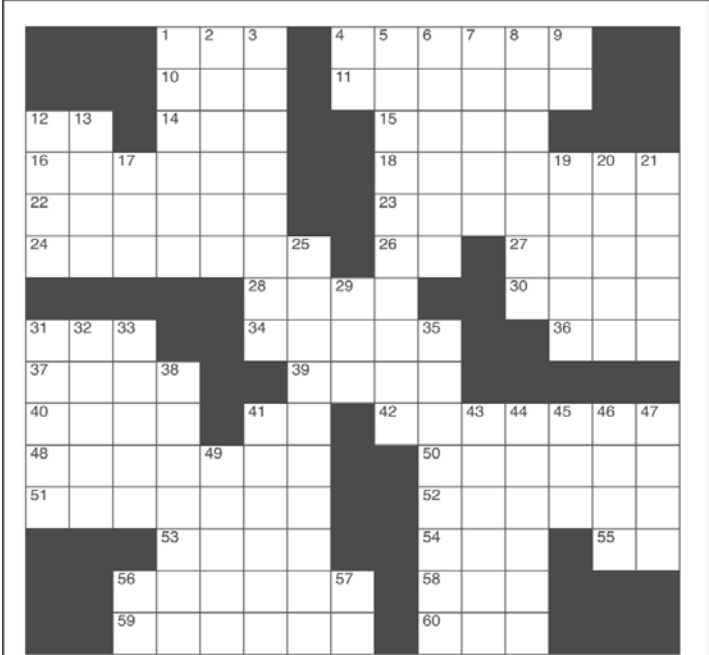
facility’s achievements,” she remarked. “I am inspired to state that this recognition is also a reflection of the amazing work performed by Westview Child Care Center’s entire team. Being surrounded by this amount of talent and passion for healthcare and early child education is so rewarding! Each day, I arrive here with immense joy as a contributor to our team’s mission.”

Westview’s Executive Vice President, David T. Panteleakos, stated, “Katy is such a welcomed addition to our leadership team! She has been so instrumental in the creation, development, and continued success of this latest addition to our Westview family, Westview Child Care Center. Every day, Katy brings a level of commitment and professionalism to her work that is impressive. Her consistent demeanor and outstanding dedication are attributes to which everyone may aspire towards. Congratulations to Katy on this well-deserved selection and recognition!”

## VILLAGER ALMANAC

### At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of March 18: Killdeer, Tree Swallow, Woodcock, Great Blue Heron, Bluebird, Red-tailed Hawk, Wood Duck, Hooded Merganser, Mallard, Turkey Vulture, Bald Eagle, Common Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird, Song Sparrow, Goldfinch. Visit [ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home](http://ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home).



- #### CLUES ACROSS

  - 1. Small Eurasian deer
  - 4. Irish county
  - 10. A major division of geological time
  - 11. Broadway actor Lane
  - 12. Canadian province (abbr.)
  - 14. Human gene
  - 15. Two
  - 16. A famous one is blue
  - 18. Utter repeatedly
  - 22. Ring-shaped objects
  - 23. Spoils
  - 24. Occurs
  - 26. Commercial
  - 27. Near
  - 28. Products you may need
  - 30. Pledge thrown down as a challenge
  - 31. TV network
- 34. Silk or cotton garments
  - 36. Soviet Socialist Republics
  - 37. Retired American football coach Dean
  - 39. Hot dish
  - 40. A type of gin
  - 41. Atomic #84
  - 42. Sawhorse
  - 48. About ground
  - 50. Medicine man
  - 51. Seedless raisin
  - 52. Capital of Albania
  - 53. Appendage
  - 54. OJ trial judge
  - 55. By the way (abbr.)
  - 56. Bicycle parts
  - 58. Barbie's friend
  - 59. Moved one's neck to see
  - 60. Commercials

- #### CLUES DOWN

  - 1. Make up for
  - 2. Baltimore ballplayer
  - 3. Salary
  - 4. Influential world body
  - 5. Engravers
  - 6. Declared as fact
  - 7. One who steals
  - 8. Jewelry
  - 9. Hospital employee (abbr.)
  - 12. Nonsense (slang)
  - 13. Town in Galilee
  - 17. Value
  - 19. A fake name
  - 20. Sheep in their second year
  - 21. Town in Surrey, England
  - 25. Appropriate for a particular time of year
  - 29. Creative works
- 31. Recesses
  - 32. W. Pacific island group
  - 33. Tolkien character
  - 35. Ancient symbol co-opted by the Nazi party
  - 38. Pioneer
  - 41. Scribe
  - 43. Painted a bright color
  - 44. Lowest members of British nobility
  - 45. Actress Thurman
  - 46. Type of sugar
  - 47. Crest of a hill
  - 49. N. American people of British Columbia
  - 56. Device
  - 57. The Mount Rushmore State

## PUZZLE SOLUTION

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## Collage exhibition at Eastern showcases the ‘art of curation’

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University’s Art Gallery has partnered with the National Collage Society (NCS) to display their 2024 Juried Small Collage Exhibition. Supplementing the gallery’s ongoing exhibition “Circe: A Goddess for Our Times,” the NCS collage is on display from Feb. 29 to April 12.

Collage, a term originating from the French “papier colle” - translated as “glued paper” - is a technique where various elements are composed on a surface. The NCS works to advance “the stature of collage as a major art medium,” according to their website.

Each of the pieces making up the collage have been sent in by members of the NCS from across the United States and around the world. They take the size and shape of a standard postcard. Artists have the freedom to layer different materials, draw, paint

and reimagine the four- by six-inch postcards.

These powerful collages range from politically cutting, whimsical and nostalgic, profound reflections of self and society and everything in between.

One such piece came from Hungary. Casaba Pal’s “Untitled” was mailed in as a postcard, allowing the elements and prints of the mail carrier to add to the art. Pal used images of statues and architecture, allowing humans to blend into the space of the card.

Other images included “Daybreak” by Michelle Foutch, which combines fabrics in thin layers, and a show of unity and joy by Michele R. Unger titled “Jubilee.”

Gallery assistant and art lecturer Hannah Petrikovsky explained the set-up of the new exhibit. The process of organizing each piece, known as the “art of curation,” requires

a great deal of thought and planning.

Initially, the installation was going to be in the corner of the gallery. This would both hide the collages and force the pieces to be far above eye-level. Petrikovsky noted that this would be overwhelming to the audience and impractical for an enjoyable viewing of the collection.

With the help of university assistant Lisa Marie Soltren ‘20, Petrikovsky worked to carefully place each piece and create a space where the art could be appreciated - along the glass walkway of the gallery’s entrance. Doing so lets the pieces be seen from the hallway, drawing students and faculty into the gallery, and allowing viewers to look closely at each piece.

Taking in the complete exhibition, Petrikovsky said, is “like finishing a painting.”

## bankHometown to host two free shred days

REGION — bankHometown invites customers and members of the community to two free Shred Days at local offices. Events will be held on the following dates and at the following locations. No appointment is necessary.

Saturday, April 20: 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., \* Woodstock office, 148 Route 171

Saturday, May 11: 9 to 11 a.m., \* Worcester, MA office, 1001 Millbury St. \*or until the truck is full

Local residents can reduce their risk of identity theft by bringing old mail, receipts, statements or bills, cancelled checks, pay stubs, medical records, or any other unwanted paper documents containing personal or confidential information and shredding them safely and securely for free. A professional document destruction company will be on site in the bank’s parking lot and can accept up to two boxes of documents per person.

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# Jillian Smick, Brandon Koehler promoted at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors

POMFRET CENTER/TOLLAND — Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors (WHZ) today announced the promotions of Jillian Smick to Senior Associate, Client Experience and Relationships and Brandon Koehler to Senior Associate, Client Relationships.

Smick joined WHZ in August 2021 after working in the hospitality industry at luxury resorts focused on enhancing the guest experience. In her newly expanded role, she will apply her customer-focused expertise to provide exceptional experiences for WHZ's wealth management clients.

"Jillian's dedication to



Jillian Smick



Brandon Koehler

our clients and commitment to ensuring they feel welcomed and valued has been outstanding," said Kate Pitts, Associate Vice President of Client Experience and Relationships. "We are thrilled to promote her to this role where she can have even greater client impact."

Koehler joined the WHZ award-winning team in June 2022 after previously working in operations and customer service roles at UConn Athletics and the Town

of Mansfield. As Client Relationship Senior Associate, he will assist advisors in service delivery and ensure clients' needs are met seamlessly with a high degree of quality.

"Brandon hit the ground running from day one in prioritizing our clients and their goals," said James Zahansky, Managing Partner and Chief Goals Strategist. "This well-deserved promotion recognizes his vital contributions to our team's high-caliber service delivery."

The promotions continue WHZ's focus on delivery

of a unique experience for their wealth management clients by ensuring talented team members keep clients at the center at every touchpoint.

WHZ was founded in Pomfret, Connecticut in 2006, and opened a second office in Tolland, Connecticut in 2023. The independent investment firm acts as a fiduciary in offering wealth management and customized financial planning services to individuals, families, business owners and executives, and not-for-profit institutions in 25 states, and is a partner of Commonwealth Financial Network®. To learn more, visit [www.whzwealth.com](http://www.whzwealth.com).

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# Danielson Martial Arts Academy announces newest round of students at grading



DANIELSON — On Thursday, March 21, 7th Dan Master Daryl Laperle of Danielson Martial Arts Academy announced the promotion of 34 students in the schools most recent grading.

