

# Woodstock Academy recognizes and honors its senior athletes

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock Academy honored several members of the Class of 2022 at its annual Senior Athletics Awards Night, held Thursday, June 2, at the Loos Center for the Arts.

The highlight of the evening was the naming of the Outstanding Senior Athletes from the class.

Football, basketball and baseball standout Ethan Davis and cross-country and track standout Linsey Arends received those awards in the finale of the program.

Davis guided the Centaurs' football team to a 7-3 record in each of the last two seasons that were played (the team did not have a season in 2020 due to COVID-19). This past season, Woodstock Academy captured its first divisional title in the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC), winning the Division II title.

Davis threw for 1,526 yards and 18 touchdowns this past season and rushed for 961 yards and 12 more TDs. He



Photos Bryson Gould — Courtesy

Woodstock Academy athletic director Sean Saucier presented Woodstock Academy football, basketball and baseball standout Ethan Davis with one of the two 2022 Woodstock Academy Senior Athletes of the Year awards at the Senior Athletic Awards, held at the Loos Center on Thursday, June 2.

led the team in scoring with 86 points. He will continue his football career at Southern Connecticut State University in the fall.

He was also recently named Class L All-State in baseball, finishing the season with a



Woodstock Academy cross country, indoor and outdoor track standout Linsey Arends was chosen as one of the two 2022 Woodstock Academy Senior Athletes of the Year at the Senior Athletic Awards, held at the Loos Center on Thursday, June 2. The award was presented by Woodstock Academy athletic director Sean Saucier.

.392 batting average, 14 RBI, six doubles and three triples for the 16-10 Centaurs. Davis' senior year of basketball was limited to just three games due to a knee injury.

Turn To **AWARDS**, page **A6**

# 17 doctors on Day Kimball medical staff named “Top Docs” by Connecticut Magazine

PUTNAM — An impressive seventeen physicians on the medical staff of Day Kimball Healthcare (DKH) across a variety of specialties have been named to Connecticut Magazine's recently published “Top Doctors” list for 2022.

The doctors affiliated with DKH included on this year's list are:

Michael Baum, MD, general surgeon and president of the medical staff at Day Kimball Medical Group

Joseph Botta, MD, internal medicine with Botta & Associates, and medical staff member at Day Kimball Hospital

David Candow, MD, family medicine with Botta & Associates, and medical staff member at Day Kimball Hospital

Marc B. Cerrone, MD, pediatrician and director of pediatrics at Day Kimball Medical

Group  
David Chaletsky, MD, gastroenterologist with CT GI & Medical Associates, PC, and medical staff member at Day Kimball Hospital

Christopher Charon, MD, ear, nose, and throat (ENT) with ENT Associates of Worcester, Inc., and medical staff member at Day Kimball Hospital

Biren V. Chokshi, MD, orthopedic surgeon with The Center for Bone and Joint Care, and medical staff member at Day Kimball Hospital

Timothy E. Cooper, MD, family medicine with Putnam Medical Associates, and medical staff member at Day Kimball Hospital

Daniel George, MD, orthopedics and spine care surgeon with The Center for Bone and Joint Care, and medical staff member at Day Kimball

Turn To **TOP DOCS**, page **A2**

# Artisans & Vendor Fair benefits Shannon Labonte Memorial Fund



Photo Jason Bleau

Vendors were set up both inside and outside the Putnam Congregational Church for the second annual Artisans & Craft Fair benefiting the Shannon Labonte Memorial Fund.

BY JASON BLEAU  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM — The Putnam Congregational Church hosted a special Artisans & Craft Fair on Saturday, June 11 supporting numerous causes in the memory of one of the Church's past members.

Shannon Labonte was known as “quirky” and “fabulous” to her friends and family, living life like it would never end and being a devoted member of the Church community. Sadly, Labonte passed away in 2018 due to cancer, but four years later her memory has been kept alive by her family and friends who founded a fund in her name and started the Artisans & Craft Fair in 2021 to honor her memory.

Labonte's mother Roberta Solomon said the event is designed to embrace many of her daughters' favorite things:

books, artisans, and people coming together to have a bit of fun and company.

“We wanted to keep her memory alive, and we decided last year to do this event. She loved books and raffles like this, so we thought we'd make this an annual thing. The money helps the Shannon Labonte Memorial Fund, and we give all the money we raise to the Putnam Public Library because she loved to read, the Putnam Congregational Church because she used to do the Sunday School, and we also give to the Day Kimball Hospital Cancer Fund because she passed from cancer. We also give a scholarship to a Putnam High School student who is going into child-care,” said Solomon.

Vendors set up shop both inside and outside of the Church while raffles were helped in the main church area with items ranging from hand made goods from the vendors to gift cards

and other prizes donated by local shops and restaurants. The event brought a large crowd to the Church which was a testament to the number of people Labonte touched in her 40 years of life.

“This shows us that she touched so many lives. It's amazing how many people came out to support us and you don't realize how many lives she touched,” Solomon continued. “She lived life to the fullest. She just loved people, her family, friends, and she was always moving. She never slowed down in her 40 years. She loved us all and that's why we do this.”

Around 20 vendors and more than 50 raffles were featured during the fair. The exact financial profit from the event was not available, however the turnout was enough to make the whole day a worthwhile reminder of how one woman left an undeniable impact on countless people in Putnam.



# New flag pole installed at Country Living at Westview Commons

DAYVILLE — The residents of Country Living at Westview Commons proudly hailed the recent installation of a new flag pole and the unfurling of its first American flag at the Dayville independent and assisted living facility.

There is a strong ripple of patriotic pride evident in the community at Westview Commons; many of the residents having served their country in the armed services, law enforcement, or other forms of preserving American security. In the hearts of all Westview Commons residents exists a pride for this country's exceptionalism, opportunities, and heraldry—whether directly or indirectly determined in their lives. Installing the prominent flag pole on the immediate corner of the facility's entrance and displaying the majestic beauty of the eight by 10 foot United States flag for all who approach affirms multiple truths. The patriotism that is so clearly inside the hearts of Westview Commons residents now projects outward to the Dayville community, and it reflects inward to give the residents even brighter pride in their country.

To commemorate this new

facility landmark, Westview Commons organized a grand ceremony to dedicate the first American flag raised there. Fittingly, this occasion was scheduled just before Memorial Day. The soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice to protect this country were in the hearts and minds of everyone present. The event was attended by dozens of Westview Commons residents, their families and friends, and distinguished guests from our region. While several rows of benches and chairs were provided for the attendees, the moment soon became a standing-room-only crowd. Westview Commons' Activities Director Louise Taylor hosted the proceedings as the Master of Ceremonies; guiding the audience with her own reflections and introducing the guest speakers and presenters.

Members of the J. L'Homme-Wm. F. Burdick, Jr. American Legion Post 21 (based out of Danielson) served as the Color Guard to begin and conclude the proceedings. Bob Kelly, Tom Gaylord, Mike Barta, Mark Dauphinais, and

Turn To **FLAG POLE**, page **A12**



# Some valuable feedback



KILLINGLY

AT 300

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MARGARET  
WEAVER

I had several emails in regards to my June 3 Killingly at 300 column, and thought I'd share them with you. The first was from Francis J. McDonald of Vernon in regards to newspaper baseball teams. "Just reading your June 3 Column and I believe that one of the participants was my father, Francis H. McDonald who lived with his brother Leo in the large house just adjacent to the old fire house on Academy

Street. He would have been 13 at the time. I grew up in Killingly during the '50's and '60's and knew of a couple of MacDonald's but no other McDonald family." (June 4 email).

The second was from Dave Doiron, who has sent recollections before. "You asked about dancing at Wildwood Park. I never went dancing there, but my parents met there. My dad lived in Goodyear and didn't have a car, so he walked to the dances, while my mother lived in Dayville. At the time there really wasn't any other entertainment venue in Dayville or Goodyear, so I most probably owe my existence to Wildwood Park's dance hall. The Big Band (or Swing) Era started in 1935, and my dad went from playing the violin to the stand-up bass, and Wildwood Park was a magnet for him to see and dance to New England Big Bands playing his kind of music. Here's my mom's recollection of Wildwood Park:

"There was a beautiful grove of towering pines near the dance hall, with benches for relaxing dispersed throughout. Most of these beautiful pines were felled by the hurricane of 1938. The dance hall provided dancing every Saturday night. Swimming wasn't allowed at the lake, as it was the source of drinking water for the village of Goodyear. Therefore, there were very few cottages on the lake at that time. I met Andrew at one of those dances. He asked me for a dance, and we had a nice chat. A week later, he asked me if he could come to the house to see me.

"The Big Band Era had started, and Andrew's big dream was to play in a band. The New England dance bands were booked for the dances at the lake. Mal Hallett was very popular, and the band was excellent. Many musicians got their start with this band. Gene Krupa and Frankie Carl, to name a couple."

(email June 3).

While reading through several documents looking for interesting items for this column, I came across extracts Marilyn Labbe had taken from Anthony Allround's column in the old Windham County Transcript of June 19, 1902. I thought you might find the following about the iron foundry (from which

Furnace Street takes its name) interesting. "Among several former buildings of this place that in their time formed conspicuous landmarks might be mentioned the iron foundry of Olds & Allen. It stood in the angle formed by Cottage Street and the railroad track, upon the site now occupied by the coal yard buildings of Woodis & Kennedy. At that time, and for many years after the disappearance of the building in question, the road there crossed the track at grade and upon a raised embankment which sloped away from the track on either side. The building stood conspicuously, because it was three stories high, including its basement below the railroad track and street embankment, and because it was isolated from other buildings, other than an old red shoe shop in the angle northwest from it. Its west front was about thirty feet from the track, the intervening space being piled with coal, pig iron and tons of old iron. There was a low extension to the main part running out about to Furnace street and in this part the moulding and casting as done on a clay floor. Stoves and their furnishings, plow-shares and the iron parts of some mill machinery were made here, and the foundry doubtless did a good business, employing seven or eight hands. Mr. Olds, the senior member of the firm, was killed about the beginning of the Civil war, from being struck by the corner of a car while walking beside the railroad track. The foundry was a successor to the older one that stood on Fall Brook, and it disappeared a few years after the close of the war.

Anthony Allround continued, "The Old Furnace, as it was called, that stood in the old days by Fall Brook in the South Killingly neighborhood, has been referred to in these columns. Perhaps a short description of it, as it appeared in the last years of its existence, may interest my readers. The old building was standing in 1860, some distance to the south of the highway leading through the woods beyond Christian Hill. It was about the dimension of an ordinary sized house, resembling such as are built in the side of gentle hill slopes so as to provide a basement. It fronted west and above the basement was a full story, and perhaps a low loft still above this part. The entrance to the common story part was at the north end where the ground was higher than in front, and the south end close by the Brook was located a narrow faced breast wheel which had furnished the motive power for running whatever machinery had been used and had also generated the air blast for the furnace. At the time mentioned the building was fast going to decay. Its clapboarding was already weathered with age, its window

sash gone, its door broken down and its roof hollowed in from sinking out of place—a deserted and dilapidated structure. Ten years later every vestige of the building had disappeared, a depression on the hill slope showing where the basement part of the old structure had been located." Old Furnace is now a Connecticut State Park; you might want to visit it sometime.

