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ARE EVERYWHERE."
- DR. SEUSS**

KILLINGLY VILLAGER

Friday, July 29, 2022

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Rising judo star heading to Ecuador for World Junior Championships



Photos Courtesy

Leana Nelson, right, successfully performs a throw move, flipping an opponent to the mat during her run to the gold medal last month in the 57 kilogram weight class of the U21 division at the 2022 International Junior Olympics Championships, held in San Jose, Calif.



Leana Nelson is all smiles atop the podium, holding the gold medal she won competing in the 57 kilogram weight class of the U21 division at the 2022 International Junior Olympics Championships, held June 24-26, in San Jose, Calif.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

PLAINFIELD — Ecuador bound. Or, more specifically, Guayaquil, Ecuador, bound.

That's the destination location on next month's travel itinerary for Leana Nelson and Skyler Cummings, of the Top Game Martial Arts center, located in the Moosup River Commons strip mall on Norwich Street. The duo is not just going to South America to see the sights in the port city, better known as the gateway to the Galapagos Islands, however.

Nelson, 19, will be competing in her first international judo competition, and it's a big one — the 2022 World Junior Championships — while Cummings, owner/operator of Top

Please Read **NELSON**, page **A7**

Killingly among towns concerned about trash crisis

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KILLINGLY — A major headline across the state in 2022 has been the potential evolution of trash collection following the announcement that the Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) operated trash-to-energy plant in Hartford's South Meadows will be closing. The impending shutdown has forced many communities to rethink their trash collection strategies and explore large-scale partnerships and solutions, including the towns of Northeastern Connecticut.

The matter was the subject of a recent special meeting of the Northeast Connecticut Council of Governments (NECCOG) where representatives of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) spoke with local town leaders about solid waste disposal and how communities will have to adapt. Killingly Town Manager Mary Calorio represented her town at that meeting and reported back to the Town Council on July 12 during a month where waste disposal is a prime topic for the town with a Hazardous Waste Day taking place on July 30.

Calorio prefaced her update with a reminder of the hazardous waste event which allows citizens to dispose of items such as chemicals and light bulbs responsibly. But as Killingly prepares to host an event specifically funded and scheduled to promote proper waste disposal, now the town and other communities are looking for solutions to the larger waste disposal "crisis" facing the state.

"We're looking at alterna-

tives for facilities around food waste diversion programs for either commercial composting locations or anaerobic digestion locations and communities that may be willing to host that type of facility," Calorio said of the NECCOG forum. "We're just trying to get a better understanding of what challenges there may be in more rural locations around our waste steam disposals."

Calorio said the NECCOG towns had a good conversation with the DEEP and explained that there are strategies being explored to provide a larger-scale solution on the state level. However, there are still many variables to work through before a final solution is brought to the table.

"The conversation we had (at NECCOG) was around the states partnering with a developer, but really looking for a community that would be willing to engage in helping land a developer for an anaerobic digestion or a partial composting," said Calorio. "A developer is really going to look for a high concentration of large amounts of clean food waste. Residential food waste is a lot more challenging than commercial or grocery store food waste because it's handled in a more temperature-controlled environment for a longer period of time, and it depends on what the end use is. The end product will drive what they can do."

The General Assembly in Hartford has approved a bill creating a task force to help resolve the state's trash problems. However, the threat of a trash disposal crisis and the search for cost effective, con-

Please Read **TRASH**, page **A3**

Woodstock Fair announces 2022 Main Stage lineup

WOODSTOCK — The big shows are back at the Woodstock Fair, always Labor Day weekend, with nationally-known musical acts returning after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic.

The 161st annual edition of the Fair on Route 169 in South Woodstock gets underway on Friday, Sept. 2 with the gates

opening at noon time and continues through Monday, Sept. 5.

The Main Stage will get underway at 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 2 with the hilarious antics of Fantastick Patrick. The physical comedian from the Midwest comes to the East Coast for a first time and will do two shows daily on the Main

Stage.

The Friday schedule also includes two shows by a pair of bands.

The '60's Explosion Band from Southeastern Connecticut will make its Woodstock Fair debut and will open for Friday's headliner, Back in Black, an AC/DC tribute band from Boston. Get ready to

rock with Back in Black and all of the AC/DC hits, like "Thunderstruck" and "You Shook Me All Night Long," at 4 and 8 p.m. Friday.

Saturday will bring two famous acts to the Main Stage.

At 2:30 p.m., get ready for the songs that everyone will remember as Cornell Gunter's Coasters bring back the 1950's

with their hits "Yakety Yak," "Charlie Brown," and "Poison Ivy."

And then at 8 p.m. on Saturday, a group crosses the Atlantic Ocean to entertain at the Woodstock Fair. Famous for their songs "Sultans of Swing," "Walk of Life" and

Please Read **LINEUP**, page **A5**

Creation Church celebrates Biblical heroes

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON — Creation Church in Thompson celebrated another successful Vacation Bible School the week of July 18. The 2022 edition of their long running program was a unique one for the church featuring a superhero theme and, for the first time, a completely original program organized and written by members of the church.

Titled "Superheroes of the Faith and the Laws of the Universe," Creation Church's 2022 Vacation Bible School program built off the popular trend of superhero movies and TV shows and compared well-known comic figures to the heroes of the Bible such as relating Sampson to Iron Man and, of course, comparing Superman who his inspiration, Jesus Christ himself. Superhero

themes activities filled the week while a larger narrative program helped tie each experience and lesson together in the final days.

Gale Norman, Director of Children's Ministries and a cowriter of the program, said the main idea was to stress how Jesus is the greatest hero of them all and inspire children to choose the path of light over darkness and evil.

"It's just been a fun time. Everything we've done has been themed around this concept. Our week-long craft is that every night the kids built a different piece of the Armor of God and on the final night, for the epic battle, all the kids put on their armor of God for the battle in the sanctuary to watch how the main kid in our skit every day chooses between good and evil," she said.

Please Read **VBS**, page **A4**

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The history of Green Hollow Road



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**MARGARET
WEAVER**

For the past month, several of us at the Killingly Historical Center have been discussing Green Hollow Road, one of the oldest roads in Killingly. I believe I mentioned in a recent column that it was part of the road from Norwich to Boston, an extension of a road from Plainfield. It was also part of an old stagecoach route. Now keep in mind that in the early 1700's, "roads" were little more than narrow, rude paths, full of ruts and roots. A number, including Green Hollow, were originally Native American paths. For those of you who are not familiar with the road, it begins at the Plainfield town line and goes northerly until it becomes Broad Street in Danielson at its intersection with Franklin Street a little east of St. James Church.

Marilyn Labbe, former director of the Killingly Historical Center, brought in an undated letter to the Editor (paper unknown) by Shannon Wojcik, which she thought we would find interesting. The following is an extract.

"I moved to Green Hollow Road when I was 18 months old and have lived there for nine years. I've become interested in the history since moving here.

"Green Hollow Road started out as a bridle path, winding north from Plainfield through 'the border land to intersect a road from Woodstock to Boston.

"A large portion of Green Hollow Road was called the Hutchins estate. The first home there was built around 1743 by John Hutchins. It was the main house until my house was built. Later it became the Farmhouse. Its shed was actually slave quarters and later became the milk house.

"The next house, called Old Hutchins Tavern, was built around 1792. The

Hutchins family sold this handbuilt house to Dr. Jones. Now it belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Landi.

"The third house was built around 1818 by Silas Hutchins for his first grandson, who owned 11 acres, two houses and buildings. One of those houses is my house. It was called the Manor House because it was the main house. My house has two apartments, but it was originally one house.

"The fourth house was built around 1839. It was called the Carriage House because it was where they kept the carriages that the horses pulled." The barn, which they were converting to a house, was built about 1840.

Do you believe in coincidences? I do. A few days later, I received an email from Jane LaFleche, who lives on that road, mentioning a few of the above houses. She asked if I had more history on the area. I figured it was time to compile what I had in various places into a little summary--thus this column. Jane added another interesting tidbit: "We have an original stone house... that sits on the corner of our property. We had heard the house was originally built by a Dutchman (who walked around in his wooden Dutch shoes!) and our 'garage' next to it was his bedroom. There is a stone cold cellar in the basement of the 'bedroom'. A cement/stone slab is all that remains of a blacksmith shop! Interestingly, Gil Simmons (CT Meteorologist) lived in the stone house prior to his mom building the main house (he stopped by one day to tell us all about it)" (email 7/9/22). Oh my, the old Hutchins estate, a Dutchman, a blacksmith shop, an old slave quarters...What fun! I had much research to do. Time to switch to detective mode!

The first of the Hutchins to arrive was apparently John of Plainfield, who was a resident of Killingly by April 13, 1718 when he and wife Mary were admitted to the Killingly Congregational Church which was then located east of present-day Route 21, a little south of the present Killingly-Putnam town line. It was probably there that four of his sons met their wives, daughters of Joseph Leavens who lived on the west side of Killingly Hill (now Putnam Heights).

The first extant Killingly Town meeting record from Nov. 25, 1728 indicated

that John Hutchins was chosen tithing-man. It was not a position most men would want. (Larned, Ellen D. History of Windham County Connecticut, Vo. I, p. 274, Swordsmith edition). Now according to www.merrimam-webster.com, a tithingman had several responsibilities. In some instances he acted as a peace officer. In New England he was "charged primarily with preserving order in church during divine service and enforcing the observance of the Sabbath." While reading about Plainfield at that same time in Larned, I found, "Joseph Lawrence was chosen 'to take care of the boys and girls Sabbath days and restrain them from playing and profaning the Sabbath.' Inside the meetinghouse older boys and girls apparently did not sit with their parents, "It is evident that the boys and girls were both numerous and disorderly, as a man was now perched up in the gallery to observe the young people below and restrain them from doing any damage to the meetinghouse 'by opening the windows or any wise damnifying the glass and if any should (him or her) did profane the Sabbath by laughing or behaving unseemly, he should call him or her by name and so reprove them therefore.'" (Ibid. p. 116, 117). Such would also be John Hutchins' responsibility.

When the road in Killingly from Plainfield to Oxford was "perambulated" in 1731, and in some places altered, John Hutchins' house was the closest to the Plainfield line. In 1742 he was permitted to keep a "house of public entertainment" (tavern). Members of the Hutchins family would maintain taverns on Green Hollow Road and in other parts of Danielson well into the 19th century. (Larned, op. cit., p. 277; Coolidge, Natalie, Killingly Business Encyclopedia).

This first John Hutchins died March 20, 1756 and was buried in the South Killingly Cemetery. He left wife Sarah, sons John, Joshua, Benjamin, Joseph, Wyman, Ezra, and Silas and daughters Abigail Fellows, Sarah Meach, Cazia Child, Anna Patten, and Mary Parkhurst. (Barbour, CT Vital Records, Killingly; Will of John Hutchins, CT U.S. Wills & Probate, 1609-1999, Vo. 1-4; Ancestry.com; Sons of the American

Revolution Applications on Ancestry.com).

It seems that the oldest Hutchins house that is now standing on Green Hollow Road is on the Landi property. The Connecticut Historical Commission survey done by Mary McCahon in August 1980 gives its date of construction as 1792. According to the survey the 190-acre property was purchased by Lysander Warren in 1847 from the estate of Ezra Hutchins. The Warrens retained ownership until 1954, when it was sold to Dr. James and Anne Jones. (Survey #76, Book 5). Lysander was an important individual 19th century Killingly, and he deserves his own space in this column...but that's another week's topic.

I'm still researching who might have had slaves. It takes a lot of sifting through census records, etc. but is quite interesting. So far, I have learned that Ezra Hutchins had two non-whites (all other free persons) counted in his household in the 1810 census. Note that they were free at this time. He had no non-whites, either slave or free, in the 1790 and 1800 U.S. Censuses. Of course, I have other Hutchins to check out seeing how many sons John had. Hopefully, I'll find more leads. (There were no slaves mentioned in the will of the early John Hutchins).

I hope this column has been enlightening and has given you food for thought. I'll continue next week. Please feel free to share any memories you might have.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian July 2022. Special thanks to Marilyn Labbe and Jane LaFleche. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or contact the Killingly Historical Society at www.killinglyhistorical.org. Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

Five things to consider before "buying low" and investing during a market downturn



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While market volatility can cause investors to lose confidence in their investments, there are those out there who may find durations of volatility an opportune time to pad their portfolio. If you're wondering if now's a good time to invest, start by taking these considerations into account. Then, if you're still interested, get in touch with your financial advisor to review your options.

Why invest during a market downturn?

Choosing to invest during a market downturn can make a lot of sense - asset prices have fallen hard, meaning those willing to invest now can likely get bonds, stocks, real estate and more for a fraction of what those assets are normally worth.

Those who were looking to cash out during a downturn can be in a difficult spot. But those who are still years, or even decades, away from cashing out what's in their portfolio may be the ones who can really

benefit from this downturn in the market (this is often the case for young investors just starting to build and diversify their portfolio). They have the time needed to watch the market recover and their bargain-priced assets slowly regain their value. Another way to think about this is what would you do if your favorite store just announced a huge sale?

Consideration #1: Is my emergency fund fully stocked?

COVID-19 created financial burdens for millions of people - job loss, medical bills, or even the unexpected loss of a loved one. Even if you're certain your job is secure and stable, it doesn't mean you're immune to loss of income during a market downturn.

You'll find different people recommending different amounts, but a general rule of thumb is to have three to six months of salary available in a savings account as an emergency fund. As you consider putting your additional income towards investments, take a look at your savings first. You should feel comfortable with what you've already accrued and ready to live off of your savings if you had to. Once that's taken care of, then you may be ready to turn your focus toward investments.

Consideration #2: Would it

be better to pay off my debts?

If you find yourself in the position of choosing between paying down your debt or investing, there are plenty of factors to consider, and this would be something to consult with your financial advisor about. Working together, you may find that paying off debt will serve you better over increasing your investments, or if you capitalized on rates being low, you may find it is better to keep inexpensive debt and invest.

Consideration #3: Am I rushing into this?

While it can sometimes feel like the market turns overnight, it's important to remember that recessions and downturns tend to stick around for a while. What does this mean for an investor eager to jump in? It means you have time. You can speak with your financial advisor and discuss the pros and cons of investing during a market downturn. There's no need to make a hasty, emotionally driven decision by tomorrow. While the markets will continue to fluctuate, they're not recovering overnight. Remember, the stock market isn't a way to get to get rich quick.

Consideration #4: Am I emotionally prepared to watch my money drop?

If you choose to buy while the market is in a downturn, there's always a chance that you will buy when it has yet to reach "rock bottom." This means that you, as an investor, should be prepared for the rollercoaster your investments

will likely continue on. While investments are always fluctuating, during an especially volatile period, there's a chance you'll be watching your stocks rise and fall on a downward trend for months to come.