Lorelai Tyler - Apprentice  
Aurora Huling - 2 Gup Red  
Dawn Dionne - 3 Gup Red  
Serenity Robbins - 3 Gup Red  
Orion Huling - 3 Gup Red  
Isabella Bernier - 3.5 Gup Green  
Alina Turner - 4.5 Gup Green  
Rory Newcomb - 4.5 Gup Green  
Karissa Bourassa - 4.5 Gup Green  
Claire Antunes - 5.5 Gup Purple  
Lila Turner - 5.5 Gup Purple  
Marlowe King - 5.5 Gup Purple  
Afton Gervais - 5.5 Gup Purple  
Emily Smith-Perry - 5.5 Gup Purple  
William Flynn - 5.5 Gup Purple  
Juniper Flynn - 5.5 Gup Purple  
DJ Leonard - 6. Gup Purple  
Landon Lott - 6.5 Gup Purple  
Sophie Lathrop - 7 Gup Blue  
Jude May - 8 Gup Blue  
Silas May - 8 Gup Blue  
Emily Castro - 9 Gup Orange  
Jaiden Randolph - 9 Gup Orange

Sarah King - 9 Gup Orange  
Waylon Hayden - 9 Gup Orange  
Esme King - 9 Gup Orange  
Sidney Stiles - 9 Gup Orange  
Aiden Davis - 9 Gup Orange  
Noah Kane - 9 Gup Orange  
Caleb Silveira - 9 Gup Orange  
Sebastian Babcock - 9 Gup Orange  
Samantha Soper - 9 Gup Orange  
Chase Caetano - 9 Gup Orange  
Haven May - 9 Gup Orange

For more information regarding classes, please call 860-779-0699, or visit the Web site at [DanielsonMartialArts.com](http://DanielsonMartialArts.com).

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PUTNAM  
POLICE LOG

PUTNAM — The Putnam Police Department reports the following arrests.

Harrison Paton, age 23, no current address, was arrested on March 19 for Possession of a Dangerous Weapon. Paton was subsequently charged with Failure to Appear in the Second Degree.

Olivia Ekinci, age 34, of Putnam was arrested on March 19 for Failure to Appear in the Second Degree.

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BRENDAN BERUBE

EDITOR

# The origins of the Easter Bunny

The Easter Bunny will be getting a workout this season, as the newly fallen deep snow in some parts of New England may make for some difficult travel. But alas, with baskets filled with colorful eggs and chocolates, this beloved character has been a part of Easter celebrations worldwide. Where does this tradition stem from?

The legend of the Easter Bunny traces its roots back centuries, intertwining folklore, mythology, and religious symbolism. While its precise origins are a bit of a mystery, various theories and cultural influences have contributed to the emergence of this cherished icon.

One prevailing theory suggests that the Easter Bunny's lineage can be traced back to ancient pagan rituals celebrating spring and fertility. In pre-Christian Europe, the hare was revered as a symbol of fertility and new life, representing the arrival of spring after the barrenness of winter. As Christianity spread across the continent, pagan customs melded with Christian traditions, giving rise to a hybridized celebration that incorporated elements of both.

Another theory proposes that the Easter Bunny found its way into Christian festivities through German immigrants who settled in America during the 18th century. In German folklore, the "Osterhase" or Easter Hare, was believed to lay colorful eggs as gifts for children who had been good. This tradition evolved over time, with the hare eventually morphing into the familiar bunny we know today, and eggs becoming synonymous with Easter.

Furthermore, the association of rabbits with Easter can also be attributed to their prolific breeding habits, symbolizing fertility, abundance, and the cycle of life. This symbolism aligns seamlessly with the Easter narrative of rebirth and resurrection, making the bunny a fitting emblem for the holiday.

Whether nestled in the pages of children's books, adorning decorations, or delighting young hearts during egg hunts, the Easter Bunny continues to evoke a sense of wonder and joy.

To the Editor:

I think Casella's getting way too much of a free pass with Putnam's upcoming trash revamp, and having made numerous folks scratch their heads in local discussions I think it's about time I explained my skepticism.

The single biggest problem with the bin program for me is the elimination of usage-based billing, which also pretty much eliminates the incentive to try to generate less trash in the first place. I was down to one red sticker every three weeks with recycling going out more frequently than trash, only to get slapped in the face for my efforts with this new system being much more primitive. The numbers don't add up even with a 65-gallon bin. The town folks can patronize and talk down to us residents all they want, but if municipal solid waste is billed by the ton, then the town gets usage-based billing and we don't. Flat primitive billing like this just looks more like a cash

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

### Keeping us at each other's throats keeps us away from theirs

To the Editor:

Democrat Kimberly Zapata, the former deputy director of the Milwaukee Election Commission, was convicted on all charges related to a ballot fraud scheme involving military absentee ballots. The scheme involved fraudulently requesting military absentee ballots that sent some to the residence of (R) State Rep. Janel Brandtjen, who at the time chaired the Assembly on Campaigns and Elections. Brandtjen raised the alarm after receiving three legitimate military ballots at her home, addressed to "Holly," a non-existent resident.

Maybe this is just another one of those (so-called) small and insignificant incidents that we've previously heard about — you know, the ones they'll tell you would have no bearing on an election outcome — but doesn't each one of them continue to taint the process? Yes, Zapata got caught, but I can only imagine how many didn't. Add to that the now debunked scare involving the USPS that in the 2020 election, hundreds of thousands of completed ballots were transported across state lines, and an Arizona report saying that 10,000 illegals all used the same Social Security number to vote — doesn't it all make you at least wonder how secure our election system really is? And now the Republicans are planning to do "ballot harvesting" also. I understand that our deployed military needs to be able to vote, but maybe we should go back to same day voting, with paper ballots and proper ID required; did we ever hear anything about any voter fraud back then? I also feel the need for "poll watchers" being available whenever presidential ballots are being counted.

Now on to "illegals" in the news (or, what you won't hear on MSDNC) - In Missouri, a

young American citizen lost his life when he was struck by a vehicle driven by an unlicensed Venezuelan national who came into the country illegally. In Florida, three illegal aliens were arrested and accused of kidnapping and sexually assaulting a woman. Authorities in Florida intercepted a boat from Haiti with 25 refugees aboard; on board with them were guns, drugs and night vision equipment. No cause for concern if they had gotten ashore undetected, huh? A group of over 100 migrants attempted to enter the US illegally by rushing a border barrier, breaking through razor wire and knocking down our National Guardsmen in the process. Yes, they've now become that brazen and these are the people we're expecting to obey our laws? On Monday, while at a local watering hole in Massachusetts, a Boston TV news headline report was: "The Migrant Crisis." (They're only now realizing it's a "crisis?" But hey, like in New York City, they brought this upon themselves.) Anyhow, when will it end, and don't we have a Congress that's supposed to be enforcing our laws and doing something about this mess? But then there are instances of our own politicians and their family members who've become the victims of crime, yet they've still done nothing to stop it. We're in good hands, right?

Can anybody please tell me what "we the sheeple" can do to put some pressure on them? Maybe it's time to unite and confront them, or do we just continue to let them slide and "hope for the best?" And I'll end this with a quote that appeared on Facebook: "Maybe our politicians want us at each other's throats so we're not at theirs?"

ED DeLUCA  
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

### Support for Trump's claims should disqualify those seeking public office

To the Editor:

Stephen Etzel makes a critical point in the final paragraph of his letter that you published on March 22. With extremely few exceptions, Republicans have embraced former President Trump's lie that the 2020 election was stolen from him, a lie that seeks to undermine the public's confidence in an essential element of a democracy, that of free and fair elections. Destroying that confidence is part of the authoritarian project to end democracy as we know it.

Mr. Etzel's observation that Republicans, even in the lowest public offices, are akin to minor leaguers in training for the majors, is important. Some of today's councilors, school board members, selectmen and women, mayors, etc. will be tomorrow's state and national officeholders. If they refuse to disavow Trump's Big Lie out of cowardice, ignorance, or hyper-partisanship, they must be defeat-

ed at the polls. If they support the criminal, lying, authoritarian presumptive GOP presidential nominee, they must be defeated.

To that end, I propose every candidate for every public office be asked two questions. One, do you believe that the 2020 election was stolen from Donald Trump? And two, will you vote for Donald Trump for president in 2024?

A "yes" answer to either question should be disqualifying for any voter who supports our democracy. Please remember that authoritarian rulers like Hungary's Orban and Germany's Hitler assumed power through democratic elections before the law was subverted, rights were taken away, opposition silenced, and, in the most extreme case, millions of people murdered.

BILLY G. TAYLOR  
KILLINGLY

### I don't trust Casella, and you shouldn't either

grab from a company that I already associate with jumping up the prices of things after getting into a market.

As Casella has set up shop around here, I've heard the horror stories about how they always jump things up after getting settled in. That sounds like penetration pricing for those who know a few things about business. Start low to grab a big chunk of market share and then raise prices afterwards when your market position is established. My prediction is that the town doesn't stand up for its voters enough and Casella wheedles the Putnam program out of existence so they can divide and conquer.

Casella's a publicly traded company. Being publicly traded brings some baggage with it, such as an official legal duty to the shareholders' best interests. If companies like this claim to love their customers, their support for customers only extends so far as it doesn't step on the toes of what the shareholders want. This is why I'm not a

fan of publicly traded companies seeking profit out of rudimentary services like this, whether it's Casella with trash, Eversource with electricity, or Connecticut Water with the current situation in Sterling. Keep things local and we can figure out revenue and expenses and whether the cost is worth keeping among the town residents, but bring in a company being traded on the Nasdaq, and now I have to wonder how much we've become a piggy bank to funnel money out of our local economy for the sake of someone's dividend.

Casella enjoyed a 29.1 percent increase in net income from fiscal year 2021 to 2022 at a time when the economy was scrambled by Covid. I don't think it would hurt to be skeptical of whatever they cook up. We work to earn our money. Let them work too to earn ours.

JAY GERHART  
PUTNAM

# The lesson of Easter



NANCY WEISS

The wild weather of the past weekend reminds us of the capriciousness of the elements in our region. Driving home with a friend after attending a remarkable "Visions and Leadership" program at QVCC (the name has been changed, but I'm sticking with the old one for now), we encountered rain, freezing rain, snow and the bone chilling feeling of being tricked by the calendar into thinking we were on the cusp of spring. The theme of the presentation was about the unpredictability of life as Olympian Siri Lindley discussed her athletic triumphs, personal challenges and overcoming cancer.

Change may be the only constant, but digging in my garden with frozen fingers, reminds me of all the springs and Easters that have come before.

As a child I attended the Abington Congregational Church. The town clerk, Mrs. Covell, was also the superintendent of the Sunday School. The more modern parish house, where the Sunday School met, stood in sharp contrast to the church, notable as the oldest church in Connecticut in continuous use and probably the coldest, with large glass windows that shook in the wind. I loved memorizing the hymns, the books of the Bible, and the Standard Poodle that sat next to Mrs. Covell as she played the piano. A portrait of Jesus smiled down from the small stage with blue eyes and light brown hair. That world was safe, predictable and full of promise or at least it seemed that way to me.

