

New bookstore keeps love of literature alive



Jason Bleau

Kathy Naumann, a Quiet Corner native, recently opened a new book shop Wolperdinger Bookends on Putnam's Main Street.

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

PUTNAM — While many will argue that hard copy books are a dying art thanks to digital media, that's far from true in the Quiet Corner with Putnam recently welcoming a new bookstore to its bustling Main Street corridor.

Kathy Naumann and the staff of Wolperdinger Bookends officially opened for business in August at 112 Main St. in Putnam as the latest addition to The Shops at Montgomery Ward offering a collection of classic and modern hard copy

books from all genres and for all age groups. Naumann is a local resident who felt that Putnam was the perfect place to bring her dream of owning a bookstore to life.

"I know what Putnam can do and what it has to offer especially for small businesses. It's a real sense of community and we are a community bookstore. We are here as an experience, so more than just selling books and merchandise. We have opportunities for journaling, we have space for 'leave us a quote' so people can leave us their favorite quotes, we have book discussions, and

we'll host book clubs, author readings and feature local writers. We're going to bring back Poetry Slam and we have children's books and are going to do Tot Spot story times. It just made sense that we would be on Main Street in a community that really supports its businesses," she said.

The store's name comes from a mythical creature of German descent. Naumann and her husband live in Germany part time and after seeing the word "Wolperding" on a license plate they were inspired to name the store after the creature of legend that us a

hybrid of many different animals. The name was original and fitting considering the wide variety of books the store keeps in stock for readers of different interests.

Wolperdinger Bookends continues a trend of embracing traditional handheld media in the Quiet Corner. Wonderland Comics, another longtime staple of Putnam's Main Street, has proven there is still a market for hard copy comic books and graphic novels while Pourings and Passages, a used bookstore on Killingly's Main Street, has earned

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Danielson announces retirement of Borough Administrator

DANIELSON — It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of our cherished Borough Administrator, Brenda Duchesneau. After more than 20 years of unwavering dedication and service, Brenda has touched the lives of many and shaped our community in profound ways.

Duchesneau has been instrumental in the Borough since taking over the position in 2001. She has been the quiet force behind the scenes, guiding the Borough through numerous challenges and initiatives. Her commitment to public service has had a lasting impact on the Town of Killingly, starting from her days as a business owner to her role as a leading member of the KBA. She has always demonstrated a passion for our community, and her commitment to excellence has inspired us all. We are incredibly grateful for her years of service and the legacy she leaves behind. Her vision and dedication have helped shape the Danielson community for the better, and she will be greatly missed.

The Borough is excited to announce the appointment of Janice Thurlow as the new Borough Administrator.

Recently retired from her role as Finance Director at Woodstock Public Schools, Thurlow brings a wealth of experience to our community. Well-known in the Killingly area, she has served as a former member of the Killingly Town Council and currently holds the position of Registrar of Voters. Janice is well-prepared to build on the strong foundation laid by her predecessors and is expected to uphold the tradition of excellence in service to our residents.

Both women will collaborate closely over the next few months to ensure a seamless transition, minimizing any disruptions for Borough residents.

Killingly completes dredging of Owen Bell Pond



Courtesy

A photo shared of the Owen Bell Park pond during the now-completed dredging process that occurred over the summer.

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The dredging project for the Owen Bell Park pond in Killingly is now complete according to Town Administrator Mary Calorio who provided an update to the Town Council during their meeting on Sept. 27.

The process began in July utilizing grant money to initiate the process of removing silt and other materials from the bottom of the pond which has long served as a popular visual element of Owen Bell Park in the Dayville section of town. Calorio reported that the dredging was actually completed ahead of schedule using only in-house staff and rental equipment.

The process not only allowed the removal of materials from the ponds bed, but also gave workers the chance to address overgrown vegetation and other issues that impacted the pond's longevity and beauty. Calorio explained

that she worked with a Natural Resource Officer to address overgrowth in purple loosestrife and plans are in the works to transplant some vegetation from one side of the pond to the other to create more balance along the shore. Calorio also addressed concerns about the disruption of wildlife habitats saying they worked with the Natural Resource Officer to ensure they were respecting the natural order. Around 20 turtles were temporarily relocated who have since started making their way back to the pond on their own, and supplemental food was provided for the fish that call the pond home.

Calorio complimented the town staff that were involved saying the whole process was handled effectively and efficiently. While the soccer field where they had stored much of the removed material was still fenced off as of her report, she said they used less space than anticipated and that the field should be cleared soon.

"We were incredibly fortunate that after we got the first amount of sludge out, we hit some dryer material we were able to just haul offsite from the get-go," said Calorio. "Because we didn't have to put as much on the soccer field it de-watered relatively quickly. We used just under half the size of the soccer field so only about half of the field was impacted which is really great. We're actually going to be putting a mini soccer field on the one half that's still unimpacted."

With the dredging now completed, Calorio expressed excitement for even more enhancements in the works for Owen Bell Park in the not-too-distant future. She closed her project update revealing that plans for a new asphalt track are officially moving forward.

"That will give the town more flexibility for events at the park. We'll be able to have food trucks or cars will be able to drive out there. Right now, the material is not suitable for that. Having an asphalt track out there won't be used for competition. All of that is up at the high school. Putting it more towards what we actually use it for, which is a walking track and then town events, that's what we're going to do is pave that," said Calorio.

The reclamation of the track will likely take place in the next construction cycle depending on the condition of the disturbed area of the soccer field which will be seeded and evaluated next spring.

WA honored for outstanding support of National Guard and Reserve employees



WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Academy is proud to announce that it has been recognized by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) for our ongoing commitment to supporting employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve Forces. This honor reflects our dedication to providing meaningful support to the brave individuals who balance civilian careers with their duties to our country.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is the lead U.S. Defense Department program promoting cooperation and understanding between civilian employers and their National Guard and Reserve employees. Established in 1972, ESGR operates within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve

Affairs.

Over the past several years, The Woodstock Academy has implemented various initiatives to assist National Guard and Reserve employees. These include additional paid leave, comprehensive insurance coverage, and other support mechanisms designed to ease the challenges that come with serving both their country and the school. By offering these benefits, The Woodstock Academy aims to ensure that its employees can fulfill their military responsibilities while continuing to excel in their roles within the WA community.

Nikolas Ververis, P.E. and Health Teacher at The Woodstock Academy, has served in the Connecticut Air National Guard since March 2020. "Wearing multiple hats as an educator and service member can be

tough, but with a community like ours, I am reminded that I am not navigating this journey alone," said Ververis. "It's truly an honor to serve both in the classroom and in the military."

The ESGR's recognition underscores The Woodstock Academy's unwavering commitment to its employees, as well as its broader role in contributing to national security through support of the Guard and Reserve.

"We are deeply honored by this recognition from the ESGR," said Head of School Chris Sandford. "At The Academy, we believe in standing by our employees, especially those who are committed to defending our nation. Their service is an inspiration, and we are proud to support them in every way possible."

Putnam Legion holds annual golf tournament

PUTNAM — Putnam’s Mayotte-Viens American Legion Post 13 held their annual golf tournament on Monday, Sept. 16 at the Connecticut National Golf Course in Putnam. It was a perfect day for golf - a beautiful crisp clear day that offered a hint of autumn for the 27 foursomes which completed the 18 hole course. According to Post 13 Commander Michael

Rocchetti, “The Golf Tournament is one of our most important sources of income. I don’t know what it is about this sport – it seems to induce such a spirit of altruism amongst the players - especially when the game is being played for a good cause. The support, and generosity of our local community is evident! And its nice to know that these people appreciate

the work our American Legion Post is doing for the local community.” This year, the focus of the golf tournament was twofold – to honor the legacy of Putnam’s only Congressional Medal of Honor recipient – US Navy submariner Henry Breault, and to raise money for the on-going restoration and upgrades to Veteran’s Memorial Park in Putnam.

Brian Maynard, a past Post 13 Commander, served as the Chairman of the Golf Committee and put together a team that included past Post 13 Commander M i c h a e l Vassar, Eric Quinn, Edward Morissette, Traci Lefebvre, Earl Rosebrooks, Shayna O’Brien, Cara Mayhew, William Leary, and Charles Mackenzie.

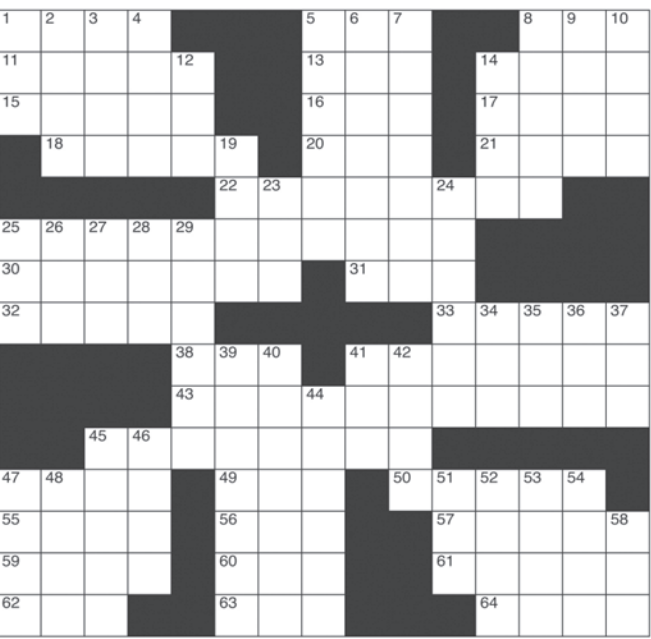
According to Maynard, “This was an all-star team – highly motivated and very dedicated to making the event a success.” Maynard also congratulated the tournament winning foursome of Brendan Meehan, Rocky Bedard, Tom Morway, and John Lesniewski, with a “To Par Gross” of -16, and a “Total Gross” of 55. M a y n a r d kicked-off the event with the



Pledge of Allegiance. He also talked a bit about the importance of the Veteran’s Park in Putnam, and how the proceeds of the Tournament would help pay for the great work being done by Rob Challinor and his Putnam’s Veterans Advisory Committee. He also expressed sincere gratitude for the primary tournament sponsors which included Big Gary’s Discount Liquor Store in Putnam and the Supported Living Group Rehabilitation Center in Danielson. “The level of generosity exceeded our expectations,” Maynard said.

“There are so many other major sponsors I would like to recognize, including: Roger Franklin, The HILB Group (Gerardi Insurance), Downes Construction, Bank Hometown, Venture Communications & Security, EDS Mechanical, Jason St. Onge [G Seven Catering], FCT Inc. Earl Rosebrooks, Northeast Kitchens and Flooring [George Amenabar], Dexter Masonry, and many more tee sponsors. We are also thankful for the many donations we received for raffle prizes, and for the people who came out today to golf at

our tournament. It’s just overwhelming we made \$6,000 more than last year and netted about \$20,450! How lucky we are to live in such a great community!” Putnam’s American Legion Post 13 has been active in our community since 1919. This veteran’s organization stands on four pillars - Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. The Legion has a wide variety of related programs that directly support our local community.