We all have a personal attachment to our money, and it's important to consider the emotional toll watching your assets drop in value will have on you as an investor. If it's unbearable to watch these fluctuations, then the potential gains may not be worth the emotional toll you have to endure. It's important to express your concerns about this to your financial advisor before deciding to invest during a market downturn.

Consideration #5: Am I still following my normal investment procedures?

Don't treat the tempting prices of investment opportunities as a chance to forego your investment strategy or plan. This is a time in which you'll want to be precise and logistical about the next investment decisions you make. It's possible, for example, that your advisor may want to still invest in the companies and stocks you're familiar with, not just those with the biggest drops in price.

In addition, you'll want to work with a financial advisor to be sure you're maintaining diversity and taking on an appropriate amount of risk. Together, you can be sure that these changes in your portfolio are still reflective of your great-

er long-term financial goals.

If you're in a position to do so, investing now could prove to be a beneficial move for your portfolio, but it is important to consider your decision carefully and thoroughly. Now more than ever, be sure to keep your advisor in the loop and consider your next financial decisions carefully.

Don't have an advisor? Get in touch with us at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Financial Advisors, and we'll show you how our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well strategic financial planning process can be put to work to help you reach your financial goals and dreams. Contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com, or visit our Web site at www.whzwealth.com.

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ANTIQUES,
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The Civil War, which took place from 1861 to 1865, has been a focus area for historians and collectors alike for many years. The causes of the Civil War are well known and detailed by the History Channel as simmering tensions between the North and South “over slavery, states’ rights and westward expansion.” President Abraham Lincoln’s election in 1860 caused seven southern states to secede from the Union. Four other states followed soon after.

Some Civil War historians refer to “brother against brother” battles in the Civil War. This references the fact that it was a war between two regions of the country, with brothers sometimes fighting against each other on different sides during the war.

A 2017 article in the Murfreesboro (Tenn.) Post described the divided loyalties of the Crittenden brother of Kentucky. George Bibb Crittenden graduated from West Point. Just before the start of the Civil War, he accepted a commission as colonel in the Confederate Army. He was pro-

moted to major general in 1861. Crittenden’s brother, Thomas Leonidas Crittenden, was a major general of the Kentucky militia in 1860. According to the Murfreesboro, Thomas “was promoted to major general of volunteers and commanded the II Corps of the Army of Ohio during the Perryville campaign.”

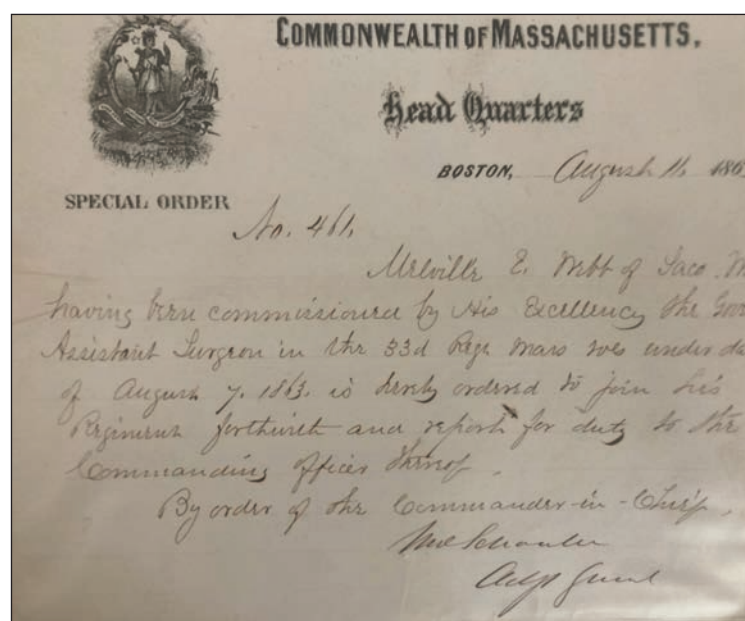
During one Civil War battle, two brothers literally fought against each other. James and Alexander Campbell emigrated together from Scotland to the United States. An American Battlefield Trust article stated that James settled in South Carolina where he found work as a drayman (delivery man for a brewery) and clerk. James settled in New York but found some work in Charleston as a brick mason. During the war, Alexander Campbell enlisted with the 79th New York Infantry Regiment of the Union Army while James Campbell joined a Confederate militia called the Union Light Infantry or 42nd, according to the American Battlefield Trust. Neither brother knew it at the time, but they fought against each other at the Battle of Secessionville.

Nearly all Civil war artifacts are sought after by collectors

including rifles, bayonets, uniforms, caps, soldier photos and letters from soldiers. Letters provide a window into the war from a soldier’s eyes. Close to 30 years ago, I sold a soldiers’ Civil War Diary for over \$500. The value could be double that today.

Some items can command huge prices. In 2006, a battle flag flown by Civil War General J.E.B. Stuart that was handsewn by his wife Flora sold for \$956,00 at auction. A sword presented to Ulysses S. Grant when he commanded the Union forces brought \$1.6 million in 2007. A pair of New Model Army revolvers which also belonged to Grant sold this year for \$5.17 million, soaring above the \$1 to \$3 million estimate.

We will be offering Civil War letters and ephemera from two estates in our fall auction. We are still accepting other consignments for our fall multi-estate online auction. We have many additional events scheduled for the fall. I’ll be teaching my “Evaluating your Antiques” course at the Bay Path Evening School on Sept. 13. I’ll also be appraising items for the Townsend Historical Society on Oct. 15, and for the Leicester Historical Society at



the Leicester Senior Center on Nov. 5. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

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

Margaret McLoughlin from Woodstock graduates from Emerson College

BOSTON, Mass. — Emerson College, the nation’s premier institution for the arts, communication, and the liberal arts, awarded more than 1,000 undergraduate degrees during its 142nd Commencement at Agganis Arena in Boston, MA on Sunday, May 8, 2022.

Margaret McLoughlin from Woodstock received a BFA in Theatre and Performance.

During the ceremony, the College honored three award-winning artists, innovators, and Emersonians for their contributions and efforts to the arts, communication, and greater humanity. Crazy Rich Asians and Raya and the Last Dragon screenwriter Adele Lim ’96; composer and singer Toshi Reagon; and Emerson Trustee, founder and chairman of Samuels & Associates, and film producer Steve Samuels each received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees. Lim ’96 gave the commencement address.

“I admire your sense of community, of social justice, fairness, and your willingness to use your voice in the pursuit of those ideals,” said Interim President William Gilligan in the President’s Address at the ceremony. “The world needs you now to continue that with all the skills and knowledge you have acquired, the values you have developed and displayed, and that indomitable Emerson spirit that you have shown us often.”

Commencement speaker Adele Lim ’96, said, “I am far from done, but what I hope for myself, for all of us, for all of you, is what all great stories have: a journey that is authentic and meaningful, and if we’re lucky, one that touches the lives of others.”

About Emerson College

Based in Boston, Mass., opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city’s Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,780 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, the District of Columbia, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals, with the first program launching this fall in Paris. The College has an active network of 51,000+ alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

TRASH

continued from page A1

venient, and potentially partnership-based solutions will no doubt also keep towns like Killingly and the rest of the region and state thinking creatively about what the future of trash collection and disposal in Connecticut might look like.



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Our proposed affiliation with Covenant Health will empower DKH to continue to live up to our ideals—evolving from the best community hospital to redefining what it means to be a community hospital. Now, we can leverage resources previously unavailable to us, and access capital to expand services and new patient care technology that will improve our ability to provide leading-edge healthcare. We’re also providing our staff with opportunities to share their expertise and clinical best practices with Covenant Health’s other hospitals and facilities, and vice versa.

DKH will continue to operate as a not-for-profit and independent organization with a local board, with input on local issues. Covenant Health is a regional health delivery network and a leader in value-based, not-for-profit health and elder care. Covenant Health’s leadership believes that quality healthcare is delivered locally, not 50 miles away.

This partnership deepens our commitment to serving our community and all patients, regardless of religion, age, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, ethnicity, and perspective just as it does today. We will continue to serve patients regardless of ability to pay.

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MELINDA MYERS

Fill your gardens with color from spring through summer and even into fall with a variety of pollinator-friendly phlox. The beauty, diversity, and usefulness in the garden of this group of plants had the National Garden Bureau declare 2022 Year of the Phlox.

Start out the growing season with creeping phlox (*Phlox subulata*). This low growing phlox is perfect for rock gardens, as a groundcover or planted at the front of a perennial garden. Grow it in full sun with well-drained soil in zones three to nine. Once the flowers fade, shear the plants back halfway to encourage attractive new growth that will last all season long.

Woodland phlox (*Phlox divaricata*) is native to Midwestern woods and fields and hardy in zones three to eight. The periwinkle blue flowers add some welcome color to shady spots in spring. Grow it

in moist rich soil and watch for hummingbirds and butterflies that visit the blooms.

The Garden Club of America named Blue Moon woodland phlox its Plant of the Year, awarding it with the 2022 Montine McDaniel Freeman Horticulture Award. This award is given to native underutilized plants with superior ecological and ornamental attributes. Their goal is to increase the use of these plants in gardens. Blue Moon is mildew resistant, long blooming and like the species is an early source of pollen for native bees, swallowtail butterflies and nectar for the hummingbirds.

Downy or prairie phlox (*Phlox pilosa*) is another North American native phlox that can be found in prairies and is hardy in zones three to nine. The pale pink to purple-pink blossoms appear in spring. Grow it in full sun with moist to well-drained loam or sandy soils. Like other phlox, it attracts and supports butterflies and hummingbirds.

Marsh phlox (*Phlox globerima*) is native to wet prairies and open woodlands and thrives in moist soil and even damp clay. The intense magenta flowers appear June to July and are a hummingbird mag-

net. Grow this phlox in zones four to eight.

The North American native tall garden phlox has long been popular with gardeners. It blooms mid-season, adding color and height to any garden bed or mixed border. The perfectly round flower clusters top each stem and come in a variety of colors from white to pink, purple, salmon and more. Grow these in full sun with moist, rich well-drained soil.

The flowers of many tall phlox varieties are fragrant, attract pollinators and make great cut flowers. Remove faded flowers and provide sufficient moisture and nutrients to encourage more blooms. The Fashionably Early series of tall phlox bloom early and for a long period with rebloom in fall.

Grow tall phlox in full sun, provide sufficient space and avoid overhead watering to reduce the risk of powdery mildew. Select mildew resistant varieties like LUMINARY™, Opening Act, Sweet Summer and Super Ka-pow to reduce the risk of this disease.

Consider adding a variety of phlox plants to your garden this season or next. You and the pollinators will appreciate the long season of beautiful flowers, pollen, and nectar.

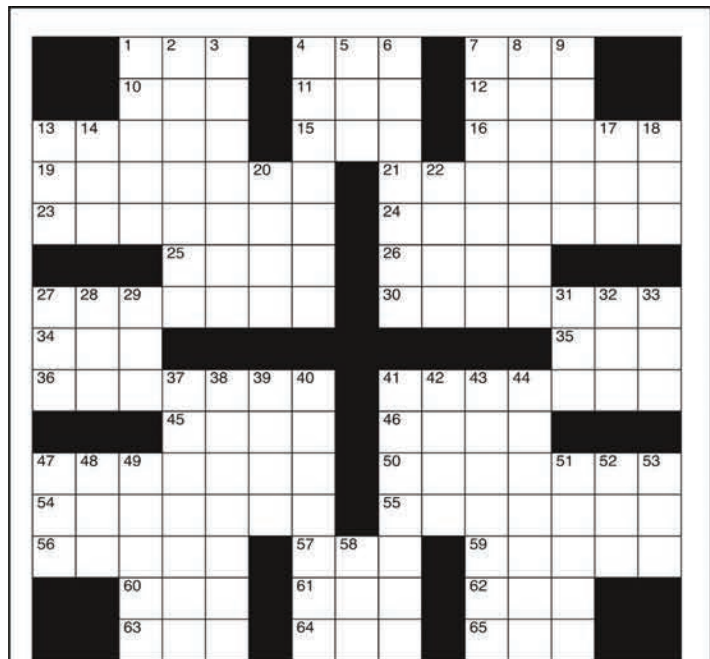


Photo Melinda Myers

Phlox with Echinacea in full bloom in a summer garden.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How*

to Grow Anything" DVD instant video series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

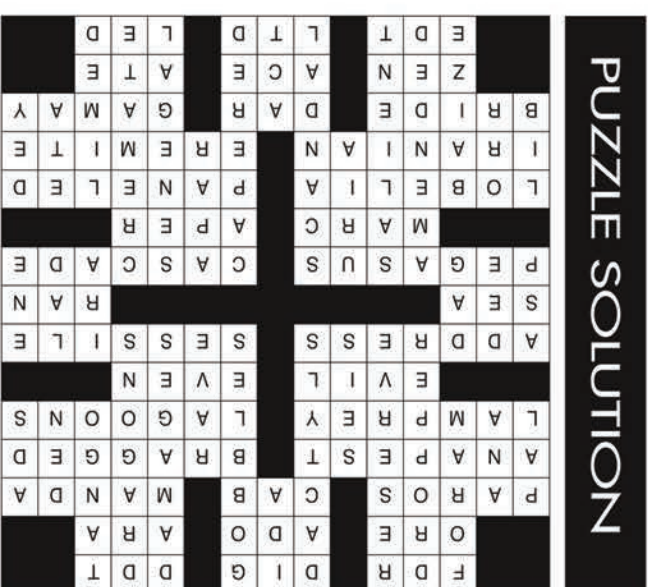


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. America's WW2 President
- 4. Move earth
- 7. Insecticide
- 10. Naturally occurring solid material
- 11. State of fuss
- 12. Bhutanese wine
- 13. Greek island
- 15. Taxi
- 16. Tanzanian ethnic group
- 19. Metrical foot
- 21. Boasted
- 23. Eel-like vertebrate
- 24. Small freshwater lakes
- 25. Morally base
- 26. Not odd
- 27. Where you live
- 30. Fixed in place
- 34. A very large body of water
- 35. Moved quickly
- 36. Winged horse
- 41. Small waterfall
- 45. Hoopster Gasol
- 46. One who mimics
- 47. Tropical plant
- 50. Used of walls
- 54. A citizen of Iran
- 55. Christian hermit
- 56. She marries the groom
- 57. American patriotic society
- 59. Wine grape
- 60. School of Buddhism
- 61. A team's best pitcher
- 62. Consumed
- 63. Time zone
- 64. Part of a company name
- 65. Type of bulb

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Marine protozoan
- 2. You use it for your eyes
- 3. Set aside for a later time
- 4. Metrical foot
- 5. Famed journalist Tarbell
- 6. Consumes quickly
- 7. Rewards in a civil suit
- 8. Kamado are some
- 9. Ballroom dance
- 13. Chum
- 14. Comedienne Gastereyer
- 17. A room to relax
- 18. Commercials
- 20. Six (Spanish)
- 22. Wild party
- 27. Small European viper
- 28. Baseballer Gordon
- 29. Eccentric person
- 31. A way to save for your future
- 32. Young boy
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Changed
- 38. Prominent
- 39. Genus of seabirds
- 40. Event regarded as wrong
- 41. Skipped in a lively way
- 42. Multi-function radar (abbr.)
- 43. A country in W. Africa
- 44. Burn a corpse
- 47. Women's ___ movement
- 48. NHL great Bobby
- 49. Coarse, green material
- 51. Treated with calcium oxide
- 52. When you hope to get there
- 53. "Partridge" actress Susan
- 58. What thespians do



PUZZLE SOLUTION

VBS

continued from page A1

That skit was also written by Norman's son Tim Norton who portrayed Iron Man throughout the week. Tim Norman said putting together the curriculum was a wonderful experience for the church's members that only helped further solidify the sense of community they share.