Easter was celebrated with the same sense of restraint, tempered with a bit of excess, that governed aspects of life in the late 1950's. Children got new clothes and Easter baskets. Little girls like me wore Easter hats with elastic chin straps and dresses made from fabrics that were itchy. Boys were given jackets, black shoes and clip-on bow ties to make them look like little men. Hollow chocolate rabbits, jelly beans in baskets filled with grass made from green paper and colored eggs rounded out the traditions. My parents were twice a year church-goers, which made sitting on a hard, wooden pew with them seem very special. My father would excuse himself and step outside to smoke.

Once I spent Easter in Dublin, Ireland in a hotel overlooking St. Stephen's Green.

I was delighted to be near such an historic place that was associated with the Easter Rising of the Irish Rebellion of 1916. At dawn, I watched men crawl out from the bushes where they'd spent the night. Another Easter my husband and I went to Nantucket. We rented bikes. The weather was so glorious we got sunburned. Snowfall on Easter of March 30, 1970 closed the state. It happened again in the early 1980's. A decade ago, I went to Sunrise Service on Mt. Mansfield, a panorama of white.

Every year, I put out an array of Easter items that I have acquired over time. A friend, who worked for the UN, gave my family many rabbits and decorated eggs. Several eggs have the complex designs made originally in Ukraine. They have more meaning than usual. I read on the internet that the tradition of painting eggs for Easter came from a Ukrainian tradition. Legends of the Easter bunny hail from Germany and the entire holiday was patterned after a pagan celebration of spring and fertility — thus the symbols with rabbits.

Poet Emily Dickenson wrote " 'Hope' is a thing with feathers..." the lesson of Easter and spring. The weather, the calamities and triumphs of life, the memories of times past and people long gone, the celebrations, the constant change — embrace it all.

Courtesy

Thompson Library invites you to the next in our series of local history programs presented by Thompson Historical Society President Joseph Iamartino, "Stories of Thompson's Taverns," Thursday April 22, from 6-7 p.m. Join us for recent historical discoveries on our inns & taverns...from the sordid & the notorious, to the elegant & the mysterious.



# The “Taylor Swift Effect” and its financial lessons for women

Taylor Swift has grown into one of the most successful singer-songwriters of the 21st century, but her success and impact aren't limited to the music industry. Newsweek has also billed her “an American economic engine.” Her recent Eras Tour brought in nearly \$6 billion to the U.S. economy, and is now the biggest tour of all time. Time Magazine said of this feat, “If Taylor Swift were an economy, she'd be bigger than 50 countries.”

Clearly, beyond her chart-topping music career, Swift has also built herself into a savvy businesswoman and economic force. That journey demonstrates key financial lessons that all women can apply to improve their own financial confidence and empower their success.

Lesson 1: Invest in yourself first

Early in her career, Swift realized the power



FINANCIAL FOCUS  
LEISL L. LANGEVIN

of owning her work. After struggles with former record labels, Swift made the bold move to leave Big Machine Records and regain control of her master recordings.

Though the process of re-recording her albums was arduous, Swift invested in herself by putting in the hard work. This decision allowed her to own her creative output moving forward.

Like Swift, women should make themselves the priority when investing. Whether it's pursuing education, skills training, healthcare, or personal development, investing in yourself builds future potential.

Lesson 2: Leverage your value

As Swift's star rose, she capitalized on her influence to become her own industry. She monetizes her brand through touring, merchandising, endorsements, licensing

deals, and real estate.

Rather than staying complacent, Swift identified ways to diversify her income. She forged a vertical integration strategy to control her assets and expand her commercial power.

Women can apply this by assessing their transferable skills and unique value. Look for opportunities to monetize strengths across multiple income channels, just as Swift does with music, consumer products, and media content.

Lesson 3: Build your team wisely

Swift understands the importance of surrounding herself with the right team. She relies on savvy agents, managers, publicists and attorneys to advise her.

By working with professionals, Swift developed her brand architecture. She benefits from experienced financial planning and protection of her assets.

For women seeking financial independence, a team matters. Work with financial advisors, accountants and legal

counsel to create a plan that secures your future. Their expertise helps you invest appropriately and accomplish big goals.

Lesson 4: Give back generously

While accumulating wealth, Swift has become a major philanthropist. She uses her influence and resources to champion causes including disaster relief, education, LGBTQ+ rights, and sexual assault awareness.

Swift's charitable giving and activism exemplify using your platform for good. Her Songwriter Artist Protection Act advocacy led to reform in music industry ethics.

Women can make a difference through volunteering, donations, and supporting women-led causes. Give back when you are able.

Lesson 5: Find your voice

At every stage, Swift has refused to compromise her voice, whether facing personal struggles or professional obstacles. Her perseverance drove her to success.

Swift uses her music and influence to inspire

those finding their own voice. Her openness about overcoming adversity makes her relatable.

Women can emulate Swift's example by boldly pursuing their dreams, defining success on their own terms, and championing causes they care about. Your voice matters.

A final lesson to take from Taylor Swift's impact

Taylor Swift's determination, business acumen and advocacy have made her a cultural force. By taking ownership of her narrative, she defined what women can achieve with smart investments in themselves. Swift offers inspiration to women seeking financial independence and empowerment. Follow her lead by investing in your potential, building your team, giving back, and embracing your voice.

Our team at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors is experienced in working with women to empower their financial freedom. Contact us for a compli-

mentary consultation on our website, [www.whzwealth.com](http://www.whzwealth.com), or call (860) 928-2341.

Authored by Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor Leisl L. Langevin, CFP® CDFA®, Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser: 697 Pomfret St., Pomfret Center, CT 06259 and 392-A Merrow Road, Tolland, CT 06084, 860-928-2341. <http://www.whzwealth.com> 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.

*Note: The Killingly Historical Center will be closed March 30, the day before Easter Sunday. Happy Holiday!*



KILLINGLY AT 300  
MARGARET WEAVER

This week, I will continue with more on Damaris (Cady) Howe Brown (1717-1776), who was the wife of the second and third ministers of Killingly's First Congregational Church Society and lived in the National Historic Register Cady-Copp Cottage of the Aspinock Historical Society in present-day Putnam. Her will, inventory, and other probate documents provide much more information about her than the vital and churches records do. First, a word about female inventories in the 18th century. At that time, the practice of coveture existed where a woman was subject to her husband's "protection and authority." (Oxford). Thus when a woman married, most of her possessions became her husband's. So items like spinning wheels, pots and pans, etc., which Damaris would have used on a regular basis, do not show up in her inventory. Instead they are in that of her husband Rev. Aaron Brown, who died in September 1775. Even the old chaise, which Damaris had inherited

from her father Joseph Cady, was listed in her husband's inventory. I'd like to mention a number of items in her inventory. Some provide much food for thought. The first item in the inventory was one silk gown (no color given). "One Brown Camblete Gown and Holland apron" were the other pieces of clothing listed separately. If you are trying to picture Damaris wearing these gowns, recall paintings you have seen of Martha Washington or Abigail Adams, who would have been her contemporaries. The gowns of that period were extremely full, often with low-cut bodices that were filled with a fancy kerchief. Imported fabric was costly, and would have been treasured, especially since the Revolution stymied trade with Europe. It was common for dressmakers to "remake" gowns as the fashions and wearers changed.

From her will we know that the silk gown was bequeathed to her granddaughter Damaris Holton. (Damaris Howe, daughter of Damaris (Cady) and Perley Howe, married Timothy Houghton 11 Feb. 1768. Early CT Marriages, Killingly. She predeceased her mother leaving three children. ) The camblet

"cabblet" gown and White Holland apron went to Alice, wife of Thomas Newel of Woodstock." A genealogical search on Ancestry revealed that Alice was her sister-in-law Alice (Howe) Newell from her first marriage to Rev. Perley Howe. Damaris might well have known Alice from her teen-aged years when both would have attended church in Thompson Parish, Killingly.

Have you heard of camblet "cablet?" I hadn't. I had to chuckle at the first definition I found: A fabric which is almost incapable of definition although the word is said to have first been used of a costly eastern material, apparently made of hair from Angora goats." (<https://yorkshiredictionary.york.ac.uk/words/camblet>); camlet (countable and uncountable; pl. camlets). A fine fabric made from wool (originally camel, but later goat) and silk. (<https://www.wordsense.eu/camblet/>).

Sadly, all Damaris's other clothing was lumped together under one entry. Still, there must have been shifts, petticoats, caps, stockings, etc. No mention was made of shoes. I do wonder what they looked like. Silver Shoe Buckles were listed in the inventory, probably because they were silver, and were willed to Rebecca, daughter of Perley Howe.

I think the inventory item that fascinated me the most was a Silver Snuff Box. I was curious about the custom/habit of taking snuff so did an internet search.

The lids of these were often decorated with miniature subjects of the period, such as allegories, pastoral romantic scenes and flowers. They are held in high regard as prized examples of the finest work of miniature painters, enamellers, jewellers and silversmiths." (<https://sharrowmills.com/pages/snuff-a-brief-history>; site based in the United Kingdom).

Damaris also had jewelry including "a pair of Stone Jewels" and a gold necklace and gold locket. I had no clue as to what stone jewels might be. The Colonial Williamsburg website defined them thusly, "Precious and semiprecious stones - diamonds, rubies, emeralds, topaz, and garnets - were as highly prized in the colonial period as they are today, as were gold and silver. Yet some of the most attractive items were what we would call costume jewelry and were valued entirely for their aesthetic appeal." The stone jewels were bequeathed to Alice, daughter of Isaac Cady Howe. Granddaughters Shannah Holton and Abelena Howe each received gold necklaces.

Five Silver spoons and ten small silver spoons, listed in her inventory, were left to the five granddaughters, daughters of her sons Isaac Cady Howe and Perley Howe, to be equally divided among them. The remainder of the silver was to go to Abelena Howe, daughter of her son Samson. One dozen pewter plates and two large pewter platters were to be equally divided among

the eight granddaughters as were the linens--Five napkins, two table Cloths, three pillow bears (pillow cases).