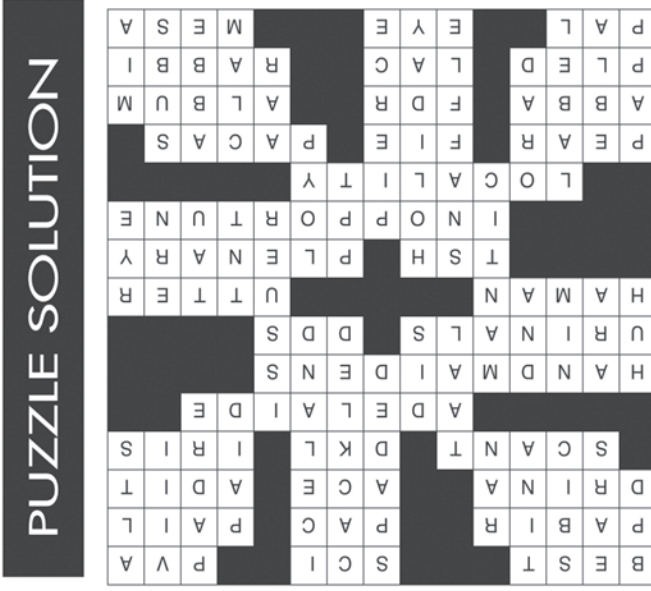


CLUES ACROSS

1. Unequaled
5. ___-fi (slang)
8. Synthetic resin
11. Chadic language Bura-___
13. Influential come Election Day
14. Bucket
15. European river
16. Earn a perfect score
17. Horizontal passage
18. Barely sufficient
20. Dekaliter
21. Goo Goo Dolls hit
22. Australian city
25. Female servants
30. Plumbing fixtures
31. Tooth caregiver
32. Book of Esther antagonist
33. Say aloud
38. Thyrotrophic hormone
41. Absolute
43. Untimely
45. Area or neighborhood
47. Juicy fruit
49. Expresses distaste, disapproval
50. S. American rodents
55. Swedish rock group
56. Influential American president
57. Volume
59. Begged
60. Resinlike substance secreted by certain lac insects
61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
62. Good friend
63. Body part
64. Tableland

CLUES DOWN

1. Barrels per day (abbr.)
2. Body parts
3. Invests in little enterprises
4. Rock legend Turner
5. Dug into
6. Laughed
7. Northern European nation
8. San Diego ballplayer
9. Eight
10. Substitutes (abbr.)
12. Moved swiftly on foot
14. Compensated
19. Volcano in the Philippines
23. Speak ill of
24. One who publishes
25. Expression of bafflement
26. Macaws
27. Matchstick game
28. We all have our own
29. Divinatory
34. Explosive
35. Follows sigma
36. Sea eagle
37. Type of bread
39. Bit used with a set of reins
40. Time away from work
41. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
42. Lots on your plate (abbr.)
44. Actor Brosnan
45. It’s part of packaging
46. Towards the oral region
47. Public Theater creator Joseph
48. Ancient Syrian city
51. Swiss river
52. Mollusk
53. A French abbot
54. Hoagies
58. Not present (slang)



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OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

**VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS**

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

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

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

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

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

The Woodstock Villager (USPS 024-999) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, 10A Beeches Ln, Woodstock Ct 06281. Periodical postage paid at Putnam, CT and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: send address changes to Villager Newspapers c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Gabriel Waldron of North Grosvenordale graduates from Emerson College

BOSTON, Mass. — Emerson College celebrated the Class of 2024 during the 144th Commencement at Agganis Arena in Boston, Mass. on Sunday, May 12. Gabriel Waldron of North Grosvenordale received a BA in Media Studies. During the ceremony, the College honored award-winning executives, creators, and Emersonians for their contributions and efforts to the arts, communication, and greater humanity.

Randy Barbato '82, acclaimed director, producer, and co-founder of World of Wonder, the multi-platform entertainment company behind the Emmy Award-winning show “RuPaul’s Drag Race”, and Emerson Trustees Doug Holloway and Al Jaffe received honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degrees. Barbato '82 delivered the commencement address.

“I do want you to take the time to discover yourself in the world. Trust the timing in your life. Things will not turn out how you planned,” said Barbato. “It’s experiences that create the opportunities. It’s the experiences that build your endurance and connections with another and remind you to refine your confidence.”

About Emerson College
Based in Boston, Mass., opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city’s Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has approximately 4,161 under-graduates and 554 graduate students from across the United States and nearly 70 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs at Emerson Los Angeles, located in Hollywood, and at its 14th-century castle, in the Netherlands. Additionally, there are opportunities to study in Washington, D.C., London, China, and the Czech Republic, Spain, Austria, Greece, France, Ireland, Mexico, Cuba, England, and South Africa. The College has an active network of 51,000+ alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation
(Requester Publications Only)

1. Publication Title
WOODSTOCK VILLAGER

2. Publication Number
0 2 4 - 9 9 9

3. Filing Date
9/18/24

4. Issue Frequency
WEEKLY

5. Number of Issues Published Annually
52

6. Annual Subscription Price (if any)
0

7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®)
10A BEECHES LN, WOODSTOCK CT 06281

8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer)
VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS, 10A BEECHES LN, WOODSTOCK CT 06281

9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank)
Publisher (Name and complete mailing address)
FRANK CHILINSKI, PO BOX 90, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550
Editor (Name and complete mailing address)
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PS Form 3526-R, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4) (See instructions page 4) PSN: 7530-09-000-8885 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com

13. Publication Title
WOODSTOCK VILLAGER

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below
9/20/24

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation
REQUESTER

Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months

No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date

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33

30

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100%

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b. Total Requested and Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Requested/Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)

6075

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Ashley Wendorf earns Westview’s Employee of the Month Award



Ashley Wendorf

DAYVILLE — Ashley Wendorf is celebrated as the Westview Employee of the Month for August 2024.

During this time of recognition, in her 17th year with the Westview family, Wendorf is proud to showcase her growth within the organization. Initially, she began her time at the Dayville skilled nursing facility in 2007 as a Receptionist; hosting the visiting guests, fielding the telephone communications of patient and resident families, and performing various clerical duties to ensure smooth operations throughout the build-

ing. Given her expertise at Westview, she was recruited to become a full-time Human Resources Assistant in April 2022, and has worked harmoniously in that vocation since pivoting to that role. The Human Resources responsibilities within the Westview family have expanded considerably in the last few years—and Wendorf has constantly risen to this burgeoning opportunity. Now, Ashley is accountable for aiding and assisting the crew at Westview Health Care Center, Country Living at Westview Commons, and the newly minted Westview Child Care Center.

In her time at Westview, Wendorf has witnessed and been a part of their growth. The organization’s staffing and square footage have increased, as have her fulfillments in daily duties. She devotes her time at Westview to aid the Human Resources Director in any way possible; supporting facility needs by all means possible. These callings range from directives such as updating employee provisional materials like policy books and identification badges to being an integral part of events like the recently-held Employee Appreciation Week at Westview. In general, she is one of many members at Westview that maintains their progress and keeps the mission moving to provide outstanding care. Ashley graduated from the Academy of the Holy Family in Baltic for her high school education. She then studied Journalism at the University of Connecticut before beginning her tenure at Westview Health Care Center. Enjoying her own evolution at Westview, Ashley thoroughly enjoys her colleagues and the opportunity to interact with so many people—

whether they are coworkers, patients, residents, clients, or family members of those entrusted to Westview’s care.

Wendorf grew up in Dayville, and currently resides in Brooklyn with her wife Megan. They are the proud owners of two dogs, Braylee and Brextyn—and two cats, Bear and Chunky. She is close with her sister Kirstie and her husband Julian, as well as her brother Matthew, his wife Teresa, and their daughter Lana. With her parents (Erin and Thomas) now living in Florida, Wendorf and her family are sure to make time to create as many quality memories as they can together. The whole Wendorf family recently enjoyed a cruise to the Bahamas; soaking up the sunshine, breathing the Caribbean air; and sharing smiles throughout the voyage. Whenever possible, she loves to do home renovation projects. She credits this household ingenuity to lessons that she learned from her father, describing him as a “jack of all trades.” Growing up she played as many sports as possible and cites basketball, football, and soccer as her favorites to this day. With

the football season just starting, she is happy to root for the New England Patriots once again.

In earning this recognition, Wendorf expressed humbleness and gratitude for the people she works alongside: “It’s quite the honor to be chosen as the Employee of the Month at a facility that is so large and ever expanding with so many incredible and noteworthy employees.”

Westview Executive Vice President David T. Panteleakos expressed his compliments to Ashley for her many years of service at Westview and for achieving the Employee of the Month designation.

“Throughout her time at Westview I have known Ashley to be as professional as she is pleasant. Whether she is interacting with patients, residents, families, or colleagues, she always presents her efficient and enjoyable personality,” Mr. Panteleakos said. “She ensures satisfaction across all of her roles at Westview and I am happy to see her progression to her current position in our Human Resources Department.

Congratulations to Ashley!”

Westview Health Care Center is a 103-bed inpatient skilled nursing facility, which includes a distinct and self-contained 28-bed sub-acute short term rehabilitation unit and outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapies including: Sports Medicine, Adolescent/Pediatric, Adult, and Aquatic Outpatient Centers, all dedicated to providing outstanding quality health care services. The Dayville, Connecticut facility is consistently ranked among the top nursing facilities in the nation, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as well as U.S. News and World Report, consecutively for the past 15 years.

WHZ Strategic Wealth Advisors welcomes Tanner Sargent as Client Relationship Associate



Tanner Sargent

POMFRET CENTER/TOLLAND — WHZ Strategic Wealth Advisors has welcomed Tanner Sargent to the firm as a Client Relationship Associate. In this role, Sargent works collaboratively with WHZ’s advisors to enhance their ability to serve clients and provide unwavering partnership in the overall client experience.

Sargent holds the Securities Industry Essentials and Series 6 investment registrations, leveraging his industry knowledge to better serve clients in his role. Before joining WHZ, Sargent worked in the insurance industry, focusing on building relationships with individuals from various walks of life and understanding their unique situations and needs.

A longtime Tolland resident, Sargent is a graduate of the University of

Maine, where he obtained his bachelor’s degree and served as Vice President of the Political Discourse Club.

“We are thrilled to welcome Tanner to our award-winning team at WHZ,” said WHZ Principal, Managing Partner, and Chief Goals Strategist James Zahansky, AWMA®. “His background in relationship-building and his commitment to understanding clients’ unique needs align perfectly with our mission to provide an exceptional wealth management experience. Tanner’s industry knowledge and eagerness to continuously learn and improve make him a valuable addition to our growing team as we strive to deliver absolute confidence and unwavering partnership for life to our clients.”

In his spare time, Sargent enjoys outdoor activities such as skiing, fishing, and traveling. He is also an avid learner, continuously striving to be the best version of his personal and professional self.

WHZ is an independent investment and fiduciary asset management firm serving individuals, families, business owners, executives, and not-for-profit institutions in 25 states from its offices in Pomfret and Tolland. The firm’s mission is to provide each and every client with ‘Absolute Confidence. Unwavering

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

*Staying
united after
the election:
A call to
remember
what matters
most*

Once the dust settles after the upcoming presidential election, it's important for all of us—no matter who we voted for—to remember that we are still neighbors, friends, and family. Elections have the power to highlight our differences, but they don't change the core of what really makes us a community. When the votes are counted and the debates subside, we must find our way back to what binds us: a shared commitment to the well-being of our families, our neighborhoods, and the place we call home.