"We put together a whole comprehensive story with music and lights and all that. It was fun to write it with my mom. We started in January and here we are six months later. It's pretty cool," Tim Norman said. "It's awesome that we did this, and we could bring together DC and Marvel heroes while inspiring kids to love Jesus. You can see the kids resonate with the superheroes and a lot of our volunteers just love superheroes in general because they read the comic books when they were kids so it's just cool to tie that all together."

For some, the Vacation Bible School was a family affair. Christy and Chris Long volunteered their time to help run the camp while their three chil-



dren also participated in the program. Christy portrayed Wonder Woman while Chris was Superman.

"We love the church here and its very family oriented," Christy Long said. "The kids are having fun and I love seeing all our staff here volunteering. We try to tell our kids that when the doors are open, we try to go to church. It's important they're here learning about, and that Jesus is the ultimate superhero, so we're excited to have them here."

"There are a lot of families that have come here this year because of last year," added her husband Chris. "We've heard some great stories about what a miraculous change it has made for them. It's a really cool thing to see."

Between 60 and 70 children took part in Creation Church's 2022 Vacation Bible School matching last year's record numbers after the program was put on hold in 2020 due to the pandemic.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

AT CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of July 18: Bobolink, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, American Kestrel, Black Vulture, Killdeer, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, Baltimore Oriole, Catbird, Wood Thrush, Goldfinch, Eastern Towhee, Bluebird, Red-tailed Hawk, Hummingbird, Song Sparrow. Visit ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home.

Congrats to RIT's 2021-2022 graduates!

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Rochester Institute of Technology conferred more than 4,300 degrees at all of its campuses in the 2021-2022 academic year. The following local residents received degrees:

Chris Cheney of Woodstock received a BS in computing security.

Cameron Grube of Eastford received a BS/ME in mechanical engineering.

Andrew Simmons of Putnam received a BS in computer engineering.

RIT's 137th academic convocation celebration was held in May and featured remarks by Kimberly Bryant, founder of the nonprofit organization Black Girls CODE.

RIT is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers. Founded in 1829, RIT enrolls about 19,700 students in more than 200 career-oriented and professional programs, making it among the largest private universities in the U.S.

The university is internationally recognized and ranked for academic leadership in business, computing, engineering, imaging science, liberal arts, sustainability, and fine and applied arts. RIT also offers unparalleled support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The cooperative education program is one of the oldest and largest in the nation. Global partnerships include campuses in China, Croatia, Dubai and Kosovo.

For news, photos and videos, go to www.rit.edu/news.



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Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Cinderella" opens Aug. 5 at Bradley Playhouse

PUTNAM — Something exciting is happening in Putnam. The Prince is giving a Ball! You will want to bring the whole family to see who will become a princess and his wife, when the Theater of Northeastern Connecticut at the Bradley Playhouse presents Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Cinderella." The show opens Aug. 5 and runs for three weekends. Don't miss the social event of the season!

Performances are Aug. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19 and 20 at 7:30 p.m. and Aug. 7, 14 and 21 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$26 for adults and \$23 for seniors, students, veterans and first responders.

Theater goers, especially youngsters, are invited to prepare for the Prince's ball with a Royalty Package. For an additional \$10 over the ticket price, you will have a choice of one of three combos of tiara and wand or crown and scepter as well as a free popcorn. Combos can be seen on the Bradley website or at the theater and are available by advance purchase or at the door.

The music for "Cinderella" was written by Richard Rodgers, with book and lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II. Julie Andrews played Cinderella when it first appeared on television in 1957. The show is based on the fairy tale "Cinderella," particularly the French version, "Cinderella, or The Little Glass Slipper" by Charles Perrault. This show is the original version, not the more recent one that appeared on Broadway.

The timeless enchantment of the magical fairy tale is reborn with the Rodgers



Photo Courtesy

Mia Berube (Stepsister Joy), Libbey Stearns (Stepsister Portia), Bonnie Theriault (Stepmother) and Emily Baldwin (Cinderella).

and Hammerstein hallmarks of originality, charm and elegance. Originally presented as a television extravaganza, this famous fairy tale has been re-fashioned and set to music by two great

masters of the musical. The characters are given greater depth plus a more human quality, and Cinderella's innocent faith in a miracle allows her wish to go to the ball to come true. Musical

highlights include "In My Own Little Corner," "A Lovely Night," "Do I Love You Because You're Beautiful?" and "Impossible."

The TNECT performance of Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Cinderella" is co-directed by Madeline Jaaskela and Christine Healy. Diane Pollard is the music director and Kelly and Paul Wybieracki are the choreographers. Emily Baldwin appears as Cinderella and Aaron Ferro plays her Prince Charming. His parents, the King and Queen are Jim Archambault and Jourdan Figueroa. Bonnie Theriault is Cinderella's stepmother and her stepsisters, Portia and Joy, are played by Libbey Stearns and Mia Berube. Anna Lee Percuoco appears as the fairy godmother. They are supported by an ensemble of singing and dancing townspeople and ball guests.

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

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

Essential traits for realizing your dreams, Part 3: Specialized knowledge

Last two weeks, I wrote about two essential characteristics you must have if you're going to accomplish your dreams. The first is desire; you must possess a burning desire to achieve your goals. Secondly, you must have faith. Without faith, your dreams will become nothing and fade away.

Specialized knowledge is the third most vital thing you must have at your command when wanting to accomplish your goals. It's one thing to have generalized knowledge that can help you win a game of Trivial Pursuit, and it's a whole other thing to have specialized knowledge of a specific industry or problem you'd like to solve.

Maybe you want to land a great job. You can do that; it will take desire, faith, and specialized knowledge. Can you imagine an electrician that doesn't know about electricity or a surgeon that has never learned about surgery?

If your objective is to be a pro athlete, you must have specialized knowledge of the game, the technique, and the tactics it takes to win.

If your goal is to be an actor, you must study the great actors, attend

acting classes, and read acting books. You'll need to learn to express yourself through voice and emotion at the right moments to enhance your performance and move your audience.

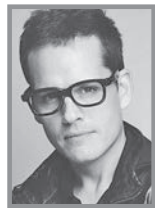
You will need specialized knowledge if you want to own a successful business. You'll have to study all the problems and become an expert on how to solve them.

We've all heard it said that "Knowledge is Power." This is true on some level, but specialized knowledge gives you the edge and enables you to cut right to the heart of the issue and provide the solution.

Generalized knowledge will probably never bring you to accomplish your dreams unless your dream is to star on an episode of Jeopardy!

Don't get me wrong; generalized knowledge is good, but specialized knowledge, directed intelligently, will be a major factor that will bring you to where you want to be.

How can you gain specialized knowledge? There are all kinds of ways to acquire specialized knowledge.



POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY MOORE

One way to gain specialized knowledge is by placing yourself in a job that will help you learn the expertise. You can start by being an intern or beginning an apprenticeship.

While building my company, I learned that I must learn web development and computer languages.

I have always been more of an artistic thinker, and I don't consider myself to have the mind of an engineer.

One day I was faced with the fact that I might never accomplish my dream if I didn't learn how to code with computer languages. I wasn't interested in coding, but I knew I had to do it.

It was one of the biggest challenges in my life to graduate. I didn't have the passion for web development, but I did have the passion for accomplishing my dream, and that desire and faith carried me through, helped me to attend every class, and put in the extra hours to graduate.

If you don't have the resources to attend a university, there are usually enough free or cheap online resources

and books to give you everything you need to know. If you have enough desire and faith, you'll search out and learn the knowledge wherever it is.

Of course, we also learn by experience; sometimes, there is no better teacher than life itself.

Pursuing specialized knowledge in your chosen calling will never end. It's a pursuit that can take a lifetime. There is always something to learn, and successful people in all industries never stop acquiring specialized knowledge.

Sometimes desire comes first, and at other times it will be specialized knowledge that propels you to know how to solve a particular problem, which may fill you with a new desire.

Sometimes special knowledge may precede desire. I've found no exact path to getting where you want to go; it will be different for everyone. Whatever the case, specialized knowledge is key to accomplishing your objective.

What comes next? Tune in next week to learn about the fourth attribute that you'll need to accomplish your dream: Imagination.

LINEUP

continued from page A1

"Money for Nothing", Dire Straits Legacy, featuring five former members of the band, comes over from Britain to Woodstock.

The Roc-Kin'-On Band from Northeastern Connecticut will open for both the Coasters and Dire Straits Legacy and the Danielson Martial Arts Academy will also perform two daytime shows on Saturday.

It's a country music lover's delight on Sunday on the Main Stage.

For those who appreciate classic country music, the Woodstock Fair will welcome Larry, Rudy and Steve, the Gatlin Brothers, to the Main Stage at 2:30 p.m.

The Gatlins will bring their hits "Sure Feels Like Love," "Houston," "The Lady Takes the Cowboy Every Time," and "All the Gold in California," as well as their own brand of homespun fun and humor to the Woodstock Fair.

The Main Stage rocks into the night as Gary Levox, the lead singer of Rascal Flatts, comes to Woodstock.

Levox will bring all the Rascal Flatts hits with him, including "Me and My Gang," "Rewind," "Life is a Highway," and "Mayberry" for an 8 p.m. show on

Sunday.

Local country talent Frankie Justin will open for both of the national acts on Sunday.

And the Main Stage will wrap things up on Monday with another great national act as the Gin Blossoms come to town for a 3:30 p.m. show.

It's classic alternative rock as the Gin Blossoms will perform top-10 hits like "Follow You Down," "Hey Jealousy," and "Allison Road."

Also on the Main Stage on Monday will be Northeastern Connecticut party band, Red Light, for two shows.

The Woodstock Fair continues to be one of the best entertainment values going, just \$15 for adults; advance general admission tickets are \$13; senior citizens and active military with an ID \$10; children 10 years and under are free.

For more updates on this year's Woodstock Fair, go to www.woodstockfair.com or the Woodstock Fair Facebook page.

2022 Woodstock Fair Main Stage Schedule

Friday, Sept. 2

2 p.m. Fantastick Patrick
3 p.m. '60's Explosion Band
4 p.m. Back in Black AC/DC Tribute
5:30 p.m. Fantastick Patrick
6:30 p.m. '60's Explosion Band
8 p.m. Back in Black

Saturday, Sept. 3

Noon: Danielson Martial Arts
12:30 p.m. Fantastick Patrick
1:15 p.m. Roc-Kin'-On Band
2:30 p.m. Cornell Gunter's Coasters
4:30 p.m. Danielson Martial Arts
5:30 p.m. Fantastick Patrick
6:30 p.m. Roc-Kin'-On Band
8 p.m. Dire Straits Legacy

Sunday, Sept. 4

Noon: Fantastick Patrick
1 p.m. Frankie Justin
2:30 p.m. Gatlin Brothers
5:30 p.m. Fantastick Patrick
6:30 p.m. Frankie Justin
8 p.m. Gary Levox...lead singer of Rascal Flatts

Monday, Sept. 5

11 a.m. Fantastick Patrick
12 p.m. Red Light Band
1:30 p.m. Fantastick Patrick
2:15 p.m. Red Light Band
3:30 p.m. Gin Blossoms

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SPORTS

Iannuzzi makes boxing history, keeps decade-long promise to daughter

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

BROOKLYN — Paul “Rude Dog” Iannuzzi made boxing history on Friday, July 15, becoming the oldest boxer ever to make their professional boxing debut. With the history-making part of the night out of the way — just by answering the opening bell — Iannuzzi made the night more memorable by winning the bout, knocking out Brazilian Leucinei Santos two minutes, 56 seconds into the first round.

Iannuzzi, 52 years, 10 months and 20 days old on the night of the fight, broke Dewey Bozella’s 10-year-old record for being the oldest fighter to make a professional debut. Bozella was 52 years, four months old when he stepped into the ring as a professional for the first time ever in 2011. Bozella also won his fight that night, defeating Larry Hopkins.

By making his record-setting professional debut on July 15, Iannuzzi was able to keep a promise he made to his daughter, Grace Iannuzzi, the night of the Bozella fight. Father and daughter watched the Bozella fight together. During the fight Grace Iannuzzi — 6 years old at the time — said to her father, “you can do that dad. When you’re old enough you can break this guy’s record.”

Paul Iannuzzi told his daughter that night he would. And now he has.

After the fight Paul Iannuzzi revealed to the Worcester Palladium crowd that he was also going to keep another promise he made prior to facing Santos. Just moments after the fight, while still in the ring, Paul Iannuzzi announced that he had just participated in his last official fight ever — as a professional or an amateur.

On the night Iannuzzi made boxing history, he retired from the sport as well.

“I promised Jill, my wife, that this would be it; I’m done,” Paul Iannuzzi said. “At the end of the fight I took my shoes off, held them up to the crowd and then left them in the ring. Hardcore boxing people know that’s the way you tell the world, ‘I’m retiring.’”

Even in professional boxing, looks can be deceiving. When Paul Iannuzzi marched from his dressing room to the ring, he was the charming, confident, gregarious guy he always is before a fight. There wasn’t even a hint that for the previ-



Photos Courtesy

History-making boxer Paul Iannuzzi surrounded by his support team (from left) manager Paul Cichon, trainer Tom Hall, and trainer and wife Jill Iannuzzi.

ous seven hours he had been mired in self-doubt.

“All I could think about in those seven hours was how this was a great story — if I win. That thought was quickly followed by, but what if I lose? If I win, I beat Father Time,” Paul Iannuzzi said. “If I lose, I’m an old white guy who didn’t know when to get the hell out of the sport and tried to do something stupid.”

At that point the unsettling thoughts came fast and furious, like an opponent who knew he had him on the ropes and just needed one more big blow to finish him off.

“A couple of (thoughts) in those last seven hours were, ‘I can’t lose. If I lose I prove that not only do I not belong there, but that I’m foolish and I make bad choices,’” Paul Iannuzzi said, “and, ‘who is going to follow somebody who makes bad choices and is foolish?’ Those thoughts scared the bejesus out of me.”