Damaris had her own library appraised in the inventory. It would have been interesting to see what she was reading. Two looking glasses were also mentioned as were 18 pounds of cheese. (Pomfret Probate, Vo. 3, p. 473-4; Vo. 4, p. 495)

Brass "kittles" and warming pan, iron pots and "kittles", hand irons, flat irons, knives and forks, frying pan, earthen ware, stone jugs, sugar box, & water spout and spinning wheels were all included in the inventory of Rev. Aaron Brown, not Damaris. His inventory also listed horse, cattle and swine--and the old chaise, which Damaris had received in her father's will.(Pomfret Probate, Vo. 4, p. 441).

The estate of Damaris Brown paid several women who had helped her during her lifetime, perhaps during her last days--"To Rebecca Pool to two weeks and 4 days of work at 31 shillings per week." Mary Brooks was paid three shillings for one week's work. Doctors Thomas Moffitt and Samuel Holden Torrey also were paid by the estate. Benjamin Cargill, who had a mill at what we call Cargill's Falls, was paid for flour.

I consider myself extremely fortunate to have these documents to work with. They reveal so much about the individuals and the Killingly Hill neighborhood at a crucial time in our nation's histo-

ry. I will continue to delve deeper to see what else I can learn.

(If you missed the article of 3/22/24, be sure to read that for the first part of the story of Damaris Cady Howe Brown).

Fish Fridays: Support one of Killingly's Historic Properties, Killingly Grange #112, the former Killingly Center School. The Killingly Grange will hold a fish fry Friday, March 29 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Fried or Baked Fish with choice of Baked Potato or French Fries and coleslaw. \$16. New: Clam cakes, 6 for \$8; 12 for \$14. Beverage & Dessert also available. Dine-in or Take Out. Limited number of meals. Call 860-884-1813 or visit [www.facebook.com/KillinglyGrange/](http://www.facebook.com/KillinglyGrange/). At the door pay by cash, credit card or check. The Grange is also collecting non-perishable food for local food pantries. Watch the Web site for other upcoming events.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Town Historian. March 2024. For additional information email me at [margaretmweaver@gmail.com](mailto:margaretmweaver@gmail.com). Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or [www.killinglyhistorical.org](http://www.killinglyhistorical.org) or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook at [www.facebook.com/killingly-historicalsociety](http://www.facebook.com/killingly-historicalsociety). 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.

## KILLINGLY CHRONICLES

April 1 – April 6

TOWN HALL MEETINGS (agendas and minutes at [www.killingly.org](http://www.killingly.org))

Monday the 1st  
Inlands, Wetlands and Water Courses Commission (Town Meeting Room) 7 p.m.

Tuesday the 2nd  
Special Town Council Meeting (Joint with BOE) (Town Meeting Room) 7 p.m.

Wednesday the 3rd  
Permanent Building Commission Meeting (Town Meeting Room) 7 p.m.

Saturday the 6th  
Budget Presentation to Town Council (Town Meeting Room) 8 a.m.

Community Events  
Monday the 1st  
Wonderful Ones & Twos (Library) 9:30 to 10 a.m.

Adult Sensory Story Time (Ages 18+) (Library) 1 to 2 p.m.

Tuesday the 2nd

Craft & Chat (Ages 18+) (Library) 10:30 a.m. to noon

Wednesday the 3rd  
Little Listeners (Ages 0-5) (Library) 11 to 11:30 a.m.

Anime & Manga Club (Ages 13-18) (Library) 4 to 5 p.m.

Teen Advisory Board (Ages 13-18) (Library) 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Friday the 5th  
AARP Tax Assistance (Library) 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Willy Wonka Show (Killingly Community Center) 7 to 9 p.m.

Saturday the 6th  
Preparing for the Solar Eclipse (Ages 6-10) (Library) 10 to 11 a.m.

Willy Wonka Show (Killingly Community Center) 7 to 9 p.m.

Check out the Killingly Parks and Recreation section on the Killingly town website for daily class schedules!

"The practice of taking snuff became popular in England around the seventeenth century. It had become known a little earlier in France - and also Scotland, due to the countries' contact with the French Court... It is thought that the use of snuff originated in Central and South America before the advent of the Spaniards. It is likely that they were the nation who first brought the habit to Europe. Louis XIII of France forbade the use of snuff except as prescribed by physicians. Back then, they believed, as many still do, that snuff keeps one free from colds and gives relief from catarrh and similar complaints... By the eighteenth century, snuff-taking was widespread throughout the world. Snuff boxes, usually highly ornamented, were worn as jewellery and given as valuable



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WEEK



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<sup>1</sup>Subject to availability, on a total purchase of 3 or more. Cannot be combined with other offers. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for an appointment must be made and documented on or before 3/31/24 with the purchase then occurring on or before 4/10/24. Products are marketed, sold and installed (but not manufactured) by Renewal by Andersen retailers, which are independently owned and operated under Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. CT HIC.0634555. MA 173245. RI 36079. All residents of islands will be subject to an island surcharge. See complete information and entity identification at [www.rbaguidelines.com](http://www.rbaguidelines.com). ©2024 Andersen Corporation. ©2024 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

<sup>2</sup>Plan 4521. Subject to credit approval. Rates range from 14.26% - 21.19% APR (interest rates range from 15.99% - 24.99%). Loan amount and rate will vary based on your income and creditworthiness. 12 month promotional period ("Promo Period") during which interest is billed but will be waived if the amount financed is paid in full before Promo Period expires. Monthly payments are not required during the Promo Period. Any unpaid balance and amounts owed after Promo Period will be paid over 84 monthly payments. For example, assuming the full credit limit is used on loan approval date and no payments are made during Promo Period, for every \$1,000 financed at a fixed interest rate of 24.99%, 12 monthly payments of \$0 followed by 84 monthly payments of \$28.29. This example is an estimate only. Actual payment amounts based on amount and timing of purchases. Call 866-936-0602 for financing costs and terms. Financing for the GreenSky® consumer loan program is provided by Equal Opportunity Lenders. GreenSky® is a registered trademark of GreenSky, LLC, a subsidiary of Goldman Sachs Bank USA. NMLS #1416362. Loans originated by Goldman Sachs are issued by Goldman Sachs Bank USA, Salt Lake City Branch. NMLS #208156. [www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org](http://www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org).



# Eastern presents “Unfolding” puppetry show

WILLIMANTIC — The Communication, Film and Theatre Department and the Art Gallery at Eastern

Connecticut State University will show “Unfolding,” a contemporary fairy tale featuring puppetry in the DelMonte Bernstein Studio Theater on March 27 at 7:30 p.m. and March 28 at 5:30 p.m.  
Tickets may be purchased online at the following prices:  
General admission: \$10  
Eastern faculty, staff, and alumni: \$7  
Senior citizens (62+): \$5  
Students from other institutions and children (18 and under): Free  
“Unfolding” explores themes of female wisdom and empowerment through hand-crafted marionettes, mesmerizing shadow imagery and evocative

live music. The show was created with the support of The Jim Henson Foundation and has captivated audiences across the United States and around the world.  
Following the Thursday performance, audience members are invited to a reception and post-show talk-back to engage more deeply with the show and meet the people behind the scenes of the production.  
We hope that you will join us for this theatrical showcase.  
For more information, please contact the FAIC Box Office at (860) 465-5123 or email [theatreboxoffice@easternct.edu](mailto:theatreboxoffice@easternct.edu).  
To buy tickets: <https://easternct.showare.com/eventperformances.asp?evt=79>.



Jason Bleau  
Abigail of Putnam gets a photo taken with the star of the day, the Easter Bunny himself.



A young guest gets his face painted with one of many different Easter themed designs.



Kane of Putnam holds up a shiny gold egg he found during the Easter egg hunt.



Youngsters scatter throughout the room to find their eggs during one of several egg hunt sessions.

# Putnam welcomes the Easter Bunny

PUTNAM — The Putnam Recreation Department hosted a meet and greet with the Easter Bunny on Saturday, March 23 helping kick off the area festivities for the annual holiday. Children could get their picture taken with the famed holiday figure at the Putnam Municipal Complex while also taking part in easter egg hunts presented by the Putnam Little League which were moved indoors due to heavy rain. If they were lucky, some youngsters could even find tickets in their eggs allowing them opportunities to win one of several raffle prizes up for grabs during the event.



Young egg hunters patiently await their turn to take part in one of the many morning Easter egg hunts which were moved indoors due to heavy rain.



Kane of Putnam holds up a shiny gold egg he found during the Easter egg hunt.



Layla and MJ of Norwich look through their eggs they found during the Easter egg hunt.



A couple of youngsters look for tickets and goodies in the eggs they snatched during the egg hunt.



Some of the hidden eggs contained tickets that children could fill out in hopes of winning one of several raffle prizes up for grabs.

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# The Indian scare

When the Pilgrims landed in Plymouth, there were about 60,000 indigenous people in New England. The colonists developed trade relationships with them and exchanged ideas, particularly of the European view on religion. Even in those early years, the Indians were uncomfortable about the newcomers and their claims to native lands. European diseases came with the colonists and washed through native populations with alarming speed. There were instances of armed conflict. The New England colonies of Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay and New Haven formed an alliance called the New England Confederation in 1643 to provide a military defense against the Indians after the Pequot War in 1636-'37.

Wampanoag sachem Metacom acquired the name of King Phillip when he led a war against the English colonists, called King Phillips War, in 1675-'76. The history of this period varies depending on whether the source is English or indigenous. Even the Indian nations themselves have conflicting stories about the unrest. The tribes resented and resisted English

authority over their lives and their lands. There were violent attacks on settlements. The Mohegan and Mohawks fought with the colonists against the Pequots and the Wampanoags. During the 1670s, the attacks by Indians allied with Metacom increased in violence and frequency. The raid on Lancaster in March and again in August, 1675, killed 21 and captured 23. The Swansea massacre killed seven. Stories of atrocities abounded and, no doubt, increased in gore as they spread through the colonies. The raids continued with higher death and capture rates. The Deerfield massacre in 1704 was one of the worst, killing 47 and taking 112 captives, and burning a large part of the town.

