



Oh, the days
dwindle down to
a precious few.

THOMPSON VILLAGER

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Friday, September 6, 2024

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Killingly to hold Vision Committee workshop

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The Killingly Town Council is considering the creation of a Vision Committee which will help advise the Council on long- and short-term goals for Killingly's future. A public workshop in September will officially introduce the concept to the community and help set the groundwork for how the committee will be constructed and establish its specific mission.

The committee would serve as a tool to enhance Killingly's goals for its future including its identity, town improvements, public engagement, and more. Town Manager Mary Calorio confirms that the workshop, scheduled for Sept. 21, is an opportunity for the Town Council to gather feedback from the community at large.

"I think really what the Town Council is looking for the Vision Committee to be able to do is to define what Killingly really is. If we were going to go out and market the town or describe Killingly to another town, how would we define it?" said Calorio. "Also, the committee will explore where the see Killingly going in the future, how do they want to see community programs and engagements as well as how do they engage the community into more active conversations. That I know is a key thing the Town Council is looking for, reengaging our community members and stakeholders in conversations like the budget or capital projects, things like that."

In concept, the committee will serve as a guide for the Town Council, the town's highest elected body, as they seek to continue Killingly's growth and progression as a community and major economic player in the region. The committee will compliment rather than replace the town's Plan of Conservation and Development helping build on that document where appropriate. Calorio explained that the formation of the committee would require the approval of an ordinance at a public meeting and adhere to Killingly's minority representation bylaw limiting a single political party's representation to two-thirds of its membership to ensure all views are represented.

"At the Town Council's October regular meeting, the hope is that they'll be able to really deliberate and iron out all of the components and schedule the ordinance, which is needed to create the committee and will go to a public hearing," Calorio said. "That hearing will happen at their November regular meeting to complete the public input on the process of creating the new committee and then if it's acceptable and the Council approves the formation of the committee, they would go through the process of encouraging people to apply for consideration to volunteer."



Courtesy

The Woodstock Volunteer Fire Association Station 76 would like to acknowledge and thank three young men from the Boy Scouts. Last Saturday night, Joseph Vergoni, Jayce Jodoin and Jordan Travisano saw a small fire that had been started within the fairgrounds. They advised their troop leader and grabbed a fire extinguisher. They made their way back and extinguished the fire before the firefighters made their way over. Their fast thinking and immediate response possibly saved the fair from a major incident, early closing, property damages, or personal injury.

Derenthal challenges Dauphinais for 44th District seat



Courtesy

Samantha Derenthal
Photos

Derenthal challenges Dauphinais for 44th District seat

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

REGION — Republican State Representative Anne Dauphinais will have opposition going into Election Day 2024 as Democrats seek to retake the 44th District seat this November as Plainfield Democrat Samantha Derenthal has begun her campaign for state office.

The 44th District, which includes parts of both Killingly and Plainfield, has been held by Dauphinais since 2017 when she unseated incumbent Democrat



Anne Dauphinais

Christine Rosati-Randall. Prior to that election the seat was held by Mae Flexer who was elected to the State Senate to succeed Donald Williams in the 29th District. Dauphinais has defended her seat in three subsequent elections taking decisive victories in rematches against Rosati-Randall and a challenge from Democrat Dave Randall.

Dauphinais, a Killingly resident, faced no opposition in the Republican primaries. Prior to politics she enjoys a 25-year-plus career in healthcare and currently serves as a Ranking Member on the Committee on Children, a member of the Public Health and Education Committees, and Vice-Chair of the Conservative

Caucus, along with the Fire/EMS, Rural, Sportsmen's, Intellectual and Developmental Disability, and Women's Caucus. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology from Eastern Connecticut State University and is a 1986 nursing graduate from Northern Maine Vocational Technical Institution.

Her Democratic opponent will be Samantha Derenthal, a Plainfield resident making her first run at state office. Derenthal is currently a member of the Plainfield Board of Education and holds a master's degree in organizational psychology. Her campaign promotes a focus on equal access to education, creating sustainable job opportunities, and enhancing public safety. Derenthal did not face any opposition in the Connecticut primaries.

Derenthal and Dauphinais will face off in the 2024 Presidential Election on Nov. 5, which will decide not only the new President of the United States but also numerous state offices.

A date with Woodstock history

WOODSTOCK — Where did Palmer Hall and adjacent arboretum get their names? Where did Woodstock get its first (and still only) bowling alley? If you would like to know the answers to these questions and many others about our beloved town, mark Sept. 8 on your calendar: History will come alive at three prominent locations that many of you may never have visited.

Do you know that Woodstock was more than a farming village. There were mills and manufacturers, hotels and carriage builders and a host of other important occupations for this very diverse community that helped build modern America.

You can find the answers to these and many other questions about a town that is and has been more fascinating than you might imagine, mark Sept. 8 on your calendar between 1 and 4 p.m.

Roseland Cottage (the Pink House), The Woodstock Historical Society at the Center for

Woodstock History and the Palmer Arboretum are collaborating on offering an "open house" with guided tours of the three properties (sites). This will be free to all Woodstock families.

Roseland Cottage, built in the mid-19th century by entrepreneur and philanthropist Henry Bowen, was the site of Presidential visits and lively celebrations. The Center for Woodstock History (the Woodstock Historical Society) has been preserving the record of the town's past for over 50 years and is currently exhibiting an extensive panorama of views in historic photographs from the Post Civil War period.

The Palmer Arboretum (hint) was established by Minnie Palmer who also gave Palmer Hall to Woodstock in 1916. The Arboretum contains a variety of trees, many of which were planted when the Arboretum was founded, more than 100 years ago.

The guides at each site have stories to share which will make you better informed and excited about the unique town in which we live.

Turn To HISTORY page A10

Rev. John Eliot returns to Woodstock

WOODSTOCK — "Nooshun Keesuqut, Quittianata munach koowesuouh. Perganmoonch kukket assootamoonch..." The opening lines of the Lord's Prayer have been translated into many languages, but this translation was only used right here in Southern New England. The Rev. John Eliot, of England and then Roxbury, Massachusetts Bay Colony, learned Algonquin, the language of the indigenous people here and had Bibles printed to convert them to Christianity.

He traveled down the Connecticut Path, from Roxbury to Natick, organizing fourteen villages of Praying Indians, endeavoring to protect their land rights and freedoms. He had some success until the terrible Indian uprising of 1675-6 known as King Phillip's War that killed thousands, destroyed many New England towns and forced the native peoples into flight, imprisonment or slavery. After the horrific war that left this region without its tribe, fourteen "Goers" from crowded Roxbury came down The Connecticut Path to found New Roxbury,

now Woodstock.

That's the short history. As a commemoration of Eliot's 1674 meeting with our local Nipmuc nation Wabaquasset tribe there will be a presentation on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 15, at 2 p.m. on the South Woodstock Common, just across Roseland Park road from South Woodstock Baptist Church. Local religious leaders Bob Beckwith, Kevin Downe, Dan O'Neill and Mitch Santelli will talk about its significance to our present community and to the historical and current Nipmuc Nation. G. Leslie Sweetnam, local actor, will, in historical costume as the Rev. John Eliot, bring to life the man pictured on Woodstock's seal, standing with a Wabaquasset man.

Following the 2 p.m. event on The Common, we are invited to cross Roseland park road to the Baptist Church for refreshments and discussion.

On Monday the sixteenth, Leslie Sweetnam's Rev. John Eliot, with South



Courtesy

Leslie Sweetnam as Rev. John Eliot.

Turn To VISION page A10

Turn To ELIOT page A10

Join Come, See Sunday at Christ Church

POMFRET — Christ Church Pomfret invites all in the community to join in the excitement of Come, See Sunday on Sept. 8, beginning at 10 a.m.

To celebrate the unofficial end of summer and the beginning of the program year—which includes off-site work in the Quiet Corner—the parish will host a Ministry Fair with a festival breakfast in the church's Great Hall following the 10 a.m. Eucharist service.

"This is an opportunity for us to open our doors to the community to introduce ourselves and what

we do here—not just on Sundays but throughout the year," explains Rev. Sandra L. Cosman, Priest-In-Charge of the parish.

"Volunteering in one of our ministries is a way to be involved in the greater community as well as to develop meaningful relationships," she continues.

Tables staffed by parishioners with clipboards will compete for visitors and recruits with tempting breakfast offerings ranging from donuts to deviled eggs to fresh fruit to gluten-free breakfast bars.

"The fun we had participating in events here



at the church was the reason my family and I decided to become members," reports Gregory Hesler, Senior Warden of the parish.

Opportunities range from the occasional

reading of scripture on Sunday morning to being part of a team hosting coffee hour once a month to volunteering in a youth classroom weekly to staffing food collections for TEEG once a month or volunteering at one of TEEG's many programs. The breath of activities at Christ Church are briefly described on the church's

new website, <https://www.christchurchpomfret.org/services-4>.

"As a parish we want to be an active part of this community, and we want everyone to know that they are welcome here; this event is one way we can demonstrate that," offers Mother Cosman.

Christ Church

seeks to serve all, regardless of religious affiliation or none. It is located at 527 Pomfret Street, Route 169, across from the Rectory School. An 8 a.m. traditional Eucharist service is also offered during the program year; Labor Day to Father's Day.

6th Anniversary
Mildred Morse Greenhalgh
 Born on September 3rd, 1928 and passed away on September 2nd, 2018



Missed by
Marjorie Morse and Bob Huntley, Larry Morse and her entire family

Renowned Atwater-Donnelly Duo to perform at Fort Hill Farms

THOMPSON — The renowned Atwater-Donnelly Duo featuring Aubrey Atwater and Elwood Donnelly, will grace the stage under a tent at Fort Hill Farms on Sept. 8 for a special concert benefiting the Thompson Congregational Church. The church, a historic landmark, is undergoing significant repairs and restoration following a devastating fire in 2016.