Grace Iannuzzi sensed there was something off with her father.

“Grace told me before the fight, ‘dad, you’re doing it. It doesn’t matter if you win or lose,’” Paul Iannuzzi said. “I appreciated her saying that.”

At some point before the fight Paul Iannuzzi corrected his thought process.

“All that negative thinking brought me back to one simple truth; it’s me and it’s him (Santos), and he’s in the way of me achieving my goal,” Paul Iannuzzi said. “So, let’s just take him out of the equation.”

Ten seconds into the fight Santos got off a left hook that would have knocked Paul Iannuzzi into tomorrow if it had landed.

“I could feel the force of the swing go over my head,” Paul Iannuzzi said.

“I gasped out loud in the corner when (Santos) threw that left,” Jill Iannuzzi said. “I couldn’t believe how hard and how fast he swung that left at him.”

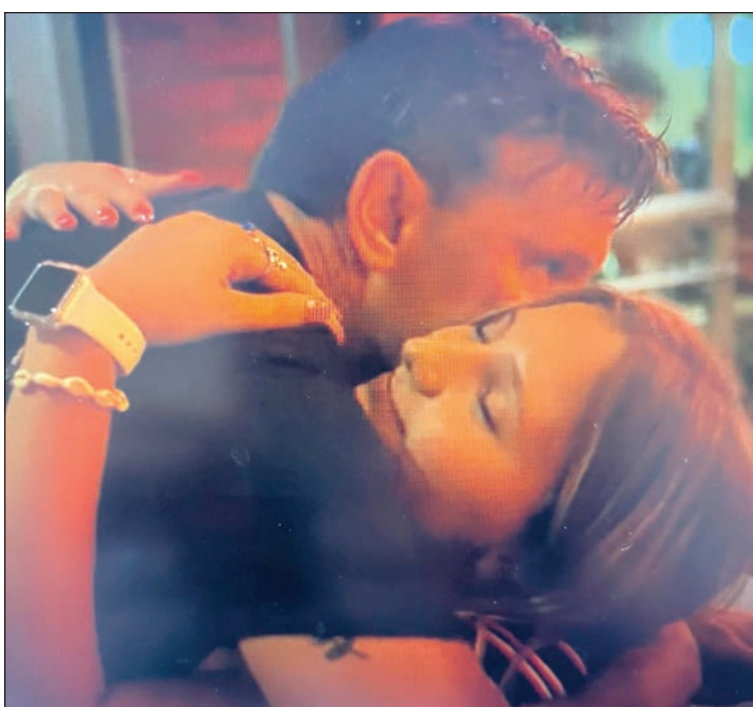
Paul Iannuzzi quickly regrouped and remembered something his lead manager, Paul Cichon and two-time world champion Vinny Paz — a longtime friend and confidant — said to him moments before the fight began.

“They both told me to give (Santos) the first 30 seconds and feel him out,” Paul Iannuzzi said. “Let (Santos) show you what he’s got. After that you can start to figure out how you can take him down. They both told me that and it really helped.”

After letting Santos show him what he had, Iannuzzi went to work. He landed a solid



History-making boxer Paul Iannuzzi relaxes post-fight with, from left, daughter Grace Iannuzzi, two-time world champion Vinny Paz, and wife Jill Iannuzzi. Standing in front of Jill Iannuzzi is her daughter Charlotte Thomas.



Paul Iannuzzi shares a hug with his daughter Grace at the post-fight dinner.

left hook to the body that didn’t appear to faze Santos, and then threw a series of left jab, left hook combinations that seemed to be having a cumulative effect on the Brazilian.

“I was just trying to chip away at the stone,” Iannuzzi said. “Jill said to me before the fight, ‘if the knockout’s there, it’s there. Just don’t go looking for it.’”

Late in the first round Iannuzzi put Santos away.

“I landed a really good left hook and then looked at his

body, like I was going to go there again, and he lowered his hands to stop it and I came up and hit him with a left square in the jaw and I wondered, ‘why are you still standing?’” Iannuzzi said. “That’s when I knew I had to throw my right hand.”

“I set up the knockout punch with a left hook,” Iannuzzi continued. “It staggered him and he lowered his hands and I rushed in and finished him off with a perfect right to his face.”

Tri-Town’s State Tournament run ends with loss to Torrington

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

THOMPSON — The National Football League has transformed itself over the years into a multi-billion dollar business by taking advantage of a number of catchphrases, not the least of which is “defense wins championships.”

It has yet to be determined if defense will win the 2022 Connecticut American Legion Baseball 19U State Tournament, but Torrington Post 38 used flawless defense, along with timely hitting and solid pitching, to oust Tri-Town from the Pod B portion of the state tournament, 6-2, on Tuesday, July 19, at Tourtellotte High.

Torrington, the No. 4 seed in Pod B, advanced to play top-seeded Middletown for the Pod B championship and the right to advance to the 19U Super Regionals. Middletown won the game, played on Wednesday, July 20, at Palmer Field in Middletown, 11-6.

Tri-Town, the No. 3 seed in Pod B, finished its season 10-17. Prior to losing to Torrington in Pod B Tri-Town — which is sponsored by American Legion posts in Thompson (Post 67), Woodstock (Post 111), and Putnam (Post 13) — defeated Danielson, 10-6 (on Sunday, July 17 at Owen Bell Park), one day after losing to Middletown, 1-0, at Palmer Field. The

game was scoreless heading into the bottom of the seventh inning.

In the loss to Torrington the third inning was Tri-Town’s undoing.

With the score tied, 1-1, Post 38 scored four runs on three singles, a double, a hit batsman, a wild pitch and an error. The top of the frame started with an infield single to the hole between first and second base by Josh Groebl.

On the play Tri-Town first baseman Jon Ferraro took a step toward the bouncing ball before quickly retreating to first base to await the throw from Tri-Town second baseman Riley Sargent. Sargent got to the ball and made an accurate throw to Ferraro, but by the time the ball got there Groebl was two steps past the base.

Tyler Semovich followed Groebl’s single by getting hit by a pitch, putting Torrington runners on second and third with no outs. Steele Brobston then made the first out of the inning, flying out to left field. On the out Groebl faked heading to third, drawing a throw from Tri-Town left fielder Alex Grauer. Grauer’s throw was off the mark however, and Groebl advanced to third and Semovich to second on the error.

Post 38’s Joe Dipippo was up next and he gave Torrington a 2-1 lead by belting a sharp single to left field, scoring

Groebl and sending Semovich to third base. Dipippo then advanced to second on a wild pitch. Semovich then pushed the Torrington lead to 3-1, scoring on an RBI single down the left field line by Nick Basso. Dipippo moved to third on Basso’s single.

Starting pitcher Jon Carita with was then replaced by Ferraro.

Josh Hamel, Torrington’s next batter, extended Post 38’s lead to 5-1 with a booming double that bounced off the center field fence, Dipippo and Basso scoring on the hit.

Tri-Town manager Jason Akana felt that a mental error by Ferraro kicked off Torrington’s four-run outburst.

“Torrington’s big inning started with my first baseman giving up on the ball when it was hit to him for an easy out to start the inning,” Akana said. “Our corner infielders are taught all season long that they need to cut off everything they can cut off. That ball was three steps to his right. He took one step, gave up on it and went back to the bag.”

“He comes up with that, that’s one out and they don’t get momentum. That’s really what blew the game open. I thought that was the difference in that game,” Akana continued. “Our inability to throw strikes in the beginning of the game hurt us, too; we didn’t hit our

spots, and we were kind of all over the place. We didn’t really hit the ball that well today, either. It (the loss) was a combination of things.”

Tri-Town cut its deficit to 5-2 in the bottom of the fourth inning. Brayden Akana (two hits, RBI) led off with a single to right field, moved to second on a passed ball, and advanced to third on a groundout to third base by Carita. Ferraro, up next, walked to put Tri-Town runners on the corners with one out.

Rob Dion followed with a single to left field which scored Akana from third and moved Ferraro to second. Tri-Town’s hope of hanging a crooked number on the scoreboard was dashed, however, when Rob Ellsworth grounded into a 6-4-3 double play to end the inning.

Tri-Town scored its other run in the bottom of the first inning. After spotting Torrington a 1-0 lead in the top of the frame, Grauer started Tri-Town off with a leadoff single to left field and then promptly stole second. He scored to tie the game, 1-1, on a one-out RBI single down the right field line by Brayden Akana.

Sargent and Brayden Akana were the only two Tri-Town players with two hits in the game.

Adventure travel to the Canadian Rockies

BY DENNIS BLANCHETTE
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

"It is good to have an end to journey towards, but it is the journey that matters, in the end." — Ursula Le Guin.

After several years of avoiding air travel because of Covid, it was time to hit the friendly skies again. The criteria for our re-immersion into flying included a foreign destination that was not too far away with reasonable covid protocols and good hiking. The Canadian Rockies met all criteria. Bradley Airport did not offer any nonstop flights to Calgary, so Janet booked and paid for a nonstop flight from Logan, arriving in Calgary at 6 p.m. A few weeks before the trip, the dreaded email appeared—your flight has been changed. It now has a two-hour layover in Toronto and arrives in Calgary at midnight. If you haven't flown lately, you'll find it's easy to book a flight on line, but changing one is harder than getting Elon Musk to stop reproducing. The best one can do is schedule an appointment for an airline agent to call you. At the appointed time she called and informed us there were no nonstop flights to Calgary anymore, on any day at any time. And despite paying for one, no refunds, either. After an extended conversation, Janet changed our departure day in order to arrive by 6 p.m.

Since our last flight in 2019 "apps" have taken over the world of air travel. I downloaded the ArriveCAN app, filled out the various forms, and uploaded my covid vaccination data. Then I got a warning that one may be subject to random covid testing even if fully vaccinated, so please register with the testing agency. Next was a Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) form. The questions were routine until I got to Question 3 - "Are you bringing in marijuana - Yes or No"

It seemed like a trick question so I clicked the tab for more information. It explained that if I clicked yes, I would be subject to immediate arrest on arrival. Since no was only right answer I wondered why they bothered posing it as a question and whether anyone ever checked "yes." I then downloaded the WestJet app and uploaded the QR code provided by the ArriveCan app. WestJet informed me that the registration was "complete, but not successful." The app wouldn't let us check our luggage even as it informed us it would be much cheaper if we did it in advance. It took most of a Sunday morning and we grumbled to each other about privacy concerns and the data we were giving up, while trying to convince each other it would save time in the long run.

At the departure gate, the airline agent was unable to process our luggage or get boarding passes, either. She made some calls and found that when we changed the departure day the WestJet representative had not completed the process. As the baggage disappeared down the conveyor belt she asked, "Are there any computers in that luggage?"

"Yes," Janet responded.
"Then we'll have to get it back - no computers are allowed."

We remained calm, which must have irritated her so she played her trump card.

"Prove you're coming back to the U.S.," she said.

"We're in your system," I responded
"I can't see that," she replied.
"But we have round trip tickets."
I don't know that."

Janet rummaged around in her briefcase, found a paper copy of the itinerary showing the return flight and gave it to her. Grudgingly she issued us boarding passes. Another battle won. Not so good for the guy next to us, who had a one-way ticket. Since he could not prove he

was coming back to the U.S. he was not allowed to board the plane.

With all the apps filled out and new covid protocols complied with, we approached the security area, trepidatious but hopeful that security measures had been updated or revised during the pandemic. At the scanner, everyone was still taking off their shoes, even though there has been only one attempted shoe bomber, in 2001, and he failed. The rule about carry on liquids is still in force, even though there has been only one attempt in history at blowing up a plane with liquids and it failed when the would-be bomber set his crotch on fire. Risk assessment does not seem to be a strong point of the TSA. I emptied my pockets, took off my belt, got scanned, failed the scanner, got wanded, patted down, yelled at by the TSA guy and was finally set free.

Landing in Toronto, we certified our identity at a kiosk and successfully answered the question "why are you here?" and were headed for the door. Until a CBP agent intercepted Janet and wordlessly directed her down a sign less hallway. Our adrenaline rose as we walked down the institutional green corridor that never seemed to end, wondering what she could have done. Eventually we found a CBP agent at a desk who wanted to know about the bear spray in the suitcase, which had been declared on the ArriveCAN app.

"We're going hiking in the Rockies," Janet said.

"You don't need it," she replied.

"All the travel books said we need it," I responded.

"Are you sleeping in a tent?"

"No."

"Then you don't need it."

"But we're going hiking in the backcountry and the National Park Service says the bears are down in the valleys because of too much snow in the moun-

tains and every one should carry bear spray," Janet said.

"You can't carry it around Banff," she said.

We promised that we would never publicly display our bear spray in any town and she let us go with 10 minutes to spare before boarding. We cleared security, ran through the airport like gazelles being attacked by lions and were the last to board, with seconds to spare.

The plane landed on time in Calgary but there was an hour delay disembarking because, the pilot informed us, "there was a thunderstorm, the ground support staff had left and there was no one to connect the jetway." At baggage claim the luggage excreted slowly out onto the conveyor belt, a piece every few minutes, as if the machinery had become constipated. We assumed this was a staffing issue as well, but then the intercom announced that there was a system error in the baggage handling system and the repair personnel had been "notified." An hour later our suitcases arrived and we headed for the car rental.

We looked in vain for the Alamo desk, the Alamo shuttle or an Alamo sign. A maintenance worker directed us to the second floor of the parking garage. Eventually we found them, hidden and sign less, as if to forestall any attempt to actually rent a car from them. As the adrenaline wore off it occurred to us that the adventure was over. We also realized that though we were ready to travel, the airlines were not ready for us. Then the light bulb went on in my head. If we survived the grizzlies and avalanches, we would get to do it all over again at the end of the trip.

Dennis R. Blanchette is a retired civil engineer and travel writer.

Clogged

ing. She felt like Gulliver, strapped down to her hospital bed. Suddenly she jerked, as the intermittent compression devices, strapped to her calves, started to massage her legs. It felt good. But her head ached, her throat hurt, and she hated feeling doped up.

"Oh, you're up," the nurse observed, "I'll get the doctor."

She closed her eyes. The next thing she knew, a middle-aged man wearing a white frock and stethoscope roused her from her slumber by gently touching her shoulder. "Angie, I'm Doctor Ryso. Do you think you are up to a short conversation about your situation?"

"Yes," she responded groggily, "What happened to me? Why am I here?"

"You had a heart attack, and we had to do a Coronary angioplasty."

"Do you mean I have a bad heart?" she queried, wrinkling her brow.

various moves). If neither competitor scores a point in regulation, the match continues. The first competitor to score in overtime wins the match.

After the loss to Torro, Nelson defeated, in succession, Miako Pizzorno, Sika Hounfodji, Liana Morello, and Esther Ribeiro. Nelson's path to the podium, however, was blocked by Tasha Cancela, who earned a gold medal at the Junior Pan Am Games in November. Cancela defeated Nelson in a hart-fought match.

