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- Oprah Winfrey

WOODSTOCK VILLAGER

Friday, March 24, 2023

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Day Kimball seeks new partnership opportunities after Covenant bows out

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

KILLINGLY — The leadership team at Day Kimball Healthcare, Inc., is looking forward to exploring its next partnership opportunities after an unsuccessful proposed affiliation with Covenant Health, Inc.

Day Kimball Healthcare CEO Kyle Kramer and his team were disappointed by the recent announcement that Covenant Health had exited the proposed partnership. A public hearing on the proposal had been set for April 4 at Putnam Town Hall, but it was canceled after the announcement.

Despite their disappointment over receiving

the news, Kramer and the rest of the Day Kimball Healthcare family are pivoting quickly to explore the next potential opportunities for affiliation.

"We have a strong board and leadership team, and we will work closely with our entire staff throughout this process," Kramer said. "These are the times where we learn and grow the most."

Known throughout the region as "Our Hospital on the Hill," Day Kimball Hospital has served patients from northeastern Connecticut, southern Massachusetts, and western Rhode Island for 129 years. Generations of area residents have relied upon the hospital's services in their times

of need, but mounting financial challenges have forced hospital leaders to seek a partnership to ensure that it remains a linchpin of local healthcare.

"The plight of small and rural facilities has been exceptionally challenging regardless, but add on the complications of the pandemic and it has gotten much harder," added Kramer, who has served as the CEO of Day Kimball Healthcare since August 2020.

For the past decade, the hospital has explored the feasibility of potential affiliations with hospital systems throughout the area. Many of these opportunities were ruled

Turn To **DAY KIMBALL** page **A9**



Courtesy

WOODSTOCK ACADEMY STUDENT RUNNER UP IN LEGION SPEECH CONTEST

The Woodstock Academy senior Owen Bland (second from left) recently participated in The American Legion Department of Connecticut Constitutional Oratorical contest that was held at the State Police Academy in Meriden. Bland, who represented Post #11 of Woodstock and the 4th District, finished as the contest runner up, and was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. Pictured are (left to right) John Barry, 4th District Commander; Bland; Charles Crowley, District #4 contest chairman and Commander of Post #21 of Danielson; and contest committeeman Ronald P. Coderre, Past Commander of Post #13 Putnam and District #4.

Thompson to host commercial real estate networking event

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

THOMPSON — For the second year, Thompson will host a Commercial Real Estate Networking Group with the goal of promoting the town as a growing business community.

Over the last decade, and especially during the 2020s, Thompson has made strides to draw attention to its vacant buildings and mill properties as primary spots for growing businesses. In 2022, the town was chosen as one of numerous host towns for a networking group of commercial realtors to showcase giving officials the chance to show Thompson's viability to professionals responsible for connecting businesses with potential new homes and communities. Thompson will once again be a host community in a year that has already started off strong in terms of economic development.

After experiencing the closure of both Superior Bakery and St. Joseph's School Thompson was successfully able to attract new businesses to fill those vacancies quickly. The town has also continued to promote its plans for 65 Main St., which is expected to

be home to a new business incubation center to further bolster the town's economic growth.

Tyra Penn-Gesek, Thompson's Director of Planning & Development, told the Economic Development Commission in March that the networking opportunity will present Thompson with a chance to draw in more interest.

"This year, because we're planning on doing the marketing of Main Street campaign, I want to kick it off doing a walking tour of Main Street, leaving from Jill & G's and pointing out that we have the approved developments both in the apartments at St. Josephs and the redevelopment of Superior Bakery which is going to include some office space for rent when they get up there, showing the 65 Main project and then maybe identifying a couple of those smaller parcels which would have been previously unbuildable that are now buildable for infill development just to sort of get people interested," Penn-Gesek said.

Thompson previously hosted the networking group in May of 2022 at Lord Thompson Manor. This year's gathering will also take place in May with the old Jill & G's building serving as the meeting location.

Woodstock repeals Proposition 46

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — For more than 40 years, the town of Woodstock has utilized a town ordinance to limit the spending cap for the town's municipal budget. Known as Proposition 46, that ordinance has officially been repealed after citizens made their voices heard in a ballot vote on March 9.

Proposition 46 was enacted in 1979 and limited the "increase in the town's combined annual budget to revenue generated by growth in the Grand List, State and Federal assistance, and other income, except for increases voted upon by town meeting, necessary to cover debt service on legal obligations, court judgements against the

town, and state mandated program and emergency expenditures" according to the law's text. It also specified that in cases of property revaluation the increase on the combined budgets (town and education) would be limited to the dollar amount of the increase in the preceding year's spending plan or the average amount of increase over the three previous years, whichever number is lower. Simply put, Proposition 46 put a limit on how much the town could increase its spending plans based on specific areas of growth. The ordinance was named after the mill rate at the time of its approval and has been the subject of numerous repeal attempts in the past.

A citizen's petition brought the law back to

the voters again leading to a public hearing earlier in the month that adjourned to a referendum. Woodstock voters voices mixed opinions on the ordinance, some considering it a good tool to prevent abuse of the budgets while others felt it was too limiting especially during the difficult budget seasons of recent years.

A ballot vote saw participation from 34 percent of Woodstock taxpayers with a near-even split that barely repealed the long-standing law. The close vote saw 1,191 votes to repeal and 1,017 votes to preserve the ordinance effectively ending Proposition 46. A second question meant to waive Proposition 46 for the 2024 Fiscal Year if Question 1

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Killingly's Colangelo turns football success into track gold



Courtesy

Killingly High senior Noah Colangelo had an indoor track season to remember this winter, winning the 300-meter sprint at the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Championships and the Connecticut Class S Championships (in a time of 35.69 seconds). He also finished third in the event at the State Open, and seventh at the New Balance Nationals, where he set a school-record in the event (35.15 seconds).

SENIOR WINS 300-METER SPRINT AT CONN. CLASS S CHAMPIONSHIPS

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — From an athletic perspective, Noah Colangelo entered Killingly High School four years ago as a football guy. He's leaving the school as a track guy.

"I was always a football guy that ran track, but now I see myself as more of a track guy who also plays football," Colangelo said. "It's wild; there was never going to be a world where I didn't play football. I've been playing football since I was 10 years old."

Colangelo not only played football for coach Chad Neal at Killingly, but did so at a high level. He was key member of the school's 2021 undefeated Class M state championship team, as well as this year's Class MM state finalist team.

This season Colangelo played wide receiver, defensive back and returned kickoffs and punts. He finished the year as the team's second-leading receiver — 29 receptions for 750 yards (25.9 yards per catch) and 11 touchdowns. Colangelo was also second on the team in all-purpose yards (1,132). On defense he made 35 solo tackles, assisted on 12 others, and returned an interception for a touchdown. Colangelo also returned 13 kickoffs for 285 yards (21.9 yards per return) and five punts for 30 yards.

His recently-completed indoor track season was also successful. Competing in the 300-meter sprint for the first time, Colangelo made steady progress in the event all season, progress which ended in his winning the event at the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Championships and at the Connecticut Class S Championships, in a time of 35.69 seconds.

Colangelo also ran the 300 at the State Open meet, finishing third, and at the New England Championships, finishing seventh. At the New Balance Nationals — held in Boston on Saturday, March 11 — he finished 63rd. Entering the state competitions Colangelo's best time in the 300 this year was 37.05 seconds.

Colangelo's personal-best time in the event is a school-record 35.15 seconds, a clocking he accomplished at the New England Championships, which were held Saturday, March 4, at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston.

"A lot of others run the 300, so I decided to try it and, as it turns out, it was my best event this winter. Going into the season, I didn't think I was going to be good at the 300 but, once I tried, I realized I was good at it," Colangelo said. "When I get to a meet I look at the track — where the event starts and where it finishes — and it looks like such a long distance to sprint. But

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With record attendance, Irish Night raises \$24,000 for United Services children and family programs

WOODSTOCK — United Services celebrated its 20th Annual Irish Night with a record attendance of 160 people and raised more than \$24,000 for its Children and Family Programs on Friday, March 17 at The Mansion at Bald Hill in Woodstock.

The night included a gourmet corned beef and cabbage dinner, live Irish Step Dance performance from the Lee Irish Dance School and a silent auction featuring many exciting items, including local gift certificates, items and passes, sports memorabilia and trips to Hawaii, Ireland and more.

Event sponsors Mutual of America and Genoa

Healthcare, as well as Lake Road Generating and LDI helped to make the event a success. More than 40 local businesses donated items or gift certificates.

“United Services continues to see an increasing demand for these critical children and family programs, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said United Services President/CEO Diane L. Manning. “United Services is grateful for the tremendous community support we receive each year for Irish Night to help us to meet the community need.”

All proceeds benefitted United Services Children and Family Programs. These included United

Services Child Guidance Clinic, which provides family-centered treatment for children and their families, including an array of evidence-based programs to treat trauma and reduce the symptoms of PTSD. The Child Guidance Clinic has experienced a 45 percent increase in individuals served in the last two years.

Irish Night also benefitted United Services Domestic Violence Program, the only program in the region, which provides 24/7 emergency shelter and support and delivered 5,000 units of

Additional Children and Family Programs supported by Irish Night include the agency’s



in-home parenting programs, Kinship Care Support Group and its Youth Service Bureau

and Juvenile Review Board. The agency’s Juvenile Review Board has experienced a 155

percent increase in youth served in the last two years.

Woodstock PTO holds annual Basket Bash

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — The

Woodstock PTO hosted their annual Basket Bash on Saturday, March 18 raising money to support

programs and needs throughout the school district in their biggest year-

ly fundraiser.

In 2023, 106 baskets were donated by parents, local businesses and others filling the gym of Woodstock Middle School. Each year the raffles bring in

around \$10,000 to support the PTO’s mission to assist local students and schools. Participants could purchase tickets and take a chance on winning any of the themed baskets ranging from car care to tech

packages and personal experiences while larger, more valuable items were included at their own table. Emily Laprade and Julie MacDonald, event co-chairs, explained that all of the money will help pay for expenses not covered through the school district’s budget.

“This event supports all of the grades, K-8, supporting things like student planners, field trips, field day, different things the kids might need,” Laprade said. “This is our biggest fundraiser of the year. All of the money raised is 100 percent, dollar-for-dollar, put back into the schools through the PTO.”

The event even allowed the students to get involved in the process with each classroom having their own themed baskets for the raffles. MacDonald called it a true community effort to

make the event such a success.

“Each classroom donates a basket, so that’s half of it, and then our local community businesses have graciously donated their goods as well,” said MacDonald. “It’s a big deal. Getting these donations is big for us and brings in a lot of people. We have lots of great prizes, big ticket items, that help draw people in.”

The 2023 event also contained new features including a revamped format for informing participants who are not present of their winning. Even though nobody needed to be present to claim their prizes, the gym was still filled with supporters for the nearly two-hour livestream of the ticket pulls at the end of the day.

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The 2023 Woodstock PRO Basket Bash saw 106 prizes up for grabs to assist local students and schools.

TJ Espinosa headed to Elks Hoop Shoot National Finals

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Courtesy

Putnam brothers TJ (left) and Bryce Espinosa stand with their father, Tom, the head basketball coach at Putnam Science Academy, after competing at the Elks Hoop Shoot New England Region Championship, held Saturday, March 11, at the Gorham Campus of the University of Southern Maine.

PUTNAM—One year after coming up just short of winning the New England Region Championship of the Elks Hoop Shoot, 12-year-old TJ Espinosa, a seventh grader at Putnam Middle School, captured the New England

Region Championship, and with it a spot in the national final. Espinosa, competing in the 12-13 year-old division, sank 23 of 25 foul shots en route to winning the New England Region championship, which was held Saturday, March 11, at the Costello Sports Complex, which is located on the Gorham campus of the University of Southern Maine.

The 2023 Elks Hoop Shoot National Finals will take place at Chicago’s Wintrust Arena, Thursday-Sunday, April 20-23.

Espinosa, who represents the Putnam Elks Lodge No. 574, qualified for the New England Region Championship by winning a district championship in January and the Connecticut state title in February.

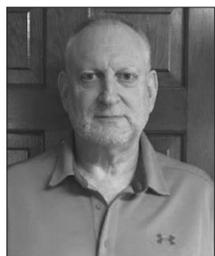
Bryce Espinosa, TJ’s younger brother, also competed in the New England Region Championship, in the 10-11 year-old division. Bryce Espinosa finished second in his age group after making 19-of-25 free throws.

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Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Senior VP adds Certified Divorce Financial Analyst to suite of Credentials



Leisl L. Cording

POMFRET CENTER/TOLLAND — Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors Senior Vice President and Financial Advisor Leisl L. Cording has added the designation of Certified Divorce Financial Analyst® to her suite of credentials, placing her among less than 50 financial professionals in the state of Connecticut to currently hold that designation.

“Earning this designation was really important to me because it’s such a critical skill set for helping people to set a path forward for themselves during and after a divorce,” Cording said. “Guiding my clients, and in particular women,

through life turning points like that is one of the most rewarding parts of what I do.”

Cording, who is also a CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ Practitioner, or CFP®, earned CDFA® certification from the Institute for Divorce Financial Analysts (IDFA™), the nation’s premier organization dedicated to the certification, education and promotion of the use of financial professionals in the divorce arena.