The Rhode Island-based, internationally acclaimed husband-wife duo is celebrated for their enchanting performances of traditional American and Celtic folk songs, a cappella pieces, old-time gospel songs, dance tunes, and original compositions. Their concerts are a delightful blend of beautiful and unique harmonies, accompanied by a variety of instruments including guitar, Appalachian mountain dulcimer, mandolin, tin whistle, harmonica, banjo, bones, spoons, and limberjacks. The duo also incorporates Appalachian clog dancing and French/Canadian footwork into their shows, making for a truly captivating experience.

Aubrey and Elwood's performances are known for their broad appeal to audiences of all ages. With a relaxed stage presence, humor, and opportunities for audience participation, they provide insightful explanations of song origins, fostering a deeper appreciation of the music and its cultural heritage.

The concert will commence at 3 p.m. under a large tent at Fort Hill Farms, located at 260

Quaddick Rd., Thompson, Connecticut. The duo will perform two sets. Tickets are priced at \$20 for adults and \$5 for children 10 and under, and can be pre-ordered by calling Mary Buckley at 401-465-3388. While seating will be provided, patrons are welcome to bring their own portable chairs for added comfort. Refreshments and CDs will be available for purchase at the event.

Fort Hill Farms, widely known for its corn maze and creative public events, is the perfect venue for this special performance. Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy an afternoon of exceptional music while supporting a worthy cause.

For further information, please contact Name and Phone or visit Atwater-Donnelly's Web site at atwater-donnelly.com.

100 Years Ago This Month: Historical events from August 1924

The month of August has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in August 1924.

- Three people are killed and 10 others are injured when a boiler fire erupts on the French battleship Courbet on August 1. The Courbet survives the fire and is eventually utilized during World War II.

- Boca Raton, Florida, is incorporated as "Bocaraton" on August 2. The name is changed to "Boca Raton" less than a year later.

- John Carroll O'Connor is born on August 2 in Manhattan. O'Connor would become one of the most memorable television actors of all time, notably portraying "Archie Bunker" in the sitcoms "All in the Family" and "Archie Bunker's Place" in the 1970s and early 1980s.

- Berlin Jews hold a memorial service for Jewish soldiers who died during World War I on August 3. The Jewish service takes place after a Jewish preacher was forbidden from delivering a prayer during a similar service held outside the Reichstag commemorating German soldiers who died during the war.

- Women from six European nations compete in the first Women's International and British Games in London on August 4. The competition is held because track and field events at the Summer Olympics were limited to men only.

- Confidence man Charles Ponzi is released from prison in Plymouth, Massachusetts on August 6. Ponzi served less than four years of a five-year sentence for financial crimes.

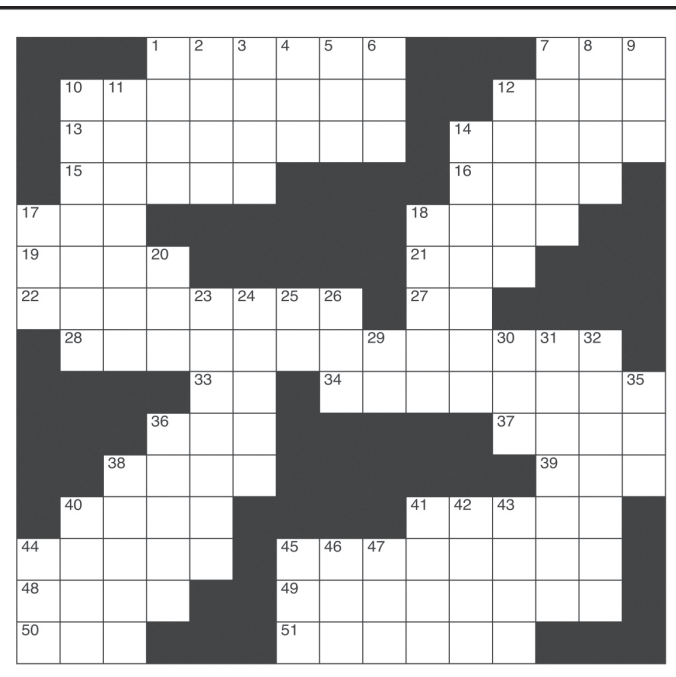
- Grand Duke Kirill Vladimirovich of Russia, a first cousin of the late Tsar Nicholas II, declares himself "Guardian of the Throne" for the Russian Empire on August 8. Two years later, the Grand Duke would declare himself the emperor-in-exile.

- On August 10, Austrian police claim they discovered a Soviet slush fund for stirring up unrest and revolt in the Balkans.

- The earliest sound film footage of an American president is recorded on August 11 when Lee de Forest films U.S. President Calvin Coolidge on the White House lawn. De Forest uses his experimental Phonofilm process to make the recording.

- Andrew S. Anderson, the Democratic Party nominee for South Dakota Governor, is gored by a bull on his property on August 11. Anderson does not survive the attack.

- Former world middleweight title holder Kid McCoy shoots his lover, Teresa Mors, on August 12 in Los Angeles. McCoy, retired from boxing at the time of the shooting, shot Mors in a drunken rage after she told him what her friends thought of him.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Current unit
- 7. Reciprocal of an ohm
- 10. God of the sea
- 12. A way to disfigure
- 13. Positioned
- 14. Tall tropical American tree
- 15. Large deciduous trees
- 16. ___ and ends
- 17. Part of a machine
- 18. Brews
- 19. One who leads prayers in a mosque
- 21. Indian state
- 22. Partisans
- 27. Top lawyer in the land
- 28. Former Dodgers MVP
- 33. Title for women
- 34. Heated and allowed to slowly cool
- 36. Copycat
- 37. Sounds
- 38. One-time Israeli diplomat Abba
- 39. Part of (abbr.)
- 40. Hateful
- 41. Collide
- 44. European football heavyweight
- 45. One who works for you
- 48. Song
- 49. Ancient marvels
- 50. Bridge building degree
- 51. Delivery boys

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Continent
- 2. Submissive
- 3. There's a lot in a bowling alley
- 4. Sun up in New York
- 5. Court decision ___ v. Wade
- 6. Finish line
- 7. Young women
- 8. Hives of activity
- 9. Hyman Roth's right-hand man Johnny
- 10. Eastern U.S. river
- 11. Popular cooking ingredient
- 12. Greek mythological princess
- 14. Scent for men
- 17. Cost, insurance and freight (abbr.)
- 18. Once more
- 20. Irrate
- 23. Triangular spaces above a door
- 24. Norwegian playwright and poet Henrik
- 25. Atomic #58
- 26. Patti Hearst's captors
- 29. Natural logarithm
- 30. Talk incessantly
- 31. Went by
- 32. Strives
- 35. Fall back
- 36. Manila hemp
- 38. Not easily explained
- 40. Former "Double Dare" host Summers
- 41. Mollusk
- 42. Capital of Togo
- 43. Letter of Semitic scripts
- 44. Founder of Babism
- 45. Indicates near
- 46. Family of regulator genes
- 47. Indicates before

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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Day Kimball names Stephanie Collins Employee of the Month for July

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Health (DKH) has named Stephanie Collins employee of the month for July. Collins is lead medical assistant in DKH's dermatology department.

With nearly 16 years of experience in dermatology, her expertise spans patient intake, assisting with biopsies and surgeries, handling lab results and referrals, managing medical supplies, and overseeing other medical assistants in the department. Known for her dedication, Stephanie thrives on collaboration, embraces continuous learning, and has a passion for assisting in surgeries.

"Stephanie's dedication to patient care makes her a vital member of our team," said Kyle Kramer, DKH chief executive officer. "Her expertise and engagement in dermatology, coupled with her enthusiasm for her work, truly set her apart. Beyond her professional contributions to DKH, Stephanie and her family's efforts in organizing the Paddle for a Cure fundraising event demonstrate her deep commitment to our community. We are honored to recognize her contributions with this well-deserved award."

Born at Day Kimball Hospital, Collins grew up in Brooklyn, and now



Courtesy Day Kimball Health's Employee of the Month for July 2024, Stephanie Collins, Lead Medical Assistant in the dermatology department at Day Kimball Health.

resides in Killingly with her husband, Lance, and their dog, Lily Pad. For nearly a decade, Stephanie, Lance, and

their family organized Paddle for a Cure, an annual kayaking fundraising event that raised over \$85,000 for the Rose

Bove LaRose Cancer Center at Day Kimball Hospital. When not working at DKH, Stephanie enjoys vacationing in Maine and visiting family in Virginia and North Carolina.

Day Kimball Health's employee of the month program is sponsored by Foxwoods Resort Casino and the Mashantucket (Western) Pequot Tribal Nation in appreciation of our healthcare workers and all they do for our community.

About Day Kimball Health

Day Kimball Health is a nonprofit community healthcare system com-

posed of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare at Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield, and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Health's comprehensive network employs more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its website is daykimball.org.

Tailgating dos and don'ts this season



Did you know?

The start of the National Football League season is cause for celebration for millions of fans, but this year's season may prove especially intriguing for supporters of the Kansas City Chiefs. That's because the two-time defending Super Bowl champion Chiefs have an opportunity to make history during the 2024-25 season. According to BetMGM Sportsbook, no NFL team has ever won three consecutive Super Bowls. The Chiefs, who defeated the Philadelphia Eagles 38-35 in Super Bowl LVII in 2023 and the San Francisco 49ers 25-22 in Super Bowl LVIII in 2024, have a chance to be the first to accomplish that elusive feat. Other teams, including the Miami Dolphins between 1971 and 1973, and more recently the New England Patriots between 2016 and 2018, appeared in back-to-back-to-back Super Bowls, but neither franchise won three consecutive Super Bowls. The Buffalo Bills appeared in four consecutive Super Bowls in the early 1990s, but notably lost all four contests. The Chiefs kick off their 2024 run at history at home versus the Baltimore Ravens on Thursday, September 5.