"The first day of the competition, and that first match, was a wake-up call for me as far as where my aggression and my technique needed to be," Nelson said, "It showed me, especially mentally, where I needed to be the second day if I hoped to win the tournament."

"I feel like the second day, mentally, everything kicked in and turned on. I put the first day of competition behind me pretty quickly and just focused on the second day," Nelson continued. "The only thing I carried over from the first day to the second day was my anger; I took that with me into the second day."

Nelson made quick work of her competition in the International Division of the U.S. World Team Trials, finishing the day two tournament 4-0. She started with wins over Katie Gomez, Noran Elmahroukey, and Liana Morello, and then defeated Elmahroukey, a second time, in the gold medal match.

Nelson said day two of the tournament played out just the way she had envisioned it playing out when she got up that morning.

"The first match is always nerve

"No," he explained, "Your heart is good. All of your other major organs are fine as well. But you had two clogged arteries. We inserted a tiny balloon catheter into your blood vessels to help widen them and improve blood flow to the heart. We feel like the procedure solved the problem. Now you just need some rest and recuperation time."

Our bodies are amazing, but something as seemingly insignificant as a few clogged blood vessels can be debilitating or even fatal. The same is true with our spiritual heart. Without a flow of God's love and grace we are in danger of being overcome by things like doubt, fear, bitterness, or self-righteousness. If we get "clogged up" our spiritual health is at risk. When we feel unloved and unloving, it is a sure indicator that something is clogged up.

wracking, but after that I worked on keeping myself calm and focusing on the next match," Nelson said. "On day two, especially after that first match, the lessons I learned from my day one matches all clicked in. I knew if I competed to the level of my abilities I would win the tournament."

Nelson was happy with what she accomplished, but not completely happy.

"It was OK, Nelson said of the winning the gold medal. "It was an accomplishment, but it wasn't the accomplishment I was longing to get. I wanted to win the first day. I enjoyed winning the second day, but not as much as I would have if I had won on the first day."

Cummings is surprised, but not completely surprised, by Nelson's success at the national level.

"It's definitely very early for Leana to qualify for worlds based on the experience she has," Cummings said. "Leana has only been involved in the sport for seven years and some of that involvement was on a part-time basis. So, the seven years Leana has been involved in judo on a part-time and full-time basis is probably a total of four years of experience in the sport."

"Leana, since she began, has been aiming to do something bigger in the sport than just compete," Cummings continued. "We made a goal sheet at the end of last year and her goal was to make the world team this year. I preach goal-setting and goal-earning a lot and this is a perfect example why. So, Leana's success is happening earlier than I thought it would, but I'm not surprised by it."



BEYOND
THE PEWS

BISHOP JOHN
W. HANSON

Angie opened her eyes slowly, adjusting to the bright light that flooded through her window. She felt like she had been run over by a Mac truck. As she took in her surroundings, she saw monitor wires taped to her chest, IV lines that had been inserted into her veins, and a catheter that was working to keep her digestive system work-

NELSON

continued from page A1

Game, and a 14-time national judo champion, will be coaching her star pupil.

Nelson, who didn't know anything about the sport of judo until she was 13 — most international competitors take an interest in the sport around age 5 — is headed to Ecuador and the World Junior Championships after winning the International Division of the U.S. World Team Trials, held June 26, in San Jose, Calif.

The tournament Nelson won last month, she competed in the 57 kilogram weight class of the U21 division, was part of the 2022 International Junior Olympics Championships. The International Division of the U.S. World Team Trials was Nelson's second national competition in three days.

On June 24 Nelson finished fourth in the U21 division of U.S. World Team Trials, a competition that is limited to U.S. residents only. The International Division competition, held two days later, was essentially the same competition, but international competitors were allowed to compete in the event.

"In the U.S. World Team Trial, the first tournament Leana competed in, she faced her toughest competition of the entire tournament, drawing Marisol Torro, who placed fifth in the last world competition (held the year before the COVID pandemic)," said Cummings, who estimated that about 50 percent of her clients at Top Game live in Killingly, Woodstock and Putnam. "It was a great match; Leana competed fiercely, but lost two minutes into overtime."

Regulation judo competitions last a maximum of four minutes, and end as soon as one of the competitors scores one point (they can earn half-points for

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
 PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

Some of the best memories are made in flip flops

Summer is in full swing, with everyone walking around with a sun kissed glow. Apart from mild weather, lush green forests, swimmable rivers and lakes and beautiful flowers, there are significant health benefits to these summer months.

Sunlight aids in regulating our systems. During the summer months there is a reduced rate of heart attacks. One study revealed that those who suffered a heart attack during the summer had survival rates increase by 19 percent. Vitamin D is said to play a role in protecting the heart as well as regulating calcium and phosphorus absorption.

Individuals tend to eat lighter and healthier in the summer, consuming more fruits and vegetables, which boosts our immune system. Produce is in abundance, whether it's at the local farmer's market or in our own back yards. Bring on the watermelon! The sun, can also cure many skin issues, such as psoriasis, dermatitis and acne, however this doesn't mean we can skip the sunscreen.

Summertime encourages us to get out and exercise. Getting the blood pumping creates endorphins and initiates and improves the flow of oxygen to the brain, which in turn lowers stress, and can aid in productivity in other areas of our lives. The longer days also afford us zero excuse to get out and get it done.

Because of the warmer temperatures, we automatically increase our water intake. This promotes digestion and flushes the toxins from our bodies.

Sleep disorders tend to fall by the wayside or improve during the summer due to the sun's early morning exposure. Experts say getting sunshine between 7 and 9 a.m. every morning, will help you sleep better at night.

Spending time with friends, family and community increases in the summer which is key to our mental health. During summer months there are more outdoor activities that bring folks together such as band concerts, farmer's markets, campfires, which are all great places to catch up with our neighbors.

Most people tend to go on vacation during the summer, reducing stress and burnout. More and more people are realizing just how important it is to take a breather.

Summertime helps us to feel more footloose and fancy free. There is also an overall feeling of relaxation and joy, over simple things like reading a book on the front porch, sipping sun tea or the smell of fresh cut grass.

The rivers flow wildly in the mountains and the lakes remain calm for fisherman to drop a line and float about, letting all cares melt away as the sunlight dances off the small ripples and waves. Mountain summits are picture perfect with blue skies, white clouds, vibrant green trees with glistening rocks, oftentimes creating scenes that don't even look real.

Take advantage of the season and savor every moment. In the words of the great Henry James, "Summer afternoon-summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language."

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to Brendan@villagernewspapers.com

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

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My question has not been answered

To the Editor:
 I read with great interest Kyle Kramer's letter to the Editor attempting to address community concerns about the potential acquisition of Day Kimball Hospital by the Covenant Healthcare system. He makes clear that this would not prevent Day Kimball from treating non-Catholic patients. That thought had never crossed my mind.

My question remains: would Covenant Healthcare require Day Kimball Healthcare to abide by Catholic Ethical and Religious Directives? Specifically, would any services be limited or eliminated from DKH's current

services? Would birth control, IUDs, tubal ligations, vasectomies, etc. still be provided by DKH physicians? It seems like a simple enough question, and I have asked for a direct answer. Apparently, the Office of Health Strategy is asking the same question.

I am only asking for a straight answer so that I and others in the community can have an informed opinion about this change to our community hospital.

KATHLEEN MCGRATH
 BROOKLYN

Now is my time to serve

To the Editor:
 As a practicing attorney for over 20 years, I have been helping people through some of the most challenging aspects of life. These encompass the death of a loved one, the complexities of probate law, and the difficult choices that must be made in planning for one's later years. These circumstances are trying and often stressful.

Throughout my career, I have had the desire to better serve my community in an expanded capacity. Now is that time and opportunity to serve.

As a native to the area, and a graduate of Putnam High School, I have deep roots here.

I live in Pomfret with my husband, David Gratton and son, Owen Gratton, a junior at Killingly High School. I also am active in our communities, currently serving as the Treasurer for BSA Troop 92 in Ashford, and a Board member of several local organizations.

The 26th Probate District consists of the following towns: Ashford, Brooklyn, Eastford, Pomfret, Putnam, Thompson, and Woodstock. I look forward to meeting all of you throughout our district.

GABRIELLE LABONTE
 POMFRET

Shouting down others will not work

To the Editor:
 Ms. Cadiz' letter to the Editor of the July 15 Woodstock Villager is another unfortunate example of a new culture infecting our country, and now our town.

Ms. Cadiz is entitled to her opinion. However, when it comes to telling others what they can say and where they can say it, that is going too far. This appears to be a page out of the national media and cultural elite playbook; they believe that their self-righteous view of the world is the only one permissible and not only will they demean others who disagree, they will do it loudly.

Perhaps Ms. Cadiz missed the February issue of the Pomfret Times, where the political party I belong to was described as a threat to democracy, signed by the Pomfret Democratic Town Committee, including the town's First Selectman, who is also the Editor

of the Pomfret Times.
 Ms. Cadiz might also check out why a majority of Americans distrust the media? The fact is, people respect free speech and want to form their own opinions, not have them dictated, or news content stifled. Finally, Ms. Cadiz may want to consider that a newspaper that is exclusively featuring one political party's views and information may be subject to election laws regarding contribution limits.

As for volunteering for town positions, I offer my thanks and point out that Pomfret's Selectmen, Boards and Commissions work very well together and keep our focus where it should be, on the interests of all our residents.

Respectfully,

ELLSWORTH E. CHASE, JR.
 POMFRET

Pomfret Democrats announce endorsements

To the Editor:
 At a recent monthly meeting, the Pomfret Democratic Town Committee (PDTC) endorsed Democratic candidates whose local jurisdictions include Pomfret. Following the 2021 state redistricting, Pomfret moved from State Senate District 35 to District 29 for the November 2022 election. The PDTC supports Mae Flexer, the Senate District 29 incumbent, Pat Boyd, the incumbent for House District 50, and Leah Schad, the incumbent for the Northeast Probate Court Judge

For the two contests in the upcoming Primary Election on Tuesday, Aug. 9, the PDTC endorses Stephanie Thomas for Secretary of State and Erick Russell for State Treasurer. Thomas resides in Norwalk and is the current state representative for District 143. Russell, an attorney, resides in New Haven and is a former vice-chair of the CT

Democratic state party.
 In the other statewide elections this year, the PDTC endorses Richard Blumenthal, U.S. Senate, and Joe Courtney, U.S. House of Representatives. At the state level, the committee supports Governor Ned Lamont, Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, State's Attorney General William Tong, and Sean Scanlon for Comptroller.

The Pomfret Democratic Town Committee invites all registered Democrats to attend its monthly meetings held in person on the third Tuesday of each month. More information is available online at www.facebook.com/PomfretDTC.

RAY WISHART
 CHAIR
 POMFRET DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE

A call to action

To the Editor:
 Paula Coughlin's article, "On the Value of Birds," was a timely and critically important call to action. What we both enjoy and benefit from in this "Quiet Corner" is as precious as it is rare. Those who live here have time and again demonstrated their appreciation of that reality by doing what was necessary to preserve open space when the opportunity came up. As for Pomfret, I doubt there is another town in Connecticut that can match us in being environmentally proactive. Time is short; we need to heed Paula's call.

Twelve acres may not seem like a great deal, but with the installation of solar panels, it reduces the value of approximately 200 acres of prime wildlife habitat by more than half. The species that depend on that unique combination of grassland bordering a wooded wetland, as Paula pointed out,

are all endangered. Too many species have been lost already because of needless habitat degradation. Admittedly some extinctions are beyond our control, but others, like the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker, could well have been saved. It is in our power to do so.

I urge you to make your voices heard before Aug. 9. Melanie Backman of the Siting Council must hear from us. If she does not these rare birds will most likely die or be in even more serious jeopardy. They can't very well relocate where suitable habitat elsewhere is already occupied. If we rally to the call we will not only save lives we will also preserve one of the loveliest vistas in Pomfret.

BENJAMIN D. WILLIAMS III
 POMFRET

Mind your manners

In a battle of wills with a younger family member, I insisted that the small person say "thank you" for a toy we had chosen together and "good-bye" to me as I was leaving. The little soul refused, and I left in a huff, feeling more upset than I thought I should. After all, I am the older, presumably wiser and more patient person of the two of us. I stewed for a bit about the incident, and decided that part of what riled me up is my own belief in the importance of good manners.

As we reenter the world of dining out and seeing friends, it is time to dust off old skills such as making interesting conversation and showing good manners. It's not really important to know which fork to use at a dinner party, but it is nice to behave well, show good character, humor and interest in others. Etiquette is a set of rules, that include bread plates and forks, but etiquette is just a way to make practicing good manners easier.



NANCY WEISS

Knowing the rules is always better than not knowing them. For a decade, I took about 15 teenagers every year to an exciting conference in Chicago,

hosted by various industries. The event included formal dinners. Often the teens were seated next to members of upper management. Before the dinners, I gave the same short talk about how to work one's way through a meal, that in those days was either red meat or chicken cordon bleu. It was the only time when I had everyone's complete attention.

BMW, I would tell them. Working from the left – bread plate, meat or meal, water, and please, napkin on your lap. The best moments were when seated nearby, I would watch one of the teens observe his or her adult host drink from the "wrong" glass. Then a rule of manners – not etiquette came into play – never let your dinner companion feel uncomfortable. Either don't drink from a water glass at all or sip from whatever is left. The kids demonstrated fine manners.

I dusted off a 1992 book by Craig Claiborne, "Elements of Etiquette." In it, Claiborne, who is credited with elevating the restaurant review to new heights during his years at the New York Times, quotes other people and makes many points about the importance of manners. Here is Arthur Guiterman, a humorist: "Good manner may in Seven Words be found: Forget Yourself and think of Those Around." Claiborne wove his way among the elite with elegant meals and best-selling books, but retained his sense of kindness, a key element in his concept of etiquette.

Manners aren't practiced just at dinner tables. Everyday interactions are filled with moments for good manners. Road rage is a frightening example of disregard for the feelings of others, but except for a few incidents, I experience more positive interactions. At the post office, the bank, and the grocery store, men and women hold the door for each other. At intersections, drivers wait their turn to drive through. Most nod or speak in recognition when encountering another person in a public place. Except for cyclists on the Air Line Trail, people often say "Excuse me" or "On your left" when passing hikers.

As I thought about the child who refused to say the words I deemed appropriate, I realized that I was violating my own rules. I was putting my ego first, not good manners. Common sense and consideration for others is the basis of it all, except BMW comes in handy.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

So, you support the Constitution's required separation of church and state?

To the Editor:

Our Constitution prohibits the government from favoring one faith as the state religion.

