

# New DMV location opens in Putnam



State and local officials joined Gov. Ned Lamont in cutting the ribbon to open the new DMV location in Putnam on Providence Pike.

Photo Courtesy

BY JASON BLEAU  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM — After years of anticipation the town of Putnam is finally home to a new and improved Department of Motor Vehicles. The new customer service location in the Putnam Parkade, also known as the Stop & Shop Plaza at 62 Providence Pike, is housed in the old GameStop location in the plaza and replaces the aged trailer-style location previously housed in the Putnam municipal parking lot on Kennedy Drive. State and local officials were joined by Gov. Ned Lamont on June 15 to celebrate the grand opening of the new location after over two years without a DMV office in town. The previous office, which had been the subject of longstanding request for replacement or improvement, closed its doors at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and never opened again. There were talks about moving the DMV into Putnam's new municipal complex, however the town and state eventually decided to bring the DMV to the Parkade Plaza instead.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony Putnam Mayor Barney Seney said the new office will be an asset to not only Putnam, but the entire Northeast corner of the state. "I think the citizens of Putnam and the citizens of Northeast Connecticut cannot thank the State of Connecticut enough for what they are doing here," said Seney. "We just opened a new municipal complex back in October. I thought that was the highlight. This equals that - This is such a great opportunity. I can't tell you how excited I am as a mayor and as a citizen that we have a motor vehicle branch here in Northeastern Connecticut." Seney added that bringing the DMV back to Putnam was one of the most requested priorities of his entire mayorship to date. Several lawmakers also praised the DMV's return to the Quiet Corner. State Rep. and former Putnam Police Chief Rick Hayes, who also serves as a

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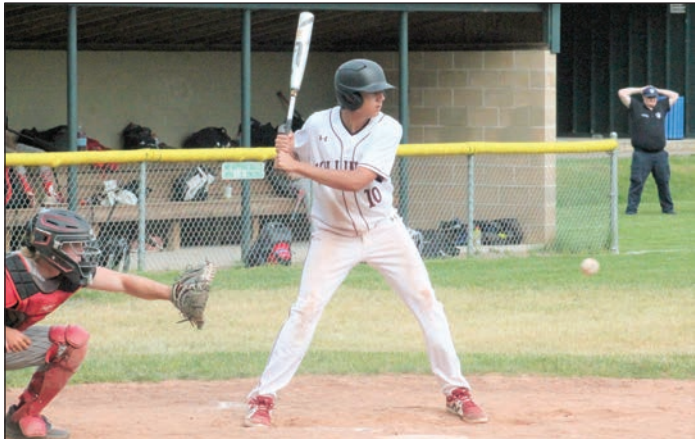
# Murphy praises bipartisan gun legislation

BY JASON BLEAU  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Connecticut U.S. Senator Chris Murphy is applauding a bipartisan gun violence legislation package resulting from extensive debate and discussion among a panel of Senate lawmakers in response to recent mass shootings in Uvalde, Texas and Buffalo, N.Y. The agreement was reached between ten senators: Democratic Senators Murphy, Kyrsten Sinema, Richard Blumenthal, Cory Booker, Chris Coons, Martin Heinrich, Mark Kelly, Joe Manchin, and Debbie Stabenow and Republican Senators John Cornyn, Thom Tillis, Roy Blunt, Richard Burr, Bill Cassidy, Susan Collins, Lindsey Graham, Rob Portman, Mitt Romney, and Pat Toomey. Democrat-leaning Independent Angus King rounded out the panel. The legislation is broken down into nine major improvements that lawmakers hope will curb further gun violence while also maintaining Second Amendment rights, a hot button issue for the political right who see any such legislation as a violation of the Right to Bear Arms. The panel released a joint statement calling the bill a "commonsense, bipartisan proposal" geared toward protecting children and other potential victims from gun violence. "Families are scared, and it is our duty to come

together and get something done that will help restore their sense of safety and security in their communities," the panel's statement read. "Our plan increases needed mental health resources, improves school safety and support for students, and helps ensure dangerous criminals and those who are adjudicated as mentally ill can't purchase weapons. Most importantly, our plan saves lives while also protecting the constitutional rights of law-abiding Americans. We look forward to earning broad, bipartisan support and passing our commonsense proposal into law." Murphy has been a leading voice of the group's efforts to curb gun violence, often citing the Sandy Hook Massacre that occurred in his own state of Connecticut ten years ago. During a press conference following the announcement of the agreement on June 13, Murphy called it the most significant anti-gun violence legislation in nearly three decades. "This is indeed a breakthrough moment for the anti-gun violence movement, for survivors, for parents, and for advocates," Murphy said. "We are confident this agreement is not only going to save lives in the short run, but it's also going to lead to more success for the anti-gun violence movement

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File Photo

Through three games Tri-Town's Brayden Akana, shown here catching during Tourtellotte High's Eastern Connecticut Conference Tournament game against Killingly High, has nine hits and five RBI in 13 at-bats.

# Tri-Town Legion narrowly loses to Norwich

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

NORWICH — Jason Wedge, the designated hitter for the Norwich American Legion Post 4 baseball team, erased six innings of frustration when he singled in the winning run in the bottom of the seventh, lifting Norwich to a 9-8 win over the previously undefeated Tri-Town Legion team on Monday, June 20, at Dickenmann Field. Before his game-winning base hit Wedge was 0-for-3 with three strikeouts. In those three plate appearances he came to bat with six runners in scoring position. For Tri-Town, the loss was its first of the season, after beating Jewett City, 15-3, on Tuesday, June 14, and 9-1, on Thursday, June 16. The Tri-Town American Legion baseball program is sponsored by American Legion Posts in Thompson (Post 67), Woodstock (Post 111) and Putnam (Post 13). "This game came down to our lack of making plays in the field," said Tri-Town manager Jason Akana about the three errors committed and six infield hits allowed. "We didn't do that and, as a result, we let our pitching down. We been practicing our fielding throughout the transition from the high school season to the Legion season and the guys are getting more confident in the field. "But, it's those bleeder hits and plays where they're back on their heels rather than attacking the play that's hurting us right now," Akana continued. "We need to have them get in attack mode, like we're preaching, and get them going to the ball, not waiting for it to come to them. We need to take control of those plays and not let the ball play us." Tri-Town led throughout the game, never actually trailing until Jacob Savage scored the winning run on Wedge's sharp single, which was just out of the diving reach of Tri-Town third baseman John Carita. Tri-Town led, 3-2, after the first inning, 5-3 after the second inning, and 7-5 after the fourth inning. Norwich (1-2) tied the game, 7-7 in the bottom of the fifth inning. Tri-Town reclaimed the lead, 8-7, in the top of the sixth inning. Norwich scored a pair of runs in its final at-bat, on three singles, a hit batsman and a wild pitch. Tri-Town's Luke Carita opened the game with a leadoff walk, but was forced out at second when Max Racicot followed with a fielder's choice to first. Racicot scored to give Tri-Town a 1-0 lead when No. 3 hitter Brayden Akana doubled to the gap in right-center field, the ball skipping past the Norwich right-fielder. Brayden Akana (coach Akana's son) made it 2-0, scoring on an RBI triple by John Carita, who belted the ball to almost the same spot as Brayden Akana. Carita scored Tri-Town's third run on a wild pitch.

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Jason Bleau

Teams compete in the 6th annual Quinebaug Valley Rotaract Club Cornhole Classic.

# Rotaract Club holds annual Cornhole Classic

BY JASON BLEAU  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON – The Quinebaug Valley Regional Rotaract Club held their annual Cornhole Classic on Saturday, June 18, with 22 teams taking part in the annual fundraiser at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park. The sixth annual event has become a local tradition in Northeastern Connecticut predating the recent growth in popularity of cornhole as a major pastime. The event benefits a different non-profit each year as well as supporting the Rotaract Club's other endeavors. The 2022 event supported Northeast Placement Services which provides integrated placement opportunities and

services for adults with intellectual disabilities. Elle Goslin, Rotaract Club President, said the Cornhole Classic is a unique event for the Club as it brings together individuals closer to the age of the Club's actual membership, serving as a perfect blend of networking and fundraising. "It's a much younger group which is awesome for us because we are a group of 18- to 35-year-olds that live, work, or go to school in Northeastern Connecticut so it's not only a great event to support a local non-profit and fundraise, but also bring in prospective members to join our club and get involved with what we do," said Goslin. While cornhole has become a popular sport

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# William Danielson’s ironworks



KILLINGLY  
AT 300



MARGARET  
WEAVER

In the June 3 Killingly at 300 column, I wrote about the 1922 plans for improving Reynolds Street in Danielson as a road from South Killingly to the borough. Dave Dorion and I wondered about when Westcott Avenue was constructed. I contacted the Killingly Engineering Department to see if they knew, and they kindly researched the query. Engineering Technician Alec Ethier sent an email dated June 16, 2022 that Westcott Avenue was constructed in 1928 according to Connecticut Highway Department Plans (S-147 at Killingly Historical Society). I'll have to take a look at them and see what was in the area prior to the road construction.

In last week's column, I wrote about 19th century iron works in Killingly, Old Furnace and the foundry on Furnace Street in Danielson. Did you know that there was also a forge at what is the lower end of Main Street adjacent to the Five Mile River prior to the Revolution? I have been researching William Danielson, who became a colonel in the Revolution, and found the following ad in reference to the forge. "To Be Sold -Killingly, in Connecticut, FORGE, Having two Fires to refine and bloom Iron, with a large convenient Cole-House; also a Blacksmith' Shop adjoining, having two Fires, a Trip-Hammer, and a good sett of Tools; likewise a Grist Mill and Saw-Mill, all upon a good constant Stream, and adjoining to a large Country Road. There is a Dwelling-House and Land to accommodate the Works, which are in a good Place for Custom, being 20 miles from Scituate Furnace, 8 from Providence and 4 from Norwich\*. The Terms will be reasonable, both as to Price and payment. William Danielson." (Distances from Providence and Norwich are both

incorrect. The same ad in the Saturday, Dec. 26, 1767 Providence Gazette, p. 4, gives the distance as 28 miles from Providence and 24 from Norwich.). (Ad in Providence Gazette Saturday, Jan. 16, 1768; genealogybank.com; p.3).

I had come across mention of Danielson's ironworks while doing research in the 1990's and had actually prepared a little summary for my files and those at the Killingly Historical Center. If he sold the iron works about 1767/8, land records seem to indicate that Danielson owned it or retained part interest at the time of the Revolution (Killingly Land Records 8, p. 122, March, 1770; KLR 9, p. 14, February, 1771; 10, p. 235, 1777). It's interesting to speculate that this ironworks in Killingly was producing much-needed materials for use by the American Patriots during the Revolution--and William Danielson was very much a patriot.

In May 1765, he was appointed captain of the 14th company in the Eleventh Company of Connecticut's militia. (It is my understanding that males between the ages of 16-60- were required to train with the local militia). When Killingly's militia responded to the Lexington Alarm in April 1775, Danielson served as a major. Killingly's Lexington Alarm List: "William Danielson's Company--William Danielson, Major; Joseph Cady, Captain; Elihu Lawrence, Ensign; Oliver Richmond, Sergeant; Simeon Lee, Sergeant; Asa Lawrence, Sergeant; Nathaniel Day, Corporal; Darius Leavens, Corporal; Samuel Buck." In October of that year, he was appointed lieutenant-colonel of the 11th Regiment in the place of Israel Putnam who had been promoted. In January 1776 he was appointed lieutenant -colonel of the Third Regiment under Colonel John Douglas and was instructed to proceed to the defense of Boston. In June of that year he was attached to the third Battalion of Wadsworth's Brigade, which was to march to New York. He declined this appointment on June 26 but later served with the militia in the same field. In December 1776 he was promoted to colonel of the 11th Regiment of militia. He also served with the militia under General Spencer in Rhode Island during 1776 through 1777. Despite his mil-

itary involvement William Danielson was active in Killingly's government. In December 1774 he was chosen an agent to the county court. In May 1777 he represented the town at the General Assembly. In January 1781, he was chosen selectman. The 1782 town meeting appointed him as agent to present a memorial to the General Assembly requesting that Thompson parish be set off from Killingly and incorporated as a separate town. He was chosen selectman again in December 1782 and moderator in December 1786. In 1786 and 1788, he was chosen for surveying being chosen to perambulate the new Killingly-Thompson town line and to help lay out a road. In 1788 he served as one of Killingly's representatives to ratify the United States Constitution.

