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THOMPSON VILLAGER

Friday, February 26, 2021

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Local Scout brings Little Library to TEEG



Photo Courtesy

Anne Miller and Boy Scout Shane Yurkevicius show off TEEG's new little library.

THOMPSON – TEEG has added a new feature to its campus with the installation of a “little library” courtesy of local boy scout Shane Yurkevicius of Troop 66.

Yurkevicius collaborated with TEEG to create the little library as his Eagle Scout project designing, building, and installing the structure with the help of his father, John Yurkevicius. The library is one of several throughout the region where readers can take and leave books to inspire literacy in the local community. Shane Yurkevicius said the project was a complicated one that involved a lot of minor details and planning to achieve, but the result was rewarding.

“I’m excited and proud that it’s done. I’m happy with the result,” Yurkevicius said. “It was a tedious and long project trying to make sure everything fit together and that all the parts coincided. We had to custom build the doors and find the right hinges. Those are just a few challenges we had to figure out. These libraries allow kids a chance to get a book and read and explore a new pastime, maybe learn and explore something they didn’t know before. We

know not everyone might be able to go to a library, so to add another source of reading to the community is a good thing.”

The little library is built with two shelves in the main section for larger books and literature for higher reading levels. A unique element of the TEEG little library is the smaller lower section designed to be at perfect height for younger readers like elementary and middle schoolers to pick their own books. The paint scheme of the library was inspired by the colors of the TEEG building with weather-resistant material on both the roof and doors.

Anne Miller, Executive Director of TEEG who at one time worked as assistant director of the library at Pomfret School, said TEEG is excited to add a little library to the campus especially considering the organization is located on the same property as the Thompson Public Schools.

“I think it will allow people to share the joy of reading. A lot of people have clicked into reading more deeply during the pandemic. I also think this will allow

Please Read **LIBRARY**, page **A11**

Day Kimball welcomes new Medical Director of Emergency Department

PUTNAM — Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) is pleased to welcome emergency medicine physician Vanessa M. Brown, MD, JD, FACEP, FAAEM, who has been named medical director of the Townsend Emergency Medical Center at Day Kimball Hospital.

“We are delighted to have Dr. Brown join our highly skilled emergency medicine team at Day Kimball Hospital” said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. “The level of experience, dedication to emergency medicine, and passion for patient care that Dr. Brown possesses make her an asset to our community. Emergency care is vital in a small, rural community like ours. Our team is pleased to attract a physician of her caliber to our growing team of providers that provide the highest level of expertise close to home for the people of Northeast Connecticut.”

Dr. Brown received a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Yale University, New Haven, followed by a Doctorate of Medicine from the University of California, Los Angeles, Calif., and a Doctorate of Jurisprudence from Quinnipiac University, North Haven. She completed her emergency medicine residency at Denver Health Medical Center, Denver, Colo., in 2005.

Dr. Brown recently served as an attending physician at Stamford Hospital in Stamford, CT where she also served as Chair of the Credentials Committee. She is certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine and is a member of the American College of Emergency Physicians.



Vanessa M. Brown

Dr. Brown was raised in Cheshire. She is active in the local community as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and Jack and Jill of America, Inc., and serves on the Board of Directors for StoryCorps, Inc. and Horizons at New Canaan Country School. In her free time, Dr. Brown enjoys traveling with her family, tennis and sailing.

Day Kimball Healthcare's Townsend Emergency Medical Center located at Day Kimball Hospital in Putnam is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. To learn more about emergency medicine services available at the Townsend Emergency Medical Center at Day Kimball Hospital, visit daykimball.org/emergency.

About Day Kimball Healthcare

Day Kimball Healthcare is a nonprofit community healthcare system composed of Day Kimball Hospital, Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Healthcare At Home, and healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield,

Please Read **BROWN**, page **A8**

Killingly High School to remain on well system

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KILLINGLY – It appears the town of Killingly will not be moving ahead with connecting Killingly High School to public water any time soon.

Town Manager Mary Calorio discussed the matter with the Town Council in early February as a follow-up to a request by the Board of Education to explore the option of ditching the well system currently in use by the

high school and connecting to a local water source instead due to ongoing issues with the well on the property. Calorio said that in years past, weather events have caused problems with the well sometimes forcing the school to close as a result.

“The system itself has been struck by lightning a number of times causing cancellation of school for periods of time,” said Calorio. “The Town Council turned this over

to the Permanent Building Commission for investigation to determine if it was feasible to connect and how that connection would happen.”

The town hired CPH Engineers to examine to potential for connecting the school to public water. Calorio brought their report to the Town Council which indicated such a move could cost in the area of \$1.8 million. However, when adding in the expected annual costs the concept was

deemed too costly or the town to consider.

“Based on the ongoing costs that would still be required, because you’re then paying for water, it doesn’t make financial sense for the town to pursue that,” Calorio said, later adding that the book isn’t necessarily closed on the issue. “If grant funds were to become available for that installation then the town may want to reconsider that, but at this point there’s no grant funds for

that infrastructure.”

The Town Council didn’t move on the matter during the meeting as it was simply the Town Manager forwarding information to the councilors. However, it was confirmed that the recommendation to maintain the use of the well system for the time being was recommended by not only CPH Engineers, but the Permanent Building Commission as well after the received their copied of the report.

Killingly girls excited at chance to defend ECC title

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

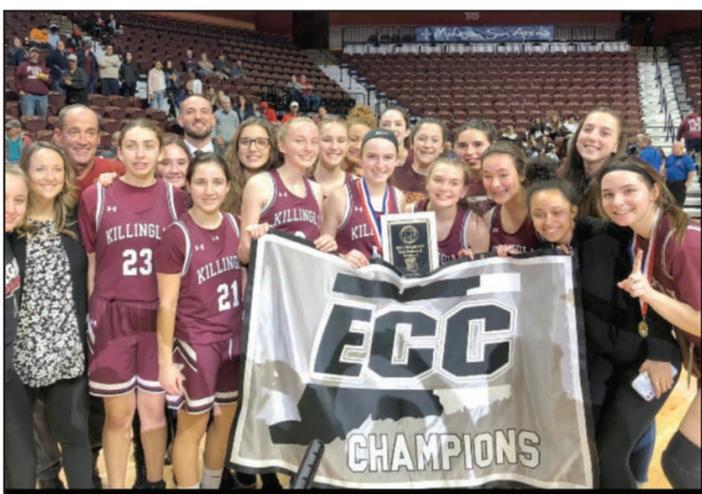


Photo Courtesy Gina Derosier

After winning its first-ever Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Division II Tournament Championship in 2020, the Killingly High girls' basketball team has its sights set on repeating the feat in 2021.

KILLINGLY — With no Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) state basketball tournament being held for a second straight year because of COVID-19 and the global pandemic, the Killingly High girls' basketball team is focused on one thing — successfully defending the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) Division II title it won exactly a year ago.

On Feb. 26, 2020, Killingly rallied from an early 7-0 deficit to defeat Putnam High, 55-49, at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, to capture the crown. That title came just days after Killingly won its first ECC Divisional title in 22 years. Killingly finished the 2019-20 season 19-6.

“I would love to see us not lose in the tournament and go back to back. That’s our goal,” fifth-year Killingly coach Gina Derosier said hours before her team improved to 2-0 with a 64-13 home win over Lyman Memorial High on Saturday, Feb. 20. “It’s going to be a different ECC tournament, to be sure, but we’re just grateful that

there is going to be one.”

In its win over Lyman, Killingly was led by junior Sophia Moore and sophomore Ella Lach, who each scored 12 points in the victory. Moore added four rebounds and three steals to the winning effort while Lach also came up with three steals.

Junior Emma Carpenter and sophomore Aila Gutierrez both contributed eight points to the win. Carpenter also finished with five assists and three steals while Gutierrez recorded three assists and two steals. Maddie Sumner, the lone senior on the team, chipped in seven points.

Killingly opened the season with an equally impressive effort as the win over Lyman, defeating Griswold High, 43-24, on the road on Friday, Feb. 12.

Players only get one varsity debut and freshman Hannah Grudzien made the most of hers, helping lead the way to the win by scoring nine points, grabbing seven rebounds, and making seven steals.

The 5-foot-7 Carpenter added six points

Please Read **SPORTS**, page **A4**



**KILLINGLY
AT 300
.....
MARGARET
WEAVER**

While looking for interesting local tidbits from 100 years ago on newspapers.com several weeks ago, I came across a nice article about Byron D. Bugbee of Putnam.

Now, I'm sure the surname Bugbee brings back many fond memories of Bugbee's Department Store on the corner of Front Street (Route 44) and Main Streets in Putnam. "It was announced Wednesday that Governor Everett J. Lake has appointed Byron D. Bugbee of this city (Putnam) a member of the finance board of the state. The appointment is to fill the unexpired term of Robert Magee of Watertown, who died recently. Mr. Bugbee is one of Putnam's best known residents and represented the town in the general assembly during the session of 1899 and at the constitutional convention in 1902. He was born in Milbury, Mass. on March 31, 1864. He received his education in Webster, Mass. and during his vacations worked in drygoods stores. His father was Alonzo A. Bugbee and his mother was Aseneth Bates...Mr. Bugbee after his schooling, entered a drygoods store at Turner's Falls, Mass. in 1879 where he remained five years, and then went to Holyoke and remained there two years in the same business. In 1886 he entered the dry goods store of H. C. Murray in Willimantic, and shortly after when the later (sic, latter) started a branch store in Putnam he took in Mr. Bugbee as a partner. Soon after Mr. Bugbee bought out Mr. Murray's interest and built up one of the leading drygoods stores in Eastern Connecticut. He retired from business about a year and a half ago. While in the house Mr. Bugbee delivered the address in presenting to the state J. T.

Thurber's (sic. T. J.) oil painting of the historic Wolf Den, which now hangs in the executive chamber. His term will expire on the first Monday in January, 1925." (Norwich Bulletin, Thursday, Feb. 10, 1921; newspapers.com). In more recent times the store came under the ownership of Frederick H. Furman and his wife Eva who acquired the store in 1948. At the time of Frederick's death in April 1953, the Bugbee Corp. operated department stores in Putnam and Webster, Massachusetts. (Hartford Courant, April 4, 1953, p. 4; newspapers.com). Eva continued to operate the store until her death in April 1978 then Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Mauer, son-in-law and daughter, operated Bugbee's. (Fabiola Cutler; Date Social Security Death Index, Ancestry.com).

Do you have memories of Bugbee's (the Houghton and Bugbee Block/Building) or other downtown Putnam buildings that you would like to share? Fabiola Cutler and Sandra Cutler Ames from Putnam's Aspinock Historical Society are researching a pictorial book entitled "A Stroll Thru Putnam," which will feature photos, historical tidbits, and memories of buildings, blocks and landmarks in the Front Street-Main Street area. Please email Fabiola at fabiolacutler@atlanticbb.net if you have memories to share.

The above article made mention of Putnam artist Thomas Jones Thurber who retired to Putnam Heights in the 1870's. The "Illustrated Popular Biography of Connecticut" (probably 1891) noted that he had served as a member of the Connecticut Legislature in 1882. In later years he was a justice of the peace for Putnam, an agent of the Connecticut Humane Society, and treasurer of the First Congregational Church of Putnam (Putnam Heights). As a young man, he had served as the New England agent of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company then later represented a Woonsocket woolen manufacturer in New York City.

Byron D. Bugbee

While discussing Thurber at the Oct. 2, 2016 Walktober walk in the Putnam Heights Cemetery, Linden Whipple, a Putnam Heights resident and member of the Killingly Historical Society board of directors, commented that Thurber was the original painter of "Frog Rock" in Eastford. Thurber passed that way when going to serve in the Connecticut Legislature and was inspired to paint the rock. He also did paintings of Cargill Falls in Putnam and the Wolf Den in Putnam, one of which was hanging in the capitol in Hartford according to the "Illustrated Popular Biography of Connecticut." (Extracted from the Oct. 24, 2016 Killingly at 300 column in the Villager).

I did not move to Northeastern Connecticut until 1969 so asked Killingly Historical Society president Bernie Mitchell about department stores in Danielson in the "Bugbee" era in Putnam. Bernie said that when he was growing up the major department store in downtown Danielson was Keech's Department Store which was located in the building that later became Gil's Shoe Barn. According to Natalie L. Coolidge's "Killingly Business Encyclopedia" in the 1950's Keech's was owned by Sam Florman. The following historical summary, under the above entries, was written by Isadore Florman in November 1953 in preparation for Danielson's Centennial. "The store, under the ownership of Sam Florman, has been located in the same site since August of 1927...During this long span this establishment has catered to men, women, and children for all their needs in the fields of ready-to-wear, footwear, and accessories besides many items for the home. Originally in 1927 a store at 49 Main Street was owned by James E. Keech who had been a merchant in Danielson for about fifty years. Sam Florman purchased this store and also rented an empty store at 45 Main St. As the stores were in the same building, part of the wall was torn down and

made into one large store. With permission from Mr. Keech the new, enlarged store was named Keech's Department store. Two members of the present staff of the store have been with the organization for the entire twenty years; namely, Mr. Isadore Florman, son of the owner, and Mr. Raymond Leire a well-known citizen of Danielson. At present the store employs six full time persons and extra help for the weekends. Mrs. Alice Martin has been with the store for fifteen years." The last entry for the store was taken from a May 13 1971 Windham County Transcript. According to the 1978 SNET Telephone Directory by that year the building was called Keech's Mini Mall with Gilbert Poirier as owner. By 1980 it had become Gil's Shoe Barn. (1980 SNET Telephone Directory). Please feel free to email me with memories you might wish to share about Keech's or Gil's Shoe Barn. Thank you very much.

The mail and answering machine are being checked on a regular basis although the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center is closed to the public. Please send an email to the director or leave a message on the answering machine if you would like to donate items or have research questions.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, February, 2021. Special thanks to Fabiola Cutler, Sandra Ames and Bernie Mitchell for their input. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 (when it reopens) or www.killinglyhistorical.org. or call 860-779-7250 (when the Historical Center reopens). 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, Connecticut 06329

POLICE LOGS

PUTNAM — The Putnam Police Department reports the following arrests.

Justin Cortis, age 31, of North Grosvenordale was arrested on Feb. 12 for Operating Under the Influence.

Matthew Hajder, age 31, of Dayville was arrested on Feb. 12 for Failure to Appear in the First Degree, Violation of a Protective Order, Criminal Trespassing in the First Degree, and Criminal Mischief in the First Degree.

Nathan Rex Cordell, age 23, of Putnam was arrested on Feb. 19 on two counts of Failure to Appear.

Joseph Provost, age 54, of Putnam was arrested on Feb. 19 for Larceny in the Sixth Degree.

John Henry Douglas, age 54, of Dayville was arrested on Feb. 21 for Criminal Mischief.