In Wabbaquasset country, a visit by Major Daniel Goodkin and John Eliot in 1674 was the first major contact with colonists. The purposes of this visit were to bring the indigenous people to God," suppress drunkenness, idolatry, powwowing, witchcraft, boredom, murder and the like" (Goodkin's Diary). For Eliot, the work was all about religion and saving souls. Goodkin was con-

cerned with civil matters and the rights and jurisdictions of the English over the Indians. During the visit, Eliot conducted his sermon and appointed Sampson as the Wabbaquasset's religious teacher. Major Goodkin appointed Black James as the constable and empowered him with civil authority. He was to suppress drinking and Sabbath-breaking, first by a warning and then bringing the culprit to the authorities. Wattasacompanum, the leader of the Hassanamesits, was the authority for minor offenses; Goodkin himself would deal with idolatry and powwowing. Then King Phillip's War broke out.

The "Praying Indian" towns like Wabbaquasset and Quinatisset (Thompson) were vacated, as the indigenous clans chose one side or the other. The Nipmucks east of the Quinebaug River fought with King Phillip, while the Wabbaquassetts sought refuge with Uncas of the Mohegans, ending a substantial presence of indigenous people in Woodstock. Alliances were fluid and short-lived. Indians on both sides raided back and forth in the area of southern

New England. In 1676, there was a fort established in Woodstock, c o m m a n d - e d by Captain H e n c h m a n , that was demolished and crops destroyed by 250 English and 200 Mohegans.

After the Goers established a permanent settlement in 1686, there was still hostile activity. The cooperative nature of the Wabbaquassetts was greatly altered by their time with the Mohegans. They had come to resented the authority of Massachusetts Bay Colony and wanted to continue conflicts with the colonists until they were independent of English rule. The settlement at Dudley was constantly battling the Nipmucks; the Hugueots in Oxford found that drunkenness made the indigenous people more hostile. Woodstock asked the General Court to stop selling rum to the Indians.

In an attempt to regain colonial order, the Indians from the "plantation of Toohkekekomoo-Wadchunt" were told to come to Woodstock, to be under the authority of the selectmen and military officers. Furthermore,

they were told they could not leave without permission (Bowen).

The Huguenots had built a fort in Oxford in 1694, but the fortification did not discourage raids. Word of the Johnson Massacre in 1696 traveled to the settlement at Woodstock, the news brought by Johnson's wife Suzanne and her brother. Woodstockians panicked because there were 29 Wabbaquasset and Shetucket warriors in the town who refused to accept English authority. The colonists gathered in garrisons, the "watch towers were manned (Bowen)," and word was sent to other nearby settlements. In response to Woodstock's messages, Major James Fitch, 12 English soldiers and 38 Mohegans and Pequots arrived to calm the residents. There was a search of the town but no other hostile forces were located. The local Indians were put under the control of Lt. John Sabin. The

alarms continued for the next several years and tensions were high through the next decade.

The only remnant of the Indian Scare is Fort Hill. It is two miles west of Woodstock Hill, on the northside of Route 171 at the junction with Pulpit Rock Road. It is noted on Lester's Map of 1883. A photograph appears in Bowen's History of Woodstock.

Books on Woodstock history available at any of the town's four libraries and the website for the Woodstock Historical Society ([www.centerfor-woodstockhistory.com](http://www.centerfor-woodstockhistory.com)):

Bowen, Clarence Winthrop. History of Woodstock. Boston: James R. Osgood, 1882.

Larned, Ellen D. History of Windham County, Connecticut. 2 vols. Worcester, Massachusetts: Printed by Charles Hamilton, 1874.

W o o d s t o c k Tercentenary Committee. Heritage and Horizons, Woodstock Remembers 300 Years. Woodstock, CT, 1968.

WOODSTOCK THROUGH THE YEARS

CHARLENE PERKINS CUTLER



## Evoked positive emotions by adding Pantone Color of the Year to your garden



Ball Horticultural Company — Courtesy

Heat and drought-tolerant Celosia Celway™ Salmon has spiky blooms atop 40- to 48-inch stems.

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2024 Pantone Color of the Year, Peach Fuzz. It was selected for generating a feeling of kindness and tenderness and encouraging sharing, community, and collaboration. Consider including this color in your garden to convey these emotions or as a good excuse to add more plants to your landscape. This is the 25th year the Pantone Color

Institute has selected a color that reflects the spirit of the times. These are colors you are likely to see in home furnishings, advertisements, and even our landscapes.

Peach Fuzz lies somewhere between pink and salmon. Many garden plants have flowers that fit into this color spectrum and can be used in containers and garden beds.

Dianthus Vivacia® Orange is hardy to zone 7a, but can be used as an annual in colder areas. The large double flowers top 10- to 16-inch-tall plants and are showy during the cooler months of the growing season. They combine nicely with other flowers and their sturdy stems make them suitable for cutting.

SuperTrouper® Orange Dianthus has similar colored flowers that are about 20% smaller. It is hardy in zones 5 to 9 and has a spicy fragrance.

Celosia Celway™ Salmon has the same heat and drought tolerance as other celosias. The spiky blooms are held atop 40- to



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

48-inch stems, making them great additions to the middle or back of the border.

If you love salvias, you can find a variety of peachy-colored blossoms. These plants tend to be deer-resistant and hummingbird magnets. Just check the

plant tag for more specific information on the mature size and hardiness.

Luxury Lace daylily has subtly fragrant star-shaped flowers. Hardy in zones four to eight it has the same low maintenance requirements as other daylilies. Just water thoroughly when needed.

Geum 'Mai Tai' has vermilion red flowers that fade to a peachy pink early in the season. The 18-inch-tall burgundy stems are a nice contrast to the flowers. Grow it in full sun with moist soil in zones five to seven.

Last but certainly not least is threadleaf coreopsis 'Crème Caramel' (Coreopsis verticillata 'Crème Caramel'). Hardy in zones five to nine, it slowly

spreads making it a nice addition to a sunny slope or traditional border. The fine foliage blends nicely with other flowers, adding welcome texture to any planting. Watch the peachy-pink flowers deepen to salmon when temperatures cool.

Use the artist's color wheel to find colors that pair well with these and other peach-fuzz-colored flowers and foliage. Then look for opportunities to add interesting texture for some additional pizzazz. You and your visitors will enjoy the cozy warm feeling when walking through your landscape.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *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* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## WOODSTOCK BY THE WEEK- APRIL 1-7

- TOWN HALL MEETINGS (agendas and minutes at [woodstockct.gov](http://woodstockct.gov))
- Monday the 1st
- Beautification Committee, 4:30 p.m.
  - Inland-Wetlands Commission, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday the 2nd
- Presidential Primary, Woodstock Middle School, 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Thursday the 4th
- Board of Selectmen, 4 p.m.
  - Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:30 p.m.
- COMMUNITY EVENTS Each Weekday

- Stepping into Sobriety Meetings, South Woodstock Baptist Church.
- Monday the 1st
- Community Kitchen Free Lunch, First Congregational Church, noon.
  - Knit & Crochet Club, Senexet Grange, 7 p.m.
  - Yoga Roots to Fly Wellness, Senexet Grange, 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday the 2nd
- The Bridge Young Adults, Evangelical Covenant Church
  - Yoga Roots to Fly Wellness, Senexet Grange, 6 p.m.
  - Craft Adventure, West Woodstock Library, 7 p.m.

- Wednesday the 3rd
- Story Hour, West Woodstock Library.
  - Knitting Group, Town Hall.
  - Yoga, Roots to Fly Wellness, Senexet Grange, 6 p.m.
  - Youth Group, South Woodstock Baptist Church
  - The Bridge (young adults), Evangelical Covenant Church
  - Quiet Corner Al-Anon Family Group, East Woodstock Congregational Church, 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday the 4th
- Lady's Small Group and Men's Bible Study, South Woodstock Baptist Church
  - Knit & Crochet Club, Senexet

- Grange, 1 p.m.
- Woodstock Sustainable Kitchen, Taylor Brooke Brewery, 3-7:30 p.m.
  - Author Series: Mary Romney, Bracken Memorial Library, 7 p.m.
- Friday the 5th
- First Friday Food Fair, East Woodstock Congregational Church, 9-11 a.m.
  - Story Time Hour, May Memorial Library, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
  - Teacher Appreciation Night, Taylor Brooke Brewery, 2-7 p.m.
  - Woodstock Sustainable Kitchen, Taylor Brooke Brewery, 3-8:30 p.m.
  - Sacred & Intentional Drum Circle Journey, Senexet Grange, 6:30 p.m.
  - New England Trivia, Taylor Brooke Brewery, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

- Saturday the 6th
- 3rd Annual Free Seed Day, Roseland Park, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
  - Red Lion Food Truck, Taylor Brooke Brewery, all day
  - Girl Scout Cookie Sale, Taylor Brooke Brewery, 2-7 p.m.
  - Live Music – Rich Polseno, Taylor Brooke Brewery, 2-5 p.m.

- Sunday the 7th
- "Woodstock Through the Camera's Eye" exhibit, Woodstock Historical Society, 10 a.m. – noon
  - Jay's Catering Food Truck, Taylor Brooke Brewery, 1-6 p.m.
  - Live Music – Dwayne Haggins, Taylor Brooke Brewery, 2-5 p.m.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 13
- Bull Hill Walk, Spring Outdoors, The Last Green Valley, 10 a.m.
  - Woodstock Business Expo, Loos Center for the Arts, noon-4 p.m.
- April 19-21
- Retreat, Theme – Heart, YMCA Camp Woodstock.
- April 26-28
- Spring Renewal – A Retreat for Women, Inn at Woodstock Hill.
- May 3 & 4
- Addams Family Musical, Loos Center for the Arts.
- To submit calendar items: [woodstockbytheweek@gmail.com](mailto:woodstockbytheweek@gmail.com).

# Community Connection

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# In the Studio

“In the Studio” features artists from the Quiet Corner-home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, handcraft, performing art, art education, and graphic art. In this series, we'll talk with our artist neighbors and learn about their careers, current projects, and connections



to our towns. We'll also learn some “artspeak” terms in our conversations, demystifying some of those “artist words”. In this interview, we're meeting with area artist Robert Clark. His landscapes are thoughtful, minimalist, and full of inner dialog. Where is this place? Who lives/ed or works/ed here? Snapshots in time, Robert can recall just where he was when taken with an image which inspired a painting.

