

Witness Stone honors buried slaves in Pomfret



Photo Jason Bleau

The new witness stone as the Randall Higginbotham Cemetery is unveiled honoring the slaves who may be buried on the site.

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

POMFRET — A small group of spectators made the trek into the woods of Pomfret on Saturday, June 24 to celebrate a special moment, the unveiling of a new marker at a hidden cemetery on what has become known as the Randall Higginbotham Burial Ground.

Known as a “witness stone,” the marker serves to honor African slaves who may be buried on the site. During the time of slavery, these individuals were often buried in unmarked graves on designated cemetery grounds of the families they served. Several potential slave graves have been identified on the site of the cemetery, although many of their identities remain unknown.

The ceremony was led by Donna Dufresne, a local writer and historian whose research into the Higginbotham and Randall families led her to kickstart and effort to place the new stone at the cemetery site. She recalled the works of Susan Jewett Griggs who shared the story of a black woman named Mary Lambert Webster who claimed to be a descendent of

the slaves of the Randall family who she said were buried at the Randall Higginbotham Cemetery. Dufresne’s research led to the discover of at least seven unmarked graves consistent with the burial of slaves at the time. Working with The Last Green Valley, The Windham Land Trust, and the Witness Stone Project, Dufresne and her partners helped bring the new marked to the burial grounds in hopes of finally doing justice to these slaves.

However, the unveiling ceremony wasn’t just about the history of the Randall and Higginbotham families and the unveiling of the stone. It was about acknowledging the North’s place in the slave trade and providing a reminder of the nation’s tragic history in hopes that those days will never be seen again.

“One of the many lessons I have learned on this journey is that old school historians and New Englanders are in denial about our northern complicity in the slave trade. Local folks seem surprised that the hard labor, clearing forests, building stone walls, and the

Please Read **STONE**, page **A10**

New life in the old library

PUTNAM — The former Putnam public library will soon be the new home of three Putnam-based businesses.

Savage Systems, Quiet Corner Physical Therapy, and REAL Custom Training have announced plans to move into the former town facility at 225 Kennedy Dr. in Putnam.

“When the opportunity to lease the old library came up, I jumped on it,” explained Savage Systems owner Eric Gould. “As Savage Systems grows and expands and adds staff, the need for more and different space became more and more evident. We’re the area’s premiere provider of technical support for businesses, schools, small government, and even consumers, so it was important that we stay in this community as we grow. I’m super excited that Quiet Corner Physical Therapy and REAL Custom Training are teaming up with Savage Systems to bring learning, healing, and connecting back to this iconic building.”

The three businesses are slated to move into the former library in July 2022. Savage Systems and Quiet Corner Physical Therapy will occupy the ground floor, while REAL Custom Training will operate from the downstairs level, where the library’s former meeting room will be converted into a collaborative training space for professional workshops and seminars.

In addition to benefiting their own businesses, the new tenants hope their move will be a good thing for all the businesses in downtown Putnam.

“Savage Systems and Quiet Corner Physical Therapy have an established clientele that’s going to love visiting them downtown. As for my business,

we’re new and growing, and professionals from all over New England will be coming to downtown Putnam to take our workshops,” said REAL Custom Training owner and instructor Andrew Morrison. “Folks can take a workshop with us in the morning, then visit Thai Place for lunch, or grab an espresso at Chubby Dog Coffee Company, or take a walk in Rotary Park before heading back to the office. Downtown Putnam is awesome, and we can’t wait to be a part of it.”

For Dr. Gregory Haney, owner of Quiet Corner Physical Therapy, the move to the former library represents a chance to relocate while maintaining local roots.

“As our company expands, it is very important for us to continue to be a part of the local community. The building’s size, convenience, and great location offers us an even better opportunity to support the patients of the Quiet Corner for years to come. We are very excited to provide these services along with these two companies,” Haney explained.

With new life coming to the former library facility, Putnam Economic and Community Development Director Delpha Very expressed her support for the initiative.

“The Town of Putnam is truly excited to see the former Putnam Library be the home to Northeast Connecticut’s entrepreneurial spirit,” Very commented.

For more information about the former library’s future tenants, please visit:

www.savageweb.net
www.aplusptct.com
www.realcustomtraining.com

Grauer returns home and pitches, hits Tri-Town to mercy rule victory over Moosup

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

THOMPSON — Alex Grauer threw a three-hitter with five strikeouts and Max Racicot went 3-for-4 and drove in a pair of runs to lead the Tri-Town American Legion baseball team to a 10-0 romp over Moosup American Legion Post 91 on Sunday, June 26 at Tourtellotte High.