As a CDFA® professional, Cording has received specialized training in the field of pre-divorce financial planning and has demonstrated the knowledge and skills required to effectively help clients with divorce-related financial issues that will affect the rest of their lives. Such issues include differentiating between personal and marital property, valuing and dividing property, and dealing with issues related to retirement assets and pensions, as well as spousal and child support, tax law, and other financial issues affecting divorce.

“Leisl’s dedication to her client’s needs is admirable and her work on achieving the CDFA designation will help our firm’s

clients and prospects manage the financial uncertainties related to divorce,” said WHZ Principal, Managing Partner and Chief Goals Strategist James Zahansky, AWMA®. “Leisl’s experience and input in that regard now allows our entire advisory team as well as our client experience and client service teams to better help clients through these situations.”

Cording says that while going through divorce proceedings is undoubtedly a difficult time for clients, it’s also a critical time to ensure the proper steps are taken to plan well for the future.

“While it is a challenging topic and one that no one wants to be in the position to have to talk about, there are a lot of financial issues to sort through that ultimately will have a great impact on many different aspects of a person’s future and perhaps the future of their children as well,” Cording says.

“It’s a challenge I’ve helped many clients to work through already in my 15 years as a financial advisor and I’ve seen the impacts it can have, especially when I’m working with new clients who’ve already been through a divorce without the help and guidance of a financial professional,” she

says.

“That’s what prompted me to seek this designation. The knowledge and skills I’ve gained allow me to provide people going through a divorce with a much deeper analysis of how their financial situation may change, and to create a financial plan that gets them set up to move past those challenges and the divorce itself on a solid financial path to the future. And that’s really important and empowering for people at such a vulnerable time in their lives.”

The CDFA® certification is the latest in a string of recent achievements for Cording. Earlier this month she was featured in FORTUNE magazine as one of the nation’s “Five Star Wealth Managers Under Forty.” The article was in reference to her recent selection to receive the Five Star Wealth Manager Award for the second consecutive year in 2022, 2021 being the first year she was eligible for consideration.

(2022 Five Star Wealth Manager Award, created by Five Star Professional. Presented in November, 2022 based on data gathered between February, 2022 and September, 2022. 2,950 Connecticut

area advisors were considered, 290 (10 percent) of advisors were recognized. Advisors pay a fee to hold out marketing materials. Not indicative of advisor’s future performance. Your experience may vary. For more information, please visit www.fivestarpromotional.com.

The Five Star Award is the largest and most widely published wealth manager award program in the financial services industry. Among all Connecticut wealth managers who were eligible, Cording was one of just 290 – or 10 percent of all candidates – to receive the award, along with WHZ’s Principals/Managing Partners Laurence Hale, AAMS, CRPS® and James Zahansky AWMA®.

Cording’s accomplishments in the financial planning and wealth management space are especially impressive given her young age and the fact that only about 25 percent of wealth managers are women.

Cording was promoted to senior vice president at WHZ in February 2022, just three years after joining the firm. She has nearly 15 years of experience working with high-net-worth individuals in multiple areas of retirement, financial, and estate planning, and says she has a particular interest in helping early- and mid-career clients, particularly women, to balance and prioritize their financial goals.

WHZ was founded in Pomfret, Connecticut in 2006 as a fiduciary, independent investment firm. Today the firm offers wealth management and customized financial planning services to individuals, families, business owners and executives, and not-for-profit institutions in 25 states from its offices in Pomfret and Tolland. To learn more about Cording and WHZ, visit www.whzwealth.com.

Adam Sanderson of Woodstock Valley named to Champlain College President’s List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Adam Sanderson of Woodstock Valley has been named to the Champlain College President’s List for the Fall 2022 semester.

Students on the President’s List have achieved a grade point average of 4.0 or higher during the semester. Sanderson is currently enrolled in the Cybersecurity major.

Making the President’s List is a tremendous achievement in any year. Many of the high achievers balance their classes with serious jobs, internships, clubs, and volunteering, as well as a global pandemic. We congratulate you on this great accomplishment and honor.

Founded in 1878, Champlain College is a small, not-for-profit, private college in Burlington, Vermont, with additional campuses in Montreal, Canada, and Dublin, Ireland. From its beautiful campus overlooking Lake Champlain, the College offers an innovative academic experience and more than 100 residential and online programs, including undergraduate and graduate degrees and certificates. Champlain’s distinctive career-driven approach to higher education embodies the notion that true learning occurs when information and experience come together to create knowledge. For more information, visit champlain.edu.

Free literary event hosted by Pomfret Poets Laureate

POMFRET — Pomfret Poets Laureate Christine Kalafus and Nancy P. Weiss present “Women in Conversation,” a free literary event Saturday, April 1, 10 a.m. to noon in the Great Hall at Christ Church, 527 Pomfret St., Pomfret.

Featured readers are Kala Farnham, Christine Kalafus, Danielle Pieratti, Claudia Schmidt and Nancy P. Weiss.

Kala Farnham is an award-winning songwriter and the current Connecticut State Troubadour.

Christine Kalafus is an award-winning writer of poetry and prose, editor, and writing workshop instructor.

Danielle Pieratti is an educator, translator, and recipient of the Connecticut Book Award for Poetry.

Claudia Schmidt is a celebrated musician and singer with twenty-two albums.

Nancy P. Weiss is a poet and essayist with a long-running column in the Woodstock Villager.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

AT CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of March 13: American Woodcock, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Red-tailed Hawk, Hooded Merganser, Gray Catbird, Robin, Carolina Wren, House Finch, Song Sparrow, American Kestrel, Bluebird. Visit ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home.

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Woodstock Academy hockey beats Branford, advances to State Championship game

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

As it has done all season — but especially so in the postseason — the Woodstock Academy boys' hockey team's first line

made its presence felt in the second-seeded Centaurs' 8-5 victory over sixth-seeded Branford in a semifinal round game of the Connecticut Division II Boys Hockey Tournament, played on Wednesday, March 15 at the M&T Bank Arena at Quinnipiac University in Hamden.

All three first shifters — center Noah Sampson (three goals, one assist), right winger Maxx Corradi (three goals, three assists) and left winger Donny Sousa (one goal, four assists) — played prominent roles in 23-1 Woodstock's win over the Hornets. Team captain Jacob Jurnovoy scored the Centaurs' other goal.

The victory extended Woodstock's winning streak to 16 games and sent them to the Division II championship game, where the Centaurs faced top-seeded North Haven — the only team to beat them this year — on Tuesday, March 21, back at Quinnipiac. Woodstock Academy lost to North Haven, 5-1, on Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the Northford Ice Pavilion.

This year's appearance in the state final is Woodstock Academy's first since 2017, when it defeated Hall-Southington to capture the Division III state championship.

Woodstock dominated play in the win but the Hornets scored first, Matt

Morgan lighting the lamp just two minutes, eight seconds into the game, to stake Branford to a 1-0 lead.

"Our opponent scoring first is something that hasn't happened very often this year; when that has happened, we usually responded quickly," Woodstock Academy coach Mark Smolak said. "Sometimes we don't get our legs underneath us until we score our first goal."

The Centaurs tied things up, 1-1, on Sampson's first goal of the game, which he scored at the 4:05 mark of the period. In addition to it being the junior's 19th goal of the season, the goal was the 100th point of his Woodstock Academy hockey career.

"Noah is an amazing kid and an amazing player. He had a shortened freshman season because of COVID, so most of his points have come in the last two years," Smolak said. "Noah, with the way he plays, brings so much calm to our team. He really helps drive the play with his maturity, and the way he sees the ice. Noah sees plays develop in front of him. He's an incredible player and he's a good leader."

"Noah leads by example," Smolak continued. "He's not very vocal; in the two years I've known Noah I think I've heard him say two complete sentences. Anything I tell him about what I need to happen on the ice, he just says, 'yes coach,' and then he goes out and executes it."

Jurnovoy put the Centaurs ahead for good, 2-1, with his sixth goal of the season, which he scored about two minutes after Sampson tied the game. Sampson then scored again, 7:17 into the period, to push the WA lead to 3-1. Corradi extended the Woodstock lead to 4-1 with 7:13 remaining in the period.

The Centaurs led, 6-2, after two periods, thanks to goals by Sousa and Corradi. They pushed that lead to 8-2 early in the third period, on goals by Corradi and Sampson.

Branford scored three times in the final five minutes, 44 seconds of the period — twice when skating short-handed — to make the game seem closer than it was.

Smolak was not happy with how his team closed out the game.

"What happened at the end was we switched from playing team hockey to hero hockey. We had an issue where players decided, because we were up 8-2, to try and get their goals," Smolak said. "So, instead of using their teammates and trying to play the game the way we play it, some players tried to rush end to end and do whatever they could to get a

goal.

"We stopped playing defense, too," Smolak continued. "We left a Branford player, while they were on the penalty kill, on our blue line twice (in 90 seconds) and he scored both times once they got him the puck. We need to clean up our defensive end to make sure that doesn't happen against North Haven."

Smolak said the matter has been addressed.

"We beat Branford, 11-1, during the regular season. Because of that I think the kids had the mindset that we were going to walk all over them," Smolak said. "We got four goals in the first and two more in the second and we go into the third period with two kids looking for hat tricks and they get them in the first couple minutes to make it 8-2. So, I think that caused our back end to relax a little bit more than it should have."

Dioubate leads PSA to second straight National Prep Championship

WORCESTER, Mass. — Mouhamed Dioubate scored a team-high 14 points, pulled down seven rebounds, recorded three assists and made three blocks, while teammate Baye Ndongo hit two free throws with 0.3 seconds remaining to lead Putnam Science Academy (PSA) past Sunrise Christian Academy of Bel Aire, Kan., 80-76, in the final of the National Prep Championship, held Friday, March 10, at Clark University.

This is the second consecutive year PSA has captured the National Prep Championship. Last year the undefeated Mustangs defeated Northfield Mount Hermon, 72-54, to claim the title. Putnam Science finished last year 38-0. This is the fourth time in the last six years PSA has won the national championship.

"We've been working for this since August," the University of Alabama-bound Dioubate said after the game. "This is the best feeling ever. We faced a lot of adversity on this team, and we still faced it. They put us as the fourth seed; they didn't think we were going to win. And look what happened. We're the champs. Two times in a row."

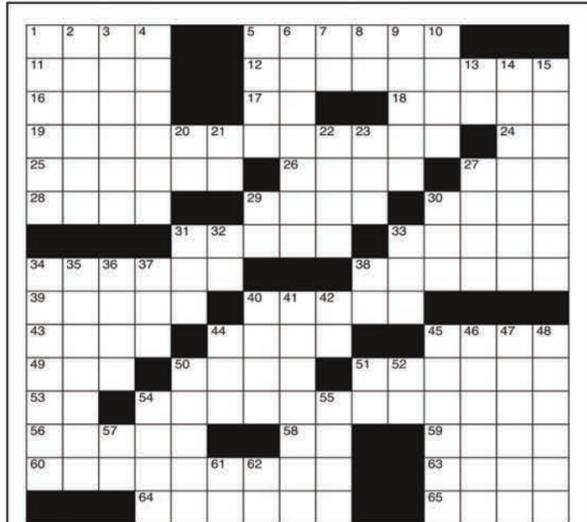
Dioubate, a key player off the bench last year in PSA's run to the title, was named tournament MVP this year.

Putnam Science, which led by 20 points at the midway point of the second half, saw its lead dwindle to a single point — 77-76 — with 40 seconds remaining in the game. At that point, with a chance to take the lead, the Buffaloes missed back-to-back 3-pointers.

The ball — after the second miss — ended up in the hands of PSA's Miles Rose, who was immediately fouled by a Sunrise player. Rose made one of two free throws to push the Mustangs' lead to 78-76, with 15.8 seconds remaining.

On its final possession Sunrise managed to penetrate into the lane for a game-tying shot, but Dioubate and teammate Oswin Erhumwunse collapsed on the shooter and simultaneously blocked the shot. The ball ended up in Ndongo's hands and he converted both free throws to give his team what turned out to be an insurmountable advantage, 80-76.

"I have been working on those last-minute free throws for that kind of moment," said Ndongo, who joined the team at mid-season and is headed to Rutgers next year. "It was up to me but I didn't feel any pressure. It was a good feeling to know the game was over and we won the championship. I am so happy to be a champion."