Anthony Allround also included reflections about the Dyer Dam area in that same column. "The Dyer Dam, two miles south of this place (Danielson), is not the first utilization of the water-power of the Quinebaug river in that neighborhood. The river at a point below the power-house was used to turn a mill-wheel three or four generations ago. A half mile or more below the present dam and on the Brooklyn side of the river, may be seen in the woods the remains of an old mill-race twenty or thirty rods in length. Its sloping banks are partly covered with brush and trees. A small brook that appears once to have contributed its waters to the mill-race now cuts across its deserted channel. Sometime during the first half of the last century there stood upon the banks of the river at this place a mill that ground grain for the Allen Hill people. Every trace of the building, with its wooden water-wheel, has long since disappeared. It would be interesting to know when it was built and how long ago it ceased to be used and went to decay. Before the Civil War the river plains along the foot of Allen Hill formed quite a track of open country but the land is now covered by an extensive forest of young timber." Periodically, Walktober walks have visited this area, but I don't recall talk of the old mill.

Please feel free to share your memories by emailing me or call the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society and leave your name and number so I can get back to you..

*Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian June 2022. Special thanks to Francis J. McDonald and Dave Doiron for sharing memories and Marilyn Labbe for extracting Anthony Allround's column. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or contact the Killingly Historical Society at www.killingly-historical.org. Leave messages for the Killingly Historical Center at 860-779-7250. Visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wednesday or Saturday from 10-4. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center should be sent to P.O. Box 265, Danielson, CT 06239.*

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## TOP DOCS

continued from page A1

### Hospital

Michael Golioto, MD, gastroenterologist with CT GI & Medical Associates, PC, and medical staff member at Day Kimball Hospital

Anne F. Josephs, MD, pediatrician at Day Kimball Medical Group

Erica Kesselman, MD, FACOG, gynecologist and obstetrician at Day Kimball Medical Group

John Modica, MD, cardiologist and director of cardiology services and intensive care at Day Kimball Hospital

Robert Moes, MD, pediatrician at Day Kimball Medical Group

Elena Poloukhine, MD, FACOG, gynecologist and medical director of obstetrics and gynecology at Day Kimball Medical Group

Meryl Reichman, MD, endocrinologist at Day Kimball Medical Group

Stephen F. Schiff, MD, FACS, urologist and vice chairman of surgery at Day Kimball Hospital, and clinical professor of urology at Yale University School of Medicine

"Day Kimball is extremely

proud to announce that seventeen physicians on our medical staff have been named on this year's list of top doctors by Connecticut Magazine," said Kyle Kramer, chief executive officer, Day Kimball Healthcare. "Even when faced with the most difficult times like those we have seen over the past few years, our doctors remain at the top of their fields. We commend our colleagues who have been recognized by their peers and named to this year's list, many of whom have been recognized previously at DKH. These outstanding physicians are an excellent representation of the high-caliber, high-quality, compassionate care that DKH provides to everyone, each and every day."

Connecticut Magazine partners with the national research firm Castle Connolly to distribute surveys to every licensed practicing physician in the state. Ranking is based on a regional peer-review survey. The physicians are asked to nominate specialists who they would recommend to friends and family for treatment. According to the Castle Connolly website, their research team "thoroughly vets each physician's professional qualifications, education, hos-

pital and faculty appointments, research leadership, professional reputation, disciplinary history and if available, outcomes data. Additionally, a physician's interpersonal skills such as listening and communicating effectively, demonstrating empathy, and instilling trust and confidence, are also considered in the review process." Those receiving the highest rankings are named as the top doctors and represent leading physicians in their respective specialties.

The annual list of Top Doctors can be found in Connecticut Magazine's May 2022 issue.

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

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# The surprising student debt problem of high earning millennials



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Sixty-five percent of college seniors graduating from private or public college have accumulated student loan debt.<sup>1</sup> That debt averages out to around \$28,950 per graduate.<sup>2</sup> And while student loan debt is a burden to any graduate, it can have a surprisingly negative effect on HENRYs, or those considered to be a “High Earner, Not Rich Yet.”

Here’s why high-earning millennials are feeling just as stressed, if not more, about their looming debt as their peers – and what can they do about it.

Who Are HENRYs?  
As mentioned above, HENRY stands for “High Earner, Not Rich Yet.” A common phrase in the world of finances, these are typically young professionals who are earning high incomes, but due to expenses or debt, they are not yet able to accumulate net worth.

Student Debt Problems For HENRYs  
Millennials across the board are faced with an immense amount of student loan debt. But for HENRYs in particular, there are a few special circumstances that can make the weight of their debt feel even heavier.

Debt Stress: Imagine loading up on extra classes, pulling frequent all-nighters, tackling residencies and more to earn a degree and find yourself in a well-deserved high-paying job. Now, imagine having to live paycheck to paycheck, even as you’re earning a much higher salary than others your age. That’s the reality many HENRYs who’ve accumulated student debt face. And because of this, they’re experiencing debt stress that their lower-income peers may not feel to the same extent.

Debt stress is a real issue that can be physically experienced by those facing large amounts of debt. The stress felt by the weight of debt-bearing down can manifest itself in many ways, including fear, panic, anger and denial.<sup>3</sup>

Higher Taxes: The more money HENRYs make, the higher the tax bracket they end up in. And while tax advantages related to student loan debt and interest can bring some relief to millennials, the more you make, the less relief is given, in most cases. So HENRYs are faced with both a bigger chunk of their paycheck going towards Uncle Sam while still being responsible for paying back student loan debt month after month.

No Time for Extra Income: These days, you may be hard-pressed to find a millennial who isn’t working a side hustle. Whether it’s driving for a ride-share company, blogging for money, picking up a shift in retail or selling

crafts online, lots of people pursue a second job to help offset their monthly spending and student debt.

But when it comes to HENRYs, they’re often faced working long or odd hours their lower-income counterparts may not be experiencing. Especially if these HENRYs are entering into their first real job or they’re still lower on the corporate ladder, they could be expected to put in longer days than the typical 9 to 5. This leaves them with little time or energy to pursue a hobby or commit to a second job.

With student loan debt standing at \$1.75 trillion, a majority of today’s millennials are faced with how to pay down their portion while growing their savings and building net worth.<sup>1</sup> And for those who worked hard all through college to land a high-paying job, student debt can be a serious and unforeseen hindrance to their personal finances.

One way to address this challenge is to see if you’re eligible to refinance your student loans – and if it makes financial sense for you to do so. Refinancing at a lower interest rate could help you to save money on the total cost of your loan and also pay it off faster.

Qualifying for a refinance is one area where HENRYs are at an advantage – their higher incomes make them more attractive to lenders, assuming they also have good credit and that their overall debt-to-income ratio isn’t too high.

Next, you should consider the types of

student loans you have. You may want to refinance if you have high-interest private student loans, but if you only have federal loans, refinancing might not make sense. Many federal student loans offer benefits such as Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF), temporary student loan deferment and forbearance, and income-driven repayment plans. Check out the terms and options for your loans because if you refinance federal student loans with a private lender, you may lose some of these benefits.

Lastly, you should consider your overall financial health. If you have other high-interest debt, such as credit card debt, paying off those debts should be your top priority before considering refinancing your student loans. Not only will paying off this debt faster improve your credit score, but it may also save you more on your monthly payments than refinancing lower-interest student loans may.

Each situation is different, so talk to your financial advisor about refinancing your student loans or about other financial tips and tricks to start building a strong financial foundation for your future. Don’t have an advisor? Our team at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors can help you make a plan for your student loan debt, and for

your financial future, using our strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process. Contact us at (860) 928-2341 or [info@whzwealth.com](mailto:info@whzwealth.com) to get started, and learn more on our website at [whzwealth.com](http://whzwealth.com).

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- 1 <https://educationdata.org/student-loan-debt-statistics>
- 2 <https://ticas.org/our-work/student-debt/>
- 3 <https://www.debt.org/advice/emotional-effects/>

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## Summer reading challenge underway at Killingly Public Library

KILLINGLY — The Killingly Public Library announces its Summer Reading Challenge, “Read Beyond the Beaten Path.”

This challenge, which will run through Aug. 31, is open to children, teens, and adults! Just stop in to sign up and receive a swag bag to help promote reading. It’s that simple. Readers will automatically be entered for a chance to win one of our special gift baskets. Earn extra tickets by completing our scavenger hunt. Don’t forget to sign up for our special programs and events too!

Sign up online at [www.killinglypl.org](http://www.killinglypl.org) or at the library.

## Local residents named to Dean’s List at Dean College

FRANKLIN, Mass. — Dean College is pleased to announce that Olivia Cunha of N. Grosvenordale and Joshua Heaney of Putnam have earned a place on the Dean’s List for the Spring 2022 semester. Students named to the Dean’s List have demonstrated a serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College.

Founded in 1865, Dean College is a private, residential college located in Franklin Massachusetts, 45 minutes from Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. Dean College offers baccalaureate degrees, associate degree programs, as well as a robust schedule of part-time continuing and professional education credit and certificate programs throughout the calendar year.



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# Collecting local memorabilia

Many people are interested in their local history, so it's no wonder collectors often focus their collections on items from their own town or city. They may hone in on one type of collectible, such as postcards, or they may seek out a wide variety of items that have a connection to their area.

I'll focus on Worcester related items in this column given its large size and significant history, and the fact that much of my collection features items that were produced and sold in the city.

If you are just starting out collecting, you may want to start with postcards and other smaller items, which you can purchase for 25 cents and up. Vintage matchbook covers advertising Blue Moon Stockings being sold at Vera Green Inc. in Worcester and TO Flynn's Restaurant each recently sold in the \$2 range. A Victorian trade card for Palace Organs manufactured by Loring and Blake Organ Company of Worcester went for \$4. A small German made souvenir porcelain pitcher of Worcester City Hall sold for \$10 in 2019.

If you're looking to go bigger, many pieces of local memorabilia could bring you a windfall. It should be noted, however, that many top selling items are cross collectibles. This is when items have characteristics that appeal to mul-



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

iple collectors. For example, Oilzum motor oil was manufactured in Worcester, so there are local people who collect Oilzum advertising. There are also petroliana (gas station and petroleum industry) collectors interested in Oilzum, making their products even more desirable.

As for earlier local history, Isaiah Thomas was an anti-British journalist and publisher from Worcester who published the Worcester Spy. The Spy and Thomas' close connections with other patriots helped fuel the American Revolution. Many of his books can sell in the hundreds, but one book brought a huge figure at auction. A Narrative of the Excursion and Ravages of the King's Troops under the Command of General Gage, on the Nineteenth of April 1775 sold for \$19,550 in 2010.

Almost 200 years after Thomas' book was printed, A 1964 "Caravan of Record Stars" poster advertised a concert featuring 15 performers at the Worcester Memorial Auditorium. The Supremes and the Drifters were two of the headliners. Despite pinholes and over 20 staple holes, it sold for \$9,540.