While political divisions can feel sharp and personal, especially in today's climate, it's essential to remember that the most meaningful connections in our lives aren't determined by a vote. The person who will lend you a cup of sugar, help you shovel your driveway, or cheer for your kid's team on a chilly Saturday morning is your neighbor—not just a political identity. Whether we find ourselves celebrating or disappointed by the election's outcome, the morning after still requires us to move forward—together.

Our communities are built on cooperation and common ground, regardless of who holds office. We rely on each other in ways that go beyond politics. Schools still need teachers, businesses still need customers, and we all still need that feeling of connection with those around us. The conversations we have at the local coffee shop, at school pick-ups, or during community events are what truly shape the fabric of our daily lives. These moments, not political debates, are what sustain us.

This is not to say that the issues at stake in elections don't matter—they absolutely do. We must continue to advocate for what we believe in, speak our minds, and hold our leaders accountable. But it's also vital that we don't let the divisions of the political arena spill over into the personal relationships that hold our communities together. After all, when the election is over, we still share the same streets, parks, and grocery stores.

So, how do we move forward? First, by listening. Let's take the time to really hear one another, even when we disagree. Let's focus on finding common ground—there's often more of it than we realize. Whether it's addressing local issues, supporting a neighbor in need, or simply being kind to one another, we can all contribute to the healing and rebuilding process that follows every election.

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

Join us in voting for Kamala

To the Editor:

In a few weeks, we, as American citizens, have the opportunity and right to vote in this year's Presidential election. The choice could not be clearer and the decision more important.

One candidate, as a prosecuting District Attorney and as an Attorney General, worked to bring to justice those who broke the laws. Her opponent is a convicted felon who has also been found libel for sexual assault. He is awaiting trial on other charges.

One candidate supports her policy proposals with reason, information and facts. Her opponent presents his positions with a string of misrepresentations, wild conspiracy theories and outright lies. In the recent debate, independent, non-partisan fact checking showed he lied 30 times in 90 minutes.

One candidate supports a women's right, with the advice of her doctors, to control medical decisions affecting her body. Her opponent wants each state to make laws controlling women's bodies.

One candidate supports Ukraine's defense from Russian aggression. The other candidate states that he does not care which side wins this war.

One candidate sees the obvious dangers posed by foreign autocratic leaders who forbid and punish any voices of dissent within their countries. The other candidate praises leaders like Vladimir Putin and Kim Jong-Un.

One candidate strongly supported a bipartisan bill that would have increased the number of border patrol officers and help reduce illegal immigration at our southern border. The other candidate, after railing against illegal immigration for years, ordered his party's members of congress to kill the bill. He would rather have a problem to use as a campaign issue than to help solve the problem.

One candidate shows respect for our mili-

tary personnel and veterans. The other candidate has called them, including war heroes, losers and suckers.

One candidate has been a career-long supporter of policies to create clean air, clean water and a healthy environment. She cast the deciding vote for the Inflation Reduction Act designed to move the country away from fossil fuels and toward the development of wind, solar, batteries and EVs; clean energy solutions to the climate change crisis, one of the most important issues of our time. The other candidate does not seem concerned by the climate change crisis. He supports policies and regulations to push America back to fossil fuels. He pulled America out of global climate commitments including the Paris Climate Agreement which limited greenhouse gas emissions.

One candidate has a forward looking vision for our diverse nation. The other candidate uses hate, fear of the other, and divisiveness to attempt to rally supporters.

We favor the prosecutor over the convicted felon, reason and facts over conspiracy theories and lies, an individual's right to choose over laws restricting choice, support for democracy and democratic leaders over invading countries and autocrats, solutions to problems over attempts at political gain, respect for our military and veterans over disrespect, policies that will reduce the causes of climate change over policies that accelerate this looming crisis, and a leader with a vision that looks forward as one nation over one who advocates hate, fear and divisiveness.

We encourage everyone to vote in this election, and we respectfully urge you to join with us in protecting our democracy by casting your vote for Kamala Harris for President.

DANIEL AND PAULA COUGHLIN
WOODSTOCK

Give me a break — Kamala?

Kamala said that we should defund the police while crime is up. NTC said that 75 percent of arrests are from migrants. Rapes, murders, and robberies are increasing daily from illegal migrants. A prosecutor, is she? Didn't she support bailing out criminals through a fundraising \$35 million to those who burned, looted and destroyed thousands of businesses?

She failed miserably as a "border czar." She didn't even collect one delegate in 2020 and bowed out first. She campaigned on giving illegal migrants free healthcare, saying that she would support healthcare for all. Now she is doing the Lebron James flopping. Not only the American people are confused; she is completely confused, but her values are still the same? What values, Kamala? Twenty-five percent tax on "unrealized gains." She talks about price control; does she want to punish any business who she thinks is charging too much (communism)? Ask CNBC how that will go. The Green New Deal is nothing more than giving China control over American production. She supported Biden giving Iran billions of money to support terrorism around the world. Didn't Biden/Harris take the Houthis off the terrorist watch list? Yes. The Houthis, supported by Iran, were sending missiles into the Red Sea at American war ships. Hamas and Hezbollah are thanking Iran for military support. You call that leadership? Cowards, yes. Remember that Walz told the citizens of Minnesota rat on your neighbor if they weren't following the Covid-19 mandates. Smells like a snitch.

Supported abortion after nine months delivery in which his state recorded that they had six child deaths due to Walz supporting this type of abortion. Allowing children to die in this manner is downright murder. According to CNN, Kamala filled out a form for ACLU in 2019. Pledge to "end" immigration detention, taxpayer-funded gender care and transition surgeries for detained migrants, slash immigration detention by 50 percent, close all family/private facilities, decrease funding for ICE, end ICE detainers. She will change this country into a third world country and bankrupt the taxpayers. Trump will save this country from the communist tyrants under Harris.

Trump 2024!

KEVIN W. MACK
NORTH GROSVENORDALE

Is racism now OK?

provocations from MAGA. It certainly was not fun for the Haitian immigrants who were targeted, all Black, whose safety has been imperiled and whose peace and quiet have been seriously disrupted.

To tag a specific minority as criminal, indeed as bereft of normal human nature, is Racism at its worst. History has given us centuries of this kind of calumny, often with drastic and bloody consequences. There is no place in the USA for this tactic. Trump and Vance are unfit to serve in any governmental capacity.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN D. BOLAND
POMFRET CENTER

Chicken memories

Mr. Kimball's chickens hung by their yellow feet from hooks behind the meat counter when I was a child. They were dead, of course, and brought in most every-day by tall, overall-clad, Mr. Kimball, who had a small chicken farm in my town. The heads were on the birds, turned askew in an awkward manner and the dull eyes held a glimmer of the intelligence of an average hen. The chickens sold out within a day or two and were replaced by new ones. At certain times of year fowl appeared in the small meat case announcing

by their fleshy presence that it was time to begin making chicken stew.

I joke that I've done everything that can be done to a chicken — at least in cooking one. From the Sunday dinners my mother made with roast chicken as the centerpiece to the Silver Palate's Chicken Mirabella that was the foundation of every dinner party young couples hosted in the 70's, chicken was what we cooked, served and ate. We still do. The pages of my Ina Garten cookbooks are frayed and spattered where a chicken dish is featured. I think we eat some form of chicken almost every day.

Our region was home to countless small chicken farms after WWII. In our region, many were owned and operated by Finnish and Jewish chicken farmers who were relocated or immigrated here for better lives. Today, a glimpse into the brushy areas behind modest homes might reveal the decaying lines of long wooden chicken coops that held laying hens and meat birds. The families who owned them worked very hard, so hard that in one generation or less, the children moved. The farms that remained got bigger and bigger, but the small ones paved the way for families to get ahead.

Chickens can be quirky and intelligent if given a glimpse of freedom. My childhood friend had bantams that we cuddled like kittens. My neighbors have a handsome flock of birds that wander over to our house, much to the delight of my grandchildren. When I saved one from the jaws of a hungry fox one afternoon, I held it close to my chest to comfort it. Soon the hen's beating heart began to slow down and it leaned into me. I was certain it was grateful for my saving it, but when I put it down, it went back to pecking and scratching as if nothing exciting have happened. Gratitude may not be in the vocabulary of chickens.

A flock of wild turkeys have become our favorite morning visitors. They may have a reputation for being stupid, but as I watch them, they are anything but dumb. Three adults herd a ram-bunctious mass of young ones, which move with fluid grace and less squabbling than chickens. They live on the edge of domesticity.

I buy eggs from local farms and fancy boxes from the organic grocery store with multicolored shells. I read that it is best to buy extra-large. As a New Englander, of course I want brown eggs, not white, although I know there is really no difference in the quality inside. Fortunately, eggs are back on the good list of things to eat. They are miracles of goodness.

In the Wall Street Journal, I read about all the different ways chicken is labeled – from All Natural to Cage-Free to everything in between. Mr. Kimball's chicken would have covered most certifications, especially free-range. I think they lived on whatever was available to them, probably bugs, worms and scraps, which in my memory made them taste delicious.



NANCY WEISS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Conservative attacks on families are an outrage

To the Editor:

As an adoptive mother, I am outraged at the attack on American families launched by the conservative movement Project 2025, and given voice by J. D. Vance, Donald Trump, and Sarah Huckabee-Sanders.

Per the National Women’s Law Center, “Project 2025 is particularly focused on enforcing a vision of the family that relies on fixed and narrowly defined gender roles and in undermining protections that enable women and LGBTQ+ people to thrive outside of a male-dominated heterosexual family.”

During an interview on Fox News in July of this year, Trump said he did not “place a higher value on people with families.” He claims he will help the middle class with his proposed 10 percent tariff across-the-board on all imported products, but Peterson Institute for International Economics has determined such a tariff would result in a \$1,700 tax on all households (CBS, June 20). Trump has consistently refused to answer questions on how he would make childcare more affordable (Associated Press, Aug. 3). It does not appear that families a priority on his agenda.

In 2021, J.D. Vance stated that the country was being run “by a bunch of childless cat ladies...it’s just a basic fact – you look at Kamala Harris, Pet Buttigieg, AOC – the entire future of the Democrats is controlled by people without children. He went on to say “people without children don’t really have a direct stake in it (the country). Kamala Harris is, in fact, a stepmom to two, now adult, children, who named her Momala. Pete Buttigieg and his husband are parents to three-year-old twins. Trump commented that Vance’s “childless cat ladies” rhetoric reflected J. D.’s deep love of family (Reuters, July 29).

Last week, Sarah Huckabee-Sanders, also a disciple of Project 2025, bragged that her children kept her humble. She then criticized Kamala Harris for not

giving birth and said that she had “nothing to keep her humble.” The insinuation is that a woman who has not given birth is not a “real” mother.

Look around. Some children are raised by their birth parents, but some are raised by their adoptive parents or foster parents. America has all types of creative and responsive family structures filling “real” social needs. What about a widowed man who is raising his traumatized children alone? Is he not a “real” parent; are they not a “real” family? Do we discount the aunt who steps in to raise her sister’s orphaned youngsters? Or maybe the grandmother with an empty nest who opens her heart and household to children in desperate need of the security of a home? What about couples who simply choose not to bear children?