The game, which was halted after 4-1/2 innings due to the mercy rule, served as a get-right game for Tri-Town, which split a doubleheader with Moosup on the road Saturday, June 25, winning


the first game, 7-1, before dropping the second, 5-2. Tri-Town improved to 4-5 overall after Sunday’s win while Moosup dropped to 2-8.

The Tri-Town American Legion baseball program is sponsored by American Legion Posts in Thompson (Post 67), Woodstock (Post 111), and Putnam (Post 13).

As impressive as Grauer’s three-hitter was — it was a one-hitter going into the top of the fifth inning — it’s even more of an eye-opening accomplishment when one considers the fact that the right-hander had just returned from a family

vacation to Florida and hadn’t even picked up a baseball in eight days.

“My arm felt real nice; seven days was a great break. On the mound I felt great, but I didn’t do any running on vacation, either, and I got really tired running the bases,” said Grauer, who helped his own cause at the plate with two hits. He also stole a base and scored two runs. “When I was out there I was just trying to throw strikes, not think of my last pitch. I used to do that. Now my mindset is to go out there, let them hit the ball and trust my defense.”



Jason McKay

Tri-Town’s Alex Grauer releases a pitch toward the plate.

Grauer did get a little banged up during the win — he was spiked in the left hand in the second inning on a close play at third base, and hit by a batted

ball in the fifth inning — but powered through the injuries and the 90-degree heat.

Please Read **TRI-TOWN**, page **A10**

Rosland Cottage Garden celebrated

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WOODSTOCK — The Roseland Cottage has long been a symbol of the history and grace of Woodstock’s past and of the history of the entire region. The gothic-style pink house adjacent to the Woodstock Academy campus is one of the area’s most beloved tourist attractions and historical sites giving guests a glimpse of what life was like in New England in the mid-1800s and beyond. However, while the house itself has proven to be an important piece of history the garden that serves as a beautiful compliment to the cottage also helps transport visitors into the days of old.

The garden is one of 14 designated as Connecticut’s Historic Gardens which were all celebrated on Connecticut’s Historic Gardens Day on June 26. The event encouraged visitation at the different sites to appreciate each

garden’s place in the state’s history and the style of their individual eras. Amanda Manso, the Head Gardner of Roseland Cottage for more than 14 years, hosted a self-guided walk-through of the English parterre-style garden with stations set up to educate visitors on the history of the property and the garden’s place in Henry Bowen’s vision for a summer home where guests could escape the world while enjoying the region’s natural beauty.

“Henry Bowen liked the impression this type of garden made on the visitors. He became very politically involved so he had many guests throughout the summer. With the colors of all the annuals and the perennials it was there to really give joy to all of his guests,” Manso said. “It’s meant to be a living tapestry, a completely living piece of art. Rather than enjoying each garden separately




Photo Jason Bleau

The garden at Rosland Cottage in Woodstock was one of 14 historic properties celebrated on Connecticut Historic Gardens Day on June 26.

Please Read **ROSELAND**, page **A9**

Killingly in the early days of the Revolution



KILLINGLY
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WEAVER

This weekend, we celebrate our independence with many festivities and fireworks. Independence was not gained without sacrifice and struggle. I thought I would share a few of my findings with you on what Killingly was like at the beginning of the Revolution.

In the Revolutionary period, Killingly extended from Plainfield on the south to the Massachusetts border on the north and included much of present-day Putnam and Thompson. The Quinebaug River (Pomfret) was the western bound; Rhode Island, the east. The main north-south road from Norwich to Worcester on the eastern side of the Quinebaug followed parts of present-day Shepard Hill Road, Green Hollow Road, Broad Street, Route 12, and Route 21. A road from Hartford to Providence crossed at Danielson's bridge; another, (now Route 44) crossed the Quinebaug at Cargill Falls. In 1774, another was erected in what is now the Cotton Bridge Road area. There were others. The present intersection of Route 21 (Liberty Highway) and Heritage Road-Five Mile River Road in Putnam existed at the time of the Revolution as the junction of roads to Worcester and Providence, and John Felshaw's tavern, which is still standing on the northeast corner, was a busy spot indeed. Benjamin Wilkinson had a tavern in Thompson parish near the meetinghouse; William Danielson had one near his mill and forge complex in present-day Danielson.

A census taken by Connecticut in 1774 listed 3,439 white individuals and 47 non-whites in the town of Killingly. Present-day Windham County had 18,666 whites; 466 non-whites. Ellen D. Larned, History of Windham County, Connecticut," II, p. 119-Swordsmith edition).

Seeds of Revolution were sown in the 1760's. To help pay the expenses of the "French & Indian War" (1756-1765)

in the colonies, Great Britain passed the Stamp Act in 1765. This infuriated the colonists who felt they could not be taxed by a law they had not approved, one where they had no representation. "Items such as pamphlets, newspapers, almanacs, calendars, tavern licenses, advertisements, playing cards, dice, bills of lading and most legal documents" were among those taxed."