1930s cone top cans from Worcester's Brockert Ale are popular with brew-



riana collectors and collectors of local memorabilia. The brewery opened in 1935, according to the Worcester Sun. They sold their first beer on St. Patrick's Day 1936. Oscar Brockert left a year after founding the business, but the company kept selling beer as Brockert until after World War II. It then became the Worcester Brewing Company. Brockert cone top cans can sell in the hundreds to the thousands. A can in pristine condition sold for \$3,000 last year. I'm sure the consignor raised a glass to that. I'm always looking for Worcester related items for my collection. I am particularly interested in Worcester County sports memorabilia and railroad memorabilia from local railroads.

We continue to pick up items for

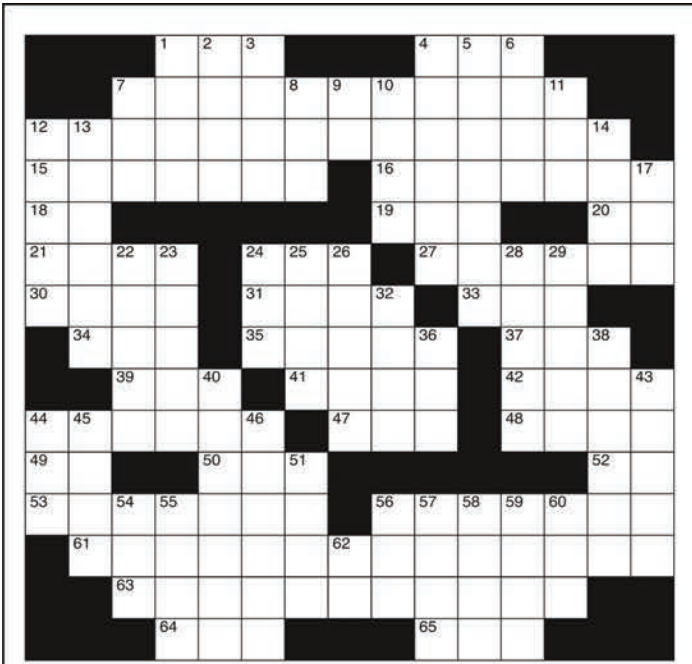
our major fall multi-estate auction. The sixth session of model trains, die-cast cars, models and other toys is running now and will end on July 13th. We will also be starting the Beacon Street, Boston online estate auction when the sale of the home is finalized. I'll be appraising items at the Leicester Senior Center as a fundraiser for the Leicester Historical Society on Nov. 5. Please visit our Web site, <https://centralmassauctions.com>, for links to upcoming events.

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



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CLUES ACROSS

1. Moved quickly  
4. Ocean temperature  
7. Scholarly book series  
12. Irregular  
15. Hairstyle  
16. Indigestion fixer  
18. Special therapy  
19. Mock  
20. Partner to Pa  
21. Strays  
24. Swedish currency (abbr.)  
27. Desired  
30. Soap product  
31. Traditional fishing boat  
33. No (Scottish)  
34. Spy organization  
35. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
37. Married woman  
39. Blood relation  
41. German river  
42. Genus of clams  
44. Parts of a movie  
47. Residue  
48. Ethnic group of Laos and Thailand  
49. Atomic #77  
50. Where wrestlers work  
52. Northeast  
53. Type of lettuce  
56. Abstain  
61. Communication between two  
63. One who administers medicine  
64. Sun up in New York  
65. Having eight

CLUES DOWN

1. He played "Milton"  
2. Elsa's sister  
3. Digital wallet  
4. About backbone  
5. Type of weapon  
6. \_\_ Turner, rock singer  
7. Microgram  
8. Hair product  
9. Health care pro  
10. Holy fire  
11. Military ID (abbr.)  
12. \_\_ the ante  
13. Containing nitrogen  
14. Green citrus fruit  
17. Male parent  
22. Bring up  
23. Murdered  
24. Soviet Socialist Republic  
25. Supreme ruler Genghis  
26. Social media hand gesture
28. Semitic Sun god  
29. Land  
32. Database management system  
36. Similar  
38. Nice to look at  
40. Covered with mud  
43. Simple dry fruit  
44. Title of respect  
45. Type of footwear  
46. Most lucid  
51. Exam  
54. Extinct flightless bird of New Zealand  
55. "Rule, Britannia" composer  
56. Small Eurasian deer  
57. "Within"  
58. Insures bank's depositors  
59. A pause for relaxation  
60. Social insect  
62. Expresses acidity



PUZZLE SOLUTION

## AMERICAN LEGION AWARES SCHOLARSHIPS



Photo Courtesy

Two graduating seniors from Putnam High School were recognized on Sunday, June 12 by the American Legion District #4. Reagan Boledovic (left) and Amaya Chavez (2nd right) received certificates of achievement along with scholarships of \$1,000. Boledovic will be attending Auburn University and Chavez will attend the University of Miami. The awards were presented by Scholarship Chairman Ronald P. Coderre (right) and District Commander John Barry.

## VILLAGER ALMANAC

### At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of June 6: Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue-winged Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, Warbling Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Mockingbird, Veery, Wood Thrush, Ovenbird, Chestnut-sided Warbler, House Wren, Hummingbird, American Redstart, Flicker, Eastern Towhee, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting. Visit [ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home](http://ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home).



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## Ashley Nunes named to University of Delaware Dean's List

NEWARK, Del. — Ashley Nunes of Woodstock has been named to the University of Delaware Dean's List for the Spring 2022 semester.

To meet eligibility requirements for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled full-time and earn a GPA of 3.5 or above (on a 4.0 scale) for the semester.

## Woodstock's Nicolas A. Fernandez receives B.A. degree from Rollins College

WINTER PARK, Fla. — Rollins College's 132nd commencement, held on Sunday, May 8, celebrated the achievements of Woodstock Academy graduate Nicolas A. Fernandez. Fernandez majored in business and was president of the Wakeboarding Club. He is currently employed as a professional coach at the Gatorbait Wakeboard School in Miami, Fla.

About Rollins College  
Founded in 1885, Rollins College is Florida's oldest college. Located in Winter Park, near Orlando, Rollins is consistently ranked as one of the top regional universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report. In addition to full-time undergraduate programs in the College of Liberal Arts, Rollins offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs for working adults through its evening program at the Hamilton Holt School and graduate business degree programs through its Crummer Graduate School of Business, which has been ranked a top MBA program by Forbes and Bloomberg Businessweek. Rollins serves approximately 3,200 degree-seeking students annually. For more information, visit [www.rollins.edu](http://www.rollins.edu). "Like" Rollins on Facebook and follow on Twitter@RollinsCollege.



Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.  
– Benjamin Franklin  
[www.860Local.com](http://www.860Local.com)



# Boost the beauty of spring flowering shrubs

Bring your overgrown lilacs, forsythia, mock orange, pieris and other spring flowering shrubs down to size while maintaining their natural beauty and spring floral display.

Prune spring blooming shrubs right after flowering for maximum flowering. These shrubs set their flower buds in summer so pruning at other times of the year reduces or eliminates the spring floral display. Major pruning on these shrubs can also be done in late winter. It's easier to see what needs cutting and the plants respond well to pruning at this time of the year. You'll just eliminate some of the spring flowers.

Summer blooming shrubs like potentilla, beautyberry, and Annabelle-type hydrangeas flower on new growth. Prune these, when needed, in late winter or early spring before growth begins or anytime during the dormant season.

Make sure you have the proper tools and safety equipment before making the first cut. Protect your eyes and hands with safety glasses and gloves. Then make sure your pruning tools are clean and sharp. Using the right pruning tool for the job helps ease muscle strain and fatigue while making proper cuts that close quickly. This will reduce the risk of insects and diseases moving into the plant.

Use bypass pruners to cut small stems that are 1/2-inch diameter or less. These have two sharp blades, like scissors, and make clean cuts that close quickly. Employ a bypass lopper like Corona® Tools' ClassicCUT® SL15167 with soft grips that fit well and will cut limbs up to one and three quarter inches in diameter. Loppers have long handles that give you greater leverage and extend your reach

You will need a pruning saw when doing renewal pruning. A short-bladed



Photo Corona Tools — Courtesy

Use bypass hand pruners on smaller stems of spring flowering shrubs.

ed saw makes it easier to access and cut larger stems to ground level. Look for a saw, like the RazorTOOTH Saw® RS16150, with a pull stroke cutting action and ergonomic handle. It makes fast and easy cuts and minimizes hand fatigue.

Once you have your tools, you are ready to start pruning. Reduce the height and leggy growth on overgrown suckering shrubs over the next three years. This type of renewal pruning is better for the



**GARDEN MOMENTS**

MELINDA MYERS

plant and most gardeners find it less stressful for them as well.

Remove one third of the largest and oldest stems to ground level each year for three years with renewal pruning. If your shrub has twelve stems, you will prune four of these back to the ground this year, four more the following year, and remove the last four older stems the third year. By the end of the three years, you have a smaller shrub with leafy stems from ground to

tip and flowers at a level you can enjoy.

Start by removing any crossed or dead branches. Disinfect tools with a 70 percent alcohol or disinfectant spray between cuts, if you suspect the plant is suffering from disease. This will help reduce the risk of spreading the disease throughout the plant. You can stop pruning at this point and continue renewal pruning next year in late winter. If you decide to continue, remove a few more of the older stems to ground level. Taking these stems back to the ground encourages new growth at the base of the plant.

Minimize additional pruning at this point. You can reduce the height on any wayward branches as needed. Make your cut on a slight angle above an outward facing bud or stem. This encourages growth away from the center of the plant, reducing the risk of crossing branches in the future.

Maintain the size and prevent leggy growth with regular pruning in the future. Just remove a few older stems to ground level every year or two. Investing a bit of pruning throughout the life of your plants helps boost their health, beauty, and your enjoyment.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series* and the nationally-syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Corona Tools for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## Guest speaker educates Putnam Rotary about probate court

PUTNAM — The Rotary Club of Putnam hosted Probate Judge Leah Schad and Chief Clerk Mary Ann Champney at an outreach program about the services provided by the Northeast Probate Court at their weekly meeting on June 7. Judge Schad presented information about the probate process and the services provided by the court to the local community.

Judge Schad explained that the probate court helps families who have lost a loved one settle their estates, appoints conservators when a family member is no longer able to care for themselves, and appoints guardians to protect the intellectually disabled and handles matters involving children in need. The Northeast Probate District covers the towns of Ashford, Brooklyn, Eastford, Pomfret, Putnam, Thompson and Woodstock.

Judge Schad described the origins of the probate outreach program to

Photo Courtesy  
Judge Leah Schad and Rotary President Scott Pempek.

the Rotary members. Prior to COVID, clerks at the court were able to sit down with residents and give personal assistance to people going through a difficult time. Judge Schad and Chief Clerk Champney now travel to area senior centers, town halls, libraries and community groups to bring that service back to people struggling with life events who need the help of the probate court.

The next outreach program is scheduled for Tuesday, June 21 at 12:30 p.m. at the Thompson Public Library, 934 Riverside Dr., North Grosvenordale

If you are a member of a group that would like to schedule an event, please contact Judge Leah Schad or Chief Clerk Mary Ann Champney at 860-928-4844.