American families are not just one dad, one mom and their two birth children. There are five to seven million adoptees in the U.S. (Congressional Coalition on Adoption). Each year, 400,000 children and youth are in foster care (U.S. Dept. of Ed.). According to the U.S. Census, 2022, there are 10.9 million single parents with children under the age of 18; 70 percent of those are Moms. Kinship care - provided by aunts, uncles, grandparents or other relatives - nurture 2.4 million children (Grandfamilies and Kinship Support Network). The Pew Research Center reports that 113.6 million Americans have a step-relationship, and that 1,300 new stepfamilies are created every day.

These are America’s families. Some of our American families may seem unorthodox to those who would impose conservative structure on them. But these radical people do not understand that any family unit acts to stabilize society. For centuries upon centuries, in every culture and country, families have been the flexibility and creative element of a society.

CHARLENE PERKINS CUTLER
WOODSTOCK

Trump hates women

To the Editor:

When are voters going to wake up to the horrors that Donald Trump has caused in the United States of America? While he, his cult, and even some writers of Opinion pieces in your newspaper repeat lies about legal Haitian immigrants and a non-existent immigrant crime wave designed to distract us from real issues, two Georgia women are dead because he appointed Supreme Court justices specifically to deny women the right to standard medical treatment that would have saved their lives. Trump brags about it. He revels in the cruelty. His hateful rhetoric is largely responsible for the recent attempts on his life.

There once was a time, not so long ago, when the truth mattered in this country. Given the amount of time and effort that Trump and his followers spend telling lies and repeating theories from Nazis, racists, and “influencers” on Putin’s payroll, truth is no longer important to a huge portion of the country. Sometimes it doesn’t seem like people will ever tire of the type of sick entertainment Trump offers.

The only lives that Trump and his supporters care about are their own. They don’t care that women are dying because Trump arranged to overturn a 50-year right. They don’t care when our children are massacred in school. They say, “Get over it.” They didn’t care when they separated immigrant children

from their mothers. Cruelty is the point.

They don’t care when a political opponent’s spouse is brutally attacked. Rather, they repeatedly mock the victim. They don’t care that like-minded Republicans attacked the Capitol and injured over one hundred law enforcement officers, many severely. Instead, Trump calls the convicted criminals “heroes” and “patriots” and says he’ll pardon them. Cowardous Republicans then refused to blame Trump for the riot after first doing so. Of course, they also refused to recognize the officers for their bravery because it might enrage Trump. Some party of law and order!

It’s been said that we have witnessed the death of truth. Maybe we are also living through the deaths of courage, honesty, integrity, and morality. Anyone voting for Donald Trump is voting for hate- misogyny, racism, homophobia, and the sanction of political violence. They are voting to support Trump’s characterization of fallen servicemen and women as “losers” and “suckers.”

Anyone with even a cursory understanding of pre-World War II Germany can’t help but hear it echoing all around us. If we ignore those echoes, we will only have ourselves to blame when they become louder and louder and louder.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
KILLINGLY

Noise from the Democrats

To the Editor:

This editorial page gets spammed with Democrat misinformation and deflection attempts weekly. It’s almost like they are trying to fool people into accepting what most know is their unacceptable insanity.

From the open border and massive, unvetted, illegal immigration, to overspending, to high taxation, to biological men in women’s restrooms and sports, to attempts at curtailing your constitutional rights including freedom of speech, and so much more. Some of it is maddening in its blatant, outrageous falsehoods, some of it comical, some of it is a little of both.

Here is my suggestion for a very easy voting guide for president. Think about how things were under President

Trump. Think about how things are under babbling, demented, angry Biden and cackling Kamala. Ignore Democrat noise, vote accordingly. As far as national offices in Connecticut, state offices, and local offices. How has one party rule worked out for you? Again, ignore the noise from Democrats, vote accordingly. They make it so easy for you, you just have to ignore what they say and claim, and vote against what they actually do. Among so many other things, we are now paying the utility bills of those that didn’t pay. Our actual power usage has become a tiny part of our utility bills. Get rid of them already, vote red.

NORM FERRON
DANIELSON

Point/counter-point

To the Editor:

I rarely give more than a passing glance at the weekly wisdom from the sage of No. Grosvenordale. I made an exception last week since I will have turned 70 before you read this. I may not get another chance. Just a few thoughts, nothing too personal.

The cost of all these investigations (your figures totaling \$35.7 million) are solely because of Trump’s conduct. The prosecutors are not trying to make a name for themselves, as you imply. They were assigned a job made doubly difficult by the hurdles placed before them: dealing with Trump lackey Judge Cannon in the Florida documents fiasco or, of all things, the Trump stacked Supreme Court Justices bending the law for Trump’s benefit.

You would make them appear to be involved only to enrich themselves (“raking in the bucks”). \$35.7 million? Try this on for size and tell us a fortune isn’t being wasted on account of Trump:

A Feb. 21, 2021 story in the Washington Post said this: “Trump’s lie that the election was stolen” (a lie he recently recanted) “has cost \$519 million, and counting, in taxpayer funded enhanced security, legal fees, property repair and more.” This is according to local, state, and federal levels. This figure is now three and one half years old. Imagine what the current tally must look like. All because of Trump. (As of March, 2024, over \$100 million of his legal fees have been funded by Trump supporters/suckers.)

Even with the enormity of the Post’s figures being what they are, can you put a price on trying to save our democracy from the ravages of a new Trump administration? A democracy you have enjoyed your long life?

Moving on, not a word is said concerning the Trump-Russia collusion involving the Hillary emails. On July 27, 2016, Trump said “Russia, if you’re listening, I hope you’re able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing.”

Almost immediately, Russian actors sent phishing emails to accounts at a domain used by Clinton’s personal office. It was said that this action was politically un-ethical and may have led to Clinton’s defeat. A Trump success story.

You say that the Democrats and “their lame stream media” are constant liars? That’ rich. Let’s not discuss Trump’s 30,000 plus lies while in office. Just remember, Fox was fined \$787 million for “endorsed lies” concerning the 2020 election. I wish the judge had stipulated that every FOX propagandist was required to repeat that fact at the beginning of each show. FOX viewers are probably still ignorant of these facts. Bliss.

As far as the hat incident goes, perhaps it was the President’s attempt (somewhat misplaced) at showing unity (Harris message) and not divisiveness (Trump). I doubt saying you respect Joe Biden means all that much. Thumbing his nose? Definitely a way of twisting the narrative to your liking.

About division in the Gavin Newsom household, let’s get something straight. The relative of the Governor’s wife is her second cousin, once removed. He is also a billionaire software developer no

doubt looking for a Trump tax break. I can’t imagine Jennifer Newsom being to constricted by this one. I also doubt the Governor is sleeping on the couch. Let’s keep the gossip rolling and tell the readers that Newsom’s first wife is none other than Kimberly Guilfoyle, Donald Trump, Jr.’s fiancée. She calls her ex-husband “Newscum.” Classy. No, the Republicans are still the great dividers.

At Penzey’s Spice, Kamala again called for an end of political strife. My goodness. You go on to say they are hypocrites for taking Republican money. A coffee shop owner who knows you and disagrees with your opinions will still take your money. It’s called a business.

Recall Vance’s visit to that donut shop. He looked about as out of place as a stripper on the altar during Mass.

What the Cheneys did in endorsing Kamala was a pure sign that country over party should be the dominant theme come November. Their name is added to the many Republicans and former members of the Trump administration who publicly state the disaster that awaits us if Trump gets back into power. Hypocrites and traitors all?

Now who can take that anti-vaxxer RFK Jr. seriously? Come on. I can hear Trump saying “He’s been treated unfairly, very unfairly.” I mean what’s wrong with driving around with a severed whale’s head on the roof of your car? (I have had six Covid vaccine shots, and they have not driven me to do something like this.) When you find a dead bear cub, who wouldn’t want to bring it to Central Park? No wonder his family disowned him for jumping on board Trump’s sinking ship. His father would be proud.

If Zuckerberg can’t bring himself to vote for a Democrat, you can be sure it’s for the same reason as Jennifer Newsom’s second cousin (once removed).

I will admit I had no idea that Dershowitz was a Democrat, nor do I now care. His business for defending Trump’s impeachment was what? Ego? A buck? T.V. exposure? I’m really starting to love that word hypocrite.

Speaking of the “H” word, you probably called Kamala that after Sanders said she flip-flops. You know as well as I do, in the world of politics, it’s called “being pragmatic” (Trump distancing himself from Project 2025).

Bernie even says so.

Honestly, I would not care if Taylor Swift had two heads and came from Mars. If she can pull in more votes for Harris, good for her, and us!

One last point, the best for last. My man Brian Tyler Cohen showed a clip of Trump talking to Gutfeld. He said that at the debate “The audience went absolutely crazy”. Problem was, as you well know, there was no audience. Really, your President?

I once said I believed you to be more politically savvy than myself. I wonder if you’re feeling a little desperate about your candidate?

You ask what these investigations are costing us? A lot less than a Trump victory, Ed. Much, much less.

Health.

RICK ROCHELEAU
DANIELSON

Additional Letters to the Editor,
see Page A-10

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Legion to host chicken pot pie dinner

NORTH GROSVENORDALE — The public is invited to a chicken pot pie dinner Saturday, Oct. 5 from 4-7 p.m. at American Legion Post 67, 17 Thompson Hill Rd., North Grosvenordale.

This eat in or take out meal includes chicken pot pie, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, roll, butter, and dessert. \$15 per person. All proceeds will benefit the National Down Syndrome Society.

Harvard Forest, Audubon Society collaborate



Woodstock Academy science teachers Susan Lovegreen and Jennifer Burdick train at Connecticut Audubon in Pomfret.

POMFRET — On a glorious, sunny September day, local middle and secondary school science teachers met at Connecticut Audubon Society’s Center at Pomfret, 218 Day Rd., to attend a free, day-long, indoor/outdoor workshop presented by Harvard Forest staff and Connecticut Audubon Society teacher-naturalists. Instructors introduced participants to the “Our Changing Forests” long term ecological research project, teaching them how to establish and monitor a schoolyard plot in order to document forest change over time. This year’s participants were from Griswold, Thompson, Windham, and Woodstock.

Established in 1907, Harvard Forest is Harvard University’s four-thousand-acre, field-based classroom and laboratory, located in Petersham, Massachusetts. It has a dual mission of teaching and research. “Our Changing Forests” is designed to answer two questions. How do forests grow and change over time in response to dif-

ferent environments and land use? How will forest composition and growth respond to future natural and human-caused disturbances?

The Harvard Forest/Connecticut Audubon collaboration encourages the expansion of “Our Changing Forests” in Connecticut.

Sarah Heminway, the director of the northeast region for the Connecticut Audubon Society, says, “Over the next couple of years, my hope is to get at least one study transect established in each town in Windham County. We currently are about halfway there.”

During the teacher workshop, hands-on training included practice in setting up a study plot, site surveying, tree measurement, plant identification, and data recording.

Participants visited the Center’s two study plots. Take-home kits contained all the tools needed to launch the project at their schools.

Teachers learned how to not only implement the project but also actively engage their classes in authentic and relevant scientific research. Their students collect real data and submit it to Harvard Forest’s comprehensive phenology database. A field site survey sheet is used to record data from a plot, such as topography/physical features, forest canopy characteristics, and evidence of distinct types of disturbance. Disturbance might be as a result of forest pests, human activity, weather events, wildlife, and/or invasive plants. There was excitement about getting students outside and recognition of the value of experiential learning and citizen science. Brainstorming generated lesson ideas, including cross curricular learning opportunities.