Many sports enthusiasts feel there's no better tradition than mingling with fellow fans while tailgating. Tailgating entails arriving at a stadium parking lot several hours early on game day; icing down beverages in a cooler; heating up the grill; and seeing some familiar, perhaps fanatical, faces.

The origins of tailgating are as varied as those spinning tailgating yarns. Some say the tradition dates back to community events in ancient Greece and Rome that were tied to the harvest. In America, the tailgating tradition seemingly has roots in the late nineteenth century, when college football began to invigorate the masses with popular teams at Harvard, Yale and Princeton tearing up the gridiron. Fans would gather around the tailgate of horse-drawn wagons (later automobiles) that

were carrying the team's equipment. This was the unofficial meeting point before a game.

With football season on the horizon, here are some tailgating dos and don'ts.

DO wear the team jersey. Of course you'll want to wear the jersey or team colors to express your fandom. It also identifies you as friend (not a foe) to other fans.

DON'T expect a saved spot at the stadium. Tailgating typically is a first-come, first-served process in the parking lot. Unlike your tickets that promise a specific section and seat, if you want prime tailgating real estate, plan to arrive early.

DO know the rules of the venue. The rules of tailgating vary by location, but may include anything from prohibiting outside alcohol to refusing pets on property to not allowing noisemakers or fireworks. Familiarize yourself with the rules when planning your tailgate.

DON'T leave it all to chance. Create a list of ways to stay busy. Many tailgaters, in addition to bringing food, will pack activities. These can include a small pigskin to toss around or cornhole boards. Again, make sure you abide by the rules of the sight.

DO pay atten-

tion to food temperature.

One way to tank the experience is to get food poisoning. When dining outdoors, it is essential that cold food remains cold and hot food is cooked to the proper temperature. Plenty of ice, coolers and a way to heat up food will be needed. Portable gas or charcoal grills can cook food quickly.

DON'T ignore the weather. Everyone hopes for beautiful weather on game day, but Mother Nature isn't predictable.

Plan accordingly by layering clothing and bringing ponchos or other protective gear if it is going to rain or

even snow.

DO clean up after yourselves and do not leave a mess behind in the lot.

DON'T get intoxicated and/or drive while under the influence. Unruly, intoxicated behavior likely will not be tolerated. And you never want to run the risk of endangering yourself or others by driving drunk.

DO have fun and enjoy yourself. After all, that's what tailgating is all about.

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TELEPHONE: (860) 928-1818

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI

PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE

EDITOR

A salute to workers

As we fire up the grills, enjoy the last days of summer, and maybe even hit the beach one more time, let's learn a bit about the origins of Labor Day.

This holiday isn't just an excuse for a three-day weekend (though we'll gladly take it!). It's a day to celebrate the contributions of workers who have built this country, brick by brick, and to honor the labor movement that fought for the rights many of us enjoy today.

Labor Day has its roots in the late 19th century, at a time when the average American worked 12-hour days, seven days a week, just to make ends meet. Sounds exhausting, right? The labor movement emerged from these tough conditions, with workers organizing for better hours, safer workplaces, and fair pay. In 1882, the very first Labor Day parade was held in New York City, where 10,000 workers took unpaid leave to march for their rights. This courageous stand laid the foundation for the national holiday we now celebrate on the first Monday of September.

But let's not get too bogged down in history. Labor Day is also about appreciating the present and looking forward to the future. It's a time to relax, spend time with family and friends, and enjoy the fruits of your hard work. Whether you're taking a mini-vacation, hosting a backyard BBQ, or just chilling at home, remember that this holiday is a tribute to you—the worker.

We hope that while our readers enjoyed their well-deserved day off this past Monday, they haven't forgotten forget that there is an important election coming up on Nov. 5. After all, what better way to honor the spirit of Labor Day than by exercising your right to vote? It's a chance to have your say in who represents you and to ensure that those in office continue to fight for the rights and interests of all workers.

We hope you enjoyed your Labor Day weekend, everyone—but don't forget that part of getting back to work now is to get out and vote!

Letter submission policy

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

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

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Independents can make the difference

To the Editor:
In 1809, the annual Brooklyn Fair started as an agricultural fair, and now is the oldest in the country! So blessed to be there this weekend and to see how it has grown! This is America!
Entrepreneurs...farmers...food trucks...artists...animals...go-carts...and so much more...wow!
As we move toward November, please remember our American values and vote!
Either way...keep in mind our past, present

and future. Your vote is a privilege. Please use it.

It's not easy...no es facile! But we can and will do it! Bring those abysmal voting numbers up! If you don't want to be in a party, fine. I didn't for many years. But, Independents can make a huge difference...so be Independent and vote! Your party is so vast and so important to our local, state and national elections.

God bless America!

TAMI JO WYKES
BROOKLYN

How many could be fed with the money wasted on campaigning?

To the Editor:
Does anyone realize how many people could be fed on the money that is spent on campaigning? If these supporters are so rich they give millions, why do we have people in the USA going to bed hungry?
Why is there no law covering the burning

of the American flag? How do you think the service people who gave so much feel when they see the flag burning and hear someone say it's okay?

DOROTHY JUDY
PUTNAM

Trump is not fit to command our Armed Forces

To the Editor:

My father was a United States military veteran. Air Force. WWII. European theatre. He was a B17 belly gunner who beat the odds and returned home with a Purple Heart. When he passed, he was buried with military honors. Growing up, my brothers and I were instilled with a deep respect for our country and our soldiers. We sang war songs, pledged the United States of America every morning in school, and saluted our flag. On national holidays we proudly displayed our American flags. And heaven forbid one of those flags touching the ground. That was grounds for a whoopin'. We were also taught to respect our military leaders.

If my father were alive today, he would be appalled that one of our Presidential candidates, Mr. Trump, time after time disparages our military. As our Commander in Chief, he has called veterans saps and our war dead "suckers." He has demeaned one of our great military heroes and a POW John McCain. He has called military leaders "some of the dumbest people I've ever met" which included multiple members of his own administration.

At the same time, the admirals and generals who served under Trump have questioned both his moral character and his intelligence. As any American who follows Mr. Trump has learned, to criticize him is to feel his wrath (which basically entails being called some silly schoolyard name which is then immediately retracted when that person bends the knee). Perhaps the only general to support him is Mike Flynn who defiled his military code of honor in lying to the FBI, was convicted and jailed, only to be pardoned by his buddy, Mr. Trump.

As a child, I was also taught that America's intervention into the Great Wars saved humanity as we know it and that it remains our responsibility to see that tyrants and dictators are kept at bay. Mr. Trump for his part skipped out honoring WWI fallen American patriots in Europe due to inclement weather. He applauds our enemies while belittling our allies.

His recent antics at a sacred Arlington Cemetery burial site is just the latest in his

infamous pattern. Honoring our war dead with their Gold Star families should be a solemn and private event. Turning it into a political spectacle is dreadful. Standing over a fallen soldier's grave while grinning and giving a thumb's up sign is unconscionable.

Trump's people claim that a photographer happened to be there, that the families he was with asked him to take a picture and that a cemetery official who tried to block them was "suffering from an acute mental health episode." And while taking a snapshot may have been appropriate, it was not appropriate to make it public and it violated federal law by including it in political campaign press release. What's more, the US Army who oversees the Arlington site released a statement affirming that the official acted professionally and appropriately. I believe the Army. An acute mental health episode? Do they think we are truly that gullible?

To all our veterans you have my thanks for your service. For those who support Mr. Trump because of your belief that the nation is flailing and that Republican policies are the solution I wholeheartedly support your right to choose, although I would argue with your assessment. But to applaud Mr. Trump's character; to wear his lame and sophomoric tee shirts and hats, after the way he has portrayed your brothers in arms, makes me question your judgement. Remember that this is a man who skirted the military draft due to alleged bone spurs in his feet. It certainly has not affected his ability to navigate a golf course which seemed to be his number one activity during his four years in office. Nor has anyone in his family served. He has no personal connection.

America's Armed Forces are the greatest that have ever marched the earth. It has saved countless lives and allowed a free world to flourish. Mr. Trump sees it only as an easy mark to rally his supporters. His repeated aspersion of our men and women in uniform is yet one more length in a string of lies and mistruths that should disqualify him from ever commanding our nations troops again.

LEE WESLER
WOODSTOCK

Exercise your right to vote

To the Editor:

As Americans, our number one challenge is to keep our country safe and democracy alive. Many have died in defense of these ideals. In World War II, our soldiers showed uncommon valor and displayed unprecedented courage on the battlefield. It was a time when people came together for the cause of freedom. There was no indecisiveness. It is time for us to do that again if we wish to live as a free people. We all have opinions. Let's express them at the ballot box in November. Your vote counts, and could change everything. At the same time, your vote could cost you everything if you make the wrong decision in whom you choose. Not voting is not a choice.

Pearl S. Buck, the American novelist who devoted her great talent to promoting understanding between the East and the West, once said, "No one who has always been free can understand the terrible fascinating power of hope of freedom to those who are not free."

Soon, we will be asked to elect a new President and Commander in Chief of our Armed Forces. This obligation is ours alone. We must ensure that this person has our best interests in mind and will help to keep the United States safer and in a better place where truth and trust prevail. We made America great a long time ago.

Don't miss your right to vote on Nov. 5. This is just one of the many great privileges our soldiers fought for so that we can maintain our freedom and liberty. Stephen E. Ambrose, PhD, said it best: "The past is a source of knowledge. The future is a source of hope. Love of the past inspires faith in the future."

God bless our America.

