

## Woodstock farm preserved for the next generation



Photo Courtesy Connecticut Farmland Trust (CFT) announced recently that Prospect Farm in Woodstock has been preserved. The Chattelle family, who has managed the historic farm for more than 40 years, generously donated an easement on its property.

WOODSTOCK — Connecticut Farmland Trust (CFT) announced recently that Prospect Farm in Woodstock has been preserved. The Chattelle family, who has managed the historic farm for more than 40 years, generously donated an easement on its property. Now, the family farm is secure for future generations as part of Woodstock's thriving agricultural fabric.

"To have the land preserved feels great," said Loretta Chattelle, one of seven children of the original farmers Virginia and Normand Chattelle.

"We're excited because this is the first farm CFT has preserved in 2021 and we're incredibly thankful to the Chatelle family for their donation of the easement," said CFT Executive Director Elisabeth Moore. "It's a wonderful gift in their parents' memory, to Woodstock in particular and the agricultural community as a whole."

Prospect Farm is CFT's 62nd protected farm. It is the fifth farm protected in Windham County and the second in Woodstock. CFT has permanently preserved 4,758 acres of Connecticut farmland since its inception in 2002 and helped partners protect an additional 1,100 acres.

After her parents died, the siblings wanted to sell their land, but they wanted to make sure it would always remain a farm.

"We know that this is what our parents would have wanted," Loretta said.

Loretta and her siblings began to search for ways to ensure the property would be safe from develop-

Turn To **PROSPECT FARM** page **A12**

## High School Roundup

# Barber's two three-run homers power Tigers



Courtesy photo From left, Woodstock Academy's Kally LaChapelle, Ciara MacKinnon, Alex Vaida and Maria Santucci have been a force to be reckoned with on the links.

## Woodstock budget heads to voters

WOODSTOCK – Voters in Woodstock will have their say on a proposed 2022 Fiscal Year budget with a minor increase during the annual town meeting on May 4.

The Woodstock Board of Finance met in late April and pushed forward that sees several live items including the general government and education expenditures receive minor increases adding up to a .75 mill increase from the current mill rate of 24.50 to 25.25. The proposal contains a general government spending plan of \$2.07 million, a \$119,313 increase over the current year's \$1.9 million budget, and an education budget of \$19.76 million, a \$556,058 increase over the current budget of \$19.2 million. The proposal also sees a slight increase in highway department expenditures from \$1.52 million to \$1.53 million and an increase in health, recreation & welfare spending from \$55,209 to \$572,673. The numbers also project an increase in state money from \$16,194 to \$104,802 as well and other incomes.

The total spending plan comes in at \$25.23 million, a \$592,799 increase over the \$24.6 million approved for the 2021

THOMPSON — The Tourtellotte High baseball team rebounded from a tough loss to Woodstock Academy (a 3-2 come-from-behind win by the Centaurs on Tuesday, April 13) with a 17-7 win over Lyman on Tuesday, April 20.

After spotting Lyman a 3-0 lead after a half inning, the Tigers (1-1) got untracked.

Junior Mason Barber powered the 13-hit Tourtellotte offense, with a pair of three-run homers. The first tied the game tied the game, 3-3, in the bottom of the first inning, the second putting the Tigers ahead, 6-3, in the second.

After Lyman cut the Tourtellotte lead to one run (7-6) in the top of the fourth inning, the Tigers responded with a five-hit, six-run barrage, started

Turn To **SPORTS** page **A10**



Courtesy Photo An artist rendering of the new sign that would be installed in front of the Thompson Town Hall.

## Thompson selectmen move forward with sign project

THOMPSON – Thompson's Board of Selectmen has voted to utilize COVID relief funding to help offset some of the cost of a new digital sign that would serve as an update to the current sign positions in front of the town hall.

During a livestreamed meeting on April 20, selectmen continued a longstanding discussion about the digital sign which has been in the works for well over a year. During an April 7 meeting of the Economic Development Commission's Branding Strategy Implementation Committee, Town Planner Tyra Penn-Gesek presented two options for the sign — one that would be a completely new installation and a second that would incorporate the current framework of the existing sign. Selectmen and the EDC have chosen to support the latter concept as it will maintain the character of the sign that was donated by the Lion's Club many years ago. According to Penn-Gesek, the second plan is also more budget friendly.

"We got a revised quote from Graphics Unlimited. They showed us two options for the sign. The one with the original quote was a little bit higher and modeled around the Dudley Town Hall and

Turn To **SIGN** page **A10**







# Dauphinais, Hayes oppose bill removing religious exemptions for vaccinations

**BY JASON BLEAU**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

HARTFORD – The Quiet Corner’s two Republican State Representatives are denouncing a controversial House bill that would eliminate religious exemptions for vaccinations for school-aged children as well as children in daycares and college. HB-6423: An Act Concerning Immunizations and its sister legislation in the Senate, SB-568: An Act Eliminating The Nonmedical Exemption To the Immunization Requirements, could end Connecticut’s long-standing religious exemption from immunization requirements for schools on the heels

of the release of vaccines to battle the COVID-19 pandemic. Connecticut it currently one of 45 states allowing religious exemptions for childhood vaccinations.

Both 44th District Rep. Anne Dauphinais and 51st District Rep. Rick Hayes, Republicans in a Democrat controlled House, have been outspoken against the House bill claiming the document violates individual freedoms and is a negative step forward for the state which would allow the government to tell parents what’s best for their children in spite of individual religious values.

“The ability to make medical decisions for our families is under attack. For the government to make these

impactful decisions for children, instead of their parents, is irresponsible. During this session, there have been hundreds of bills to redress various forms of discrimination, but the Democrats on the Public Health Committee voted to enact de-facto religious discrimination in public and private schooling for thousands of residents,” Dauphinais said concerning the legislation in a press release in early April. “While some states are looking to expand vaccine choice, Connecticut Democrats are determined to take it away. Vaccination mandates for public school and religious exemptions have co-existed in Connecticut for 62 years and can continue to safely co-ex-

ist.”

Hayes posted a personal statement on his page for the Connecticut House GOP, saying that after debating on Monday, April 19 into Tuesday, April 20 several amendments he proposed failed including a proposal to require new vaccines mandated for children to go through House and Senate approval before being added to the vaccine schedule. Hayes was disappointed in the eventual passage of the bill.

“Parental rights were dismissed because some feel the state should decide what and when substances will be injected into your children,” Hayes said in his statement. “I will continue to fight for an individual’s rights to make their

own decisions when it comes to their families as we continue down a very troubling path. For me, this was not about vaccinations; this was about excessive government overreach and violation of our God given rights. Your religious beliefs now mean nothing.”

The pill passed the House in a 90-53 decision in the early morning house of Tuesday, April 20 after 16 hours of debate. Some amendments were approved earlier in the night including grandfathering in students with existing religious exemptions. If the Bill passed the Senate Governor Ned Lamont has pledged to sign it into law.

## Creation Church welcomes Your Options Medical

THOMPSON — Creation Church is pleased to announce that its next guest speaker at their Acts 1:8 Night on Wednesday, May 5 is Marissa Fagerquist from Your Options Medical in Sturbridge, Mass.

Your Options Medical is a Christian, non-profit pregnancy center, who provides pregnancy testing, ultrasound, and pregnancy options counseling for women facing an unplanned or unexpected pregnancy. All services are offered to their patients at no-cost equipping and empowering them to choose life.

Acts 1:8 is a brand-new evening of worship, prayer and missions at Creation Church, which takes place every other Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m. Most recently guest speakers from Josiah Venture (Czech Republic) and Hope For Tomorrow Guatemala ministries shared their visions for reaching the world for Christ. On May 19, Russ and Diane Kraines of TeachBeyond will be sharing their transformational educational programs throughout Europe and Asia, followed by Chap Bettis on June 2 of The Apollos Project

and Jeremy Bradley of Caring Families on June 16.

Creation Church is a non-denominational, Christian church located at 47 West Thompson Rd. in Thompson. Their Sunday morning service hours are 9 and 10:30 a.m., which also includes a full children’s program at that time called Creation Kids. Their teen group called The Rock will meet in the church’s new Youth Center this Sunday at 6 p.m. In addition, a men’s Bible study called Winning at Work and Home takes place each Saturday morning at 8 a.m. at the church.

For more information on any of these activities, please call Pastor Bernie Norman at (860) 923-9979 or go online at [www.creationchurch.org](http://www.creationchurch.org). “A Place of New Beginnings,” as they call themselves, Creation Church’s mission is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ by creating environments where people are encouraged and equipped to pursue a loving relationship with God, experience community within, and be a life-giving influence without.

### BUDGET

continued from page A1

budget year. The impact to the tax base will be \$18.1 million, up from \$17.4 million in 2021.

Voters are invited to a May 4, 2021 hybrid annual town meeting where they can discuss and vote on the budget either in person at the Woodstock Middle School or over Zoom. The meeting will also ask voters whether or not to adopt a Capital Improvement Plan for the next five years totaling \$13 million in local improvement projects.

### Villager Newspapers

#### ACCURACY WATCH

The *Villager Newspapers* is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page A3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake call (860) 928-1818 or e-mail [charlie@villager-newspapers.com](mailto:charlie@villager-newspapers.com).

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## VILLAGER ALMANAC

### At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of April 19: House Wren, Barn Swallow, Tree Swallow, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Palm Warbler, Pine Warbler, Field Sparrow, Eastern Towhee, Junco, Bluebird, Green-winged Teal, Louisiana Waterthrush, House Finch, Barred Owl, Carolina Wren, Phoebe, Great Blue Heron, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Visit [ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home](http://ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home).