"A group called the Sons of Liberty arose in vigorous opposition to the act. Composed of some of the most prominent figures in the Colony, the organization pledged to work for the Act's repeal. Eastern Connecticut's leaders spearheading the opposition included Israel Putnam (1717/18-1790) of Pomfret." Eventually the Stamp Act was repealed in February 1766. However, in March the Sons of Liberty nominated what was considered a "radical" slate for Governor of Connecticut and other high offices and won the election. William Pitkin, Sr. (1694-1769) became Governor and Jonathan Trumbull (1710-1785) became Deputy Governor. The election meant that the radical group in Connecticut would be in a position to dominate politics and pave the way for the Colony to revolt against the British in 1776." (Celebrate Connecticut 350, p. 14)

Great Britain enacted other measures that the colonists considered unfair. On Dec. 16, 1773 a number of New England patriots, dressed as Mohawks, dumped 342 chests of tea belonging to the British East Indies Company into the harbor at Boston protesting British taxation on tea and the monopoly on the commodity given the Company. Several of the men who participated were reportedly from Woodstock.

As punishment in 1774, Great Britain passed a series of acts known as the Intolerable Acts. One of them closed the Port of Boston to sea trade until the tea should be paid for. Many of the inhabitants of this area had familial ties to the Boston area so were infuriated at the happenings. In addition, merchants from the area frequently did business in Boston. Many towns in Northeastern Connecticut, including Killingly, established Committees of Correspondence to meet with representatives from other area towns and sent relief to the residents of Boston. Killingly was among those that sent sheep. (Ellen D. Larned, "History of Windham County Connecticut," II, p.106, 107-Swordsmith edition).

Liberty poles were set up on high hills in the various towns so they could be used as signals if necessary. Killingly planted one in what is now the Putnam Heights Cemetery. "A great crowd assembled on Killingly Hill and hoisted two long sticks of timber united by a couple of cross-ties. From the top of this high pole a flag was flung to the breeze, decorated with a rising sun and other suggestive devices. A stray Englishman who had settled in the neighborhood smiled scornfully at the demonstrations, 'Ah', said he, you know nothing of Old England; she will come and cut down your liberty pole for you."(Larned,II, 117).

Connecticut had mandated that militia be organized in all its towns beginning as early as 1739. By the 1770's Killingly was part of the 11th Regiment of militia. Ebenezer Williams was colonel and William Danielson of Killingly, major. Regiments were to conduct regular military reviews of the troops. A large parade had been held in Plainfield in 1773. One in Woodstock the following year included Captain Samuel McClellan's Troop of Horse. At some point in 1774, the militia in the southern part of Killingly was included in the 21st Regiment with troops from Plainfield, Canterbury, and Voluntown. (See Larned, Volume II, p. 117-Swordsmith edition).

In January 1775, residents of Killingly purchased what is now called the Putnam Heights common as a training field for the militia. (KLR Vo. 19, p. 82,159; Larned II, p. 76).

"When fighting erupted at Lexington and Concord on April 19, 1775, some 3,600 Connecticut militiamen rushed to the Boston area." (CCT 350, p.117). A dispatch from Watertown to Worcester was forwarded to Brooklyn where Israel Putnam was plowing his field on that fine spring morning. "He heard the joyful summons and 'but loitered not' ' but left his young son Daniel, 'the driver of his team, to unyoke it in the furrow' and hurried off for consultation with town committees and military officers."(Larned II, p. 121).

Ellen Larned also wrote, "There is evidence that Killingly received the news at a still earlier hour on Thursday morning by a direct express from Boston, brought to the house of Mr. Hezekiah Cutler (on present-day Putnam Heights-then Killingly Hill). He arose from his bed and fired his gun three times to give the alarm, and before sunrise with

fifteen men, had started for the battlefield...Many, especially in the northern towns, snatched their guns and marched off without waiting formal orders. Killingly's stock of powder was stored in the meeting-house, under the charge of Hezekiah Cutler, who had left orders that each volunteer should be furnished with a half a pound and the house was thronged all day with squads of men coming from all parts of the town to claim their portion and march on to Cambridge." (L, II, 122). Over 175 Killingly men marched to fight the British during the Lexington Alarm. Killingly's militia companies were led by Captain Joseph Eliot, Major William Danielson, John Green, Ephraim Warren, and David Cady, Jr. (See Record of Service of Connecticut Men in the War of the Revolution for the list). Although these men did not have to remain in Massachusetts very long, Killingly men would continue to fight until the end of the War.