G. TOD STEVENSON
WOODSTOCK

Reappointed



BEYOND THE PEWS
.....
JOHN HANSON

Sobs pierce the predawn darkness on the narrow cobblestone street. One wonders if it is a drunk that is hunched over in the doorway. It is certainly someone who is emotionally overwhelmed. Such a well-built, well-kempt man does not normally weep so violently at this hour of the day. Observers wonder: "What could be so disturbing as to make a grown man cry like that?" "Does his behavior have anything to do with all the hubbub that has been going on throughout the night at the nearby home of the retired, but still powerful, Jewish priest?"

Only God knows that this episode has been triggered by the simple crow of a rooster; a crow that Jesus himself had predicted. That early morning screech triggers a barrage of emotions, fueled by a cumulation of disappointments. This normally bold and courageous fisherman is venting his bitter disappointments. He is disappointed that His Master has been arrested. He is disappointed that his idea of how God was going to change the world for the better is unravelling. But, most of all, he is vocalizing his disappointment in himself; he had not summoned the courage to own up to being a friend of Jesus, when He needed him the most. Jesus knew Peter's limitations, but Peter had just come face to face with them as he cursed and denied Jesus. Matthew explained it this way: "Suddenly, Jesus' words flashed through Peter's mind: 'Before the rooster crows, you will deny three times that you even know me.' And he went away, weeping bitterly." (Matthew 26:27 nlt)

Two months later, on The Day of Pentecost, that same man has the courage to address thousands of people who have witnessed a powerful move of God, not far from where Peter cried in disappointment. His speech is the first sermon ever preached in the "Church Age." It is a sermon of hope in which he explains that the people who appear drunk were actually "filled with the Holy Spirit," as the prophet Joel had prophesied. How has such a disappointed man become so optimistic and hopeful?

First of all, Peter sees the resurrected Christ. Secondly, he and Jesus talk intimately, and Jesus reassures him that he can still live out his destiny. Jesus helps Peter turn his disappointment into a reappointment. Peter knows that the rest of his life will be different than he had imagined, but that God will still use him to help save many people who are willing to believe.

Nobody escapes life without their share of disappointments. They may be disappointed in their family of origin or in how they have been mistreated. They may be crushed by a broken vow, an untimely death, or a chronic illness. Their greatest disappointment may be in that they have failed to live up to their own expectations. Their sense of failure may cause them to hide in work or an addiction. Disappointments might drive them to search for love and acceptance - in all the wrong places. They may find themselves weeping bitterly, like St. Peter did.

But, like Peter, their life can be changed. It starts by letting Jesus help them accept that the past cannot be changed, but that anyone can move on to their best life. God is all about second chances and fresh starts. Even people who make big, public blunders can find new direction and hope! A few soul-searching conversations with Jesus, in which a person accepts their limitations and embraces God's help, can turn a lifetime of disappointments into some wonderful reappointments.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. For more information or links to sermons and books, please visit www.ActsII.org.

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How to use your fantasy football strategy to improve your investments

Are you a fantasy football enthusiast looking to score big in the investment world? You might be surprised to learn that many of the strategies you use in your fantasy football league can also help you build a winning investment portfolio. Here's how...



FINANCIAL FOCUS
 MICHAEL BAUM
 INVESTMENT ADVISER

1. Diversify your roster (portfolio)

In fantasy football, you'd never fill your entire roster with quarterbacks, no matter how good they are. The same principle applies to investing. Diversification is key to managing risk and maximizing potential returns.

Investment takeaway: Just as you spread your picks across different positions in football, spread your investments across various asset classes, sectors, and geographical regions. This strategy helps to preserve your portfolio from the poor performance of any single investment.

2. Look for value picks (undervalued stocks)

Remember that late-round sleeper pick who ended up being a league-winner? In investing, finding undervalued stocks can lead to significant gains.

Investment takeaway: Don't just focus on the big names everyone's talking about. Do your research to find companies with strong fundamentals that the market might be overlooking. These "sleeper" stocks could provide substantial returns over time.

3. Don't panic on bad weeks (short-term market fluctuations)

Your star running back has one terrible game, but you don't immediately trade him away, right? The same patience is crucial in investing.

Investment takeaway: Market fluctuations are normal. Don't let short-term dips or negative news cause you to make rash decisions. Stick to your long-term strategy unless there are fundamental changes to your investment thesis.

4. Rebalance regularly (portfolio rebalancing)

In fantasy football, you adjust your lineup weekly based on matchups, injuries, and performance. Your investment portfolio needs similar attention.

Investment takeaway: Regularly review and rebalance your portfolio to maintain your target asset allocation. This might mean selling some of your best performers and buying more of your underperformers to stay aligned with your investment goals.

5. Play the long game (long-term investment strategy)

Fantasy football championships aren't won in Week 1, and neither are long-term investment

goals achieved overnight.

Investment takeaway: Focus on your long-term financial objectives rather than trying to time the market or chase quick gains. Consistent, patient investing often yields better results than frequent trading.

6. Use expert analysis (seek professional advice)

You probably consult expert rankings and analysis when drafting your fantasy team. The same approach can benefit your investing strategy.

7. Stay informed (keep up with market news)

To succeed in fantasy football, you need to stay on top of player news, injury reports, and team dynamics. Similarly, staying informed about market trends, economic indicators, and company news can help you make better investment decisions.

Investment takeaway: Regularly read financial news, company reports, and market analyses. This knowledge will help you make more informed decisions about your investments.

8. Manage your budget (risk management)

In fantasy football, you have a limited budget to

draft players. In investing, it's crucial to manage your risk exposure.

Investment takeaway: Don't invest more than you can afford to lose, especially in higher-risk assets. Create a balanced portfolio that aligns with your risk tolerance and financial situation.

9. Adapt to changing conditions (market flexibility)

Successful fantasy football managers adapt their strategies as the season progresses. The same flexibility is valuable in investing.

Investment takeaway: Be prepared to adjust your investment strategy in response to significant market changes or shifts in your personal financial situation. However, these adjustments should be thoughtful and aligned with your long-term goals, not reactive to short-term market noise.

10. Celebrate wins, learn from losses (continuous improvement)

Whether you win or lose in fantasy football, there's always something to learn. The same is true in investing.

Investment takeaway: Regularly review your

investment performance. Understand what's working well and what isn't. Use these insights to refine your strategy over time.

Ready to draft your winning investment strategy?

Just as a successful fantasy football season requires strategy, skill, and ongoing management, so does building a strong investment portfolio. By applying these fantasy football principles to your investments, you can develop a more strategic, disciplined approach to reaching your financial goals.

At WHZ Strategic Wealth Advisors, we're here to be your financial coaches. Whether you're just starting your investment journey or looking to optimize your existing portfolio, our team can help you create a personalized playbook for success. Visit our website at whzwealth.com to schedule your complimentary consultation or give us a call at (860) 928-2341. Let's work together to make your financial dreams a reality with Absolute Confidence. Unwavering Partnership. For Life.

*Diversification does not assure a profit or protect against loss in declining markets, and diversification cannot guarantee that any objective or goal will be achieved.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Stop saying that guns are safe and make them safer

To the Editor:

I agree with Michael Douglas, as stated in his Aug. 23 letter regarding Kamala and guns, that the majority of gun-related deaths are from handguns, and not assault weapons. I'd like to believe that he brings this up to support handgun control to reduce suicides and gang-related homicides, but I doubt it. His focus is that AR-15s are falsely blamed for the majority of gun-related deaths, and that Kamala Harris is foolishly planning to ban assault weapons if she is elected President in November. He needn't worry: there are at least 20 million AR-15s in our country so they will not be disappearing anytime soon.

But Kamala Harris isn't the only one working on a national assault weapon ban. The US House of Representatives passed the Assault Weapon Ban of 2022 (although it never made it through the Senate), and eight states, including Connecticut, have already banned them. The Australians are way ahead of us, banning assault weapons after a massacre of 36 people in 1996, including a government buy-back of a million weapons. The result in Australia has been reduced firearm deaths by half, including murders and suicide. The US, as of 2021, has 33 times the homicide rate in Australia.

He's absolutely right that "assault weapon" means different things to different people, which is why the Connecticut State Legislature broadened the definition carefully in 2023, easily searchable, to put meaning into the Connecticut assault weapon ban that's been on the books since 1993. But AR-15 ownership in Connecticut is still possible in most circumstances if you've previously owned one, so the ban only affects new rifles. He probably prefers the gun industry's term "modern sporting rifle" for the AR-15, an effective effort to normalize this semi-automatic rifle, which requires pulling the trigger for each shot, but is rapid-fire, capable of 45 shots/min or 400/min with a bump stock, with a typical magazine of 30 high-velocity rounds (although limited to 10 rounds in Connecticut). How many bad guys at a time do we need to defend ourselves from? How many bullets does it take to snag a deer? Where's the sport in riddling a deer with 10-30 bullets? AR-15s or a variant were responsible for mass shootings in Newtown, Las Vegas, Aurora, Parkland, San Bernardino, Uvalde, but no need to go on.

Hollywood hasn't helped here, with a long line of glorified gunslingers seeking justice or revenge, from John Wayne to Alec Baldwin. How are we going to break the spell of our country's love affair with guns? Is the freedom to have an unsecured weapon worth the

risk of a child or grandchild using it to commit suicide? The only way I see it is if gun owners, parents, law enforcement officers, hey, even the NRA, admit that we have a problem, and take ownership of it. Stop saying that guns are safe, and start making them safer. The Second Amendment says that "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." I'd say the current 400 million guns in the US are far from well-regulated. So many things can be done: limiting large-capacity magazines, banning bump stocks (Even Trump tried, but was reversed by his Supreme Court), universal background checks, safe firearms storage, taking firearms away from domestic abusers with restraining orders, and, yes, maybe even giving up semi-automatic rifles.

JANE DOYLE
 WOODSTOCK VALLEY

We've all had those moments in life when we turn to prayer. Whether it's a whispered plea in a crisis, a silent wish for something better, or even a habit formed in childhood, prayer seems to be a universal human instinct.