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### Woodstock • Public • Schools

#### Developmental Preschool Screenings

Woodstock Elementary School is seeking all Woodstock children born in 2017 to participate in a developmental preschool screening.

Screenings are held on Wednesday mornings.

Please call the Woodstock Elementary School office to schedule an appointment at 860-928-0471.  
**Preregistration is required.**

### Woodstock • Public • Schools

#### 2021 – 2022 Kindergarten Registration

Woodstock Elementary School invites all families with Kindergarten eligible students to register for the 2021-2022 school year. All students turning five years old before December 31, 2021 are eligible for entry into our full-day Kindergarten program.

Registration packets can be obtained by calling the main office at 860-928-0471 or by email at [wesoffice@woodstockschoools.net](mailto:wesoffice@woodstockschoools.net)

Completed registration packets can be submitted in person at Woodstock Elementary School the week of May 24th between 8am and 4pm or mailed to:

Woodstock Elementary School  
24 Frog Pond Rd., Woodstock, CT 06281  
Woodstock Public Schools

### Woodstock • Public • Schools

#### Pre-K Lottery Selection

Woodstock Elementary School is accepting applications for our PreK lottery selection for the 2021-2022 school year. Applications are open to students turning four by December 31, 2021. These are due to the main office by May 3, 2021.

For an application please visit:  
<https://www.woodstockschoools.net/o/elementary-school/page/pre-k-57>

Lottery selection to occur in June at a special Board of Education Academic Subcommittee meeting.



# Tourtellotte Memorial High School’s Student Spotlight: Trinity Davis



Each month, Tourtellotte Memorial High School’s Student Spotlight program recognizes a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement, character, leadership, attitude, and/or contributions to the school and community. April’s Student Spotlight honoree is junior Trinity Davis.

Trinity was first nominated by Elizabeth Davis, who says, “Trinity does so much for not only the music department but the whole school. She makes sure that everyone is happy and content. She is a great example of an amazing person.” Mrs. Ouillette echoes that sentiment, adding, “Trinity is always looking out for others and tries to spread joy whenever she can, whether it’s just simply holding the door for others as they walk in and out of the Library or helping other students with their tech needs, Trinity is always willing to lend a helping hand. Recently, Trinity gave up her study hall time to help new student Melanie Noonan get

acquainted with her schedule and the building. Melanie says about Trinity, “She made me feel welcomed on my first day of school and says hi to me in the hallways when she sees me.” Trinity’s friendly nature has earned her multiple close friends, including Shane Yurkevicius who says, “Trinity is always there to help. She’s the kind of person to never tell secrets or to leave someone hanging. She will always support people if it’s for a good cause, and works hard for what she believes in.” Trinity has made many contributions to the school community as a member of the Diversity Club, as Captain of the Esports League of Legends Team, and as an active member in the music department as the equipment manager and percussion section leader for the band . She has also interned in the school technology department since the 10th grade and has volunteered in her community at the Thompson Public Library.

When asked what motivates her in her life, Trinity says, “My dad motivates me. In the past, my dad has had to act as both a mom and a dad when raising me. No matter how many times he gets knocked down, he always gets back up. Seeing this influence throughout my life has really motivated me to just roll with the punches. I have learned from him that even when I get knocked down, I have to get back up and to continue on with life.”

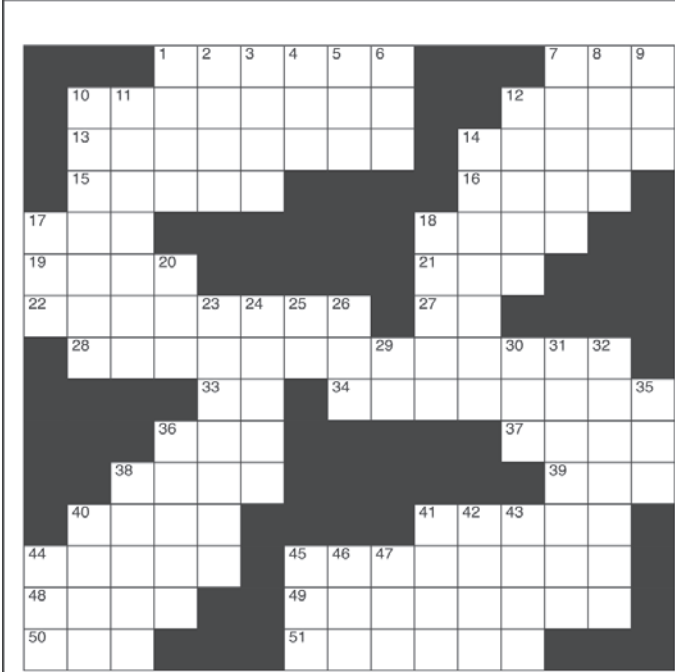
Of her plans for the future, Trinity says, “I plan to become a computer technician just like Ms. Bachand in the tech department. Ms.Bachand has really been a big inspiration to me. I like how she is always patient with me even when I don’t get it the first few times.”

Trinity’s message to her school community is “Don’t always look at the bad things in life-yes, they are there, but the good is there too.”

## Student art on display at Thompson Library

THOMPSON — The Thompson Public Schools Spring Art Show, featuring artwork by students at Thompson Middle School, will be on exhibit in the meeting room and display case at the Public Library from May 3-27.

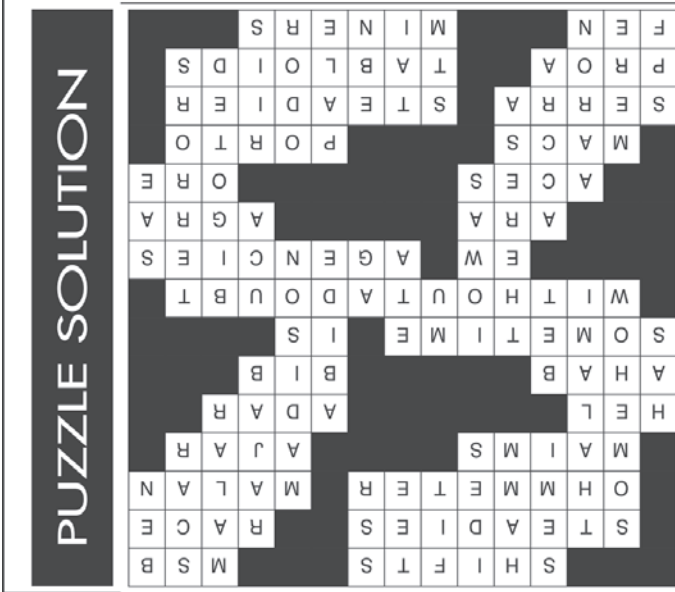
Art @ the Library is generously supported by the Friends of the Thompson Library. For more information, please visit [www.thompsonpubliclibrary.org](http://www.thompsonpubliclibrary.org) or call (860) 923-9779.



- ### CLUES ACROSS

  - Switches
  - Legal financial term (abbr.)
  - Sweeties
  - Competition
  - Measures electrical resistance
  - Psychotherapy researcher
  - Causes injury to
  - Open
  - Polish peninsula
  - Hebrew calendar month
  - Whale ship captain
  - Children’s accessory
  - Unknown point
  - Exists
  - Extremely confident
  - Expression of disgust
  - The government has many
  - Small constellation
  - Northern Indian city
  - The best pitchers
  - Naturally occurring solid
  - Apple computers
  - Portuguese city
  - Ancient Greek war dance
  - More reliable
  - Sailboat
  - Newspapers
  - Frequently flooded area
  - They dig for coal
- ### CLUES DOWN

  - Partial
  - “Mad Men” leading man
  - The \_\_ of March
  - Healthy
  - Where golfers begin
  - Soviet Socialist Republic (abbr.)
  - Of the cheek
  - Injury reminder
  - Statesman Franklin
  - For an unknown reason
  - Brain parts
  - Islamic calendar month
  - Avenue where ad men work
  - Possesses
  - Accept
  - Stake
  - Former British PM May
  - US battleships circa 1939
  - Greek alphabet letter
  - When you hope to get there
  - Top lawyer
  - Fiddler crabs
  - Intolerant
  - Persons that cause extreme fear
  - Car mechanics group
  - Capital of Ghana
  - Famed ballplayer Hank
  - Emphasizes insignificance
  - Light-colored
  - Distinctive smell
  - Muckraking journalist Jacob
  - Sunscreen rating
  - Short-term memory
  - Japanese delicacy
  - One point north of due east



## Day Kimball welcomes new Endocrinology physician

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) is pleased to welcome Meryl J. Reichman, MD, board-certified and fellowship-trained endocrinologist, to the Day Kimball Medical Group (DKMG).

“We are very excited to have Dr. Reichman join our medical team to provide full-time endocrinology services for patients in our community,” said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. “Day Kimball is committed to bringing specialty healthcare services to the region so that our patients don’t need to travel great distances for care. Having Dr. Reichman on board is a tremendous advance in helping us meet the need for high-quality specialty services to benefit those in our community with diabetes and other endocrine conditions.”

Dr. Reichman received a Bachelor of Science in biology from Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, N.Y., in 1987, followed by a Doctorate of Medicine from New York Medical College, Valhalla, N.Y., in 1993. She completed her internal medicine residency and endocrinology fellowship training at Westchester Medical Center, Valhalla, N.Y.



Meryl Reichman

Dr. Reichman established a private practice in Newburgh, N.Y. in 1998. In 2008, the practice merged into Caremount Medical Group, where she continued to serve as a clinical endocrinologist prior to joining Day Kimball Medical Group.