THOMPSON — Creation Church of Thompson is pleased to announce that it will be going to two worship services beginning in March. One will be at 9 a.m., followed by a second one at 10:30 a.m. The church as continued to meet for 40 out of 42 weeks since Memorial Day. Social distancing and masks are still a requirement, as is 50 percent capacity for each service. In addition, Creation Church also provides a live-stream of each of their services on their Facebook and YouTube pages each Sunday.

Creation will also be starting up their

Creation Kids program on the first Sunday in March at their 10:30 a.m. service time. The children, ages four to fifth grade, will be meeting in the church's brand-new fellowship hall at that time, also with masks and social distancing and adhering to the state's Covid protocols. Please contact Gale Norman at the church at 860-923-9979 for more information.

A Women's Bible Study Book Club will, also, be starting up in March on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm, as well as a brand-new Men's Bible Study on Saturday mornings in March at 8:00am. For more information about either study, contact Bernie or Gale Norman at www.creationchurch.org.

On Wednesday, March 24, Creation Church will, also, be kicking-off a brand-new missions, praise and prayer evening at 6:30 p.m. called Act 1:8, based on Jesus' encouragement to His disci-

ples when He said, "You shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." Each evening will be filled with worship music, a missionary's message, and prayer with a goal of "Ministering outside our four walls," as Pastor Bernie Norman likes to put it.

Creation Church is a non-denominational, Christian church located at 47 West Thompson Rd. in Thomspn, just across from the Thompson Dam. "A Place of New Beginnings" Creation Church has a three-fold mission "to lead people into a growing relationship with God by providing warm and safe environments where people can pursue a loving relationship with God, experience fellowship and community within, and have a godly influence without.

Creation Church to add second worship service

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VILLAGER STAFF DIRECTORY

<p>NEWS EDITOR, BRENDAN BERUBE 860-928-1818 x 323 brendan@villagernewspapers.com</p>	<p>ADVERTISING MIKAELA VICTOR ADVERTISING REPRESENTATIVE 860-928-1818, EXT. 313 mikaela@villagernewspapers.com</p>
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FOR ALL OTHER QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT
KERRI PETERSON
860-928-1818 EXT. 303
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

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<p>PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER FRANK G. CHLINSKI 860-928-1818 EXT. 103 frank@villagernewspapers.com</p>	<p>EDITOR BRENDAN BERUBE 860-928-1818 x 323 brendan@villagernewspapers.com</p>
<p>BUSINESS MANAGER RYAN CORNEAU 860-928-1818 EXT. 102 ryan@salmonpress.news</p>	<p>PRODUCTION MANAGER JULIE CLARKE 860-928-1818, EXT. 305 julie@villagernewspapers.com</p>

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

VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Feb. 15: Bald Eagle, Red-tailed Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Pileated Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Flicker, Raven, Robin, Bluebird, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Junco, American Tree Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Goldfinch. Visit ctaudubon.org/pomfret-home.

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WOODSTOCK ACADEMY HONOR ROLL

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock Academy has released its honor roll for the second quarter of the 2020-2021 school year.

High Honors

Grade 12: Alexia Adams, Livia Armstrong, Zachary Banning, Kathleen Ben, Timothy Billings, Ethan Bove, Matthew Brady, Steven Bratu, Katelin Briere, Logan Brock, Abigail Brown, Jacob Brown, Riley Chapuis, Stefan Chervenkov, Sara Cutillo Soria, Sydney Couture, Emma Curtis, Julia Dearborn, Ariana Di Domizio, Stella DiPippo, Zhiyan Du, Eliza Dutton, Jocelyn Foisey, Zipeng Gao, Gabriel Geyer, Colby Groves, Ashley Guillot, Caleb Hall, Chelsea Harda, Yago Herrera, Emma Hovestadt, Noah Keaten, Brynn Kusnarowis, Kaily LaChapelle, Caitlin LeSage, Skylia Lindell, Hanna Longwell, Angela Lu, Ciara MacKinnon, Avery MacNeil, Harriet Majek, Nathaniel Majewski, Marco Maluf, Samuel Massey, Sophia Mawson, Lexi McCullough-Murphy, Kathleen McDowell, Bailey Mitchell, Nikita Nezhin, Ashley Nunes, Meaghan O'Brien, Evan Odorski, Lily Patenaude, Alexa Pechie, James Phongs, Connor Quinn, Taegon Ryu, Noah Salsich, Heather Schofield, Madeline Silbermann, Emily Skellett, Christina Skellinger, Aleksa Stevanovic, Sarah Tavares, Steisi Topalli, Mallory Tyimok, Alexandra Vaida, Cassidy Walden, Allison Wall, Alexander Williams, Yuhang Yang, Jialei Zhang

Grade 11: Amber Ahearn, Morgan Bentley, Carleigh Boisvert, Zoe Botta, Stella Brin, Paige Campbell, Leah Castle, Jordan Chiles, Ava Coutu, Kaitlyn Dalbec, Ella Davis, Henry Driscoll, Emmaline Ebbeling, Julia Ezzell, Shannon Gagnon, Olivia Grant, Madelyn Groves, Liam Hagan, Samuel Hagan, Sydney Haskins, Emma Heimgartner, Sergio Herrera, Ian Hoffman, Anna Kellermann, Hannah Kim, Keenan LaMontagne, Thai Le, Jonah Libby, Kanxu Lin, Sarah Lucas, Megan Lucier, Allison MacAlister, Jillian Marcotte, Sofia Murray, Gianna Nichols, Marissa O'Sullivan, Ryan Odorski, Jason Ofcarcik, Savannah Olson, Dhruvi Patel, John Pokorny, David Ramos, Hans Rhyndhart, Zachary Roethlein, Mia Ruggeri, Sydney Schuler, Kadin Shepherd, Adeline Smith, McKenna Starr, Conor Stewart, Jonathan Surowaniec, Thao To, Vincent Tocci, Ainslie Tschamler, Ainsley Viano, Norman Warcholik, Tyler Warren, Grayson Webber, Han Zheng

Grade 10: Brooke Arpin, Kristen Ash, Stella Atchinson, Trey Barrett, Brooke Bergevin, Emma Blanchette, Morgan Bonin, Tessa Brown, Carah Bruce, Lauren Brule, Delaney Canty, Gabrielle Couture, Shannon Cunniff, James D'Allea-Bochain, Alexis Danila, Taylor Danner, Carolina DaSilva, Bodie Defocy, Kirsten Deorsey, Ivy Dowdle, Ava Edwards, Ella Favreau, Lennon Favreau, Louella Flanagan, Katie Fortin, Jackson Gallagher, Zachary Gessner, Jaydon Gormley, Matthew Gouin, Kylie Gregory, Lucas Gustafson, Collin Hamilton, Magnolia Hart, Carl Huber, Aleena Jafar-DeCesare, Brian Jameson, Olivia Jendrewski, Yunseo Jeon, Hannah Johnson, Donovan Joseph, Nathan Joseph, Esmeralda Kasneci, Mario Kasneci, Samuel Kim, Khang Le, Annika LeBoeuf, Curtis Lefebvre, Rain Lin, Peishi Liu, Carter MacNeil, Reed Magnan, Thy Mai, Dylan Mayo, Makayla Mayo, Reign Milburn, Bryn Miller, Abigail Morin, Carter Morissette, Abigail Morse, Ella Musumeci, Matthew Myslenski, Cormac Nielsen, Lindsay Nuttall, Paige Owens, Noah Page, Jillian Plouffe, Kylie Quercia, Sophia Quinn, Amelia Racicot, Wyatt Robbie, Natalie Romano, Lillian Rossi, Braiden Saucier, Jonathan Sebastian, Lillian Sharpe, Gianna Smith, Isabella Sorrentino, Mackenzie Starr, Caira Stevens, Concetta Sumner, Linzhuoran Sun, Xin Sun, Allison Surprenant, Alyssa Thompson, Owen Tracy, Cameron Wood, Colin Zavorskas

Grade 9: Elizabeth Adams, Carleh Avery, Claire Beck, Peyton Bentley, Logan Bertram, Elizabeth Bishop-Klee, Kerry Blais, Anthony Buckner, Charles Caggiano, Caitlin Chandler, Julia Coyle, Leah Danis, Hunter Eddy, Joaquin Fraga, Campbell Fraser, Hailey Gagnon, Sean Gasperini, Alexander Gessner, Gavin Grant, Caroline Harris, Sophia Hernandez, Halie Hoffman, Ava Hovestadt, Emma Kerr, Christopher

Kirkconnell, Joel Koleszar, James Koproski, Corinne LaMontagne, Taylor Lamothe, Kaitlyn Lanctot, Samuel Lescault, Kevin Lin, Randi Lucido, Connor MacLeod, Emma Massey, Alexandra Mattioli, Sarah McArthur, Samantha McDowell, Madison McMahon, Kayleigh Murray, Jared Nielsen, Mia Pannone, Amber Pepper, Sophia Petrella, Reagan Reynolds, Evan Rhault, Samantha Richmond, Noah Sampson, Olivia Saraidarian, Matthew Saunders, Zachary Shead, Ava Simoes, Arthur Soucy, Kaelin Soukaloun, Ethan Staples, Sawyer Stewart, Talia Tremblay, Addison Tyimok, Madison Williams

Honors

Grade 12: Emily Anderson, Jacob Aseltine, Ethan Aspiras, Emma Auker, Iris Bazinet, Sierra Bedard, Kimberley Bennett, Aden Berthiaume, Cedric Bilica, Liam Blanchflower, Amanda Bond, Zachary Brody, Eshete Calvo, Rachel Canedy, Amanda Cerrone, Sydney Cournoyer, Cody Currie, Hannah Darigan, Jackson Dias, Oliver Driscoll, Raymond Espinal-Guzman, William Gaug, JiaHao He, Joey Ignacio, Andrew Johnson, Hailey Klar, Dominick Kollbeck, Jady LaFlamme, Cassandra Leighton, Aochen Li, Jerry Lin, Siyao Liu, Matthew Marshall, Carly Millette, Salwa Naveed, Molly O'Connor, Olivia Ott, John Peabody, Payton Peterson, Eric Phongs, Trevisan Pires, Megan Preston, Isabella Price, Arriel Quant, Maxwell Racicot, Elijah Saine, Maria Santucci, Peyton Saracina, Chayton Scheuritzel, Alexa Schimmelpfennig, Alyssa Sharrow, Kyra Shaw, Suzanne Silbermann, Meghan Slate, Dominic Strother, John Symington-St., Nicole Terjesen, Rockwell Valentine, Eli Werstler, Caroline Wilcox, Hongli Zhang, Dmitrii Zinchenko

Grade 11: Jai Abrams, Parker Anderson, Linsey Arends, Annarose Avery, Hamilton Barnes, Sasha Becker, Aurissa Boardman, Jacob Boynton, Neil Camara, Ethan Campbell, Murphy Chace, Dylan Chamberlin, William Chambers, Annabella Chaves, Grace Chouinard, Hannah Clark, Aaliyah Clavell, Nicholas Dahl, Mia Dang, Margaret Ebbeling, River Favreau, Scout Favreau, Tomson Flanagan, Arimae Gagne, Ryan Hanlon, Morgan Hardacker, Emma Hayden, Gwenith Hendrickson, Grace Herindeen, Isabel Hull, Lauren Johnston Medeiros, Ashley Kasacek, Cassandra Klingensmith, Ashton Lanning, Lauren LeDonne, Aiden Lisee, Elizabeth Lovrien, Madison Malboeuf,

Coen McDonald, Emily Nazer, Ian Palmerino, Ezekiel Pichierri, Sara Rogerson, Julia Scandalito, Jordan Sienna, Daniel Torres, Zachary White, Kamila Wysocki, Talia Zuidema

Grade 10: Charlotte Adase, Ella Anderson, Riley Balanovich, Ava Basak, Vicente Bastura, Isabelle Bessette, Alyson Bunning, Italia Burgio, Ranzhe Cao, Ella Chabot, Summer Chaput, Mitchell Child, Mateusz Chojnicki, Avery Collin, Brianna Connors, Amanda Currie, Jade Desmond, Jared Eaton, Grace Gelhaus, Chance Graley, Hadley Grether, Taylor Hardacker, Keira Hawkins, Cameron Heath, Talia Jessurun, Jacob Jurnovoy, Gyu Kim, Sydney Lord, Rori Mackenzie, Leila MacKinnon, Kaden McCullough-Murphy, Jacqueline Medeiros, Kamden Meyer, Nicholas Montanez, John Murray, Magdalena Myslenski, Angela Newell, Alyson Niemiec, Daniel Orozco, Fiona Rigney, Alexa Rock, Aubrey Rumrill, Quintavanh Sangasy, Jakub Sarzynski, Davis Simpson, Grace Smith, Camilla Tahirova, Wyatt Thienel, Jacob Vadeboncoeur, Adrianna Veloce, Kylie Wakely, Patrick Webster, Liam Wilcox, Violet Young

Grade 9: Natalie Bell, Thomas Blevins, Rianne Bourbeau, David Bunning, Danielle Cabassa, Emily Cournoyer, Emerson Dalton, Troy Daviau, Zoe Ender, Summer Espeseth, Aiden Finch, Victoria Gonzalez, Allison Griswold, Kathryn Guillot, Angelos Haveles, Amelia Haynes, Hunter Haynes, Jada Hernandez, Tyler Hudson, Cade Jones, Lila Kirkland, Madyson Knox, Keon Lamarche, Morgan Lambert, Hunter Larson, Kayla Leite, Maeve Lusignan, Kendall McCormack, Cameron McNally, Timothy O'Sullivan, Savannah Ortiz, Dominic Pascale, Kyle Paziienza, Brynn Perry, Xuemei Qu, Joshua Rilling, Gracie Scott, Finn Scribner, Megan Smith, Jessica Stolarek, Thea Sullivan, Jack Sumner, Lana Syriac, Ramaya Talabert, Lucas Theriaque, Josiah Vadeboncoeur, Shaun Wall, Madison Whitehouse, Mathew Zheng

Recognition

Grade 12: Michael Adams, Hunter Anderson, Nicholas Apley, Tabitha Bezanson, Nickolas Chubbuck, Sarah Delaney, Estella Douglas, Adam Exley, Huck Gelhaus, Jacob Hernandez, Richard Hickson, Mackenzie Leveille, Marissa Mayhew, Alina Michalski, Zachary Niemann, Giovanni Nuccio, Nathan Olson, Avery Pajak, Melanie Paziienza, Castro Ruiz, Adam

Schimmelpfennig, Clayton Singleton, Alexis Zagrodny

Grade 11: Peter Bennett, Alison Benoit, Alison Bessette, Walker Dalton, Nicole Davidson, Ethan Davis, Alexa Fernandez, Matthew Griffin, Brendan Hill, Gabriel Hill-Boucher, Aleksandra Iwinska, Jingkai Lin, Adalyn Lukachie, Collin Manuilow, Hailey McDonald, Brigid McNerney, Everett Michalski, Thomas Musumeci, Madison Nichols, Bethany Noe, Euijong Noh, Evan Pimental, Julia Powell, Blin Rollins, Eliza Simpson, Nomar Tejada, Jacqueline Trudeau

Grade 10:

Maxwell Auker, Lilianna Azzolino, Emilia Babbitt, Nicholas Betschmann, Lily Blair, Kayanna Bourassa, Matthew Chuck, Alexandra Cloutier, Cassandra Cooper, Mykela Cote, Jeter Darigan, Curtis Desabre, Gavin Driscoll, Connor Dunkley, Max Ferreira, Alexandra Flint, Emily Goodell, Emma Korsu, Ava Lanoue, Max Larkin, Olivia Mawson, Elizabeth Morgis, Mavin Palmerino, Jayden Phillips, Ethan Pokorny, Randall Rawcliffe, Adele Schmidt, Isabel Sumner, Dominick Tocci, Paige Veilleux-Catlin, Bella Webb, Lauren Weidele, Cooper York, Melissa Zea, Zimo Zheng

Grade 9:

Delaney Anderson, Kyle Anderson, Ryan Bradford, Waylon Breault, Riley Dupont, Timothy Engstrume, Hayden Fontaine, Benjamin Gagnon, Jacob Lizotte, Phoenix MacRae, Seamus McDermott, Rebecca Nazer, Riley O'Brien, Jordan Sands, Nicholas Saunders, Apphia Schley, Jordyn St. Laurent, Zoe Wiggin, Henry Wotton, Alicia Wynkoop

Villager Newspapers

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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



Day Kimball Healthcare's Women's Health Team

Front Row: Amna Aziz, MD; Elena Poloukhine, MD; Robyn Martin, APRN; Lacey Luneau, PA-C; Regan Murchison, MD
Back Row: Andrew MacKenzie, MD; Julie Van Saun, PA-C; Devon Jacobson, MD; Erica Kesselman, MD

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When things like speed limits change, we're the first to know. You could be the second. **Your Community Paper.** Told ya.