POSITIVELY SPEAKING
 TOBY MOORE

of stress, anxiety, and depression. These studies indicate that prayer could positively influence both physical and mental well-being, even if the exact mechanisms remain unclear.

We could sift through all the scientific data, but where's the fun in that? Sometimes, the real power of prayer is best seen in the mysterious and miraculous—like the legendary staircase at the Loretto Chapel in Santa Fe, N.M.

While skepticism about prayer's efficacy is common, prayer has been studied extensively.

One study by Dr. Herbert Benson at Harvard Medical School found that heart surgery patients who were prayed for, even without their knowledge, experienced fewer complications and smoother recoveries. This suggests that prayer may play a role in healing, possibly through the mind-body connection.

In the late 19th century, a small group of nuns from the Sisters of Loretto faced a perplexing problem. Their beautiful new chapel in Santa Fe, New Mexico, was nearly perfect. Still, as the final touches were added, one glaring issue became apparent—the choir loft, perched high above the main floor, was inaccessible.

The nuns consulted local carpenters and architects, but each delivered the same grim assessment: building a staircase in such a confined space was impossible.

In their despair, the nuns turned to the one source they knew could offer hope. They began praying for nine days and nights.

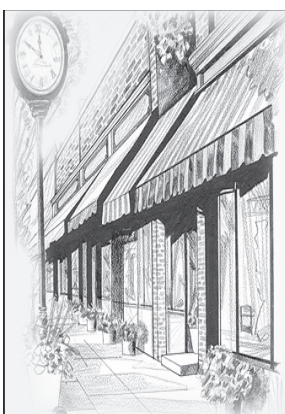
Their prayers were simple but earnest, asking for a solution allowing them to access the choir loft without marring the chapel's elegance.

Just as the sisters were losing hope, a mysterious figure arrived at their doorstep on their final day of prayer.

The man was a humble carpenter, and his appearance was as unassuming as his request. He carried only the most basic of tools with him, yet he claimed he could solve their problem.

The carpenter asked for just one condition—complete privacy while

Turn To **POSITIVELY** page **A11**



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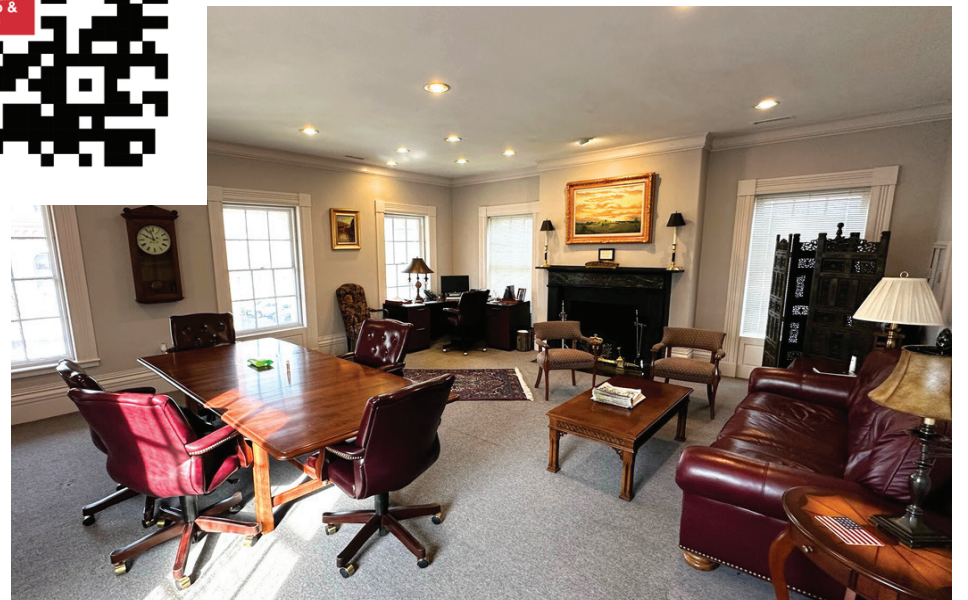


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JAMES GLICKMAN
Principal

508-769-5007

jglickman@glickmankovago.com



JONAH D. GLICKMAN
Vice President

508-868-3765

jdglickman@glickmankovago.com



Courtesy

Master Kristin Duethorn proudly announces the promotion of the following students to new Black Belt Ranks at Quest Martial Arts. From left to right: Vincenzo DiMeglio -2nd Degree, Gannon Siddall-2nd Degree, Olivia Bedard-2nd Degree, Zachary Willard -2nd Degree, Cole Hopkins-1st Degree, (Master Kristin Duethorn); Alisa Libby-1st Degree, Lee Wesler -2nd Degree, Melissa McGovern-1st Degree, C.J. Orthmann- 2nd Degree, Anthony Mills-2nd Degree. All Students currently train at Quest Martial Arts in Thompson.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

AT CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Aug. 25: Blue-gray gnatcatcher, Black and White Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Common Nighthawk, Virginia Rail, Great Horned Owl, Barn Swallow, Carolina Wren, Wood Thrush, Baltimore Oriole, Goldfinch, Bluebird, Hummingbird, Eastern Towhee, Song Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.

Interfaith Council to host Peace Day celebration

PUTNAM — The Greater Putnam Interfaith Council invites area residents to a Peace Day celebration at the Daughters of the Holy Spirit offices, 508B Pomfret St., on Thursday, Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. The event will feature music, readings, prayers and information.

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*"What on earth is all
this love which makes
everyone go mad?"*
- Berta

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theloos.org/smo



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Woodstock Fair continues Labor Day tradition

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Fair continued its annual tradition with its 163rd season, always on Labor Day weekend. For 2024 the fair embraced a reconfiguration moving several amenities, including the main stage, to different parts of the grounds to give the event a slightly different feel for guests new and old. Music, games, a carnival, numerous vendors, animals shows and more made for a delightful end of the summer as the Quiet Corner officially welcomed fall during the long holiday weekend.



The RE/MAX balloon, which has become a popular sight as many local events, actually allowed visitors to take a ride slightly off the ground to get a feel for how hot air balloons actually work.



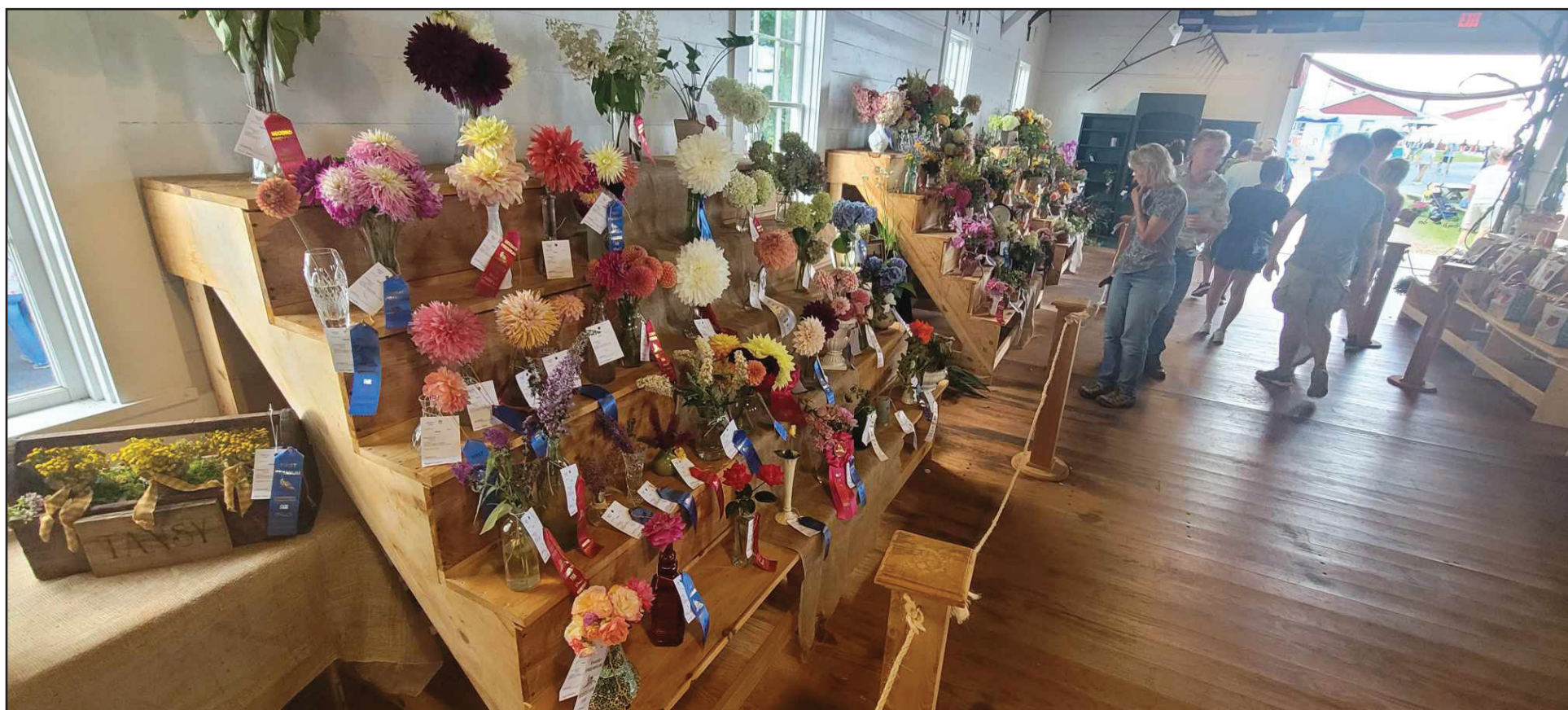
A group of colorful antique lawnmowers proved to be a fun photo opportunity for fans of classic agriculture equipment at the fair's barn area.