Robert, tell us where you've lived, and what impact living in the Northeast Corner has

had on your work. I was born and raised in Ellington. I ventured into Texas in the early 90's and stayed in Central Texas until 2016, when the family and I moved to Westminster, CO for a short stay of 1 year. Finally, in 2017 we moved back to New England settling in

Massachusetts near the Quiet Corner border. Living in New England brings back memories of old farms and barns from my childhood. Every road I take in New England provides immense amounts of inspiration - old barns, country roads and fields, along with swamps and old relics of the past are peaceful memories I bring back to life in my art.

Did you study art formally? How have your paintings evolved?

I've never had formal training. Watching my

mother, who was a professional artist, bring life to paper ignited a passion within that I didn't realize was there. What started as sketches in my late mom's sketch book evolved over the years into a passion and eventually into an avenue for expressing myself. We had scattered art throughout the house. Andrew Wyeth's “Groundhog Day,” which was beautifully hung in our living room, always amazed me with the amount of detail on such a simple subject matter - it had such an impact on me.

I started out painting simple subjects - things and places I remembered. I wanted my art to evolve to make a statement which may make them seem dark sometimes.

The buildings you paint appear to tell their stories—can you expound on that a bit for us?

So many of the barns I've painted have given way to time and are no longer standing. Painting them in their last moments captures



their story and cements their place in time. Please share a little about your process.

I have to feel motivated. Sometimes I'll see something and feel the need to paint it. I don't do plein air painting because I'm distracted by the elements - I can't be in the sun for any length of time. So, I take a photo of the scene and attach a name to it. Once I'm back home in my dining room/studio, I review the photo and recall the feeling I experienced when viewing it live. Sometimes looking at the photo will provide fresh inspiration and drive me to pick up my brushes.

What makes you stop and say “this is a place I'd like to capture?”

This is a difficult question to answer. It comes from deep within. Different scenarios draw out different emotions. Late fall into winter is when I see the most beauty. The bare trees, the lack of color, the stark reality of time passing brings out the rawness of what I'm seeing. Spring and summer do not provide the same motivation - the scenery is too green and overwhelmed with color.

Do you work on one piece at a time or have a couple in progress simultaneously?

I can only focus on one piece at a time. The process of getting the message from my head to the paper allows for only one subject at any given time - yes, I am a simple man. I'll sketch it, look for my colors and then go right into painting it. There are times when I've not been pleased with the end result so that particular piece gets destroyed and I start the process over again until the paper matches the memory.

What do you like about watercolor as a medium?

The paint easier to manipulate. I love the softness of the blending and yet once the paper has dried, the level of sharpness of the details you can achieve is incredible. I'm not wealthy and the paint in the pallet lasts for a very long time.

Thank you so much for sharing your thoughts with us in this interview. Where can we see more of your work?

Amy of Arts & Framing in Putnam has many of my works in her collection. I had a show in Stafford in 2018 and did very well - sold multiple pieces. I loaned some pieces to the Thompson Library in 2019. In 2020, my art hung display at a gallery in Ware, Mass.

All of my art, except for commissioned pieces, can be seen on my website: [RVCPAINTED.COM](http://RVCPAINTED.COM)

Word of the day  
Fernweh: (German)  
The literal English translation of “Fernweh” is “far-sore” or, more colloquially, “farsickness.” Fernweh is often described as a longing for distant places, a yearning for travel [often nostalgic]. It is the opposite of homesickness, which is the longing for home while away. The term Fernweh is believed to have originated in the late 18th century. It is not just a desire to travel but a deep-seated longing and yearning for distant places, new horizons, and experiences. [itranslate.com]

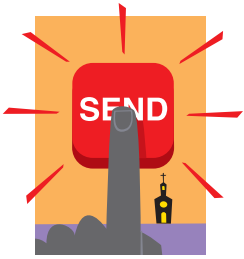
About the writer: Cynthia Saari (Woodstock) is a nationally recognized flamework glass artist. She has exhibited her work & taught for over 20 years; her glass beads have been included in numerous publications & invitations. Significant projects include costume work for the Santa Fe Opera, and flamework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



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# Treat yourself like a million-dollar racehorse

Growing up, my dad was a huge fan of Zig Zigar, filling our home with the sound of his motivational speeches. One story that always stuck with me was the story about a million dollar racehorse.

Zigar poses a thought-provoking question: “If you did have a million-dollar racehorse, would you let him stay up half the night drinking coffee and booze, smoking cigarettes, and eating junk food?” Of course, you wouldn't! He then extends the analogy, asking, “Would you treat a \$10 dog or a \$5 cat that way? What about a billion-dollar body?”

The point he's trying to make is clear: You are that billion-dollar body. You may not feel like a Billion Dollars but nobody is going to bring you the life you want except yourself. It's true that you're are the best investment your money can buy. You must invest in yourself to get far in life, but it takes work. Investing in yourself takes time, patience, and sacrifice.

This investment concept extends beyond the racetrack to the broader market of our personal development, where the stakes are high, and the returns on investment can be life-changing.

Consider your personal development as a portfolio. Diversification is key to any sound investment strategy. Similarly, investing in oneself encompasses various aspects: physical health, mental well-being, emotional strength, and intellectual growth.

It requires consistent effort. Whether it's committing to a regular work-

out routine at the gym, attending night classes to further our education, or seeking therapy to address underlying issues, each action signifies an investment in our well-being and future success.

Through the years, I eventually started to think of myself as an investment in my future, and I thought a lot about bad habits. Just like savvy investors review and adjust their portfolios to optimize performance, we must periodically assess our habits, routines, and choices.

While we may know on an intellectual level that we need to take care of ourselves to accomplish our dreams and be healthy, it's not easy, and bad habits are hard to kick. Very few of us can kick a bad habit Cold Turkey.

Bad habits, in this analogy, are like underperforming assets. They drag down our overall portfolio's value—our life's potential and well-being. Just as an investor wouldn't hold onto a stock plummeting in value without good reason, we shouldn't cling to habits that don't serve our ultimate goals of health, happiness, and success.

Yet, the process of divesting from these habits isn't akin to simply clicking a “sell” button. It's a gradual, sometimes challenging process of trial, error, and perseverance.

I've been paying close attention to Bitcoin since 2016, and I'm always amazed at its volatility. Yet, amidst the ups and downs, it keeps trending upward.

Watching Bitcoin's ascent has taught me that volatility is part of the

journey. There will be days when our resolve weakens, and old habits resurface like a market correction testing investors' nerves.

However, it's not the daily fluctuations that define our success but the overall trend. If you're gradually becoming more mindful of your health, more resilient in facing stress, and more dedicated to your personal growth—even amidst occasional setbacks—you're on an upward trajectory.

Remember, the most significant investments don't yield returns overnight. They require time, belief in their value, and the patience to ride out the volatility. Your investment in yourself is no different. Each step toward breaking a bad habit, no matter how small, is a deposit into your billion-dollar body's account, accruing compound interest in the form of a healthier, more fulfilled life.

As you continue on this journey, don't beat yourself up if you have the occasional backslide, stop counting calories for a couple of days, get too busy to make it to the gym, or aren't able to stay on track the way that you thought you should. Volatility is part of the game; just keep focused on making those baby steps and keep trending upward!

Keep the image of the million-dollar racehorse in mind, and remember, that racehorse is you! Would you bet against a horse of such value by neglecting its care? Unlikely. Then why bet against yourself? By viewing each choice and habit through the lens of investment, you position yourself to succeed and thrive.



**SHOW**  
continued from page A1

poised to remain an annual tradition for another 30 years. Information on past and future shows can be found at [www.countryantiqueshow.com](http://www.countryantiqueshow.com).

Jason Bleau

A line of vendors fills the hallway of the Harvard H. Ellis Technical High School during the 30th annual Country Antiques Show.



**FOLK**  
continued from page A1

ance, organization & social awareness, \$800 to Patti Smith & Eric Bryant at KIS to support the Forgive and Forget Initiative & Peer Mentor Program, an initiative to discourage bullying and to foster community & global awareness, \$415 to Lisa Finkelman at Killingly High School (KHS) for whiteboards & magnetic planes & tiles for Algebra 1 class, \$400 to Lisa Higgins at KHS for ServSafe Certifications for students in the transition program, \$800 to Jim Hutson at KHS to support Technology Student

Association competitions, \$800 to Robert “Dr Po” Polselli at KHS to help purchase mobile engineering challenge kits to mentor and encourage younger students in the field of robotics, and \$750 to Mike Wuenscher & Abby Durling at KHS to support and AP Science Enrichment Wildlife Conservation Project.

While the evening was meant to recognize the grantees, the Board of Education surprised Janice Ahola-Sidaway with an honor of her own. In anticipation of the March 13 ceremony, her colleagues and fellow volunteers approached the Board of Education recommending recogni-

tion for Ahola-Sidaway’s many years of dedication to FOLK. The board revealed that plaques will be placed in all Killingly’s schools thanking Ahola-Sidaway for her volunteerism and efforts supporting students and educators so that her contributions will never be forgotten.

Ahola-Sidaway was visibly overwhelmed by the presentation, but remained humble reminding the Board of Education and the volunteers that she could not do it alone.

“I’m incredibly honored, but we all know that it takes a village. That expression is so true. All the different people who

give their time, they’re behind the scenes I just happen to be the face of that – We have to remember that it’s all of us together, ourselves and our teachers,” she said.

The plaques are expected to be placed around the libraries of each district school later this year.

Teachers who would like to be considered for the 26th annual FOLK grants next year can learn more about the program by visiting [www.greaterworcester.org](http://www.greaterworcester.org) and searching “Friends of Learning in Killingly.” The grant deadline is expected to be sometime in January 2025.

**DANCE**  
continued from page A1

current pledge of \$250,000 for the daVinci Robotic Surgical System currently in use at the hospital.”

Since its inception in 1894, the Woman’s Board has remained dedicated to enhancing the quality and services of Day Kimball Hospital. Over the past century, it has raised nearly \$2 million to support vital medical equipment needs, including the hospital’s first ambulance in the early 1900s.

For more information about the Woman’s Board of Day Kimball Hospital, visit [www.daykimball.org/womansboard](http://www.daykimball.org/womansboard).

About Day Kimball Healthcare

Day Kimball Healthcare is a nonprofit community healthcare system composed of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare at Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Healthcare’s comprehensive network employs more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its website is [daykimball.org](http://daykimball.org).