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**PUTNAM GRADUATE ENLISTS IN MARINE CORPS**

Photo Courtesy

Connor Vassar (second right) graduated from Putnam High School on Tuesday, June 9 as the seventh ranking student in his class. Vassar will be leaving for the United States Marine Corps basic training on Aug. 8. Vassar is pictured with USMC recruiter Staff Sergeant Jeff Reyna and his father, Michael Vassar (second left), a former Marine and Commander of American Legion Post #13. Vassar's 'Certificate of Commendation' was presented by Past Post #13 and Past District #4 Commander Ronald P. Coderre. Vassar, the son of Michael and Michelle Vassar of Putnam, is the only 2022 graduate of Putnam High School who is entering the military.



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# SPORTS

## HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

### ‘Disappointed’ Killingly golf still finishes third at Connecticut State Open



Photos Courtesy

The Killingly boys' golf team poses for a photo after its third-place finish at the Connecticut Division II Tournament Monday, June 6. The team, from left to right: Coach Kevin Marcoux, Cam Seiffert, Logan Gagnon, Matt Card, Harry Giambattista and Ethan Lackner.

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Killingly High School's memorable 2022 boys' golf season ended on a sour note due to a third-place finish the Connecticut Division II State Open, held Monday, June 6, at Tallwood Golf Club in Hebron.

Regional Hebron, Andover, and Marlborough High School, better known as RHAM, won the title, shooting a 311. Ellington High finished second (325), and Killingly third (328).

"We're disappointed. We would not have beaten that team with the score they posted," Killingly golf coach Kevin Marcoux said. "I knew we had our hands full going in; we had to play really good golf and we didn't. Cam [Seiffert] played very well and our other guys struggled a little bit."

Seiffert finished tied for third, finishing with a 5-over-par 77. Other Killingly golfers finishing in the top 20 were Ethan Lackner (82) and Harry Giambattista (84).

RHAM, you may recall, is the team that halted Killingly's season-opening 15 match winning streak on May 27, at Putnam's Connecticut National Golf Course. The two teams finished that match tied, 150-150, but RHAM won the match because it won three of the five individual matches. That loss confirmed what Marcoux already knew;

beating RHAM for the Division II title would be a daunting task.

"We played them during the regular season on our home course, and playing on your home course is usually good for a five-shot [advantage], and they tied us," Marcoux said. "For them to come to Connecticut National and shoot a 150, the same score as us — against our guys, who are really familiar with the course — I knew they were the real deal and that we were probably the underdog going into [the state Division II tournament]."

"That's the good and bad thing about high school golf, it's a one-day event. Some years that has benefitted us," Marcoux continued. "This year, unfortunately, they had a really good day and we did not have a good day. You add those things up, and we finished third."

Pushing the third-place finish at the state Division II tournament to the side for a moment, 2022 was still a memorable season for Killingly, which won the Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) regular-season championship as well as the ECC Open Tournament. And there was that 15-0 run to start the season.

"When we talked after [the Division II tournament], clearly all of us were disappointed. What I emphasized to them is that we're all disappointed because our expectations are so high," Marcoux said. "Most other programs would be thrilled with the season we had — 17-2



Cam Seiffert of Killingly blasts out of a bunker during the Connecticut Open, held Saturday, June 11, at Old Lyme's Black Hall Country Club. Seiffert finished tied for eighth-place after shooting a 6-over-par 77.

regular season, first in scoring differential in our division in the state, winning the ECC Open Tournament for the eighth time in nine years, and finished third at the state championship.

"Those are all great things that we're definitely proud of, but it's always disappointing when the season ends and you didn't win your last event — in any sport," Marcoux said. "I'm certainly thrilled that the entire team is coming back. Hopefully Monday's loss is motivation for them to work even harder, even though they work hard year-round anyway."

Seiffert's third-place finish at the Connecticut Division II State Open earned him a spot in the Connecticut Open, which was played Saturday, June 11, at Black Hall Country Club in Old Lyme. Seiffert, competing in a field of Connecticut's top 25 high school boys' golfers, finished tied for eighth, carding a 6-over 77.

"Cam is a very, very good player. His average score this season was just over two strokes above par," Marcoux said. "Cam's got all the shots and he plays year-round — he doesn't play any other sports — and he takes lessons."

#### Elsewhere:

Woodstock Academy finished ninth at the Connecticut Division I Open Tournament, played at Stanley Golf Club in New Britain. The Centaurs finished with a 343 team total. Senior Kyle Brennan finished tied for 12th overall, carding a 7-over par 78 for WA. Junior Davis Simpson (82) finished tied for 24th.

#### Track & Field

Woodstock Academy senior Keenan LaMontagne and junior Magdalena Myslenski extended their track seasons thanks to their finishes at the Connecticut State Open championships, held at Willow Brook Park in New Britain on Monday, June 6.

LaMontagne finished second in the discus at the State Open with a throw of 165 feet, 6 inches. At New England's he finished fourth overall with a throw of 169-1.

Myslenski qualified not only for the New England championship but also the Nationals with a throw of 113-6, which landed her in fifth place at the State Open. At New England's she finished 11th, uncorking a personal-best throw of 115-9.

## More than 6,300 URI students named to Dean's List

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Spring 2022 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries.

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more

credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

Julia Beausoleil of Danielson  
Cadie Coderre of Moosup  
Katie Humphreys of Brooklyn  
Jenna McCauley of Danielson  
Meaghan O'Brien of Brooklyn  
Zoe Hetrick of Putnam  
Laurn Durand of Thompson  
Hannah Weiss of Thompson  
Reagan Couture of Woodstock  
Katie Davis of Woodstock  
Cristian Fahey of Pomfret Center  
David Fleck of Woodstock

Grace McWilliam of Woodstock  
Katie Papp of Eastford  
Ashley Smith of Woodstock  
To view the entire Dean's List, visit: [uri.edu/academics/deans-list/](http://uri.edu/academics/deans-list/).

Note: Students who qualified for the Dean's List, but have restricted access to their information under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) guidelines, are not included on this public listing.

About the University of Rhode Island  
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tion in Rhode Island. Competitive and highly regarded, its more than 14,500 undergraduate students and 2,200 graduate students represent 48 states and 76 countries across the globe. With 203 academic programs, URI offers its undergraduate, graduate, and professional students distinctive educational opportunities designed to meet the global challenges of today's world and the rapidly evolving needs of tomorrow. At URI, you will find some of today's leading innovators, discoverers, and creative problem solvers. To learn more, visit: [uri.edu](http://uri.edu).

#### AWARDS

continued from page A1

Arends made a name for herself from the start on the trails throughout Eastern Connecticut. She finished third in the ECC Cross Country Championship Meet as a freshman, second as a sophomore and, after the event was not held in her junior season, finished climbing the ladder when she was the individual ECC girls' cross-country champion this past fall.

She never finished out of the top 10 in the Connecticut Class MM Cross Country championship races she ran. She was 10th as a freshman, second as a sophomore and seventh as a senior, qualifying for the State Open championship in each of three years it was run during her tenure.

She captured the ECC 1,600-meter championship in indoor track this past winter and was also a member of the winning 4x400 and 4x720-meter relay

teams that helped the Centaurs finish second as a team.

On the outdoor track, Arends came out fast and finished third in the 1,600-meter run and seventh in the 3,200-meter run at the ECC championships her freshman year. She switched to the 800-meter run two years later and finished seventh. That year Arends was also a member of the 3,200-meter relay team, which finished sixth. She bettered those finishes this year, finishing fifth in both and qualifying for the State Open championship both individually in the 800 and in the relay event.

Sydney Haskins was the 2022 recipient of the Hannah Green Memorial Award, which was established to commemorate and honor Green, a young woman whose courageous battle with cancer was an inspiration to everyone who knew or was associated with her.

Green, a graduate of the Class of 2001 and is remembered by her classmates as a beautiful, lively, free spirited,

young woman full of spunk, laughter, and love; she was voted "Most Outgoing" in their senior superlatives. Green was an active member of the Academy Community, playing soccer and basketball, and actively engaged in Academy theatre productions.

Although confronted with cancer several times throughout her life, first at the age of 11, and finally succumbing to the disease at the young age of 23, she was never defeated by it. This award is presented annually to a senior who demonstrated sportsmanship, character, desire, and determination that was representative of Green.

Keenan LaMontagne and Stella Brin were named the recipients of the Centaur Award which is given to those senior athletes who have shown heart and determination as well as compassion to others in the competitive venue and are also committed to their academic pursuits.

LaMontagne recently earned

Class MM All-State honors in track after winning the discus competition. His throw of 175-feet, 8-inches at the Middletown Invitational was a Woodstock Academy record and also qualified him for the National High School Track and Field championships in Eugene, Ore. on June 18.

Brin was a standout for the Centaurs on both the soccer pitch and girls' lacrosse field.

Four athletes received Woodstock Academy Athletic Department Awards for their contributions to the school and the athletic department. The recipients were: Shawn Wallace, who played hockey and baseball in his one year at Woodstock Academy; Eliza Simpson, who was an All-State skier and also played field hockey; Leah Castle, who competed in cross-country and both indoor and outdoor track and Hamilton Barnes, a standout on the basketball court and baseball field.

Zhi Joe Zhou was named the Woodstock Academy

Comeback Athlete of the Year. Zhou played tennis as a freshman for the Centaurs but his hoped-for sophomore campaign never came about due to COVID. The native of China was not allowed to return to the U.S. as a junior but he continued his education remotely and was allowed back for his senior year where Zhou rejoined the tennis team and played third singles.

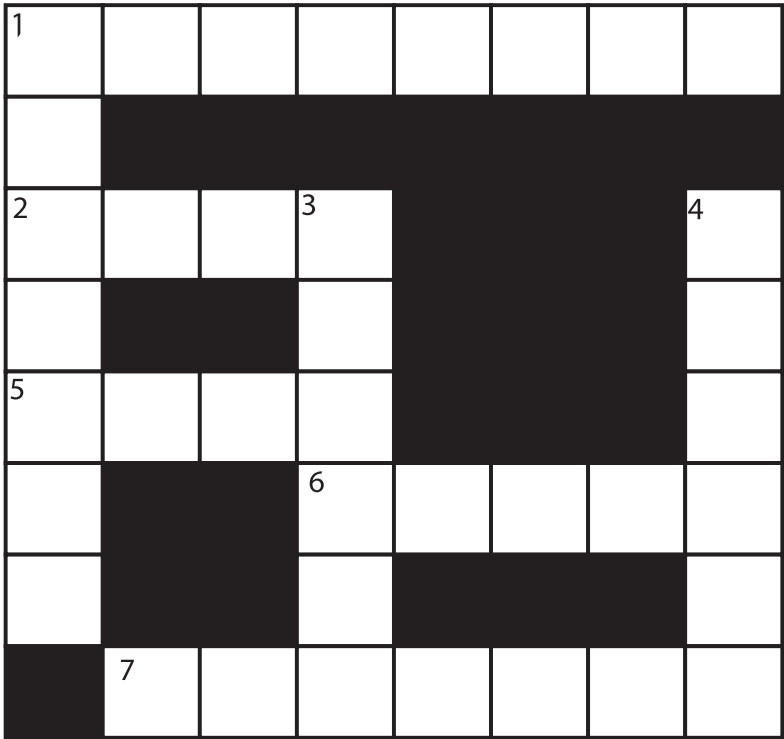
Woodstock Academy athletic director Sean Saucier was honored as Coach of the Year for guiding the Centaurs' football program to the ECC Division II title.