Board-certified in endocrinology and metabolism, Dr. Reichman brings more than 22 years of clinical experience to Day Kimball and provides all aspects of endocrinology care. Her clinical interests include Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes management, osteoporosis, thyroid disorders, and general endocrinology.

Dr. Reichman was named a “Hudson Valley Top Doctor” in 2018, 2019 and 2020, and is a member of the Endocrine

Society, the American Diabetes Association, and the American Association of Clinical Endocrinology. She has relocated to Connecticut to be closer to her growing family and looks forward to working closely with her patients to provide patient-centered, quality endocrine care.

Dr. Reichman is accepting new adult patients age 18 and up by referral at the Day Kimball Healthcare Center in Plainfield. To schedule an appointment, call 860-457-9133. To learn more about endocrinology services available at Day Kimball Healthcare, visit [daykimball.org/endocrinology](http://daykimball.org/endocrinology).

### About Day Kimball Healthcare

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

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## Jog With Judy 5K to be held this fall

WOODSTOCK — The Judy Nilan Foundation is pleased to announce that its annual Jog With Judy 5K race is scheduled to be held on Saturday, Oct. 23 in Woodstock.

This will be the 15th anniversary of the race, which raises funds in memory of Judy Nilan. These funds are used to sponsor grants focused on improving the social, emotional, and behavioral abilities of children to learn effectively. Please visit the foundations website and Facebook page for more information.

## Villager Newspapers

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### VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

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

## Woodstock Lions to host book sale

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Lions Club will host a book sale Saturday, June 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Masonic Lodge #46, 265 Route 169, Woodstock.

Children’s books will be offered for 25 cents, paperbacks 50 cents, and hardcover books \$1, or fill a bag for \$5. Proceeds will benefit the Lions’ community service activities, including vision screenings.

The rain date for the sale will be Sunday, June 6.

For more information, please visit [woodstocklions.org](http://woodstocklions.org).

**KEEP YOUR DOLLARS LOCAL!**



# Eastern students inducted into education honor society

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University’s Education Department inducted 34 students into Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society for education, on Dec. 5, 2020.

Among the inductees were Felicia Horne of Danielson, a junior majoring in Early Childhood Education and English, and Hannah Bowen of Putnam, a senior majoring in English.

Founded in 1911 at the University of Illinois, what first began as club of 22 members has grown into an international society with more than 1.2 million members. Eastern’s chapter, Epsilon Nu, was founded in 1943. To be selected for membership, students must exhibit a promising future in the field of education, and promote high personal standards and scholarship ideals.

Eastern Connecticut State University is the state of Connecticut’s public liberal arts university, serving more than 4,000 students annually at its Willimantic campus and satellite locations. In addition to attracting students from 162 of Connecticut’s 169 towns, Eastern also draws students from 33 other states and 20 countries. A residential campus offering 40 majors and 60 minors, Eastern offers students a strong liberal art foundation grounded in a variety of applied learning opportunities. Ranked as the #1 public regional university in New England by U.S. News and World Report in its 2021 Best Colleges ratings, Eastern has also been awarded “Green Campus” status by the Princeton Review 11 years in a row. For more information, visit [www.easternct.edu](http://www.easternct.edu).

# Local students named to Goodwin University’s Dean’s List

EAST HARTFORD — Goodwin University announces 1,128 students achieved Dean’s list status for the Fall 2020 session. Dean’s List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits to qualify.

Kaylyn Choquette of Danielson  
Jennifer Ruggirello of Danielson  
Sean Sullivan of Danielson  
Kayla Murby of Dayville  
Phoebe Klaus of East Killingly  
Molly Myslivy of Thompson  
Brittani Wilson of Woodstock

Goodwin University in East Hartford is an innovative learning community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees. We tailor our programs to address the needs of employers, and we shape them to fit the lives of students. Classes

# Local students named to Goodwin University President’s List

EAST HARTFORD — Goodwin University’s President’s List for the Fall 2020 Session includes 414 students, all of whom scored a perfect 4.0 GPA. The following local students were named to the President’s List:

Jennifer Ruggirello of Danielson  
Sean Sullivan of Danielson  
Molly Myslivy of Thompson

Goodwin University in East Hartford, is an innovative learning community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees. We tailor our programs to address the needs

of employers, and we shape them to fit the lives of students. Classes are conveniently offered year-round - days, evenings, weekends, and online. Degrees may be flexibly layered across certificate, associate, bachelor’s, and master’s programs in a variety of in-demand fields. Better still, we surround our students with the personal support and the professional guidance they need - not just to earn degrees, but to change lives for themselves, their families, and their communities. For more information, please visit [www.goodwin.edu](http://www.goodwin.edu).

## VFW NAMES PATRIOT PEN ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS



Photo Courtesy

Each year, the local VFW Post 10088 in Quinebaug offers students in grades 6-8 a chance to participate in the Patriot Pen Essay Contest. The 300-to-400-word essay contest encourages students to learn about America’s history and Patriotism. This year’s theme was titled, “What does Patriotism mean to you?” This year’s winners at Thompson Middle School were grade 6 students Sam Hachigian, Julyanna Barrows and Maddison Carlson. Members of the local VFW Post 10088, Carol and Elmer Preston, along with TMS grade 6 teacher Mrs. Groh, presented the TMS students with their awards.

## BOOKLYN’S ELI MAJEK BECOMES AIR FORCE PILOT




Photo Courtesy

Congratulations to 2nd Lt. Eli Majek from Brooklyn for his graduation from pilot training in the United States Air Force at CAFB Columbus, Miss. Lt. Majek will be stationed at Joint Base Charleston, S.C., where he will fly the C-17 Globemaster III.

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**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

# Fighting pandemic fatigue

While more and more people are getting vaccinated, and hospitalizations and deaths are down, the numbers of COVID cases, especially in some rural areas, are climbing. This pandemic is not over, as much as we all want it to be. Life seems to be slowly getting back to normal, however many restrictions, including travel bans and masking are still in place leaving some of us a bit deflated a year later. The number of individuals choosing to vaccinate is hope that there is a light at the end of the tunnel, yet COVID fatigue is still affecting many.

One thing to remember is that we're all in this together, and will all make it through together. Many of us have learned quite a bit about ourselves having been faced with this once in a lifetime scenario. We now know just how extroverted or introverted we all are. Perhaps changes have come by way of new or different opportunities.

Silver linings are still a part of the chatter about town. This is a good sign; however, for those who are gripped by pandemic fatigue, we have a few tips to share. We've all felt it at one point or another over the past year, you are not alone.

Last year, everyone was isolated as businesses and schools closed. We all stayed home for months as the virus took hold of the world. During that difficult time, we all found ways to cope, together. The summer months brought some reprieve, with outdoor events being dubbed 'OK' as long as safety protocols were adhered to. During the winter months we saw another surge that made us all feel as though it would never end.

It's important to talk about and acknowledge just how tough things have been for each and every one of us. The unexpected changes the pandemic delivered were a doozy. Over the past year, we have all worried about loved ones and the burden that comes along with potential changes in finances. Isolation is never easy either. Despite these challenges we are all here, in this together and accolades should be given to everyone who did what they could to help stop the spread, encourage friends and family and for keeping yourselves upbeat as much as possible.

Remember to check in with yourself and take note if you feel impatient, angry, depressed or irritable. Those feelings are normal and make sense given the circumstances, but experts say it's important to be aware.

Breathing exercises are always suggested as they are the fastest and easiest way to reduce stress. Relax your shoulders and slow your breathing. The physiological response centers on the nervous system.

Limit your screen time. We say this often. Some call it 'doom-scrolling.' Think of the good old days before social media when it was your choice about what you read. Seeing too much negativity can increase that feeling of dread and uncertainty. If you need some good news, simply Google "good news"; we promise, it's out there. If you're trying to unwind, listen to music or watch shows that remind you of simpler times. Some of our favorites include The Beach Boys, Led Zeppelin and The Doors. For a good reset, nothing beats watching re-runs of Three's Company, one the best sit-coms to come out of the 1970's.

In the words of Bernard Beckett, "Human spirit is the ability to face the uncertainty of the future with curiosity and optimism. It is the belief that problems can be solved, differences resolved. It is a type of confidence. And it is fragile."

## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to [Brendan@villagernewspapers.com](mailto:Brendan@villagernewspapers.com)

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

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Qualify of life in Pomfret could be at stake

To the Editor:

In the best interest of the Town of Pomfret now and in the future, I wish to make aware to residents the following, which could have a profound impact on the quality-of-lifestyle in our town.

The owner of a Farm Distillery presented to the P&Z, at a public hearing, on April 21, text amendment changes:

The Intent: To allow the sale and service of food and beverage prepared and consumed at a farm distillery indoors or outdoors, as well as the accommodation of special group events such as weddings to be held at a farm distillery. Such activities are to be a complement and secondary to a farm distillery use.

1. The Farm Distillery Restaurant must be located on a single parcel of land where the Farm Distillery is also located, and the parcel must be a minimum of five (5) acres.
2. The maximum hours of operation of a Farm Distillery Restaurant shall be 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.
3. The applicant shall submit a written request to the Pomfret Fire Marshal for comment on the suitability of any emergency access and fire protection provisions that are to be established in the connection with the proposed use. A copy of such written request shall be submitted to the Commission as part of the special permit application.
4. The structure' in which food shall be prepared and served indoors shall not exceed 2,500 square feet, including space for entrances, egress, storage, and cooking facilities.
5. All refuse areas shall be no closer than twenty feet to any property line or one hun-

dred feet from any dwelling on an adjacent lot.

6. There shall be one parking space per three restaurant seats.
7. There shall be no more than two signs associated with non-residential use of the property.
8. Sound systems to be used at special events shall not exceed 86 decibels. No outdoor music shall be played before 10 a.m. or after 10 p.m. Monday-Saturday, and no outdoor music shall be played before 11 a.m. or after 10 p.m. on Sunday.