The aim of collecting, submitting, and studying data is for students to become versed in the scientific process and develop an appreciation of the natural world. While students may not become full-fledged environmental scientists as a result of the “Our Changing Forest” project, they will become good land stewards, with the ability to analyze information as part of real-world conservation decision-making.

For more information about Harvard Forest visit <https://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/>.

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bankHometown promotes Howard to senior assistant branch manager



Jason Howard

PUTNAM — bankHometown recently promoted Jason M. Howard to senior assistant branch manager, based in its 182 Main St., Putnam office.

Howard, of Woodstock, has more than seven years of banking experience. He joined bankHometown in 2017 as a float teller; was promoted to assistant branch manager in 2018, and has worked in our Thompson and Putnam offices throughout his time at the bank.

Howard earned a Bachelor’s degree in history from Central Connecticut State University, and a master’s degree in education from Quinnipiac University. He is currently a member of the Putnam Business Association and was inducted as a Lion to the Putnam Lions Club in May of 2024.



The Northeastern CT Council of Governments is looking for people to take a survey for the

Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.

Please scan the QR Code below to take the survey

For more information visit; cmrpc-cprg.com

The rise of AI in wealth management: A risk/benefit analysis

In today’s rapidly evolving financial landscape, artificial intelligence (AI) is making waves across industries, and wealth management is no exception. Will AI replace human financial advisors?

It’s very unlikely, for a variety of reasons. At WHZ, we’re staying abreast of both the opportunities and risks that the use of AI in wealth management could pose, so that we can continue providing the best possible experience for our clients as the world evolves. Here’s our take on the risk/benefit analysis of AI in wealth management thus far:

Turbocharging personalization
Gone are the days of one-size-fits-all financial advice. With AI, wealth managers can offer ever more tailored strategies that consider a client’s unique financial situation, goals, and risk tolerance. Individual personalization built through long-term, real relationships has always been the cornerstone of our approach at WHZ through our “Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well” process. Now, AI-powered tools may provide a way to turbocharge those efforts by allowing advisors to analyze vast amounts of data to generate customized recommendations, in addition to the knowledge we gain through our personal relationships.

Efficiency: Freeing up time for what matters

Let’s face it – no one became a financial advisor because they love paperwork. Our team loves what we do because it’s incredibly rewarding to work one-on-one with our clients on a strategic financial plan and celebrate with them as they achieve the goals they’ve set forth all along the way.

But, there are only so many hours in a day, and the fact is that there are administrative and manual tasks that require our attention in order to keep the broader strategy in motion. AI is offering the potential to take over those routine tasks so that we can dedicate more of our time to what AI could never do: building relationships that provide the most meaningful “data” required to craft a truly personal financial strategy.

Risk management: Staying ahead of the curve

In the fast-paced world of finance, staying ahead of risks is crucial. This is where AI really shines. Machine learning algorithms can analyze market data in real-time, detecting potential risks and alerting advisors in near real time, allowing them to keep portfolios aligned with clients’ risk profiles.

But it’s not just about market risks. AI systems are also proving invaluable in

regulatory compliance. They can monitor transactions and communications, flagging any suspicious activity for human review. It’s like having a tireless compliance officer working around the clock.

The human touch: Irreplaceable and indispensable

While AI is transforming wealth management, the human element remains critical. As WHZ’s approach demonstrates, clients still crave the strategic thinking, emotional intelligence, and relationship-building that only human advisors can provide.

One of our clients, Ken Kaplan, shared about his experience working with our team, “We have absolute confidence in them and that takes any weight off of our shoulders. We really don’t worry about our finances anymore, we let our team at WHZ worry about it because we know that they’re proactive, they’re doing everything they can to increase our portfolio and they’re doing things the right way, and that’s a great thing.”*

This kind of big-picture thinking and the ability to understand a client’s full life context is something AI can’t replicate. Building this level of trust

also requires human interaction and empathy – qualities that are uniquely human.

The future as we see it: AI-powered efficiency enabling an enhanced human experience

Looking ahead, the most successful wealth management firms will likely be those that effectively combine AI capabilities with skilled and caring human advisors. It’s not about man versus machine, but rather man and machine working in harmony.

In this model, AI will handle data analysis, scenario modeling, and routine tasks, freeing up valuable time for human advisors to develop creative strategies, build strong client relationships, provide support during market volatility, and offer nuanced advice that accounts for the full complexity of a client’s life.

This fusion of human and artificial intelligence promises to deliver a new level of personalized, strategic wealth management. As we consider when and how to best integrate AI tools in our processes, one thing will never change – our focus on maintaining the strong human connections that set WHZ apart and underpin our goal of providing each of our clients with Absolute Confidence. Unwavering Partnership. For Life. Learn more about our approach and schedule a complimentary consultation on our Web site, whzwealth.com, or give us a call at (860) 928-2341.

* This statement was provided 2/29/2024 by Ken Kaplan who is a client. This statement may not be representative of the experience of others and is not a guarantee of future performance or success. For additional reviews, search us wherever local businesses are reviewed.

Authorized by Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor Leisl L. Langevin, CFP® CDFA®. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. 697 Pomfret St., Pomfret Center, CT 06259 and 392-A Merrow Rd., Tolland, CT 06084, 860-928-2341. <http://www.whzwealth.com> These materials are general in nature and do not address your specific situation. For your specific investment needs, please discuss your individual circumstances with your financial advisor. Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors does not provide tax or legal advice, and nothing in the accompanying pages should be construed as specific tax or legal advice.

Strategies for adding native plants to your landscape

More and more gardeners are adding native plants to their landscapes. These plants provide more than beautiful flowers for us to enjoy. They also support pollinators and other beneficial insects, and provide food and shelter for songbirds, toads, and other wildlife.

In addition, these plants help protect and improve our soil and manage stormwater. The plants slow stormwater runoff and help direct it into the soil through pathways created by their deep roots to the groundwater below. These deep roots also help break up compacted clay soils. Legumes like blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*) that are hardy in zones 3 to 10 help add nitrogen to the soil while supporting a variety of pollinators.

Look to woodland native plants if you are gardening in the shade. Tall black cohosh (*Actaea racemosa*) grows four to six feet tall, has white flowers in summer, and is a host plant for the Appalachian azure butterfly. The spring-blooming native columbine’s (*Aquilegia canadensis*) red and yellow flowers provide food for hummingbirds and long-tongued insects. Wild ginger (*Asarum canadense*) makes an excellent groundcover that can hold its ground against garlic mustard and other invasive plants.

Perhaps you or members of your household have been reluctant to add these plants to your landscape. Some people worry that these plants won’t fit in with their current landscape design or be accepted by their neighbors. One option is to start including native plants in your landscape one plant or garden at a time.

As always, make sure the plants you select are suited to the growing con-

ditions, your garden design, and the available space. Some native plants are aggressive and work best when given a lot of room to grow and spread. Others grow in clumps and slowly increase in size making them easier to include in smaller yards.

Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) is a wonderful but very aggressive native plant that’s a favorite of the monarch caterpillar. It spreads by seeds and deep rhizomes making it challenging to

contain. Consider growing other native milkweeds that will support the monarch but are less aggressive when space is limited. Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) hardy in zones 3 to 10 is a great option for those with sunny well-drained locations. Red milkweed also known as swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) also grows best in full sun, but this milkweed tolerates moist soils.

Think about substitutions when starting to add native plants to the garden. When one plant dies look for a native plant to fill the void. Consider one with a similar growth habit, texture, and bloom time. Prairie dropseed (*Sporobolus heterolepis*) is a North American native grass with a growth habit similar to ornamental fountain grass (*Pennisetum*) and it provides many more benefits. Hardy in zones 3 to 8, it has uniquely fragrant flowers in late summer, golden fall color, and seeds that look like gems when covered with ice in the winter. It is also a host plant for six different moths and butterflies. This elegant grass is at home in just about any style garden.

As you get to know the native plants



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Melinda Myers

A bee nectaring on purple prairie clover (*Dalea purpurea*) which is hardy in zones 3-8.

of your region and gain experience adding them to your gardens you may decide to create gardens of all native plants. Look to nature for some winning combinations. Combine plants that look good together, have the same growing conditions, and are equally assertive. When aggressive plants are mixed in with timid plants, you end up with a garden of just one or two overly assertive plants.

As always, do your research first. Visit nearby nature centers and talk to others growing native plants to gather information and inspiration. As you gain success and confidence, you are sure to find creative ways to add these beauties to your landscape.

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



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Congressman Joe Courtney visits Access

DANIELSON — We are delighted to share Congressman Joe Courtney’s recent visit to Access Community Action Agency for a tour of the Danielson Campus. During his time with us, Congressman Courtney engaged with our enthusiastic staff of multiple departments, sparking lively discussions of the challenges facing Access customers and exciting agency updates.

During his one hour visit, Congressman Courtney had meaningful conversations with our President/CEO, Vice President, various Program Directors, and the senior leadership team, exchanging ideas on how to work collaboratively to provide our community with the best possible resources for a promising future.

Departments toured were the Food Pantry; Cold Weather Overnight Shelter;

Mobile Food Pantry; and Emergency Shelter Services, and Homeless Prevention Programs.

We are incredibly grateful to Congressman Courtney for taking the time to visit

our Danielson Campus. Let’s continue to join forces and accomplish the Access mission to build equitable access to opportunities that empower under-resourced individuals, families and communities to achieve and sustain economic stability.

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.

For Advertising Information
Call 860-928-1818 Ext. 326
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Remembering the Budd Carr

NEWBOOK FOR SALE: The Killingly Historical and Genealogical Society now has “Ghosts of King Philip’s War” by Thomas D’Agostino and Arlene Nicholson for sale for \$20. It includes this and other tales from our region... Please add \$5 if you wish to have a copy mailed. The books are available at the Killingly Historical Center during regular Wednesday or Saturday hours (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) or may be purchased by mail. Please send a check to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.

Book Signing: The authors will give a talk on their book “Ghosts of King Phillip’s War” and do a book signing at the Putnam Public Library on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 1-2:30 p.m. Free. Register now by calling the library at 860-963-6826.

How many of you remember the Budd Car? Perhaps you even took a ride on it. An article in the Killingly Historical Society archives revealed that a ride on the Budd Car was one of the featured outings for the children of Miss Leach’s School. “Miss Leach’s Kindergarten Takes Last Trip on Budd Car...Seventeen years ago, Miss Mildred Leach began her ‘Train Trip’ as part of her program for kindergarten pupils. A few weeks ago, Apr. 29, ended the valuable experience for these young pupils.

KILLINGLY CHRONICLES SEPT. 30 – OCT. 5

TOWN HALL MEETINGS (agendas and minutes at www.killingly.org)

Monday the 30th
Republican Town Committee Meeting (Room 102 – Town Hall) 7 p.m.

Tuesday the 1st
Special Town Council Meeting (Town Meeting Room – Town Hall) 7 p.m.

Wednesday the 2nd
Killingly Community Gardens (Westfield Ave) 5 p.m.

Permanent Building Commission Meeting (Town Meeting Room – Town Hall) 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Monday the 30th
KPL Lit Talks (Library) All Day
Create Our Bookmark (Library) All Day

An Epic Book Quest (Ages 13-18) (Library) All Day
Wonderful Ones and Twos (Library) 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Monday Mystery Matinee (Ages 18+) (Library) 1 to 3 p.m.