Gerry LaMontagne was named Assistant Coach of the Year for his work with the throwers in both the indoor and outdoor track programs. Two of his athletes, son Keenan and junior Magdalena Myslenski, will both compete in the discus in the National High School Championships.





Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Colored arches
- 2. Cats and dogs have them
- 5. Individual unit
- 6. Hot fluid in the Earth
- 7. Those who ride the waves

DOWN

- 1. Dangerous, dragging motion of the ocean
- 3. Warm season
- 4. Cover most of the Earth

Answers:  
Across  
1. Rainbows 2. Paws 5. Item 6. Magma 7. Surfers  
Down  
1. Rip tide 3. Summer 4. Oceans

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1579: SIR FRANCIS DRAKE CLAIMS A LAND HE NAMES "NOVA ALBION" FOR ENGLAND. THE LAND IS LATER RENAMED "CALIFORNIA."
- 1885: THE STATUE OF LIBERTY ARRIVES IN NEW YORK HARBOR.
- 1987: THE DUSKY SEASIDE SPARROW, FOUND IN FLORIDA'S SALT MARSHES, BECOMES EXTINCT.



SECOND-DEGREE BURNS ARE THE LEADING INJURY ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF THESE DEVICES. BURNS TEND TO OCCUR ON THE HANDS.

ANSWER: FIREWORKS



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- ENGLISH: Fuse
- SPANISH: Espoleta
- ITALIAN: Miccia
- FRENCH: Amorce
- GERMAN: Zündschnur



EFFECTS ARE THE PARTS OF THE FIREWORK THAT MAKE IT SPARKLE OR SHOOT OFF STARS. EFFECTS ARE PACKED INTO THE HEAD OF THE FIREWORK.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: FIREWORKS



Solve the code to discover words related to thyroid health. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = E)

A. 2 3 20 19

Clue: Below the head

B. 9 7 13 2 21

Clue: Secreting organ

C. 12 15 6 5 15 2 3 17

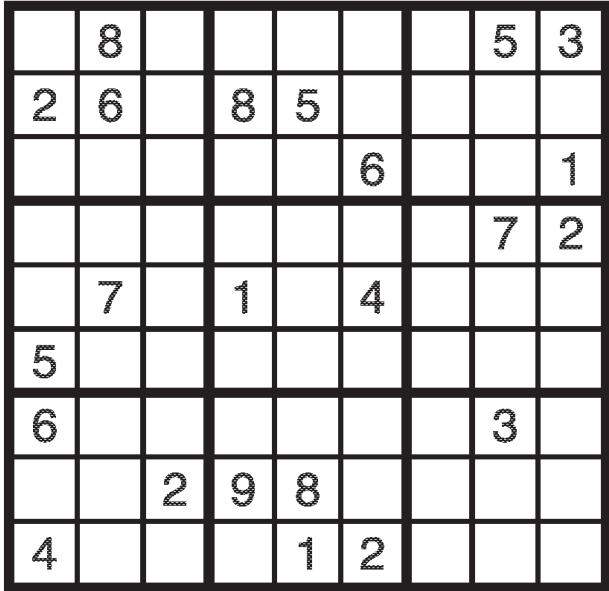
Clue: Substances in tissues and blood

D. 6 3 9 25 7 13 24 3

Clue: Control or maintain

Answers: A. neck B. gland C. hormones D. regulate

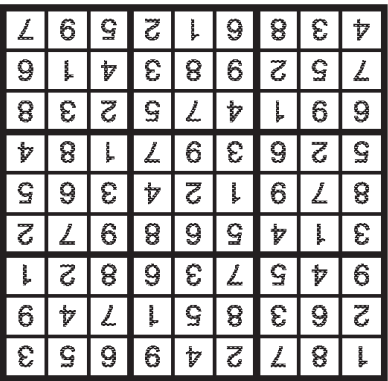
SUDOKU



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!




ANSWER:

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!





Villager Newspapers

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**FRANK G. CHILINSKI**  
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

# Make the most of the life ahead of you

Students around the region are flipping tassels this week, participating in a traditional rite of passage, generally symbolizing their transition to adulthood. With more and more people becoming vaccinated, ceremonies are looking a bit more traditional than they did last year.

Many seniors and their underclassmen counterparts have faced big changes as they navigate the world after a global pandemic. This time in an 18-year-old's life is still quite pivotal.

Students will be bombarded with advice and speeches as these final weeks unfold. Our favorite bit of advice, however, is the following:

1. Don't smoke
2. Drink plenty of water every day
3. Wear sunscreen (your 40-year-old selves will thank you)
4. Spend as much time as humanly possible outside; and
5. Watch the Back to the Future trilogy.

The most important thing you can do, however, is to find out who you are. From there, the entire world opens up. Do not limit your lives to the same scene and same people you have always surrounded yourself with. This doesn't mean you need to forget people or places, it simply means that now is a great time to branch out. The more people you meet in different places, with different experiences will shed light on who you really are.

Always remember your roots. These are what has shaped you and prepared you for your next chapter. Remember how important your community has been to you, and remember to always give back.

Always practice kindness, even when it's hard. The world can aggravate and frustrate the most mellow of us. Anger is a normal human emotion, however it's what you do with it that really matters. If you have disagreements or you think the way you feel about a certain issue is correct, remember to not let your anger take you over. It never feels good, plus harboring too much anger and discontent ages us, plus it's really no fun. The more fun and kindness you have in your life, the happier you are. Try to find balance between your work and your leisure time. Spend time doing the things you love, and never forget what those things are, despite how busy your life may become.

As you go through life, you will make mistakes. None of us are perfect and mistakes can actually define who we become if we learn from them. The best formula for mistake making, is to own up to them, have some self-awareness, be gentle on yourself, learn, then move on. Simple.

Remember to follow your own gut, always, no matter what. This is your life, and you need to make it what it is and what it will be.

Congratulations to the class of 2022!

## LETTERS POLICY

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

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

### ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS



**DON'T MISS A THING!**

# OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Our D.C. delegation has shown no interest in reaching across the aisle

To the Editor:  
 Due to an error unknown to me, part of a sentence in my letter of last week was omitted; it should have read: "In May, CBS News polled 2,041 adults and 69 percent said the economy is bad, 65 percent said Biden is slow to react, and 51 percent said Biden is incompetent." (My apologies if that error was on my part.)

Why I mentioned that - and what ABC Sunday said - was because both of those news outlets are left leaning, and I'm sure that there were many Biden voters among the people they polled. And now Elon Musk has bailed on the Democrats, and I wonder what they think of losing the support of the richest man in the world? (And so grows the list of the dissatisfied.)  
 In the May 27 Villager edition, I proposed a

letter that we could send to our politicians in an attempt to get them to work together for the benefit of the American people. I actually sent it to Joe Courtney, Chris Murphy and Richard Blumenthal, and as of this writing, I've received one of those "thank you for reaching out to me" replies from Mr. Murphy's office.

And lastly, I ran into an old high school «pal» (and I use that word loosely) last Friday night who at least had the guts to tell me to my face that he didn't like what I have to say here. Anyhow, I guess I picked the wrong time to invite him to our upcoming high school class reunion luncheon.

ED DELUCA  
 NORTH GROSVENORDALE

### Killingly's Board of Education should follow other conservatives who've come around on mental health

To the Editor:  
 You have to admit, it doesn't get much richer than this: After decades giving the gun industry everything it has ever wanted, as well as hewing to the line that "you should be on your own when it comes to healthcare," Republican Party grandees are now highlighting the need for better mental health care after two 18-year-olds sporting assault weapons with high-capacity magazines brutally slaughtered 21 innocent children and adults in a Texas School and 10 equally innocent Saturday grocery shoppers in Buffalo — within a matter of a few days. "We as a state, we as a society, need to do a better job with mental health...anybody who shoots somebody else has a mental health challenge. Period. We as a government need to find a way to target that mental health challenge and to do something about it," said Texas Republican Gov. Greg Abbott. Other Republicans, among many, who

have conveniently rediscovered the need for better mental health care are Gov. Asa Hutchinson (Arkansas) and Rep. Tony Gonzales (Texas), and yes, even Donald Trump, who said at the recent NRA convention in Houston, "We need to drastically change our approach to mental health." This might or might not come as news to the Republican members of the Killingly Board of Education, who are well known for their stance against an established plan to improve mental health services for Killingly High students, and who, by the way, didn't do much to further the cause of "compassionate conservatism" by skipping, en masse, the Killingly High School graduation last Saturday. I know they don't like public education, but...really?

JOHN A. DAY, JR.  
 WOODSTOCK VALLEY

### Day Kimball needs a solution, not protests

To the Editor:  
 Day Kimball Hospital Is not alone in its struggle for financial stability. The Center for Healthcare Quality and Payment Reform ([www.CHQPR.org](http://www.CHQPR.org)) reports that several hundred rural hospitals in the United States closed over the last 15 years, and hundreds more are in danger of closing due to financial losses. The Center has found that these failures are largely the result of inadequate reimbursements—the payments rural hospitals receive for their services are less than the cost of delivering the services to their patients. The payment rates established by private insurance companies, Medicaid, and Medicare work for large urban and suburban hospitals because of their higher patient volume. With a smaller patient base rural hospitals are simply unable to cover their costs. If they don't close, strapped rural hospitals end up being absorbed by large hospital systems or acquired by private equity investors. Neither option ensures continuation of all the services needed by the hospital's community, and is likely to result in draconian cost-cutting.

It is no surprise, then, that not one of the writers protesting Day Kimball's affiliation with Covenant Health proposes an alternate funding plan for Day Kimball. Will an angel investor who is truly interested in rural health care rather than profit come forward? Will the Attorney General or the State's Office of Health Strategy find more funding for Day Kimball? Will our Congressional delegation persuade Medicare and Medicare to revise their rates for rural hospitals? None of these things seem likely. What is likely is that unless Day Kimball can stabilize its finances—as it is trying to do by affiliating with Covenant Health—the community will lose not just reproductive health care, but all the other crucial health care services DKH provides women, men and children, including its excellent HomeMakers, Physical Medicine, and Hospice services. It seems to me this would be a catastrophe for the people of Northeast Connecticut.

MARGARET BARTLEY  
 PUTNAM

### At Catholic Hospitals, a right to life, but not a right to death

To the Editor:  
 As someone one once said, "If I were dying in prolonged suffering, I am certain it would be a comfort if I were able to rely on a Death with Dignity law." But what is a Death with Dignity Law? One Legislator explained his understanding of Its most common meaning as, "a patient, must be 18 years of age or older, capable of communicating health care decisions, terminally ill which will lead to death within 6 months, may request medication which will alleviate suffering and bring about death."

In recent years there has been an increasing openness to end of life care, but that openness is running up against the complexities of America's healthcare system. Catholic hospitals supply an indispensable and growing share of the nation's healthcare services. As states continue to enact Death with Dignity legislation also known as medical aid in dying, the question remains: can patients make use of the law's protection at a Catholic Hospital. These hospitals now make up nearly a third of the network in the United States. In many areas they are the only option, scooping-up many small regional hospitals, thereby leaving smaller communities with few options.