The key point published in the legal notice of the Putnam Town Crier, April 15 stated, "The proposed amendment would be applicable to all residentially zoned property in town."

At the public hearing, only one citizen asked questions. If there are no concerns from the public, the commission will act on the applicant's request. Something to consider:

He supposedly is a farmer. He was given permission to have a distillery and use his farm grown potatoes to produce Vodka. Now, he wants another activity. To establish a full-size restaurant and serve food and beverages plus hold special group events at this location from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Is he a farmer, or something else?

If you have questions, please email the Planning and Zoning Commission.

FORD FAY  
POMFRET

### Woodstock budget final update

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, April 13, the Woodstock Board of Finance met to finalize this year's budget proposal to go to town meeting and on to referendum. At this point, I usually say "watch the video"; however, this time, I need to warn that the meeting was a train wreck, to say the least. Even some of the participants walked away not completely clear on what happened. For those with a little masochism in their soul, you can pick it up at 14 minutes and miss the boilerplate. A review of the minutes, posted on April 22, and supporting documents only makes things worse.

The Board of Selectmen and town Financial Director came forward with a new budget proposal that included an "overall" increase in spending for both Town Government Operations and Debt Service of \$36,721; seemingly reasonable, but then things start going sideways. See, this proposal actually includes an increase of \$175,624 for Operations, and is offset in part by a \$138,913 decrease in Debt Service, in large part thanks to the retirement of a 20-year bond issue from 2001 for "renovations" to the Elementary School – a whole other story in itself, considering much of this was for things like painting and paving parking lots and other items which have had to be redone multiple times, as their useful life was much less than the period of the bond. Keep this in mind for future bonding.

Now it is the BOF's turn. They decide that they will use only two thirds of the increase allowed by Prop 46, or \$453,866, to increase the spending budget, but then add \$138,913 from the reduction in Debt Service to the monies for distribution – apparently not realizing the Town Government budget had already included these in their budget. The BOF then goes ahead and declares the new budget will increase by \$592,779, with \$36,721 going to the Town Government and the balance of \$556,058 going to the BOE. Sound a little confusing? Apparently, not to four of the six voting members of the BOF, and they simply go ahead and approve the new Town Budget at \$5,474,387 and the new BOE budget

at \$19,761,309 – still unaware that they had designated \$138,913 twice. Or maybe they were aware, but the number of \$138,913 was just so appealing that they really intended to use it twice. You can check all of this in the posted minutes of the April 13 meeting and the posted Town Government budget dated April 8, page 29. Now, \$592,779 is less than the allowable under Prop 46, so no legal issue, but the path taken to get there should concern every Woodstock taxpayer, and that's not the end of this story.

Not discussed in the budget meeting was the request by the BOE to transfer \$162,000 from the Healthcare Reserve, and internal service fund (FUND 51), to the BOE in addition to whatever is approved for their budget. This is a legal problem as it would increase spending above the Prop 46 limit by more than \$70,000 and also violate CGS 10-222 which limits spending to the authorized limit, i.e. the budget that is approved. Further, the BOE capital plan for the next five years includes \$225,000 – escalating \$5,000 per year for a five-year total of \$1,175,000 – for "Woodstock Education Funding." This is to cover the capital assessment (formerly called Construction Costs) for Woodstock Academy. This is part of the tuition, and has been for more than 20 years, and is a blatant attempt to circumvent Prop 46 and is obviously a "recurring expense" not related to a specific asset and not a capital expense. The BOF allowed this to go forward saying that the capital plan is just pro forma but you can bet that when the it is put forward for approval to spend the money the argument will then become, "but it is in the plan"; a game that has been played many times.

The only way all this foolishness ends is for the voters of Woodstock to turn down both the budget and capital plan and send the message to the BOF to do their job. The town meeting is scheduled for May 4 and budget referendum for May 11.

DAVE RICHARDSON  
WOODSTOCK

# Six things to do before passing along the family business

A family business offers so much more than household income. What often begins as a dream for one or two people can grow to form a large part of the identity, fond memories, and future hopes of an entire family. If you've got a family business and are beginning to think about what will happen when you're ready to pass that business along to a family member or someone else in five, ten or fifteen years, there are several important things to address to ensure you walk away with the outcome you desire.

First, determine your goals.

Set aside time to sit down and specifically define your goals for the succession of your business. Some questions to ask yourself are: Do you feel you have enough retirement income, or do you need the succession of your business to help fund or add to your retirement funds? Is it important to you



FINANCIAL  
FOCUS  
• • • • •  
JIM ZAHANSKY  
INVESTMENT  
ADVISER

that your business outlives you and passes along to your heirs, or is your plan to close or sell the business to someone else and minimize taxes in the process? How would you like to use your financial capital to invest in your family capital? Is there a charitable gift you'd like to make or other way you'd like to make a mark on the world? Take some time to prioritize these objectives so you can begin to act and plan accordingly.

Next, talk with your family.

When it comes to transitioning a family business, it's easy to think about giving each family member the exact same treatment, but that may not make sense for your business. Family members either may not be qualified to take a role in the business, or they may not want to be involved. Unfortunately, as you can

Turn To **ZAHANSKY** page **A7**

# It's not where you are that's important ...



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING  
GARY W.  
MOORE

I have always looked at the thought of a "bucket list" in a negative light. The idea that I'd want to begin compiling a list of things I wanted to do before I die just seemed ... well ... negative.

This week, I received an email from a reader saying, "I've been following your cancer journey through your column and social media with great interest. I'm on a similar health path and I'm wondering what's on your bucket list to do before it all ends."

I began responding that my intentions are aligned with my hopes, plan, and actions and that I'm not expecting nor planning on dying from this cancer. But I fell asleep last night and awoke feeling differently and realized that I've already aligned my intentions on a partial bucket list, and it may be fun to compose one.

First, from the moment of my cancer diagnosis, my family, close friends, and I have come together and consciously decided to be more deliberate about being together. Arlene and I have spent more time with our children and grandchildren over the last year than we have on the last five years and plan even more.

I have two incredible sisters and brothers-in-law and once again, I've seen them more often this year and plan to do even more. I've seen friends I haven't seen in forty years. It's really been a beautiful year of seeing loved ones and catching up. My life has been dominated by being with those I love.

But what else? My mind swirled all night with a combination of things I've seen and done and want to do again, and things I've never seen nor done. My list may be passive ... no jumping out of airplanes or alligator wrestling ... yet things I want to experience.

In the things I want to do again group ... I want to visit San Antonio, Texas. San Antonio is probably my favorite place on the globe ... history, music, food ... I find it all alluring. I've been there dozens of times, but want to go again. I want to dine on fajitas, with a margarita and listen to live mariachi music played table-side with friends and family at Market Square. After dinner, we'll stroll by the Alamo and I'll ramble on about my life-long fascination with Texas history. I love Texas. I love the Texas attitude. And we'll end the night listening to George Strait singing "I'll be Somewhere Down in Texas if you're looking for me" ... on a jukebox at the original Lone Star Cafe.

I remember the first moment we parked our motor home ... I am guessing 1987 or so ... taking the hands of my little family, walking up the long walkway and seeing Mount Rushmore for the first time. It was an unexpected breath-taking experience. I think I need to see it again. Not because I'm dying ... I'm not ... but just because I want to see it again.

I have two books burning inside of me that I feel driven to finish and another that is finished that my agent is seeking a publishing deal. I'm also thinking about a simple book that's a compilation of a few of my columns.

I also find that I want to spend more time talking with and listening to God through my prayers. As time passes, I'm understanding how important this is to my attitude, optimism, and mental well-being.

Those are my must do's. In the category of things not required but I'd love to do is visit the Holy Land. It's a long trip. If we can make it happen, great, but no regrets if not.

Turn To **MOORE** page **A7**



# Poetry is forever



NANCY WEISS

As April, poetry month, comes to a close, I am sharing poems from Quinebaug Valley Community College students, and from a member of Quiet Corner Poets. I've enjoyed reading and rereading the work of local poets and from the reaction I have received from readers, many share my enthusiasm. I plan to promote poets and poetry whenever I can. I'll begin with the work of Carol Graham, a member of Quiet Corner Poets. Carol's work is a fine mixture of observations about science, nature and people. She is a wise, witty woman.

Muddy Pond Moonlight

*I searched for moon dust  
Imagining it shiny-soft  
magical and precious*

*but moon dust is held fast  
in its own gravity field  
glass shard sharp invasive*

*that winter's evening  
at water's edge  
amid moonlight and burl'd shadows*

*migrating air bubbles  
stayed trapped in thin ice  
disparate emotions  
trying to escape*

I once wrote about Quinebaug Valley Middle College for a local publication. I interviewed several administrators and two students. I was impressed. QMC is a regional magnet high school located on the same campus as QVCC. Students follow a course of study tailored to their interests and they can earn college cred-

its as well.

Here is a poem by Joaris Santiago Cancel a QMC student. It won first prize in the Spanish-Heritage Speakers category in the Julius Sokenu Poetry Award in 2020. I will share it in English and in Spanish the language in which it was written. I've tightened the spacing for the column.