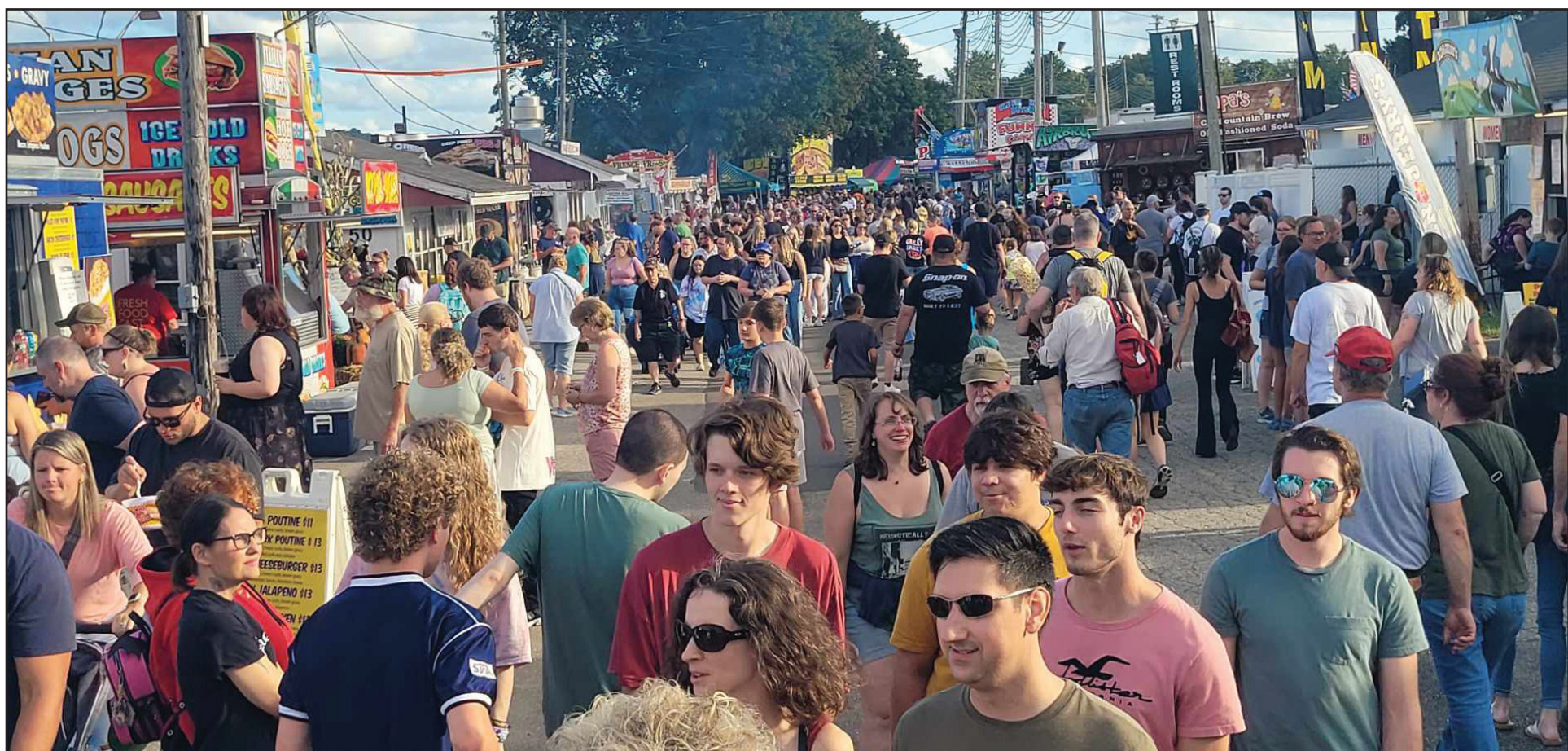
The Woodstock Lions helped guests cool off providing a variety of soft serve ice creams which proved to be quite popular as guests headed towards the animal barns.



The Woodstock Fair's annual sandcastle icon greeted guests as a new entry point in 2024 as part of the fairgrounds reformatted layout for its 163rd year.



Visitors to the fair look over a variety of plants and other entries in the exhibit buildings on the grounds.



The Woodstock Fair was as popular as ever in 2024 with large crowds gathering in the main walkways for some great food and to check out the many vendors.



The Watson family of Dudley spent part of their Labor Day weekend enjoy the 163rd annual Woodstock Fair.



The winner of the Howard Dill Award, the Woodstock Fair's annual honor for the great pumpkin.



Local band Roc-Kin-On performed several sets during Woodstock Fair weekend on the Main Stage including opening up for '90s rock band Lit on Saturday night.



The State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection Division of Law Enforcement was one of many state entities that met with visitors providing education into conservation and wildlife management in the region.



One of many rides in the carnival section of the fair was the Crazy Bus which was often filled with riders throughout the weekend.



Woodstock Boy Scout Troop 27 of Woodstock were one of many organizations selling food goods and water during a warm weekend at the Woodstock Fair.

KILLINGLY CHRONICLES

Sept. 9 – Sept. 14

TOWN HALL MEETINGS (agendas and minutes at www.killingly.org)
 Monday the 9th
 Inlands, Wetlands, and Water Courses Commission Meeting (Town Meeting Room – Town Hall) 7 p.m.
 Tuesday the 10th
 Regular Town Council Meeting (Town Meeting Room – Town Hall) 7 p.m.
 Wednesday the 11th
 Board of Education Meeting (Town Meeting Room - Town Hall) 7 p.m.
 Agriculture Commission Meeting (Room 102 – Town Hall) 7 p.m.
 Thursday the 12th
 NDDH Board Meeting (NDDH) 3 p.m.
 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting (Town Meeting Room – Town Hall) 7 p.m.

COMMUNITY EVENTS
 Lit Loot Bag (Ages 13-17) (Library) Sept. 3 through Sept. 10
 Monday the 9th
 KPL Lit Talks (Library) All Day
 Create Our Bookmark (Library) All Day
 An Epic Book Quest (Ages 13-18) (Library) All Day
 Monday Mystery Matinee (Ages 18 and up) (Library) 1 to 3 p.m.

Tuesday the 10th
 Bingo (Ages 18 and up) (Library) 2 to 3 p.m.
 Garrett Graff: Virtual Author Talk (Library) 2 p.m.
 Wednesday the 11th
 Little Listeners (Ages 2-5) (Library) 11 to 11:45 a.m.
 Chess Club (All Ages) (Library) 5 to 6:30 p.m.
 Thursday the 12th
 Afternoon Book Club (Ages 18 and up) (Library) 2 to 3 p.m.

KILLINGLY PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAMS/ EVENTS COMING UP...
 Beginner Rhythm Ballroom Dancing – Nov. 18 through Dec. 2 (Mondays) (Killingly Community Center)
 Tuesday Pound for Adults with Chris (Session 1) – Sept. 17 through Oct. 22 (Tuesdays) (Killingly Community Center)
 Pre-Season Basketball Skills Clinic – Nov. 4 through Nov. 7 (Monday, Wednesday and Thursday) (Killingly Community Center)
 Tuesday Art Club Classes with Tunk City – Sept. 10 through Dec. 17 (Tuesdays) (Killingly Community Center)
 Virtual High Five 2024 (Killingly Community Center) (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday)
 River Trail Wake-Up Workout with CV/Fitness – Sept. 9 through Oct. 14 (Mondays)
 Thursday Yoga with Mary (Session 1) – Sept. 12 through Oct. 3 (Killingly Community Center)
 Senior Yoga September – Sept. 6 through Sept. 27 (Fridays at 9 and 10:30 a.m.) (Killingly Community Center)
 Yoga for every “body” (Session 1) – Sept. 11 through Oct. 2 (Killingly Community Center) (Wednesdays)
 Zumba with Movement Magic – Sept. 16 through Sept. 30 (Killingly Community Center) (Mondays)
 Getting in Line – Beginner Line Dancing with Mary – Sept. 11 through Oct. 2 (Killingly Community Center) (Wednesdays)
 Relaxation and Guided Meditation – Sept. 24 through Oct. 29 (Killingly Community Center) (Tuesdays)
 Senior Picnic – Sept. 16 (Killingly Community Center)
 The Big E – Sept. 24
 Stew and Story – Oct. 17 (Killingly Community Center)
 Spooktacular Parade – Oct. 26 (Davis Park and Main Street)
 Check out the Killingly Parks and Recreation website for more daily class schedules, camps, trips and events!
 For updates and changes, please visit the calendar on the Town of Killingly Web site at www.killingly.org.

Schooling in 19th century East Killingly

It's hard to believe that it's already September, and schools have started. This time of year, I always like to look for some tidbits about schools/education in our past. Dr. Edwin Hill of East Killingly kept a diary from 1851-1896. It was transcribed with copious footnotes by Killingly Historical Society member Marcella House Pasay and provides a wealth of information, especially since Hill was a school visitor--a member of the school committee.

On Monday, Aug. 21, 1871, he attended a meeting of the board of education at E. L. Cundall's office. (The Diaries of Dr. Hill 1851-1896, p.69).
 At that time school districts were the determining factor for voting districts. Since Marcella Pasay referenced them in a footnote, it provides a list of the school districts. "Voting district 1 was comprised of #1 Westfield, just north of the center of Danielsonville, #3 Between the Rivers (Maple Street area now), #15 Ledge District, #16 City district, #17 Horse Hill, and #18 Warren district, all of which bordered on Plainfield and the RI border. Voting District 2 included Killingly Center which was school district #4, Dayville #6, Williamsville #7, Attawaugan #8, and Ballouville, #9. Everything else was district 3--#5 Mashentuck, #11 Tucker, #12 Chestnut Hill, #13 Valley, #14 Sparks and whatever fell into the 'everything else' category (p.72). That's a lot of schools and school districts! The "grammar/High School" on High Street had not yet been completed. (For a photo of that school see p. 23 in "Images of America Killingly" by Natalie L. Coolidge and Robert A. Spencer).

think the districts had changed much since 1869, when they were shown on the maps of Killingly and Danielsonville in Gray's Atlas of Tolland and Windham Counties, Connecticut. Copies of the original map can be viewed, and reprints are available at the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center. The maps might also be of particular interest if you live in an old house since they are marked on the map, along with names of the owners.