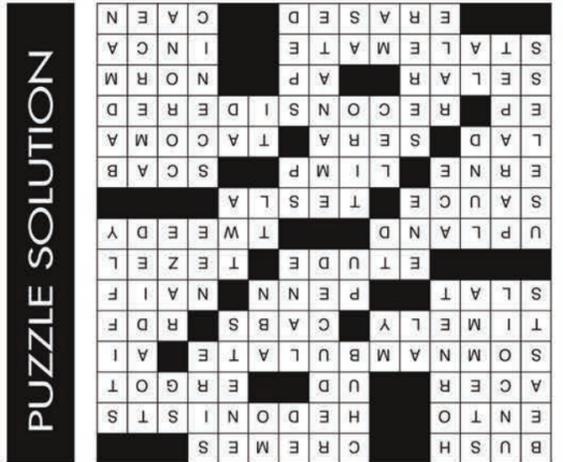


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Influential American political family
- 5. ___ Chantilly, ___ de Menthe
- 11. Within
- 12. Pleasure seekers
- 16. Computer manufacturer
- 17. Home to college sports' Flyers
- 18. Fungal disease
- 19. Sleepwalk
- 24. Spielberg sci-fi film
- 25. Seasonable
- 26. Taxis
- 27. Radio direction finder (abbr.)
- 28. Thin, narrow piece of wood
- 29. "Mystic River" actor Sean
- 30. Ingenious
- 31. Musical composition
- 33. Turkish surname
- 34. High or hilly area
- 38. Wilco frontman
- 39. Pour it on pasta
- 40. Electric car company
- 43. Sea eagle
- 44. Walk with difficulty
- 45. Sign of healing
- 49. Boy
- 50. Protein-rich liquid
- 51. Washington city
- 53. Individual portion of TV series (abbr.)
- 54. Thought over
- 56. Scads
- 58. News agency
- 59. Standard
- 60. Deadlock
- 63. Pre-Columbian empire
- 64. Removed
- 65. French commune

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Large, dangerous animals
- 2. Straighten out
- 3. Family tree
- 4. Large stinging paper wasp
- 5. European river fish
- 6. Cut down in size
- 7. Denotes past
- 8. Larry and Curly's partner
- 9. Samoyedic ethnic group
- 10. Male parent
- 13. Specific gravity
- 14. Demeaned oneself to
- 15. Rigidly
- 20. Yankovic is a "weird" one
- 21. Belonging to me
- 22. Path
- 23. Airborne (abbr.)
- 27. Level
- 29. Atomic #94
- 30. Born of
- 31. Midway between northeast and east
- 32. Northeastern bank
- 33. Defunct airline
- 34. Having no purpose
- 35. A low wall
- 36. Swedish city
- 37. Earn a perfect score
- 38. Atomic #81
- 40. Beginner
- 41. Give off
- 42. Incorrect letters
- 44. Telecommunication service provider (abbr.)
- 45. Idyllic
- 46. Popular beer
- 47. A way to fine
- 48. Evildoer
- 50. More withered
- 51. Seventh note of a major scale
- 52. Commercial
- 54. Abnormal breathing
- 55. Moved more quickly
- 57. City of Angels
- 61. Partner to Pa
- 62. Equally



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Concert to celebrate life and times of Pete Seeger

WOODSTOCK — The seventh annual tribute concert dedicated to the memory of folk legend Pete Seeger is scheduled for Saturday, April 1, 7 p.m., at the First Congregational Church of Woodstock, Rt. 169, Woodstock Hill. Tickets are available at the door for a donation of \$20.

The event, affectionately called For Pete's Sake, is hosted by former State Troubadour

Sally Rogers of Pomfret, joined by a host of area performers:

- Howie Bursen • Donna Dufresne • Eva Hulme
- Dan Lanier • Jeff Perkins • Sandy Pliskin • Marilyn Ravina
- Sally Rogers • Maria Sangiolo • Claudia Schmidt
- Leslie Sweetnam • The Vox Hunters

Seeger is best remembered for touring with

two groups, the Almanac Singers and the Weavers in the 1940s and 1950s, and is credited for leading folk music's revival and survival in the 1960s.

He had a string of hit records during the early 1950s as a member of the Weavers, most notably their recording of Lead Belly's Goodnight, Irene, which topped the charts for 13 weeks in 1950.

Seeger was

one of the folk singers responsible for popularizing the spiritual We Shall Overcome that became the acknowledged anthem of the American Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s.

Other hits written by Seeger, some recorded by other artists, include "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?" "If I Had a Hammer," "This Land is Your Land," and "Turn, Turn, Turn!"

Many of these will be performed (with audience participation!) at the April 1 concert.

Seeger was a prominent singer of protest music in support of international disarmament, civil rights, counterculture, and environmental causes. As a social activist, he supported progressive causes such as racial and religious inclusion which influenced his work.

A fact not well known about Seeger is that he was a U.S. Army veteran, having served in the Pacific during World War II. He was trained as an aircraft mechanic but later assigned to Special Services where he entertained his fellow troops with his banjo and songs.

After the war, he worked on the Civil

Rights History Project at the Library of Congress, which no doubt influenced his songwriting and social activism.

Admission is a \$20 donation per person to benefit the Community Kitchens of NE Connecticut which has fed hundreds (if not thousands!) of hungry local people here in the Quiet Corner, especially active during the COVID Crisis. Hot delicious meals are prepared by volunteers and are still being served at their locations in Woodstock, Central Village, Danielson, Thompson. To volunteer or to find out about their serving times, contact: communitykitchens-nect@gmail.com or call them at 860-779-2465.

VFW Auxiliary announces membership drive

PUTNAM — VFW Auxiliary to Post 1523 located in Putnam is seeking patriotic men and women to join them in making a difference in the lives of Putnam veterans, service members and their families. The Auxiliary is hosting an information session April 9 for men and women who want to learn more about the organization and its work in our community.

"The Auxiliary provides members an opportunity to honor and give back to all who have served, and who are serving, this great nation. It's our chance to say, 'thank you' to them for their sacrifice," said Auxiliary President Jim Bradley.

The information session will take place between 8:30 and 11 a.m. on April 9 at 207 Providence St., Putnam. Please join us for FREE breakfast too. Jim Bradley encourages those interested in learning more about the VFW Auxiliary to come and learn how they can help make an impact on the lives of veterans in Putnam.

The VFW Auxiliary's tagline is "Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes®" and for more than 100 years, we have been supporting the Veterans of Foreign Wars, serving veterans and their families, service members and their families, and spreading patriotism nationwide. During the last two years Auxiliary members:

- Provided \$9.6 million in goods and services to veterans, service members and their families.
- Volunteered more than 665,000 hours in VA Medical Centers, hospital, nursing homes and veterans homes.
- Made nearly 200,000 legislative contacts to help pass or block important bills.
- Awarded \$300,000 in scholarships.
- Worked with more than 300,000 youth.
- Distributed more than 600,000 American Flags.

To learn more about the information session, the Auxiliary or its service projects, contact Lisa Salisbury at 860-933-9181 or at vfwauxiliaryputnamct@gmail.com.

The VFW Auxiliary is one of the nation's oldest veterans' service organizations and our members are the relatives of those who have served in overseas combat. We have nearly 470,000 members representing all 50 states who volunteer millions of hours and give millions of dollars to support veterans, military service personnel, and their families.

We are a voice for veterans on Capitol Hill and are instrumental in assisting the VFW pass or block legislation that impacts veterans and their families. We are one of the top 10 providers of volunteer hours in the VA medical system. Every year, members fundraise millions of dollars for charitable projects that benefit veterans and

their families. We also provide hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships for our nation's youth. With more than 3,600 Auxiliaries, there is likely one in your area working to improve the lives of America's uncommon heroes. Learn more at www.vfwauxiliary.org.

Access Food Pantries benefit concert raises \$4,000

POMFRET — The Vanilla Bean Café located at 450 Deerfield Road in Pomfret, recently hosted the 31st Annual Special Benefit Concert for the Food Pantries of Access coordinated by Howie Bursen, the "Red Hot Banjo Wizard" and Sally Rogers, "Nightingale with a Voice Clear as the Queen's Diamonds." They were joined on stage by John Bailey, and Bennett and Lorraine Hammond and after an amazing show raised \$4,000! Thank You to Howie, Sally, John, Bennett, Lorraine, Barry and to all those that attended!

Access serves 28 towns in Windham and Tolland counties and operates two food pantries, one in Willimantic and one in Danielson and has a mobile food van that makes monthly deliveries to low-income communities that have limited access to affordable healthy food. Last year the Access mobile food pantry increased its deliveries to those in need by 50 percent by adding eight new locations, including four new Senior Housing sites.

Access Community Action Agency is designated by the federal and state government as the anti-poverty agency in northeast Connecticut. Access provides food, affordable housing, job readiness services, and other pathways to economic self-reliance for vulnerable limited-income families and individuals throughout the region. Learn more about Access by visiting <https://accessagency.org/>.

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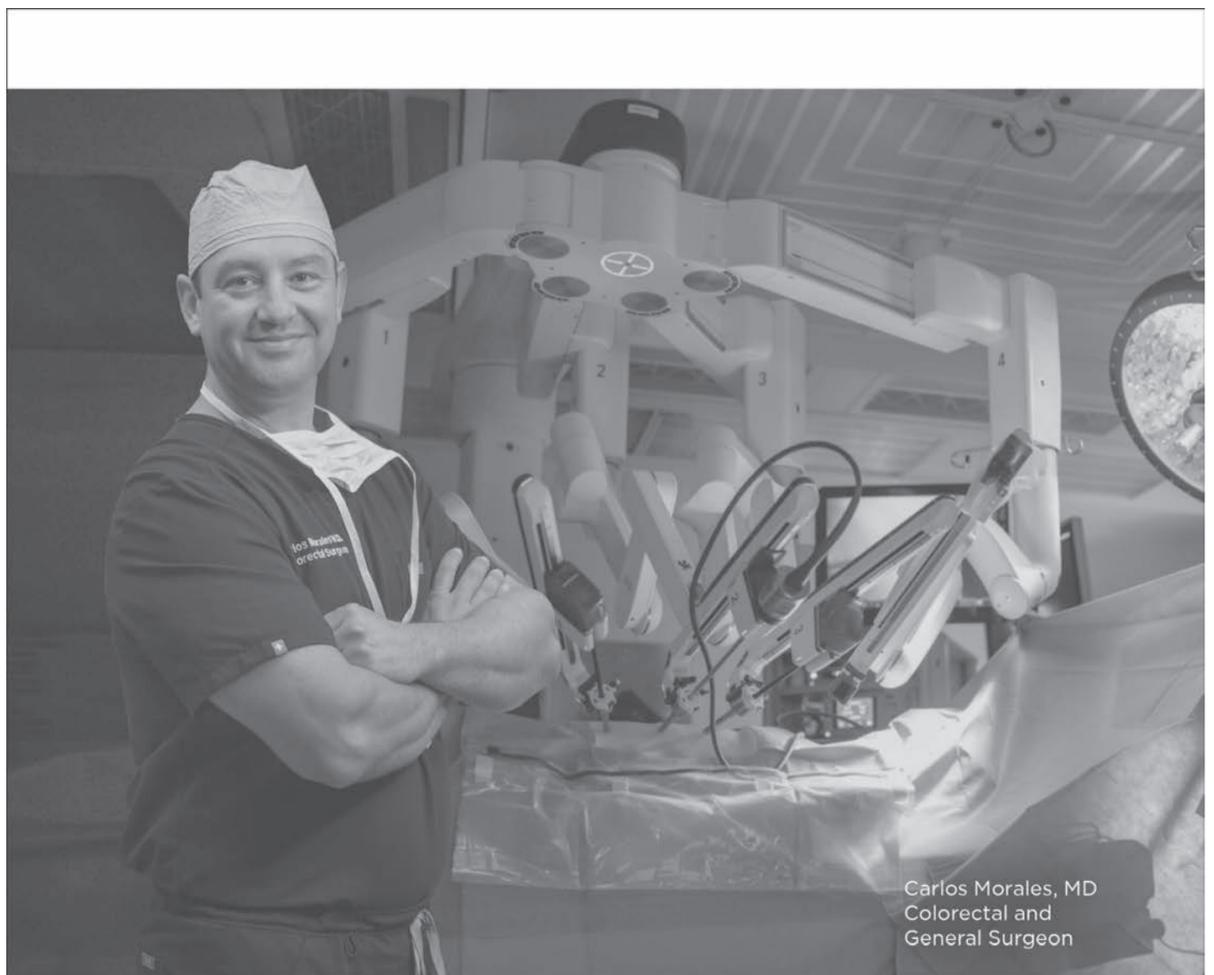
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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Here comes the sun, and I say it's all right

After a long (and, we think, mild) winter, warmer, longer days are finally here. As the official first day of spring arrived on March 20, we're noticing people have more of a pep in their step. A refreshing sight! While each season has its own perks, there is something about spring that seems to surprise us each year. We re-acquaint ourselves with our yards as they slowly reveal themselves as the snowbanks melt away. Muddy grass has never been a kinder sight. Over the past few weeks, the common chatter has been about baseball, track, softball, springtime fitness goals, gardening, hiking, you know the usual. This week we reminisced about old April Fool's Day pranks in the office. Tacks on seats, the soda bottle filled with water sitting on top of a door waiting to be opened in order to drench an unsuspecting individual, saran wrapped cars, fake lottery winnings, fake wedding proposals and lost wedding rings to name a few. Stunts to make Larry, Moe, and Curly proud. With spring, of course, comes spring fever. In modern times, this is a semi-positive term, however back in colonial times, 'spring fever' referred to the poor quality of health everyone was in, after sustaining a winter without fresh vegetables and proper diet. Today's 'spring fever' will have children restless, new romances transpire and people attacking their homes with dust cloths and Windex. Experts say the changes that a person goes through during the springtime are due to hormonal changes in the body. During the winter months, the body secretes a large amount of melatonin, (the sleep hormone). The presence of more sunlight in spring sends the body a message to stop producing as much melatonin. This causes folks to be more awake. Add this to the uptick in your serotonin levels due to the sunlight and you will not only be awake but enthusiastic. Interesting to note is that during the springtime the body becomes more susceptible to illnesses. Way back when, scurvy outbreaks always occurred during this time of year as did rubella and measles. Doctors note that in spring, gout, a condition that affects joints, peaks in individuals. Because there are more allergens in the air, you will see more cases of rosacea and other skin irritations on the rise. During our research, we did notice that the mud wreaked havoc on our ancestors more than we've ever given a second thought. An excerpt from a 1929 newspaper based in northern New England read, "Easter Sunday was the one best weather offering of the week, although the season is much further advanced than last year. There is very little snow anywhere. There is an abundance of mud on the gravel or dirt highways. It is an unmentionable condition. Teams of horses have been on duty at Riverton to aid helpless motorists." We just love the fact that horses had to come to the rescue of motorists who could not make it through 'unmentionable conditions.' We encourage everyone to spend as much time outdoors this spring. Get back to basics, back to nature, keep things simple and pick up an old hobby you have abandoned but have been meaning to reconnect with, life is meant to be fun.