William Danielson, a grandson of Killingly's early settler James Danielson, was a prominent and wealthy individual in colonial Killingly, perhaps the wealthiest by the end of the 18th century. The son of Samuel Danielson and Sarah (Douglas), he was born Aug. 11, 1729 and died August 19, 1798, age 68 (parents & b. (www.wikitree.com/wiki/Danielson-723; d. Old Westfield Cemetery, Hale Cemetery Collection). He married Sarah Williams December 29, 1758 (Barbour Collection; Killingly Vital Records). She died Jan. 19, 1809 in her 72nd year (Hale). An inventory of his estate taken Feb. 28, 1799 was valued at \$30,548.67. (Plainfield Probate Vo. 10, p.276).

According to the Commemorative Genealogical and Biographical Record of New London County, "He was a man of fine physique, six feet two inches tall, of noble bearing and great physical strength. His children were Sarah, b. Nov. 14, 1759; James b. January 18, 1761; Lucy born Oct. 11, 1764; William, b. March 4, 1768; Mary, born Jan. 24, 1770. Several died young. Only James survived his father. The Sarah Williams Chapter D.A.R. at Danielson was named in honor of the wife of Colonel William Danielson. (p. 625).

In the first census of the United States taken in 1790, William Danielson had five people in his household--three females, one slave, and Danielson, himself.

An inventory of his estate taken Feb. 28, 1799 was valued at \$30,548.67. It included "27 linnen shirts", shoe buckles and knee buckles, a chaise, an eight day clock, a library, firelock and "warlike implements", horse, saddle, bridle (Plainfield Probate Vo. 10, p.276).

I will be talking briefly about Col. William Danielson and what Killingly and Northeastern Connecticut were like at the time of the American Revolution, particularly from 1773-1776, on Saturday, June 25 at the Pre-4th of July Celebration sponsored by Killingly Grange 112 from 3-7:30 p.m. Our forefathers and mothers made so many sacrifices and endured many hardships so that we might have the freedom we enjoy today. Come see the Hall of Honor exhibit featuring some of the men from Connecticut and our area who were prominent during the founding of our country. Do you know who signed the Declaration of Independence from Connecticut? One was from eastern Connecticut.

Pre 4th of July Celebration. Killingly Grange 112. (Corner of Rte 101 and Dog Hill Road) Saturday, June 25. 3-7:30 p.m. Movie Night ("1776") and BBQ. 3 p.m. on BBQ-hamburgers, hot dogs, etc. 4 p.m. Short historical perspective about this area in the Revolutionary time period by Margaret Weaver, Killingly Town Historian. 5 p.m. Free Showing of the movie "1776." Limited number of seats. Call or text 860-884-1813 to reserve a seat.

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

# Pomfret Recreation announces upcoming events

**POMFRET** — Pomfret Recreation has a full slate of fun and exciting events on tap this summer.

**Basketball Summer Mini Camp:** For boys and girls ages 10-18 at the Pomfret Community School Gym. July 11th, 12th and 13th from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM. Be instructed by Coach Mike Phelps (UConn shooting coach), on shooting fundamentals and ball handling/dribbling techniques. Please see the registration form online at: [www.pomfretct.gov/recreation](http://www.pomfretct.gov/recreation) with testimonials on Coach Mike Phelps. This camp is \$95.00 per person.

**2 LEGO CAMPS:** – 7/18 – 7/22/22. Animal Adventure Camp is for boys and girls

ages 5-7 and runs from 9 am to noon each day. Jedi Master Engineering is for ages 8-12 and takes place from 1:00 to 4:00 pm each day. The camp will be held in the PCS cafeteria. \$150.00 per person

**SUMMER YOUTH BASKETBALL** instructed by Jan Koivisto: takes place from 7/26 to 8/18/22. 4 weeks of basketball playing every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings at the Rec. Park. \$35.00 for Pomfret residents and \$40 for out-of-town players

5:00 to 5:30 pm grades 3 & 4 Co-ed,

5:00 to 6:00 pm (separate court) grades 5 and 6 co-ed

6:00 to 7:00pm grades 7 and 8 separated

7:00 to 8:00 pm grades 9-12 separated

**Co-ed Adult Pick up Style Sand Volleyball:** at the Rec. Park. Wednesdays, June 1st to August 31st. Runs from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Fee is \$10.00 p.p. for the season

**Co-ed Summer Cribbage League:** – for ages 16 and up. Tuesdays, May 31st to October 18, 2022, at the Pomfret Community Center. Time is 6:30 to 9 pm ish. Instruction will be provided those wanting to learn the game. All equipment is provided. You can check out [www.quietcornerleagues.com](http://www.quietcornerleagues.com) or the Recreation Dept. web page for more info. \$20.00 per person for the sea-

son with a tournament at the end. Teams consist of two players

**Corn Hole Summer League:** (co-ed) for ages 12 and up Thursdays 6 to 7:50 pm at the Pomfret Rec. Park. 2 people per team. Program runs from June 2nd – September 1st with a tournament at the end.

**CONCERT AT THE PARK WITH THE BILLY PILGRIM BAND ON SATURDAY, JULY 30TH:** This is a free concert. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets and a picnic if you'd like. Concert starts at 5:30 pm

**WE HAVE 2 SEATS OPEN ON THE RECREATION COMMISSION. HELP THE COMMISSION BRING SOME MORE FUN TO POMFRET!**

You do not need to live in Pomfret to participate in most Town Rec. programs. Questions: 860-974-1423

To register for these events, the forms are available on our website: [www.pomfretct.gov/recreation](http://www.pomfretct.gov/recreation) or you can stop by the Pomfret Town Hall to pick one up.

Email: [Barbara.gagnon@pomfretct.gov](mailto:Barbara.gagnon@pomfretct.gov)

### Old Trinity Church hosting Eucharist service

**BROOKLYN** — In honor of Independence Day, the public is invited to an historic Eucharist at Old Trinity Church on Sunday, July 3 at 10 a.m. Located at 60 Church St., Old Trinity is the oldest standing Episcopal church in Connecticut. The service will feature a salute to American folk music officiated by our new priest-in-charge, The Rev. Dr. Gretchen S. Grimshaw. Trinity's services are available online at <https://www.facebook.com/trinitychurchbrooklyn>. For more information, visit <http://www.trinitychurchbrooklyn.org>.

Kevin Trahan

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Courtesy

Bill Couture and Jake Valentine were crowned winners of the 6th annual Quinebaug Valley Rotaract Club Cornhole Classic.

## CORNHOLE

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over the last half-decade, Goslin said she feels the Club founded the event at a perfect time getting a head start on the rise of cornhole and benefiting greatly from the growing interest with consistent participation every year.

"Cornhole has really blown up over the years, so I think we're really ahead of the game. We've had a lot of sponsors and teams who have come out to support us year after year so it's really exciting to see everyone come together every year to support our mission," said Goslin. "It's so much work to

put together a fundraiser like this but being here the day of the event and seeing everyone smiling and embracing healthy competition, it makes everything worth it."

The event raised \$4,500 over the course of the afternoon which include income from a series of raffles of donated prizes from local supporters and businesses. The 2022 event crowned Bill Couture and Jake Valentine as champions for the second year in a row with a \$200 cash grand prize. Second place went to Kyle Liebsher and Kelsey Rhines and third place was Danielle Humphreys and Joey Farquharson.



# Woodstock Middle School students pay tribute to Caesar

**BY DONNA DUFRESNE**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WOODSTOCK — On June 7, seventh graders from Woodstock Middle School shared evidence and insights about slavery in the dedication ceremony of a Witness Stone for a young man named Caesar, who was born enslaved in 1784 and raised with three other young men, Cit, Simon, and Prince in the Samuel McClellan home. In 1803, Caesar self-emancipated and his name never appears again in the Woodstock records.

The Woodstock Education Foundation and The Last Green Valley granted seventh grade English teacher, Christine Carter, and social studies teacher, Kyra Lit Schauer funds to research and place a Witness Stone in Woodstock. The Witness Stones Project™, “is a K-12 educational initiative whose mission is to restore the history and honor the humanity of the enslaved individuals who helped build our communities. The project provides archival research, professional teacher development, a classroom curriculum, and public programming to help students discover and chronicle the local history of slavery. The final component of the work in each community is the placement of Witness Stone Memorials, permanent landscape markers that honor enslaved individuals where they lived, worked, or worshiped. The award-winning program has spread to over eighty-six communities in five states and is rapidly growing throughout the Northeast from New Jersey to Maine.

The dedication ceremony, which took place at Roseland Park Amphitheater, included the flag ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance led by: Brendan Wright, Jacob Twordzidlo, Blake Kudzal and Blake Robida, of Woodstock Boy Scout Troop #27. The Reverend Kevin Downer of First Church of Woodstock opened the ceremony with an invocation. First Selectman, Jay Swan, and Viktor Toth, Superintendent of Woodstock Schools gave remarks, commending the students for their hard work and dedica-



tion.

The following students read excerpts from their essays about Caesar: Robert Graham, Brayden Bottone, Lorelai Fish, Bella Stilltano, Kelsey McNeil, Maylie Ganas, and Brendan Lund. Izzy Crowley and Brendan Wright read Poems about Caesar. It was apparent through the student essays and poems that they learned about Woodstock history on their journey to uncover Caesar’s life. While examining primary sources, students gained a snapshot of the economy, industries, agricultural practices, the thriving commerce of South Woodstock, and Samuel McClellan’s contributions to Woodstock and the Revolutionary War, giving context to Caesar’s experience.

It’s not easy to find the stories of enslaved Africans who lived and worked in Northeast Connecticut when America was but a glint in the eyes of those who dared to dream. Vital records, land records, wills, and probate records from the time of slavery in the 18th century left a scant trail behind those

who were enumerated as “negro male or female” in census data or merely mentioned as possessions in wills, such as “my negro man Cuff”. And yet, students found evidence of their existence and the reality that even the smallest of New England towns were complicit in African slave trade whether they liked it or not.

Dennis Culliton, co-founder of The Witness Stones Project, introduced keynote speaker, Pat Wilson Pheanious, chair of the Witness Stones Project BOD. Ms. Pheanious, former State Representative from Ashford, and the daughter of a Tuskegee Airman,

remarked on how empowering it was for her to learn from the Witness Stone research in Guilford, her ancestors’ place in American History. By saying their names, Pheanious felt for the first time that she belonged to America as much as anyone else.

At the end of the ceremony, the Woodstock Middle School Chorus performed “We Shall Overcome,” conducted by Maria Wood. The students continued to sing the song while walking from Roseland Park to the Witness Stone site at the McClellan House where owner, Kevin Lewis, welcomed the group to unveil the stone where Caesar once lived. Reverend Kevin Downer gave a benediction that reminded students of the higher purpose of their project. He asked the whole group to repeat the following words:

“I am somebody. “ “You are somebody.” And now, in the spirit of the Witness Stone Project, join me as we declare that “Everybody is somebody!”