Farewell to a Friend in Heaven

*For all the wasted times we've had  
there's so much more than just goodbye.  
It hurts to say and I admit that the  
moment you arrive in my world I knew  
that nothing would be  
the same since God at his side called  
you*

*And as time passes there is so much  
that we think we can overcome but not  
enough  
To avoid my eyes feeling a deep tear.  
The sad thing is to accept that what  
once was your friendship, today will  
not return.  
Inevitable lack of concentration when  
missing you, because your essence accom-  
panies me  
everywhere.  
I always thought that as time went by,  
everything would disappear; today I feel  
almost 10 years  
since your departure.  
They have left as a small stay because  
to close my eyes and remember I wish in  
my soul to be  
able to touch you, how sad to open my  
eyes to the cruel reality that you are no  
longer here.  
God only knows how long I've waited  
for this pain to heal.  
No matter how hard I try and concen-  
trate on a thousand things every day  
today I confirm that nothing and no  
one  
will be able to change my feelings for  
you.*

*Well, you were the best example of a  
true and loyal friendship.  
Today, I am consoled to know that from  
heaven one more angel will take care of  
me  
Well, it strengthens me to feel that your  
memories in my heart will always live.*

Despedida de una Amiga al Cielo

*Por todos los tiempos perdidos que  
hemos tenido hay mucho mas que un  
spimle adios  
Que duete decir y admito que en el  
momento que llegastes a mi mundo sabia  
que ya nada seria lo  
Y mientras pasa el tiempo hay tanto  
que pensamos poder superar; pero no lo  
suficiente  
para lograr evitar que mis ojos sientan  
un profundo lagrimar.  
Lo triste es aceptar que lo que un día  
fue tu amistad, hoy ya no volverá  
inevitable desconcentrarse al  
extrañarte, pues tu esencia me acompaña  
a todas partes  
siempre pensé que al pasar el tiempo  
todo desaparecería., hoy siento casi 10 anos  
de tu partida,  
se han ido como una pequeña estadia  
porque cerrar mis ojos y recordarte  
desaira en el alma  
poder tocarle que triste abrir mis ojos a  
la cruel realidad de que ya no estas,  
Solo Dios sabe por cuánto tiempo he  
esperado a que este dolor sane  
por más que me esmero y concentro en  
mil cosas a diario  
hoy confirmo que nada no nadie mis  
sentimientos por ti lograrian cambiar  
pues fuiste el mejor ejemplo de una ver-  
dadera y leal amistad  
hoy me consuela el saber que desde el  
cielo un ángel más me cuidara  
pues me fortalece sentir que tus memo-  
rias en mi corazón siempre viviras.*

Jennifer Oldroyd won 1st place in the

Quinebaug Middle College category for this poem in the 2020 Julius Sokenu Poetry Awards. She is a QMC student.

To Forgive

Just one glide of her finger made the water ripple at her touch. She knew that would happen. She knows that all actions have reactions, and didn't just happen to remember that was one of Newton's laws. As the water continues to effortlessly flow, she remembers why she brought herself to this peaceful lake. She never cared about it the way she does now, but that's what confuses her: Staring down at her pale toes and their fresh coat of White nail-polish, she recalls every argument, every heel that cut through the air; each and every heartbreaking Word and slammed door: She remembered, in that moment, that every action does have a reaction, but, like water; reactions are imposible to fix once they've happened. You evolve and fix things around them, but you can't fix or change how anything reacts, unless you recreate experiments, like Newton, and she knew she would not be recreating her and Blakes' experiment. Like water, he slipped through her fingers and disturbed her calmness like she had done to the lake. While the lake can forgive her act and regain its stillness once again, she knew that things with Blake would never be the same. Forgiving him would only hurt her more in the end.

Special thanks to Dr. Jonathan Andersen, Professor of English at QVCC for sharing the award-winning poetry of students at QVCC and QMC. I plan to include a poem from Dr. Andersen at a later date.

Write it. Read it. Share it. .

## Dress up the landscape with spring flowering shrubs



Add a burst of color to the start of the garden season with spring flowering shrubs. Small or large, these beauties add color, support pollinators, and help attract birds to the landscape.

Make room in mixed borders and gardens for these spring bloomers. Use varieties with slightly different bloom times to create continuous color throughout the spring. Complement these with spring flowering perennials and bulbs. Once the shrubs finish flowering, they add some nice greenery to the border.

Plant a few compact varieties in containers for added color on patios and decks. Add seasonal color with annuals, pansies or other cool weather tolerant flowers for spring and fall. Replace these with petunias, lantana, or other suitable heat tolerant flowers for summer.

Forsythia and lilacs are traditional spring favorites. Forsythia's bright yellow flowers signal spring for many. The showy flowers have a slight fragrance,

and the plants are basically pest free. Select varieties whose flower buds will survive cold winter temperatures, so there will be blossoms from the tip of the stem to ground level.

Lilacs fragrant flowers may generate wonderful childhood memories. Select the preferred white, pink, or purple color and varieties that will fit the growing location when mature. These will brighten any spot later in the spring.

Look for other easy-care, spring-blooming shrubs to include in the landscape. The spring blooms of viburnum are sure to provide plenty of enjoyment not to mention its attractive foliage, fall color, and fruit that attracts birds. Use them to create an attractive screen, hedge, or mixed border: Several viburnum varieties, like Korean Spice and doublefile, make great specimens or impressive small groupings in the landscape.

Brighten those shady spots with azaleas. These spring bloomers thrive with afternoon or dappled shade. Grow them in moist, rich, acidic soil in a sheltered location for best results. Make sure there is a good view to enjoy the blossoms and hummingbirds they attract.

Light up the spring garden with Garden Glow dogwood. The bright chartreuse foliage turns a burgundy red in fall. The white flowers give way to blue fruit and the red stems are a welcome sight in winter.

Other dogwoods, like red twig and

*Photo Courtesy — Pasquesi.com*

**This Show Off® forsythia signals early spring for many with its showy, bright yellow flowers and slight fragrance.**

gray dogwoods, are native shrubs with flowers that support pollinators and fruit that feeds the birds.

Fothergilla's fragrant white spring flowers are a favorite of hummingbirds. This beauty ends its season with a colorful mix of yellow, orange, and scarlet fall color often on the same leaf.

Add an evergreen backdrop of boxwood, arborvitae, and junipers to showcase these spring beauties. The spring blossoms, fall color, and winter interest will shine when positioned in front of greenery.

Take a walk through the landscape now to identify places that would benefit from some spring color. Select the right plants that are suited to the growing conditions and complement the garden design. Then plant and enjoy these colorful additions for years to come.

*Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV*



*& radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is [www.melindamyers.com](http://www.melindamyers.com).*

### ZAHANSKY

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imagine (and may have experienced), arguments and resentfulness can arise regardless of the situation.

Often, the best way to minimize future family strife—and optimize the outcome—is to communicate with each family member well ahead of time. Find out what they're interested in and what they're hoping for. Be aware that avoiding these discussions can take a toll, both in terms of family conflict and even in legal struggles. If you don't feel

### MOORE

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My list is short and simple. Really, all I want is time with family and friends. I've already travelled the world and realize my new life philosophy can be summed up by the following simple statement of truth.

"It's not where you are that's important, but who you are with."

If I can spend the rest of my life, anywhere, place or time, being with those I love and those who love me in return, I'll be deliriously happy.

What could be more important?

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @ GaryWMoore721 and at [www.garyw-moore.com](http://www.garyw-moore.com).

comfortable having these talks on your own, find a professional who is trained in successfully mediating family meetings.

If you decide that your kids (or even key employees) should have an increasingly important role in the future of your business, look to leverage their strengths. Look at what your children excel at and think about how to utilize their unique strengths to form a team that you can mentor into success.

Maximize your business' value.

If you're selling your business, the previous step is moot. That said, regardless of whether you're training someone to take over or selling, there are some steps you can take to maximize enterprise value in the transition. Introduce your successor to your employees, clients, vendors, and strategic partners; let those folks know that their opinion is important by asking them what your successor needs to know to be successful. Let your successor prove their worth; rather than giving kids a free pass to the corner office, it is valuable for them to do some of the grunt work with pride. This will enable your children to understand the value of hard work—and realize the ultimate payoff. And lastly, have a plan for passing the reins – most transitions happen either far too quickly or far too slowly, which brings us to the next step.

Pass the reins at the right pace, as well as at the right time.

When thinking about turning over power (e.g., decision-making authority), the tendency is to be slow in letting go. This happens both because it feels good

to be needed and to have authority and, at the same time, because the business owner doesn't want to see his or her successor stumble through mistakes that could have been avoided. But a transition that moves too slowly frustrates and demotivates successors, while one that moves too quickly yields unnecessary mistakes and pain for employees and clients.

As you transition your business over to your successor, keep the following in mind to help you do so at the right pace: What is the next impactful thing your successor can take ownership of? For a particular task, is the cost of a mistake higher than the lesson learned and the autonomy experienced? What could your successor do to prove to you that he or she is ready for a certain responsibility? What aspects of the business is your successor most passionate about learning and owning?

Engage key employees in the process. Be sure to bring key employees into discussions. If they aren't your choice for successor, they will still be playing an integral role in ensuring that your business doesn't skip a beat. If they feel like they have a voice in the decisions that are made around the transition, they will be much more willing to help. As you did with your successor, look at their strengths and interests and allow them to guide some of your decisions.

Work with a trusted financial advisor for a smooth transition, every step of the way.

If you're not already working with a financial advisor, it's a very good idea to begin working with one throughout

this process, and to help you facilitate the mechanics of making the actual transition. He or she will help to facilitate each step of the process so that you can pass your business on to your successor smoothly and enter the next chapter in your own life exactly where you want to be.

At Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors, we partner with business owners to help them work toward financial goals for both their life and business – all the way from growth strategy to exit strategy. Our strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process can help you put plans in place to achieve a successful business transition. To learn more, visit [whzwealth.com/business-owners](http://whzwealth.com/business-owners).