Retirement plan and health savings contributions in 2021: What you need to know

“Save more, spend less.” It’s a mantra that many of us have heard often and aspire to as well, even if we don’t always live up to the goal. But when it comes to our physical and financial health, it’s a goal that none of us can really afford to ignore.

In fact, it’s so important that the federal government offers tax breaks to those who save for their future health needs and post-retirement income. There are limits to those tax breaks, of course – but by making the most of them, you can reduce your tax bill today while making real progress in supporting your health and happiness for the future.

Here’s what you need to know to maximize your health, retirement, and tax savings this year.

Maximizing your Health Savings Account (HSA) contributions in 2021.

A Health Savings Account (HSA) allows people with qualifying health insurance plans to save money to pay for eligible health expenses tax free. The money you put into (or contribute) to an HSA is tax-deductible, and disbursements (payments) made from the HSA for qualifying medical expenses are not taxed as income either.

In order to open an HSA, you must have a high-deductible health insurance plan. In 2021 that’s defined as a plan with

an annual deductible of at least \$1,400 for self-only coverage or \$2,800 for family coverage. Your plan must also have a limit on out-of-pocket expenses. For 2021 that limit is \$7,000 for self-only coverage and \$14,000 for family coverage.

If you’ve just switched to a qualifying high-deductible health insurance plan, or if you’ve had one for some time but never opened an HSA, open one now and begin making regular contributions. If you’ve already got an HSA, make sure you’re on track to make the maximum annual contribution in order to save as much as you can for health expenses while saving on taxes, too.

The maximum you can contribute to an HSA in 2021 is up just slightly over last year – up to \$3,600 if your health plan covers only yourself (a \$50 increase from the 2020 limit), or \$7,200 if you have family coverage (a \$100 increase over 2020). In addition, if you’re 55 or older by the end of the year you can contribute an additional \$1,000 in “catch-up” contributions. Just remember that if your employer makes contributions on your behalf that are excluded from your income, your contribution limit is reduced by that amount.

Maximizing your retirement plan contributions in 2021.

There are a variety of retirement savings plans available,



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LAURENCE HALE
INVESTMENT ADVISER

each with its own set of rules, restrictions and benefits. But they all offer one important benefit: the ability to save for retirement while also reducing the amount of income tax you’ll owe each year.

To maximize your retirement savings as well as your tax savings, make the maximum annual contribution to your account each year, if you are able. The maximum contribution allowed depends on the type of plan, and can fluctuate from year to year as tax laws change and limits are adjusted for inflation.

For 2021, the general contribution limits remain the same as in 2020 and are as follows: \$19,500 for 401(k)s, 403(b)s, most 457 plans and the federal government’s Thrift Savings Plan; \$6,000 for IRAs and Roth IRAs; and \$13,500 for SIMPLE IRAs (a retirement plan designed for businesses with 100 or fewer employees).

In addition to these general limits, people age 50 and older are entitled to a “catch-up” contribution. This contribution amount also remains the same in 2021 as it was in 2020:

\$6,500 for 401(k)s, 403(b)s, 457 plans and the Thrift Savings Plan (for a total contribution of \$26,000 for people age 50 and older); or an additional \$1,000 for IRAs (for a total contribution of \$7,000 for IRA account holders age 50 and older).

What has changed for 2021 is that employers can contribute up to \$58,000 to an employee’s 401(k), an increase of \$1,000 over the 2020 limit.

Contributions to 401(k)s, 403(b)s, 457 plans and the Thrift Savings Plan are all made pre-tax, so you realize the tax savings without actually having to take a deduction. IRA contributions, on the other hand, are made with income that has already been taxed, so you must take a deduction for the contributions on your tax return each year to get the tax savings.

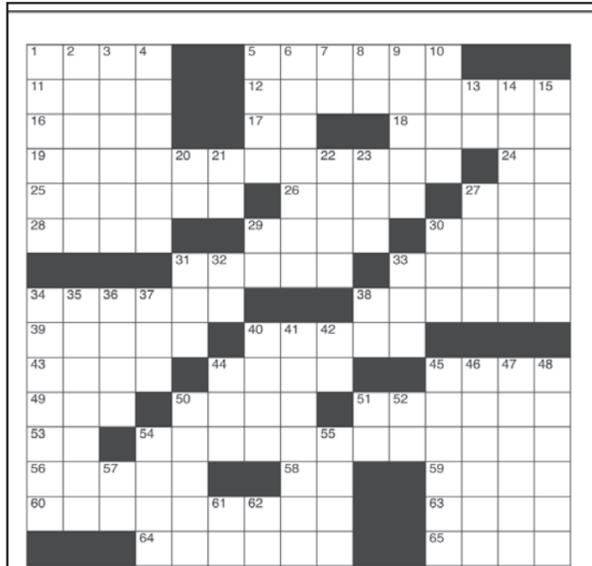
It’s important to note, though, that there are limits to the deductions you can take for IRA contributions. If you have a traditional IRA, the deduction gradually phases out if your income is above a certain amount. If you have a Roth IRA, the amount you can contribute depends on your income. To be eligible to contribute the maximum in 2021, your adjusted gross income must be less than \$125,000 if single or \$198,000 if married and filing jointly. Contributions begin to be phased out for AGIs above those ranges and are reduced to \$0 once your income reaches \$140,000 if single or \$208,000 if

married and filing jointly.

Saving Well = Plan Well

Starting the new year off right financially is an essential ingredient to rebuilding or accelerating your life financial goals. Revisiting and establishing a forward looking and achievable retirement and healthcare savings is a basic component to Planning Well. If you need assistance prioritizing your finances to help you work toward your long-term financial life goals visit our website at www.whzwealth.com or give our office a call at 860-928-2341. Together, we can leverage our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process to help you get to the financial fearlessness you desire.

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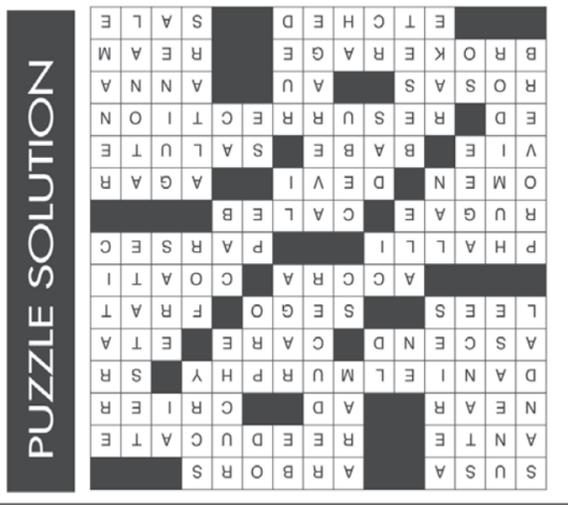


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Ancient Persian city
- 5. Spindles
- 11. Stake
- 12. Retrain
- 16. Close by
- 17. Commercial
- 18. One who publicly announces
- 19. American ballplayer
- 24. Junior’s father
- 25. Go up or climb
- 26. Concern
- 27. When you hope to get there
- 28. Iacocca and Oswald are two
- 29. Plant of the lily family
- 30. Male college organization
- 31. National capital
- 33. Raccoonlike animal
- 34. Symbols of fertility
- 38. Astronomy unit
- 39. Series of ridges in anatomy
- 40. Hebrew leader
- 43. A portent of good or evil
- 44. Supreme goddess
- 45. Gelatinous substance
- 49. Engage in a contest
- 50. Famed ballplayer Ruth
- 51. Pledge
- 53. -, -, denotes past
- 54. Revival
- 56. Spanish surname
- 58. Gold
- 59. Elsa’s sister
- 60. Workplace
- 63. Large quantity of something
- 64. Engraved
- 65. Discount

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Shoe
- 2. Disquiet
- 3. Posture
- 4. Large nests
- 5. Soviet “Second Symphony” composer
- 6. Joins two pipes of different diameter
- 7. Exist
- 8. Overdose
- 9. Pleat of fabric
- 10. Predict the future
- 13. Burgeoning technology
- 14. Having made a valid will
- 15. Having no fixed course
- 20. ___ route
- 21. Lethal dose
- 22. Indian musical pattern of notes
- 23. Athlete
- 27. Geological times
- 29. Atomic #21
- 30. In support of
- 31. Brew
- 32. Certificate of insurance
- 33. Taxi
- 34. Type of saying
- 35. For cigars
- 36. Phil ___, former CIA
- 37. Local area network
- 38. Gym class
- 40. Philippine Island
- 41. Not great or bad
- 42. Eastern part of NY state
- 44. Gov’t lawyers
- 45. Constructions
- 46. Former British gold coin
- 47. Unkeyed
- 48. Rechristen
- 50. Threaten persistently
- 51. Southeast
- 52. Cools your home
- 54. Removes the leaves
- 55. Regretted
- 57. Thus
- 61. Relief organization (abbr.)
- 62. Exclamation of surprise



Thompson Lions Golf League trophy presented to Ron Barks

THOMPSON — The Clifford “The Dog” Svenning Memorial Trophy for the 2020 season of the Thompson Lions Men’s Golf League was recently awarded to long-time member Ron Barks.

When Barks was told that everyone in attendance at our end-of-season banquet agreed that he would be an excellent recipient for this year’s trophy, he was overwhelmed with emotion. An engraved nameplate was added to the trophy and presented to him at a luncheon at Zip’s Diner back in the Fall. He has been playing in the league for a total of 36 years.

The trophy was named in honor of Cliff Svenning after his passing in 2009. Mr. Svenning was a 35-year member of the Thompson Lions Golf League and was instrumental in recruiting players. He was an all-around great guy who always made you laugh. The trophy is awarded to a player each year who embodies that competitive spirit while still having fun.

The Thompson Lions Golf League plays nine holes on



Ron Barks

Tuesday afternoons at Raceway Golf Club in Thompson with tee times starting at 4 p.m. We are actively recruiting players of all abilities for the 2021 season which begins in early May and runs through early September.

Membership in the Thompson Lions Club is not required to play in the league. If you are interested in playing, contact League Administrator Scott Antonson at 860-933-9861 for more information.

SPORTS

continued from page A1

and 10 steals to the winning effort while Moore and sophomore Marisa Kazantzis scored seven points each.

Ellis Tech 40, Grasso Tech 22 Senior co-captains Vivianna St. Jean and Amber Cutler each scored 11 points to lead Ellis Tech to a 40-22 home win over Grasso Tech on Wednesday, Feb. 17. Freshman Kylie Damble tossed in seven points in the victory while junior Skylar Egan added five points. Seniors Jocelyn Collin and Ashley Bowden added four and two points, respectively, to the victory.

Ellis Tech improved to 2-1 with the win, having also defeated Grasso Tech, 24-17, on the

road on Wednesday, Feb. 10.

Windham 47, Woodstock Academy 24 Junior Aurissa Boardman led the Centaurs’ attack, scoring six points, 25 percent of WA’s point total for the game, but it wasn’t enough as the Whippets ran away with the win in what was the season-opener for both schools.

BOYS’ BASKETBALL Killingly 46, Lyman Memorial 39 Sophomore Yianni Baribeau scored 14 points and grabbed 15 rebounds to lead 2-0 Killingly High to a seven-point road win over Lyman Memorial (0-1). Senior Cole Lavigne and junior Trevin Russ both added eight points in the win. Killingly’s first win of the year, 57-27 over Griswold, came back on Friday, Feb. 12. Baribeau led the Killingly attack with 15 points and 13 rebounds. Junior Jason Grzysiewicz added 13 points, 10 in the first half, while Lavigne finished with 10 points.

Putnam 56, Wheeler 34 Senior Colby Livingston poured in a game-high 30 points to lift the Clippers to a season-opening win over the Lions in North Stonington on Tuesday, Feb. 16.

BOYS’ HOCKEY Woodstock Academy 2, Tri-Town 1 (OT)

Senior Guerin Favreau scored an unassisted goal with 1:27 left in overtime to lead the Centaurs to a season-opening win at the Enfield Twin Rinks on Friday, Feb. 19. Sophomore Jeter Darigan scored the other goal for the Centaurs in the first period off an assist from Favreau.

GIRLS’ HOCKEY Northern Lights 5, Woodstock Academy 3

Senior Eliza Dutson scored two goals off two assists from junior Bella Chaves for the Centaurs in their season-opener on Sunday, Feb. 14, in Simsbury against the Connecticut Northern Lights girls’ hockey program. Julianna Buoniconti scored the other goal for Woodstock Academy with an assist from Celia Bouchard.