Rev. Downer went on to challenge the students who were part of the Witness Stones Project to share their experience with others so that we might have a “more hopeful, sustainable future.

According to teacher, Christine Carter, “Students were very interested in discovering elements of Woodstock history that they did not know before. They felt a kinship with Caesar in his desire to be out from under the paternalism of enslavement as they dream of also growing up and having more choices. I am grateful to have been part of this project, and I hope it will continue to bring community members together.”

## Killingly Public Schools offer food service program to qualifying students

KILLINGLY — The Killingly Public Schools announces its participation in the federally funded Summer Food Service Program (SFSP). Under the SFSP, nutritious meals are provided free of charge to children 18 years and under at the following site from July 5 until Aug. 5.

### LEGISLATION

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in the long run.”

He went on to call it a “great social change movement.”

While the provisions of the legislation were still being finalized at the time of writing, the major goals of the agreement have been outlined. These including supporting state crisis intervention orders to create and administer laws to ensure deadly weapons are kept away from individuals the court determines to be a danger to themselves or others, investment in children and family mental health services, expanding protections of victims of domestic violence, providing funding for states to enact “red-flag laws” to remove guns from people deemed to be dangerous, funding school-based mental health and supportive services and school safety resources, clarifying the definition of federally licensed firearms dealers, investments in telehealth, an enhanced review process for those under 21-years-old seeking to purchase weapons including reviewing juvenile and mental health records, and cracking down on criminals who illegally “straw purchase” and traffic guns.

The agreement still needs to pass the Senate proper and earn 60 votes to break through a filibuster by the G.O.P. which would allow it to go to the Senate floor for a vote. The agreement has received national attention from both parties as a rare agreement between Republicans and Democrats on one of the most divisive political topics of the last 20 years.

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Tim Mugan, 860 779-6792, ext. 1.



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# Eastern’s Leadership Luncheon honors four outstanding donors, alumni



Photo Courtesy

Left to right: Moh’d RuJoub, David Foster, Marilyn Foster, President Elsa Nunez, Matt Pepin, Beth Regan.

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University honored four members of its alumni and donor community on June 10 at its annual President’s Leadership Luncheon and Awards ceremony. The event gathered more than 100 donors and friends while recognizing the generosity and accomplishments of Professor Moh’d RuJoub, alumni Matt Pepin ‘91 and Beth Regan ‘79, and local philanthropist David Foster.

President Elsa Nunez welcomed attendees to the first Leadership Luncheon since the onset of the pandemic.

“This luncheon is so important to the life of our university,” she said, “for today we come together to thank our family of committed donors for their generous support of our students, and to honor those former students who have gone on to bring honor to Eastern through their personal and professional achievements.”

“Today we recognize the impact of our alumni and of our donors,” followed Vice President of Institutional Advancement Ken DeLisa. “Because of your professional achievements, personal philanthropy, and unwaver-

ing commitment to Eastern, you inspire our passion for higher education. You serve as role models for our students and you create opportunities for them to succeed.”

Justin Murphy ‘04, president of the ECSU Foundation Board of Directors, recounted the many recent successes of Eastern’s foundation and donor family. “The work of the Foundation never stops... Not even a global pandemic prevented the ECSU Foundation from its work.”

Fall 2021’s Athletic Director Challenge was its most successful campaign yet, according to Murphy, raising \$135,000 from 500 donors. The Foundation awarded a record \$850,000 to 376 students in the 2021-22 academic year. “Thanks to the philanthropy of many of you in this room,” said Murphy, “the ECSU Foundation is on target to raise \$1.5 million by the time our fiscal year ends on June 30.”

Moh’d RuJoub

For his myriad involvements with Eastern and the Willimantic community, Moh’d RuJoub received the Hermann Beckett ‘Friend of the University’ Award. As coordinator of the Accounting Program, RuJoub’s legacy is one of student employability, alumni engagement and commitment to all things accounting.

RuJoub has served as faculty mentor of Eastern’s Accounting Society and the student chapter of the Eastern Institute of Management Accountants (IMA). He’s a member of the Chief Financial Officers Association and serves as an ad hoc reviewer for American Accounting Association publications.

RuJoub has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2018 National Distinguished Service Award by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA), as well as the IMA’s Campus Advocate of the Year in 2015. He received the Educator All-Star Award in 2016 from the National Association of Black Accountants (NABA).

In addition to leading Eastern’s Accounting Program for the last two decades, RuJoub is the driving force behind the recent reinstatement of the Master of Science in Accounting, which is now a fully online master’s program. He also established the Volunteer Income Tax Assistant (VITA) program at Eastern, which in its 23-year existence has provided income tax assistance to thousands of

local lower-income families and yielded millions in tax refunds in the Windham-area economy.

For the past 26 years, RuJoub has organized the annual Accounting Banquet, an evening of professional networking for students, alumni and faculty. Finally, RuJoub created his own scholarship, the Dr. Moh’d RuJoub and Family Endowed Accounting Scholarship, has raised more than \$60,000 since 2017.

“It has been a joy to serve at this great institution and help so many of our students go on to succeed and become leaders in the accounting industry,” said RuJoub. “I felt strongly to create the RuJoub Family Scholarship after seeing firsthand how many students struggle financially dedicated, hardworking students who need a little extra monetary support. I’m proud to report that (we’ve) been able to give more than 20 scholarships to bright and deserving accountings students since starting this endowment.”

Matt Pepin ‘91

Due to his rise to the top of the journalism profession, Matt Pepin ‘91 received this year’s Distinguished Alumni Award. From humble beginnings with the Campus Lantern, Pepin now serves as sports editor of the Boston Globe - one of the country’s premier news organizations in one of its hottest professional sports cities.

Prior to leading the Globe’s sports department, the Eastern English major worked as sports editor at the New Haven Register and Times Record-Herald in Middletown, NY. He joined the Globe in 2009 as digital sports editor before his latest promotion in 2018, where he oversees a staff of 30 full-time and 20 part-time employees, producing content for the Globe’s printed newspaper, websites, newsletters and social media.

In a previous Eastern Magazine interview, Pepin said, “When I started pursuing journalism at the Campus Lantern it was a once-a-week affair. When I worked at the New Haven Register, we had to get it out daily. Now, in the digital era, there’s this pressure to produce every minute, every hour.”

As a student, Pepin worked with Eastern’s venerable sports information specialist, Bob Molta. “No one left a greater impression on me than Bob Molta,” he said. “He showed me how to pull back the curtain and find the story I’ve

worked with a lot of journalists and media professionals across the world. Bob is the standard I judge them all by.”

Beth Regan ‘79

Commemorating her accomplishments as an educator, coach, athlete, tribal leader and dedicated Eastern alumna, Beth Regan ‘79 received the Distinguished Service Award. At the ceremony, Regan was elated to learn of the creation of the “Beth Regan Endowed Women’s Soccer Fund,” a scholarship spearheaded by current women’s soccer head coach Christian D’Ambrosio in honor of Regan’s pivotal role in the founding of the women’s soccer program.

Regan arrived on campus in 1975 to pursue an undergraduate degree in History and Social Sciences - and later returned for a master’s degree in Education-Human Relations. Regan played varsity basketball and softball when Title IX legislation in the 1970s was creating new opportunities for female college athletes.

In her 35 years as a teacher at Tolland High School, Regan specialized in both Native American Studies and Russian history. Combining her abilities as a teacher with her love of athletics, she became the high school’s women’s soccer coach, leaving that position in 1986 to become the founding coach of Eastern’s women’s soccer program, a post she held for six years. Her involvement with Eastern athletics continues to this day, serving as volunteer assistant coach for the women’s basketball team.

Regan is also a dedicated Special Olympics volunteer and coach, as well as an active member of the Mohegan Tribe. Known as “Morning Deer” among her tribe, she was elected to the Mohegan Tribal Council of Elders in 2014. A longtime resident of Hampton, CT, Regan has also fulfilled a number of community roles, presently serving on the board of directors of the Fletcher Memorial Library.

“Service is my way of thanking all of you,” she said to the crowd of friends and fellow Eastern supporters. “It’s one way of giving back a little that was given to me. We may not be able to change the whole world, but we can change our little part of it.”

David Foster

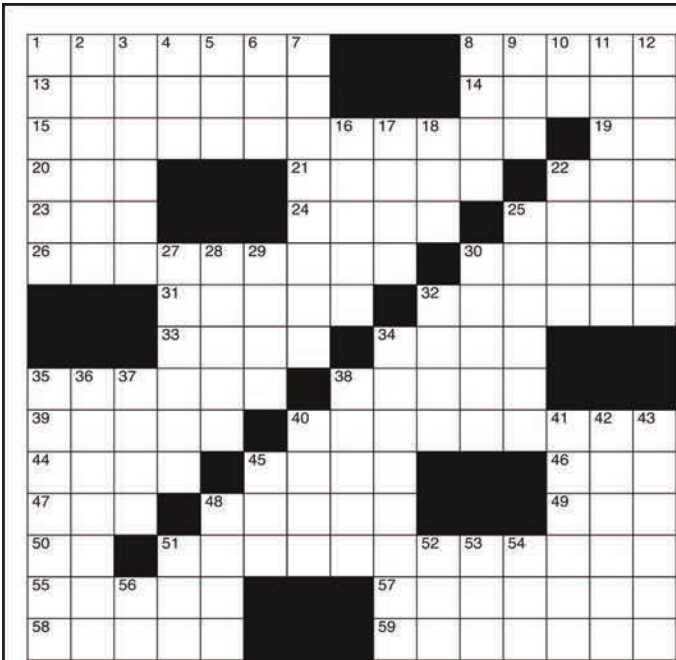
For his dynamic philanthropy and local-legend status as a musical entrepreneur, David Foster received the ECSU Foundation Board of Directors Award. As the face of the Lester E. Foster and Phyllis M. Foster Foundation, he has overseen support for several Windham-area organizations, including the Covenant Soup Kitchen, Windham Hospital, Windham No Freeze Shelter, Horizons and others.

Since 2006, the Foster Foundation has provided more than \$125,000 for a variety of Eastern programs and scholarships. But its biggest gift yet was just announced this June: a \$250,000 contribution to the David G. Carter, Jr., Endowment Fund.

“Eastern is the pinnacle of our community and I’m a strong believer of scholarship and a big fan of Dr. Carter,” said Foster. “Knowledge is everything today. If everybody has a chance to have an education, they have a chance to better themselves.”

Preceding his life as a philanthropist, Foster developed a storied reputation as an owner of the legendary Shaboo Inn in Mansfield, a R&B and jazz nightclub, and later as the band leader of The Shaboo All-Stars and founder of Shaboo Productions. Foster was recognized with a lifetime achievement award in 2012 by the Connecticut Blues Society and inducted into the Mohegan Sun Hall of Fame in 2013.

“Music is David Foster’s life,” said VP DeLisa. “He has a passion for singing; entertaining audiences brings him joy. He owns a business that benefits musicians and enables them to create the sounds that inspire and entertain their audiences. And he is the driving force behind a charitable endowment that will provide basic needs, improved health care and educational opportunity for countless individuals for generations to come.”