# Putnam Area Foundation presents major donation for Veteran’s Park Rehab



PUTNAM — As an important and impactful supporter of projects, events and the people of the Putnam area, the Putnam Area Foundation (PAF) presented a donation of \$10,000 to the Putnam Veteran’s Advisory Committee (VAC) for the rehabilitation and upgrades to Veteran’s Park.

This park is located at the corners of Church and Bridge Streets, a highly visible location.

Work began last year, and much planning has been going on over the winter months. Spring

comes fast to our area, all assignments are in place, and teams of workers, students and volunteers are ready to go.

Visitors can expect to enjoy new monuments, restored existing monuments, improved lighting, and flagpole, plus a “Court of Honor” featuring over 1000 bricks for area veterans.

PAF’s donation will support not only a large quantity of bricks, it also helps support the other work lined up.

Thomas Borner, President of the PAF, commented, “that the

Foundation is pleased to support the project honoring all those who have served this country in assuring our freedom in the greatest country to have ever existed.”

The VAC is thankful for the support that has been afforded to this project, from the major donors like PAF to the many individuals who have participated in the Memorial Brick Program.

To learn everything that the VAC is involved in, please visit [www.putnamct.us/government/commissions/veterans-advisory-committee](http://www.putnamct.us/government/commissions/veterans-advisory-committee).

Courtesy

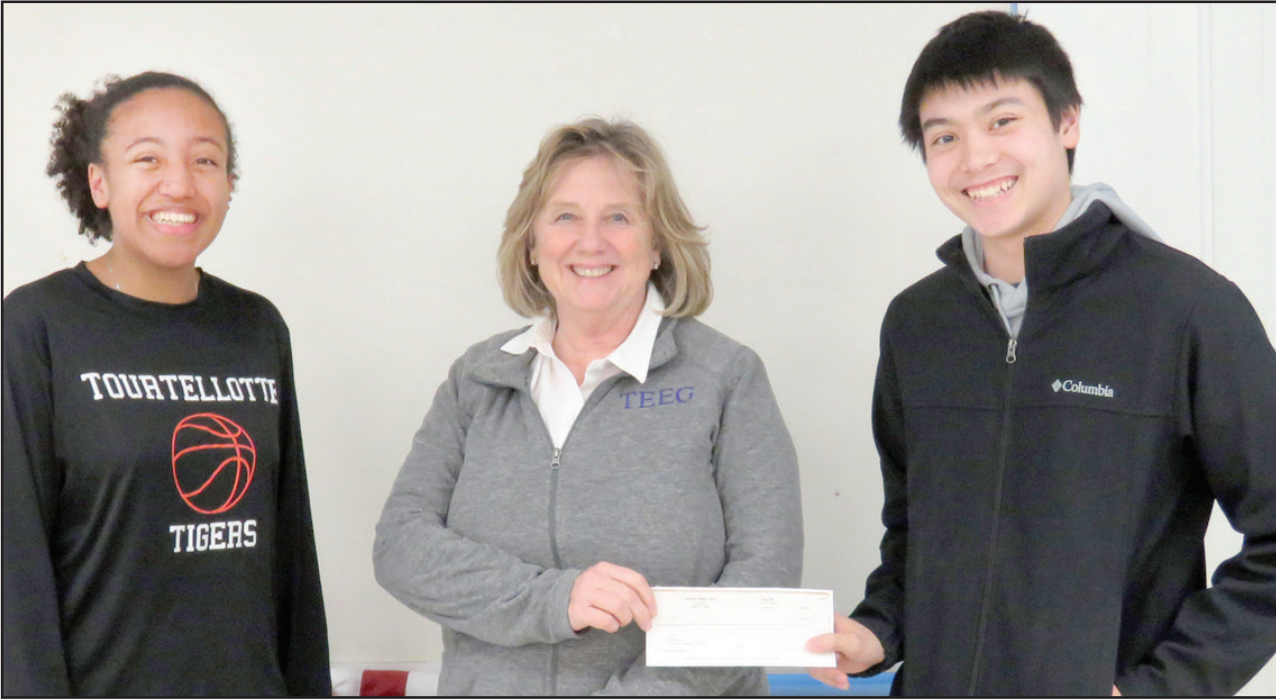
Alan Joslin, Veterans Advisory Committee (VAC) member, receives a donation from Tom Borner of the Putnam Area Foundation.

# Interact helping rescue TEEG Garden

PUTNAM — “With you guys involved, it feels like it will really get done this time,” TEEG Executive Director Anne Miller told the Putnam Rotary Club’s Interact Club. The Interact Club decided last year to make the vandalized garden at TEEG its main project. Interact members had already raised some money for garden supplies. Last week they presented Miller with a \$1,000 check from a Rotary district grant they had been awarded. Roberta Rocchetti, Interact advisor, said she was proud of the club members and this is the first Rotary district grant she’s aware of that the Putnam Interact Club has received. The grant is earmarked for the fence around the garden. Miller said vandals had wrecked the fence, broken the fence

gate and trampled the garden. Varmints have been “enjoying” the plantings ever since. Miller said the total is \$9,800 and \$8,800 is still needed. Miller noted the importance of the garden — on many levels. Many of the TEEG programs incorporate that garden. It brings people in to work and to pick, “to have that experience,” she said. The garden grows herbs, plus tomatoes, peppers, squash, peas, etc. In addition, rows of flowers such as zinnias and sunflowers are planted to be picked and sold. In addition to Interact Miller said schools in the area are really coming together.

“We have some really determined individuals,” Miller said. “It’s time to start meeting to make a plan — get the garden back on its feet.”



Courtesy

Jordyn Butler, left, and Eric Levesque, co-presidents of the Putnam Rotary Club’s Interact Club, present TEEG Executive Director Anne Miller with a Rotary District grant check for \$1,000 to help restore TEEG’s garden.

# Local Eastern students inducted into KDP education honor society

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WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University inducted 32 students into Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society for education. In order for an applicant to be considered, they must have more than a 3.0 GPA and have completed a total of six hours of education courses.

The inductees were:

Danielle Laurito ‘28 of Eastford, who majors in Early Childhood Education

Lauren Mayotte ‘28 of Danielson, who majors in Early Childhood Education

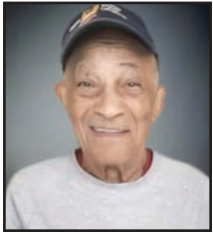
Makayla Tackson ‘26 of Thompson, who majors in Mathematics and Elementary Education

Kappa Delta Pi works to inspire and train future and current teachers, helping to build community and create opportunities by “providing quality, equitable education for all.” The honor society was established in 1911 and was the first to welcome women and people of color. It continues to support people of all kinds by providing resources to those working in education.



# OBITUARIES

## Josephine (Josie) Rivera, 83



Josephine (Josie) Rivera, 83, resident of Matulaitis Nursing Home passed away peacefully -Thursday December 28, 2023, after a long battle with Lewy Body Dementia.

She was born November 4, 1940, in Newbury, Vermont, the daughter of Burt and Blanche Wheeler; one of nine children.

Josie married Ismael Rivera in 1958 sharing a lifetime of Love throughout their 65 years of marriage.

Josephine & Ismael both Loved Children having five of their own - Virginia, Julie, James, Joyce, Wayne and an adopted daughter Joanne. Josie was a stay-at-home mom whose Love of children inspired her and Ismael into becoming Foster Parents providing temporary care and emotional support to the children brought into their loving home over the next twenty-five plus years. After retiring from foster parenting Josie's Love of children still

not diminished, she started her own at-home daycare center working well into her 70's.

In her free time, she enjoyed baking, venturing out to tag sales and visiting with friends and family.

She is survived by four children Julie Rivera of Canterbury, CT; James Rivera (companion Cindy Sandberg) of Thompson, CT; Joyce Grenier of Sebastian, FL; Wayne Rivera and wife Maryann of Colchester, CT. - Three brothers, Steven Wheeler and Wife Lynn, James Wheeler; Charles (Tony) Wheeler and wife Rhonda - Two sisters, Mary Smith and Donna Lufkin - Nine Grandchildren, 13 Great-Grandchildren, many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

She is predeceased by her husband Ismael Rivera on October 30, 2023; daughters, Virginia Hagaman on July 30, 2019; Joanne Rivera on December 12, 2003; brother, Robert Wheeler; sisters, Betty Emerson; Nancy Underhill; granddaughter, Jessica Marrotte.

A graveside service for both Josie and Smiley will be held at New South Killingly Cemetery, 50 Cook Hill Road, Killingly, CT on Saturday April 13, 2024 at 12 noon with a full military honors presentation for Smiley. tillinghastfh.com

## Pamela Peaslee Hunter, 95



Woodstock Valley – Pamela (Cole) Peaslee Hunter, 95, of Reich Rd., died Sunday morning, March 17, 2024, at Day Kimball Hospital after a brief bout with pneumonia. Pamela was the beloved wife of the late Stephen Clark Peaslee of West Hartford, CT and the late J. Samuel Hunter II of Maine. Born in Newport News, VA, she was the daughter of the late George D. and Beatrice “Tiny” (McCalman) Cole. Pam graduated from Newport News High School and Randolph-Macon College in Lynchburg, VA.

Pam's family was her primary focus: she was a devoted wife and mother to 5 children, and she was active in various venues of community service. In Hartford, she was a long-term member of the Hartford chapter of the Junior League and President from 1965-1967. She also volunteered at the Institute of Living and Connecticut Public Television. After moving to Woodstock Valley, Pam was a docent at Roseland Cottage, and volunteered at the Ruth Wells Center for the Arts in Southbridge, Ma. She was also a member of L'Apres Midi, a local women's organization. Pam loved traveling, cooking, gardening, golfing, following current events – even a bit of political punditry, doing crossword puzzles, reading in her special 'hidey-hole', and, not least, entertaining and spending time with family and friends.