Letter submission policy

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

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

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I won't back down

To the Editor:

What a shame. When I watch what's happening to our country, I want to cry. All of us, myself included, didn't do anything to stop it, despite being warned over and over again.

Just two years after the "greatest generation" saved the world from fascism, Nazism, and imperialism, George Orwell wrote the book "1984". We thought it was pure fiction. There was no way that "thought police," "newspeak," and the "ministry of truth" could ever happen here. In 1975, Ronald Reagan, then the governor of California, said "if fascism every comes to America, it will come in the name of liberalism." He also said "Freedom is but one generation away from extinction. It's not passed down through our bloodlines, it has to be fought for and defended." I didn't vote for him either time he ran for president. Although I was registered as an independent, I voted straight Democrat for more than 30 years. I believed that the Democratic party was better for the average middle class family in this country. My generation, the "baby boomers," slowly watched the changes occur and just assumed that everything would work out fine. We thought it was cool and radical to find out in the late '60's and early '70's that many of the professors at our colleges and universities were admitted Marxists. Unfortunately, their students became the teachers for our public schools. For the next five decades, we were sending out kids to re-education camps. During that time, the USA went from #1 in the world in education to #15. Gee, I wonder why? The famed Greek philosopher, Plato, said that the two most important questions any society can ask are "who's teaching the children and what are they teaching them?" After China released a worldwide pandemic and the schools in this country were closed, parents got to see through their children's remote learning what was really going on. They went to local school board meetings demanding that the brainwashing be halted. They were immediately labeled domestic terrorists by the Biden administration. Now remember, we're not talking about the "peaceful" protesters from Antifa and BLM, who threw rocks, bricks, frozen water bottles, Molotov cocktails, and fireworks at police, injuring over 2,000 of them. The looting and burning down of businesses causing over \$2 billion in damages was fine, but don't you dare question the indoctrination of your kids. That will not be tolerated.

After the two term Obama disaster, I thought for sure the American people would rise up and demand better leadership. Instead, in a country of over 330 million people, the two main parties gave us a couple of jokes to pick from for the next President. Again, as a registered independent, I don't get to choose the nominees. I could either pick a rude, crude, arrogant, bloviating, billionaire real estate mogul with a reality TV show (which I have never watched), or the most corrupt and dishonest candidate in the history of the country. I just couldn't vote to let

To the Editor:

We, as taxpayers of Thompson, have listened to the Board of Finance for decades now make the important decisions for us on how and when we are going to spend our tax dollars. They come into their budget session with a preconceived set increase to the mill rate. Keep in mind that the budget presented to them by both the town and the Board of Education has been carefully developed to meet both their needs. No more, no less.

Since I have been on the Board of Education, the Board of Finance has arbitrary made cuts to the school's budget by an average of \$384,000 per year not even leaving the school enough to cover their contractual costs. These indiscriminate cuts leave the increase in the school's budget far below the rate of inflation increase for that year. They use the same old chestnuts year after year that homeowners are facing price increases, the economy is bad, or the stock market is down. This may have been true in some of those years but not all. In years where homeowners are feeling a crunch it is no different for the Town or the school. They face the same issues. They have Union Contracts to fulfill, Utility costs increases, increases in health Insurance and benefit costs to provide for their employees.

The town and the School District have both taken steps to reduce costs to save the taxpayers money by doing things such as: 1. Combining benefit programs, 2. Changing health insurance plans three times in the last 10 years to keep the cost of this benefit down, and 3. Sharing technology resources. The Board of Education has developed other in-house programs over the past several years that have saved the taxpayers over \$3 million. The town and the School District continue to work diligently together to keep operating costs down for the benefit of the taxpayers.

Yet, year after year, we are told by the Board of Finance that this is not the year to raise taxes so necessary improvements are not made, essential staff at the school must be let go. Or even worse in my mind required

Bill Clinton go back to living in the White House. I voted for the "cult leader," knowing that this was either going to be the best thing for the USA or the worst. Another quote from President Reagan was "Are you better off now than you were four years ago?" Trump answered that question with a resounding yes. I never dreamed I would ever switch and start voting for Republicans, but I realized that the leftists had taken over and destroyed the party I used to vote for.

After watching what Democrat senators did to Brett Kavanaugh, right in front of his wife and daughters, I knew I could never go back. It was evil, pure evil. I have watched the left ruin everything it has touched. Things that used to have some meaning to them, or some value or merit, are now a joke. ESPN, the mainstream media, the FBI, the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Grammys, Oscars, Pulitzer Prizes, and even Nobel Prizes are now worthless because of the "woke" agenda. It used to be an honor to represent your country at the Olympics. For some people, it still is. After winning a gold medal in wrestling, a young African American woman, Tamyra Mensah, wrap the US flag around her shoulders. She was in tears while explaining how happy and proud she was to represent America. At the same Olympics, I saw a sniveling, privileged, white woman take a knee during the National Anthem. She convinced the rest of her team to also kneel down and even the other team and the referee joined in. I do admit I laughed when our soccer team got routed by a country that the USA had never lost to before in international competition. Guess which athlete Joe Biden invited to the White House to receive the Congressional Medal of Freedom?

I watched the left become so petty, shallow, and vindictive that, arguably, the most beautiful first lady was banned from all magazine covers. Yet, for eight long years, in every checkout line I was in, the entire magazine rack was full of Michelle Obama's frowning face staring back at me. It was enough to make me blow my groceries before I even had a chance to purchase them. I prefer first ladies who love this country, not hate it. If anyone should be grateful to be living in the greatest country in the history of the world, it should be the Obamas. Their great grandchildren will never have to work a day in their lives thanks to the hundreds of millions of dollars that are pouring in. I do want to thank both of them for proving that the climate crisis is a hoax. Nobody builds a \$10 million mansion right on the ocean's edge if they think the sea levels are rising.

I had some friends, very close friends of over 50 years, who will never speak to me again because I didn't vote for Queen Hillary's coronation. I guess we weren't that close after all. I'll end with one more quote, this one from the late, great Tom Petty. "I won't back down, you can stand me up at the gates of hell, I will stand my ground, I won't back down."

STEVE DEVILLEZ
DANIELSON

If not now, when, Thompson?

replacement of Town equipment is financed on long term lease to purchase agreements which end up costing we the taxpayers more money in the long run because of finance costs. All to keep the mil rate low.

Who suffers? We, the taxpayers, suffer; that's who! Our school has been not only designated an Alliance District a designation assigned to 36 schools in Connecticut, but we recently received notice from the Connecticut State Department of Education recently that we are now designated as an "Opportunity District." That is a designation given to only nine other districts in the State Connecticut. All the other nine districts are Urban districts such as Hartford, New Britain, Norwich to name some. We are the only rural school to receive this appalling designation. Our town's infrastructure is crumbling, our bridges are in danger of becoming unsafe some are now limited as to the tonnage they can handle. Housing values are reduced compared to other towns whose schools have higher ratings and are seen as more desirable places to live even though they have higher mil rates.

When will this neglect stop? When will we as responsible citizens say enough is enough. Recognize that we need to take pride in our town. Step up and do what we should have been doing all along, invest in our lovely rural town. Do the right thing and take care of our Town properly. What can you do to help? Make your voice heard. Attend the Board of Finance Budget Workshop Thursday evenings at 7 PM either in person or on Zoom. Write to the Board of Finance through the town's Web site at Thompsonct.org/board-finance or write letters to the Editor in the Villager to brendan@villagernewspaper.com.

We the people of Thompson need to have our say in how much we are willing to spend for the upkeep in our town. We should be the deciding voice on the budget. Remember, the Board of Finance are elected by us to work for us.

KATHLEEN HERBERT
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

A time of loss and renewal

The last week in March is often as capricious as a puppy. One minute all is



NANCY WEISS

calm and the soft afternoon sun sits gently on my face. By morning, it is in the low 30's, and my footprints around the bird feeders are frozen petrographs. Migrating

birds tear through the garden, while others, like retirees returning from Florida, inspect the nests they left in the fall and begin repair work. Every spring carries with it the promise of new invention and revival.

It is a time of transition, when one foot is in the chilly past and one in the potential of the future.

Friends, who live in Maine, leave for the month of March, which they say is the worst month to live in the Pine Tree State. It is muddy, empty of the summer people they long to see again, and dull. I prefer to be at home by the end of March to seek out the small bulbs I planted in the fall along with the daffodils. I love Witch Hazel and look for it in the woods and gardens, where its bright yellow demands attention.

I knew a man — Witch Hazel Eddy, my father called him — who lived in Eastford. He cut the branches and sold them to Dickinson's in East Hampton, where they were made into an astringent. When I see the trees in bloom, I think of the woodsman, who knew the second growth forests in our area like the back of his hand, as the saying goes. Later in life, he became a seeker of the inheritors of estates, who didn't know they were named in wills. He traveled the world finding them with the same intensity he brought to cutting witch hazel.

For many of us, this spring is shadowed by the sadness of knowing that one of the most dedicated naturalists to ever live here is gone. A few weeks ago, Ben Williams, the rugged, booming -voiced, former Marine, and lover of delicate moths and butterflies, died, just one day shy of his 87th birthday. Ben was truly one with nature. He could identify any wild creature he saw and collected insects around the world.

Ben was a founding member of Connecticut Audubon Society's Northeast region and chair of the capitol campaign for the Center at Pomfret. He embraced the work of the Wyndham Land Trust and devoted himself to protecting native habitats and developing the vast network of trails that enrich our region. No one gave a more rousing speech or trumpeted the accomplishments of others more than Ben Williams. There will be a celebration of his life on Aug. 27 at Pomfret Audubon. The true affirmation of a life well lived is found in many ways he shared his love of nature and mentored others. I'll miss the chance meetings at the post office where Ben and I would share local news and observations about the seasons.

His were often poetic.

Two big coyotes walked through my garden recently. They stopped and looked at me. They were busy and I was not a threat. The potholes in the roads, the sudden sag in a stonewall, the tom turkeys showing off their tailfeathers in the morning sunshine proclaim the coming of spring more accurately than the calendar. One day feels like summer, and the next like February.

The days roll on at nature's pace, and we, who have the capacity to mourn what and who are gone, can merely react, adjust and embrace the mud, the witch hazel, the memories of the unique people we've been lucky to know.

Four ways divorce can affect your credit score

Divorce is a difficult thing to go through in a variety of ways. Aside from the obvious emotional toll, the process can also take a toll on your finances, even long after the divorce itself has been finalized. Untangling joint accounts and shared financial responsibilities can be tricky. That's especially true when it comes to credit.

Although you still have an individual credit score even if you're married, if you opened joint accounts with your ex-spouse during the marriage the financial habits of him or her can continue to affect your score even after the divorce is finalized. Here are four things to look out for, and what to do about them.

1. An Ex-Spouse Doesn't Pay Joint Accounts on Time

If you have settled in court who is going to pay which credit card bills after the divorce, it's important to make sure those debts get paid off on time. This could affect your credit score if those bills are paid late or not at all. The creditors don't

care that you got a divorce, they just want your debts paid off on time.

Unfortunately, there's no easy way around this. Even if a particular debt was assigned to your ex-spouse during divorce proceedings, that does not cancel out the contract you made with the credit card or loan company when you took out the funds. It does, however, mean that you can sue your former partner for the unpaid debt that was assigned to them – but you still have to ensure the debt is being paid in a timely manner in the meantime.

2. Not Enough Credit History

In a marriage, if all the credit used was from one spouse, then the other spouse might not have a fully utilized credit history or any credit history at all – and that can prevent you from getting the loans or higher credit limits you might need later on to buy a house or purchase a car on your own. If you're



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in this situation, don't panic – there are things you can do to bring your credit score up. Check out financial education websites like mint.com, nerdwallet.com or mymoney.gov for resources that can help you take control of your credit

score.

3. Credit Limits Go Down

If you and your ex-spouse pooled your incomes, you'll obviously now have less money to work with now that you're down to just your income alone. Be aware that the credit card company may lower your maximum limits, and that your debt-to-income ratio will change, possibly negatively affecting your score in the end.² The solution? Pay down that debt as quickly as possible. The less debt you have, the better your debt-to-income ratio will be, and the better your credit score will become.