CLUES ACROSS

1. Half-conscious states

8. Unnatural

13. Deep regret

14. Rogue

15. Took without permission

19. An alternative

20. After B

21. Partner to “flowed”

22. The best day of the week (abbr.)

23. Helps you hear

24. Egyptian river

25. Lake \_\_\_, one of the Great

26. Make free from bacteria

30. Indigenous peoples of central Canada

31. Sanctuaries in Greek temples

32. Most unclothed

33. NJ senator Booker
34. Tibetan lake

35. Desecrate something sacred

38. John \_\_\_, English educator 1467-1519

39. Obtains in return for labor

40. Views

44. Rugged cliff

45. Not quiet

46. Body part

47. Newton

48. German city

49. A way to save money

50. NBC’s Roker

51. Dire Straits frontman

55. Actress Lathan

57. Most meager

58. Poems

59. Companions

CLUES DOWN

1. Draws over

2. Recur

3. Current unit

4. Neither

5. Certified Radio Operator (abbr.)

6. Power of perception

7. Peace

8. Supplemented with difficulty

9. The last section or part of anything

10. Dorm worker

11. Bones

12. Most unnatural

16. Spanish island

17. The skill to do something

18. Where golf games begin

22. Unthreatened

25. Printer errors

27. The sport of engaging in contests of speed
28. Ones to look up to

29. Stringed instrument

30. Gives whippings

32. Type of tie

34. Make more concentrated

35. Die

36. Part of a winter hat

37. Young men’s club

38. Bathrooms need it

40. U.S. president

41. American novelist

42. Take into custody

43. Hurts

45. Type of gibbon

48. American actor Lukas

51. Partner to cheese

52. Some are covert

53. Political action committee

54. To and \_\_\_

56. Atomic #28



PUZZLE SOLUTION

## VILLAGER ALMANAC At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of June 13: Purple Martin, American Kestrel, Bobolink, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Scarlet Tanager, Yellow Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Eastern Kingbird, Worm-eating Warbler, American Redstart, Barn Swallow, Ovenbird, Wood Thrush, Veery, Louisiana Waterthrush, Indigo Bunting, American Woodcock, Bobwhite Quail. Visit [ctaclubon.org/Pomfret-home](http://ctaclubon.org/Pomfret-home).

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# Laurie Plantier named Employee of the Month at Westview Health Care



Laurie Plantier

DAYVILLE — Laurie Plantier, LPN earned the praise of the May Employee of the Month award at Westview Health Care Center.

A Licensed Practical Nurse, Plantier takes great care in providing skilled nursing treatment for the patients in her care. Her compassion for helping in healing is devout: she strives to improve the lives of all those around her, through both her professional and personal experiences. She holds multiple degrees and certifications across various healthcare pursuits. She started at Westview as a CNA in 1989 and

worked at the Dayville skilled nursing facility for about 12 years. In that time, she went on to earn her Practical Nursing certificate from Windham Technical School, and a Phlebotomy certificate from Quinebaug Valley Community College. She decided to pursue a different challenge after this time at Westview, and went back to school with her lifelong love of animals in mind. She then earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Veterinary Science from Becker College, and she has worked at several animal clinics in Connecticut’s quiet corner.

Plantier enjoys the science of health-care and considers herself a proponent of natural caregiving. She feels the need to take care of others, whether two-legged, four-legged, or otherwise. At many times, she has found that a lot of animal care and human care overlaps under the same premise and approach. Non-verbal communication is often required when caring for people, and it is always required when caring for animals. She forms many of her medical plans by reading body language as an essential building block for the care. She likes to describe her life and her career as a book, and sensed it was time to turn to another chapter and return to explore additional opportunities in nursing. Due to a personal connection in her life, she felt especially compelled to do more as a health care provider and learn as much as she could about medicine.

Plantier’s return to Licensed Practical Nursing required her to review her knowledge and skills; accomplished by completing some specific educational and clinical course work. She greatly appreciates that she was able to work

with Westview to fulfill her clinical hours necessary for the license renewal. Returning after this time away from the facility, she instantly felt comfortable in such an acquainted setting. She was especially delighted to see so many familiar faces working at Westview from her previous time there, and how many of them who started out together as young nurses have grown into their own elevated positions. After renewing her Practical Nursing License, she resumed caring for patients in the skilled nursing setting of Westview. At the same time, enhancing her knowledge and skills to learn more about breakthrough treatments by working towards a degree from Three Rivers Community College as a Registered Nurse. She is especially interested in learning to perform infusion medicine, developing even greater wound care methods, and how to perform more advanced technical treatments.

Away from Westview, Plantier adores her cats and likes to take time to bird-watch; especially loving the sight of raptors. Some of her aviary highlights include the observation a nest of fledgling hawks that was in her backyard, and the recent sighting of a bald eagle. She is an avid reader, enjoying crime and mystery novels as well as educational journals and science magazines. As an exercise to keep her mind active, she loves to do puzzles and word searches. Laurie finds that word searches are especially helpful in training her brain to find the information she seeks on medical charts. There is great affection felt by Laurie towards her family; considering her mother to be her greatest supporter, and enjoying as much time as possible with her niece Mariah and

her great-niece, Freya.

In being appreciated for Westview Health Care Center’s Employee of the Month award, Plantier remarked about her own appreciation for the facility and her colleagues there.

“Thank you to the team at Westview for acknowledging my strong points and for supporting me in my role. It’s a good feeling to know I’m part of a team that acknowledges the efforts we all take to provide the best care for our residents and patients,” she said.

Westview Administrator David T. Panteleakos has enjoyed seeing Plantier’s career evolution and praises her pursuits in the health care industry.

“Laurie knows so much about patient care from many years in the skilled nursing industry, and she carries intellectual curiosity with her through all of her professional efforts,” Mr. Panteleakos commented. “We are so glad to have her back on our team at Westview, and we share in her enthusiasm for becoming a Registered Nurse. Congratulations to Laurie!”

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 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 14 years.

## Putnam resident Garrett McMerriman completes intensive research project

WORCESTER, Mass. — Garrett McMerriman, a member of the class of 2023 majoring in Data Science (BS) at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), was a member of a student team that recently completed an intense research project titled LID/GI in Massachusetts Communities.

At WPI, all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology to addresses an important societal need or issue. About two-thirds of students complete a project at one of the university’s 50-plus off-campus project centers, which are located around the world. A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, the project-based curriculum offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people’s lives and make a difference before they graduate.

“The WPI project-based curriculum’s focus on global studies brings students out of the classroom and their comfort zones and into the global community to apply their knowledge and to solve problems,” said Professor Kent Rissmiller, professor of Integrative& Global Studies and associate dean of The Global School. “Students are immersed in all aspects of a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in

today’s global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application.”

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI’s pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree programs across 18 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. [www.wpi.edu](http://www.wpi.edu)

## Woodstock Academy’s F.R.E.S.H. donates to Audubon Society’s campership fund



WOODSTOCK — Members of F.R.E.S.H., a student-run nonprofit that works toward poverty relief and awareness in northeastern Connecticut, recently donated funds raised over the school year to the Connecticut Audubon Society’s summer campership fund.

“Every year, F.R.E.S.H. students work diligently to provide elementary and middle school students with memorable summer experiences,” says CAS Northeast Region Director, Sarah Heminway.

In its 12th year, the Connecticut Audubon Society is running three weeks of bike camp in July which will

be supported by the F.R.E.S.H. initiative.

Getting kids outside and pedaling on the Air Line Trail and other safe biking by-ways provides fresh air, exercise, stress relief and is a fantastic alternative to the screen time far too many kids are subjected to these days. F.R.E.S.H. president and academy senior, Sofia Murray presented the check. She is headed to Northeastern University in the fall. Our sincere thanks to Sofia and the F.R.E.S.H. students for all their selfless work.

Interested bike campers ages nine to 13 are welcome. Bike and helmet are required. Open weeks are June 27-July 1, July 11-15 and July 25-29.

Contact the Center at Pomfret for campership availability at 860-928-4948. View our brochure at [ctaudubon.org/pomfret-camp](http://ctaudubon.org/pomfret-camp).

## Danielson resident graduates from Husson University

BANGOR, Maine — Kyle Jonathan Derosier, of Danielson, graduated from Husson University, located in Bangor, Maine on May 7. He graduated with both a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration (Finance)-Magna Cum Laude; and a Master of Science Degree in Business Administration.

He was able to achieve these accomplishments in only five (5) years of college and we couldn’t be more proud of his success.

Derosier is currently a Financial Specialist for TD Bank in Portland, Maine where his future endeavors begins. He graduated from Killingly High School back in June 2017.



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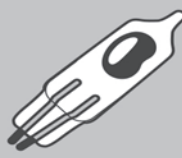
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# Garden Tour and Arts & Craft Fair set for July 9

WOODSTOCK — The Quiet Corner Garden Club presents Gardens & Art in the Country, a self-guided Garden Tour and an Arts & Crafts Fair on Saturday, July 9 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The tour will feature eight gardens located in Woodstock, Pomfret and Putnam. Fifty vendors will display and sell their work at the Arts & Crafts Fair, located at the Woodstock Fairgrounds.

Tour gardens offer a variety of vistas from formal gardens to pocket gardens, historic farms, shade and vegetable gardens, unique patios and outdoor spaces. Plein Air artists, musicians and craftsmen will provide additional entertainment in the gardens. Garden owners and club members will be available to answer questions about plants and design.

The tour starts at the Woodstock Fairgrounds on Route 169 / 171, where participants can purchase tickets or visit the Will Call table to receive an admission wristband and tour booklet. The booklet includes a map, a description of each garden, and indicates rest rooms and picnic area locations.

The Arts & Crafts Fair is located adjacent to the registration/admissions tables at the Fairgrounds. Local artists will offer unique gift items including pottery, jewelry, and garden items. The Quiet Corner Garden Club will offer its “Garden and Gift Shoppe” featuring wreaths, planters and more.

Funds raised from this event support our annual Horticultural and Conservation Scholarship Program. Scholarships are awarded to high school and college students interested or enrolled in agriculture and horticulture related fields of study. Proceeds also fund many local civic projects sponsored by the Quiet Corner Garden Club. Projects include holiday wreaths made each December and donated to over 55 municipal buildings in the area; installing a memorial garden at the Woodstock Middle School; and gardening at local senior housing.

Tickets are \$25 the day of the tour or available in advance for \$20 at [www.quietcornergardenclub.com](http://www.quietcornergardenclub.com). Children under 12 are free. Strollers, carriages and pets are not allowed in the gardens. Pets, except for service animals, are not allowed on the Fairgrounds at any time.

The Quiet Corner Garden Club is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization affiliated with Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut and National Garden Clubs.

## Eastford Church to hold frog jump and band concert



Olivia of Eastford is happy with her balloon friend at last year's Frog Jump.

Photo Courtesy

**BY MIKE MORAN**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

EASTFORD — The Congregational Church of Eastford will hold its annual free summer Band Concert and Frog Jump on Saturday, July 9. The evening will feature a frog jumping contest. Bring your own frog (loaners will be available). Also on tap will be games and fun activities for children, and a concert by the East Woodstock Cornet Band. Burgers, hot dogs and sides will be served as well as local premium ice cream. There will also a balloon artist,

cotton candy, a bounce house and an old-fashioned cake walk.

Last year, three dozen guests took home home-baked treats. Everything is Free! The event has been a community summer favorite for at least a century.

“In these times that can seem difficult, this evening offers a deep breath of fresh air,” said Allison Gormley, church missions and outreach leader, adding, “Please join us for a relaxing, delightful family time.”

Frog registration begins at 5 p.m., and events begin at 5:30 p.m. The Church is at 8 Church Rd. in Eastford.

## Putnam High School honor roll

PUTNAM — Putnam High School has released its honor roll for the fourth quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.