Catholic hospitals have long taken the position that they will not provide medical services that contradict Catholic religious principles. More than that, they will gen-

erally not permit their doctors and other providers- many of whom are not Catholic- to perform such services. For decades they have exercised this right in areas of reproductive health, where they refuse to provide many services, mostly to women, although perfectly legal.

When Oregon enacted one of the earliest "Death with Dignity" laws in the country, it immediately became clear that Catholic hospitals would not allow patients to avail themselves of the services the law had intended to permit.


More and more states began to pass Death with Dignity laws, among them, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Montana, Maine, New Jersey New Mexico, Oregon, Vermont and Washington.

Now lawmakers and patients began to realize that their healthcare rights, although enacted into law, were being usurped by the rise of Catholic Hospitals which without fanfare, quietly crept into the backwater of America

Because of the enormous cast of healthcare, small community hospitals are being forced into choices they would prefer not to make. Public funding in these smaller communities should be on the ballot

RAMON CANNING  
 POMFRET

## A bowl of rocks



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

George plopped down in his usual place at the kitchen table. His wife watched in horror as he quietly opened a bag of aquarium rocks, poured them in a bowl, smothered them with honey and milk and began shoveling them into his mouth.

"What on earth are you doing, George?" she exclaimed, lunging for the bowl before he could get another spoonful.

"I'm eating rocks," he replied blandly.

"I can see that," she responded, "but that is crazy. What is going on with you?"

"Well, Miriam," he explained, "I have been on a health food quest for a few years now. I have met with several dietitians, talked to my doctor, read books and blogs, watched videos, and talked to friends about what diet is best. Everyone I talk to has a different opinion. No two doctors or educators seem to agree. Some renowned experts advise a low protein diet, others say the key is low carbs, many recommend low fat food and still others claim only a strict vegetarian diet is healthy. Hardly anyone still believes what my teachers taught me in grade school."

"I can't argue with that," conceded Miriam, "but I don't get this."

"Well," George continued, "Each one of the experts has a great line of reasoning and a lot of data to back them up, but most of them are also in the business to make money. So, I don't know who to trust. All my searching has left me confused and disillusioned about ever finding the right diet. Since there are so many options and the experts can't agree, I have decided I can't believe in any of their theories. So, I am just going to eat rocks!"

"But, sweetheart," argued Miriam, "you can't give up on all food just because not everyone agrees on the perfect diet. I think they would all agree that rocks are not the solution!"

Miriam makes a good point. George seems to be "throwing the baby out with the bath water." In the same way, some people have given up on God and faith just because not all believers are in complete agreement on everything. Wouldn't it make more sense to learn from everyone and try to discover how what they have learned can help you in your own life? Declaring to be an atheist, just because not everyone agrees on theology, is like declaring that you will eat rocks, because not everyone believes the same healthy diet. It is like throwing the baby out with the bath water.

Besides, according to the most read and trusted book ever written, God is not an inanimate bundle of truth. He is not just a concept. He is alive and interested in helping sincere believers find their way. I challenge all sincere seekers to talk to God every day for 30 days, asking Him for direction and evidence that He is real. See if the ultimate expert doesn't give you a little help in finding your way. Don't settle for a bowl of rocks.

*Bishop John W Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. Please visit [www.ActsII.org](http://www.ActsII.org) for more information.*

## GOOD NEWS



# www.860Local.com



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We must act now to prevent the subversion of democracy

To the Editor:

Oh, my, my – where to start. OK, let’s look at some of the things we can hang on the Republicans with very few similar accusations aimed at Democrats. It’s the GOP’ers that are being charged time after time with:

- Campaign voting fraud
- Campaign finance fraud
- Sexual misconduct
- Pushing conspiracy lies
- Lying
- Denying valid voting outcomes
- Conflicts of interest
- Hypocrisy such as:
- Voting down affordable housing then saying no one knows what to do about homelessness
- Going after Hunter Biden and then ignoring Kushner’s association and money ties to the Saudis
- Being law and order party when 60 percent of GOP’ers say insurrection is patriotic.

The Republicans did not even have a platform in the last two presidential elections – they had no addenda or solutions only slogans and lies. They want to rescind Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and Obamacare which would plummet untold millions into poverty. They keep screaming about cutting taxes with no plans on how to make up the difference or how to fund government. They continue to accept that women are chattel and fear Democrats will pack the courts when that is exactly what they have done. And they continue to endorse candidates who are woefully inexperienced and incompetent such as Herschel Walker and Dr. Oz.

And let’s talk about guns for a minute. Ron Johnson blames killings on weakness and CRT. Wrong. CRT is not yet taught in any high school – only in graduate law seminars. And where is his proof that weakness is taught in schools and that it has any material effect on society? None. Other GOP’ers believe that “thoughts and prayers” are the solution to all the killings. Yeah right. Like the tidal wave of thoughts and prayers that go out after every one of these atrocities has made any difference.

Do you have any wonder that guns are a contagion on the very existence of America? As reported by the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, 42 of the 50 Republican senators took money from the NRA. No Democrat took a dollar. And the amounts are not meager. Mitt Romney got \$13.6 million all the way down to Kevin Cramer at \$13.2K. A total is

over \$56 million. Don’t try to tell me that effective and comprehensive gun control has any chance in hell of ever being enacted. The problem is that all these gun nuts hold the Second Amendment above the 6th Commandment. If they were as religious as they claim, they would admit Jesus never talked about violence as a solution – only love. They would realize personal protection is almost never needed. In fact, studies have shown owning and carrying a gun puts the owner at risk many times over than those without.

By the time this gets printed, we will have seen four Jan. 6 Committee sessions. As I write, two have occurred and all I can say is hurrah for them. They said it like it needed to be said and with overwhelming proof. The riot was clearly an insurrection aimed at trying to overthrow the government. Trump clearly instigated the entire thing and certainly was instrumental in planning and forming the riot. The Committee is making a controlled, reasoned and compelling case that, if it were made in a court of law, and I hope it does, Trump would not have a prayer of being found innocent on a number of felonies and misdemeanors. We can only hope that the DOJ does the right thing and applies its full weight to prosecuting Trump.

Punishing Trump is imperative for what he has done. Unfortunately, his poison goes on. Now the GOP’ers are talking about putting together an army of trained poll workers to overturn any victories by a Democrat. As Heidi Przybia reported in Politico, the plan is to “install trained recruits as regular poll workers and put them in direct contact with party attorneys” so they can challenge votes in real time. She then noted that these Michigan GOP poll workers would be installed in heavily Democratic areas with the goal of intimidating voters and other poll workers. There is no pretext by them to support a free and open election. The GOP’ers are openly building a network to subvert the election and the Constitution. They are not even trying to hide their efforts of cheating.

We need to act now, even at the lowest levels here in Putnam, to ensure that such subversion is not carried out. I’m not saying that anything underhanded is being done, but that the Republican governments in the area need to make sure that all procedures are open and verifiable.

STEPHEN ETZEL  
PUTNAM

The illusion of freedom: the American psychotic obsession with Second Amendment

To the Editor:

America, once the light and hope of the world, is choking on the dark matter shoved down our throats by the NRA. Some kind of evil lurks in the psyche of a nation obsessed by the second amendment, and the illusion that the emblem of democracy is a gun and the right to blow someone’s head off. We are the only nation in the world where an ordinary citizen can legally get their hands on a military weapon and use it indiscriminately on fellow citizens. Shamefully, before we could even grasp the unfathomable truth of another mass shooting, political pundits on Fox News began to send out dog whistles to gin up the Trumpian base to protect the second amendment. They brazenly ride the coattails of our tears, manipulating the worst of who we have become – a nation of nincompoops obsessed with freedom without responsibility.

One week after a white supremacist murdered ten African Americans in a supermarket, we learned that over twenty families lost their babies in a senseless shooting rampage by an eighteen-year-old. He was able to buy two assault rifles in the republican wild west shoot- ‘m-up and regulations be danged Texas. No background checks. Like the shooter in Buffalo, he simply walked into a gun shop and left with weapons of mass destruction. This is what terrorism looks like: young men groomed by white supremacists and the gun manufacturers whose marketing campaigns target the vulnerability of an immature brain. Surely, if we were able to get Joe Camel off the market and go after Big Tobacco companies for targeting children as the next generation of smokers, we can stop the NRA and the manufacturers of AR15’s from putting young, white males in their marketing crosshairs. We must ask ourselves, “Is this what it means to be great again?”

Supposedly, a handful of republicans have agreed to pass a bill to address school shootings for which we are supposed to be grateful. There is no mention of age restrictions and background checks. The bill emphasizes school safety by imprisoning students and teachers in fortresses where children learn to duck and cover, but God forbid they learn about slavery, (just saying). And don’t get me started on the hairbrained ideas about arming teachers. Really? Ted Cruz even suggested School buildings have only one entrance. Who needs

to worry about kids being murdered in their classroom when they will most likely perish in a fire? Worst of all, the party of “no government is good government,” which totally dismantled the mental health system during in the Reagan administration, wants to throw a few breadcrumbs into mental health. An empty gesture without background checks and age restrictions. It’s the guns, stupid!

The NRA has successfully bamboozled Americans into believing that an assault rifle is the symbol of freedom. The intent of the second amendment was to ensure that the United States had a standing militia to protect the fledgling nation. It was written before there was a regulated army back in the day of the fife and the drum. The corruption of the second amendment is the mad-man scheme of successful marketing by the NRA on behalf of the corporate military industrial complex. Republican senators such as Ted Cruz are deep in the pockets of the ruse, for political gain if not monetary profit, and Fox in the Henhouse “News” is the propaganda machine doing the devil’s bidding. Don’t be fooled by their pleas for prayers while they arm up on promotional blasts about the second amendment. The real psychosis is that we live in a country where there is no funding for mental health, education, healthcare, and the wellness of women and children, yet plenty of money to support the corporate welfare of the NRA in promoting lethal weapons.

And yet we pray. We weep. We light candles and sing for the broken hearts of the families in Buffalo and Texas. But I, for one, will not be silent. If the Senate is too weak to stand up to the NRA, then we as citizens need to fight back through litigation against the gun sellers, the manufacturers, and even the parents who have bought assault rifles for mass shooters. Just as with Big Tobacco, gun manufacturers must be held accountable for their marketing campaigns, and, while we are at it, Fox “News” should be held accountable for a business model based on trucking hate, division, and the racist rhetoric of the extreme wingnut right. The only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is to stop the NRA and get rid of the fox while we are at it.

DONNA DUFRESNE  
POMFRET

Covenant merger will allow Day Kimball to retain its identity

To the Editor:

As Chairman of the Day Kimball Hospital Emergency Department and Chief Medical Officer of NES Health, which manages a combination of 40 hospital emergency departments and hospitalist programs across the country, I have a unique perspective of the affiliation between Day Kimball Healthcare and Covenant Health.

First, I am so proud of our hospital. Over the 17 years that I have been on the staff at DKH, I have seen amazing changes to both the Emergency Department and the hospital as a whole. What we have accomplished, and continue to achieve, is truly remarkable. Among these achievements include Leap Frog Grade A for patient safety three terms consecutively, Joint Commission Certification in Stroke and Joint Replacement, a leader in New England in sepsis care, best metrics in Emergency Medicine compared to other hospitals in Connecticut and New England, and best metrics in door to angioplasty for acute heart attacks when compared to other community hospitals affiliated with the University of Massachusetts.