4. Not Paying Your Own

Bills on Time

The financial impact of divorce can also make you late in paying your own bills when you find that your own income doesn't stretch as far. To avoid this, make a new budget that's based on your solo income as soon as possible. This will help you understand where you may have to trim costs and tighten your belt. Sometimes it even means making a total lifestyle change. But knowing that sooner rather than later and sticking to an appropriate budget for your new single-income reality will save you a lot of late fees and stress in the long run, not to mention the serious dings to your credit score that nonpayment can cause.

Look Forward to a Brighter Future

Divorce is an emotional time filled with many important decisions, including financial ones. There's a lot to consider and a lot to do all at once. If you're struggling to figure out the best way to go forward with financial confidence once your marriage is dissolved,

talk to a trusted financial advisor. They'll be able to guide you in the right direction to ensure you're making smart decisions regarding your credit and any long-term financial matters you have questions about.

I take real pride in helping my clients through difficult life turning points such as divorce. So much so that I chose to become a Certified Divorce Financial Analyst (CDFA®) in addition to a Certified Financial Professional (CFP®). The training I received to hold the CDFA® certification has equipped me to analyze my clients' financial situation and assist him or her (as well as his or her attorney) in understanding how decisions made during the divorce process and after will impact their financial future. Having that knowledge and a solid plan in place for how to move forward can go a very long way toward helping you to look forward to a brighter future ahead.

If you'd like to learn more about how our team at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors

can help you, and how our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well strategic process can help you to achieve your goals in the new future you envision for yourself, reach out to request a complimentary consultation at whzwealth.com, or call us at (860) 928-2341.

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The life and death of Leonard Ballou

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

While organizing some of the old deaths and obituaries extracts, Bernie Mitchell came across a lengthy write-up on the death of Leonard Ballou, who died in Norwich on Aug. 5, 1880 in his 87th year. One of Killingly's earliest mill owners, his name lives on in the small village of Ballouville. If you knew nothing about him, you might not realize that his extended family was actually also connected to the mill in Pineville (near Whipple's Chapel). Ballou eventually became a "well-respected citizen of Norwich." "He was born in Cumberland, R.I. Feb. 25, 1794. He was derived from Huguenot ancestry, Maturin Ballou, the founder of the family in this country, having settled at Providence near the close of the seventeenth century. Noah Ballou, the father of Leonard, was a farmer and boat building and at the age of 16 a soldier in the Revolutionary army, in which he served for several campaigns. His son learned his trade, but when he was 16 taught the

district school and later taught in larger schools. The British embargo, laid during the War of 1812, destroyed Noah Ballou's business, and for some time thereafter Leonard Ballou was employed as a house carpenter. In 1817, he became a millwright, and soon afterward put the wheels in the first mill built at Willimantic. He also constructed mills at Plainfield and Central Village. In 1825, with his father-in-law (Jabez Amsbury) and brother-in-law (Mowry Amsbury), he purchased a mill property on Five Mile River, Killingly, under the firm title of Amsbury, Ballou & Co. The young firm had an aggregate capital of \$6,000, of which Mr. Ballou put in \$2,500. At the end of the first year after the mill was opened the firm found itself \$3,000 in debt and running behind. Mr. Ballou took prompt and decisive measures. Instead of giving up, he doubled his machinery and struck into a wider field of operations. Business began to pick up and the firm soon became prosperous. During these early years, the mill was run by contract, but in 1833, Mr. Ballou began to buy and sell on his own account. In 1836, he bought out the other members of the firm. He passed safely through the great commercial crisis of 1837 and 1843, though in the



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latter his former partners, who were carrying on a business for themselves, failed. His business steadily increased from the time forward, and 1845 he removed to this city (Norwich), where he purchased and rebuilt the house on Washington Street...In 1857 he built the house where he has lately lived and in 1862 moved to it. In February 1864, he retired from active business, selling his factory to the Attawaugan Company. Since that time he confined his attention to the care of certain corporations in which his capital was invested, being a director of the First National Bank of Norwich, the Norwich Savings Society, the Bleaching & Calendering Company, and the Norwich Gas Company and president of the Occum Water Company and the Norwich Water Power Company.

"Mr. Ballou married in 1822 Miss Ann Eliza Amsbury of Cumberland, R.I., who died in 1852, leaving two daughters." Daughter Lydia married John B. Young, co-founder of Tiffany and Company and son of Judge

Ebenezer Young of Killingly. (John's sister Harriet married Charles L. Tiffany, the other co-founder). Amelia Ballou married A. H. Almy of Norwich. Leonard Ballou married as his second wife Mrs. Kingsley, who died in 1862.

"Those who had occasion to meet him in business learned that his honesty was beyond question...He was a peacemaker in all difficulties and was often looked to by friends to arrange mutual difficulties, which others could not. It was one of the boast of his life that he had never sued or been sued. In his family relations he was always tender and considerate." About six weeks ago Mr. Ballou fell upon the steps of his house, and his system received a shock from which he did not recover." (A typed note on p. 131 of the 1880 notebook says this came from the Norwich Bulletin, August 6).

Killingly has been home to a number of noted women. Did you know that the first female dentist in the United States, Emeline Roberts Jones practiced in Danielson? According to the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame she became her husband Daniel's dental partner in 1859 (while living in Killingly) after performing numerous fillings and extractions on her own, even saving a jar of the teeth. Ads

in the Windham County Telegraph (later the Transcript) list her husband D.A. Jones, resident dentist, as having an office over S. Hyde and Co.'s Store near the Depot in Danielsonville as early as March 1856 (March 6, 1856). By late 1859, Daniel Jones had gone into partnership with Joshua Perkins and had offices in Jones' house east of the Congregational Church and then in the Arcade building in Danielsonville. That same year, Emeline Jones became a partner with her husband after quietly and secretly having performed numerous tooth extractions on her own. It seems that prior to this her husband felt that a woman had no business being a dentist. R.D. Brown was being trained by Dr. Jones in dentistry at this same time (Windham County Telegraph and Transcript, Oct. 13, 1859, Jan. 12, 1860, and Feb. 16, 1860).

Rumors that Daniel Jones and his wife were leaving Killingly turned out to be true. Jones and Perkins dissolved their partnership April 2, 1860 although Dr. Jones intended to return the beginning of each month and "remain in the employ of Dr. Perkins" (WCTr April 5, 1860). The 1860 United States Census, taken July 19, 1860, found the Jones family in Barkhamstead, Litchfield County, Connecticut. Emeline had been born in New Hartford, Litchfield County so perhaps they moved to be closer to her family. Daniel and Emeline had a two-year old daughter in their household and may well have been expecting their son Daniel A. who was born about 1861 according to the 1880 census.

They moved from Killingly in 1860 but had returned by April 17, 1862. The Transcript advertised that D. A. Jones had returned and was located in an office on Main Street. By March 1864 he had relocated his offices to his new house on Reynolds Street, several doors east of the Congregational Church (WCTr; March 24, 1864 & May 5, 1864). How terribly sad it was to read of his death in June of that year (WCTr; June 30, 1864). Emeline Jones continued to practice and obtained short-term dental assistance from Dr. St. John's of Danbury and former Danielsonville resident Dr. R. D. Brown (WCTr Sept. 1, 1864 & Oct. 20, 1864). She also continued her own dentistry practice using a portable dental chair as she traveled to towns in Northeastern Connecticut and Rhode Island (CTWHof Fame).

The Jan. 5, 1865 Transcript contains an ad for Mrs. D. A. Jones, dentist. Nevertheless, there must have been many men who were not anxious to have a female dentist for she continued to seek male assistance in her practice. Dentist Horace S. Young soon arrived on the scene. Her association with Horace S. Young strengthened, and they were married on Nov. 27, 1866 (Killingly Vital Records, Vol. 2, p. 352). They remained in Killingly only a few more years before moving on. By 1880, they were in East Haven. Emeline continued to practice dentistry in that part of Connecticut for many years. She was elected to the Connecticut State Dental Society in 1883 and in 1914 was made an honorary member of the National Dental Association. She passed away in 1916. Emeline is a member of the Connecticut Women's Hall of Fame. (See numerous articles and photos on the internet).

The Killingly Public Library will be presenting two family history-related programs. Registration required. Visit their Web site or call the Library to register. Program 1: Starting your Family History Research. Wednesday, March 29 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Special guest, Seema Keeney, from Ancestral Books, Legacy & Education, will talk about basic genealogical forms, where to research, tracking your research, and questions to ask living relatives. Program 2: Family Heirloom Show & Tell. Wednesday, April 26 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Share photos, heirlooms, and the stories behind them that have been passed down in your family for generations.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, March 2023. Special thanks to Bernie Mitchell for pointing out the article on Leonard Ballou. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or www.killingly-historical.org or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Congratulations to everyone who worked to stop the sale of Day Kimball Hospital

To the Editor:

It took the work of all of you who signed a petition, called officials, joined a rally or in many other ways showed support to prevent the sale of Day Kimball Hospital. Gov. Lamont, Lt. Gov. Bysiewicz, and Attorney General Tong are also due thanks for their support for women's healthcare and healthcare in general. I also want to mention the many state legislators, from all over the state, who wrote letters to oppose the sale. However, for some reason, the hospital administration never bothered to listen to the community opposition. However, Covenant Health heard it and backed out, realizing their offer of restrictive healthcare, would never have been approved.

Now that the sale has failed, the first question I've heard is, Now what?

Well, just as with any business, when any administration purposely pursues a course of action which is contrary to the needs of those it serves and continues that path for two more years, wasting thousands of dollars and ending in failure, the Board of Directors would realize the time had come for a change.

In Day Kimball's situation, not only did the administration continue in its effort to sell the Hospital, but when the community pointed out the harm that the sale would bring to the area's healthcare, the administration doubled down. In an attempt to gain support, the administration continued to claim that its plan was the only plan, because without it, the hospital would close. This caused a great deal of needless fear within the community: the community wanted open-

ness and truth.

Now that the plan has fallen apart, suddenly, on a recent radio broadcast, it was announced that the hospital is certainly not going to close. Heads should roll on that alone: the Board of Directors must understand how the community may suspect they were not told the complete truth. First it was claimed that the hospital would close if the sale did not go through, then suddenly, when in the sale did not go through it was announced, the Hospital is not going to close.

There have been rumblings for months that some members of the Board of Directors had already lost confidence in the present administration. It is obvious that the time has come to find the right people with the best interests of both the hospital and the community in mind, and with a vision to save the Hospital and maintain it as a place that benefits the entire community. The Board of Directors should be open with the community and begin to involve the entire community in the decision making, calling on everyone for advice and suggestions; before confidence in the hospital is shaken further. After all, we need to remember, Day Kimball is a Community Hospital.

Small hospitals all over this country are in financial trouble, as citizens, we need to look to our elected officials for additional support to save our small rural hospitals.

RAMON CANNING
POMFRET

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

In the Studio

CYNTHIA SAARI

powders, and very thin lengths of glass ("stringers"). The technique is called "lampwork," referring to the 1400's when oil lamps were used rather than gas torches. Probably Murano, while certainly not the only city, is best known for lampwork glass beads. Today, many people call the technique "flamework" which is more self-explanatory. Finished pieces are put into a kiln to slowly cool, are cleaned up, then possibly made into jewelry.

Does your work have a particular look?

Yes. There are many lampworkers currently, and each one eventually (hopefully) develops a personal style after a certain amount of experimentation and refining of an aesthetic. I favor opaque glass and tonal colors with lesser use of bright colors, usually in a sort of abstract

landscape composition. Some people say my beads look ceramic, are painterly, have an "Asian" feel...and I imagine that others find them unappealing because they are quite understated. Probably the best compliment came from an artist who described them as "intimate objects of contemplation." I am a proponent of less is more, and simple is hard, referring to surface treatment and shape, respectively.

In finished jewelry, I tend to make pendants, "jumble necklaces"—which incorporate glass, natural stone beads, vintage components, and sometimes found objects—in longer lengths, and minimalist earrings. Then there are days where I make something completely different for a change of pace such as elaborate earrings using seed beads and 1920's faux pearls.

How did you get into lampworking?

I took the long way! After trying a few different crafts, I settled on spinning and dyeing my



own yarns following a period of unemployment and lots of knitting. I met a courtier dressmaker in Manhattan and we started working collaboratively, which eventually led to a season in the Santa Fe Opera costume department. I've always been interested in rocks and geology, and bought stone beads at a gem show to start making my own "Southwest style" jewelry. This led to visiting Tucson (with the same friend) and the big gem show there where I saw lampwork beads and was blown away by the idea of learning how to make my own. I found a class in the Northeast at a school of handcraft where I met my husband, who was teaching a blacksmithing workshop. Eventually, I started selling my work, showing, teaching, and contributing to books.

Can you think of any experiences which have been particularly meaningful?

Two or three stand out. A colleague asked me to start a lampworking program at the Corcoran College of Art in D.C. which was fantastic. Part of the deal was doing a talk at the Corcoran Museum following our first workshop. I love speaking about beads because they have such a rich history. They are older than the cave paintings and have been used by every culture in every



time period. It is easy to engage people on the topic because everyone has some memory of beads or jewelry in their personal history which becomes an important and fun part of the conversation in speaking or teaching.