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# OBITUARIES

Edmond John “Popi-Guy” Johnston Sr., 77

Franklin, VA - Edmond John "Popi-Guy" Johnston Sr., 77, of Franklin, VA, passed away at home surrounded by his loving family on April 25, 2021. Ed was



In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Donna Gayle Johnston.

Ed had many interests. He had an eclectic taste for cars, turning trash into treasures, writing stories and in his final months he found comfort in drawing. He was also a spiritual man and attended many churches over the years; he found great joy in studying and sharing his beliefs and the word of God. He touched many lives by opening his heart and home. His outspoken and teasing nature will be remembered by all.

Ed will be laid to rest next to his loving wife of over 33 years in Woodstock, CT.

Although flowers are appreciated, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to Hospice of Virginia, 2235 Staples Mill Rd Suite 100, Richmond, VA 23230.

www.wrightfuneralhome.org

## Marie Jeanne Gendreau, 75

NORTH GROSVENORDALE- Marie Jeanne Gendreau, 75, of Buckley Hill Rd., died Friday, April 16, 2021,



..... only then to end up in tears of laughter. Jeanne enjoyed working in her yard. There was no surprise to find her buried under branches and leaves to make that space look inviting. Most who knew her, knew her ability with wildlife was quite amazing. She could nurse back just about anything from birds, to squirrels, to even a baby duck called Waddles! Her patient and caring heart would take wild animals and train them to be pets if they so chose to stay. Her greatest joy was in becoming a grandmother. The laughter between her and the grand kids was endless. She was willing to do whatever craziness they could think up and be present the entire time.

Jeanne is survived by her children, Missy (Ricky) Desrochers and Ken Barylski; her brothers, Ronald Durand and Richard Durand; her sisters, Connie Durand, Susan Durand, Sandra Krogel and Georgette D. Menzone; her grandchildren, Jenna Saad, Jake Desrochers and Vanessa DiGregorio; and her great-granddaughter, Addilyn Saad.

Relative and friends are invited to visit with Jeanne's family from 3:00 to 5:00 pm on Friday, April 30, 2021 in the Valade Funeral Home & Crematory, 23 Main Street, N. Grosvenordale followed by reception at Thompson Rod & Gun Club. For memorial guestbook please visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com).

## Stephen J. Burke, Sr., 71

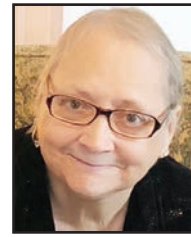
**DANIELSON**—Stephen J. Burke, Sr., 71, of Junior Ave passed away Saturday, April 24, 2021 at Day Kimball Hospital. He was the loving husband of Joyce



camping, canoeing and the outdoors, and especially loved cats and spending time with his grandkids.

In addition to his wife, Stephen is survived by his son, Stephen Burke, Jr. and his wife Christina of Cumberland, RI, his daughter Tara Enda and her husband Brian of East Brunswick, NJ, and grandchildren Thomas Burke and Sean Enda.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with the family from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 1, 2021 at the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St, Putnam, CT. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the [mountWashington.thankyou4caring.org](https://www.mountwashington-thankyou4caring.org) or to the [Paws Cat Shelter at www.woodstockcats.org/donate.html](https://www.woodstockcats.org/donate.html). For memorial guestbook visit [www.GilmanAndValade.com](https://www.GilmanAndValade.com).




Donna was born on January 16, 1953, in Putnam, CT. She grew up in Woodstock, CT, the 2nd oldest of 15 kids. During her life, Donna also lived in North Grosvenordale, CT, Dayville, CT, and Central NY. Donna was like a mother to everyone she meet and would try to help anyone that needed it. Donna enjoyed crocheting blankets, making pom pom pillows, reading, and talking about the bible, and just being with people. Donna found the good in everyone and spread her love to everyone with her hugs...whether you wanted one or not, she would always get her hug. She will greatly be missed and forever be in our hearts. Donna is survived by her two daughters Andrea (Almada) Wood and her husband Todd of CT, and Cheri (Corriveau) Pellerin and her husband Jeremy of NY. Her


Donna Jean Corriveau, 68


grandchildren Rebecca McCabe of NY, Connor Wood and his fiancé Cadie Mecteau of CT, and Daniel Wood of CT. Her great-grandchildren- Oliver Darling and Charlotte Wood. Her siblings Maverick Butts and his wife Karen of CT, Christopher Butts of CT, Cory Butts of VT, Tracy Butts of CT, Jonathan Butts and his wife Sue of CT, Tara Butts Lamontagne and her husband Bob of CT, Pamela Butts Adamuska of MA, Wendy Butts Racine of CT, Karen Butts Costa and her husband Walter of, MA., and Crystal Butts Greene of CT. Donna also leaves behind her former husband, Alfred Corriveau, and his wife Debra (father of her youngest daughter) of CT. Her Aunt Irene Crabtree of CT and Uncle Francis Crabtree of AZ, along with many more family and friends. She will be joining her grandparents Leland and Doris (Shead) Butts, parent's , Richard and Norma (Crabtree) Butts, brothers, Gary "Flaps", Leo "Skunk", Brian "Howdy", and Robert Butts, Aunt Ebby Balfour, Uncle Philip Butts Sr, Uncle Walter Crabtree, Cousin Lois Balfour, former husband, Manuel Almada (father to her oldest daughter) nephews Harley Butts and Leland Butts and Niece Shara (Lamontagne) Bates. A private family service will be on a future date.


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# In the Studio

CYNTHIA SAARI

“In the Studio” is a newer feature for the Villager Newspapers. The Quiet Corner is home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, handcraft, performing art, art education, and graphic art. In this semi-weekly series, we’ll talk with our artist neighbors and learn about their careers, current projects, and connections to our towns. We’ll also learn some “artspeak” terms in our conversations, demystifying some of those “artist words”.

Today, we’re talking with Amy Jakowski. Thanks for talking with me, Amy. Like many makers, you have worked in several mediums including ceramics and glass. I’d like to ask you about your silver jewelry today. **The material that you work with is called “PMC.” What is it, and how does it work?**

My silver jewelry is created using silver clay. Precious Metal Clay (PMC) and Art Silver Clay (ACS) were originally developed in Japan during the 1990s. Silver clay consists of microscopic particles of pure silver and a water-soluble, non-toxic, organic binder that burns off during firing. The beauty of working with silver clay is your ability to mold, texture, and carve the clay. After a piece is dried, I fire it at temperatures between 1,200 degrees and 1,650 degrees Fahrenheit in an electric kiln. Firing temperature depends on the type of clay and type of inclusions added. After a piece comes out of the kiln it looks white, so the next step is polishing. The matte white appearance is a layer of silver molecules which are irregularly arranged and polishing



Feather Pendant

brings the silver to the surface. Will the final finish be matte or mirror? Polishing requires patience. There are many steps to finishing a piece to get the results I want. These include brass brushing, rotary or magnetic tumbling, burnishing, and rotary hand tool. My final decision is to patina or not to patina. Liver of Sulfur or Black Max are used to chemically darken the silver and bring out details in textured pieces. The patina is removed from the high spots in the texture.

**I understand that in an earlier career, you were a scientist. How does that intersect with your art?**

I guess having spent 30 years in research has had an impact. I spent many hours in the laboratory using high tech instruments, performing detailed experiments and problem solving. I truly enjoy learning about the science behind silver clay and how I can create with it. Working in silver clay is very detailed oriented.

**Some of your pieces incorporate other (non-silver) components. Can you describe them a bit?**

Some of my work incorporates dichroic fused glass cabochons that I have made or cubic zirconia gemstones, both can be fired in place. I also like to use pearls and precious stones which cannot be exposed to the



Lentil beads are fun to make. I like to have a design on both sides of the pendant. This piece uses a cubic zirconia gemstone for the bee’s body (left) to add bling, and floral design on the opposite side. The patina shows the details of the textures.

high temperature in the kiln. Silver clay allows me to use fine silver bails, wire to add pearls and bezels for setting stones.

**Do you make groups of related pieces, or are they all one-of-a-kind?**

I currently do not have what I would call a signature line of jewelry. My pieces are one of kind. During the pandemic, I took several online courses from Holly Ginsberg Gage and from Stephanie Chavez. I love learning new techniques to incorporate into my work. I am still evolving.

**Tell us about a few pieces which you were particularly happy with.**

I did a happy dance when my feather pendant came out of the kiln. The dichroic glass cabochon is held in place with minimal silver engagement. I was not sure if the glass would fume or crack or just fall out of place. The fine silver bail is hidden in the back of the pendant. The feather design was made using a silicon mold I created.

**Does PMC jewelry require any special care?**

PMC jewelry does not require any special care. It is fine silver and may need to be polished using any silver metal polishing cream or cloth. Patina pieces usually require less attention.



This pendant was designed from a silicon mold I made using an old button. I added silver wire to the center when it was fired. Then I could add the pearl after the piece was polished and patina applied.



This Gingko leaf pendant is a simple design. It polished without patina added. I just like the clean look.

any shape, though oval is by far the most common. The term comes from the French cabochon, meaning knob or small dome. (ref. GemSelect.com)

About the writer: Cynthia Saari (Woodstock) is a nationally recognized framework glass artist. She has exhibited her work & taught for over 20 years; her glass beads have been included in numerous publications & invitationals. Cynthia offers talks & workshops in the Quiet Corner; she is an adjunct professor of art at a local college.