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Celluloid collectibles

Celluloid was considered the first semi-synthetic plastic. According to Britannica, “some historians trace the invention of celluloid to English chemist Alexander Parkes, who in 1856 was granted the first of several patents on a plastic material that he called Parkesine.” The Atlantic magazine attributes development to the United States inventor John Wesley Hyatt who is said to have created celluloid in 1869. Celluloid was created to replace ivory billiard balls but proved to be unsuitable for that purpose. According to the Atlantic, “because celluloid could be made to imitate expensive or rare materials – such as ivory, tortoise-shell, and mother-of-pearl – it was soon employed in the manufacture of fancy goods affordable for the growing middle class.” It increased in use during the 1880s and it was used to make post-cards, game pieces, toys, advertising novelties and souvenirs, jewelry, knitting needles, straight razor handles, and imitation linen collars and cuffs.” “In 1882, John H. Stevens, a chemist at the Celluloid Manufacturing Company, discovered that amyl acetate was a suitable solvent for diluting celluloid,” according to Britannica. The new clear celluloid was used to create flexible films. Celluloid was used in motion picture films into the 1930s.

Because celluloid was so widely used, we often find it in local estates. Dresser/vanity sets are some of the more common celluloid items we encounter. Years of heat exposure often affected the sets and they can become very brittle.



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
•••••
WAYNE
TUISKULA

A typical set in good condition sells for around \$20. A vanity set in a color other than ivory can bring a little more.

Most celluloid is affordable to collect, but there are some celluloid collectibles that command strong auction prices. For example, cels (Merriam Webster: “a transparent sheet of celluloid on which objects are drawn or painted in the making of animated cartoons”) from older cartoons can be quite valuable. In 2017 a cel from 1937 of the Evil Queen from Snow White sold for \$25,000 and a Charlie Brown Christmas cel sold for \$50,000.

Because celluloid deteriorates over time there aren't a large amount of advertising signs in pristine condition. Three nice examples sold very well at auction. A Chancellor Cigar sign depicting a 1910 woman went for \$12,000. An Ingram's Witch Hazel Salve sign sold for \$13,000 in 2012 and a 1902 hanging celluloid Coca Cola sign reached \$19,000 in 2011. Rare celluloid toys can also bring high auction prices. A 1930s waddling Donald Duck toy went for \$13,000 in 2014 and a celluloid Mickey Mouse on a metal scooter with the original box brought \$37,000 in 2008.

Older pinback buttons were also made of celluloid with metal backing. Some have brought astronomical prices. A rare “Buck Rogers 25th Century” celluloid pinback went for \$2,700 in 2019. A Franklin D. Roosevelt for Senate pinback brought \$3,750 in 2016. As you might expect, sports pinbacks are very popular. Few examples of a one and a half inch Mickey Mantle Fan club



button are known to exist. One sold for over \$23,000 last year. A pinback advertising a Detroit beer company is even more rare. The pinback is the only one known to exist depicting Babe Ruth and the 1916 World Champion Boston Red Sox. It sold for nearly \$63,000 last year. I'm sure celluloid manufacturers weren't expecting the objects they made inexpensively for the middle class to sell for five figure sums over a century later.

We will have some celluloid objects from the estate of a long-time collector in our May multi-estate auction. We are still accepting quality items such as antique paintings, gold jewelry, sterling

silver and older collectibles such as coins, sports memorabilia, advertising signs, and comic books for the May auction. We are also currently running an online auction of model railroad trains, die-cast cars, pressed steel trucks, and models that ends on March 10th. See our Web site for details: <https://central-massauctions.com>.

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

Karen Warinsky of Woodstock to participate in local arts festival



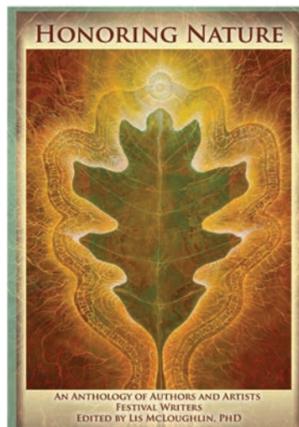
NORTHFIELD, Mass. — Online Feb. 27 at 11 a.m., Rich Holschuh, spokesman for the Elnu Abenaki, a Vermont State-recognized tribe, will open the Northfield Authors and Artists Festival: Honoring Nature.

Squakeag/Northfield is within the traditional Sokoki Abenaki homelands, and the festival opens with a grounding as to where we physically would be if we weren't in cyberspace. Just afterwards, the first talk will be given by Sherri Mitchell of the Penobscot Indian Nation, followed by Christian McEwen, a western Massachusetts resident originally from Scotland; Scott Russell Sanders from the midwestern US; Gay Bradshaw from the west coast; and Patrick Curry originally

from Canada, now resident of London in the UK. The poets too bring a diversity of voices from Pakistan, Israel, Taiwan, the Passamaquoddy Nation, and the US. And that's just Day 1 of the two-day free Authors and Artists Festival. Day 2 includes Deb Habib from Seeds of Solidarity Farm; Joan Maloof of the Old Growth Forest Network; Susan Cerulean Florida bird expert; and Simon Wilson speaking on religion and the ecological crisis from Canterbury Christ Church University in south-eastern England.

The speakers from both days are equally diverse in how they participate in Honoring Nature. From the practical work of protecting old growth forests; maintaining animal sanctuaries; and growing organic food with no-till methods; to the equally hard work of imagining a more respectful and sustainable way for humans to interact with the rest of Nature, the authors tell their stories and inspire others.

Lis McLoughlin, one of the festival organizers, says, “We are grateful to have the involvement of so many people from around the world who



Honor Nature in their own unique ways. Because so much of what we do is hard work, it is especially gratifying to have the chance to celebrate Nature, and our collaborations, in the festival.”

This year there is an additional reason to party: a book produced from authors and artists who participated in the festival's first 2 years. The anthology Honoring Nature, published by Human Error Publishing (Paul Richmond) contains work from 40 authors and artists and is available to buy separately or with a book launch ticket. The launch will

Authors & Artists Festival, February 27 & 28, 2021: SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE		
Parents have the ultimate responsibility of determining what is appropriate for their children to hear.		
	Saturday 2/27/21	Sunday 2/28/21
11:00am-12:00pm	Sherri Mitchell: <i>Sacred Instructions</i>	Deb Habib & Ricky Baruch: <i>Love and Vision in Disruptive Times</i>
12:00-1:00pm	Christian McEwen: <i>Listening to Nature</i>	Joan Maloof: <i>Old Growth Forests</i>
1:00-2:00pm	Poetry	Poetry
2:00-3:00pm	Scott Russell Sanders: <i>The Way of Imagination</i>	Susan Cerulean: <i>I Have Been Assigned the Single Bird</i>
3:00-4:00pm	Gay Bradshaw: <i>Talking with Bears</i>	Simon Wilson: <i>Religion and the Ecological Crisis</i>
4:00-5:00pm	Patrick Curry: <i>Enchantment</i>	Poetry

be held at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27, and the cost of \$5 is to help fund a free book for each of the 40 contributors to the volume. Purchase a book and/or launch ticket at: <https://ko-fi.com/lismcloughlin/shop>

The online Authors and Artists Festival: Honoring Nature, Feb. 27-28, is free and includes two online art shows with work from children and adults. Sign up at www.author-sandartistsfestival.wordpress.com

The Authors and Artists Festival is very grateful to our sponsors who include: The Greenfield Cooperative Bank; The Dickinson Memorial

Library of Northfield; The Friends of Greenfield Public Library; The Northfield Historical Commission; The Grass Roots Fund of New England; the Northfield Area Tourist and Business Association; the Kiwanis Club; the Northfield Parent Teachers Association; and the Massachusetts Cultural Council (a state agency) through their local cultural councils of Northfield, Greenfield, Gill, and Montague. Keywords: Northfield, Massachusetts; Authors and Artists Festival: Honoring Nature, local, global, arts

The positive power of influencing others

A few weeks ago, we spoke of the power of influence and that we become the average of the five people we spend the most time around. People often brush aside the idea that they are influenced by others. To do so is foolish. We are all influenced, and we all influence others.

Today, I want to speak with you about the power of influence we have over others. Let me first break down the difference between casual influence and purposeful influence. Casual influence is the impact you have on others by just who you are. Purposeful influence is in mentoring others. Let's focus on the power of influence you can have on others and we will call it mentoring.

Mentoring is about helping another person learn through a one-to-one relationship. It's a common practice for transferring knowledge and promoting best practices and procedures in the workplace, as well as being an effective way to develop new leaders. Serving as a mentor can play a powerfully influential role in younger generations and can benefit you as well as the mentee.

We spend a lifetime learning, gathering information and experiences. My oldest son once told me, “When a person dies, it's as if a library full of one-of-a-kind books burns to the ground. Unless shared, all your knowledge, information and experience are lost.” If we allow that to happen it's as if a lifetime of learning is wasted.

What experience and information do you have that can benefit others if shared?

I don't care who you are, what your

education level is or what you do or have done for a living, you have something inside your head and heart that would benefit others to know.

A few years ago, our community was desperate for substitute teachers. I have a degree in education, so I began. I continued doing so two days a week until I was diagnosed with stomach cancer.

I also started a drum line and color guard in association with Youth for Christ and found weekly opportunities to set an example and share life experiences with eighth grade through high school age students. Many of those students came from broken homes and did not have a father figure in their lives. I found it to be an incredibly rewarding experience for me as well as them.

What experience do you have to share? Are you a musician, athlete, business professional or tradesperson? If so, you have experience to share. Do you know how to cook or work in a kitchen? Do you know how to repair cars? Are you a computer coder or hardware tech? We all know something that will benefit others.

What I've learned most of all about mentoring, is what young people want and appreciate most is your time. They may not express it in words, but when you connect with a young person, they benefit from the experience and are grateful whether they express it in words or not.

Where can you go for mentoring opportunities?



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
GARY W.
MOORE

Your church, service club or fraternal organizations often have opportunities. I know most, if not all school districts, need substitute teachers. Organized sporting activities or community dance, theater, or musical organizations ...

the list is endless. All that is required of you is to take the step to let them know you are available ... and be available to spend time. I know of no studies to verify this, but I believe those who volunteer find happiness and joy in the experience.

Once I'm a little further along in my healing process, I'd enjoy starting a young writer's group to provide mentoring and encouragement to those interested in the craft as a hobby and/or career. I don't want my library to burn to the ground without sharing the information and experience in my head and heart. When we do so, we live on through the lives of others.

What about you? Are you a “Hey you kids! Get off my lawn!” kind of person or would you like to make a positive difference in the lives of the next generation? That's a serious question and I'd like you to answer. If you are willing to share your experience and time with others, jump in.

There's never been a time when optimists are needed more to provide positive mentoring to the next generation. Will you answer the call? Will you share what you know?

Will you join me?

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryW Moore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

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NCWIT awards presented for aspirations in computing



KILLINGLY — The Killingly High School Business & Computer Science Department is proud to announce that five of our computer science students have been recognized by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) for computing-related aspirations and for demonstrated outstanding aptitude and interest in science, technology, engineering and

mathematics (STEM). Awards will be presented at an online, virtual celebration on April 14.

The 2021 Connecticut Winner of the NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing is senior Sophie Griffin. Sophie plans to attend college in the fall to major in Aerospace Engineering. Connecticut Honorable Mention recipients are junior Lucinda Burke, senior



Julia Purcell, and senior Sarah Roberts. Connecticut Rising Star recipient is sophomore Aila Gutierrez.

Over the past two years, Killingly High School has added four new computer science courses to the program of studies including AP Computer Science Principles, AP Computer Science A, App Creators, and Introduction to Data Science. A major goal of the program is

to encourage gender and racial equity in all computing and STEM fields.

For more information regarding the NCWIT and the Aspirations in Computing program, please visit their Web site at <https://www.ncwit.org/project/aspirations-computing>.

Tips for seed starting success



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

You created your wish list, ordered some or all of the seeds you will need, and they are beginning to arrive. Make the most of your investment with a bit of planning.

Starting seeds at the proper time, indoors or directly in the garden, ensures a good start to the growing season. Check the back of the seed packet for planting times and directions. Consult your local Extension Service's website for more details on the best time to plant in your area.

Organize your seeds by when they need to be started. You can create your own system or invest in one like Gardener's Supply's seed envelopes and dividers. This system allows you to organize seeds

by type, planting season, color, garden location and more. Use your storage system to keep leftover seeds organized for future plantings. It will also save you money on future seed orders. Just be sure to place the seeds in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

Enter planting dates on your calendar as well. Months pass quickly and it is easy to miss important planting times. Creating a planting calendar will help you plant seeds at the proper time for the maximum benefit.

Gather seed starting equipment and supplies if starting seeds indoors. You will need a quality seed starting or potting mix and clean containers. Use yogurt and other small food containers for starting seeds. Drill holes in the bottom and clean them before planting. Avoid disease problems by sanitizing old plant containers. Soak them in a one-part bleach and nine-parts water solution for ten minutes. Then rinse in clear water before filling with planting mix.

Or try one of the new plas-

tic-free, environmentally friendly seed starting options. Use a paper pot maker (gardeners.com) to convert newspaper into biodegradable plant pots. Consider cow pots made of composted manure that provide nutrients in a biodegradable pot. You can leave your seedlings in these containers when moving them into the garden.

Create your own pot-free seed starter with Gardener's Supply soil blocker. It presses moist potting mix into blocks that hold their shape. The blocks can be moved directly into the garden, reducing transplant shock.

Follow the directions on the seed packets for depth and care. Most seeds prefer warm conditions but do not need light to sprout. Keep the planting mix moist. Cover the containers with a sheet of plastic to conserve moisture and extend the time between watering.

Once you see any green, it is time to move the seedlings into bright light or under artificial lights. Keep the lights on for no more than 14 to 16 hours and

four to six inches above the top of the plants for best results.

Once your plants are actively growing, you can begin fertilizing if needed. Check the planting mix to see if a fertilizer has been added and how long it will be effective before adding more. Follow the label directions on the fertilizer you select.

Share the fun and workload with friends and family. Perhaps you will start tomatoes for everyone, another person handles the peppers and yet another person the eggplants. Or just share extra seeds since each packet usually contains more than most gardeners have space to grow.

Most importantly, have fun.

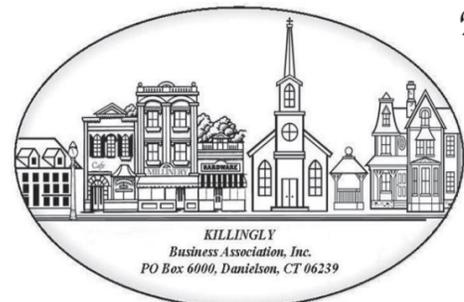
Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series* and the *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was com-



Photo Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company

Paper pot makers make it easy to transform newspaper into biodegradable plant pots that are perfect for starting seeds.

missioned by Gardener's Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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Lannon earns Employee of the Month at Westview Health Care

DAYVILLE — Dayville resident Micaeleen Lannon was recently awarded Westview Health Care Center's Employee of the Month distinction for January 2021.