**Class of 2022**  
High Honors: Autumn Allard, Karson Bates, Zachary Belleville, Trinity Bonet Shepard, Johnathen Brouillette, Carissa Charron, Amayah Chavez, Tyler Fullerton, Ethan Gardner, Olivia Hassett-Mellen, James Lazarou, Stephanie Olecki, Halie Reidy, Jack Rindge, Ethan Rodriguez, Adam Tomkins, Connor Vassar  
First Honors: Savannah Acquarulo, Saige Albino, Rafaela Araujo, Arabella Canova, Samantha Eddy, Ariana Hernandez, Amelia Labbe-Fahy, Lexie Latendresse, Celenia Lopez, Benjamin Northup, Avery Pedersen, Malik Roberts, Xander Ruggeri, Ewa Sekula, Destiney Simas, Jaidyn Tremblay, Hunter Vanasse, Janessa Wolfe  
Recognition: Reagan Boledovic, David DePari, Cody Keene, Abigail LaBonte, Darien Mercier, Nunzio Puzo, Amber Rape, William Wolfe

**Class of 2023**  
High Honors: Angelina Porter, Jenna Robbie, Ella Schoppe, Emily St. Martin, Guinevere Weiker  
First Honors: Jacob Benzie, Elysse Britt, Cole Dignam, Allyson DiNola, Robert Leblanc, Cooper Livingston, Cameron Lowell, Enrico Gabriel Ong, Alishia Thompson, Brenden Womack  
Recognition: Jenny Boriboun, Rachelle Deloge, Michael Ellis, Abigail Fitts, Jack Garcia, Kaylee Goding, Alonzo Henriess, Rylee Houle, Raymond Jordan, Sara Lackey, Sullivan MacDonald, Jacob Mailloux, Emerald Perry, Daniel Pratt, DeAnn Pringle, MacKenzie Reidy, Shaina Sudol, Amy Vongvirath, Colin Wojciechowski

**Class of 2024**  
High Honors: Melodie Anderson, Lucian Canova, Brady Devlin, Savannah Loisel, Brandon Marcelonis  
First Honors: Grace Collins, CoraRose Desrosiers, Travis Fredette, Lily Goyette, Grant Hart, Adam Sekula, Isabel Vergoni  
Recognition: Railey Anctil, Ava Briere, Aysaiah Chavez, Atiana Estes, Katelyn Fitzpatrick, Kylee Howe-Barnett, Nathaniel Lazarou, Danielle Levesque, Draven Levesque, Pedro Ortiz, Jonathan Racine, Noah Rudman, Jack Seiffert

**Class of 2025**  
High Honors: Brooke Champagne, Melanie Garcia, Madison Lamothe, Isabelle Magalhaes, Kaylee Mayo, Edy Morente Mendez, Ava Morrison  
First Honors: Raihden Albino, Lucas Benoit, Sawyer Britt, Anthony Cosentino, Aaliyah Daughenbaugh, Antonio Furtado, Diogo Gonzaga Andrade, Thiago Gonzaga Andrade, Olivia Hetrick, Hale Karadeniz, Logan LaFrance, Timothy Maltais, Emily Olecki, Jacob Olson, Nathaniel Pearsall, Isabel Porter, Jenna Simas, Clara Souza, Hailey Summers, McKenna Williams  
Recognition: Leah Anctil, Caleb Bellerose, Lillian Ennis, Caden Gluck, Yakelin Gomez, Deven Lamothe, Anthony Lowell, Evan Mailloux, Carlito Ortiz, Jamison Proulx, Damien Ross, Harley Ryan, Bella Sanchez, Gianna Simas, Santino Stevens, Justin Vukas, Stanislaus Wolczak, Ava Wolinski

# Eastern names two permanent deans to lead Schools of Arts & Sciences and Education & Professional Studies

WILLIMANTIC — After conducting national searches, Emily Todd of Northampton, Mass. and Niti Pandey of Willimantic, have been named deans at Eastern Connecticut State University for the 2022-

2023 school year.

School of Arts & Sciences  
Todd will become the new Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences on July 1. She was the Founding Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social

Sciences at Westfield State University in 2018. Prior to that dean's position, she served as chair of the Department of English from 2010 through 2018.

Todd earned her Ph.D. in English from the University of Minnesota, a Master of Philosophy in Scottish Literature from St. Andrews University in Scotland, and a Bachelor of Arts in American Studies from Amherst College, where she also graduated magna cum laude.

“Dr. Todd brings a deep understanding and commitment to the liberal arts, along with her lengthy experience in public higher education at an institution that is similar to Eastern in many ways,” said William Salka, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs.”

School of Education and Professional Studies  
Pandey is the new Dean of the School of Education and Professional Studies. Pandey joined Eastern in 2012 as an Assistant Professor in the Business Administration Department and was promoted to full professor in 2021, teaching numerous courses at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

She has served as the coordinator of the Master of Science in Organizational Management, coordinator of the Labor Relations and Human Resource Management major, assistant chair of the Business Administration Department, and chair of the Management and Marketing Department. Dr. Pandey was also interim dean in the school for the 2021-2022 school year following the retirement of Dr. Elizabeth Scott.

Prior to joining Eastern, Pandey was a visiting assistant professor in the Krannert School of Management at Purdue University and a visiting assistant professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. Dr. Pandey has a Ph.D. and Master of Science degree in Human Resources and Industrial Relations from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, and a Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the University of Delhi.

“Dr. Pandey brings numerous strengths to this position,” said Salka, “including experience working with faculty on curricular revisions, a strong knowledge of the AACSB accreditation process, and a deep understanding of our mission, our strategic plan, and the role of the School of Education and Professional Studies in both.”

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# Woodstock Academy announces Class Night scholarships and awards

WOODSTOCK — Members of the class of 2022, families, faculty, and the greater Woodstock Academy community gathered in Loos Center for the Arts on Friday, June 17, for the annual Class Night and Baccalaureate program.

Throughout the evening, soon-to-be graduates were honored with 240 awards and scholarships. Generous donors and community partners contributed to the more than \$380,000 awarded to Woodstock Academy students during the event.

By a vote of the senior class, fine arts teacher Justin DuPuis was chosen as the inspirational speaker for the Baccalaureate portion of the evening.

Senior class president, Hailey McDonald of Pomfret, welcomed the families, guests, and classmates, and presented the senior class gift.

111 seniors received the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence awarded to students with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

The Yale Honor Cup and the Donald and Hope Williams Scholarships, The Woodstock Academy's most prestigious awards, will be presented at Saturday's commencement exercises.

2022 Awards and Scholarships

Amber Ahearn: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Frederick B, Theodore R. and James H Haddad Scholarship, Outstanding Achievement in Family & Consumer Science; Claire Anderson: CR Premier Properties Entrepreneurial Award; Parker Anderson: Outstanding Achievement in Entrepreneurship; Linsey Arends: Congressional Certificate of Merit, High Achievement in Introduction to Engineering CAD, Outstanding Achievement in Mandarin 4, David & Helen Richardson Scholarship, Williams Scholarship - Robertson Essay 2nd Place; John Armstrong: Kenneth Beatson Award; Hashim Ashour Wiltsie: Most Improved in Science Award; Annarose Avery: Susan Dorrance Gordon - Latin Prize; Samantha Bellantone: High Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition; Morgan Bentley: DAR Good Citizen's Award, Most Deserving Senior - Nelson Morse Memorial Award, Putnam Rotary Leon Archambault Memorial Scholarship, QVR Rotaract Scholarship, Spirol International Scholarship, The Town of Woodstock Fire and Life Safety Scholarship sponsored by Linemaster Switch and Rogers Corp., Woodstock Lions Club Scholarship; Alison Bessette: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Union School Association Scholarship, Wesley Woronecki Scholarship; Jana Bogosavljevic: Outstanding Achievement in Introduction to Computer Science; Zoe Botta: High Achievement in Introduction to Engineering CAD, Outstanding Achievement in English 4, Outstanding Achievement in History of Rock and Roll, Outstanding Achievement in Latin 4, Outstanding Instrumentalist, Woodstock Lions Club Scholarship; Jacob Boynton: Kristina Noe Memorial Scholarship; Stella Brin: National Honor Society Scholarship; Nico Burgio: High Achievement in Multicultural Foods; Paige Campbell: High Achievement in Game Design; Leah Castle: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Shirley Bradway Serafin Scholarship, David Teed Academy Ambassador Award, Douglas Foisy Memorial Scholarship, Putnam Rotary Ray & Vi Brousseau Memorial Scholarship; Murphy Chace: High Achievement in 3D Animation, Senior Video Contest - Best Technical Execution; Dylan Chamberlin: Senexet Grange Helena B. Duffy Scholarship, Woodstock Agricultural Society Scholarship; Hannah Clark: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Make Your Mark Scholarship, High Achievement in Pastry & Baking, The Academy Humanitarian Scholarship; Nicole Davidson: High Achievement in Multicultural Foods; Ella Davis: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Shirley Bradway Serafin Scholarship; Marcella

DePierdomenico: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Laura Fish-Kelly Scholarship, Accounting Award; Riley Driscoll: High Achievement in The Music Biz; Emmaline-Hope Ebbeling: High Achievement in Introduction to Computer Science, High Achievement in Pastry & Baking; Margaret Ebbeling: High Achievement in Architectural Design; Julia Ezzell: High Achievement in Piano 1; River Favreau: Hannah Green Memorial Scholarship, Woodstock Agricultural Society Scholarship Fern Phaneuf Memorial; Scout Favreau: Woodstock Agricultural Society Scholarship; Atticus Finch: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Make Your Mark Scholarship; Huck Flanagan: Wakely Foundation Scholarship; Samuel Forrest: High Achievement in Game Design; Shannon Gagnon: Outstanding Achievement in Multicultural Foods; Nathan Gaug: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Jerry Baggish, Union School Association Scholarship, Outstanding Achievement in 3D Animation; Marrin Gorgone: English Teacher's Award for Hard Work and Effort; Olivia Grant: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Scholarship, David Teed Academy Ambassador Award, Outstanding Achievement in Guitar 1, Outstanding Achievement in Piano 1, Tri-M Silas Bunnell Memorial Scholarship, Woodstock Academy Music Parents Association Scholarship; Madelyn Groves: High Achievement in Pastry & Baking, Linemaster Switch Business Scholarship, Outstanding Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition; Liam Hagan: High Achievement in Music Technology 2, Outstanding Achievement in AP Macroeconomics, Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry, Tri-M Award, Williams Scholarship Academic Scholarship; Samuel Hagan: Kenneth Beatson Award, David Teed Academy Ambassador Award, High Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition, Outstanding Achievement in Chorale; Ryan Hanlon: Outstanding Achievement in Introduction to Engineering, Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 3 Honors, Senior Video Contest - Best Script; Sydney Haskins: American Legion Americanism Award, Charles Couture Memorial Award, Outstanding 4-Year Achievement in History & Social Sciences, Wesley Woronecki Scholarship; Emma Heimgartner: High Achievement in Family Foods & Nutrition, Outstanding Achievement in Anatomy & Physiology, Outstanding Achievement in Environmental Science; Gwenith Hendrickson: Outstanding Achievement in Architectural Design; Grace Herindeen: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Smith Library Scholarship, German Honor Society Scholarship, Karen's Cause Memorial Scholarship, David H. Luppi Memorial Scholarship, Martha Paul