According to Dr. Hill, in 1872 the fall term in School District #12 did not begin until Sept. 16. Teachers were Clarence Aldrich at \$2.50 per day, and Eliza A. Danielson at \$1.60 per day (p.80). The following year Hill noted that "School began" on Monday, September 1. (p.93). That same day he "Visited site of school house." Marcella's footnotes elaborated, "The new school house would be located in East Killingly according to the Windham County Transcript of Sept. 18, 1873. The committee to look into this project, a building two stories high, at a cost estimate of \$3000 consisted of Dr. E. A. Hill, A. M. Paine, H. Stowe, and W. Taft" (p. 99).
 School makeup changed dramatically in December 1871 when the new "graded school/high school" opened on High Street in Danielsonville, consolidating several of the Danielsonville area schools. High school students were admitted from throughout the town. According to Richard Bayles, editor of "A History of



KILLINGLY AT 300
 MARGARET WEAVER

Windham County, Connecticut" printed in 1889, the building had 10 teachers and had graduated 119 students up to 1889. A companion grade school on the Brooklyn side of the Quinebaug River had 5 teachers. School population was rapidly increasing with the arrival of immigrants to work in the mills. (p. 964).
 Note that at this time Danielsonville included the Quebec Square mill village of the Quinebaug Company on the Brooklyn side of the river. It was not until 1899 that this changed.

On Sept. 7, 1874 Dr. Hill noted in his Diary that he "carried Ida and Delle to Danielsonville High School. They will board with Mrs. Paine."(p.106). Marcella Pasay added in a footnote that "Notations at the back of the diary indicate Dr. Hill paid Mrs. Paine \$4 per week for their board." (p.109).

St. James School prepares to celebrate the 150th anniversary of its founding in 1874, so I looked for references about the beginning of the school. I did find the following article in the Windham County Transcript. "The Catholic School takes some 25 scholars from the school on the West side of the river, but not half that number from the Union Graded School. If Catholic parents deny their child the opportunity to attend one of the finest schools in the country, their offspring will be the greatest losers." (WCT, Thursday, Sept. 10, 1874, p. 2; killinglypl.org). I will continue to search for other articles and references about the founding of this Catholic school, which certainly has played an important part in the educational history of the town.

While checking for school articles, I came across Dr. Hill digging a new well. I have an old one on my property but must admit I never thought much

about digging it, much less climbing down it. "Monday, Sept. 13. Began my well. Jacob Chase charged \$2 per foot for first ten feet, and \$2.50 per foot for second ten feet. M. Thewles here...Thursday, Sept. 14. Worked on the well. Dug it deep as possible on account of the water coming in fast-a large stream on the north side. There is a stone on the southwest side of the well, about under the wall, dug 20 feet. I went down the well and dipped up water at the rate of a half - barrel in five minutes. Sat. September 18. Finished well. Put moss around the top wall down about seven feet. (Then he) Went to Dayville track in afternoon." (p. 49).

Killingly Grange #112 will hold a Chicken BarBQ on Saturday, Sept. 7, 2024 from 5-7 p.m. Dine in or Take-out. Half chicken, corn on the cob, potato salad, roll, slice of watermelon \$15 per meal. Limited number of meals. To reserve a meal call 860-884-1813. At the door pay by cash, credit card or check.

Mark Your Calendars: As part of the 140th Anniversary celebration the Putnam Public Library will sponsor Fashions of the Gilded Age on Saturday, Sept. 14 from 1-2:30 p.m. The program will be presented by costume historian & fashion specialist Ren Antonowicz. Call 860-963-6826 to register.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, August 2024. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. or www.killinglyhistorical.org or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329.

VISION

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The Town Manager's office has already received applications from interested parties even before the committee had been made official. Those who would like to be considered can complete an application on the town's website. The public workshop is Saturday, Sept. 21 from 1 until 3 p.m. at the Killingly Library Community Room and will be led by the Town Council. Those who can't attend the workshop in person can submit comments to the Council through the Killingly town Web site or to publiccomment@killinglyct.gov.

HISTORY

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The tour of Roseland Cottage will be free to Woodstock residents and available at a discount for others but all are welcome. The Historical Society and the Arboretum are free for all to enjoy.
 So, mark Sunday, Sept. 8 from 1-4 p.m. on your calendar and join us for some time travelling without having to go very far at all.

Don't let frost end your garden season



Melinda Myers

Floating row covers protect plants from frost while allowing light, air and water through.

No matter where you garden there never seems to be enough time to grow and enjoy all your favorite vegetables. Start preparing now to extend your growing season and continue enjoying garden fresh vegetables even after the first frost.
 Some vegetables like cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kale and Brussels sprouts tolerate frost and even taste better after a slight chill. Most of these can tolerate temperatures as low as 24 to 28 degrees Fahrenheit.
 Leeks are another vegetable that thrives in cooler temperature. Many tolerate temperatures as low as 20 degrees Fahrenheit. Just mound some protective mulch

around the plants and continue harvesting.
 Take advantage of the chilly winter temperatures to store some of your carrots, turnips and parsnips in the ground for winter. Just cover the soil with straw or evergreen boughs after it lightly freezes. Dig as needed or during a winter thaw. You will enjoy their wonderfully sweet flavor.
 Those first few fall frosts are often followed by a week or more of mild temperatures. Protecting frost sensitive plants from the first few fall frosts is one way of extending your season. Cover the plants with old bed sheets, mattress pads, or similar items in late afternoon and remove them as soon as the temperatures climb above freezing. Keep these handy and be ready to cover whenever frost is in the forecast.
 Make it easier by using floating row covers. The spun material allows air, light and water through while protecting the plants from frost. You will find different weights of row covers that provide different levels of temperature protection. Just loosely cover the plants and anchor the edges with stones, boards or garden pins. You only



GARDEN MOMENTS
 MELINDA MYERS

need to remove the fabric to harvest ripe vegetables. Otherwise, it can stay in place until the vegetables stop producing or you decide it is time to end the season.
 Create a high tunnel over garden beds filled with large plants. Use hoops and row cover to allow easy access for harvesting while protecting the plants.
 Cloches have long been used to jump start the season or extend it beyond the first fall frost. You'll find a variety of shapes and sizes available. Select one large enough to cover your plants and protect them as needed. Look for those with vents to prevent plants from overheating and those that allow water through while trapping in the heat.
 Don't let unripe tomatoes go to waste if you are unable or unwilling to protect them from frost. Harvest any that are starting to show color before the killing frost and finish ripening them

indoors. The bottom of the tomato should be greenish white or starting to color up. Store your green tomatoes in a cool (60 to 65 degrees) location to extend their storage life.
 Spread out the tomatoes on heavy paper or wrap them individually in newspaper so the fruit do not touch each other. They'll ripen over the next few weeks. Speed up the process by moving a few tomatoes to a warm bright location a few days before they're needed. Enjoy green tomatoes fried, in relish, salsa, pies or many other ways.
 And when your season ends, begin planning for next year. Enlist some of these strategies to jump start the season for an earlier harvest. Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including *Midwest Gardener's Handbook*, 2nd Edition and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

ELIOT

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Woodstock Baptist Pastor Bob Beckwith will lead a presentation and discussion of this history for the Woodstock Middle School sixth and seventh grades with assistance from school social studies teacher Kyra Litschauer.

The Rev. Eliot will appear at Woodstock's Eliot Rock on Old Hall Rd for a presentation some time in October as part of The Last Green Valley's Walktober calendar and Rev. Do Hoon Kim, who did his PhD thesis on John Eliot, will speak at Woodstock Evangelical Covenant Church on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 9 a.m.

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OBITUARIES

Louis "Charlie" Boucher, 86



Louis "Charlie" Boucher, 86, of Putnam, husband of Nancy (Alvord) Boucher, passed away Thursday (June 27, 2024) at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester, MA. A lifelong Putnam resident, son of the late Charles and Rose (Lannaville) Boucher; he was a graduate of Putnam High School, Class of 1955 and was employed at CL&P (now Eversource) for many years, retiring in 1992. Charlie had many passions but his favorite was spending time with his family. He very much enjoyed traveling to the Bahamas each year, as well as spending his winters in Clearwater and Hudson Florida with Nancy. He was an avid golfer and a longtime member at the Quinnetis Country Club. Other activities Charlie enjoyed included bowling and waterskiing at his summer cottage at Quaddick Lake. Charlie loved watching sports especially his beloved UConn Huskies, New England Patriots and Boston Red Sox. Besides his wife Nancy, he is survived by two sons, Brian Boucher of Thompson and Chuck Boucher and his wife Kathy of Middletown; a daughter, Michele Peters and her husband David of Southington; seven grandchildren, Matthew, Michael and Patrick

Boucher, Mollie Vincenti, Christina Foran, and Mia and Chloe Peters; three great grandchildren, Olivia Boucher; Nico Vincenti and Garrett Boucher; a sister, Jeanne Griffin and her husband Frank of Putnam. A celebration of Charlie's Life will be held on Saturday September 21, 2:00-6:00pm at the Knights of Columbus, 68 Providence St., Putnam CT. Please join Charlie's family as they celebrate him. There are no calling hours. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. Carlson Funeral Home, New Britain is assisting with arrangements. Charlie devoted the past several years of his life to taking care of his beloved wife Nancy who has dementia. Because of this, Charlie wishes that in lieu of flowers that you please consider making a donation to the Alzheimer's/Dementia Research at the Mayo Clinic at the link below: https://philanthropy.mayoclinic.org/page.aspx?pid=1506&source-code=23A051GG1SNP93Z05B&utm_source=devintegmark&utm_medium=devsearch&utm_campaign=devevergreen&gad_source=1 Please share a memory or note of sympathy with Charlie's family at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

To send a memorial gift to the family of Louis "Charlie" Boucher please visit our Sympathy Store.