Lannon has been employed at the Dayville skilled nursing facility since October 2019 as one of their many essential employees as a Certified Nursing Assistant.

Like so many other health care workers, "Mikey" has dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic and all of its many discomforts and challenges with patience, grace and adaptability. Continually striving to provide the best care possible to the patients and residents of Westview, her positive demeanor and "can do" attitude has been a strength not only for the recipients of her care but also with her many coworkers.

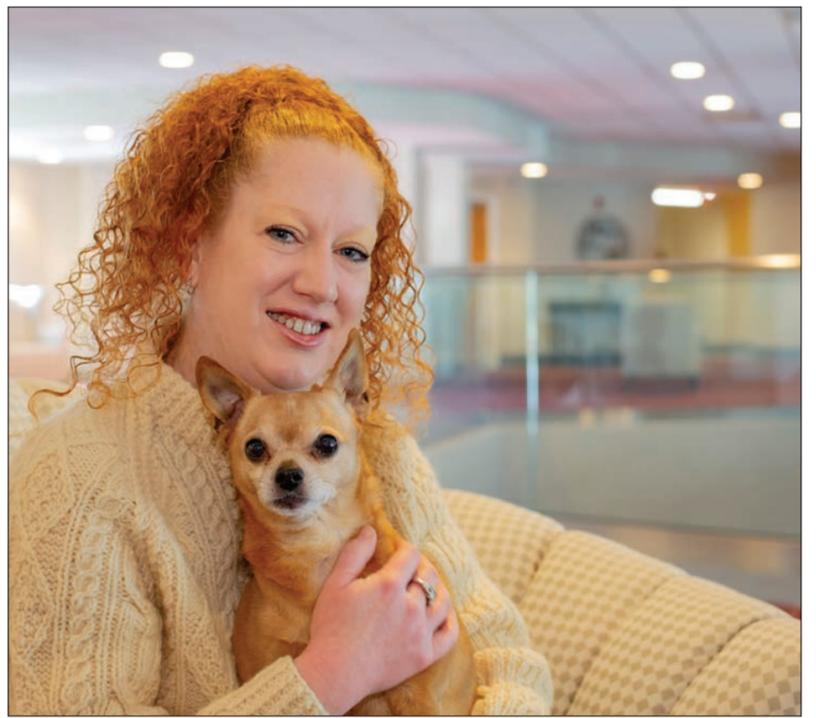
Lannon is extremely family-oriented, and can often be found surrounded by her family including: Edward T. Murphy, father; Maureen Lannon, mother; Murphy Lannon, daughter; Michele Craig, sister; and her dog, Tyson "Chalupa" Craig. Her other interests include the Grateful Dead, car and bike racing, playing pool and following the Pittsburgh Steelers.

"It is a great honor to receive this award," remarked Lannon. "I truly love

what I do and the patients and residents at Westview bring so much joy to my life. I feel like it is a duty of society to care for their elderly and I am very proud to be a Westview Warrior!"

"Ms. Lannon's amazing work ethic is laudable and her innate ability to connect with the patients, residents and staff at Westview is to be commended," stated David T. Panteleakos, Administrator. "We're very grateful for her high level of dedication and unyielding Westview Warrior spirit, as we have learned over the past year that when the going gets tough, you want people just like Mikey on your team!"

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 facility is located in Dayville, Connecticut and is ranked among the top nursing facilities in the nation according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Service; and U.S. News and World Report for the past 13 years.



Micaeleen Lannon

Eastern student participates in Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

Eastern student participates in Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival

WILLIMANTIC — Eastern Connecticut State University's theatre students and faculty recently attended a virtual version of the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival (KCACTF), where they presented their work, attended workshops, watched productions, listened to keynote speakers and attended an award ceremony.

Among the participants was Emma Kellermann, a senior from Eastford majoring in New Media Studies. Kellermann was recognized for being a Tech Trivia Team host for the Eastern 2020 Tech Olympics. The Tech Olympics are a series of timed technology-based challenges.

While the online setting did not allow for the conference's traditional in-person performances and presentations, it opened up opportunities that students would otherwise not have been able to experience, said Professor Anya

Sokolovskaya, who also serves as a board member for the conference. "It gave our students possibilities to mix with people who usually aren't available."

One of those people was keynote speaker Paula Vogel, an American playwright best known for her play "How I Learned to Drive," which received a Pulitzer Prize in 1998.

Along with multiple networking opportunities, students and faculty received recognition for their work during and before the COVID-19 pandemic. Eastern's last in-person performance before the pandemic, "The Brothers Size," for instance, received several awards and acknowledgements. The play was directed by Professor DeRon Williams.

Along with awards and accolades, Eastern students and faculty were able to showcase their talents in other ways. The most telling was the "Tech Trivia" game, planned and produced by several Eastern students and Sokolovskaya.

The event, which became the responsibility of the students after they won the 2020 KCACTF Tech Olympics, presented some challenges for adaption to a virtual setting.

While Eastern students and staff faced challenges this year adapting to a new setting and situation, Williams thinks this year's KCACTF brought a new light to theatre. "I think it lit a fire under our students and gave them endless possibilities. More broadly theatre has expanded." He also stated that this event, coupled with COVID, presented new possibilities for productions in the future. "Many new versions and iterations will be coming to Eastern theatre," he promised.

"The conference showed students the resilience and drive of the theatre community," concluded Sokolovskaya. "They are trying new ways of doing theatre. We saw students experimenting, trying new things, which is remarkable."

Little League registration ending soon

REGION — Little League registration for the 2021 Spring season is close to closing soon. All local leagues end registration at different times. It is highly recommended to register now. We expect to have a regular Little League season this year and look forward to getting back on the field.

Little League Baseball was founded in 1939, and is the world's first community-based, volunteer-operated youth sports program. The inaugural Little League season was played in Williamsport, Pa., and since that fateful year, countless neighborhoods and tens of millions of children and volunteers have proudly been members of the program.

Touting and appreciating the importance of providing a challenging and enjoyable youth sports experience for females, Little League Softball was founded in 1974. Structured similar to the baseball program, softball players are offered a variety of opportunities to participate and benefit from the Little League experience.

All leagues offer T-Ball (4-6), Coach Pitch Baseball & Softball (6-8), Minors Baseball & Softball (7-11), Majors Baseball & Softball (10-12) & Seniors Baseball & Softball (13-16). Each league is always looking for volunteer coaches and umpires too.

To find your local league visit, ctdistrict12.org.

Crash claims life of Thompson woman

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

GLOCESTER, R.I. - A Thompson woman has died following a motor vehicle crash in Rhode Island that resulted in one arrest.

Details provided by the Glocester Police Department revealed that on Sunday, Feb. 21 at around 7:12 p.m. members of the departments assisted by members of the Chepachet and West Glocester Fire Department responded

to a serious motor vehicle crash in the area of 2953 Putnam Pike on Route 44, just east of the Connecticut State Line. The reports indicated that an individual was trapped in a vehicle at the scene.

Police investigating the crash concluded that a 2006 Ford F-350 was traveling eastbound over the posted 50 miles per hour speed limit. The vehicle travelled into the left lane into the westbound travel lane to pass several vehicles in the eastbound lane. As a result, the Ford made head-on contact with a 2013 Volkswagen Beetle in the left

lane killing the operator of the Beetle who was pronounced dead at the scene by emergency responders. The victim was identified as 65-year-old North Grosvenordale resident Yvonne Cote in the police report. A dog in Cote's car was also injured in the crash and later died as a local animal hospital.

Police released the name of the suspect in the crash, 25-year-old Glocester resident Travis Beaulieu who, along with passenger 20-year-old Jakob Burns also of Glocester, were transported to a Rhode Island hospital after the

crash. Both were evaluated and later released. Beaulieu however was taken into custody and held overnight. The following day Beaulieu was transported to the 3rd District Court for arraignment on the charge of Driving So as to Endanger Resulting in Death. Judge Elaine Buccci ordered bail set at \$25,000 with surety. Beaulieu will appear in court again in late April. The accident remains under investigation with any witnesses urged to contact the Glocester Police Department at 401-568-2533.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

How about this weather?

“How about this weather?” If ever there was an easy, non-challenging conversation opener, this is it. You can be in line at the grocery store, serving jury duty or pushing papers around at work – it doesn’t matter where you are - this line never fails.

Everyone seems willing to talk about the weather. It’s a built-in, slam-dunk, easy topic that allows complete strangers to either commiserate or celebrate, depending on the daily meteorological situation.

So, what is it with the weather? Why do we love to discuss, comment and re-hash it?

Weather is complicated, frustrating and ultimately uncertain. Weather breaks our hearts and lifts our moods and forces daily choices for everyone. Weather drives our decisions, affects our attitudes and makes fellow survivors out of strangers.

Weather is our most true common denominator. No matter what our life circumstances - student, professional, retiree – when you live in the same geographic area, you and your fellow community members have the weather in common.

Weather doesn’t care about politics or sports teams or vacations or the date on the calendar. It is an equal opportunity annoyer and a great equalizer – everyone has to drive in snow, or dash to the car in the rain, or stand in long lines at the fair in the hot sun. Almost everyone has had a picnic cancelled, a vacation spoiled or a ball game rained out.

But weather is also the unexpectedly warm, sunny, sweet-smelling spring morning that causes smiles and banter with co-workers. It’s the light snow flurries that add sparkle to early December and prompts holiday greetings between shoppers. It’s the crisp, snappy feel of fall football games and the slow, sultry, humidity of summer evenings spent on backyard patios. It’s the backdrop of every day of our lives.

So, what is it with the weather? Maybe we love the topic because it’s universal. Maybe we love the excitement of something that will change – either for the good or the bad. Maybe it’s that it is temporary and fleeting and some- thing to either be withstood or enjoyed, knowing that it will not last. Maybe it’s simply because weather is always with us... whether we like it or not.

A novel idea

To the Editor:
 Here’s a novel idea: Ed Deluca “retires” from writing letters to the Editor. Problem solved.

LOUISE DAVIS
 WOODSTOCK

LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the editor may be e-mailed to Brendan@villagernewspapers.com

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

BROWN

continued from page A1

and Putnam. Its service area includes Northeast Connecticut as well as nearby Massachusetts and Rhode Island communities. Day Kimball Healthcare’s comprehensive network offers more than 1,000 staff including nearly 300 associated, highly skilled physicians, surgeons and specialists. Its Web site is www.daykimball.org.



OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The way forward is hard enough to find

To the Editor:
 Some people don’t get it, or they do get it and they just don’t care. Yes, we have free speech in this country, but we don’t have free “hate speech.” No, we are not on the playground anymore, but one thing we were to learn in school and on the playground was how to use civil discourse. Let me break that down for you: the use of coherent, calm arguments to make you points.

Unfortunately, we have just been assaulted for the last four years by a president who used insults, slurs, lies and just plain meanness to make his points. His great disrespect for women was unveiled almost daily. He has no respect or appreciation for anything but himself and his family and friends. If you voted for him, you were misguided and used.

His actions leading up to the insurrection on Jan. 6, and his behavior on that day, should be your final proof. If you have decided to model yourself after this man and his ilk, please rethink your plan.

We have many, many challenges facing all of us in our nation and world. Name calling and berating one another will not lead us to decisions and compromises we must make on these important issues. Everyone is feeling the pressure and weight of these times, but we must strive to be kind and explain our positions calmly and rationally. If not, we have lost much, and the way forward will be even harder to find.

KAREN WARINSKY
 WOODSTOCK

Remembering Rush Limbaugh

To the Editor:
 I am truly saddened to hear about the passing of Mr. Rush Limbaugh. He was one of the greatest and most influential voices in American politics, and if you didn’t listen to his show it’s definitely your loss; especially if you consider yourself to be at all open-minded. The conservative world will miss his genius, and the «golden EIB microphone» will never see another one like him. A truly deserved tribute came from Jordan Levy who said: «He made you think.»

Some will say that Limbaugh’s show only made you follow, but those who called in there often criticized the past and current actions of republicans. You can say what you want about that, but if you want to listen to a bunch of totally one-sided, liberal puppet followers - which includes the shows hosts - tune into the Braude/Eagan radio program that’s on WGBH (Boston). Try it and get back to me if you disagree!

Kudos to Mr. Limbaugh’s guest-hosts, Mark Steyn and Todd Herman, who filled in for Rush while he was undergoing cancer treatments. Kudos also to «Bo Snerdley” for his behind the scenes work. (Snerdley, actually producer and engineer, James Golden, worked for Mr. Limbaugh for the past 20 years, and is a black man if that matters).

The liberal media (and other haters) of course took their measly shots at Rush Limbaugh’s passing, but they can only dream to ever achieve the same iconic status that he did.

Thank God that there is still conservative radio in the liberal states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, as well as throughout the country, and I sincerely thank those stations and their hosts who will carry on in Mr. Rush Limbaugh’s absence.

ED DELUCA
 NORTH GROSVENORDALE

In-person learning will return at Woodstock Academy

To the Editor:
 We hope this letter finds you and your loved ones safe and healthy.

As we all know, this year has been challenging on many levels, and we truly miss having the students on campus. Our primary goal has been to provide all of our students with the healthiest and most educationally-sound experience we can during this pandemic.

Throughout this process, we have been working with our area health professionals, looking at specific transmission rates, following protocols, using CDC Guidelines, and soliciting feedback from families. The most frustrating part for us lately has been that even as we tried to increase the frequency and numbers of students learning on campus, the weather has not been cooperative.

After reviewing the new CDC Guidelines, seeing downward trends in the positivity rates, and feeling optimistic about the increase in vaccinations, we are finally more comfortable moving toward returning students to an in-person educational experience for the last three months of the school year. While we cannot guarantee complete success given the guidelines we are still required to follow, we feel that ending the year with our students in school is extremely important for our community.

While more specific information will be coming out as we get closer to each step in this process, we wanted to provide a basic outline for what it will look like.

For the remaining days of February and the month of March, we will remain with the current schedule of providing two days of on-campus learning. We will also be continuing with all current activities (music, athletics, etc.) and the Intensive Learning Lab. The current virtual program will remain the same for all students.

Effective Monday, April 5, we will have four days of on-campus learning (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday). Students will be assigned to either the Monday/Thursday group, or the Tuesday/Friday group. Wednesday will be a virtual day for all students. Each student will be assigned to one group. Those students/families who decide they do not want to return to in-person classes will need to opt-out. Virtual learning options will only be offered on Wednesdays

Biden is our President

To the Editor:
 The election has been over for nearly four months now. Biden is our President. Nevertheless, there are 75 million people out there who did not vote for Biden. Many, if not most of these people, feel the election was somehow stolen. However, they did not and do not today have sufficient rock solid proof to base their stolen election claim on. Still their faith in the integrity of our election system has reached a new low.