Memorial Scholarship; Sergio Herrera Moreno de Acevedo: High Achievement in Latin 1; Ian Hoffman: Outstanding Achievement in Music Technology 2; Joseph Jimenez: Outstanding Achievement in Introduction to Manufacturing; Anna Kellermann: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Dennis S. Barlow Scholarship, Charles Cournoyer Memorial Scholarship, Outstanding Achievement in Ecology, Woodstock Academy Music Parents Association Scholarship; Hannah Kim: Head of School Award - 2021/22 School Year; Cassandra Klingensmith: High Achievement in Chorale, High Achievement in Exploring Multimedia, Outstanding Achievement in Introduction to Musical Theatre; Summer Ko-Szych: Community Foundation of Eastern CT John Geissler, Union School Association Scholarship, Wesley Woronecki Scholarship; Mia Krzic : Laskey Memorial Scholarship; Keenan LaMontagne: John Conover Memorial Scholarship, David Teed Academy Ambassador Award, High Achievement in Advanced Engineering, High Achievement in AP Calculus BC, Outstanding Achievement in Accounting; Ashton Lanning: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Frederick B, Theodore R. and James H Haddad Scholarship; Thai Le: English Teacher's Award for Hard Work and Effort, Outstanding Achievement in Mixed Chorus, South Campus Community Leader Award; Kanxu Lin: Christopher Bradley Memorial Scholarship; Seamus Lippy: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 4 Honors; Aiden Lisee: High Achievement in Digital Media Production; Stephanie Lizotte: Edward "Bud" Rondeau Memorial Scholarship; Elizabeth Lovrien: Outstanding Achievement in German 4; Sarah Lucas: Woodstock Academy Music Parents Association Scholarship; Megan Lucier: High Achievement in Pastry & Baking; Collin Manuilow: National Honor Society Scholarship, Natalie & Robert W. Randall Memorial Award; Jillian Marcotte: Head of School Award - 2021/22 School Year, Outstanding Achievement in Culinary Arts, Utility Contractors Association of CT, Woodstock Agricultural Society Scholarship, 4-Year Perfect Attendance Award; Ksenija Martinovic: English Teacher's Award for Hard Work and Effort, South Campus Community Leader Award; Everett Michalski: Outstanding Achievement in Guitar 2; Isabella Miller: Charles, Millicent & Richard Noren Memorial Scholarship, Outstanding Achievement in International Relations, Helen Plassmann Memorial Scholarship; Sofia Murray: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Bernard and Alice Chalecki Scholarship, Dr. David Bates & Dr. Rudolph Klare Memorial Scholarship, Outstanding Achievement in Forensics, Putnam Rotary Maurice Beaulac Memorial

Scholarship; Thomas Musumeci: William L. Parkerton Memorial Award, Marvin N. & Susan Weed Sherman Memorial Scholarship, WAEA Scholarship, Woodstock Academy Music Parents Association Scholarship, Woodstock Agricultural Society Fran Stevens Award; Gianna Nichols: Louise P. Jordan Memorial Outstanding Vocalist Award, Outstanding Achievement in ECE Music Fundamentals; Bethany Noe: Nancy Brush Memorial; Ryan Odorski: Outstanding Achievement in Introduction to Careers; Savannah Olson: High Achievement in History of Rock and Roll, High Achievement in Latin 4, Outstanding Instrumentalist; Chaneek Park: Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 1 Honors; Dhruvi Patel: Outstanding Achievement in Exploring Multimedia, Putnam Masonic Lodge #46 Marvin A. Barrett Educational Award, The Town of Woodstock Fire and Life Safety Scholarship sponsored Treehouse Brewery; Ognjen Pavlovic: High Achievement in Entrepreneurship; Tegan Perry: Charter Oak Federal Credit Union Community Scholarship, Putnam #46 Ancient Free Accepted Masons Dean E. Bunnell Community Service Award, Putnam Masonic Lodge #46 Community Service Award; John Pokorny: High Achievement in Guitar 2, Outstanding Achievement in Italian 5 AP/ACC, ROTC Navy Scholarship, Williams Scholarship Yale Honor Cup ; David Ramos: High Achievement in Accounting, Senexet Grange Helena B. Duffy Scholarship; Hans Rhyhart: American Legion Americanism Award, Senexet Grange Helena B. Duffy Scholarship, Michael Wlaskiewicz Memorial Award; Zachary Roethlein: August Walter "Gus" Loos Memorial Scholarship, QVR Rotaract Scholarship, Spirol International Scholarship; Mia Ruggeri: Most Deserving Senior - Lucy Ingraham Parkerton Award, Woodstock Education Foundation Director's Award; Aidan Russell: High Achievement in Multicultural Foods; Andrea Sanders: Community Foundation of Eastern CT DePratti Meaningful Initiatives Scholarship, High Achievement in Spanish 4 ECC/ACC; Tavian Santos: Outstanding Achievement in Game Design; Robert Saraidarian: Outstanding Achievement in The Music Biz; Sydney Schuler: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Frederick B, Theodore R. and James H Haddad Scholarship, High Achievement in Personal Finance, David W. Marsland Memorial Scholarship, Senexet Grange Helena B. Duffy Scholarship, The Town of Woodstock Fire and Life Safety Scholarship sponsored by Jeffco Mfg., Woodstock Agricultural Society Scholarship; Graham Scribner: Louise P. Jordan Memorial Outstanding Vocalist Award, Tri-M Award; Kadin Shepherd: High Achievement in ECE

Calculus; Jordan Sienna: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Shirley Bradway Serafin Scholarship, Community Foundation of Eastern CT Union School Association Scholarship, Eleanor Peterson Lawton Memorial Scholarship, Outstanding Achievement in Latin 1; Adeline Smith: High Achievement in Introduction to Engineering CAD, Outstanding Achievement in Biology, Abraham & Evelyn Rodensky Memorial Award for Excellence in Writing, Williams Scholarship - Robertson Essay 1st Place, Williams Scholarship Yale Honor Cup; Conor Stewart: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Armelde Pitre STEM Leadership, Elias Farquhar Jr. Memorial Scholarship, Susan Dorrance Gordon Scholarship- Outstanding Math Student, National Merit Scholarship Finalist, Outstanding Achievement in Spanish 4 ECE/ACC, Williams Scholarship Academic Scholarship; Jonathan Surowaniec: Outstanding Achievement in Personal Finance; Amanda Tamaki: Outstanding Achievement in Piano 2; Vincent Tocci: Bethany T. Dauray Memorial Scholarship, Outstanding 4-Year Achievement in History; Daniel Torres: Arlene Bradley Memorial Scholarship- Science Award; Jacqueline Trudeau: High Achievement in Game Design, High Achievement in Personal Finance; Ainslie Tschamler: Outstanding Senior Artist; Warren Tyler: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Armelde Pitre STEM Leadership; Ainsley Viano: Outstanding Achievement in German 5, Outstanding Achievement in Psychology; Sandra Vujovic: Outstanding Achievement in AP Psychology, Outstanding Achievement in German 1, Outstanding Achievement in Modern US History; Kylie Wallace: High Achievement in Pastry & Baking; Norman Warcholik: High Achievement in Introduction to Careers; Tyler Warren: High Achievement in Guitar 1, Outstanding Achievement in Advanced Engineering, Outstanding Achievement in AP Calculus BC, Outstanding Achievement in ECE Statistics, Outstanding Achievement in Physics; Zachary White: QRS Compassion Scholarship; Kamila Wysocki: Gerry Suprenant Memorial Scholarship; Chase Young: Community Foundation of Eastern CT Frederick B, Theodore R. and James H Haddad Scholarship, David & Helen Richardson Scholarship, Senexet Grange John F. Duffy Scholarship, Woodstock Agricultural Society Preston T. Roberts Memorial Scholarship; Zhixuan Agnes Zhang: Outstanding Achievement in AP Statistics, Outstanding Achievement in Law; Han Zheng: Artist of the Year, High Achievement in Music Technology 2; Wenhao Zheng: Outstanding Achievement in ECE Calculus; Logan Zulli: Outstanding Achievement in Digital Media Production.

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**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

# Facing down the tough times

While our current economy hasn't dipped to the level it did during the Great Depression, several conversations as of late have gone there, particularly since COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine, have put a strain on our economy. Further, electricity rates have increased dramatically, and will only get worse this winter, when colder weather settles in again and we need more light to stave off the darkness at 4 p.m. Will it get so bad that people will turn to flashlights and candles around the dinner table? Let's hope not. Perhaps a new push for solar energy will resurface.

To date, the Great Depression was the worst economic decline in modern times. A hard jump from the 'Roaring Twenties,' when Americans were enjoying a robust economy with more time to spend and recreate.

After the stock market crash in 1929, those who were still employed saw a decrease in pay of roughly 40 percent. This included doctors and other affluent careers. One quarter of the population remained without a living wage. With that said, the typical American had to adapt to a new way of life that included a level of scrimping and saving never seen before.

Homemakers, who were primarily women back then, were shown how to make due with what they had in the kitchen. Meals were stretched as far as possible. To do so, people learned to enjoy more casseroles, such as macaroni and cheese, chili, Mulligan stew (a mix of anything available), bologna casserole, and a 'poorman's meal' (fried potato with diced hot dogs). Another go-to was 'hot water pie,' which was made up from simple ingredients such as butter, vanilla, sugar and flour. Potluck gatherings were also a cheap way for people to come together and socialize. Thrift gardens popped up in vacant lots across the country where community members could grow food, feeding thousands.

Movie theaters were a major source of entertainment during the years leading up to the depression. After the economy tanked, people had to find other, cheaper forms of leisure. One third of the cinemas in the country were shuttered. Miniature golf courses charged people no more than 50 cents per round, making the low-key game another popular thing to do. With that said, board games such as Scrabble and Monopoly became all the rage. People were also tuning into the radio for comedy shows and other dramas.

More women became employed to supplement lost income, despite the fact that they were paid significantly less than men. Government help was also more socially acceptable after President Franklin D. Roosevelt introduced New Deal programs. Before the Depression, those receiving welfare were listed in local newspapers, which was a deterrent for many to accept government assistance.

Men grew insecure after not being able to provide for their families, which caused an uptick in suicide. Divorce rates were low, because couples could not afford to separate, even though many couples did unofficially split.

Traveling by rail became very common for teenagers who sought work to help their families on the road. As far as lawlessness, violent crimes did increase; however fell after a few years.

On another note, one topic of conversation has been in regard to political theatre. Stay informed, watch unbiased news reports and pay attention to the words that are coming out of the mouths of actual people, not newscasters. You can draw a lot from what people are actually saying and doing, without watching a bit of news, then go from there. To comment on an issue, be informed. If you are not informed, don't vote and refrain from conversations about topics of which you cannot contribute.



www.ConnecticutQuietCorner.com

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Frustrating news from Washington

To the Editor:  
News from our nation's Capital is frustrating as usual. The January 6th hearings are confirming what most people already knew — Trump is guilty as hell. But it seems doubtful that he and his co-conspirators will be held accountable for their actions. They should all end up in federal prison, with the possible exception of Rudy Giuliani, who belongs in a mental health facility. If Trump had tried his "stunt" in a country led by one of his favorite dictators, he would have been poisoned or faced a firing squad by now.  
Gun control legislation — what's being proposed is a wimpy, watered down version

of what is actually needed. I guess something is better than nothing, but with "baby steps" like this, it will take decades to see any meaningful change in gun violence. As usual, members of both political parties will be patting themselves on the back for what little they accomplish. No surprise that most of the Republicans supporting the bill are not up for re-election this year.  
Three words come to mind — Mandatory Term Limits.

TODD PATRIE  
POMFRET CENTER

### Happy poll watching, Ed

To the Editor:  
Just read some new poll information for our resident poll master, Mr. Ed; you might like them.  
Sixty percent of Americans believe that Donald Trump should face prosecution for incidents on Jan. 6, 2021. Fifty-eight percent of Americans believe the committee holding the hearings on Jan 6 is legitimate and doing a fair job., Since Fox News(?), the Trump Station, is not showing the hearings most republicans are not getting the news , videos and testimony from not liberal, Trump haters but members of his own party, Cabinet and aides. That is right from the horses' mouth himself.  
He knows he lost, and was told by many of team normal — Ted Stepien's words and not mine — that there was no election fraud. They debunked one theory after another, but Trump would not hear it, instead he chose Team Crazy led Rudy G and his apparent buddy Powell, who claim some crazy stuff from and about Dominion voting machines but when put under oath at a deposition she was forced to admit that it was wrong. People do strange things and change their mind,

when under oath with the chance of going to jail. AG, Trump's right hand man admitted it was Bull\*\*t. That would Attorney General Barr.  
The idea that the crowd was going to hang his VP Mike Pence did not seem to bother ex-president Trump, the cult leader. Trump really has the backs of his friends, doesn't he? This week, you will hear a gentleman from Georgia describe one of the only two attempts of election fraud. that i have heard that is legit, is when Trump in his own words will ask the Georgia Secretary of State to find him some 11,780 votes so Trump could win the state. This will be in Trumps' own words. Trump will try to spin this out and it will be interesting, but it will not be the truth. Truth and Trump shall never meet!  
So, Mr. Ed, happy poll watching. Your President tried to overthrow the democracy we know as the United States of America. Believe it or not.  
This was for you, Joannie.