I was also asked to be among demonstrators and speakers at a program about glass at the Peabody Essex Museum. A big bonus was getting to see an exhibit of Iris Apfel's fashions which was running at the same time; I actually got to buy one of her costume necklaces!

Do you and your husband, Michael do any collaborative work?

Scale is an issue there, since my work is much smaller; but we have made a number of sculptures together based on reliquaries, and a large ladle borrowing from Shaker style. I did take a welding class from Michael where he was teaching a workshop one summer and made some big steel flowers. It was a case where something which looked easy was not.

I'm happy to share that we have a show of

our work opening in the Library at Nichols College (where we both teach in the Art Department) on Thursday, March 30, at 6 p.m. The event is open to the public, and the address is 127 Center Rd. in Dudley, Mass.



Word of the day:

Iris Apfel: American style icon in the USA, Iris Apfel is 100 years old and still putting together outrageous outfits from her sizeable collection of clothing and costume jewelry.

(Check out YouTube for an eyeful of fashion and outlooks on style from her.)



Latest antiques, collectibles, and auction news

Today's column is another auction news roundup and sports memorabilia leads the latest news. A pair of Air Jordan game-worn 13s Bred (short for black and red) sneakers are heading to auction. USA Today writes that "the shoe feature[s] an unconventional holographic eye and an outsole resembling a panther paw." The sneakers are the only Jordan playoff game shoes that have been authenticated by the MeiGray Group, which is the official authenticator of the NBA. This pair is even more valuable because they're from Jordan's "Last Dance" 1997-1998 season. A ball boy responsible for the visitor's locker room had found Jordan's lost jacket from practice the day before. USA Today reports that after finding the jacket, he asked Jordan "Can I get your kicks after the game tomorrow?" Jordan signed the shoes and handed them to the ballboy. The sneakers are expected to bring between \$2 and \$4 million.

A rare comic book should also bring strong results at an upcoming auction.



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA

The Detective Comics issue # 27 from 1939 features the first appearance of Batman in a comic book. It's considered one of the holy grails of comic books, along with Action Comics # 1, which featured the first appearance of Superman. The comic book is graded 6.0 out of 10, and is unrestored. According to the New York Post, only 14 other unrestored copies of Detective Comics # 27 have been graded higher. The bidding ends on March 30, and as of March 17, it had reached over \$600,000. It's expected to sell for around \$1.5 million. The New York Post reports that the seller will use the money to help pay for their multi-million-dollar house.

Antiques and the Arts Weekly reports that a 1908 "Wright Flyer lookalike" recently soared at auction. The plane was made by the Ernst Plank Company of Nuremberg, Germany in 1908. The hand-painted mechanical plane measured 20 inches, with a wingspan of 14 and three quarter inches. The plane

replicated the Wright brothers' plane. They write that "the front elevators, the rudder, fuselage, propellers, motor and wing tips are all virtually identical to those found in all early biplane design." The plane sold for \$66,000.

In evidence that we shouldn't throw anything away, a 2007 iPhone recently made major auction news. NPR reports that after Karen landed a new job, her friends chipped in and bought her the first model iPhone as a present. The list price then was \$599. She had just upgraded her basic mobile phone and didn't want to change service plans from Verizon to AT&T, so she left the phone in the box. After not opening it for several years, she thought it might be valuable, and it had recently appraised for \$5,000. She placed it an auction where the bidding started at \$2,500. It eventually rang up over \$63,000.

We will be offering some antique telephones in an upcoming spring auction. Our online auction of the beautifully appointed Beacon Street, Boston home is currently underway. Online bidding ends on April 19. Auction number 7 of



the model trains, die-cast cars and other collectible toys all from the same estate will start this week. We have a large guitar collection, jewelry, art, sterling silver, and a wide variety of other items we'll be selling in upcoming auctions. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111) info@centralmassauctions.com

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Gratitude can be a potent ally

Life is a whirlwind. We must contend with a relentless tide of stress that threatens to engulf us all. You may be motivated, determined, and competent, but our universe is filled with trials, and our dreams and goals will not be handed to us on a silver platter.

How can we find the balance amidst the chaos?

Exercise, healthy eating, family time, talking with a close friend, and connecting with your higher power are some ways to maintain equilibrium.

Gratitude is also a potent ally. Enter the realm of The HeartMath Institute, an institution that has boldly ventured into the uncharted waters of human consciousness since its inception in 1991.

Years ago, I stumbled upon the intriguing works of Joe Dispenza, who spoke of HeartMath in his lectures. Since then, I've learned that some hospitals, businesses, and schools, including all four military branches, have worked with HeartMath to help their personnel develop a sharper focus using HeartMath techniques.

With a repository of over a hundred research papers spanning over three decades, the HeartMath Institute has revolutionized our understanding of the heart-mind connection.

Remarkably, our hearts contain over 40,000 neurons that engage in a dynamic dialogue with our brains. This fascinating discovery has led scientists to call this complex system the "Heart Brain."

This breathes new life into the old adage, "Let your heart be your guide." By studying EKGs and brain scans of

POSITIVELY SPEAKING
TOBY MOORE

thousands of people, they've discovered that the heart's rhythm changes when feeling different emotions.

Experiencing love, Gratitude, and joy results in what HeartMath calls "Heart Coherence," as shown by EKGs, while negative emotions disrupt this harmony, leading to incoherence between heart and brain.

There is a phenomenon that athletes talk about called "Being in the Zone." "Being in the Zone" embodies peak human performance. When you achieve heart coherence, it's like being in the zone.

When we experience love, compassion, Gratitude, and other positive emotions, it facilitates harmony between the heart and the brain and helps us think clearly, finding solutions to our problems easier.

In contrast, incoherence invites stress, worry, and indecision, reducing mental functioning and creating a foggy state of mind and decreased immunity.

How can we learn to practice heart coherence? There are several tools and methods that HeartMath teaches, but one simple and powerful method is the practice of Gratitude.

Mother Teresa once beautifully expressed the power of Gratitude, stating, "The best way to show my Gratitude is to accept everything, even my problems, with joy."

Gratitude lowers cortisol levels and increases serotonin and dopamine. When feeling Gratitude, your brain releases Immunoglobulin A, which strengthens your immune system by attacking invading pathogens and fighting infections.

Gratitude can instantly pull you out of

a state of incoherence.

A 2015 study on heart failure patients found that having an "attitude of Gratitude" led to improved mood, better sleep, less fatigue, lower inflammation, and better cardiac-specific self-efficacy. This is a big deal because feeling down or not sleeping well can make things worse for people with heart issues. Helping these patients feel more grateful is a simple, low-cost way to make them feel better and even improve their health.

How can we practice Gratitude? It's simple! Look at everything with a grateful heart.

Visualize your cherished pet, a beloved person, the warmth of sunshine, or a tranquil natural setting—anything that brings joy to your heart and makes you say, "Thank You."

Say Thank You in the good times, and thank You in the bad. Feel Gratitude when you're experiencing difficulty and stress. Why? Cause you're going to come out stronger on the other side.

In the wise words of Zig Ziglar, "Gratitude is the healthiest of all human emotions. The more you express Gratitude for what you have, the more likely you will have even more to express Gratitude for."

By embracing Gratitude, we can transform our lives and cultivate resilience in adversity. In a world filled with trials and tribulations, let Gratitude be the beacon of light that guides us through the storms, empowering us to emerge stronger, wiser, and more connected with our heart's innate wisdom.

Elevate your garden's beauty with jewel-tone plants



Courtesy - All-America Selections

Blue by You salvia has rich blue blossoms from late spring into fall, attracting butterflies and hummingbirds.

Bring the beauty of your favorite gemstones into the garden and your outdoor living space with the help of jewel-toned plants. Even a pot of these beauties placed on the balcony can provide bold color, vibrancy, and lushness to any space.



GARDEN MOMENTS
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MELINDA MYERS

blooms. These sunny loving annuals are also heat and drought-tolerant, making them perfect for low-maintenance gardens.

Plant some tall Mexican sunflowers in the back of the garden. Consider Fiesta Del Sol, a more compact variety, if you want something shorter and more compact. No matter which you grow, you and the pollinators will enjoy the orange blooms.

Keep the color going with summer to fall blooming Helenium which is hardy in zones three to eight. Hot Lava is topped with fire engine red flowers while Butterpat has vibrant yellow blossoms.

Coral bells come in a wide variety of leaf colors, making it easy to include jewel tones all season long. Many shade-tolerant hostas have deep green foliage that provides the perfect backdrop for other flowers.

Combining complementary colors that appear opposite of each other on the artist's color wheel creates an eye-catching display. Dark colors can easily disappear in the background or shade.

Teaming them with a complementary colored plant or light background can help them pop. A combination of purple-leaved bugbane and the fine charreusse foliage of Hakone grass, for example, allows both plants to shine while creating a splendid display.

Make sure the plants you combine are equally bold, so each adds to the overall design. Mix in some green foliage to provide a bit of color relief. Too much of a good thing, including vibrant colors, can overpower the landscape and create a somewhat chaotic feel.

Make notes on the plants and combinations you want to repeat next year. Note those that didn't perform to your expectations and don't need to be repeated. If you decide to expand upon this theme, be sure to add some jewel-toned, spring-flowering bulbs like tulips and hyacinths to the landscape this fall.

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

Select plants with leaves, flowers, or both in the saturated colors of gemstones like rubies, amethyst, topaz, sapphire, and turquoise. Select plants with colors that complement your home and landscape and will thrive in the growing conditions in your gardening space.

Look for opportunities to include these rich colors throughout the growing season. Jewel-toned pansies, ornamental cabbage and kale, and calendula are a few plants that thrive in cooler weather, providing welcome color before other plants appear or have faded in the summer heat.

As temperatures rise, include rich yellows and oranges of Rudbeckias and sunflowers. Add a showy and exotic look to the garden with Crocosmia. Plant Lucifer for bright red flowers, Prince of Orange for its red-orange blooms, and George Davidson for an added touch of yellow. Check out the many colorful varieties of dahlias and gladiolus that grow well in the garden and containers and make great additions to your garden bouquets. Canna's bold and colorful foliage is impressive all season long and is sure to command attention when topped with flowers.

Add colorful zinnias for season-long color. You can start them from seed right in the garden or buy transplants for earlier bloom. Look for disease-resistant varieties and those with bold colors like Benary's giant deep red, Profusion red, and Double Zahara Fire's orange-red

DAY KIMBALL

continued from page A1

out due to geographical barriers or other restrictions, but Day Kimball Healthcare leaders were encouraged from the start by their talks with Covenant Health, Inc., a Massachusetts-based nonprofit healthcare system.

Covenant Health currently operates three hospitals as part of its system, with locations in Nashua, NH; Bangor, ME; and Lewiston, ME.

Ultimately, with Covenant Health facing its own set of challenges, officials decided not to pursue the affiliation with Day Kimball Healthcare.

"Covenant covers a

broader geography over multiple states. When you look at the challenges of the landscape everyone is facing right now, that very likely contributed to their decision," Kramer said. "Throughout this entire process, we've learned how strong and resilient our team is. We are committed to keeping this organization strong and providing the highest level of service."

Covenant Health officials could not be reached for comment prior to our press deadline for this week's edition.

Years before the pandemic, hospitals throughout the region and the country were already feeling the pressures of multiple financial challenges. Looking ahead, the Day Kimball Healthcare lead-

ership team is committed to evaluating an array of options and choosing the best path forward.

"We will be looking carefully at what we are doing internally to make sure we are as strong as we possibly can be," added Kramer, who has more than 30 years of experience in the healthcare industry, serving in senior leadership roles at various major academic and community health systems and physician groups across the country. "We are excited about what we've been able to do during this challenging time. This hospital is important to our entire region, and we look forward to taking the next steps."

COLANGELO

continued from page A1

when the gun goes off it doesn't feel that long.

"The mentality I have before a race, once I get on that line, is that I don't care what the distance is. I'm just going to go out there and do it. I shaved off about a second-and-a-half (at States, New Englands, and Nationals)," Colangelo continued. "I think that improvement was competition-based. During the season I didn't push myself because I was always in front, and I didn't really know how to pace myself. But when you've got people in front of you, you push harder. Before states I didn't really know what my body could handle."

Colangelo also competed in the 55-meter dash and the high jump this season. In the 55 he finished second at the ECC meet, fifth at the Class S meet and eighth at the State Open. His best time in the event last year was 6.80 seconds. This year he finished the season with a personal-best dash time of 6.63.

"Running a 6.63 is a

huge improvement from where I was last year. My start is not the best. I know it's something I need to work on. In the 55, whoever gets out of the box best is going to win the race," Colangelo said. "In outdoor track, in the 100, I can get away with having a bad start because I usually come back in the final 40 meters. In the 55 you can't screw up."

Colangelo won the high jump at the ECC meet, finished second at the Class S meet and 10th at the State Open meet. His personal best in the event is 5-feet, 10 inches.