What, then, are we to do as a nation to heal this unease and restore faith and credibility to our election process for all voters? I believe we need to tighten up the voter process similar to many other things citizens are required to

and during scheduled office hours between students and teachers. More specific information will be forthcoming as we finalize these plans.

After April break, we will continue to offer the four-day schedule but will begin to phase in additional students. So, starting on Monday, April 26, all ninth-grade students will return to school four days a week. As long as the current trends continue, our goal is to have everyone back on campus four days a week by early May.

We are very aware that our community views students returning to in-person classes very differently at this time. Each time we take steps to expand student access to in-person learning we typically see about 30-35 percent of our day student population choose to remain fully virtual. We also frequently hear from another segment of the population that believes we should return the entire school population to in-person learning immediately. Navigating this reality is not easy; as our mission states, everyone deserves an equal educational experience.

We plan to have many of the traditional activities for students throughout the last few weeks of school, as allowable by the state. Conversations are underway about proms, class night, Freshman Scholar Breakfast, and several other events. Although they may appear different than in the past, we are committed to making these special events memorable.

Our 133rd Commencement will be held on Saturday, June 12 at 10 a.m. While I can’t speak to every detail of the event, the date and time have been set to celebrate our senior class.

Although this year has been far from typical, we are hopeful that we can end the school year with some normalcy for our students who have been impacted by so much. We want to thank everyone for their patience and support of their students. We are confident that ending the year in person honors our commitment put students first.

Stay safe and be well.
 In partnership,

CHRISTOPHER SANDFORD
 HEAD OF SCHOOL
 WOODSTOCK ACADEMY

Conversations about COVID

The conversations are nearly the same. Whether I am “meeting” with my book club, poetry class, church service or writing seminar, the first few minutes are spent with everyone weighing in on where they are in terms of their vaccine shots. We cover locations, a pharmacy or a health center or even Foxboro stadium, Pfizer or Moderna, side effects and first or second appointments. Concern, anxiety and relief hang in the air.

Many of my friends are eligible for the 65 and over category, but among those who are younger, there are questions about when they will get the shot. What about teachers? Or the workers at supermarkets? Should one hang around a site toward the end of the day to see if there are no-shows or extra doses?

The questions, the hypotheticals, the true stories and the worries bubble up. Most people whom I talk with think Gov. Lamont has done a good job. Somehow, we act as if this is a surprise. I guess we assume that our leader in Hartford is probably not good. It’s refreshing to see that a wealthy businessman with a quavering voice is in fact capable of getting the job done. Good for us, I say.

I listen to Boston radio stations. In my mind, the city is the gold standard for research, innovation and pure concentration of brain power, but neighboring Massachusetts isn’t doing a great job vaccinating. It is twice as large as Connecticut, but something seems to be off. Neighbors are important and I hope the Commonwealth and Rhode Island forge ahead and catch up to us quickly.

I haven’t hugged my grandchildren, my children or my friends in over a year. I’m ready for that to change. We may never return to the exuberant kissing, inspired by the French and Hollywood, that was rife before the pandemic. More than once I was smacked on each cheek by people I had just met. Kissing nearly replaced the handshake, which is done for as well. I’m ready to bump elbows or do Namaste hands when I meet people. If a safer form of greeting comes along, let’s embrace it.

Our behaviors show how we deal with risk, which may be as inborn as it is learned. I’ve known risk takers, who were first in line to sky dive or bungee jump. My husband’s best friend from his days at an all boys’ high school still scares us. Whether flying a small plane or not wearing a mask, he feels perfectly safe.

In investing, my husband says, there is a system to analyze how much risk an investor wants to take. The right mix might be 60 percent in stocks and 40 percent in bonds and cash or something a bit different. When stocks are bubbling up, people might want to increase their holdings, even though the prices are higher. The choices are based on many factors but tolerance of risk matters.

Our doctor assures us that once we have received both shots and waited the prescribed number of days, we will be well protected. We will still wear masks in public places, but our personal sense of risk will be low. As the vaccine becomes more universal, people will feel better, but it will take a long time for everyone to adapt to low, but probably not completely, risk free life.

The Governor just announced the vaccine rollout will be based solely on age except for educators and school workers. By, May it will cover 16 year olds. Whew! Life is risky, but it will be good to stop talking about it.



NANCY WEISS



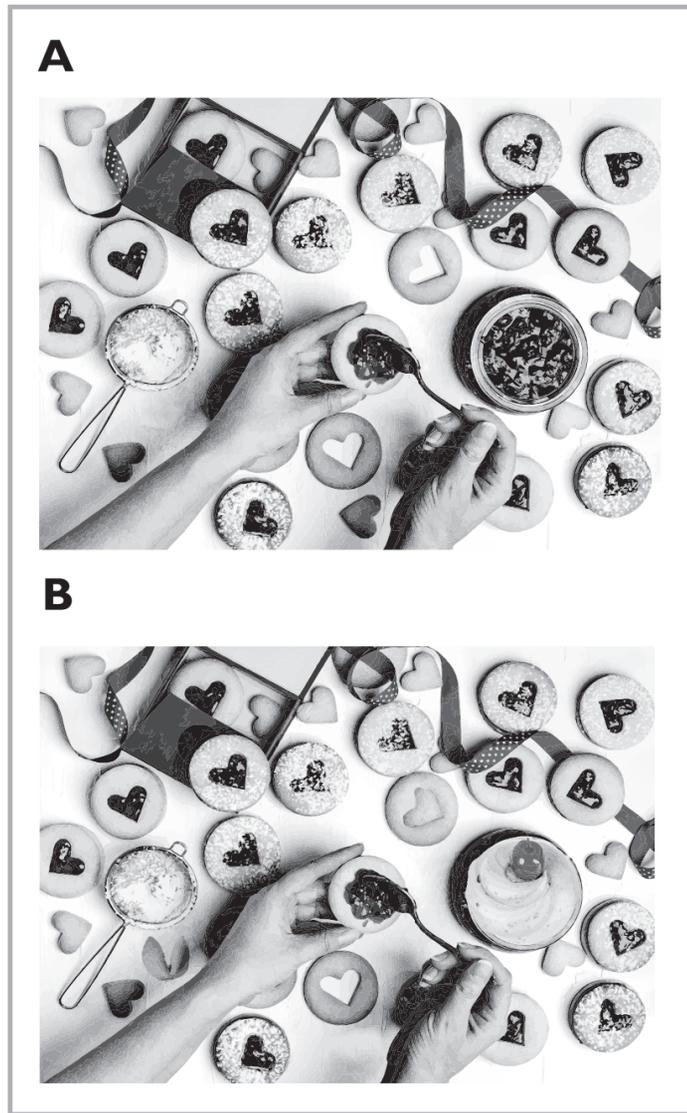
PEOPLE FACT!

ATTENTION TO DETAIL AND CAREFUL MEASUREMENTS ARE REQUIRED DURING THIS CULINARY ACTIVITY.

ANSWER: BAKING

What's the Difference?

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



Answers: 1. Fortune cookie next to wrist 2. Missing cookie heart middle at bottom 3. Cookie middle inside of cookie in middle 4. Cream instead of jam

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1815:** NAPOLEON BONAPARTE ESCAPES FROM EXILE IN ELBA.
- **1919:** THE GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK IS ESTABLISHED.
- **1935:** RADIO DETECTION AND RANGING IS FIRST DEMONSTRATED BY ROBERT WATSON-WATT. THIS LEADS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF RADAR.

New Word

FOLD

to mix an ingredient gently

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Flour

SPANISH: Harina

ITALIAN: Farina

FRENCH: Farine

GERMAN: Mehl

Did You Know?

THE FIRST CUPCAKE RECIPE WAS INVENTED IN 1776. IT WAS A LIGHT CAKE BAKED IN SMALL CUPS. THE SECOND CUPCAKE RECIPE WAS INVENTED IN 1871.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CINNAMON ROLL

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to getting organized. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 4 = R)

Answers: A. orderly B. closet C. clutter D. storage

A. 17 4 8 2 4 21 6
Clue: Neat and tidy

B. 12 21 17 23 2 22
Clue: Place for clothing

C. 12 21 24 22 22 2 4
Clue: Excess stuff

D. 23 22 17 4 18 1 2
Clue: Space for housing items

SUDOKU

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

OBITUARIES

Mr. Jack H. Gibbs, 82

SOUTHBRURY- Jack H. Gibbs, "Loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather"



Mr. Jack H. Gibbs, 82, of Heritage Village, passed away at Waterbury Hospital on Monday February 15, 2021. He was the loving husband of Nora L. Gibbs.

Jack was born in Rockland, ME on August 12, 1938, son of the late Neil and Alice (Small) Gibbs. He proudly served in the US Army from 1962 to 1965 and in the Army Reserves until December 31, 1967. Jack completed his education at Clark University, taking classes at night and learning tool-making at Pratt & Whitney during the day. He worked as a steel salesman for Carpenter Technology in Reading, CT for over 40 years until his retirement in 1998. He and Nora lived in Woodstock, CT until moving to Southbury in December of 2019. Jack was an avid

fisherman, learner, woodworker, boat builder and volunteer. He shared his gregarious personality, time and spirit with more people and communities than we can count. Most of all, he loved his family and selflessly provided and cared for them.

Jack is survived by Nora, his wife of 36 years; children Sonya Button and her husband David of Uncasville, CT, Sara Leone of Preston, CT and Adam Leone and his wife Mindy of Ringwood, NJ; six grandchildren, Morgan and Justin Button, Molly Rimes, Nathan, Connor and Keira Leone; and 3 great granddaughters, Ava, Haddy and Elise Button.

Arrangements: Due to the current restrictions of COVID-19 pandemic and everyone's safety all services are private and at the convenience of the family. Brookside Memorial/The Albin Family Funeral Home & Crematory, 200 Benson Road, Middlebury has been entrusted with the arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, Jack hopes you will spend a day fishing.

For more info or to send an on-line condolence, please visit www.brooksidememorial

Sonja L. Healey

Sonja L. Healey went home to be with her Lord on February 4, 2021. She was born on July 20, 1930, Sonja Lindgren Healey grew up in New York City and Öland, Sweden. Her Swedish heritage was important to her. She moved to Woodstock, Connecticut as a teenager and graduated from Woodstock Academy in 1948. Sonja's life revolved around farm, family, and faith.



Sonja married Kenneth Healey in 1950. They farmed together for more than 60 years, milking cows at Echo Farm until 1973 and then raising vegetables and flowers at Woodstock Farms. They were a committed team. Sonja was well-known for her hospitality and home-cooking.

Sonja was a devoted mother and best friend to her four daughters, Ruth, Joy, Heidi, and Amy. When her children moved away, she wrote to them every day until technology enabled them to connect via Skype each morning.

Sonja was adored by her grandchildren. Ruth and Joe Mauk's children are Martha Goebel, Rachel and Shane Stevenson, Elizabeth and Dominick Marandola, Priscilla and Andrew Leighton, and Miriam and EJ Bongolan. Jimmy and Joy Ng's children are Suzanne and Matthew Jensen, Jenny and David McEwen, and Sarah and Jason Brazel. Heidi and Harvey Payne's children are Sonja Payne, Wesley and Sara Payne, and Linnea Payne. Amy and Rick Vinal's children are Brian and Dona Vinal, Holly and Christopher

Crellin, Thomas and Nicole Vinal, and Melody Yargeau. Sonja's 15 grandchildren, 27 great-grandchildren, and many friends called her Mormor. She loved and prayed for them all. Sonja looked forward to meeting her infant son David in Heaven.

Sonja lived with Amy and Rick at Woodstock Farms after Ken passed away eight years ago. She picked beans and strawberries, watered flowers, manned the stand, and was a consultant. She enjoyed visiting with customers, who quickly became friends. She was honored on her 90th birthday last summer when many friends and loyal customers stopped at the stand to wish her well.

Sonja's faith in Jesus Christ was her foundation. She was an avid student of the Bible, a faithful church member, a prayer warrior, and a mentor and inspiration to many. She had a heart for missions. She and her sister, Linnea Kallgren, taught a Bible Study together for more than 30 years.

Mormor is greatly missed. Her shoes cannot be filled, but her example and legacy will continue to inspire and encourage us.

Everyone is invited to participate in a live-streamed memorial service for Sonja on Sunday, February 7, 2021 at 2:00 PM. (www.southwoodstockbaptist.org)

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate cards or notes with memories of Sonja. They can be mailed to Woodstock Farms, 586 Senexet Road, Woodstock, Connecticut 06281. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Frances Jean Pittman

Frances Jean (Blanchette) Pittman was born March 24, 1949 in Putnam, Connecticut to Larry and Aline (Johnson) Blanchette, who preceded her in death. Fran attended Putnam High School, transferring to Killingly High her senior year. She enjoyed coming north to attend reunions and catch up with friends from both schools. Fran married Donald "Donn" Pittman on February 14, 1969. She and Donn celebrated 52 years of marriage this past Valentine's Day. They lived in Columbus, Ohio for many years before finally settling in Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina. Fran always enjoyed hosting her northern family from Ohio and Connecticut. She was happy to give her visitors tours of Charleston, walk the beach at Isle of Palms, or picnic in the park under the Ravenel Bridge. Her many nieces and nephews adored her and loved the creative ways she found to make them feel special.

Fran had many hobbies, including selling swap meet treasures on eBay and working on the family genealogy. She was a member of the DAR and had traced her maternal side back to the Mayflower. She was working on the Blanchette side as well. She loved connecting with relatives to share old

family photographs.

While Fran will be missed by all, she will truly be missed by her best friend and partner, Donn. In Donn's words; he was so fortunate to have her in his life. We have all lost one of the most caring, kind, and devoted people. Fran is irreplaceable.

Her memorial service will be held Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 3:00 pm at J. Henry Stuhr, Inc. Mount Pleasant Chapel, 1494 Mathis Ferry Road, Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464. Friends may call one hour prior to the service. A second service, a celebration of life, will be held at a later date.

Fran is survived by her husband, Donn; her greatest (and only) sister, Anne Milliard (Jim); nieces, Carrie Blackmar (Richard) and Catherine Bazinet (Rob); great nieces, Morgan and Lauren Blackmar; great niece and nephew, Iris and Asa Bazinet; and so many more cousins and nieces and nephews, all of whom she truly loved.

In lieu of flowers, Fran would want to be remembered with donations made to any local food bank.

A memorial message may be sent to the family by visiting our website at www.jhenrystuhr.com.

Helen Harding, 89

Helen Harding, 89, formerly of Woodstock Valley, passed away February 19, 2021 with her loving family by her side, at her daughter's home in Putnam. Helen was born on September 24, 1931 in Hope, ME, daughter of the late Herbert and Frances (Whitehouse) Payson, and eldest of five children. She attended Camden High School and graduated in 1951. While attending school she met her future husband and love of her life Everett T. Harding. They were married July 22, 1951 and remained married for 66 years until his death in 2018.