DAVID CASSETTARI  
KILLINGLY

### Covenant board is not the right entity to run Day Kimball

To the Editor:  
Having read with interest the published articles by physicians currently working at Day Kimball Hospital, and in particular the incorrect idea that once Day Kimball Hospital is sold, it will retain its identity and have freedom and autonomy — this is simply not true; either the writer has not read the CON or chooses to ignore its clear language.  
Anyone who reads the "Certificate of Need" (CON) filed by Day Kimball Hospital and Covenant Health can see clearly stated on page 10 that this is a Transfer of Ownership/Sale of Hospital. On page 17, it states that the new Board of Directors shall be selected by Covenant: so much for freedom, autonomy and retained identity.  
On the day that the headline claimed the hospital would retain its autonomy, freedom and its own identity, there was a headline in the news about a Catholic school in Worcester. The article pointed out just how much freedom and autonomy a Catholic institution would allow. The Bishop of Worcester, notified an area Catholic middle school that the school would not be allowed to call itself Catholic if it continued to display the Black Lives Matters and Pride flags. Bishop McManus explained that the Black Lives Matter flag seeks to disrupt the family

structure and the gay pride flag represents an LGBTQ lifestyle, both of which are in clear opposition to the teaching of the Catholic Church. Not only can the school no longer identify as Catholic, Bishop McManus continued, but it cannot celebrate mass or sacraments, and members of the Board of directors must be removed. It is remarkable to see just how inclusive the Church's position is when it meets the general public.  
There are serious questions when a conservative religious organization takes over a community hospital. How inclusive can you be when the Church punishes the school for trying to be inclusive and show support for its community? The Covenant board was founded by the conservative Grey Nuns, and eventually was granted full authority by the Consecrated Life Society of Apostolic Life, a conservative Catholic office in Rome. I point this out to suggest that a very conservative Catholic minded organization is perhaps not the proper organization to operate our hospital  
The background and Conservative Catholic Board are simply not a proper organization to own Day Kimball Hospital.

ELIZABETH CANNING  
POMFRET

### Of trolls and spin doctors

Since I was accused of being a troll in a recent letter from Bill Warner, I most definitely have something to say in response.  
Urban Dictionary. "Troll: One who poses a deliberately provocative message to a news-group or message board with the intention of causing maximum disruption and argument."  
First, I have to bring up the Villager's resident troll, Ed DeLuca, who seeks to do exactly as the definition states. Mr. DeLuca challenged me to prove that he lies; I did so (and he had no defense). Then I challenged him to one point of order: Either admit Secretary Clinton did nothing wrong with her e-mails (as multiple committees have ruled) or admit that President Trump was likely more culpable in removing classified documents to Mar a Lago (currently being investigated by a grand jury) - or failing that, stop writing letters to the Editor because failure to take a side, both (presumably) innocent or both guilty, proves he has nothing worthwhile to say except one sided disinformation. Guess what? Mr. DeLuca never responded to my challenge, yet he continues to write. He has the right to be heard, we have the right to hear truth, not lies.  
Now to Mr. Warner. Bill is the classic troll. He writes on social media and in the Villager with the intent of fear mongering and disruption of town government. He has led attacks on the Planning and Zoning Commission, made accusations towards the election board, attacked the ad put out by Citizens for the Future of Progress in Thompson as being somehow illegal, attacked the town ad encouraging passing of the budget (a standard prac-

tice), attacked G7 for providing meals to the poll workers, made movements to take control of the Republican Town Committee and tried to oust Frank McGarry (Republican Registrar of Voters), attacked the Town Planner's resume, and now he is attacking me. Disclosure: my wife was a volunteer at a polling location at the election and we take his allegations that there was intentional election fraud very personally and seriously, accusations made repeatedly in public at the town meeting.  
Mr. Warner made a centerpiece of not being silenced or bullied. I reread my reply to his attack letter. Not once did I say or imply that he should be silenced. Mr. Warner has a personal history, so do I. I'm not going to put my personal past out there or my many qualifications today with extensive volunteer work for (not against) the town. He is using his political spin to paint me as the person who is bullying him when all I am doing is pointing out his inaccurate statements with truth. It sounds like he has an axe to grind from many years ago, maybe he had legitimate reasons then, maybe not, but that has no bearing on the people and the actions of today. He certainly has had more than his share of say in letters, social media, and paid ads. In fact, it is he who attacks any and all ads or letters to the editor that oppose his views. It would seem Mr. Warner thinks that I and others like me, are the ones who shouldn't have a say.  
He says "yet he makes many outrageous claims about us," "couple of dozen false accusations." I'm curious — in what way? He

# Prove it



BEYOND  
THE PEWS  
.....  
BISHOP JOHN  
W. HANSON

In the eighteenth century, a German physicist did something world-changing. He invented a scale of measuring temperature based on the freezing and boiling points of water. After some old-fashioned scientific testing, Daniel Fahrenheit settled on a scale that set 32 degrees as the freezing point of water and 212 degrees as its boiling point. He did not start with his preferences or opinions. He started with the absolute truth of when water freezes and boils, then built his scale around those truths. He discovered the truth about water by proving it many times, and then found a way to measure when it changed states.

If I would have been the first to quantify when water froze or boiled, I would have wanted to share that information. It is the kind of information that can be crucial; it is a truth that could save lives. One might even argue that someone with that kind of knowledge is morally obligated to share it with mankind, because the truth benefits everyone. Some truths need to be shared.

Suppose the morning news announced that someone now believes that water freezes or boils at a different temperature? They might be famous or smart, but we would all be confident that they are wrong. Suppose a group of colleges, or a supreme court, or a legislative body declared that water freezes at 20 degrees Fahrenheit? They too would be wrong, because the truth has been proven too many times; truth is not socially or politically adaptive. No particular group of people owns truth. No group of people can make up the truth. Nobody – not even a large or powerful group of people – can change the fact that water changes states when it does. God established that and man figured out how to measure it.

There are other similar truths that have been proven throughout the ages, such as the Ten Commandments. People can argue with them, but since they are truth, anyone can prove them. And those who come to know such truths are morally obligated to let others know, because their lives may depend on it. That is what Jesus did. He spoke truth and He demonstrated its power. Grant it, He was politically railroaded for speaking truth. The elites of His day "cancelled Him" for not agreeing with "their truth," by lynching Him. But billions have since followed His lead and proven the truths he taught for themselves.

Water still freezes at 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Water still boils at 212 degrees Fahrenheit. If someone tells you otherwise, don't believe them. But you can always test it for yourself. Here are some even more important truths you can prove for yourself:

God answers prayer.  
God loves everyone and forgives all who ask.  
God still fills people with His spirit, and this is evidenced by speaking in tongues like Jesus' mother and disciples did on the Day of Pentecost – hundreds of millions alive today have proven it.  
These are truths anyone can test for themselves. So, prove it. Then share the truth you have discovered, because it can save lives.

*Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. For video sermons and other resources, please visit [www.ActsII.org](http://www.ActsII.org).*



## GOOD NEWS



# Could inflation affect your retirement plans?

As inflation continues to cause the cost of goods to rise, the value and buying power of many retirement accounts are diminished, at least temporarily. For some retirees, maintaining the savings and lifestyle they'd planned on is becoming a challenge. But there are things you can do to adjust for inflation and help protect the value of your retirement funds. Here's what you should be aware of, and how you can prepare.

First, understand how yearly inflation is calculated.

Inflation is calculated using the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which calculates inflation across major categories before determining a yearly inflation rate expressed as a percentage.<sup>1</sup> On average, the U.S. experiences an inflation rate of roughly three percent.<sup>2</sup>

This percentage and the percentage expressed by the CPI are helpful for understanding inflation across multiple markets. But these values should also be understood as a general approach, meaning the real impact of inflation will depend on the individual. For example, we might assume that a retiree might need to withdraw an additional three percent from their savings each year in order to adjust for inflation. But this isn't the whole picture.

Next, consider your individual costs. Inflation affects each of us differently. For example, the rising cost of

gasoline would affect someone that drives long distances more than someone without a vehicle. Retirement acts in a similar fashion, as it creates a lifestyle change that causes inflation to affect retirees differently.

One of the better ways to measure this difference is through the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E), which shows inflation rates for households with individuals age 62 and above.<sup>3</sup> However, this is still a generalization of a specific population. The best way to determine the cost of inflation to you specifically is to examine your personal lifestyle and make adjustments.

Once you know how inflation is affecting you personally, consider these three ways (and others) to manage the impact of those effects.

**Social Security:** The Social Security Administration provides the Cost-of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) to offset some of the effects of inflation by raising Social Security benefits.<sup>4</sup> This can be an important source of income during retirement. However, the COLA is also based on the CPI-W, meaning some individuals may not be able to rely on adjustments from Social Security



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to make up for all cost increases.<sup>4</sup> Investments that adjust with inflation: Certain investments can adjust with inflation. However, any investment comes with risk, something that should always be considered during retirement. Be sure to consult with your financial advisor before making any investment decisions.

**A change in lifestyle:** Consider your retirement goals and overall lifestyle. Is there something you can trim back on to save on the cost of inflation? This does not mean you need to give up on retirement goals. Rather, what can be adjusted to help you achieve them while maintaining your savings?

This is by no means a comprehensive list of ways to protect your retirement savings against inflation, but they are some of the major options available. Consult with a financial advisor for a better understanding of how inflation will affect you personally, and what you can do to help protect your retirement savings.

Our team at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors can help you to build a solid financial plan to help ensure your retirement goals stay

intact even amid rising inflation and volatile markets. Our strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process was built on extensive research and a consistent partnership approach, so you can stress less and enjoy retirement more. Learn more about our process at [whzwealth.com](http://whzwealth.com) and contact us at (860) 928-2341 or [info@whzwealth.com](mailto:info@whzwealth.com) to get started.

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1 <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/>  
2 <https://inflationdata.com/Inflation/Inflation/DecadeInflation.asp>  
3 <https://www.bls.gov/cpi/research-series/r-cpi-e-home.htm>  
4 <https://www.ssa.gov/cola/>*

# Save money by planting flower seeds directly in the garden

Don't worry if you have already spent most of your plant budget for the year. Fill voids in your gardens and containers with heat tolerant annuals planted from seeds directly in the garden.

Zinnias and marigolds are traditional favorites often started from seeds planted directly in the garden. These germinate quickly and begin flowering in about eight weeks.

Zinnias are heat and drought tolerant once established. The Profusion series are compact, disease resistant, and produce flowers early and all season long. The Zahara series of zinnias are also heat and drought tolerant and resistant to leaf spot and mildew. Zinnias have excellent pollinator appeal and make great cut flowers.



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

Moss rose's drought tolerance makes it an excellent choice for sandy, gravelly, and rocky areas. The fine seeds make it a bit more challenging to plant. Try mixing the seeds with sand to help distribute the seeds more evenly. Look for varieties like Afternoon Delight and the Happy Hour and Sundial series with flowers that open earlier or stay open later in the day, extending your enjoyment.