When Day Kimball was searching for a partner, it was important to us to find a partnership that would nurture and grow what we have done in terms of quality and safety. During my years at Day Kimball Hospital, I have been fortunate

to work with Dr. Douglas Waite when he served as DKH’s Chief Medical Officer. Dr. Waite is now the Chief Medical Officer of Covenant Health and has spent his career focused on improving quality and safety for hospitals. I know that this is the most important mission for Covenant, and I am certain that we will only improve on what we have accomplished and do not have to be concerned about losing the standards that makes our hospital a leader in quality and safety.

As the Chief Medical Officer of NES Health, I have witnessed many mergers. The ideal merger focuses on quality and safety, not profits, brings resources to a hospital that the hospital cannot afford alone, and allows that hospital to function independently with independent leadership to best serve the unique aspects of the community. Covenant Health does all of this. As I have already discussed quality and safety, I will now focus on the addition of resources and hospital autonomy.

Covenant has a plan for much needed IT resources. Day Kimball’s Electronic Medical Record System is in serious need of replacement and is in fact no longer supported by the original software vendor. It is only through the continued diligence of our local IT personnel that this system continues to be operational. In addition, the Emergency Department

and the OB/GYN Department have separate Electronic Medical Records that cannot communicate with the rest of the hospital. The only solution is to spend in excess of \$30 million dollars for a system that is up to date and will unify all departments. Needless to say, Day Kimball does not have the funds for this upgrade. Covenant will upgrade us to the Epic system, which is regarded as one of the best in the industry. In addition to IT resources, Covenant will provide money to upgrade our facilities infrastructure including electrical system upgrades and heating and cooling system upgrades. Day Kimball has been able to do the minimum maintenance necessary but has not moved forward on improvements that would cost us millions of dollars.

Through my work across the country, more specifically in the Northeast, I know the other hospitals currently under Covenant. They serve communities that resemble our own. I have worked with the medical leaders of St. Joseph’s in Bangor, Maine, St. Mary’s in Lewiston, Maine and St. Joseph’s in Nashua, New Hampshire. Each hospital meets continually with the Covenant leadership but functions independently and makes their own operational decisions. This allows the freedom and autonomy of local leadership to make decisions that is best for their communities.

Day Kimball would be able to retain

its culture and make the right decisions specific to our needs. This is an important distinction that should not be taken lightly. In most mergers that uniqueness is lost, the overseeing company dictates how care is delivered, and the finances drive the entire operation. More often than not, service lines are removed and the hospital is stripped down, not grown. We cannot afford this to happen to Day Kimball. Our community needs more access to specialty care, not less. The leadership of Covenant has a thoughtful process around these issues and we will have the opportunity to offer even more health services than we do now.

No merger is ever perfect. Most are formed out of necessity, secondary to the difficult environment that is healthcare in the U.S. I have little doubt that the affiliation with Covenant will continue the excellent work that has preceded it, allow our hospital to retain its identity, and focus on the aspects of healthcare that are important to our local community.

Respectfully,

STEVEN WEXLER, M.D.  
CHAIRMAN, DEPARTMENT OF  
EMERGENCY MEDICINE  
DAY KIMBALL HOSPITAL  
DIRECTOR, DKH BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS

TLGV, Thompson Rec, Coventry Rec & TEEG team up for summer camp

THOMPSON — The Last Green Valley, Inc. (TLGV) has partnered with Thompson Parks and Recreation, Coventry Parks and Recreation and TEEG to offer a unique summer camp experience for middle schoolers to explore the trails, history, agriculture and more that make the region a National Heritage Corridor.

Registration for the camp is now open and space is limited. The camp is for rising sixth to eighth graders and will operate out of Thompson and Coventry. Participants do not need to live in the towns. Visit thompsonrec.org or call 860-923-9440 to register for the Thompson hub. Visit coventryct.org or call 860-742-4068 to register for the Coventry hub.

Thanks to grants and generous donations, this highly specialized and unique camp can be offered for \$120 per camper per week. TEEG is also taking applica-

tions for additional scholarships to the camp. Up to 15 campers can attend each week. There are two unique weeks of programming being offered and then repeated at each site. Sessions are July 11 – 15, July 18-22, July 25-29 and Aug. 1-5 with 9 a.m. drop-off and 4 pm pickup at both sites each session.

Each week campers will hit the trails with progressively harder hikes as the week goes on, explore local farms and history, learn about and meet local birds, including bald eagles, do real citizen science and experience nature-based STEM activities.

The costs to families for the camp has been kept low thanks to grants from the Centreville Bank Charitable Foundation, the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut Foundation, Putnam Area Foundation, the CT Society for Women Environmental Professionals, Millennium Power

Partners, Corner Stone Quinebaug Masonic Lodge 122, Chace Building Supply and more than 25 generous donors.

The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor is the last stretch of dark night sky in the coastal sprawl between Boston and Washington, D.C. The Last Green Valley, Inc. is a member- supported, non-profit organization working for you in the National Heritage Corridor. Together, we can care for, enjoy and pass on The Last Green Valley!

TEEG (Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group) is a grassroots non-profit social service agency in North Grosvenordale. TEEG serves the communities of Thompson, Woodstock and Pomfret providing “a handup not a handout.”

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# Valley Springs holds annual Fishing Derby

THOMPSON – Valley Springs Sportsmans Club held its annual id's Fishign Derby & Field Day on Sunday, June 5 providing families with a chance to enjoy some beautiful weather while teaching local children about a variety of outdoor pastimes. In addition to fishing and prizes for the largest fish caught throughout the day, kids and families

could also learn about hunting, archery, treasure hunting, boat safety, and more through a variety of activities on the Club's grounds. It was a fun morning for all involved as families lined the Club's pond providing arguably one of the largest turnouts the event has ever seen.

Photos Jason Bleau



Dylan Mrozinski of Thompson shows off a fish he caught during the derby.



Hannah and Jase Tsouridis wait for the big ones to bite their hooks.



Ella Dyer of Putnam waits for a bite while enjoying the beautiful weather.



Madelyn Zablocki of Thompson tried her hand at archery, one of several non-fishing activities Valley Springs provided throughout the day.



The Lirette Family of Killingly take a break from fishing to pose for a photo.



Derby participants take a break from fishing to enjoy some of the delicious food made on site by volunteers.



William Grandelski of Tolland get a new perspective from a tree stand. The Fishing Derby featured numerous hunting and outdoors activities kids could enjoy.



Father and Daughter Eric and Victoria Patterson show off a fish Victoria hooked during the derby.



Kids digs for treasure as part of a metal detector activity at Valley Springs Sportsman Clubs.

## Pomfret Republican Committee celebrates Juneteenth

POMFRET CENTER — The Pomfret Republican Town Committee ("PRTC") has announced its support of the second annual Juneteenth Day in commemoration of the date in 1865 when the Northern US Army seized Galveston, Texas enforcing the 13th Amendment and finally ending slavery in the Confederate States. While three years earlier, the 13th constitutional amendment known as the Emancipation Proclamation was signed into law, it was on June 19, 1865 that the last bastion of slavery was ended.

"This new federal holiday, rightfully joins the other Federal holidays in recognition of the key historic events that are milestones along the journey to realize the full promise of our country's found-

ing principles, said Ellsworth Chase, Chairman of the PRTC. Republican President Abraham Lincoln is still considered by most to be the most respected US President and I think it is largely due to his dedication to the principles of our country's founding despite political headwinds and risks. Juneteenth Day is proud symbol that the strength of our country is the bedrock principles upon which we were founded and still strive to fully realize every day."

Although June 19 is the actual Juneteenth Day, it will be recognized as a federal holiday on Monday, June 20. The PRTC encourages all residents to take a moment to honor this important event and explain its significance to others particularly our children.

## Agricultural Society names new officers, board members

WOODSTOCK — The Woodstock Agricultural Society, the organization that supports the annual Woodstock Fair in Northeastern Connecticut, recently held its annual meeting at the South Woodstock Baptist Church.

The Society thanked Patricia Kelly for serving as president for the previous four years and elected Jeff Sandness of Eastford as its new president.

Jeff Gordon of Woodstock was elected first vice-president and Society treasurer and Marc Allard of Killingly was elected second vice-president.

Also elected to the executive board of the Society were Directors at Large Myra Pratte of Woodstock and Steven Raheb of Pomfret

Center. Irene Wheeler of Woodstock will serve as the secretary of the executive board.

The Society also elected several new members to its Board of Directors.

Glenn Boies (Woodstock); Emilie Hebert (Woodstock Valley); Karen Moseley (Woodstock); Bradley O'Connor (Woodstock); Tia Shackett (South Woodstock); Tim Walsh (Tolland); Susan Webster (Woodstock); Irene Wheeler (Woodstock) and Gail White (Woodstock) were all elected to the board.

They join returning members, Warren Carlow (Scituate, R.I.); Steve Child (Woodstock); Lindsay P. Frazier (Woodstock); Annette Hamilton (South Woodstock); Meghan

Kelly (Cranston, R.I.); Patricia Kelly (Woodstock); Susan Lloyd (Woodstock); Diane Morin (Woodstock); William Moseley (Woodstock); Calvin Neely (Woodstock); Kathie Puliafico (East Woodstock); Dexter Young (South Woodstock) and Douglas Young (Woodstock).

The Woodstock Fair, always Labor Day weekend, will celebrate its 161st year in 2022.

The Fair will open its gates on Friday, Sept. 2 at noon time and will run through Monday, Sept. 5.

The Fair Board is actively working on putting together this year's edition with announcements of what to expect at this year's Woodstock Fair coming in the near future.

If it's important to you,



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# Particle Accelerator festival rocks Rotary Park

**BY JASON BLEAU**  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

PUTNAM — The Particle Accelerator Music Festival returned for another afternoon of music and community on Saturday, June 11 with the goal of raising awareness and seeking an end to suicide and depression. Founded in memory of the late Jack Young, Jr., the

event featured 14 acts throughout the day including a mix of smaller acts on a side stage and larger acts on the main stage. Proceeds from the event benefited United Services of Connecticut which provides health and social services throughout Northeastern Connecticut.

*Photos Jason Bleau*



Fleet, one of the highlight bands of the afternoon, takes the main stage in the second half of the festival.



Wilbur & Rose was one of many crafters and vendors on site adding to the atmosphere of Particle Accelerator Music Fest.



Spectators set up chairs claiming their spot for the afternoon as Particle Accelerator Music Fest kicked off.



The crew of the Putnam Leos pose for a photo before serving customs at Particle Accelerator Music Fest.



Master of Ceremonies Eric Gould addresses the crowd welcoming them to Particle Accelerator Music Fest 2022.



Tyler Fauxbel provides some acoustic covers on stage.



The Papa Joe Show rocked the main stage with a mix of original tunes. Lead singer Papa Joe is a staple of the Quiet Corner music scene.



The Mad Pad Duo were one of the first acts to take the stage to kick off the afternoon.



Vendors promoting suicide awareness including literature and music helped continue the events fight to end suicide.