In 1951 Helen and Everett moved to Anchorage, AK after Everett was drafted into the U.S. Army. After the Korean War they moved to Chicago, IL before finally settling in Eastford, CT where they raised their family. Helen worked as a Nurse's Assistant at Day Kimball Hospital and was a Teacher's Assistant at Eastford Elementary for more than 30 years. She was a wonderful painter, painting beautiful portraits and landscapes. She enjoyed gardening, cooking, sewing, and knitting and enjoyed sharing her knowledge of these subjects with family and friends. Helen loved spending time at the family camp in Lincolnville, ME, eating lobsters,

clambakes, and playing cards. Helen was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. She was always wise beyond her years even at 89.

Helen was a member of the Order of Eastern Star Betty Putnam #106, Eastford Independent Fire Company Women's Auxiliary, and the Church of the Good Shepherd in Woodstock Valley.

She leaves her daughters; Doreen Holt and her husband Ken of Putnam, CT, Pamela Kersh and her husband John of Virginia Beach, VA, grandchildren; Benjamin Shead and his wife Kathryn of Woodstock, CT, Alison Shead of Los Angeles, CA, Ethan Kersh of Virginia Beach, VA, great-grandchildren; Isabelle, Zachary, Samuel, and Jonas Shead, sister Judith Pratt of Brewer, ME, many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a son Scott E. Harding, her siblings, Carl Payson, Diana Cole, and Hollis Payson.

A private funeral service was Monday, February 22, 2021 at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, Putnam, CT. She will be buried in Maine with her husband and son, at a later date. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to The Church of the Good Shepherd, PO Box 747, Woodstock, CT 06281 or Hospice of Northeast CT, PO Box 632, Putnam, CT 06260. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

Joyce A. Rust, 72

Joyce A. Rust, 72, of Danielson, CT passed away peacefully February 12, 2021 at Brigham & Women's Hospital in Boston, MA surrounded by her husband and children. She was born February 29, 1948 in Putnam, CT, daughter of the late Charles and Florette (DesRoches) Michaud.



Joyce enjoyed her work as a hairdresser in several area salons until her retirement, but her true passion was golf. She was the Foster Women's Club Champion in 1978 and later was a long-time member of the Quinnetis Country Club where she enjoyed playing in the Tuesday Ladies League. Joyce was the President of the league for several years and it was said fondly that she ruled the league with an iron fist.

She was the beloved wife and soulmate of Richard N. Rust for 52 years, who survives her. She also leaves

behind her son Scott Rust and wife Donna of Windham, NH, her daughter Christy Rust and partner Kristopher of Putnam, CT, her grandsons Noah and Jake Rust of Windham, NH, her sister Sandra Long of Putnam, CT, her sister Carol Morissette and husband Raymond of Danielson, CT and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother Kenneth Michaud.

There will be no services at this time, but a private Celebration of Life for Joyce will be held on a later date. The family asks that gifts be made in Joyce's name to support the BWH Lung Transplant Clinic at Brigham and Women's Hospital. Checks can be made payable to Brigham and Women's Hospital with "in memory of Joyce Rust" in the memo line and sent to: Brigham and Women's Hospital, Development Office, 116 Huntington Ave., 3rd floor, Boston, MA, 02116 or visit bwhgiving.org to make your gift online. Share a memory at www.gagnonandcostellofh.com

Ruth Hochstetter, 85

Ruth (Oppert) Hochstetter, 85, passed away peacefully, with her daughter at her bedside, at Pierce Nursing Home in Brooklyn on February 10, 2021. Born August 9, 1935 to Roscoe and Margorie Burton in Putnam, Ruth was a graduate of Killingly High School, class of 1953. She married her late husband, Glenn Hochstetter,



on August 9, 1997. She was a loving and supportive mother of five children (from her previous marriage), and a lifelong active member of the Danielson Baptist Church and choir. Ruth also worked for Superwinch in Putnam for over 30 years, and enjoyed traveling, local theater, and quilting. She will be remembered by those who

love her as a fearless woman who faced adversity with a sharp wit and a keen sense of humor. Ruth is survived by her children Billie Gamble and husband Pete of Chapel Hill, NC, Lee Oppert and wife Denise of Niantic, Dan Oppert and wife Jenny of Lake Placid, FL, and Elaine Harrigan and husband Dan of Griswold. She is also survived by a brother, Henry Burton of New Smyrna Beach, FL, as well as nine grandchildren and ten great grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Glenn Hochstetter, who passed away on January 23, 2021. Her brother Richard Burton of Hershey, PA, and her son Fred Oppert of Thompson also predeceased her. Funeral services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Bradley Playhouse in Putnam at thebradleyplayhouse.org. tilinghastfh.com

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GAGNON AND COSTELLO

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33 Reynolds Street, Danielson, CT 06239 860-774-9403

Funeral Directors

Timothy Farner, Steven Farner, Andrew Farner

Serving ALL Faiths with Dignity

OBITUARIES

Philip Shaffer, 62

PUTNAM – Philip Shaffer, 62, of Woodstock Ave, passed away on Tuesday morning, February 16, 2021 at home. Born in New Haven, he was the son of Robert A. Shaffer of Putnam and the late Irene (Shea) Shaffer.



Philip was a devoted caretaker of his parents for the last 14 years allowing them to live independently. He enjoyed freshwater fishing, camping and cooking for family gatherings.

He is survived by his father, Robert Shaffer of Putnam; his three brothers, Robert Shaffer and his wife Lisa of Situate, RI, Timothy Shaffer and his wife Deborah of Griswold, and Christopher Shaffer

and his companion Sandy Goyette of Putnam; his sister, Susan Kachur and her husband David of Putnam; along with many nieces, nephews, great nieces, and great nephews. He was predeceased by his mother Irene (Shea) Shaffer.

Relatives and friends are invited to visit with Philip's family from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2021 in the Gilman Funeral Home and Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260 followed by a funeral service in the funeral home at 1:00 p.m. Burial will follow in St. Mary Cemetery. Memorial donations in Philip's name may be made to the Daughters of the Holy Spirit, P.O. Box 419, Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Paul A. Fisher, 70

Paul A. Fisher, 70, of Sabin Street, Putnam, CT died Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at the William W Backus Hospital in Norwich, CT. He was born August 2, 1950, in Putnam, son of the late Edwin C. and Hazel (Woodis) Fisher. Paul was predeceased by his brother, Floyd "Buzz" Fisher.

Paul was a small engine mechanic/parts man in many area repair shops. You may have encountered him at Foskett Equipment or Freeman's on Route 171. Paul retired in his 50s due to health reasons. He enjoyed helping family, friends, and acquaintances whenever possible.

Paul had an affection with everything that had two or four wheels. He enjoyed driving the countryside observing the area's progress. Television was his friend – news, documentaries, old

movies all piqued his interest.

Paul is survived by his brother, Edwin Jr. and his wife Susan of Willimantic, CT; his sister Ruth Fisher Knox of Dayville, CT; his nieces, Gretchen Fisher Orr of Rockville, CT and Faith Fisher of Pomfret, CT; his nephew, Justin Knox of Andover, MA; his grand-nephews Nicholas and Samuel Grist; and his grand-niece Sofia Knox Artacho. He is also survived by numerous cousins.

Memorial donations in Paul's name may be made to the charity of your choice. Graveside services will be held in the Spring in Grove Street Cemetery, Putnam, CT at a date and time to be announced by the Smith and Walker Funeral Home. Share a memory at www.smithandwalkerfh.com

LEGALS

TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, March 4, 2021 via ZOOM at 6:00 PM. Meeting and Log-In information is posted on the Town of Thompson Webpage, <https://www.thompsonct.org/planning-zoning-commission> "Agendas" Application PZC #21-03 – The Town of Thompson, 815 Riverside Drive, to approve the Plan of Conservation and Development According to The State of Connecticut Statutes, Chapter 126, Section 8-23. Document is posted on the Town of Thompson Webpage: https://www.thompsonct.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif5076/f/uploads/final_draft_2020_pocd_0.pdf Printed copies are available at the Town of Thompson Planning and Development Department, 860-923-9475. Respectfully submitted, Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman February 19, 2021 February 26, 2021

TOWN OF THOMPSON

At the February 9, 2021 meeting of the Thompson Inland Wetlands Commission the following action was taken: Application #IWA21002, Lisa M. Audette, 0 Robbins Rd (Assessor's Map 87, Block 53, Lot 8A-1) - construction of a stone ford across an intermittent watercourse / wetlands and grading in the upland review area to develop access for pedestrian and tractor use associated with the construction of a proposed new daycare facility. George T. O'Neil, Chair February 26, 2021

TOWN OF THOMPSON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

The Thompson Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on

Monday, March 8, 2021 beginning at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

ZBA 21-01 – Michael Barch, owner of 622 Fabyan Road, Map 17, Block 81, Lot 42 C, Zone RRAD, for a variance from the Amended Zoning Regulation, Article 42, Development Standards, Section 3, Footnote #2, Accessory Building Setback.

File may be reviewed on line, Town of Thompson website, Zoning Board of Appeals. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting Respectfully submitted, Kevin Beno, Chairman February 26, 2021 March 5, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Kimberly Sue Ewing (21-00042)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 11, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below, Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Amber Lynne Ewing,
45 Battey Street,
Putnam, CT 06260
February 26, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Amanda Marie Grenier (21-00043)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 11, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Justin Grenier
c/o CHRISTIAN GEORGE SARANTOPOULOS, SARANTOPOULOS &, SARANTOPOULOS, LLC,

143 SCHOOL STREET,
DANIELSON, CT 06239
February 26, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Marjorie E Bell (21-00027)
The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 11, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Bruce D Bell
c/o FRANK GERARD HERZOG,
BORNER SMITH ALEMANN HERZOG & CERRONE, LLC,
155 PROVIDENCE STREET,
PO BOX 166, PUTNAM, CT 06260
February 26, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Patrick Robert Dragon (21-00050)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 15, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below, Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Robert Louis Dragon
c/o MISTY RAE PERCIFIELD,
THE MENT LAW GROUP, PC, 225 ASYLUM STREET, 15TH FLOOR,
HARTFORD, CT 06103
February 26, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Armand Jolly (21-00022)
The Hon Leah P, Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated January 19, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in

the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Dennis A Jolly
c/o NICHOLAS A LONGO, BACHAND, LONGO & HIGGINS
168 MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 528,
PUTNAM, CT 06260
February 26, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Mauno A. Petajasoja (21-00046)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated 2/11/21., ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Paula C. Petajasoja,
c/o MARK R BROUILLARD
(attorney for Paula C. Petajasoja),
ST ONGE & BROUILLARD,
50 ROUTE 171,
WOODSTOCK, CT 06281,
(860)928-0481
February 26, 2021

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Robert E. Stetson, Jr. (21-00037)

The Hon. Leah P. Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 16, 2021, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Alysia Casiano, Clerk
The fiduciary is:
Ruth E. Stetson,
c/o ELLEN C BROWN, WALLER SMITH & PALMER
PC, 52 EUGENE O'NEILL DRIVE,
P.O. BOX 88, NEW LONDON, CT 06320, (860)442-0367
February 26, 2021

HULL

continued from page A8

that was my notice to renew CDL. The notice stated that prior to coming to DMV, in person,

I needed to provide proof of holding a valid medical certificate which needed to be on file with DMV. These cost about \$150 to secure and requires a doctor's exam. They can be issued for either one or two years, and must be carried on ones person along with your license. Having completed that, I then had to go to a Connecticut DMV Web site and do what DMV calls a self-certification. If OK, this is approved online, and I had to then print out a copy of that approval and bring it with me to the DMV office. Next, I had to make an appointment, well in advance, to appear only at a certain day and time at only the Willimantic DMV to renew my CDL license. I can happily report that the DMV office in Willimantic was well run, on time, and efficient. I paid my \$70 renewal fee and was out of there in less than 20 minutes. My faith in the Connecticut license renew-

al program is high.

Now let's compare my license renewal process to the voting process. There can be no real comparison as most states allow same day voter registration and automatic voter registration.

This can lead to multiple registrations by the same individual as well as registration of non-citizens and others ineligible to vote. Same day registrations don't give election officials any/enough time to verify registration information. Additionally, no one should be automatically registered without being asked if they want to do so.

There are five things states can and should be doing to restore integrity to our election process;

Clean up the voter rolls. Computerized statewide voter registration lists should be interoperable, allowing them to communicate seamlessly with other state data bases, exchanging and comparing information frequently.

Verify citizenship. Only US citizens are allowed to vote. Therefore, proof of citizenship should be required in order to register to vote.

Require voter ID. Whether voting in person or by absentee ballot, a government issued photo ID should be required.

Limit mail in ballots. Mail in ballots are vulnerable to being altered, stolen, or forged. Past experiences in New Jersey and New York indicate as many as one in five of mail in ballots are rejected as deficient in some way.

Ban vote harvesting. This process allows third parties to collect and deliver completed ballots. This opens the door for unscrupulous operators to alter, lose, change or coerce at home voters to fill out ballots as the operator wishes with no oversight by any election officials.

In conclusion, our country's voting process is so riddled with holes that significant damage is being done to our democracy. Yes, very vote needs to be counted but the above is also needed so that we know every vote is legitimate. Only then will peoples trust in our election process be reaffirmed.

WILLIAM B. HULL
POMFRET CENTER

LIBRARY

continued from page A1

people to get that feeling of taking and giving, that you can take a book and leave a book. I just think this will be a great community sharing opportunity," Miller said. "We are right here on the school campus and I really hope it will engage people and inspire them to come down and join us in our mission here and feel like these campuses blend, which they really do. We hope the entire public will come down and this will be a good source of joy for people for many years to come."

Jason Bleau, TEEG's Volunteer Coordinator, said he was impressed by the result as well having assigned the project to Shane Yurkevicius in late 2020.

"When Shane came to us asking to bring something new to TEEG as part of his Eagle Scout project this was the first thing that came to

mind. Anne had brought up the idea of a little library before and Shane was more than happy to make it happen for us. I think the result is fantastic and I can't wait for the community to see the great work he put into this. It's such a cool addition to TEEG. We also plan to add a plaque to the library ourselves thanking Shane for his hard work," Bleau said.

In addition to donations by TEEG staff, TEEG also stocked the little library with books purchased through a partnership with the Scripps Foundation which includes material for readers ranging from beginners to middle schoolers and young adults. Shane Yurkevicius and TEEG would like to thank Chace Building Supply, Harrington Healthcare Systems, Webster Lake Sporting, Inc., and The Hanover Insurance Group for their assistance in making the little library possible.

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Upcoming programs at the Killingly Library

KILLINGLY — The Killingly Public Library is excited to announce the following upcoming programs.