Tuesday the 2nd
Adult Take & Make (Ages 18+) (Library) All Day
Lit Loot Bag (Ages 13-17) (Library) All Day
Teen Program Totes (Ages 13-18) (Library) All Day
Craft & Chat (Ages 18+) (Library) 10:30 a.m. to noon
Small Business Academy (Ages 18+) (Library) 6 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday the 2nd
Coffee with a Cop (Two Dogs Coffee Company) 9 to 10 a.m.

Virtual Story Time (Ages 3+) (Library) 10 to 10:30 a.m.

Little Listeners (Ages 2-5) (Library) 11 to 11:45 a.m.

A Journey Into the Hidden World of Tropical Bats with Scientists from the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute: Virtual Author Talk (Library) 2 p.m.

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

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

Thursday the 3rd
Story Craft (Ages 2-6) (Library) 10 to 10:45 a.m.

Saturday the 28th
Photography Contest (Ages 18+) (Library) All Day
Origami for All (All Ages) (Library) 10 to 11 a.m.

KILLINGLY PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAMS/EVENTS COMING UP...

Beginner Rhythm Ballroom Dancing – Nov. 18 through Dec. 2 (Mondays) (Killingly Community Center)

Pre-Season Basketball Skills Clinic – Nov. 4 through Nov. 7 (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) (Killingly Community Center)

Tuesday Art Club Classes with Tunk City – Sept. 10 through Dec. 17 (Tuesdays) (Killingly Community Center)

Virtual High Five 2024 (Killingly Community Center) (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)

Relaxation and Guided Meditation – Sept. 24 through Oct. 29 (Killingly Community Center) (Tuesdays)

Stew and Story – Oct. 17 (Killingly Community Center)

Spooktacular Parade – Oct. 26 (Davis Park and Main Street)

Youthoop Girls and Boys – Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8

Youthoop Instructional - Grades 1 and 2 – Dec. 21 through Feb. 8

Check out the Killingly Parks and Recreation website for more daily class schedules, camps, trips and events!

For updates and changes, please visit the calendar on the Town of Killingly Web site at www.killingly.org.

The children, dressed in their best for travel, were transported from the school on Hawkins Street, to Plainfield, and on the way down places of interest were pointed out, which they undoubtedly saw on the return trip by train, such as St. James School, LaRosa Manufacturing Company, American Standard Company, Plainfield Central and Plainfield High School, etc.

“While waiting for the ‘Budd Car’ to arrive in Plainfield, discussions were held regarding railroad switches, signals, freight cars, which are invariably stationed on another track waiting for the passenger train to come through. Across the tracks, the express station is located, and many times over the years, Ellsworth Williams, the express agent, has come over to the station platform, to talk to the children and answer questions.

“When the tall arm signal goes up, the pupils know the train is approaching, and with their ‘buddies’ they stand waiting for it to arrive. As the Budd Car comes to a stop, everyone waves to the engineer, and isn’t it wonderful, he always waves back. The train whistle has blown for the crossing, the engine light on, and then the bell, and then the train comes to a halt. The wonderful conductor, Mr. MacLean, after 17 years with us, steps down and greets everyone,, and assists the pre-schoolers up the steps,

“On board, the children handle their own ‘ticketing’ and nice ‘Mr. Conductor’ allows them to keep their ticket to take home...Miss Leach, and her staff, are very sad to think that from now on there will be no more ‘Budd Car’ trips.

“Pupils who took the last trip were Robin Beauregard, Susan Welshman, Donna LeSage, Lisa Ricci, Pamela Perreault, Edward Kramer, James Phillips, Debbie Joseph, Eric Anderson, Christopher Farmer, Shawn May, and (name missing)..(Paper unidentified and undated; Photo archive box 27.)

The above trip probably was taken in 1971 since there is a captioned Bulletin photo, by Reagle, in the transportation file at the Killingly Historical Center of the last run of the Budd Car dated Apr. 30, 1971. The caption reads, “The Worcester-New London Buddcar makes a last run Friday. It was standing room only as the train pulled out o Norwich station.”

Unfortunately only part of the accompanying article was photocopied for the file. “Eastern Connecticut ‘s last north-south passenger rail service will go out of existence tonight. The self-propelled Budd Car, which has run between New London, Norwich, Putnam, and Worcester for the past 18 years, will roll out of the Whaling City at 7:30 tonight and several hours later will be only a memory. At one minute past midnight, barring any last minute legal maneuvers, the semi-public National Railroad Passenger Corp. (Amtrak) will assume operation of the nation’s ‘essential’ interstate passenger service while all service deemed ‘non-essential’, including the local run will be abandoned.”

I am sure many of you have fond memories of the Budd Car. Please email them to me so I can share them with

Fall Extravaganza planned at Windham-Tolland 4H Camp

POMFRET CENTER — On Oct. 19 from 2 – 4 p.m., tne community is invited to the Fall Extravaganza at the Windham-Tolland 4-H Camp.

Try our Trick or Treat Trail, \$5 per trick-or-Treater, ages two and up. S’mores and hot chocolate, Donut Eating Contest, and Games are free to all. “Buck’s on the Run” will be there for purchase of your favorite ice cream along with some other sweet treats for sale. Wear your costumes! Proceeds benefit the Health Center renovation.

The camp is located at 326 Taft Pond Rd., Pomfret Center.

Enjoy an afternoon with the Queen

PUTNAM — The Associates of the Daughters of the Holy Spirit will present Sheryl Faye as Queen Elizabeth II on Oct. 6 at 2 p.m. at St. Mary Church Hall, 218 Providence St. Tickets are \$15, and may be obtained by contacting Diane Lavallee at 860-412-9483. Leave a message. No tickets will be sold at the door.

www.ConnecticutQuietCorner.com



KILLINGLY AT 300

.....

MARGARET WEAVER

but do remember my mother occasionally using one. It seemed to be an object to be feared! I watch cooking programs on a regular basis and have seen stars such as Bobby Flay use one when meat must be cooked in a short amount of time; people still do use them. Note below that the Grange is offering a class on safe usage of one.

“The pressure cooker first appeared in 1679 as Papin’s Digester; named for its inventor, French-born physicist Denis Papin. The cooker heats water to produce very hot steam which forces the temperature inside the pot as high as 266 degress F, significantly higher than the maximum heat possible in an ordinary saucepan.” (www.britannica.com). According to an article on Wikipedia, “Almost any food that can be cooked in steam or water based liquids can be cooked in a pressure cooker.

Manifestation

Manifestation—does it truly work? For decades, this concept has captured significant attention, especially in the pages of popular self-help books like “The Secret” by Rhonda Byrne, “Think and Grow Rich” by Napoleon Hill, and “The Power of Now” by Eckhart Tolle. These works suggest that the mind can create reality, emphasizing positive thinking, visualization, and belief as the key.

So, what’s the truth behind manifestation? Is it a genuine force or just another trend?

Looking through history, we find compelling examples of people who have manifested their desires remarkably. Jesus manifested bread and fish to feed thousands, turned water into wine, and raised Lazarus from the dead. How did He do it? He told us: ‘Everything is possible for the one who believes’ (Mark 9:23). This belief, central to Jesus’ miracles, also applies to those who have shaped the world through their conviction.

Gandhi, through non-violent resistance, and Martin Luther King Jr., with his vision of equality, both relied on unwavering belief to drive their movements. Likewise, innovators like Elon Musk and Steve Jobs revolutionized industries by maintaining steadfast belief in their visions. They didn’t just wish for success—they visualized it, believed in it, and worked relentlessly to bring it to reality.

There is a distinction between miraculous manifestations, such as Jesus multiplying bread, and the achievements of inventors and social activists. While one may seem instantaneous and the other a slower, deliberate process, both are rooted in the same fundamental principle: belief.

Whether miraculous or transformative, faith in the outcome drives these manifestations into reality.

A common thread among those who teach manifestation techniques is the importance of

assuming your desires are already fulfilled, even before they physically manifest. Whether it’s modern self-help gurus or ancient spiritual teachings, the principle remains the same: you must believe you have what you want before it arrives in your reality.

The central idea is that by aligning your thoughts, feelings, and beliefs with the desired

Modern pressure cookers have many safety features to prevent the pressure cooker from holding too much pressure and causing an explosion...According to the New York Times Magazine, 37 % of households owned at least one pressure cooker in 1950. By 2011, that rate dropped to only 20%.

Pressure Cooker Class: Killingly Grange #112, located at the corner of Hartford Pike/Route 101 and Dog Hill Road, will sponsor a class on learning how to pressure cook the safe and easy way on Saturday, September 28, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Learn how it can help you save dollars. Admission is free. Call or text Terry at 860-884-1813 for more information.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, September 2024. 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.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329.

outcome, you attract that outcome into your life.

This idea of belief has been central to Jesus’ teachings, as mentioned above. He emphasized it again in Mark 11:23: ‘Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, “Go, throw yourself into the sea,” and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.’ Here, Jesus highlights the crucial role of unwavering belief in the process. It’s not enough to ask for what you want—you must act as if it is already done.

The idea is clear: belief and emotional alignment with your desired outcome create the conditions for its realization.

So how does this apply in your life? Imagine you’re aiming for a promotion at work. Instead of doubting or hoping, visualize yourself already in that role—feeling confident, acting as if the promotion is yours. The same goes for personal goals, like getting healthier. Instead of focusing

on the obstacles, believe you’re already living a healthier lifestyle, making choices aligned with that belief. The principle remains the same even in bigger dreams—starting a business, finding your dream home, or writing a book.

If you think success is inevitable, you’ll naturally align your actions, mindset, and energy toward making that vision a reality. Belief becomes the foundation for your daily actions, driving you forward even when challenges arise.

So, does manifestation truly work? Well, it has great business leaders and revolutionaries. You might attribute their success to luck or chance, but you can’t deny that they believed with all their heart in their vision. That kind of belief—so strong that it drives every action—is undeniably a common thread among those who achieve remarkable outcomes. So, is it luck, or is it the power of belief? The line between the two may be thinner than we think.

The real question is: Are you willing to believe before you see? As countless teachers and

thinkers have encouraged, can you assume your wish is already fulfilled? Perhaps it’s time to believe not only in the world around you but in your ability to shape it. What if the life you dream of is waiting on the other side of the limits you’ve created in your mind?



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Harris is not fit to be Commander in Chief

To the Editor:
The words in the Charlie Daniels Band song “Simple Man” included: “I’m the kind of guy that wouldn’t hurt a mouse, but if I catch somebody breaking in my house, I got a 12-gauge shotgun waiting on the other side.” Does that offend you because Mr. Daniels, a self-admitted “redneck,” would actually use that gun and take matters into his own hands? Harris appeared on Oprah, where she admitted that both her and Walz owned guns, much to the surprise of that show host. Harris then said that if somebody breaks into her house that they’re going to get shot - so what do you think about that now? And though I’ve now found something I like about Harris and Walz, I still won’t be voting for them.