William (Bill) P. Auger, 76



William (Bill) P. Auger, 76, of Dudley passed away unexpectedly at his home, August 25, 2024, in Putnam CT. He is the son of the late William Henry Auger and Bridgette Helen (Shaw) Auger.

Bill is survived by his two sons, William Auger of Dudley MA and Christopher Auger of Dudley MA. His longtime companion Hope Prete of Dudley MA, his nephew, who he raised as a son, Justin LeDoux (Lorin Salvadore) of North Providence RI, his niece Amber LeDoux (Keith Pelletier) of Leicester MA, along with many other nieces and nephews, his grandchildren Katelyn Auger (Ryan Joly) of Brooklyn CT, Dylan Auger (Dylan Auger) of Goose Creek SC and Conor William LeDoux (of Leicester Ma) among a few other grandchildren and his four great grandchildren.

He is also survived by his sib-

lings, Billie Dee Cote of Putnam CT, James Bellisle of Webster MA, Mary Thompson of Canterbury Ct, Sandra Plasse of Dudley MA and Dale Duquette of North Grosvenordale CT.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents and three siblings, David Bellisle, Francis Bellisle and Linda Jackson.

Bill graduated from Ellis Tech and was an accomplished Carpenter. Billy was an avid golfer who enjoyed spending time on the course. If he wasn't on the golf course, you could find him with his close family or his beloved pets.

Calling hours will be held on Saturday, September 14 from 2 to 4pm at Bartel Funeral Home, 33 Schofield Ave Dudley MA. Followed by a celebration of life to be announced at www.bartelfuneralhome.com

In lieu of flowers please make donations to The Second Chance Animal Welfare Fund 111 Young Rd. East Brookfield, MA 01515 or 508-867-5525

Southbridge@secondchanceanimals.org

James C. Mayo, Sr. 1946 - 2024



Pomfret - James C. Mayo, Sr., 77, of Deerfield Rd., died Thursday, August 29, 2024. He was the loving husband of Charlotte (Ward) Mayo. Born in Pomfret, he was the son of the late James and Alphonsine (Bellanceau) Mayo.

On July 22, 2000, in St. Mary Church of the Visitation, he was united in marriage to the former Charlotte Ward.

Mr. Mayo worked for over 25 years as a sanitation engineer at UCONN.

He was a member of the American Legion in Putnam, Tristate Horseman Association, and a volunteer fireman in Union. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and but, above all he cherished the quality time that he spent at family reunions and barbecues.

James is survived by his wife of 24 years Charlotte Mayo of Pomfret; his blended children, Roger H. Mayo of Willington, James C. Mayo, Jr.

of Stafford Springs, Mark A. Ward of South Windsor; Charles T. Ward, Benjamin A. Mayo, and Makayla Mayo all of Pomfret; His sisters, Rosemary Long of Putnam, and Alice Bury of Scotland; and his grandchildren, Paula Mayo, Kelly Mayo, James Mayo, III, Thomas Mayo, Christopher Mayo, Trevor Ward, Paityn Ward, and Mark Ward, Jr. He was predeceased by his daughter, Virginia Duquette; and his siblings, James "Sonny" Mayo, Frank Mayo, Ira Mayo, Philip Mayo, Elizabeth Ules, Dorothy Russell, Minnie Dolchok, and Helen Beaudry.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Celebration of James' Life on Saturday, September 7, 2024, from 3:00PM to 5:00PM at the Knights of Columbus, Cargill Council Hall, 68 Providence St., Putnam, CT 06260. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

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



POSITIVELY

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he worked. For days, he toiled behind closed doors, the sounds of sawing and hammering echoing through the chapel.

When the work was finally done, the nuns were called in to see the result, and what they found took their breath away. The staircase the carpenter had built was unlike anything they—or anyone—had ever seen.

Spiraling gracefully upward in two complete 360-degree turns, it seemed to float in mid-air without any visible support or central column.

It was constructed using a rare wood that no one could identify, and astonishingly, it was held together without a single nail. The wood was joined entirely by wooden pegs and intricate craftsmanship that defied explanation.

Word of the miraculous staircase spread quickly, drawing architects, engineers, and curious onlookers from far and wide. Each visitor examined the staircase, and all came to the same conclusion: it should not be standing.

Adding to the mystery, the carpenter who built the staircase vanished without a trace as soon as his work was completed. He left behind no name, no request for payment, and no indication of where he had come from or where he was going. The nuns searched for him, wanting to thank him for his miraculous gift, but he was never found.

To this day, the Loretto Chapel remains a pilgrimage site, attracting those who wish to witness the staircase and ponder its origins. Some visitors are drawn by the architectural mystery, others by the spiritual implications.


While the Loretto staircase may not provide definitive proof that prayer works, it certainly leaves you with a sense of wonder and a reminder that some mysteries are best left to faith.


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LEGALS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Lury Pizarro (24-00346)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 27, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Maria Algarin,
22 Thome Street,
Worcester, MA 01604
September 6, 2024

TOWN OF THOMPSON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, September 9, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT, and via Zoom to hear the following applications:

ZBA 24-03 Mark Pillsbury, property owner of 17 Laurelwood Drive, Map 116 Block 24 Lot 66F, .98 Acres Zone RRAD request a frontage set back from 40 feet to 30 feet a 10' frontage variance, and a side setback of 10' a 10' variance to construct an Accessory Dwelling Unit, according to Article 7, 275-7.3 General Development Standards D Frontage and setback requirements.

ZBA #24-05 Ricardo Fazzani Pereira property owner of 98 Donovan Drive,

Map 3 Block 80 lot 2E, Zone RRAD, 1.14 acres, requesting a Certificate of Motor Vehicle Location according to Town of Thompson Zoning Regulations Article 3, 275-3.8 A.

File may be reviewed online, Town of Thompson website, Zoning Board of Appeals, or in the Zoning Office.

**Respectfully submitted,
Kurby Cunha, Chairman**

August 30, 2024
September 6, 2024

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Richard E Blake (24-00302)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 27, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, ChiefClerk

The fiduciary is:
Mary-Eilyn S Blake
c/o JOHN J QUINN,
QUINN & QUINN, LLC,
248 HUDSON STREET,
HARTFORD, CT 06106
September 6, 2024

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Jeffrey A. Perron (24-00343)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 23, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the low. Failure to promptly present

any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Matthew Perron
c/o FRANK GERARD HERZOG,
BORNER SMITH ALEMAN HERZOG
& CERRONE, LLC, 155 PROVIDENCE
STREET, PO BOX 166,
PUTNAM, CT 06260
September 6, 2024

NOTICE TO CREDITORS ESTATE OF Jean A. Sergel (24-00345)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated August 23, 2024, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Amanda Casey
c/o MICHELE ANN P ALULIS, AT-
TORNEY MICHELE ANN PALULIS,
LLC, 158 MAIN STREET, SUITE
2, P. O. BOX 616,
PUTNAM, CT 06260
September 6, 2024

TOWN OF KILLINGLY METERED USE LEGAL NOTICE

Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-4:30pm, Tuesday 8-5:30pm, and Friday 8-11:30am. By mail, online, or in our drop box.

The first installment of metered use is due September 1, 2024. If payment is not received on or before October 1, 2024 the installment becomes delinquent and subject to interest at the rate of 18% per annum, 1.5% per month, or any fraction of a month, from the due date. A minimum of \$2.00 interest will be charged for each delinquent tax bill and installment. Please visit our website for full details and online payments www.killingly.org.

April Lamothe, CCMC

Revenue Collector
Town of Killingly
August 23, 2024
September 6, 2024
September 27, 2024

TOWN OF KILLINGLY BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

The Board of Assessment Appeals of the Town of Killingly will be in session at the Killingly Town Hall, Room 102, 172 Main St., Danielson, CT, on the following day:

Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 5:30 PM

For the purpose of hearing appeals for the October 1, 2023, motor vehicle assessments only.

Appeal forms are available in the Killingly Assessor's Office or at www.killingly.org/assessor under Assessor's Forms.

Dale Dauphinais
Kevin Gaudreau
Russell Lavigne
Board of Assessment Appeals
September 6, 2024



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²Plan 4521. Subject to credit approval. Rates range from 14.26% - 21.19% APR (interest rates range from 15.99% - 24.99%). Loan amount and rate will vary based on your income and creditworthiness. 12 month promotional period ("Promo Period") during which interest is billed but will be waived if the amount financed is paid in full before Promo Period expires. Monthly payments are not required during the Promo Period. Any unpaid balance and amounts owed after Promo Period will be paid over 84 monthly payments. For example, assuming the full credit limit is used on loan approval date and no payments are made during Promo Period, for every \$1,000 financed at a fixed interest rate of 24.99%, 12 monthly payments of \$0 followed by 84 monthly payments of \$28.29. This example is an estimate only. Actual payment amounts based on amount and timing of purchases. Call 866-936-0602 for financing costs and terms. Loans for the GreenSky® consumer loan program are provided by Synovus Bank, Member FDIC, NMLS #408043, without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, or familial status. GreenSky Servicing, LLC services the loans on behalf of your lender, NMLS #1416362. www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. GreenSky® is a registered trademark of GreenSky, LLC and is licensed to banks and other financial institutions for their use in connection with that consumer loan program. GreenSky Servicing, LLC is a financial technology company that manages the GreenSky® consumer loan program by providing origination and servicing support to banks and other financial institutions that make or hold program loans. GreenSky, LLC and GreenSky Servicing, LLC are not lenders. All credit decisions and loan terms are determined by program lenders.