Now Yoga for Kids - ages five to 11 Saturday mornings in March at 10:30 a.m.

Join Northeast Opportunities for Wellness, Inc. (NOW) for a virtual yoga class for children! This is a great way to get your child motivated to move on a chilly March morning! These lessons will be fun, relaxing, silly,

and followed by a short story time! Registration Required.

Tales for Tots Ages one to three. Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m.

March 20 & 27, April 10, 17, & 24

Wish there was a way you could listen to a nice, relaxing story with your tots at home? Now there is. Join children's librarians Miss Allison and Miss Tristan in their virtual story time. They will feature special

rhymes, finger plays, and stories for little ones to enjoy. Register to be emailed a Zoom link to join the fun.

You can register for programs by going to the library events calendar at www.killinglypl.org. For additional information call the Killingly Library at 860-779-5383. For library updates make sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

QVCC student selected for poetry reading

DANIELSON — The QVCC English Department and the QVCC Cultural Programming Committee present a poetry reading by the Connecticut Student Poets of 2021. The event takes place on WebEx from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday March 11.

Every year since 1970, the Connecticut Poetry Circuit has, through a selection committee of accomplished poets, chosen a small group of student poets from Connecticut's colleges and universities to go on a reading tour of campuses across the state in the spring semester. This year, the members of the Selection Committee, Randall Horton, Clare Rossini, Kate Rushin, Vivian Shipley, and John Stanizzi, selected five student poets: Marielena Cartagena (Manchester Community College), Gabrielle Colangelo (Yale University), Joelle Gray

(Quinnipiac University), Mia Yanosy (University of Connecticut), and QVCC's own Phillip Michel.

"We were not at all surprised that Phil was selected for this prestigious distinction. His poems are sophisticated, well-crafted, and highly engaging," said QVCC Professor of English Jon Andersen. "We're honored to be able to host this talented group. The Connecticut Student Poets tour has been one of the highlights of the poetry scene in this state for over 50 years."

For more information or a link to attend the event, please send an email with your full name and how you heard about the event by March 10 to Jon Andersen at jandersen@qvcc.edu. (Responses to late requests cannot be guaranteed.)

Emmanuel College announces Dean's List

BOSTON, Mass. — In honor of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College in Boston has named more than 900 students to the Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester. Local students receiving the honor include:

Kathryn Smith of Pomfret Center

Rebecca Hermann of Eastford

Renee Auger of Woodstock
Leonie Krutina of Thompson
Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston's educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and career opportunities

throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated faculty, and participation in a dynamic campus community. Emmanuel's more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and substantive learning experiences that honor the College's Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century education.

Morgan Schmidt named to Western New England University Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Morgan Schmidt, of Brooklyn, is among close to 750 students named to the Western New England University Fall 2020 Dean's List. To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.30 or higher.

"We are so proud of our Dean's List students who demonstrated an unwavering commitment to excellence in their studies despite the unique challenges of our fall semester," commented Dr. Robert E. Johnson, President.

"Of the roughly 3,000 colleges and universities tracked by the College Crisis Initiative, Western New England University was among just 27 percent nationwide that resumed primarily 'in-person' teaching last fall. Our Dean's List students stayed focused

and engaged; they should be very proud of their achievements. Well done, Golden Bears!"

Schmidt is working toward a BS in Forensic Biology.

Having just celebrated its Centennial, Western New England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Located on an attractive 215-acre suburban campus in Springfield, Mass., Western New England serves 3,690 students, including 2,486 full-time undergraduate students. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs are offered through Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Law.

Students named to University of Hartford Dean's List

WEST HARTFORD — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce the following students have been named to the Dean's List for Fall 2020.

Maralex Ramirez of Danielson
Nicholas Theroux of Dayville
Griffin Ware of Brooklyn

Jennifer White of Dayville
Jordyn Brousseau of Woodstock

Kathleen Joiner of N. Grosvenordale

Parker Kalafus of Pomfret Center

Spread across seven dynam-

ic 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, approximately 4,600 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students representing 49 states and 47 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 pub-

lic 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. For more information, visit hartford.edu.

Video game ratings rundown

Video game ratings suggest age appropriateness so consumers can be confident that the games they purchase are suitable for the person who will ultimately be playing the game. These ratings are developed by the Entertainment Software Rating Board, or ESRB, and can be especially valuable to consumers purchasing games for children and adolescents.

• E: This rating means the content of the game is generally suitable for gamers of all ages. Games rated "E" may contain minimal cartoon, fantasy or mild violence and/or infrequent use

of mild language.

• E10+: An E10+ rating means the game is generally suitable for everyone ages 10 and up. Games that earn an E10+ rating may contain more cartoon, fantasy or mild violence and mild language than games rated E. Games that fall into this category also may contain minimal suggestive themes.

• T: Games rated T are generally suitable for players age 13 and up. These games may contain violence, suggestive themes, crude humor, minimal blood, simulated gambling, and/or use of strong language.

• M: An M rating stands for "Mature 17+." An M rating indicates that the content is generally suitable for gamers ages 17 and up. These games may contain intense violence, blood and gore, sexual content, and/or strong language.

• AO: This rating signifies that a game is suitable only for adults ages 18 and up. The ESRB notes that games in this category may include prolonged scenes of intense violence, graphic sexual content and/or gambling with real currency.

• RP: An RP rating means the ESRB has yet to assign a final rating to the

game. An RP rating will not appear on games in a store. The RP rating will only appear in advertising, marketing and promotional materials related to a physical video game that is expected to carry an ESRB rating. Consumers concerned about the age-appropriateness of games with RP ratings can wait until the ESRB assigns a rating before purchasing the game.

Recognizing the meanings behind video game ratings is a great way for consumers to ensure young gamers do not play games deemed inappropriate for their ages.

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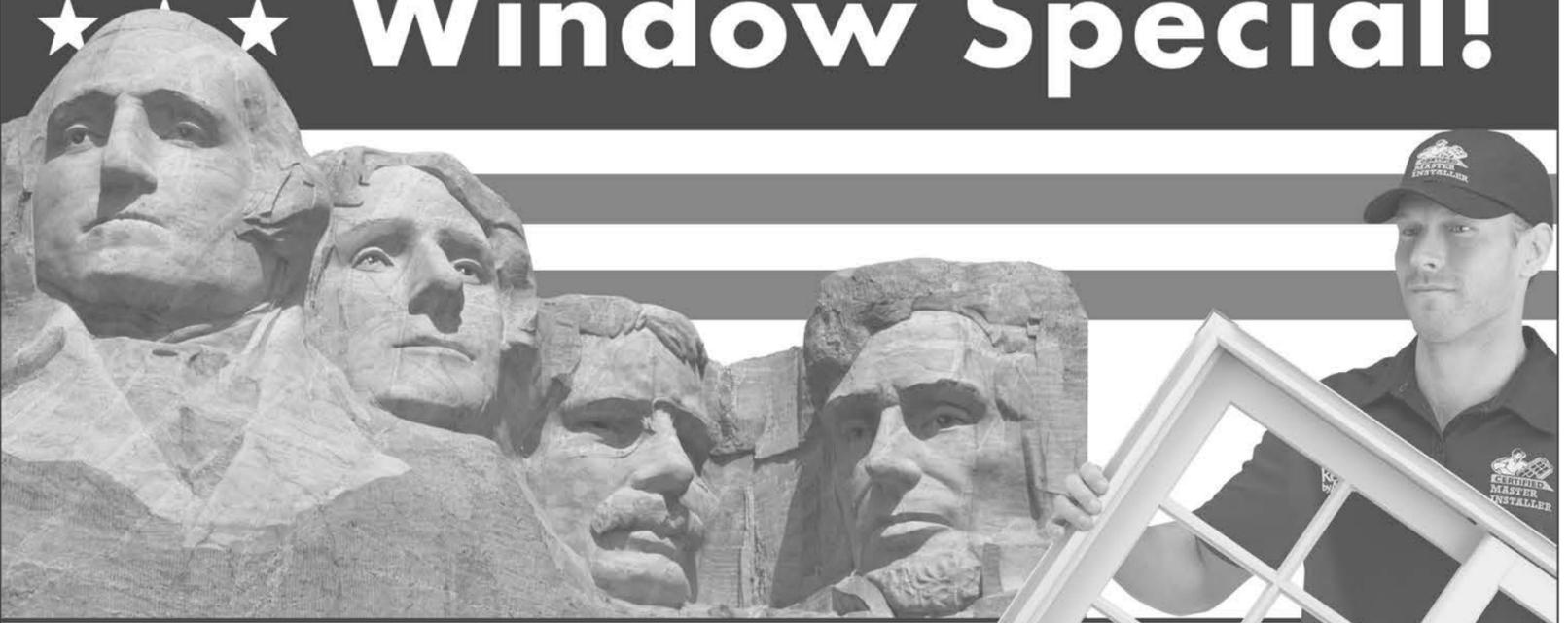
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Signs your tools may need some TLC

A do-it-yourselfer is only as good as his or her tools. Without the proper tools, even the handiest men and women may struggle to complete jobs well within their abilities.

It doesn't take a seasoned do-it-yourselfer to recognize when hammers and screwdrivers need to be replaced. And such tools are generally so affordable that replacing them, even when they still have some utility, won't affect too many DIYers' budgets. However, power tools are considerable invest-

ments that do not necessarily need to be discarded when the first signs of trouble pop up. In fact, sometimes power tools just need some TLC to become useful once again. The following are some common symptoms of power tool problems, and what may be behind those problems.

Difficulty starting

A power tool that won't start can delay a project. But a tool that won't start should not be immediately written off, especially not before DIYers employ a multimeter. The cost of digital multimeters varies widely, with some retailing for less than \$20 while others sell for hundreds and hundreds of dollars. Serious DIYers who spend every weekend working on one project or another may find the more expensive multimeters more to their liking, but many weekend warriors can get by with less expensive alternatives. Multimeters are useful because they can measure voltage on a power tool to determine if power is effectively moving through the tool.

Dust and dirt also can compromise power tools. This may be especially likely in spring, a time synonymous with home renovations, when many homeowners pick up their tools for the first time in months. Inspect a power tool that's not starting to see if dust or dirt is the culprit. If so, clean the tool and then try to start it again.

Loss of power

Some power tools may start but still lack the extra muscle that make power tools more beneficial than manual tools. In such instances, the carbon brushes might need to be replaced.



The online resource eReplacementParts.com notes that heat damage to brushes can reduce the overall conductivity of the brush, resulting in less power reaching the tool's motor. In such instances, replace the carbon brushes. In addition, chipped or damaged brushes can result in inconsistent power output. Replacing the brushes in such instances may be all that's necessary to restore a tool to its powerful self.

Burning smell

Many a DIYer has dealt with a power tool that emits an odor of burning. The power tool experts at Grainger notes that tools like sanders contain drive belts, and these belts should be the first place to look when tools produce

a burning smell. When the drive belt is to blame, the tool will typically stop working even when the motor is running. Capacitors may be behind the burning smell when using tools without drive belts. Sometimes tools have simply overheated. Whenever DIYers get a whiff of that burning smell, turn off the tool immediately and let it sit for 30 minutes before trying to diagnose the problem. Replacing these parts can restore them to full usefulness and get rid of that unwelcome aroma.

Replacing worn or damaged power tool parts as opposed to the tools themselves is often the most budget-friendly way to get these must-have DIY accessories back on track.

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Lunch #1 Mozzarella Sticks w/Marinara Sauce #2 SunButter & Jelly Sandwich w/Cheese Stick #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Cinnamon Bun Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 All-American Cheeseburger Mac 'n Cheese Dinner Roll/*Butter #2 *Chef Salad Meal #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Chocolate Chip Pancakes w/Syrup Or WG Cereal	Early Release Lunch #1 Hamburger (Ketchup) #2 Cheeseburger (Ketchup) #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch "Cookie Day" Breakfast Pop-Tart w/Cheese Stick Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 Chicken Nuggets & Mashed Potato Bowl w/Corn Breadstick (Sweet & Sour Sauce) #2 *Cobb Salad Meal #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast French Toast w/Syrup Or WG Cereal	Early Release Lunch #1 Cheese Pizza #2 Pepperoni Pizza #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Manager's Choice Or WG Cereal
Lunch #1 Baked Potato Chili & Cheese Sauce w/Garlic Knot Roll #2 Deli Ham Grinder (Mayo/Mustard) #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Cinnamon Bun Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 Chicken Parmesan Over Pasta w/Marinara #2 *Chef Salad Meal #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Pancakes w/Syrup Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 BBQ Pork Sliders (2) (BBQ Sauce) #2 Deli Turkey Grinder (Mayo) #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch "Cookie Day" Breakfast Pop-Tart w/Cheese Stick Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 Lasagna w/Meat Sauce "Crispy" Fries (Ketchup) "Twisted" Breadstick #2 *Cobb Salad Meal #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast French Toast w/Syrup Or WG Cereal	Early Release Lunch #1 Cheese Pizza #2 Pepperoni Pizza #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Manager's Choice Or WG Cereal
Lunch #1 Mozzarella Sticks w/Marinara Sauce #2 SunButter & Jelly Sandwich w/Cheese Stick #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Cinnamon Bun Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 Mac 'n Cheese w/Pulled Pork Topper Dinner Roll/*Butter #2 *Chef Salad Meal #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Chocolate Chip Pancakes w/Syrup Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 Hot Dog/Bun (Ketchup/Mustard/Relish) #2 Deli Turkey Grinder (Mayo) #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch "Cookie Day" Breakfast Pop-Tart w/Cheese Stick Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 Chicken Nuggets & Mashed Potato Bowl w/Corn Breadstick (Sweet & Sour Sauce) #2 *Cobb Salad Meal #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast French Toast w/Syrup Or WG Cereal	Early Release Lunch #1 Cheese Pizza #2 Pepperoni Pizza #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Manager's Choice Or WG Cereal
Lunch #1 Chicken Patty/Bun (Mayo) #2 Deli Ham Grinder (Mayo/Mustard) #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Cinnamon Bun Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 Toasted Cheese Sandwich w/Chicken Noodle Soup #2 *Chef Salad Meal #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch Breakfast Pancakes w/Syrup Or WG Cereal	Lunch #1 BBQ Rib/Roll #2 Deli Turkey Grinder (Mayo) #3 Yogurt Bag Lunch "Cookie Day" Breakfast Pop-Tart w/Cheese Stick Or WG Cereal	DID YOU KNOW? Each year March and June end on the same day of the week.	

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Monday (Red/Orange)
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Tuesday (Green)
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Wednesday (Legume)
Chick Pea Salad or Baked Beans & Cole Slaw

Thursday (Starchy)
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Friday (Other)
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*Butter (Smart Balance)

*Chef Salad/Cobb Salad" (Served w/Sweet Potato Roll)

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