"Noah brings an incredible work ethic to the team. He does not miss a day. He's there from the beginning of practice until 30 minutes after practice finishes," Killingly track coach Marc Neuman said. "We often have to bring him back in the gym and tell him it's time to stretch and call it a day. He's always the last person out there. Noah works his butt off every single day to see the results on a weekly basis. He challenges himself on a daily and weekly basis."

In the upcoming

outdoor track season, Colangelo is going to experiment with running the 400, along with the 100 and 200, which he has run throughout his high school career. He will also compete in the high jump during the outdoor season, as well as running a leg on one of Killingly's relay teams.

"In the State Open I finished 16th in the 100-meter dash, and in the Class MM meet, in the 200, I finished sixth," Colangelo said. "I think the 200 is going to be my bread-and-butter event this year because, like before the indoor season, I didn't know how to pace myself in the event, and the indoor season really helped me learn how to do that."

"I know I can sprint a lot faster than I have. I feel in the past I have conserved too much energy in longer sprinting events because I don't think I'm going to have enough in the tank to finish," Colangelo added. "This year I've just got to go out there and do it, and whatever happens, happens. I felt like I was holding back last spring and indoors this year."

PROP 46

continued from page A1

failed also passed overwhelmingly in a 1,305 "yes" to 889 "no" vote, however with Question 1 repealing the ordinance that second question was no longer necessary and only symbolically assured the public's decision to repeal the law. A third question asking if the Town of Woodstock would approve expending \$215,441 as recommended by the Board of Finance from the Capital and Non-Recurring Fund for the Woodstock Academy Capital Project Assessment, an initiative that, as the question implied, will assess capital project needs at the school, also passed in a vote of 1,361 "yes" and 828 "no."

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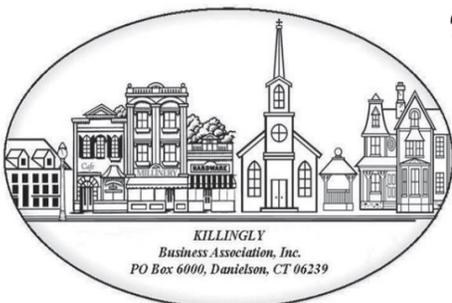
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OBITUARIES

Carlyn Duncan



Carlyn (Wegner) Duncan, of Andover, MA, passed away on Tuesday, February 7, 2023. She was months away from her 90th birthday. A longtime resident of Danielson, CT, she was born in St.

Louis, Missouri to Carl R. and Effie E. (Welsh) Wegner. A child of the Great Depression, her early years shaped much of her character. She lived frugally and was always courteous and thankful. Carlyn attended Pembroke University (now Brown University) in Providence, RI. Upon graduating she married and moved to Eastford, CT, where she devoted herself to raising her two children and managing family life. Carlyn also spent many years as a tutor for the Rectory School in Pomfret, CT. She held high expectations for her students, and although she could be stern at times, her kindness and dedication benefited many. Carlyn was, for many years, an active member of Christ Church in Pomfret, CT. She enjoyed singing in the choir and preparing Community Kitchen meals. She led the prayer chain for many years and loved to knit prayer shawls for those in need. She was an accomplished knitter, creating many hats, sweaters and blankets for loved

ones and friends alike. In her retirement, she enjoyed doing crossword puzzles, traveling, spending time with her grandchildren, reading, finding yard sale bargains, and continuing involvement with her church. She was fond of ladybugs and of birds, especially cardinals. She was always in pursuit of the best chocolate ice cream. She will be remembered for her incredibly generous spirit and wonderful sense of humor. She is dearly missed. In addition to her parents, Carlyn was predeceased by her husband Charles H. Duncan, her sister Mary Lee Wegner Williams, her brother D. Gordon Wegner, and her beloved son Steven Hopkins. She is survived by her daughter Elizabeth Hopkins and her husband Thomas C. Appleton of Andover, MA; her brother-in-law Dwight A. Williams of Portland, Oregon; her sister-in-law, Patricia A. Wegner of The Villages, Florida; her first husband, John A. Hopkins of Hebron CT; her granddaughters Emily H. Appleton and Sarah H. Appleton; and several nieces and nephews. A celebration of her life will be held on March 25 at 11am at Christ Church in Pomfret CT. In lieu of flowers, donations in Carlyn's memory may be made to American Red Cross, PO Box 37839, Boone, IA 50037-0839 or Christ Church, PO Box 21, Pomfret, CT 06258.

Dennis Straub, 52



Woodstock - Dennis Straub, 52, of Woodstock, Connecticut, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, March 13, 2023, surrounded by family.

Dennis was born on October 24, 1970, in Norwich, Connecticut. Dennis spent his childhood and school-age years in Killingly, CT, where he attended and graduated from Killingly High School in 1988.

Everyone who knew Dennis felt his big heart and giving nature. He was an extremely hard worker, spending more than 25 years in a variety of positions at Rogers Corporation in Woodstock, CT. During his time at Rogers, Dennis also served as a strong voice for his work community, and he was well loved by his many colleagues throughout the years.

Dennis was a self-taught jack of all trades. If something was broken, Dennis could fix it. He was also an avid, talented pool player, and a member of the American Pool Players' Association, winning several championship titles. Dennis loved nature, walking his dogs at the Thompson Dam, and training for half marathons. Above all, Dennis was a loving Husband, Father, and Grandfather, and being together with

family is what he enjoyed most.

Dennis was a resilient figure in the face of adversity, and a person who provided inspiring advice to whoever needed it. His sense of humor was contagious and second to none. Even when ill, Dennis could find the silver lining and strength to keep pushing forward in any situation. His legacy will carry on forever, reminding us that we can achieve anything through grit and determination.

Dennis is now at peace, joining his son, Dylan and sister, Sherry who passed before him. In addition to his parents Linda and Dennis, Dennis is survived by the most amazing caretaker and loving wife Erika; children, Rachael (Ben) and Jacob; grandchild, Bronson; Dear friend; Butch, Sisters: Lisa, Dawn, Sandra and Suzanne and brother; Dale, as well as, several nieces and nephews, countless friends, colleagues, and acquaintances.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gilman & Valade Funeral Homes & Crematory. A Celebration of Dennis' Life will be announced at a later date, where family and friends are invited to come and share fond memories and stories. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to be made in Dennis' honor to The Glioblastoma Research Organization. 447 Broadway, 2nd Floor #41 New York, NY 10013.

David M. Rybacki, 57



LACONIA - David M. Rybacki, 57, died on Monday, March 13, 2023, at his residence after a long illness with his family at his side.

David was born July 13, 1965, in Worcester, MA, to Marilyn (Zemsky) Rybacki and the late Richard Rybacki.

David grew up in North Grosvenordale, Ct, attending Tourtellotte High School, from which he graduated in 1983. His love of electronics and the Audio/Visual field led him into the Cable TV industry. He began his career as an installer and ended his career at Eustis Cable Enterprises in Vermont as a Technical Manager. He also served as a Vice

President at Argent Communications.

David loved spending time on his pontoon boat with family and friends on Lake Winnisquam in New Hampshire. It was where he was the happiest.

David is survived by his wife of 36 years, Betsy (Gadoury) Rybacki; son, Richard; daughter, Mary; mother, Marilyn; brothers, Ronald and Robert; sister, Julie; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his father, David was predeceased by his brother, Thomas and sister, Donna.

There will be no services at this time. Wilkinson-Beane-Simoneau-Paquette Funeral Home & Cremation Services and 603Cremations.com, 164 Pleasant Street, Laconia, NH, is assisting the family with arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial, please visit www.wilkinson-beane.com.

Mercedes J. Robbins



Thompson - Mercedes Jacqueline (Ernst) Robbins born on December 15, 1929, in Holyoke, Massachusetts and passed away on Saturday, March 18, 2023, surrounded by her family.

The daughter of Urban and Anna (Connors) Ernst, she married Robert Merrill Robbins, November 18, 1950 and passed away in 1998.

She was the proud mother of three children: Karen Robbins, Merrill Robbins and wife, Jayne (Angelo) Robbins, Lynne (Robbins) O'Brien and husband Timothy O'Brien.

She was a devoted grandmother to four grandchildren: Danielle Robbins (Marcus Palmore), Eric Robbins (Meghan Dussault), Darcy O'Brien (Juan Medina), Keegan O'Brien; and three great-grandchildren: Ryker & Landyn Robbins, Gabriella Palmore

She also leaves behind sister-in-laws Norma O'Leary and Carol Smith and brother-in-law Bob Smith as well as being "Auntie" to numerous nieces, nephews, and their families.

Mercedes highly valued education. After graduating Holyoke High School in 1947, she attended Connecticut College and later received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Bay Path College. She took real estate and investment courses at UCONN and Clark University.

She had a rich and diverse work history, filling many roles throughout her life; including owning and operating an oil business, as well as a real estate business with her husband, Robert. For 30 years she managed the accounting and auditing for various local businesses and community organizations. She served as Thompson Probate Clerk for 20 years and served as Treasurer of Thompson for 16 years.

Mercedes was known for giving her time and support to others. She was passionate about volunteering, and made serving her community her top priority, second only to her family. She served for many years as the financial advisor to a variety of town boards, including: the Board of Finance, Selectmen and Education, School Building Committee, Thompson Athletic Building Committee, the Thompson Historical Society, Village Improvement Society, the East Thompson Cemetery Association, Restoration Committee, Library Building Committee, Republican Town Committee, Day Kimball Hospital Women's Board, Past Regent and Trustee of Daughters of Isabella for 53 years, Republican Town Committee Board, Friends of the Library, and

Senexet Grange earning a golden sheaf for 55 years of service. She was also an active member of St Joseph Church / Sacred Heart Church, where she served as a eucharist minister and a member of the finance council. She served on the TEEG board as Treasurer for over twenty years and was honored by having the TEEG community room named after her.

Mercedes was well traveled—going on trips to much of the United States and Europe with her husband, and later, her daughter Karen and occasionally one of her grandchildren. She was known as a notoriously "lousy" cook but enjoyed taking her family out to eat and for ice cream whenever she got the chance. Her favorite pastimes included shopping, cleaning, and playing bridge and cribbage with her family and friends. Did we mention shopping? She really loved to shop. She was also an avid animal lover who doted on her dog, Frankie, and enjoyed bird watching from her window with her grandkids.

As the matriarch of her family, Mercedes' home served as the center of many happy family gatherings, holidays and reunions over the years. Her family will always remember her as a spirited, fiercely independent and strong-willed woman. She was the glue that held everyone together and her absence will be felt for years to come. Mercedes leaves behind so much more than just her acts of service, her countless contributions to her community, and a beautiful family. For her loved ones, she has left a lifetime of memories and a legacy that will shape and define who they are for the rest of their lives.

"What we once enjoyed and deeply loved we can never lose, for all that we love deeply becomes part of us" – Helen Keller

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to visit with Mercedes family from 5:00PM to 8:00PM on Friday, March 24, 2023, in the Valade Funeral Home and Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255. The funeral will assemble at the funeral home on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 9:00AM followed by a Mass of Christian burial in St. Joseph Church at 10:00AM. A private family burial will take place at East Thompson Cemetery. In lieu of flowers send donations to Robbins Family Scholarship, Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Dr., N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255, this scholarship is set up for Tourtellotte Memorial High school student. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Paul E. Kenyon, 79



Putnam - Paul E. Kenyon, age 79 of 25 Buck Street, Putnam CT, passed Sunday morning peacefully surrounded by his loving daughters. Born in Putnam, CT, he was the son of the late John F. Kenyon

and Kathleen (Watts) Kenyon.

Mr. Kenyon served in the United States Army from 1964-1966 and was stationed in California and Seoul, South Korea during his service. Paul developed a love of travel during this period of his life. After honorable discharge from the U.S. Army, he worked at Wycoff Steel Inc. in Putnam, CT for many years until he followed his true passion: precious metals and antiques. Paul opened Grams & Pennyweights in Putnam, CT in the early 1980s. Paul could tell you about anything and everything with a cultural and historical significance in the antique world. His shop drew people to the area and the rebirth of downtown Putnam began as other shops began to open.

Paul loved reminiscing about the travels he and his family made, most notably a thirteen-week cross country trip where his sense of adventure born in his military service was able to be shared with his daughters. He drove them in the family station wagon to see

seven national parks, twenty-five states, and countless national treasures. This trip birthed the same love of travel in his daughters.

Paul is survived by his two daughters, Wendy Durand and her husband Daniel of Woodstock, CT, Lisa Pesce and her husband Crispin of West Hartford, his four grandchildren; Rachel, Emma, Ella, and Abigail, his brother Thomas Kenyon and wife Susan Kenyon, and his niece Misty Williams.

Paul was predeceased by his parents John F. Kenyon and Kathleen Watts, his brother John F. Kenyon and sister Joan Kenyon.

Paul was a resilient figure in the face of adversity, and provided a positive outlook to anyone who needed a lift. He had a contagious sense of humor and was able to make everyone in his company feel comfortable. Paul fought a long hard battle against cancer in his final years and is now at peace, joining his parents, brother, and sister.

Honoring Paul's wishes, a private Celebration of Life will be held for Paul at a later date. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gilman and Valade Funeral Homes and Crematory. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com. In lieu of flowers, the family prefers donations to be made in Paul's honor to Daily Bread, United Methodist Church, 53 Grove Street, Putnam, CT 06260.