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# LEGALS

**TOWN OF BROOKLYN LEGAL NOTICE**

The **THIRD** installment of real estate and personal property tax of 28.92 mills on the dollar levied on the assessment of Oct 1, 2019 becomes due April 1, 2021. The **SECOND** installment of sewer also becomes due on April 1, 2021. Supplemental Motor Vehicle bills are due on April 1, 2021. Bills will become delinquent on April 2, 2021 and subject to interest from the due date of January 1, 2021 at 1.5% per month as prescribed in the General Statutes of the State of CT. Minimum interest penalty is \$2.00. The **FOURTH** installment of real estate and personal property tax of 28.92 mills on the dollar levied on the assessment of Oct 1, 2019 becomes due April 1, 2021. Bills will become delinquent on May 3, 2021 and subject to interest from the due date at 1.5% per month as prescribed in the General Statutes of the State of CT. Minimum interest penalty is \$2.00. Please call 860-779-3411, opt. 5 to find out the hours of the Tax Office. If you wish to pay by mail, enclose coupon of bill and address to: Revenue Collector, PO Box 253, Brooklyn, CT 06234. If a receipt is desired, please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. You can also drop off a payment in the drop box located on the building at 4 Wolf Den Rd, Brooklyn. You can also pay via credit/debit card

online or by phone. There is a processing fee of 2.50%. For more information, go to our town website [www.brooklynct.org](http://www.brooklynct.org). Jocelyne Ruffo, CCMC, Revenue Collector March 26, 2021 April 9, 2021 April 30, 2021

**TOWN OF THOMPSON**

At the April 13, 2021 meeting of the Thompson Inland Wetlands Commission the following action was taken: Application #IWA21004, approved with conditions, Keith & Carolyn Champagne, 1321 Thompson Rd (Assessor's Map 114, Block 24, Lot 54) - Construction of a single family home and appurtenances with access from Beco-la Road and the construction of a gravel path to Little Pond all within the 200 foot upland review area. On April 19, 2021 the following wetlands agent approvals were issued: Application # WAA21010 approved with conditions, Ken Poplawski, 0 Lowell Davis Rd (Assessor's Map 99, Block 29, Lot 25) - Construct a garage and driveway portions of which are located in the 100-foot upland review area for a new single family home and Application # WAA21011 approved with conditions, Madison Avenue Investments, LLC, 0 Madison Ave. (Assessor's Map 103, Block 31, Lot 6B), Construct a footing drain and portion of a septic system in

the 100-foot upland review area for a new single family home. George T. O'Neil, Chair April 30, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

ESTATE OF Ruth I. Leal (21-00130) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 14, 2021, 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.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Kenneth R. Olson, C/O NICHOLAS LONGO, PO BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260, (860)928-6549 April 30, 2021

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

ESTATE OF Mary Eleanor Casely Wakeman (21-00109) The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated April 20, 2021, 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.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk

The fiduciary is: Terrence Wakeman, c/o DENNIS R POITRAS (attorney for Terrence Wakeman), LAW OFFICE OF DENNIS R POITRAS, 1733 STORRS ROAD, PO BOX 275, ASHFORD, CT, STORRS, CT 06268, (860)487-0351 April 30, 2021

**TOWN OF THOMPSON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE**

The Thompson Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 10, 2021 beginning at 7:00PM via Zoom. ZBA Application #21-02-Bates Auto Parts, Inc., Owner of Record Linehouse Road LLC, c/o Maher and Cotnoir, PO Box 187, Putnam, CT, property located at 64 Linehouse Rd, Map 38, Block 71 and 71B, Lot 13 and 5, Zone RRAD. This is an application pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 14-67 for approval to use the premises for the operation or maintenance of a motor vehicle recycler's yard or motor vehicle recycler's business. File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Zoning Board of Appeals. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting Respectfully submitted, Kevin Beno, Chairman April 30, 2021 May 7, 2021



SPORTS  
continued from page A1

by junior Brayden Akana and finished by a double to left field by senior Brady Monahan.

Starting pitcher, senior Kaden Strom, turned in a five-inning workmanlike effort, allowing seven runs on eight hits. He picked up the win by striking out four and not walking a batter.

Elsewhere in the Quiet Corner:

Killingly High improved to 4-0 with victories over Plainfield (3-1, Tuesday, April 20) and Lyman (8-0, Saturday, April 17).

In the home win over Plainfield, junior Jay Grzysiewicz led the way with a dominant pitching performance, going 6-2/3 innings, allowing four hits while striking out nine. Senior Cole Lavigne relieved Grzysiewicz and picked up the save. Junior Trevin Russ paced the offense with a double, while senior Chris Jax and junior Nate Keefe each added hits.

In the road win over Lyman, senior Bo Yaworski, who hurled a no-hitter in his first start, tossed another complete game, allowing one hit while striking out 18. Yaworski also recorded two hits, including a triple, and drove in two runs. Lavigne and Jax both smacked a pair of hits. Every Killingly batter in the lineup recorded at least one hit.

Woodstock Academy dropped a pair of games in a four-day span, losing to visiting Waterford, 15-4, on Monday, April 19, and host Lyman, 5-3, on Thursday, April 22.

Against Waterford, an RBI single by junior Zach Roethlein in the bottom of the fifth inning gave the Centaurs a 4-3 lead. However, Woodstock Academy's starting pitcher, sophomore Kaden Murphy – who allowed only five hits in the first five innings – had to leave the mound in the top of the sixth due to his pitch count. In that sixth inning Waterford sent 17 batters to the plate and scored 12 times against two Centaur relievers.

Against Lyman the Centaurs' junior Brendan Hill knocked in two runs in the sixth inning with a double and classmate Jon Smith added an RBI as the Centaurs (1-3, 1-1 ECC Division 2) broke up a one-hit effort by Lyman starter Josh Person and took a 3-2 lead. Lyman, however, responded with three runs



Courtesy photo

Woodstock Academy junior Kyle Brennan works on his putting during a preseason practice.

of their own in the bottom of the sixth to earn the win.

Putnam senior Colby Livingston allowed just three hits, while at the plate he singled and doubled, but it wasn't enough, Putnam High losing to St. Bernard, 5-1, on Tuesday, April 20. The Clippers lone run came on a safety squeeze off the bat off Jack Ringe, which scored sophomore Cooper Livingston.

SOFTBALL

Killingly High moved to 3-1 on the young season with a win over Plainfield (19-2, five innings) on Tuesday, April 20, and a loss to Lyman (13-9) on Thursday, April 22.

In the win over Plainfield senior Lexi Faucher allowed one earned run and struck out seven. Sophomore Casey Beauregard was white-hot at the plate, going 4-for-4 with a double and a stolen base. Faucher, junior Hannah Cozza, and senior Cadence Kirkconnell also had extra-base hits.

In the loss to Lyman Beauregard singled and homered and Faucher and Cozza also recorded multi-hit games.

Elsewhere:

Woodstock Academy opened its Saturday, April 17 game with Putnam High in impressive fashion, scoring nine runs in the bottom of the first inning en route to a 15-0 five-inning win over visiting Clippers.

The Centaurs' first-inning pyrotechnics included

a three-run homer by senior Mackenzie Leveille, a three-run triple by freshman Sarah McArthur and a solo homer by sophomore Lexi Thompson. Thompson was extraordinary in the circle as well, allowing just one hit while striking out 13. Senior Marissa Mayhew contributed to the win with a pair of hits four RBI. For Putnam (1-2 overall, 1-2 ECC) Chloe Kerr had the Clippers' lone hit.

Thompson and senior Meg Preston each had hits and Leveille dove in a run in the 3-2 Centaurs' 16-1 loss to Waterford on Monday, April 19.

GIRLS' GOLF

Woodstock Academy opened the 2021 season with two wins in two days, defeating East Lyme, 170-213, on Thursday, April 22, and Bacon Academy, 179-229, on Friday, April 23.

Against East Lyme senior Kaily LaChapelle and junior Mia Dang shared medalist honors, both shooting a 37 on the par-35, nine-hole Roseland Park Golf Course. Classmates Ciara MacKinnon and Alex Vaida both fired rounds of 48.

In the win over the Bobcats Dang bagged medalist honors, firing a 3-over-par 38 at Chantclair Golf Course in Colchester. LaChapelle and MacKinnon carded 46s.

BOYS' GOLF

Junior Kyle Brennan fired an 8-over-par 44 and classmate Chris Thibault added a 49 but it wasn't enough for Woodstock



Photo courtesy Charles Milliken

Killingly High's Bo Yaworski throws the ball back in during his team's 10-3 win versus New London back on April 14.

Academy, who fell to 1-1 overall and in ECC Division 2 play with a 5-2 loss to Bacon Academy on Thursday, April 22 at Thompson's Quinnetis Country Club.

BOYS' LACROSSE

Woodstock Academy fell below .500 on the young season losing two games on the road in four days. The 2-3 Centaurs were defeated by Fitch, 12-9, on Tuesday, April 20, and 4-3 in overtime by Waterford on Friday, April 23. Senior Guerin Favreau scored seven goals in the two games while junior Jonah Libby netted three and sophomore Jacob Turnovoy two.

GIRLS' LACROSSE

It was a tough week for Woodstock Academy, the Centaurs dropping a pair of road games, 17-4 to Bacon Academy on Tuesday, April 20, and 20-2 to Fitch on Thursday, April 22. Junior Shannon Gagnon scored three of WA's six goals in the two games while classmates Stella Brin (two goals) and Rachel Canedy (one) also scored.

GIRLS' TENNIS

Killingly High opened the 2021 season with two consecutive victories, defeating Lyman, 4-3, on Monday April 19, followed by a 6-1 win over Montville on Thursday, April 22.

Singles winners against Lyman were seniors Julia Purcell and Taylyn Lemoine. Picking up points in doubles

for the team were the tandems of freshman Ava Johnson and junior Payton Cathell and sophomore Kaitlyn Tingle and freshman Malia Taylor-Robichaud. All the victories were straight-set affairs.