It’s my opinion that Harris should not be in charge of our military, first off because she hasn’t done a damn thing to help to keep our own border safe. A former Border Patrol Chief testifying before the Congressional Homeland Security Committee just revealed that the current administration warned him to conceal how many individuals were coming across the border with ties to terrorism, and that the administration is trying to convince the public there was no threat at the border. Many sheriffs in California won’t be supporting Harris, claiming that administration policies have made their state “open territory for the cartel to do whatever it wants.” Is Iran now backing Harris because she “represents a more pliable

BOOKSTORE

continued from page A1

and sym- p a t h e t i c figure who they believe will give them what they want,” or maybe it’s b e c a u s e they know t h e y wouldn’t be able to push T r u m p a r o u n d ? Either way, I wouldn’t trust Iran as far as I c o u l d t h r o w t h e m . Russia and China pub-

licly announced they’re conducting joint military drills in the vicinity of Alaska. Since Joe Biden is who knows where, and Harris is too busy trying to get elected, the Pentagon decided they better take some preventative measures. More than 100 U.S. soldiers are on their way to a desolate island in the Aleutian chain where they plan to set up their HIMARS gear “just in case Russia and China decide to get sneaky.”

In a recent episode of ABC’s “Meet the Press,” Mass. Gov. Moron Healey, acting as a surrogate for Harris, proved herself to be nothing more than an ill-prepared, evasive pawn, or maybe she thought that ABC was a safe zone? In an interview, conducted by Martha Raddatz, Healey was pressured to address a false statement made by Harris regarding the status of American soldiers in combat zones. (During a recent debate, Harris claimed that no U.S. soldiers were currently in active combat zones, a statement quickly flagged as inaccurate by fact-checkers.) Healey, fumbling for a response, instead deflected and spoke of Harris’s leadership qualities and of course she bad-mouthed Donald Trump. However, Raddatz was persistent, reiterating the falsehood of Harris’s statement and pressing Healey on whether Harris was even aware of the military deployments in Syria and Iraq. Good effort, Ms. Raddatz, but the only thing you again got out of the moron was more “word salad,” and she probably learned how to do that from Harris, and her inability to answer a direct question from KJP. But the bottom line here is that if our VP is unaware of the status of our troops, she shouldn’t be leading a girl scout troop, never-mind our military.

A reporter from CNN recently visited a “flotilla for Trump” event and asked one of the participants why he is supporting Donald Trump. “The economy,” he replied when asked for his most important election issue. He went on to add: “It’s about getting interest rates down, getting it where we can afford to live in America again, and making my money go further, right now it’s too expensive.” The CNN puppet then said: “You can’t be hurting because you own a boat.” His reply shut her up when he said that he worked for what he has, that he got nothing for free, and this isn’t just about me - it’s about what’s happening in America today.

Ed DeLuca
North Grosvenordale

AI will wreck election editorials

To the Editor:
A while back, I mentioned “Spam Dauphinais” and the problems AI-generated form letters could have this election season, particularly if editorial pages were flooded with all kinds of generic soundalike candidate support letters that suspiciously read like they weren’t written by a human being. I figured it was time to put this technology to the test.

I tried to have Windows 11 Copilot generate a letter to the Editor about how Anne Dauphinais should be re-elected and instantly ran into guardrails, but all I had to do to get around those guardrails was tell the AI to write me a letter to the editor about how she’s such a great person and mention that she’s a state representative. That generat-

ed something, and most importantly, it generated something I could turn into a “vote for this person” letter with just a few small edits.

Washington and Big Tech love to virtue signal about how we’re going to tame the beast known as AI, but the cat’s out of the bag. It only takes one person behind the scenes who knows how to literally play the system to get computers to do the grunt work to generate form letters that only require minor edits to be passable in an editorial section this Autumn.

As always, a little healthy skepticism goes a long way.

JAY GERHART
PUTNAM

Putting people over politics

To the Editor:
You learn a lot when you talk to people.

For the last four months, I’ve been listening to you at your doorsteps and your priorities are clearer to me than ever: lower taxes; wages that allow you to take care of your family; affordable health care that is available locally; lower cost of groceries, gas, and utilities so you can afford to stay in your home as you move into retirement; housing costs that are affordable if you are a renter or a first time home buyer; more support from Hartford for our schools. The fact is that within Windham County, nearly 30 percent of homeowners with a mortgage and 20 percent of home renters are cost-burdened, meaning that they are fully employed but spending more than 30 percent of their income just to keep a roof over their heads. One person I spoke to told me that it is coming down to a choice between buying groceries and paying the bills. This should not be happening in Connecticut, one of the 10 wealthiest states in the USA. This needs to change.

While out in the neighborhoods, knocking on doors and listening to you, I met a 55-year-old woman who recently suffered a heart attack, who was grateful for the services she received at Day Kimball and for having a cardiologist who practices right in Putnam. Another person I met shared with me that his mom would have died without the quick response of our local Emergency Medical Services and the proximity

to Day Kimball Hospital. The importance of maintaining these life-saving medical providers in our community couldn’t be clearer.

I support commonsense solutions, including job training and apprenticeships to create a skilled workforce; policies that encourage small businesses and startups; more state dollars coming to our public schools; policies to increase high-quality housing options; increased funding for Day Kimball Hospital and other local health care services. The bottom line is I support legislation that lowers the cost of living and of doing business and that raises the quality of life for all of us.

We need strong advocacy in Hartford, so our voices are heard. For over 30 years, I have worked for the people of northeast Connecticut to get things done. I am proud to be the endorsed candidate of the Democratic Party, the Independent Party and the Working Families Party, but more than anything, I believe in people over politics. I am running to represent every resident of the 51st District, no matter what political party they may belong to, because that is what public service means. Please vote for me, Renee Lapalme Waldron, on Nov. 5 and help me bring my commitment and energy to Hartford to work for you and your family.

Sincerely,

RENEE LAPALME WALDRON
THOMPSON

Local American Legion Post is back to work

PUTNAM — After their annual summer pause, Putnam’s Mayotte-Viens American Legion Post 13 held their first membership meeting of the new 2024-2025 program year. The meeting was held at the Putnam Town Hall on Monday evening Sept. 16. In attendance were: Commander Michael Rocchetti, Senior Vice Commander Christopher Steinbrick, Junior Vice Commander Tina Lajoie, Financial Officer Charles Mackenzie, Chaplain Pierre Desilets, Sergeant-at-Arms Frank Tremont, Member-at-Large Patrick Kelley, Post Service Officer Garry Brown, Richard Hughes, Robert Warrender, Roberta Garceau, Dennis Laperle, Victor Kratz, Janet Young, Lawrence Christy, and Alan Joslin.

Wolperdinger Bookends is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m., Thursday and Friday 10 a.m. until 7 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. Information on all of their programs will be made available on social media and on their Web site, www.wolperdinger.shop.



According to Commander Rocchetti, “It’s great to be back in the saddle again.”

The Legion Post had a very successful 2023-2024 program

year which included three major fundraisers – a golf tournament, a celebrity bartending event for Veterans Day, and a Charity Club raffle. The Post donated \$10,000 to the Putnam Veterans Advisory Committee for the repairs and upgrades to Veterans Memorial Park.

The Post recognized 12 Putnam Middle-Schoolers for the School Award Medal Program for Americanism. The Post continued to maintain the flags on Memorial Bridge, posting them in May and retiring them in November.

The Post presented an American flag to Westview Commons Assisted Living Facility and held a dedication ceremony there.

The Post awarded six scholarships to Putnam High School Seniors, sponsored a Boy’s State and a Girl’s State attendee, participated in numerous patriotic observance and events including the Beirut Bombing

Commemoration, Veteran’s Day, the Holiday Dazzle Light Parade, Wreaths Across America, Memorial Day, Flag Day, the Veterans Stand Down at QVCC, the Korea & Vietnam Veterans Recognition Event, the Relay for Life, the VJ Day Parade in Moosup.

The Post recognized and awarded Zachary Belleville as Firefighter of the Year, and Roy Hicks as the Police Officer of the Year. The Post also continued its sponsorship of the Tri-Town American Legion Baseball Team – which markedly improved and expanded this year. The Post also participated in several funeral ceremonies for departed members: Carl Eisen, Pete Trama, Bernard Auger, Al Cormier, Alan Sheldon, Raymond Williams, and David Kelley. The local Post is also optimistic and enegized about the coming 2024-2025 program year.

According to Rocchetti, “Our members are really excited about

our new National Commander – Jim Lacoursiere from nearby Moosup. The last time the American Legion had a National Commander from Connecticut was about 70 years ago.”

The Post is also recruiting new members. Rocchetti added: “We are hoping to recruit some new members this year. We really need to bring in more of our younger Iraq and Afghanistan veterans to keep the organization going. Membership need not be a burdensome commitment. A little bit of participation is better than none at all.”

Putnam’s American Legion Post 13 has been active in our community since 1919. This veteran’s organization stands on four pillars - Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. The Legion has a wide variety of related programs that directly support our local community.

LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Ronald D Brady (24-00367)
The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of North-east Probate Court, by decree dated September 10, 2024, 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:
Justin Brady,
309 Westchester Blvd,
Buffalo, NY 14217
September 27, 2024

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Alice E. Dutremble (10-0007)
The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of North-east Probate Court, by decree dated September 16, 2024, 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:
Linda Segar
c/o PAUL M SMITH, BORNER, SMITH, ALEMAN, HERZOG & CERRONE,
124 WAUREGAN ROAD,
DANIELSON, CT 06239
September 27, 2024

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
ESTATE OF
Robert C Dougan (24-00328)
The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of North-east Probate Court, by decree dated August 13, 2024, 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:
Sheila L Dougan
c/o STEPHEN T PENNY,
STEPHEN T PENNY,
202 WEST CENTER STREET,
MANCHESTER, CT 06040
September 27, 2024

TOWN OF KILLINGLY/BOROUGH OF DANIELSON TAX COLLECTORS
LEGAL NOTICE
Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8:00-4:30pm, Tuesday 8:00-5:30pm, and Friday 8-11:30am. Also by mail, online, or in our drop box. The second quarter installment of taxes for real estate and personal property becomes due on October 1, 2024 and becomes delinquent on November 1, 2024 and subject to interest from the due date. Interest will be charged at the rate of 1.5% per month with a minimum interest charge of \$2.00. Please visit our website for full details and online payments www.killinglyct.gov.
April Lamothe, CCMC
Revenue Collector
Town of Killingly
September 27, 2024

TOWN OF KILLINGLY
METERED USE
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, and Friday 8-11:30am. By mail, online, or in our drop box. The first installment of metered use is due September 1, 2024. If payment is not received on or before October 1, 2024 the installment becomes delinquent and subject to interest at the rate of 18% per annum, 1.5% 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.
April Lamothe, CCMC
Revenue Collector
Town of Killingly
August 23, 2024
September 6, 2024
September 27, 2024

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
On September 16th, the Wetlands Agent approved applications for work in Upland Review Area: #09-24-37, 123 Dodge Road, Craig Cheyne, for 13x24 shed; #09-24-40, 188 Baxter Road, Michelle Bouchard, for deck replacement & expansion; #09-24-41, 85 Loyola Road, Krzysztof Chojnicki, 12x14 shed. Dan Malo, Wetlands Agent
September 27, 2024

OBITUARIES

Michael Andrew Quigley 1949 – 2024



Ypsilanti, MI – Michael A. Quigley, 74, passed away April 30, 2024, at his home. He was born October 3, 1949, in Putnam, the son of the late Andrew and Evelyn (Corcoran) Quigley.

Michael worked as a scientist for many years at the NOAA Great Lakes Research Environmental Laboratory. He earned his PhD from the University of Michigan. In his free time, he enjoyed worldwide traveling with his friends and photo club, listening to music, playing his guitar and ukulele, woodworking and photography. He also loved to hike, play golf and scuba dive.