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



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OBITUARIES

Priscilla Arlette Dautrich, 82



Priscilla Arlette (Cournoyer) Dautrich, 82, of Brooklyn passed away on March 11th, 2023 at the Matulaitis Nursing Home in Putnam CT after a brief, but difficult, battle with cancer. Over the three months she as at Matulaitis hardly a day went by that she didn't have family by her side.

She was born on Sept 23, 1940 in Danielson CT the daughter of the late Arthur and Bella Cournoyer. She attended school at St James School in Danielson. She leaves a daughter, Karin LaVine of WHartford; a son, Kenneth Gamache and wife Monica of Jupiter FL; a daughter Kelly Gamache and partner Karen Festa of Deerfield NH and three grandsons- Wade Gamache and wife Alyssa, Dylan Gamache and Callan Gamache. She was predeceased by her husband, Peter E. Dautrich and her sister, Barbara Coderre.

She was known by family and friends in the Danielson area as "Arlette" and to so many others as "Pat". She worked many jobs while balancing being a single mom and raising three kids alone for many years- secretary, legal aide assistant, banquet waitress and small business owner of "Pat's Party Favors". However, no single position

was more important to her than her job as being a mom and grandmother ("Mama Pat") to her three grandsons.

She and Pete began their life together in 1980 in Southington CT. Together they loved traveling to St Maarten and Las Vegas, frequenting auctions and searching for rare collectibles. After Pete's passing in 2006, Pat moved to VT to be close to her daughter Kelly and there she made many friends and added to her "extended family". In 2016, she returned home to her roots, purchased a condo in Brooklyn CT and shared many enjoyable times with her brother David and sister-in-law Carol and friends she grew up with.

A "Celebration of Life" will be held Saturday March 25, 2023 at the Black Dog Bar & Grille, 146 Park Rd, Putnam CT from 3-6:00 pm and is open for all to attend. Graveside services will be held at the convenience of the family in Winsted CT. In lieu of flowers the family would encourage donations to be made to the Day Kimball Healthcare- Hospice and Palliative Care of Northeastern CT, 320 Pomfret St, Putnam CT 06260. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with the arrangements. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik.com where you may post a condolence or lite a candle.

Trinity Episcopal Church to host Healing service

BROOKLYN — The public is invited to a Healing service at Trinity Episcopal Church on Saturday, March 25 at 2 p.m. The service will include healing prayer, acoustic music and Holy Communion.

Trinity Episcopal Church is located at 7 Providence Rd., at the intersection of Routes 6 and 169. Sunday services are held at 10 a.m. in-person and on their Facebook page: [trinitychurchbrooklyn@facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/trinitychurchbrooklyn). For more information, visit <http://www.trinitychurchbrooklyn.org>.

Caroline Wilcox named to Elms College Dean's List

CHICOPEE, Mass. — Caroline Wilcox, of Pomfret Center, was named to the College of Our Lady of the Elms fall 2022 Dean's List.

Wilcox was among 476 students named to the fall 2022 Dean's List.

To qualify, a full-time student must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher, without incompletes.

Elms College is a co-educational Catholic college offering a liberal arts curriculum that prepares students holistically for a purposeful life in a diverse and interconnected world. Founded in 1928 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Elms College has a tradition of educating reflective, principled and creative learners, who are rooted in faith, educated in mind, compassionate in heart, responsive to civic and social obligations, and capable of adjusting to change without compromising principle.

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LEGALS

LIQUOR PERMIT

Notice of Application

This is to give notice that I, ROBERT W RAUH, 10 SUMMERHILL DR, RUTLAND, MA 01543-1923 Have filed an application placarded 03/21/2023 with the Department of Consumer Protection for a WHOLESALE LIQUOR PERMIT for the sale of alcoholic liquor on the premises at 135 LOUISA VIENS DR DAYVILLE CT 06241-1105 The business will be owned by: WINDHAM PEPSI-COLA BOTTLING CO INC Entertainment will consist of: Objections must be filed by: 05-02-2023 ROBERT W RAUH March 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Valerie C. Woisard (22-00527) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 10, 2023, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk The fiduciary is: David L. Woisard, 52 Mill Cove Road, Warwick, RI 02889 March 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Owen Alton Tarr (22-00146) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 27, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk The fiduciary is: Nancy P. Best, 28 Laconia Ave., Putnam, CT 06260 March 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Michael P. Lamoureux, (23-00049) The Hon. Gabrielle LaBonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated March 14, 2023, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk The fiduciary is: David A. Lamoureux, 420 Moosup Pond Road, Moosup, CT 06354 March 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Paul F Lupinski (22-00390)

The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated September 26, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk The fiduciary is: Mary Ann Champney, 12 Cady Lane, Woodstock, CT 06281 March 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF John Elwood IV Dunn (22-00425)

The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated November 22, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk The fiduciary is: Rosamon Dunn, 58 Pomfret Street, Apt. 2308, Putnam, CT 06260 March 24, 2023

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On March 2, 2023, the Planning & Zoning Commission approved the text amendment to the Zoning Regulations, Article III Section A.2.e.A.4, for the purposes of extending the temporary and limited moratorium on cannabis establishments. Effective date: April 17, 2023. Dr. Jeffery Gordon, PZC Chairman March 24, 2023

TOWN OF KILLINGLY TAX COLLECTORS LEGAL NOTICE

Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-4:30PM Tuesday 8-5:30PM Friday 8-11:30AM. The fourth quarter installment of taxes becomes due on April 1, 2023, and becomes delinquent on May 2, 2023 and subject to interest at the rate of 18% per annum, 1 1/2% per month or any fraction of a month, from the due date. A minimum of \$2.00 interest will be charged for each delinquent tax bill and installment. Please visit our website for full details and online payments www.killingly.org Dated at Killingly this 16TH day of March, 2023 Patricia Monahan CCMC Revenue Collector for the Town of Killingly March 24, 2023 April 7, 2023 April 21, 12023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Grace Ann Harmon, AKA Grace K Harmon (23-00063)

The Hon. Gabrielle LaBonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated March 22, 2023, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Brenda Duquette, Chief Clerk The fiduciary is: Judith H Perkins c/o EDWIN C HIGGINS, BACHAND, LONGO & HIGGINS, 168 MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260 March 24, 2023

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING APRIL 4, 2023 7:00 P.M.

WOODSTOCK TOWN HALL, RM 1 The Board of Finance of the Town of Woodstock will hold a Public Hearing at the Woodstock Town Hall on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in accordance with section 7-344 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Itemized estimates of the expenditures of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education will be presented and the Board of Finance will hear all persons who wish to be heard in-regards to any appropriation which they are desirous that the Board of Finance shall recommend or reject for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024. Dated at Woodstock, CT. this 14th day of March 2023 Michael Dougherty, Chairman Woodstock Board of Finance March 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Delores E. Morrisette, AKA Delores Edna Morrisette (23-00051)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 17, 2023, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk The fiduciary is: Michelle M. Bouchard c/o MARK R BROUILLARD, ST ONGE & BROUILLARD, 50 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281 March 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF David N Sherman (22-00199)

The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 1, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk The fiduciary is: Suzan G. Brown, IAN TYLER SULLIVAN (attorney for Suzan G. Brown), ST. ONGE & BROUILLARD, 50 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281, (860)928-0481. March 24, 2023

TOWN OF KILLINGLY METERED USE LEGAL NOTICE

Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows; office hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-4:30PM Tuesday 8-5:30PM Friday 8-11:30AM. By Mail, online, or in our drop box. The second installment metered use is due March 1, 2023, if payment is not received on or before March 31, 2023 the installment becomes delinquent and subject to interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent of such tax for each month or fraction thereof which elapses from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until the same is paid. A minimum of \$2.00 interest will be charged for each delinquent bill and installment. Please visit our website for full details and online payments www.killingly.org Dated at Killingly this 14th^h day of February 2023 Patricia Monahan CCMC REVENUE COLLECTOR FOR THE TOWN OF KILLINGLY February 24, 2023 March 10, 2023 March 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Viola P. Wheeler (22-00494)

The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated December 4, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim. Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk The fiduciary is: Bernard Blanchette, KATHERINE MCCANN (DIANA, CONTI & TUNILA, LLP, 1091 MAIN STREET, MANCHESTER, CT 06040, (860)643-2181 March 24, 2023

Adventure Park at Storrs announces annual "Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees"



STORRS — The Adventure Park at Storrs, the area's best zipline and climbing adventure experience, is excited to announce the dates its annual "Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees" running from March 31 – April 9. March 31 is also the Park's 2023 Season Opening Day.

In this non-traditional Easter Egg Hunt, participants look for "eggs" hidden among the trees throughout the trails while climbing through the adventure park. Participants receive a treat at the end of their climb.

"The annual Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees is a favorite of guests," said Jesse Pasacreta, Park Manager. "They enjoy seeing where the Easter Bunny has hidden eggs throughout the trails and, of course, love getting a treat at the end."

Participation in the "Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees" is free, but guests will need to purchase a ticket for climbing at myAdventurePark.com/SAP. Dates for the "Easter Egg Hunt in the Trees" are March 31 through April 9 during regular operating hours.

The Adventure Park at Storrs has also released its Spring Break schedule with daily extended hours from April 7 through April 16.

About The Adventure Park at Storrs

The 9 trails at The Adventure Park consist of various challenges in the trees, including bridges, tightropes, ladders, and 28 ziplines. Participants wear harnesses with clips that connect to the trail's safety system, ensuring that they are always locked on to the course until they reach the end. The main trails are designed for ages 7 to adult, and an Adventure Playground provides a low-to-the-ground adventure experience for little climbers ages three to six. The Adventure Park at Storrs also offers 3 lanes of outdoor axe throwing and is the area's only outdoor axe throwing venue.

Non-climbing participants are admitted free of charge to share the experience on the ground and enjoy the property's nature trails, picnic tables and community firepit.

The Adventure Park at Storrs is open to the general public and is located minutes from the UConn Campus. The address is 2007 Storrs Rd. in Storrs. Walk-ins are welcome on a space available basis, but guests are encouraged to book ahead on the Park's website or by calling 860-946-0606.

The Adventure Park at Storrs is designed, built and operated by Outdoor Venture Group.

For further details and updates, please visit: myAdventurePark.com/SAP or 860-946-0606.

Christ Church announces Easter schedule



POMFRET — All are invited to the return of the Eggstravaganza on Sunday, April 2 at 11:30 a.m. Featuring the Easter Bunny, several age-appropriate rounds of egg hunts, a bounce house, and lots of fun, it is a "must do" for community

members of all ages.

The festivities begin following the 10 a.m. Palm Sunday church service; refreshments will be served while the first egg hunt is set up. The congregation hopes that non-members will attend the church service as well.

Christ Church seeks to serve those of all religious backgrounds or none. The church is located at 527 Pomfret St. (Route 169) in Pomfret. Additional parking is available across the street in the Rectory School lot.

QVCC holds 16th Annual Julius Sokenu Poetry Awards Night

DANIELSON — Quinebaug Valley Community College will hold its 16th Annual Julius Sokenu Poetry Prize Celebration on April 27 at 6 p.m. in Robert E. Miller Auditorium.

The event is free and open to the public, with readings by award-winning student poets and guest speaker and poet Edgar Kunz. Sandwiches, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and beverages will be provided.

Originally from Connecticut and a former community college student, Kunz is an assistant professor at Goucher College and author of the poetry collections "Tap Out" (Mariner, 2019), named a New & Noteworthy book by the New York Times, and "Fixer" (Ecco, 2023). His poems have appeared in many publications, including The New Yorker, The Atlantic, Poetry, and Oxford American. In addition, he has received fellowships and awards from the National Endowment for the Arts, MacDowell, Bread Loaf, Vanderbilt University, and Stanford University, where he was a Wallace



Edgar Kunz

Stegner Fellow. He resides in Baltimore.

The annual Julius Sokenu Poetry Awards honors the best student poetry in English and Spanish at Quinebaug Valley Community College and Quinebaug Middle College. The event is sponsored by QVCC Foundation, Cultural Programming Committee, departments of English and Spanish, EASTCONN's Quinebaug Middle College, and QVCC Student Government Association, as well as Julius Sokenu Poetry Prize donors.

For more information contact Professor Jon Andersen at jandersen@qvcc.edu or Interim Academic Division Director Elkin Espitia-Loaiza, at eespita-loaiza@qvcc.edu.

QVCC is among 12 communi-

ty colleges in Connecticut that will merge in July 2023 to become CT State Community College, one of the largest community colleges in the country and largest in New England, dedicated to quality, access and affordability. Connecticut State students will be able to apply once and take classes at any campus. In addition to Quinebaug, other locations include A s n u n t u c k (Enfield), Capital (Hartford), G a t e w a y (New Haven & North Haven), Housatonic (Bridgeport), Manchester, Middlesex (Middletown & Meriden), Naugatuck Valley (Waterbury & Danbury), Northwestern (Winsted), Norwalk, Quinebaug Valley (Danielson & Willimantic), and Three Rivers (Norwich) Community Colleges. For more information, see www.ctstate.edu/becoming.

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