Recent decisions by the Supreme Court contradict the Constitution and endorse government sanctioned expressions of religious belief. This contradicts previous rulings barring official advocacy of a particular religion. Apparently, it is now acceptable to pray to Jesus before a football game, have a 40-foot Christian cross on public land, and the state of Maine must pay for religious education as part of a school voucher program. The line of separation between church and state, as required by our Constitution, is shifting.

Our nine-person Supreme Court is composed of six Catholics, or seven if you include Gorsuch, who was raised Catholic. That's 67 percent or 78 percent of the court. Catholics make up 21 percent of the U.S. population as of 2021. Twenty-six percent of the U.S. population has no religious affinity.

In overturning *Roe v. Wade*, the court held the Christian belief that person-

hood begins at conception, a Christian teaching not shared by a majority of Americans. According to Jewish law, human life begins at birth, not conception.

The Fourth Amendment of the Constitution guarantees the right of the people, including women, to be secure in their persons. At the time the Constitution was written in 1787, the words "secure" described what we today call "the right of privacy."

The Supreme Court decided almost 50 years ago that the right to abortion is protected by the right to liberty under the 14th Amendment. The reversal of this ruling should alarm anyone who seeks to live in a fair, equal, and safe society where the Supreme Court respects precedent and applies the same, neutral principles to every case. Regardless of religion, gender, or political party.

This is the time for political action. Make your voice heard. Write. Call. Vote.

MAUREEN NICHOLSON
POMFRET

No one is a wanton "baby killer"

To the Editor:

There's been a lot of strong language in play about abortion for decades, and especially just now. We're accused of killing babies or of killing women. I've posted on these pages a dozen ways we could greatly reduce the number of abortions by making it easier for women to carry to term, but most of them involve family-supporting laws and cost money: economic and legal support and job protections, healthcare and inexpensive child care.

So, "baby killer" hurts. I'm not a murderer. The programs I support are for protecting life, from cleaner environment to universal healthcare to safer gun laws to drug-overdose and suicide prevention. So what's the moral foundation of my belief that abortion is not murder?

I believe that every one of us has a soul, an immortal part of us that is part of The Divine. It existed before my fetal body and will continue after my death, a spirit that exists in my body but is not dependent on it. Most Christians and believers in other world religions have

the same unshakable sense that what we do in our earthly lives may lift or sully that soul, but we cannot destroy it. Some believe it proceeds to a Heaven or a Hell and many believe it may get another body to inhabit.

I don't know when a soul joins a fertilized egg, and neither do you, but my faith and understanding of God's Love convinces me that, if that body dies, in the womb or after its first breath, the soul, the immortal part of us, does not.

So when people trying to block women's access to abortion wail about "baby murder," I don't think they can claim spiritual righteousness.

Abortion takes a fetus's future, but, in so many of these cases, that future may include terrible physical difficulty and suffering, extreme medical needs that deprive other children already in that family, a future that often includes deep poverty or a life with a parent who couldn't or didn't want to give them a loved childhood.

Planned Parenthood's motto is

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Suggestions for \$5 gasoline — who's to blame

To the Editor:

An article in a recent Villager on the price of gasoline mentioned at least 14 of the required actions by the current administration to restrict further drilling and mining operations. The author correctly notes that the actions the administration took are needed actions in fighting climate change, by reducing coal production, cancelled the Keystone pipeline, halting new gas and oil leases on federal land, overturning past polluting regulations, prevented future drilling in and around Chaco canyon (National Historical Site), and attempt-

ing to restrict ocean drilling. His article pointed out how each of the restrictions we place on fossil fuel production is a benefit in maintaining clean air, improving our health and protecting the environment. I am certain that the author of last week's article, and most Americans, believe that to prevent the destruction of our land, our water and the air we breathe, protections are required.

The nation now rejects the past administration's effort to allow any-

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An outside perspective on America

To the Editor:

I'm a few weeks into spending the summer in Canada. Most Canadians I meet want to discuss American politics when they find out I'm from the States. And, almost invariably, their assessments range from surprise to dismay to pity to condemnation, but always concern.

They struggle to understand how America has seemingly lost its ability to function at the most basic level to address urgent problems such as gun violence, the Covid pandemic, subjugation of women, climate change, drug prices, homelessness, etc. The list goes on and on. They know that all societies

have some racists, homophobes and even organized hate groups, but they marvel at the prominence these groups have ascended to in the US, now mainstreamed into one of our two major political parties.

Most of the Canadians I've met are highly informed about the events happening in the US. And, interestingly, they're more accurately informed than many of my fellow citizens, a huge percentage of whom still believe the Big Lie and are distracted by fake issues such as CRT, "wokeness" and supposed "grooming" of public school students.

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How could such a competent leader surround himself with so much incompetence?

To the Editor:

CEO's are bright, capable and hard-working individuals. What's more, they need to be good judges of character in order to surround themselves with equally capable people who will help run a successful company. It was these qualities that Americans looked to when they elected Donald Trump as their 45th President, appreciating the fact that declaring corporate bankruptcy six times was simply him using the country's laws to his advantage, and not a failure on his part. Still, it is at least somewhat disheartening to see how Mr. Trump found so many inept people to serve in his administration.

Starting with his first impeachment, we saw a cadre of government officials at best misinterpreting and at worse telling outright lies about the President. There was Ukrainian Ambassador Volodymyr Zelenskyy, of whom Trump noted, "Everywhere Marie Yovanovitch went turned bad." There

was Fiona Hill, Trump's senior adviser on the Kremlin and Europe who he called a "deep state stiff with a nice accent." And there was, among others, Lt Colonel Alexander Vindman who the President noted was given a "horrendous" work report by his superiors.

Then came the many deceitful tell all books by former Trump underlings. Miles Taylor, a former chief of staff for the Department of Homeland Security, claimed that many in the administration considered resigning in order to draw public attention to Trump's misconduct. The President said, "never even heard of him." There was former Trump personal Attorney Michael Cohen, of whom his ex-client indicated, "If anyone is looking for a good lawyer, I would strongly suggest that you don't retain the services of Michael Cohen!" John Bolton was the National Security adviser, of whom Trump stated "Many of the ridiculous statements he attributes to me were

Chase's column was not the appropriate venue for politics

To the Editor:

I was away on vacation and didn't have a chance to read Ellsworth Chase's letter to the Editor (July 8) until this week. Unfortunately, he missed the point of my letter that appeared in the Pomfret Times' June edition.

Each month, one of Pomfret's three selectmen writes a column, "Selectman's Selections," that appears in the Pomfret Times. These columns are typically about what's going on in town: budget season, bulky waste, tree work, bridges needing repairs, Memorial Day parade, grant-funded projects, traffic issues, recreation facilities, the need for volunteers, upcoming events, and the like. They have always been factual and non-partisan.

In the May issue of the Pomfret Times, Mr. Ellsworth (one of our selectmen) used the "Selectman's Selections" column to discuss national issues and the state of our country through his own political lens. Nearly half of the column quoted a 1964 speech by Ronald Reagan. There was no mention of anything related to what's going on in Pomfret. In my opinion, this was a misuse of the "Selectman's Selections" column, which is intended to be community news.

I wrote a letter to the Editor addressing the content of Mr. Ellsworth's column. It was in no way a personal attack on him. Whether or not I agreed with his ideology was not the point of my letter. I simply stated I believed the substance of his remarks was inappropriate for the "Selectman's Selections" column. If he had written about major league baseball, the Academy Awards, or his summer vacation, I would feel the same way. Those topics are not relevant to Pomfret.

When the Pomfret Times was first published 27 years ago, it was intended to be a non-political publication, a community newspaper that covered our town, its people, and events. As chair of the Board of Finance, I have written articles for the Pomfret Times about the budget, town audit, mill rates, and similar topics. It would be inappropriate for me to use a Board of Finance column to discuss political issues.

The Pomfret Times exists to provide community news. Period. Advertising and letters to the Editor are the only places where any political issues or positions should be printed.

MARGIE HUOPPI
POMFRET

We must do better

To the Editor:

It was a beautiful but windy May morning and we were headed out onto The Connecticut Audubon Society's Bafflin Wildlife Sanctuary in Pomfret. We were on the fifth of our weekly "annual wildflower walks" and we marveled at the changes since the previous week as spring ephemerals had emerged, unfurled, and revealed their spectacular displays of leaves and blossoms. We eagerly approached the enclosed area that protected rare Yellow Lady's-slippers. They had been carefully tended in that spot for decades. Last week, the plants had grown substantially and we anticipated the first dramatic flowers this week. But instead, we stood in stunned silence, trying to understand what we were seeing.

What makes the *Cypripedium parviflorum*, commonly known as the Yellow Lady's-slipper, one of Connecticut's wild orchids so special? It is not just the spec-

tacular 'shoe-shaped' petals or that it is a declining Connecticut Species of Special Concern rarely found in the acidic soils of New England. As Carol Gracie writes in her book, "Spring Wildflowers of the Northeast," these plants are slow to reach maturity. Their first leaves do not appear until they are three years old, and it may take another seven to thirteen years before the plants are mature enough to flower. They cannot be transplanted because they require a particular fungus in the soil for growth and just the right bumblebee for pollination.

What was done that every Yellow Lady's-slipper flower was gone. The plants' stems were broken off at about a one-inch height. Looking around for clues as to how this could have happened, we discovered the flowers all had been picked and left laying three feet away along the trail. Not eaten. No signs

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A miscarried narrative

To the Editor:

A certain doctor recently decided to deride my opinion that abortion is not healthcare. He proceeded to list a number of pregnancy complications which often require medical intervention. Let's go briefly down the list, shall we?

Placental abruption occurs in 1 percent of pregnant women, and describes where the placenta separates from the uterus. Preeclampsia occurs when high blood pressure and high protein are present. Eclampsia occurs when high blood pressure causes seizures and convulsions. Cardiac and renal disease are conditions that naturally can complicate a pregnancy. Placenta previa is when the placenta covers the opening of the uterus. These can all be medical emergencies that ultimately may require medical intervention.

How is a doctor to approach any medical emergency? Let's take a look at the Hippocratic Oath, which has been revised over the years. The Original Hippocratic Oath stated the following: "Moreover, I will give no sort of medicine to any pregnant woman, with a view to destroy the child. Further I will comport myself and use my knowledge in a godly manner." My, how times have changed. The Revised Hippocratic Oath states the following: "Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play God."

How interesting that God is referenced in these texts. Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (Gospel of John, chapter 10, verse 10.) For those doctors who do not believe in God, it seems to me that taking the Hippocratic Oath would be akin to an exercise in deceit. After all, if one does not believe in God, how can one in good conscience swear to an oath that recognizes God's Sovereignty? Furthermore, regarding other folks who do not believe in God, that is their prerogative and I respect it, even if they do not respect my right to voice my opinion.

But I digress. The certain doctor who took issue with my opinion also mentioned ectopic pregnancy, which occurs when a fertilized egg is outside of the uterus and will not survive. He also mentioned stillbirth. Since ectopic babies cannot survive, and still borns are already dead, there is no infant's life for the doctor to save.

Rape and incest, as horrific as they are, do not justify the termination of the life of an innocent child. Actually, the greater horror show occurs when a baby is literally dismembered and torn apart limb-by-limb in utero via abortion. And to add insult to injury, the killing is often done for profit. Gruesome doesn't begin to describe the carnage occurring in abortion mills.

The certain doctor also mentioned a case of having a child in fourth grade. A rarity, I imagine, but possible. Will there

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never made, pure fiction. Just try to get even for firing him like the sick puppy he is!" Other disparaging books have come from James Comey, a former FBI director, Andrew McCabe, former deputy director of the FBI and Omorosa Manigault Newman, assistant to the president to name a few. Even his campaign assistant and adviser Kellyanne Conway was belittled by the President who tweeted "Writing books can make people say some very strange things. I wonder why?"

There have been the many denigrating statements by former generals who served the White House. Three-star general and former national security adviser HR McMaster felt "that President Trump and other officials have repeatedly compromised our principles in pursuit of partisan advantage and personal gain." Defense secretary and four-star general Jim Mattis noted that "I earned my spurs on the battlefield; Donald Trump earned his

spurs in a letter from a doctor," and that "We must reject and hold accountable those in office who would make a mockery of our Constitution." Trump said that "Jim Mattis, the world's most overrated General and that he was "glad he is gone." And four-star general John Kelly Trump's secretary of homeland security and then chief of staff who stated that President Trump "is the most flawed person" he has ever known and that "the depths of his dishonesty is just astounding to me." Trump retorted regarding Kelly, "He got eaten alive. He was unable to handle the pressure of this job."

There have been dozens of others. Then there is the question of the 2020 election, which, of course, most Republicans know was fraudulent. Yet the President had already warned the country of just how poor the current voting system was. He pointed out that in 2016 Hillary Clinton

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Thompson debuts new Litter League

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON — The town of Thompson will be debuting a new community cleanup initiative in 2022 with the formation of a “Litter League” this September.

The new event coincides with the 20-year anniversary of Thompson Together, the leaders of an annual April cleanup effort in town and builds on Thompson’s “Nips for Holiday Cheer” pilot program which began in 2020. Thompson’s newest cleanup initiative will see teams compete to see who can contribute the most to keeping Thompson beautiful.

Thompson Director of Planning and Development Tyra Penn-Gesek said the Litter League will see local teams take to the streets from September through November to remove litter from roads, trails, and parks in town. Teams will be assigned certain areas to clean on a rotating schedule. The collections will

be tallied based on number of bags each month by volunteers of Thompson Together and the Thompson Recreation Department. At the end of the season, the team collecting the most litter off Thompson’s roadways will be announced as the winner. Awards will be presented to kick off the 2023 April Cleanup.

“The ongoing success of April Cleanup demonstrates that local citizens are willing to put time and effort into grassroots beautification projects. Participation in the annual event has contributed to civic pride for two decades; but, the problem of roadside litter is continuous, and a bigger nut to crack than can be solved in a single month out of the year,” Penn-Gesek said. “Litter League provides a means by which residents can extend their efforts, tapping into their competitive spirit to clear more debris from Thompson’s roads, trails and waterways than ever before. Sponsored league-branded jerseys will make those efforts visible whenever

teams are working on their assigned routes. A hoped-for ‘nudge’ effect would be to make anyone traveling through Thompson think twice before casually dropping food wrappers, beverage containers or vape cartridges out of the car window, after seeing the Litter Leaguers at work. Litter League may also provide a wellness boost through increased outdoor activity, in a manner accessible for all fitness levels.”

Penn-Gesek also stressed how this competition will hopefully inspire more volunteerism from the already-active locals in Thompson. The hope is that the Litter League will become yet another clean-up tradition that brings out the best in the Thompson community each year.

“The importance of volunteerism and local business sponsors for these grassroots initiatives cannot be overstated. Without the dedication of local residents and business owners, innovations like Litter League would never get beyond the ideas phase. The

Nips for Holiday Cheer program saw 45 Thompson residents spending five months clearing those nuisance miniature bottles off local roads in 2020, garnering notice across the State and financial sponsorship from as far away as Fairfield County. We hope to have similar results from Litter League, possibly inspiring other communities to follow suit with their own programs. Who knows, maybe in a few years Connecticut could be home to the first Litter League ‘World Series,’” Penn-Gesek said.