Michael is survived by his brother Andrew Quigley Jr. and his wife Susan

of Pomfret Center; his nieces and nephews, Angela Dailey of Sterling, Katherine Padovano and her husband Christopher of Rockland, MA, Thomas Quigley of Thompson, Jerrid Thompson of Bagdad, KY, and Shane Thompson of Newport, VT.

He was preceded in death by his parents Andrew and Evelyn Quigley, and a sister Kathleen Quigley.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2024, in Most Holy Trinity Church, 568 Pomfret Rd., Pomfret, CT. Burial will follow in St. Mary Cemetery. Local funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

David E. Beausoleil March 9, 1931 – September 18, 2024



Putnam – David E. Beausoleil, 93, of Putnam, died on Wednesday September 18, 2024. He was the loving husband of the late Constance (Jacob) Beausoleil for 72 years

who passed away one month before him. Born in Putnam CT, he was the son of the late Euclide Beausoleil and Marie A. (Petrin) Beausoleil.

Mr. Beausoleil was a lifelong communicant of Saint Mary Church of the Visitation, Putnam. David worked for L & J Screen Printing in Worcester as a maintenance supervisor and for Cargill Chevrolet as a parts manager as well as a car mechanic for Beausoleil Buick. He honorably served in the United States Navy during the Korean War.

David could fix most anything and if he didn't know how you could bet he would have a manual to reference. He enjoyed putting around his home and could be found working on his lovely 3-acre property in Elvira Heights. His lush lawn and expansive varieties of ornamental trees, perennial/vegetable gardens and shrubs were all tenderly

manicured to perfection. David was a ferocious reader of history books and usually had 2 or 3 volumes going at one time. His extensive knowledge of world politics, and war in particular, made conversation very interesting around the Sunday dinner table. David's greatest pride was his family and he cherished being a grandpa and great-grandpa to Hayden, Tristan and Gabriella Beausoleil.

David is survived by his sons Larry Beausoleil and his wife Pamela of Putnam, CT, and Michael Beausoleil of Mesa, AZ; brother Leo Beausoleil of Killingly, CT; sister Lucille Nelson of Putnam, CT; four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his brothers, Robert Beausoleil, Ronald Beausoleil, and Richard Beausoleil.

A private service for David and Connie will be held at a later date. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.



Sean Edward Davis, 54



Sean Edward Davis, 54 passed away peacefully at home with his family at his side following a two year battle with ALS. Sean was born July 1, 1970 to Joyce (Dempsey) Davis of Danielson and the late Wendell

G. Davis, Sr.

Sean graduated from Killingly High in 1988 and enlisted in the Air Force that same year. Sean went on to serve proudly for 23 years before entering a career in Human Resources with the Veterans Affairs where he met many of his longtime friends.

Besides his mother Joyce (Dempsey) Davis, left to mourn Sean's passing are his children, Karleigh Silveira and husband Tyler of Dayville and his two grandchildren Aiden and Caleb Silveira, his sons Logan Graves of Brooklyn, and Philip Davis of Danielson. He also

will be missed by his brother Wendell Davis, Jr. and his wife Sarah of Amston, CT, his sister Dee Davis of Orlando, FL, aunt Ruth Dempsey of MA, uncle Forrest and Kim Davis of NH, and a niece and four nephews.

A calling hour will be held at the Danielson Methodist Church 9 Spring St. Danielson, CT on Saturday October 5, 2024 at 10:00 am followed by a Memorial Service in the church at 11:00. Burial will take place privately at the CT State Veterans Cemetery in Middletown.

Per Sean's Wishes, in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Team Gleason Foundation (For ALS) P.O. Box 24493 New Orleans, LA 70184. tillinghastfh.com



Susan R Eklund, 63



Susan R Eklund, age 63, of Thompson, CT died unexpectedly Saturday, September 14, 2024 at home in Thompson. Susan was born August 14, 1961 in Putnam, CT. She is the daughter of the late Raymond and

the late Doris(Tellier) Robillard.

She is survived by one son: John Eklund of Thompson, CT; one brother: Michael Robillard of Southbridge, MA; nieces, nephews and cousins. A host of friends and co-workers.

Predeceased by her former Husband, Donald Eklund.

She graduated from Putnam Catholic Academy and received her degree in nursing from QVCC.

She was employed by Christopher Heights as a Registered Nurse.

Susan also previously worked at Webster Manor and Nichols College / Dudley Hill Golf Club .

She was an avid reader and enjoyed her two cats and assisting her residents at Christopher Heights over the last ten years .

Services are private Bartel Funeral Home 33 Schofield Avenue in Dudley is assisting the family . Susan's on line condolence book at www.bartelfuneral-home.com .

M. Elizabeth “Betti” Rollinson, 92



Long term resident of Pomfret Center, Connecticut, M. Elizabeth “Betti” Rollinson (Vileno), 92, passed away peacefully on September 17, 2024. Born on September 29, 1931, in Providence, Rhode

Island, Betti was the third of eleven children in a proud first-generation Italian-American family. Her devotion to home and family was a cornerstone of her life, a value she carried from her childhood into her final days.

Betti attended St. Mary's Academy of the Visitation in Providence, RI, where she cultivated a lifelong love of learning. This passion for knowledge led her to a fulfilling career at the Pomfret Public Library where she served as an Assistant Librarian for over 38 years. Beyond her professional life, Betti was deeply involved in her community, volunteering in various capacities that enriched the lives of those around her.

A devout parishioner of the Most Holy Trinity Church in Pomfret, Betti's faith was a significant aspect of her life, guiding her through many of life's challenges and joys.

She wed to Milton Rollinson on August 25th 1956 and was married 56 wonderful years before his passing in 2014. They had three children,

Elizabeth (Beth), Mark and Paul. They thoroughly enjoyed life together traveling and spending time with family.

Betti was not only a dedicated librarian and community volunteer but also an avid reader and puzzles enthusiast. Her love for Jeopardy and Scrabble was well-known among her family and friends, often leading to spirited discussions and friendly competitions.

She is survived by her children, Elizabeth (Steven) Jacobs and Paul (Frances) Rollinson; daughter-in-law, Nancy Rollinson; grandchildren, Daniel (Abby) Jacobs, Emily (Nathan Whittemore) Jacobs, Martha (Rafeed Hussain) Rollinson, Emma Rollinson, John Rollinson, Rebecca (Alexander) Sirocki, and Jennifer (Jameson) Bonti; and great-grandchildren, Hope and Vincent Jacobs. Betti was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Milton Rollinson, and son, Mark Rollinson.

A service to celebrate Betti's life will be held on September 28th, 2024, at Most Holy Trinity Church, 568 Pomfret St, Pomfret, CT 06258, at 10:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Betti's memory to the Pomfret Public Library, PO Box 91, 449 Pomfret St., Pomfret CT 06258, or the Quinipiac Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine Anatomical Gift Program, furthering her commitment to education and community service.

Dennis D. Dancause, Sr., 68



Dennis D Dancause, Sr., age 68, of Woodstock Valley, CT died peacefully Monday, September 16, 2024 at his sisters home in North Grosvenordale. Dennis was born February 16, 1956 in Webster, MA. He is the son of the late Donald and the late Elaine (Rodio) Dancause.

He is survived by two sons: Dennis D. Dancause Jr. and his wife Holly of Dudley, MA and Charles W. Dancause and his wife Hillary of Charlton, MA one daughter: Denise D Dancause of AL, one sister: Linda Orlowski and her husband John of Thompson, CT and two brothers: Richard Dancause and his wife Sandy of Canterbury, CT and David Dancause and his Fiancé Dottie of Westbrook, CT,

7 beloved grandchildren Dakota, Brayden, Lochlyn, Addy, Ruby, Chloe and Lea. Several Nieces and Nephews. Dear friend Nick Popiak his faithful companions Sir Winston and Peaches

Predeceased by his Paternal grandparents Alphonse and Aldea Dancause. Maternal grandparents John and Aurora Rodio .

He graduated from Bartlett High School in Webster he was a member of the band for all 4 years. He proudly served in the Coast Guard Serving In Cape May, New Jersey And Newport News Virginia He retired from International Paper in Putnam in 2022

Dennis enjoyed Hunting, fishing and family time a member of the family Rendezvous Club.

Most of all he treasured time spent with his grandkids and teaching them there outdoor skills.

Services are private with a celebration of life . Online condolence book at www.bartelfuneralhome.com Bartel Funeral Home 33 Schofield Ave. Dudley Ma. is directing arrangements .



Francis (Frank) L. Corden Sr.

On September 12th Francis (Frank) L. Corden Sr. passed away peacefully in his New London home in the company of his partner, Maureen Hickler. The only child of Arthur and Rose (Couturier) Corden, Frank was born on February 15th, 1940 in Putnam, Connecticut. He graduated in 1958 from Putnam High School where he was a member of the track and football teams. Frank attended Worcester Polytechnic Institute where he studied chemistry and played football.

Frank's career began working for Rogers Corp. of Rogers, CT and the American Optical Corp. of Southbridge, MA. However, it was the emergence of computer technology that captured Frank's long-term interest. His work in financial data processing took him New York City working with the New York Stock Exchange. He then moved to Wickford, RI to work for Rhode Island Hospital and onto Manchester, NH with American International Group. His data processing career culminated as a consultant in 2000 updating COBOL programs for Y2K.

Frank's interests outside of his professional life were what really defined him. He had an enduring love of the outdoors. As a young man he was an avid skier and loved hiking and camping. Once skiing was not feasi-

ble, he took up biking. Riding with groups throughout Rhode Island and the Massachusetts south coast as well participating in the Iowa Ragbrai fed his love for the outdoors. While in NYC Frank restored a sailboat, and for many years he sailed throughout Long Island Sound and the southern New England coast.

Frank also had a lifelong love of photography. While working at the University of New Hampshire, his interest grew into a passion for photographic arts. Frank's catalogue of images includes abstracts, portraits, weddings, dog shows and scenic views from throughout New England. While living in NH, Frank became involved with a local group rescuing Doberman Pinschers. It was during this time that CJ, a rescued Doberman came into Frank's life. CJ accompanied Frank on his many travels for years.

Frank was predeceased by his parents and his son Rob Martin Corden. He is survived by his son Frank Jr., his grandchildren, Megan Ferris, Teresa Corden, Patric Corden, Samantha Keltner and Alex Corden along with his great grandchildren. A Celebration of Life is planned for 2:00 PM October 26th at the Inn at Woodstock Hill, Woodstock, CT. In lieu of flowers, send donations to your local animal rescue.

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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148 Grove Street, Putnam, CT 860-928-2442
www.smithandwalkerfh.com

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BROOKLYN CELEBRATES AGRICULTURE



BROOKLYN — The Brooklyn Fairgrounds played host to the annual Celebrating Agriculture event for the second year in a row on Sept. 21 showcasing how agriculture of all kinds plays an important role in the products we use, consume, and depend on every day. It's the third and final major agricultural event of the year at the fairgrounds following the 4-H Fair and the Brooklyn Fair, and included numerous booths, competitions, and displays all themed around agriculture's ever important role in our society. The event braved the elements as rain dampened the day a bit, but across the Quest Corner embrace of the most prevalent industries in



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