Against Montville Lemoine, juniors Rachel Sanchas and Laylah Zea were singles winners while Johnson-Cathell, Tingle-Taylor-Robichaud, and juniors Nicole Cicchetti and Jessica Long won in doubles.

East Lyme halted Killingly's perfect start to the season on Friday, April 23, with a 7-0 victory.

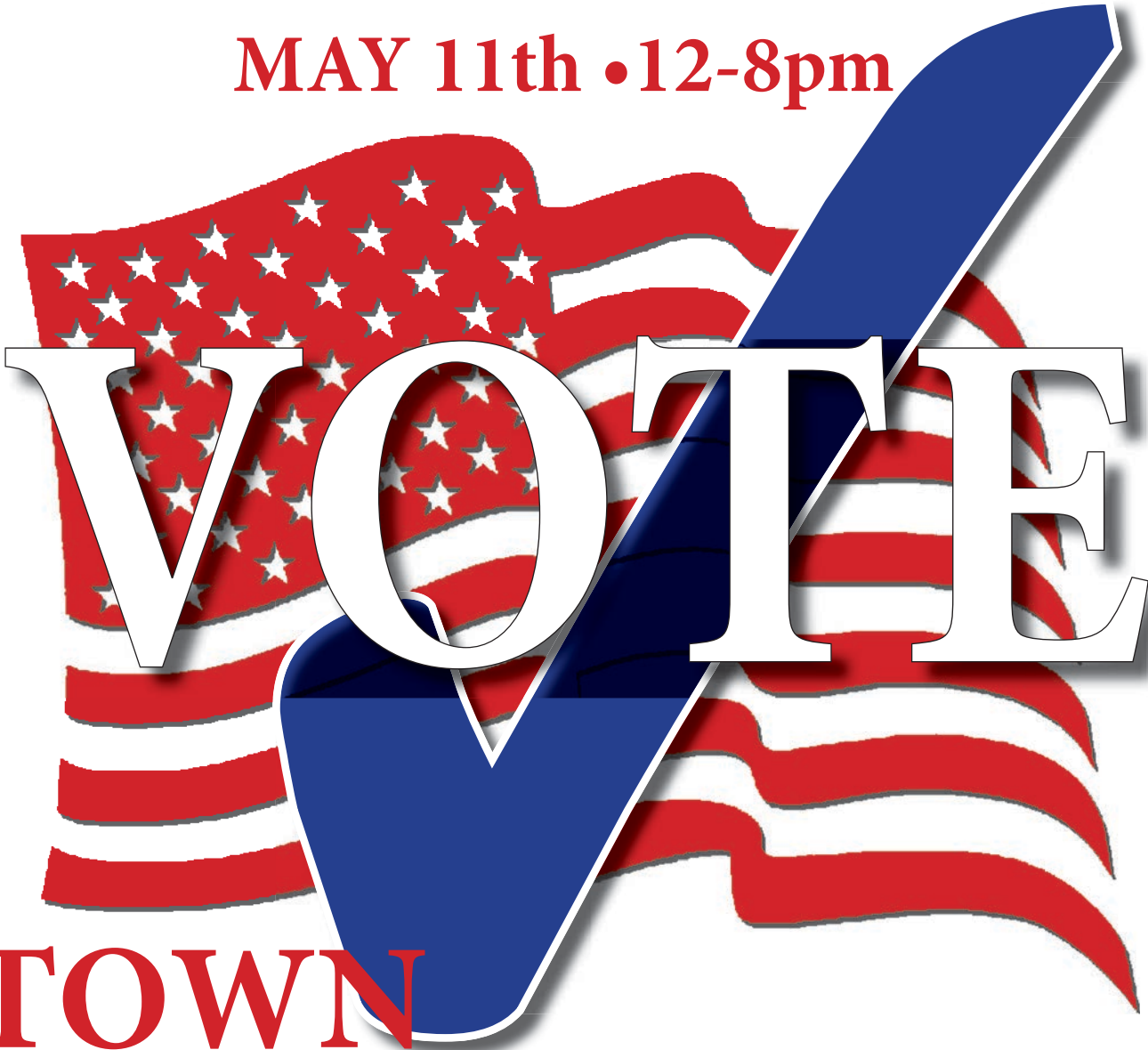
Elsewhere:

Woodstock Academy opened its 2021 season with a 6-1 win over Montville on Friday, April 23. Singles winner for the Centaurs were juniors Addy Smith, Jackie Trudeau, Sydney Schuler and Alexa Fernandez. Doubles winners were Ellie Bishop-Klee and Logan Reynolds, and Morgan Bentley and Stella Atchinson. Reynolds and Bentley are juniors, Atchinson a sophomore and Bishop-Klee a freshman.

BOYS' TENNIS

Woodstock Academy battled Montville evenly through singles play picking up points off the rackets of senior Stefan Chervenkov and junior Jai Abrams, but the Centaurs were swept in doubles play and, as a result, lost the road match, played Friday, April 23, 5-2.

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SIGN  
continued from page A1

is a little more modern and involves a little more masonry. When I went back to have the quote revived Graphics Unlimited said this (second) option which reuses much of the structure of the existing sign, the post, the roof, the little brick underneath with the planter, but still uses the LED display so there was a savings there. The only thing the Graphics Unlimited quote does not include is for the electrician who would make the connection," the Planner said.

According to First Selectwoman Amy St. Onge, the Economic Development Commission has put aside \$20,000 towards the sign which would leave a \$7,000 deficit for the town to fund. St. Onge recommended the town use COVID relief money to help offset the cost as they have no plan for the funds at this time and it can be used on projects that improve communication to the public.

"There's been so much work and Graphics Unlimited has been there to put together proposals for us and with every intention on staying with a local vendor, even though they're not local to Thompson, with \$7,000 coming from potentially COVID relief money to enable us to better communicate with our citizens on important things that are happening I would be in favor of just moving forward," said St. Onge.

St. Onge noted that money for the project had been purposefully encumbered with Graphics Unlimited in order to maintain the funding and that the threshold of what the town would spend in below the total that would require the town to go back out to bid for the project. However, Selectwoman Suzanne Witkowski had second thoughts believing that the people should still have their say.

"I know a lot of work went into it, but a lot of work went into pretty much any other work that we would do in town. I'm all about maybe we should follow the precedence that we have set," said Witkowski.

The final result was a 2-1 vote with St. Onge and Selectman Ken Beausoleil voting to waive the bidding policy on purchasing the sign while Witkowski cast the dissenting vote. Another vote to expend COVID relief funds to pay for part of the sign also passed with the same result. All three selectmen agreed however that the town will go out to bid for an electrician to install the sign once it's purchased.



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PROSPECT FARM

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ment, but their small, independent farm didn't qualify for preservation through other land trusts and state programs.

"We're so glad we were able to preserve Prospect Farm," said CFT Executive Director Elisabeth Moore. "Protecting smaller farms is a niche that CFT has chosen to focus on. We want to make sure farmland is available for all going forward, especially for the young, beginner farmers who are the future of agriculture in Connecticut."

With the easement in place, Loretta's niece Sarah Eichner was able to buy the farm. She will be returning to Prospect Farm as the third generation of her family on the land.

Prospect Farm is situated on beautiful land, with sweeping views of the surrounding countryside, which made it a target for development. A local builder had approached Normand years ago with interest in buying the property.

"After my father passed, [the developer] started asking around," Loretta said. "We know he wanted the property, not because of what it is. He just wanted to put building lots on it. We've now stopped that. We know that he can't ever get his hands on it. So, we're all quite happy that the farm can't be developed."

"The Chattelles wanted to keep the farm in farming without having to own it," said CFT Conservation Manager Kathleen Doherty. "They wanted to sell with the assurance their father's wishes would be honored that the property would remain a farm."

With CFT's help, Prospect Farm is protected for the next generation, and generations of farmers to come.

"Prospect Farm is the perfect size for a beginner farmer," said CFT Conservation Manager Kathleen Doherty. "The trend in Connecticut is beginner farmers want smaller acreage...They're cultivating more intensive kinds of crops like vegetables that use less land but are integral to the local food system."

Prospect Farm covers 13 acres on a hilltop in eastern Woodstock. Over the years, the Chattelles grew vegetables and raised pigs, chickens, turkeys, geese, and ducks on the property. They often had between five to ten cows at a time. At Thanksgiving, they provided dozens of farm-raised turkeys to the community.

The farm is currently a hay operation and part of Woodstock's thriving agricultural base.

"Woodstock has been an agricultural community since its founding," said Dawn C. Adiletta, a CFT board member and 40-year resident of Woodstock who helped connect the Chattelles to CFT. "We have some of the best agricultural land in the state and it's exciting to see more of it preserved forever."

Sarah, the family member taking over the farm, will be on the land this summer. She is looking forward to carrying on her family's legacy.

"It's a beautiful piece of land, it's a piece of Woodstock history, and a special place for my family," she said. "Regardless of who owns the property, one thing my grandparents wanted was to make sure their farm was protected, so I absolutely agree with my family in this decision to carry on their traditions."

Agricultural conservation easements prohibit residential and industrial development but allow commercial agriculture and construction of agricultural structures on designated areas of the land. Since its founding in 2002, CFT has protected more than 62 family farms, covering over 4,758 acres. CFT is the only land trust in the state dedicated solely to the protection of agricultural land. CFT is a private, accredited 501(c)(3) nonprofit that relies on Connecticut residents to support its work. Learn more at [CTFarmland.org](http://CTFarmland.org).

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