Sponsors for the first season of the Thompson Litter League include The Last Green Valley, Bank Hometown, Airbrush Shack, Jezierski Plumbing and Heating, Linda’s House Pediatric Daycare, Lord Thompson Manor and Thompson Wine & Spirits. Participants can sign up as individuals or as a team by contacting the Thompson Recreation Department at 860-923-9440 or emailing recreation@thompsonct.org.

New art exhibit spotlights a “Hidden Treasure”

WOODSTOCK — There are many hidden treasures in the Quiet Corner, but this art exhibit at the Loos Gallery in Woodstock featured just one, the Palmer Arboretum in Woodstock.

In 1914, Minnie Palmer Dean bought land on Woodstock Hill and started an Arboretum and built Palmer Memorial Hall in honor of her father and grandfather. When completed, she offered them to the town of Woodstock, but the gift was refused. Minnie was a determined and resourceful lady, and left them to the town in her will! They were then accepted by the town. The Hall now houses the Woodstock Historical Society and the Arboretum is open to the public.

Minnie would have been very pleased to attend the reception that heralded the opening of the art exhibit

on July 21 at the Loos Gallery. All of the works were inspired by perceptions of the Arboretum. Many of the works were created by students at The Woodstock Academy who had visited the Arboretum during their art classes and used what they noticed for their pictures. The display emphasized the details of form, color and texture that are often overlooked but, when recorded, prompt us to be more mindful of our surroundings.

The exhibit was the brainchild of Sara Dziejdzic, and the result of the labor and design skills of Rachael Budd. They are on the Committee for the Palmer Arboretum and Rachael is the Director of the Loos Gallery and an art teacher at The Woodstock Academy.

Members of the Art League of North East Connecticut had also visited the



Arboretum and displayed works in a variety of media that included paintings, photographs and wire sculptures.

The Quiet Corner Garden Club donated many stunning arrangements of flowers from their gardens. These could be purchased for a donation and most found an appreciative home.

The art exhibit will be on display through September and can be visited

every Thursday evening between 4-6:00 pm. Many of the works are for sale and the price list is available at the Loos Gallery.

The Arboretum is free and open from dawn to dusk so everyone is encouraged to take a break from your routines and burdens and relax in a peaceful and bird-filled retreat.

KuruKuru Ramen Shop welcomed to CLiCK

WINDHAM — Now that KuruKuru Ramen Shop has had close to a dozen successful pop-up events, they are determined to make the most of everything!

For the KuruKuru Ramen Shop team, brother and sister Gino and Jesi Bolandrina (Douglas High School alumni 2012 and 2009, respectively) plus Jesi’s fiancé Nick Pietroniro of Connecticut, sharing a new kind of ramen experience remains highly anticipated.

CLiCK held Local Eats & Beats on July 8 and welcomed KuruKuru Ramen Shop. The outdoor event boasted local food, local music and local fun at their Windham location. Attendees enjoyed their favorite bowl of KuruKuru Ramen while listening to live music.

Chief Executive Officer Nick Pietroniro is a hands-on owner.

“I like meeting every single customer,” Pietroniro said.

When he came up with the name KuruKuru Ramen Shop, he stated, “I like the idea of something constantly revolving. KuruKuru translates into ‘round and round.’ We are constantly trying



new things, evolving and learning to get better. It’s also a happy coincidence that the hiragana also looks like a sideways heart, which goes along with the way we want to put our positive energy and love with each bowl.”

Membership in CLiCK is their newest thing. CLiCK is a multi-cultural, multi-service kitchen connecting farmers, chefs, and food lovers. CLiCK producers buy local ingredients, support local farms, and help grow the local Windham County economy. As a member of CLiCK, KuruKuru Ramen Shop creates value added products at CLiCK’s commercially licensed kitchen.

According to CLiCK’s Web site, “Farmers can extend the season for local produce, utilizing farm seconds, and increasing

farm profits. CLiCK supports and enhances local food sovereignty, empowering local growers and contributing to a cleaner, climate-conscious, democratic food system.”

Both Pietroniro and the Bolandrinas are excited with their newest collaboration with CLiCK. For more information visit <https://www.kurukururamen.com/> or email info@kurukururamen.com

About CLiCK Grow, Cook, Share: Recognizing the historical and institutional injustices of the American food system, CLiCK aims to grow a locally based, just, healthy, and sustainable food economy. <https://clickwillimantic.com/> 860-786-7907 Clickwillimantic@gmail.com

Matthew Weiss named to President’s List at Western New England University

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Thompson resident, Matthew Weiss, has been named to Western New England University’s President’s List for the Spring 2022 semester.

Weiss, who is working toward a BS in Health Sciences/Pre-Physician Assistant Concentration, is one of over 250 students who achieved this mark of academic excellence. Students are named to the President’s List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.80 or higher.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE’s 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Emmanuel College announces Dean’s List

BOSTON, Mass. — In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College in Boston has named nearly 800 students to the Dean’s List for the Spring 2022 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean’s List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester. Local students honored include: Alec Erskine of Woodstock Valley Molly O’Connor of Woodstock Valley

Jillian Romagnano of Putnam Renee Auger of Woodstock Kennedy Davignon of Woodstock Richard Hickson of Woodstock

Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston’s educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling 2,00 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and career opportunities throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated faculty, and participation in a dynamic campus community. Emmanuel’s more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and substantive learning experiences that honor the College’s Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century education.

Duun O’Hara named to St. Lawrence University Dean’s List

CANTON, N.Y. — Duun O’Hara from Woodstock has been named to St. Lawrence University’s Dean’s List for achieving academic excellence during the Spring 2022 semester.

O’Hara is a member of the Class of 2022 and is majoring in Hispanic studies and government. To be eligible for the Dean’s List, a student must have completed at least four courses and have an academic average of 3.6 based on a 4.0 scale for the semester.

About St. Lawrence University Founded in 1856, St. Lawrence University is a private, independent liberal arts institution of about 2,500 students located in Canton, New York. The educational opportunities at St. Lawrence inspire students and prepare them to be critical and creative thinkers, to find a compass for their lives and careers, and to pursue knowledge and understanding for the benefit of themselves, humanity and the planet. Through its focus on active engagement with ideas in and beyond the classroom, a St. Lawrence education leads students to make connections that transform lives and communities, from the local to the global. Visit www.stlawu.edu.

HONORED



Photo Courtesy

Two Putnam Rotarians received Paul Harris Plus pins recognizing their level of support to the Rotary Foundation. Marc Archambault, left, received the Paul Harris Plus 3 pin and Roberta Rocchetti, center, received the Paul Harris Plus 1 pin. The pins were presented by Missy Meyers, Putnam Rotary Club president, right.

HILL

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be mental and psychological implications? Of course. But today’s medicine could very likely succeed in preserving both lives.

The sum of the matter is this: it is a doctor’s sworn duty to save patient’s lives,

not to end them. To equate abortion, which purposefully ends lives, with health care measures undertaken to preserve lives of both mothers and their unborn babies, is a miscarried narrative at best. As the article published on the USCCB Web link cites, and I quote, “The federal Emergency

Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act recognizes the unborn child as a patient, not as an unwanted medical condition... the hospital must stabilize the condition of mother and child.”

SUSAN EMERSON-HILL
THOMPSON

WESLER

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received millions of erroneous votes, yet he was unable to find the evidence and did not do more to see that the commission he himself appointed did more to uncover the truth. He also so foresaw that the voting system was corrupt in the spring of 2020 stating that mail in ballots “are fraudulent in many cases” yet failed to do anything to prevent it. This despite the fact that lesser candidates, ranging from United States Senators to state and local officials, found no malfeasance in any other 2020 contest.

Now there is January 6th investi-

gation, and the widespread claims by former administration officials testifying that Trump was culpable. There is William Barr (who also wrote his own book), former Attorney General’s assertion that any suggestion that the 2020 election was manipulated was “bullshit.” The President shot back that Barr was a “RHINO” and that his “weakness helped facilitate the cover up of the Crime of the Century, the Rigged 2020 Presidential Election!”

Trump said of Cassidy Hutchinson, a former assistant to Chief of Staff Mark Meadows, “Her biggest job duty with us was making sure we had Diet Coke in the kitchen, and on at least two occasions, she brought in Diet Pepsi. Total

failure. The kids say, she’s a 10 but and I can’t go that far...She’s a 6...” Former deputy press secretary Sarah Matthews testified that the President’s tweets on January 6th were akin to “pouring gasoline on the fire and making it much worse.” She was so incensed that she resigned that night. Trump tweeted “But wasn’t this the same Sarah Matthews, who I don’t know, that said such nice things about me on January 20th-or long after January 6th.”

It was also pointed out that during that day multiple GOP congressmen and even Fox News personalities were pleading with the White House in an effort to get the President to deescalate what they felt was a dangerous situation but which the President and (most Republicans today) recognize as a peaceful demonstration by true patriots.

And of course, there was his hand-picked second in command, Vice President Pence, who said Mr. Trump was wrong to suggest he had the right to overturn the election.

Odds are that Donald Trump will

WILLIAMS ET AL

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of chewing. Just left on the ground. We tried to think of another possible explanation, but could only attribute this horrible scene to human disturbance.

Why is it so important to look, but not pick on a nature sanctuary? Are rules such as no collecting of any plant or animal species, no dogs on the trails, or leave no trace behind just made by “uptight killjoys” that don’t allow people to enjoy the property? NO, NO, and again NO!!! The very definition of a nature sanctuary is “an area in which the fauna and flora are protected from disturbance.” These special places function to protect biodiversity and provide a place for wildlife and plants to flourish. They are not recreation areas for humans. We are grateful guests honored with the privilege of witnessing the wonders of our natural world with limits on human activity.

TAYLOR

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Most conversations recently begin with questions about the January 6th coup attempt. The most common one is, “why hasn’t Trump been indicted and put on trial?” Trump’s culpability is obvious to them and they question the quality, fairness and effectiveness of our courts and justice system.

I try to explain the polarization, the anti-intellectual and anti-science elements in society, the failure of the economic system to adequately compensate the middle and lower classes, the obsession with tax cuts and the Constitutional peculiarities that allow Congress to ignore the wishes of the majority.

I explain America’s devotion to individual rights and freedoms when confronted with astonishment at the extraordinary level of gun violence and gun ownership in the States. More than one new Canadian friend responded that Canadians are much freer than Americans. When I ask them to explain, they say that the freedom to be safe from mass shooters and widespread violence is more important to them than the freedom to own weapons of war. That the original meaning and intent of our Second Amendment has been perverted by the Supreme Court seems obvious to them.

In response, many of your readers will say, “so what? Who cares what foreigners think? After all, America is the greatest nation on Earth, and is exceptional.” In reply, I would point out

that the perception of the strength of the American democracy, by both our friends and our enemies, is critically important to our national security.

Just in case your readers suspect that I’m only talking to Canadians who share my political inclinations, I’ve listened to retired folks, construction workers, teachers, a substance abuse counselor, a landscaper, waitstaff, store clerks, a cardiologist and IT professionals. Many of them volunteer that they are conservatives. I’m visiting a province led by a Conservative government. However, conservatism in Canada is more aligned with traditional conservatism, not the radical, reactionary politics adopted by our Republican Party. Canadian conservatives would be labeled “socialist” or “Marxist” or “Communist” by GOP adherents in the US.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
KILLINGLY

SWEETNAM

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“Every child a wanted child.” I think that’s what God wants.

I don’t believe it’s loving, Christian, or God’s Will to force every pregnancy to a live birth. A fifth of pregnancies end in miscarriage. Is God murdering babies? Not by my beliefs.

G. LESLIE SWEETNAM
WOODSTOCK

**AQUATIC TREATMENT
WITCHES WOODS LAKE
WOODSTOCK, CT**

In accordance with the Connecticut DEEP, Pesticide Division notification requirements, portions of Witches Woods in Woodstock will be chemically treated with US EPA/ CT DEEP registered herbicides and algaecides to control nuisance aquatic vegetation on **Thursday, July 28, 2022**. Witches Woods will be treated with Copper Sulfate and Nautique (copper). Please note that there are no water use restrictions for this treatment.

This work is being performed for the Witches Wood Tax District. Treatments are conducted pursuant to permits issued by the CT DEEP. Information on

the specific date of application may be obtained from the person named below. The treatment is being performed by the state licensed firm SOLitude Lake Management of Shrewsbury, MA. Contact: (508)865-1000. July 29, 2022

**Town of Thompson
Board of Assessment Appeals
LEGAL NOTICE**

Citizens of Thompson are hereby informed that the Board of Assessment Appeals for the Town of Thompson will hold its sessions on the following dates: September 1st, 2022 6:00 – 8:00 pm, 2nd Floor Town Hall
September 8th, 2022 6:00 – 8:00 pm, 2nd Floor Town Hall

be the 2024 Republican candidate. Many Republicans believe that he was America’s greatest President, and most believe that the 2020 election was stolen from him. They feel that it is his businessman acumen that makes him so effective. They view him as an effective leader who cares deeply for the country. But how could he have surrounded himself with so many liars, thieves and beggars? How could the man that many agree is a genius fail so miserably in finding qualified subordinates? What made so many who served under a gentleman of such magnanimous mettle and who had intimate knowledge of his inner workings, transform into RHINO, anti-MAGA, Trump Derangement syndrome sufferers? Could this happen again?

Wait a second...
Perhaps...
Just maybe... there is a more plausible explanation...

LEE WESLER
WOODSTOCK

Sadly, it will be a long time before we have the opportunity to witness the beauty of a Yellow Lady’s-slipper on the Bafflin Sanctuary. The probability is that we never will. By destroying the plants at their bases, leaves and all, the lady’s-slippers cannot feed themselves. They will be starved to death – a treasure needlessly lost to all of us...

Signed,

BEN WILLIAMS
CAS FOUNDING BOARD MEMBER

SARAH HEMINWAY
CAS DIRECTOR NORTHEAST REGION

ANDY RZEZNIKIEWICZ
CAS BAFFLIN SANCTUARY LAND
MANAGER

CHERYL DZURA-DUKE
MASTER NATURALIST
CITIZEN SCIENTIST



LEGALS

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETINGS

of the Corporators of The Woodstock Academy on **Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 6:30 PM** and of the Trustees of The Woodstock Academy on **Tuesday, August 16, 2022 at 7:00 PM**. Meetings of the Corporators and the Trustees of The Woodstock Academy will be held on August 16, 2022 beginning at 6:30 PM in the Loos Center on South Campus. Julie Woodland, Executive Assistant to the Head of School
The Woodstock Academy Board of Trustees
July 29, 2022

NOTIFICATION OF

Notice is hereby given that a Primary of the political party listed below will be held in Woodstock, CT on August 9, 2022 for nomination to each office indicated below.