Cleome is a big annual that can easily fill the space between those small, newly planted

shrubs. It prefers full sun and moist well-drained soil but will tolerate dry conditions. Thin seeds so the final spacing of plants is between 1 to 3 feet. The more space, the fuller and bushier the plant. These plants reseed readily so watch for volunteer plants in next year's garden.

Sunflowers are commonly started from seeds in the garden. You will find single and double flowered varieties ranging in height from 18 inches to 12 feet or more. Stagger your planting to extend the bloom time. Plant seeds every two weeks, so you have lots of fresh flowers to enjoy. Just check the seed packet for the number of days from planting until flowering. Make sure your last planting has time to reach maturity and



Photo All-America Selections — Courtesy

**Sunflowers, like Suntastic Jaune Coeur Noir, are commonly started from seeds in the garden.**

bloom before the end of your growing season.

Mexican sunflower is not as well known as the common sunflower but is just as welcome in the garden. The bright orange flowers combine nicely with yellow, blue, and purple flowers and attract butterflies and other pollinators to the garden. Grow these in a sunny area with well-drained soil. Avoid windy locations that may cause the brittle stems to break. Give this big plant plenty of room to reach

its mature size. Mexican sunflower grows four to six feet tall and two to three feet wide. Fiesta del Sol and Goldfinger are shorter varieties that are a better fit for smaller spaces.

Check the seed packet for more details on planting seeds of these and other flowers directly in the garden. With proper planting and care you will have lots of flowers to enjoy this season.

*Melinda Myers has written more than 20 garden-*

*ing books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).*



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING  
.....  
TOBY  
MOORE

Most of us have a daily routine. We get out of bed, make some coffee, have some food, go to work, come back home and do it all over again the next day.

In the same way that we have a daily physical routine, we also have a routine thought life. Because we are doing the same types of things every day, we also start thinking the same kinds of thoughts every day. These thought patterns become so ingrained into our minds that it's hard to think and feel differently. Our thought patterns become so strong that it usually feels impossible to change unless something terrible happens that forces us to change.

## LOFFREDO

continued from page A8

writes absolutely nothing that I said which was outrageous or untrue. I take exception to lies and personal attacks on my town and its volunteers and paid employees, which he repeats in his reply. Yes, I pointed out he didn't participate - because his current fight with the PZC and the town budget both gave him ample time to attend meetings, even volunteer on key committees and having his voice heard in a timely manner. However, volunteering 35 years ago (or whenever it was) is irrelevant to the claims, accusations, and attacks he makes now. He does not defend his attack on Jason St. Onge and G7, he spins his attack on the 'Citizens' ad to now mean the town ad. Why? Because the citizen ad was legal (and it is likely the town ad is as well). I write truths. I responded to his trolling of my town, so saying I am outrageous is just another attempt at spin, in fact everything in his reply to me is simply saying the same thing he did in his first letter, though he did leave out material he

obviously knew was untrue from the first letter.

Then we go back to the town planner. Mr. Warner wants the old regulations. The old regulations were out of date and not keeping with current state guidelines. The town planner did her job. Mr. Warner conveniently doesn't address the fact that he wants to replace experienced board members with people that have little or no experience, and do so not by the normal voting process. No, he just wanted to stage a coup. Yet he repeats his complaint that the planner had no prior experience. The result of what he proposed very well could have opened doors to a 'wild west' of development while/if regulations were suspended in the interim. Further, as the regulations still needed a re-write, this 'new board' could be bogged down for years and likely there would be many costly litigations during that process, much as he did himself 35 years ago. He said it all in one sentence, 'little piece of heaven on earth'. He wants the town to stay as it was in 1987. Well, the world changes. Other people move here from more dense population centers, and

they have rights just like Bill had rights 35 years ago. The PZC is responsible for fair regulations for as many people and businesses as possible. Sadly for Mr. Warner it is not just his little piece of heaven that counts.

He also misrepresents the scenic road issue. I was the first one who spoke against the scenic road, for my own reasons. When the final decision was made at last week's meeting, my wife and I were the only no votes listed. Further, if the scenic road provision had not passed, that likely would have meant paving the dirt road right next to Mr. Warner's property and possible subdivision of at least four large acreage properties by him. I didn't understand why he opposed it. Having the designation will make subdivisions in that area more difficult, not less. In point of fact,

to consider it."

My dad shrugged and said, "I think if you forced yourself to do it, it would begin to feel natural."

There is a principle that Napoleon Hill wrote about in Think and Grow Rich called "Autosuggestion." He says, "Autosuggestion is the agency of control through which an individual may voluntarily feed his subconscious mind on thoughts of a creative nature, or, by neglect, permit thoughts of a destructive nature..."

Autosuggestion is a technique we have all used knowingly or unknowingly. When you affirm negative or positive thoughts, you're tapping into the principle of Autosuggestion.

When my friend from college constantly affirmed negativity, he was neg-

atively using Autosuggestion.

One of the most basic ways to use Autosuggestion for good is to repeat positive affirmations.

There were times in my life when I felt overwhelmed; I'd catch myself saying, "I can't do this anymore!". I'd repeat it over and over unconsciously until I felt such despair it became hard to continue. I felt dysfunctional and unable to accomplish my dreams. Later, I decided to practice Autosuggestion. When I found myself in overwhelming situations, I started repeating, "I can do this; I have all I need to accomplish this and more." As a result, I became more productive, focused, competent, and less stressed.

Many studies have shown that

Turn To **MOORE** page **A10**

I researched the possibility of development on our shared street before I bought my property, I knew nothing was guaranteed and took the chance that there would be minimal disruption in my lifetime, to expect nothing will change is a fantasy.

So who is the troll? Who is spinning the truth just like he spins the budget numbers to create a false equivalency? Who is trying to attack me and the planner, and the town, and the election board, and the PZC, and G7, and any ad or letter with a view that he doesn't agree with? I'm pretty sure the answer is obvious.

BRIAN LOFFREDO  
N. GROSVENORDALE

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.













TRUE OR FALSE?  
NO COMMON FLOWERS  
GROWN IN BACKYARD  
GARDENS ARE EDIBLE.

ANSWER: FALSE

What’s the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A



B



Answers: 1. Missing photo in back 2. Extra rose flower 3. Pearls are longer 4. Missing leaf front right

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1840: SAMUEL MORSE RECEIVES A PATENT FOR THE TELEGRAPH.
- 1877: ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL INSTALLS THE WORLD’S FIRST COMMERCIAL TELEPHONE SERVICE IN CANADA.
- 1975: THE MOVIE “JAWS” IS RELEASED IN THE U.S., BECOMING THE HIGHEST-GROSSING FILM OF THAT TIME.



PETAL

the segment of the modified leaves of a flower

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH: Stem
- SPANISH: Tallo
- ITALIAN: Stelo
- FRENCH: Tige
- GERMAN: Stiel



FLOWERS HAVE MANY ATTRIBUTES. THEY ARE ATTRACTIVE, MAY HAVE RELIGIOUS MEANING, CAN SYMBOLIZE LOVE AND AFFECTION, AND ALSO ARE USED FOR MEDICAL REASONS.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: ROSES

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to roses.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 19 = R)

A. 22 14 16 5 21

Clue: Modified flower leaf

B. 16 8 18 19 6

Clue: Sharp protrusion

C. 2 19 5 26 19 5 6 20 14

Clue: Aroma

D. 20 18 21 18 19

Clue: Hue

Answers: A. petal B. thorn C. fragrance D. color

SUDOKU

			3	9				5
			4	8				
		7					8	
	8	1		2				3
								4
4		2		7			5	9
9						4		
	2	3	8					6
							7	

Level: Advanced

Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

1	7	3	9	6	2	4	5	8
6	9	5	4	1	8	3	2	7
8	2	4	3	5	7	9	1	6
9	5	8	6	7	1	3	4	2
4	1	2	8	3	5	6	7	9
3	6	7	2	4	1	9	8	5
2	8	9	1	5	6	7	4	3
7	3	6	2	4	8	5	1	9
5	4	1	3	9	7	1	4	2

ANSWER:





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Interest

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# Woodstock's Eli Werstler named to College of the Holy Cross Dean's List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Eli Werstler of Woodstock was named to the College of the Holy Cross Spring 2022 Dean's List.

A member of the Class of 2025, Werstler was among more than 1,457 students named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the spring semester of the 2021-22 academic year.

To qualify, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

About Holy Cross

The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,100 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

Emily King named to Dean's List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Emily King of Brooklyn, has been named to the Plymouth State University Dean's List for the Spring 2022 semester. To be named to the Dean's List,

a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 during the Spring 2022 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. King is a Theatre Arts major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University  
Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

# Local students graduate from University of Hartford

WEST HARTFORD — Congratulations to the University of Hartford Class of 2022!

Bahveena Kes of Danielson  
Griffin Ware of Brooklyn  
Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for over six decades. On our 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city, approxi-

mately 5,000 undergraduate and 1,500 graduate students from 48 states and countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversify perspectives, and broaden worldviews. We're a four-year private university focused on advancing the public good through meaningful connections within our communities. Our unique approach to comprehensive education gives us the critical perspectives that lead to impactful change, regionally and beyond. With degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions, we focus on doing the work that matters. Visit [www.hartford.edu](http://www.hartford.edu) for more information..

# Local student earns Dean's List recognition at Norwich University

NORTHFIELD, Vt. — The following student from your readership area has been recognized on the Dean's List at Norwich University for the Spring 2022 semester:

Megan Juhola, Brooklyn  
Full-time undergraduate students, who earned a semester grade point average of at least 3.40 are awarded Dean's List honors.

About Norwich University

Norwich University is a diversified aca-

demically institution that educates traditional-age students and adults in a Corps of Cadets and as civilians. Norwich offers a broad selection of traditional and distance-learning programs culminating in Baccalaureate and Graduate Degrees. Norwich University was founded in 1819 by Captain Alden Partridge of the U.S. Army and is the oldest private military college in the United States of America. Norwich is one of our nation's six senior military colleges and the birthplace of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). [www.norwich.edu](http://www.norwich.edu)

# Brooklyn resident named to Quinnipiac Dean's List

HAMDEN — Alyssa Claire Arends of Brooklyn has been named to the Dean's List for the spring semester of 2022 at Quinnipiac University.

Students who excel in scholarship by earning a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C are recognized by earning a spot on the dean's list. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis (A through C) to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester.

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Photo Courtesy

At its June 12 American Legion District 4 Meeting, awards were presented by District Commander John Barry to the following Danielson Post 21 Officers: Chaplain of the Year Chuck Lalumiere and Adjutant of the Year Georgette Rohrig.

# MUSIC WORCESTER presents PHOENIX RISING: SILKROAD ENSEMBLE WITH RHIANNON GIDDENS



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Photo Courtesy

# SPIRITED BRAVO DELTA MUSIC LIVENS ESC SENIOR PICNIC

The Eastford Seniors Citizens (ESC) hosted a gathering of seniors & their guests at Oliver's Dairy Bar & Grill on Tuesday, June 14. Bernard Dubb and Bravo Delta played spirited music for two hours, at Oliver's, located at 490 Boston Post Rd., North Windham. For information regarding the ESC July 9 meeting, call or text 860-538-8868.

# T-REX SIGHTED IN WOODSTOCK



Photo Courtesy

He's at it again! Mickey Morgan of Woodstock was attempting to remove what he thought was a small boulder from the ground. It turned out to be a piece of ledge large enough to break down his backhoe. He was able to split the top of the rock into two pieces, one of which resembled the shape of a dinosaur head. For three weeks, he and his wife, Bonnie, worked on it to bring the rock to a lifelike T-Rex appearance with a three-dimensional eye, lips, and teeth. One believes he is smiling until seeing the eye and realizing what an evil grin is on his face!