She is survived by her children,

Stephen Clark Peaslee Jr., his wife Sherrill Silver of New Paltz, NY; Stuart Davis Peaslee, his wife Ning Chen, her favorite neighbors in Woodstock Valley; Susan Kimball Peaslee, her partner Joanne Sterling of Peaks Island, ME; George Bartlett Peaslee, his wife Chizuko of Honolulu, HI; and Merryl Peaslee Rees of Glastonbury; her grandchildren, Tomie Peaslee, her husband Matthew Martin; George Schulz Peaslee, his wife Lindsey; David Rees; step-grandson, Cameron Franklin Shuck; and her great-grandchild, Reef Schulz Peaslee; her nephew, Russell Davis Cole, and a host of cousins from the Memphis, TN area. She was predeceased by her brother George D. Cole Jr. of Dare, VA.

Pam had a rare talent for making friends and being the spark plug of social activities wherever she went. She was the archetype of a Southern Belle; poise, charm, style and grace. She prided herself on her childhood nickname, Mighty Mouse, never letting her diminutive stature slow her down. She left an indelible mark on all she touched; those who knew her were richer for it. She leaves a vacuum behind and will be dearly missed!

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com). The family requests that memorial gifts be made to either a charity of your choice or to Roseland Cottage in Woodstock, CT.

## Winifred Savulis, 98



Putnam - Winifred (Rushford) Savulis, 98, of Putnam, passed away on Wednesday, February 28, 2024. She was the loving wife of the late Anthony Savulis. Born in Willimantic, CT, she was the daughter of the late Wesley and Mildred May (Kelley) Rushford and sister to the late Mildred O'Neal of Holden, MA.

Winifred started as a teacher, then became a principal in Auburn, MA. She later moved to Thompson where she taught special education and operated the “Engineered Classroom” out of Berkley, CA. She later became the

Thompson school Psychologist.

Winifred is survived by son, Brian Savulis of Putnam, CT; Daughter, Dr. Ellen Rose Savulis of Amherst, MA; Three stepsons, Stephen Miller of Bristol, CT, Ernest Miller, Philip Miller of Thompson, CT; stepdaughter, Maria Miller of Medford, MA.

She was predeceased by her second husband Robert J. Miller; and stepdaughter, Ann Miller.

A funeral mass of Christian burial for Winifred was held on Thursday March 7, 2024. Relatives and friends may visit Wini at her final resting place at West Thompson Cemetery. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Nancy M Sheldon, 85



Woodstock – Nancy M. (Aldrich) Sheldon, 85, of Woodstock, CT, passed away peacefully on, Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at home surrounded by her loving family. She was predeceased by her beloved husband of Woodstock Fair.

Nancy was most proud of her large and ever-growing family. She was an enthusiastic member of the Woodstock Garden Club and volunteered at Roseland Cottage as well as the Woodstock Fair.

She leaves behind her three daughters, Marjorie S. Roy and her husband Richard of Woodstock, Wendy E. Young and her husband Timothy of Woodstock, and Tamara H. Doyon of FL; her six sons, Mark W. Sheldon and his wife Beth of Eastford, Brian N. Sheldon and his wife Marie of Woodstock, Mathew D. Sheldon of Woodstock, Scott W. Sheldon and his

wife Lynn of Mansfield Center, Gary W. Sheldon of Pomfret Center, and Peter T. Sheldon and his wife Susan of Woodstock; her three siblings, Paul C. Aldrich and his long time companion Diane of Putnam and Linda A. Rose of MN and her stepsister, Janice C. Perry of GA; twenty-seven grandchildren and thirty-three great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her daughter, Cindy L. Whitehouse, brother, John W. Aldrich, and stepbrother, Ralph A. Perry

A celebration of her life will be held on Saturday, June 15th, 2024, at Roseland Cottage, 556 Route 169, Woodstock, CT 06281 from 11:00AM – 3:00PM. Private burial in Quasset Cemetery will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers memorial donations in Nancy's memory may be made to Historic New England for Roseland Cottage, P.O. Box 186, Woodstock, CT 06281 or Quasset Cemetery Association, P.O. Box 286, Woodstock, CT 06281.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT. For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Robert Joseph Guillot, 87

Putnam – It is with great sadness Robert Joseph Guillot, age 87, passed away Wednesday, March 20, 2024 peacefully surrounded by his loving family. He was the beloved husband of Kathleen Donna (O'Brien) Guillot. They were married for 65 wonderful years raising 6 children, three sons and three daughters.



Robert was born in Putnam, the son of the late Joseph and Lucienne (Auger) Guillot. He was a United States Army Veteran serving during the Korean War. After his military service he worked in the furniture business at Risom Design Inc. in Thompson, CT. In 1965 he opened a furniture upholstery business (Bob's Upholstery & Furniture) and operated the business for 45 successful years.

He was an honorary member of the Knights of Columbus in Putnam and was a devoted catholic. He enjoyed coaching sports and assisting with community charities and events. He lived his life to the fullest sharing his witty sense of humor, laughter, and stories with his family, large circle of friends, the (4-R's), and everyone he encountered though his travels.

His passion was his family and farming. He owned and operated Twin Brooks Farm, breeding prized cattle for many years winning national honors with his prized bull's and was President of the American Angus Association for several years. He loved bringing up his grandchildren on his family farm, teaching and having them participate in the daily farming chores. He will be deeply missed by his 12 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

He will be lovingly and forever

remembered by his sons, David Guillot and his wife Marianne of Danielson, Thomas Guillot and his wife Sandra of Princeton, MA, and James Guillot of Putnam; their daughters, Doreen Schipani and her husband Theodore of Fort Lauderdale, FL, Nancy Moroz and her husband Edward of Millbury, MA., and Michelle Deskus and her husband Russell of Woodstock; his siblings, Paul Guillot and his wife Clarice of North Grosvenordale, Laurent “Larry” Guillot of North Grosvenordale, Edmund Guillot and his wife Claire of Florida, Lorraine Guillot of Putnam, John Guillot and his wife Elaine of Avon, CT, and many loving nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Roberts family on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Gilman Funeral Home 104 Church St, Putnam, CT. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 10:30 am in Saint Mary Church of the Visitation, 218 Providence Street, Putnam, CT. A private burial will follow. Memorial donations in his memory may be made to Yale New Haven Hospital St. Raphael Campus, 1450 Chapel St. New Haven, CT 06511 ([giving@ynhh.org](mailto:giving@ynhh.org)). For memorial guestbook visit [www.gilmanandvalade.com](http://www.gilmanandvalade.com).



# LEGALS

### TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On March 18th, Wetlands Agent Approval was issued, with conditions, for the following activity within Upland Review Area:  
**02-24-04**, Dorathy Whitehead, 24 Little Bunggee Hill Road, (MBL 5787-34-0E73), Single-Family Home.  
Dan Malo, Wetlands Agent  
March 29, 2024

### TOWN OF WOODSTOCK NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APRIL 9, 2024 7:00 P.M. Woodstock Middle School

The Board of Finance of the Town of Woodstock will hold a Public Hearing at the Woodstock Middle School on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with section 7-344 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Itemized estimates of the expenditures of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education will be presented and the Board of Finance will hear all persons who wish to be heard in-regards to any appropriation which they are desirous that the Board of Finance shall recommend or reject for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025. Dated at Woodstock, CT. this 12th day of March 2024  
Michael Dougherty, Chairman  
Woodstock Board of Finance  
March 29, 2024

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# Putnam Rotary Basketball Senior Shootout shines for more than three decades



The Girls' Yellow Team

Courtesy



The Girls' Green Team



Most Valuable Players Jordyn Butler, second from left, and Melodie Anderson share a moment with Rotary Club President Amanda Kelly and Jonathan Tremblay, game chairman.

PUTNAM — Local girls and boys topped off their high school basketball careers at the Ray Brousseau All Star Senior High School Shootout at Putnam High School March 14. The games have been sponsored and run by the Putnam Rotary Club for more than 30 years. In a closely contested extremely exciting girls' contest the Woodstock Building Associate Green team edged the WINY Radio Yellow team 43-41 on a Kylie Damble basket with less than two seconds remaining on the clock. In the boys' game, the Centreville Bank Blue team ran away from the Archambault Insurance Red team for an easy 101-67 victory.

Last-second basket highlights

**Girls' Game**  
After trailing 32-25 following three quarters of play, the WBA Green team coached by John Murdock of Ellis Tech used some last-quarter heroics to walk off with a 43-41 victory thanks to Damble's basket with less than two seconds to play. WBA Green placed three girls in double digits in pulling off the win. Damble, of Ellis Tech, had 13 points; Tara Hefferan from Tourtellotte had 14; and Alyssa Czmyr of Windham Tech added 10 for the winners. Lily Goyette of Putnam High School had 15 points and Kaelyn Pearl



The Boys' Blue and Red Teams with Rotarians and helpers.

of Parish Hill dropped in 13 for the WINY Yellow squad. Melodie Anderson of Putnam High School

was selected as the MVP of the Yellow squad and Jordyn Butler of Tourtellotte, who had numerous key rebounds for the winning team, captured MVP honors.

Winning Centreville team cracks the century mark Led by Camden Nassen and Josh Carlson, who tallied 31 and 30 points respectively, Centreville Blue rolled to an easy 101-67 win over the Archambault Red team. Jake Patterson of Tourtellotte contributed 21 points to the win, while Jacob Mailloux had 12 and Koby Rock seven. The Archambault Red team was led by Hunter Larson with 26, Carter Tossetti with 19 and Deonte Snow with 15.

Tosetti was selected as the MVP of the Red Squad and Nassen captured MVP laurels for the winning Blue team. Jeff Belanger of E.O. Smith High School coached the Red team and Shawn Deary of Putnam High School was the winning Blue coach.

"The Putnam Rotary Club is proud to sponsor this event each year. It's a way of honoring our young people and keeping the memory of a former longtime Rotarian, the late Ray Brousseau, alive," said Game Chairman Jonathan Tremblay and Rotary Club President Amanda Kelly.

In addition to team sponsors, the Byrnes Agency

provided the awards for all the players. CorePlus Credit Union and The Woodstock Academy were also game sponsors. The referees for the evening, Shawn Bates, Mike Lowell, Shannon Saunders, Mike Panteleakos and David Coderre of Board #35, officiated the game as volunteers. Scoring and timing for both games was provided by Fred Hutchins and Moe Coderre, who also sang the National Anthem. Working with Tremblay and Kelly on the committee were Rotarians Doug Porter Cheryl Guillot, Seth Lombardo, Jonathan Sturdevant, Dick Loomis, Joseph Adiletta, Ron Coderre and Linda Lemmon.



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