OFFICE	PARTY	CANDIDATE
U.S.Senator	Republican	*Themis Klarides Leora R. Levy Peter Lumaj
Secretary of State	Republican	*Dominic Rapini Brock Weber Terrie E. Wood

Notice is also hereby given that the following are the names of the party-endorsed candidates, if any, for nomination to each office indicated, together with the street address of said candidate. The party endorsed candidates,

OFFICE	PARTY	CANDIDATE
Secretary of State	Democratic	*Stephanie Thomas Maritza Bond
Treasurer	Democratic	*Erick Russell Dita Bhargava Karen DuBois-Walton

if any, are indicated by an asterisk. Additionally, the following are the names of all other candidates who have filed their certificates of eligibility and consent to primary or have satisfied the primary petitioning requirements in

ADDRESS
66 Governors Way, Madison, CT. 06443 59 Pecksland Rd., Greenwich, CT. 06831 745 Mill Plain Rd., Fairfield, CT. 06824 4 Mariners Way, Branford, CT. 06405 17 Lancewood Ln., Wolcott, CT. 06716 50 Saint Nicholas Rd., Darien, CT. 06820
81 William St., Norwalk, CT. 06851 784 Quinpiac Ave., New Haven, CT. 06513
215 Stevenson Rd., New Haven, CT. 06515 502 Cognewaugh Rd., Greenwich, CT. 06807 58 Pearl St., New Haven, CT. 06513

Such sessions are held solely for appeals on Motor Vehicles. The appeal forms are available on the Town of Thompson’s web site under the Assessor’s office. If you need a form mailed, please call the Assessor’s office at 860-923-2259. Sessions will be held in the Assessor’s Office, 2nd floor at the Town Hall located at 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT.

Notice given of sessions to conform to Section 12-110 of the General Statutes of the State of Connecticut. Board of Assessment Appeals
Erica Groh – Chairman
Daniel Santerre
Robert Pederson
July 29, 2022

conformity with the General Statutes as candidates for nomination to each office indicated, together with the street addresses of said candidates.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut, this 22 day of June, 2022.
DENISE W. MERRILL SECRETARY OF THE STATE

The foregoing is a copy of the notice which I have received from the Office of the Secretary of the State, in accordance with Section 9-433 of the General Statutes. As provided in said notice, a primary of the referenced party for nomination to the state or district offices therein specified will be held on August 9, 2022. The hours of voting at said primary and the location of the polls will be as follows:

HOURS OF VOTING: 6:00 A.M. TO 8:00 P.M.	LOCATION OF POLLING PLACE	VOTING DISTRICT
	Woodstock Middle School 147B Route 169 Woodstock CT	1 (50)
	Woodstock Middle School 147B Route 169 Woodstock CT	2 (52)

Absentee Ballots will be counted at 147B, Route 169 Woodstock CT 06281

Dated at Woodstock CT this 22 day of June, 2022.
Attest: Judy E. Walberg Town Clerk of Woodstock
July 29, 2022

OBITUARIES

Chad Gordon Mauer, 48

Chad Gordon Mauer, 48 of North Franklin, CT, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving nurses on Monday, July 18, 2022 due to complications of a traumatic brain injury he sustained 31 years ago. Son of his mother Cathy Taylor of Putnam and the late Gordie Mauer. He was born in Putnam on May 5, 1974.

Chad was a very curious child who was always interested in finding an answer to everything. He attended school in Putnam and high school at Woodstock Academy

He played baseball for Citizens Bank in the Putnam Little League and football for the Redskins in WPTP. As a teenager he was able to work with his family at three different jobs: painting with his mother for her painting and wallpaper business, his uncle Skip restoring his charter boat "The Lady," and on the die cutter for his father at Windham Container. He was a risk taker and



always looking for the next prank to pull to make you laugh.

For the past 21 years he lived at a group home on Holton Rd in North Franklin. He was loved and cared for by so many amazing nurses and staff members who treated him as their own family and would do anything for him.

Besides his mother Cathy, he leaves his step father Doug Taylor of Putnam, step mother Jeanine Mauer of Putnam, brother Eric Mauer and his wife Rachelle of Woodstock and their children Jack and Olivia, step siblings Torie Follett of Smithfield, RI, Doug Taylor of Nashville, TN, and Jen Gauthier of Putnam. Besides his father Gordie he is predeceased by his uncle Stuart Mauer.

A Celebration of Life will be Saturday, July 30, 2022 at 11:00 AM at the Living Faith United Methodist Church of Putnam, 53 Grove Street, Putnam, CT. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Chad's memory to the Living Faith United Methodist Church of Putnam, 53 Grove Street, Putnam, CT. Share a memory at SmithandWalkerfh.com

Constance R. LaFleur, 96

Constance R. LaFleur passed away on July 16, 2022, in Putnam, Connecticut, at the age of 96. She was the daughter of Hugh and Bertha (Graves) Carragher, and lived most of her life in the Killingly/Brooklyn area. She was predeceased by her husband Leo J. LaFleur in 1995. She is survived by two sons from her 1st marriage, A. Richard Herklots II, MD, and his wife Lynn of Danielson, and William P. Herklots and his wife Kandy of Reston, VA, two grandchildren Sarah L. Herklots of Medford, MA, and Michael A. Herklots and his wife Tiffany of Ridgewood, NJ, and two great grandchildren Rose and Audrey. She is also survived by her stepson Ronald LaFleur and his wife Karen of Ft. Lauderdale, FL, step grandchildren



Kimberly Walker of Washington and Michael LaFleur of Florida and step great grandchildren. She is survived by her sister Paula Wood of South Portland, ME, as well as several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by seven siblings. Her career included the position of Secretary to the Plant Manager of Knox Glass (Dayville) and Office Manager/Treasurer of Columbia Research (Pomfret). She later served as a Court Monitor in the Connecticut State Court system. Over the years, Connie knitted more than 100 beautiful and unique Christmas stockings for family and friends. She also had two children's stories published among many that she wrote. Funeral services will be held privately for the immediate family. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at: stjude.org.tilling-hastfh.com

George W. Brown, 73

Woodstock - George W. Brown, 73, of Woodstock Rd, passed away unexpectedly at his home, Thursday, July 21, 2022. He was the loving husband



of Pamela (Bourque) Brown for 44.5 years. He was born on January 26, 1949, the son of the late George Jr. and Barbara (Marvin) Brown. George was a 1967 graduate of Woodstock Academy, a 1975 graduate of Eastern CT State College, and a 1995 graduate of the University of CT School of Nursing. George worked as an emergency room nurse at Harrington Hospital, retiring in 2016. He also served in the United States Army from 1967 to 1970, completing a tour in Vietnam, and serving in Germany. He was a past chief and lifetime member of the Muddy Brook Fire Department having served

55 years. He was an active member of the East Woodstock Congregational Church, and an active member of the Danielson Veterans Coffeehouse.

He will be remembered for his great love of his family and friends, his country, his church, and his community.

In addition to his wife Pamela, George is survived by his children, Kristen Brown and her fiancé Ryan Garceau, and Emily Mleko and her husband Adam; his granddaughter, Ava Mleko; and his siblings, Susan Converse, and David Brown. He is predeceased by his sister, the late Sharon Neely.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 am on Friday, July 29, 2022 in the East Woodstock Congregational Church, 220 Woodstock Rd, East Woodstock, CT 06244.

Memorial donations may be made to the Muddy Brook Fire Department, P.O. Box 222, East Woodstock, CT 06244, or to the Veteran's Coffeehouse, c/o The Putnam Elks Lodge, 64 Edmonds St, Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guest-book visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Gordon C. Mauer "Gordie", 75

Gordon C. Mauer "Gordie", 75 of Putnam, passed away Monday, July 18, 2022 at his home with his family by his side. He was the beloved husband of Jeanine (Beausoleil) Mauer. Son of the late Glen and Betty (Furman) Mauer, he was born in Albany, NY on March 12, 1947.



He graduated from Proctor Academy in NH and received a bachelor's degree from William Penn College in Iowa. He moved back to Putnam in 1972 to become a salesman at his family business, Windham Container, with his parents and brother Skip. Gordon purchased the business in 1990 and was an active owner until his untimely passing. The company and his loyal employees were his life. He was an official with the (ECFO) Eastern Connecticut Football Officials for 45 years, Eastern CT Softball Umpires for 20 years, offi-

ciating softball and volleyball locally with the Putnam Rec Department. Gordie enjoyed spending time with his family and his yearly family vacations during July 4th shutdown. He also enjoyed making you laugh even if it was at your own expense.

Besides his wife Jeanine of Putnam, he leaves his children, Chad Mauer of Franklin, Eric Mauer and his wife Rachelle of Woodstock, Jen Gauthier and her husband Rob of Putnam, three grandchildren Jake, Jack and Olivia. He was predeceased by his brother Stuart Mauer.

The Funeral Service was held on Saturday, July 23, 2022 at 11:00 AM at the Living Faith United Methodist Church of Putnam, 53 Grove Street, Putnam, CT. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Gordon's memory to the ECFO, 72 Rimek Road, Lisbon, CT 06351. Share a memory at SmithandWalkerfh.com

Richard C. Perry

Richard (Pitou) Perry passed away peacefully on June 23, 2022 at Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam, CT. Richard was a proud veteran who served in the U.S. Army as a radio operator. Richard enjoyed spending time with his family and his long-time companion, Barbara Girard. His hobbies included restoring old furniture, fishing, and going to yard sales on the weekends.



He was born in Killingly on June 10, 1938. His parents were Edmond and Albina Perry. Richard is survived by his son Jason Perry and his long-time companion Barbara Girard.

Richard is predeceased by a daughter, Linda Perry.

He also leaves a sister, Gloria LaPointe and a brother, Peter Perry and several nieces and nephews.

He is predeceased by brothers Eugene Paris, Edward Perry, and Arthur Perry and by sisters Ellarose Couture, Beatrice La Bella and Doris Creamer and his best friend Joe (Buffalo) Rondeau.

Richard was a kind and giving person. If someone brought him a piece of furniture to restore, he would make sure he got it just right. He would make it look original. The pleasure for him was not to charge anything.

In his earlier days he would be there to help or at least offer, no matter what needed to be done.

His family was everything to him and he will be missed by all. Rest in peace until we meet again.

Love, Your Family. There are no calling hours scheduled. Burial is private at the discretion of the family.

Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Richard.

William Stephen Hopkins, 98

At an early morning hour twelve days after his 98th birthday, William Stephen Hopkins drew his last breath.



He was born in Troy, NY, the only son of the late William Shattuck Hopkins and Etta Eugenia (Patton) Hopkins, and it was there he received his childhood education. Following high school graduation, he joined the Coast Guard and served on the Homefront in the war that defined his generation. He used the GI bill to become one of the first four men to graduate from Russell Sage College (B.A. Sociology). His academic career then took him to Oneonta State Teachers College (M.S. Elementary Education). He taught for five years, first on Long Island and then back in his hometown. His next degree, from Syracuse University (M.S. Library Science), was his last, but would launch a thirty-five-year career, working first on a bookmobile for the New Hampshire State Library and the Southern Adirondack Library System, then as a reference librarian in a number of colleges.

Music was the joy of Bill's life and he came of age in the era of the Big Bands. He learned to play the trombone as a

boy and a highlight of being stationed in NYC during the war was the night he played with Les Brown's Band of Renown, replacing a trombonist who had fallen ill. He also had a deep appreciation for classical and choral music and throughout his life he joined his beautiful tenor voice with others in the choirs of Episcopal churches he attended. Spare time was devoted to a lifelong fascination with the wonders of electricity and a practical talent at woodworking.

He is survived by his daughters Johanna Wolfe and her husband Roger, of Eastford, CT, Jean Schmick and her husband Robert, of Bangor, ME, and Rebecca Hopkins of Blue Hill, ME. Each daughter gave him two grandchildren and they are Christian Wolfe (wife Sarah) of Woodstock, CT and Meryl Wolfe of Eastford, CT, Gabe and Genevieve Schmick, of Bangor, ME and 2nd Lt Alex Severnyak, USMC, of Frederick, MD and Cpl. Maxim Severnyak, USMC, (wife April) of Richlands, NC. He was predeceased in 2008 by his wife of 47 years, Margery (Stroud) Hopkins and by his older sister Edith (Hopkins) Tarbet.

A graveside service for William will be held Saturday, October 22, 2022 at 11:00 am at the Mayflower Cemetery in Duxbury, MA. In lieu of flowers, a memorial donation may be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. For an online memorial guestbook, please visit www.potterfuneralhome.com

Judy Shippee, 73

Judy Shippee, 73, of Quinebaug, CT, passed away peacefully after a long illness on July 6, 2022, comforted by her loving family. Born January 11, 1949 in St. John's, Newfoundland.



Judy is predeceased by her parents Margaret & Chesley Gorman, brother Herb, sister's Carol Ann, Marie and Margaret.

She will always be remembered for the love for her family, her big heart and her generosity. She enjoyed spending time with family, being a Nana, celebrating birthdays and being a 'Newfie'.

Judy is finally at peace, no longer suffering. She will be missed and remembered always by all family and friends.

Love you always! Donations may be made in Judy's memory to St. Jude Children's Hospital, PO Box 1000, Memphis, TN 38101-9908. Funeral services are private and have been entrusted to Smith and Walker Funeral Home. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

CANNING

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one to drill or mine on some of the most pristine areas of our country, polluting our water and destroying our land. In national surveys, the majority of Americans have voiced serious reservations regarding drilling, specifically in the ocean, believing they would rather swim and fish in salt water rather than oil. Many of us recall the oil spill disasters of the past, but we are not being made aware of the numerous current underwater oil leaks. It appears easy to look to blame someone for \$5 gasoline, but since we have some of the cheapest

gasoline in the world, we should give thanks to the current administration for our cheap gasoline prices; and then wonder who we can you blame for the higher gasoline prices in other nations. We know the cost of gas, oil and coal is far cheaper in the US than in almost all industrial countries, and has been cheaper here for many years: here are the current gasoline prices per gallon in a dozen of the world's most industrialized countries:

- Hong Kong \$11.35
- Norway \$10.22
- Denmark \$10.22
- Finland \$10.08
- Greece \$9.49
- Netherlands \$9.33
- United Kingdom \$8.39
- Spain \$8.35

- France \$8.27
- Italy \$8.01
- Israel \$7.94
- Germany \$7.65

Those prices, of course, have caused many of these countries, over the past years to reduce their dependence on gasoline and oil and begin to transition to renewable sources.

The question perhaps, is not who is to blame, but rather, is it actually a good idea to continue to produce as much fossil fuel as possible, or should we move more quickly to develop additional renewable sources for our own well being and for the generations to come.

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