Forever Fool singer Drew Cathcart belts some tunes during his set on Stage 2.



An annual staple of the festival, the Wall of Angels remembers those who we have lost to suicide.







# With a little help from my friends

Where would I be without my friends? The answer is nowhere good.

My dad had a lot of friends, and as we approach the anniversary of his death, I'm reminded of all the people who supported him in his final months. Every day, he had 10 to 15 people come to the house to be with him. They came so often that getting alone time with him in his final days was hard. They loved him, and it helped me understand the value of friendship.

It took me a long time to learn the value of friendship.

I am blessed to have a couple of friends who were there for me in my darkest times. They were there for me even when I had nothing to offer but depression and despair. During those moments, I realized I needed to be a friend to them just as they were to me.

Sometimes you meet a person, and you know instantaneously there is something about them that you like. Is it possible to have friends at first sight? I've never experienced love at first sight, but I have met a couple of people with who it seemed we had an instant bond. It's hard to explain, it doesn't make sense, but it's like you've known them all your life. That feeling wasn't wrong; those people turned out to be lifelong friends.

I used to work as a model doing print and runway jobs. It's fun work but also very lonely traveling from city to city working with strangers. One



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

TOBY  
MOORE

time I was doing a runway job for a big client in the Midwest. There were about thirty other models there too. I didn't know any of them. On my first day, I met another model named Bret. Instantly we were friends. Everything he said was hilarious. He wasn't even trying to be funny, but he had me laughing at every word.

We kept in touch and traveled throughout Europe, doing modeling jobs and having the time of our lives.

Through the years, we stayed friends; even when he married and started a family, we stayed close. There have been long periods when we didn't see or talk to each other, and when we finally got a chance to hang out again, we picked up right where we left off.

When good things happened, he was always there to celebrate. He was there for the bad times too. During the most challenging times in my life, when it seemed like all was lost, Bret was there. He'd buy a plane ticket to fly across the country to listen to me express my heartache. I'd tell him how bad of a situation I was in, and he'd listen without being judgmental.

It reminds me of the Beatles lyrics, "I get by with a little help from my friends."

He's always been quick to forgive me when I was at fault; he's the perfect example of a friend.

While developing the concept for my business, I knew I would need to raise

capital to get it started. Who was first in line? Bret. I didn't even want money from him, I was explaining the concept, and he wanted to be a part of it.

How could I ever repay him for his friendship? By being a friend in return. If you have a Bret in your life, go out of your way to nurture that relationship, that kind of friendship doesn't come along every day.

I know some people don't have a lot of friends, but you can create a friendship at any age. I have become friends with

a man almost twice my age; we meet every Saturday and have coffee to talk about the spiritual side of life.

Sometimes you have to be a friend if you want a friend. Choose wisely, and make friends with people who want the best for you and for whom you want the best. Celebrate their good times and be there for them in their hard times, don't judge them for their mistakes. Listen, help out, answer their phone calls, and be empathetic. If you want to be a good friend, be like Bret.

## Maxwell Underhill named to Dean's List at Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Maxwell Underhill of North Grosvenordale excelled during the Spring 2022 semester at Hofstra, achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 to earn a spot on the Dean's List.

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012 and 2016). Our campus is a leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreational and professional opportunities. We offer small classes and personal attention,

with the resources, technology and facilities of a large university. Students can choose from more than 165 undergraduate program options and 175 graduate program options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Graduate Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Hofstra University is a dynamic community of 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers.

# LEGALS

### TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

**The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing on Monday, June 27, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT took the following action:**

**PZC 22-17** Applicant French River Materials, Owner Strategic Commercial Realty, Inc, d/b/a Rawson Materials, 307 Reardon Rd, Map 156, Block 8, Lot 7, Zone BBD, renewal of gravel mining operation, to excavate sand and gravel, Zoning Regulations 2012, Article IX, Section 5, Gravel Banks/Earth Removal. Applicant has complied with the Town of Thompson Zoning Regulations, Amended Edition, 9/24/2012. Gravel Operation was granted under the 2012 regulations, therefore renewal criteria follows the 2012 Regulations.

*Files may be reviewed online, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission or in the Planning and Zoning Office. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting*  
**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman**  
June 17, 2022  
June 24, 2022

### TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION LEGAL NOTICE

**The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission held a Public Hearing on Monday, May 23, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room in the Thompson Town Hall, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT took the following action:**

**PZC #22-14** Applicant Hany Youssef property owner at 292 Riverside Dr., Map 87, Block 95, Lot 39, Zone TCDD, 1.93 acres, request a Special Permit to operate an Adult Use Cannabis Dispensary, according to Town of Thompson Zoning Regulations, Article 4E, Thompson Corridor Development District, Section 2, Table of Permitted Use, #20, Article 5A C. Adult Use Cannabis and Article 3A. Section 4-A., B., and C. Continued to June 27, 2022.

**PZC Application #22-15** Applicant Strategic Commercial Realty, Inc., dba Rawson Materials, 58 Pomfret Street, Putnam, CT 06260, Property Owner Christine M. Waldron, et. Al, 20 Wiltshire Drive, Worcester, MA 01609 requesting a Special Permit for gravel mining operation. Postponed to June 27, 2022

*Files may be reviewed online, Town of Thompson website, Planning and Zoning Commission or in the Planning and Zoning Office. Written communication will be accepted prior to the meeting*  
**Respectfully submitted,**  
**Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman**  
June 17, 2022  
June 24, 2022

### ORIENTS HEIGHTS FIRE DISTRICT TAX NOTICE

All residents and non-residents of the Orients Heights Fire District liable to pay a property tax in the Orient Heights Fire District are notified that by virtue of

a tax warrant placed in my hands, I am directed to collect a tax of .64 mills on the dollar, which was laid on the Grand List of October 1, 2021. Said tax becomes due and payable on July 1, 2022 with 30 days to pay without interest. As soon as such tax becomes delinquent, it shall be subject to interest at the rate of one and one half percent of such tax for each month or the fraction thereof, which elapses from August 1, 2022. Minimum interest is \$2.00. I will be accepting mail in payments only, make checks payable to Orient Heights Fire District and mail to: Orient Heights Tax Collector, 34 Bonnevillle St., Danielson CT 06239. A copy of each tax bill must accompany payment so proper credit may be recorded. Those wishing a receipt must enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. Cheryl Lukowski, Tax Collector  
June 17, 2022  
June 24, 2022

### TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On June 9, 2022, Woodstock Inland Wetlands Agent granted wetlands approval for applications: 04-22-16-Northeast Building Services- 2 Big Horn Lane- new home; 06-22-19-David Rancourt- 131 Laurel Hill Dr- stonewall & steps; 06-22-21- Shaw's & Associates- 120 Beaver Dam Rd- garage, addition, & deck; 06-22-23-Woodstock Building Associates- 14 Chandler School Rd- 12x14 addition UPA.  
Chair Mark Parker  
June 17, 2022

### TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

On June 7, 2022, Woodstock Inland Wetlands Agent granted wetlands approval for applications: 04-22-16 Northeast Building Services- 2 Big Horn Lane- new home; 06-22-19-David Rancourt- 131 Laurel Hill Dr- stonewall & steps; 06-22-21- Shaw's & Associates- 120 Beaver Dam Rd- garage; addition; deck.  
Chair Mark Parker  
June 17, 2022

### Woodstock Historic Dist Com Public Hearing

June 22, 2022, 6:30 p.m. for 24 Child Hill Rd for new sign.  
G Usher, Chair.  
June 17, 2022

### Town of Eastford Connecticut Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission Notice of Decision

On May 26, 2022 the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission made the following decisions:

• **File # 22-002 Robert and Melissa Vincent, 220 Old Colony Road, Eastford, CT. Re-build existing cottage. Application Received: 3/24/2022. Fee Received: \$160. Decision or Public hearing by: 5/27/2022. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**  
• **File # 22-003 Christopher Whitehouse, 196 Eastford Road, Eastford, CT. Sheet piling driven in to provide for driveway pad and concrete pad. Application Received: 4/28/2022. Fee received: \$160. Decision or Public Hearing by: 7/1/2022. APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS**  
• **File # 22-004 Christopher Whitehouse, 4 County Road, Eastford, CT. Fill approximately 10'x 30' x 90' triangle 1' deep with gravel and millings.**

**Remove concrete debris and taper 1'-2' to finish with woodchips. Application Received: 4/28/2022. Fee Received: \$160. Decision or Public Hearing by: 7/1/2022. APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS**

• **File # 22-005 Brooklyn Development CT, LLC. North side of Westford Road & east side of Ashford Road, Eastford, CT. Construction of 24 single-family cottage homes with associated access driveway. Entrance to project is within 100' of wetlands on the south side of Westford Road. Application received: 3/24/2022. Fee Received: \$160. Decision or Public hearing by: 5/27/2022. DENIED DUE TO INCOMPLETE APPLICATION.**  
• **File # 22-006 Richard and Susan Bray, 49 Lake Drive, Eastford, CT. Remove shed; remodel and expand house with new attached garage. Reconstruct deck and stairs; modify and reconstruct hardscape below deck; re-configure and construct driveway; re-configure and construct masonry walls and walkway. Application received: 4/28/2022. Fee received: \$160. Decision or public Hearing by: 7/1/2022. APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Details can be found in the minutes filed at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Office Building, 16 Westford Road, Eastford, CT.  
Dated at Eastford this 7th day of June 2022.  
Susan Welshman  
Recording Secretary  
June 17, 2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Phyllis W. Woodbridge (12-00236) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 2, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A, Foley, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Barbara Rogers, c/o KATHLEEN MARY CERRONE BORNER, SMITH, ALEMAN, HERZOG & CERRONE, 155 PROVIDENCE STREET, PUTNAM, CT 06260, (860)928-2429.  
June 17, 2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Florence Beradette Parker (22-00238) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 2, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A, Foley, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Richard A. Parker, c/o EDWIN HIGGINS, BACHAND, LONGO & HIGGINS, HIGGINS - 168 MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 528 PUTNAM, CT 06260  
June 17, 2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Joan E. Luster (22-00210) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 7, 2022, ordered that all claims

must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Stephanie Olenik Knipple  
c/o EDWIN C HIGGINS, BACHAND, LONGO & HIGGINS, HIGGINS • 168 MAIN ST., PO. BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260  
June 17, 2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Patricia P. Peterson (22-00247) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 8, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Katrina Karadi  
c/o FRANK GERARD HERZOG, BORNER SMITH ALEMAN HERZOG & CERRONE, LLC, 155 PROVIDENCE STREET, PO BOX 166, PUTNAM, CT 06260  
June 17, 2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF David N Sherman (22-00199) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 1, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A, Foley, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Suzan G. Brown, 181 Old Colony Road, Eastford, CT 06242  
June 17, 2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Tabitha Ann Thibault (22-00165) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated May 27, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A. Foley, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
William Thibault, 42 Walnut Street, Putnam, CT 06260  
June 17, 2022

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Malcolm Keith White (22-00237) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 2, 2022, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Elyssa A, Foley, Clerk  
The fiduciary is:  
Douglas G. White, 862 East Pond Meadow Rd., Westbrook, CT 06278  
June 17, 2022





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