The summer of 1775 was brought tragic news unrelated to the war for those in the middle church society on Killingly Hill. Minister and native son, Joseph Howe, stepson of the pastor Aaron Brown died in Hartford while trying to recover from an illness. Brown, himself, died while returning from the funeral. So during this time of trial, many inhabitants had no familiar religious figure to comfort and counsel them. It was a sad time indeed!

In a future column I will write about a few Tories in Northeastern Connecticut, including one who hid a wounded British soldier in his house.

Happy Fourth of July to everyone! Give grateful thanks for our freedoms, for our liberty. May God bless America!

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

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POMFRET — As eastern Connecticut children pack their bags and prepare for another summer at camp, Pomfret's Loos & Company is pleased to be able to help a few more children have that experience.

Loos & Company recently donated \$500 to Camp Woodstock YMCA to help children of all circumstances experience the joy of summer camp.

"Camp Woodstock is known as "The Friendship Camp," Executive Director Anthony Gronski said. "Here, kids can just be kids. They can disconnect from the rest of the world."

To make that possible, the camp offers a financial aid scholarship program. For the 2022 summer camp season, the camp has awarded over \$110,000 in discounted camp for youngsters.

Loos & Company is proud to give local children the opportunity to experience summer camp, regardless of their financial circumstances.

"We hope to collect and give

out even more money," Gronski said. "These donations from our neighbors level the playing field so all kids have a chance to go to camp."

Marketing Assistant Anne Nichols toured the camp and learned about all the activities offered, from archery and boating to yoga. Gronski said camp teaches children how to live in a community, negotiate, compromise, relax, and more.

"Camp Woodstock is a local landmark and has touched the lives of many kids, and adults, in the Pomfret area over the years," Nichols said. "We're pleased to help keep these traditions alive through the years."

In fact, the camp is celebrating its 100th year of operation. Although much has changed during the camp's time, its values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility have not.

The camp is a non-profit and follows the policies and procedures led by the YMCA organization.

Katelynn Raynsford named to Dean's List at American International College

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — Katelynn Raynsford, of

Danielson, has been named to the Spring 2022 Dean's List at American International College. Dean's List students are full-time students who have achieved a 3.3 to 4.0 GPA.

Founded in 1885, American International College (AIC) is a private, co-educational, doctoral granting institution located in

During the last week, alumni and donors have congregated at the camp, located at 42 Camp Rd. in Woodstock Valley, to celebrate the milestone anniversary.

The summer camp season officially starts June 26 and runs through the middle of August.

Gronski said he expects around 1,000 children to flow through the camp this summer, ranging in ages from six to 15 years old.

More information about Camp Woodstock YMCA is available online at campwoodstock.org.

Loos has made it a priority to support local non-profits, social services, schools and more. A full list of recent donors is available online at loosco.com/corporate/involvement.php.

Loos & Co., headquartered at 16B Mashamoquet Rd. in Pomfret Center, is the industry leader in the wire and cable industry. More information about Loos is available at loosco.com.

Springfield, Massachusetts, comprising the School of Business, Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health Sciences. AIC supports and advances education, diversity, and opportunity for its students and the community.

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Create long lasting beauty and pollinator appeal in your landscape with the help of perennials. With a little bit of planning, you can have flowers, foliage and seed heads that add interest to your garden year-round.

Select perennials including native plants that thrive in the sunlight, soil, and moisture conditions in your garden. Incorporate several inches of compost or other organic matter into the top eight to 12 inches of soil to improve the soil so your perennials will be healthy, showy, and long-lived plants.

As you select your plants, consider seasonal foliage and flower color as well as texture. Warm colors like red, orange, and yellow make large areas appear smaller, energize the space, and make it feel warmer. Cool colors of blue, green, and violet make small areas feel larger, hot areas seem cooler, and create a sense of tranquility.

Large leaves and flowers are bold and create a focal point while small flowers and narrow leaves create a sense of depth when used in the back of the garden and they make a nice backdrop for



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bold textured plants. Maximize beauty in every square inch and extend your budget with plants that provide multiple seasons of interest. Look for opportunities to include spring flowering bulbs like daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, and grape hyacinths into the landscape. Although their blooms are relatively short lived, these spring beauties are sure to brighten the garden and help chase away the winter blues. Add these to your fall planting list.

Include some spring, summer, and fall blooming perennials with season long foliage, fall color or winter interest. You will find many great options at your local garden center. Plants like Siberian Iris (*Iris sibirica*), hardy in zones 3 to 9, tolerates full sun to part shade, has beautiful flowers in spring, nice foliage, fall color, and persistent seeds capsules for winter interest. Nonaggressive catmint (*Nepeta*) varieties flower all summer long with minimal maintenance. End the season with showy goldenrod (*Solidago speciosa*). Its bright yellow flowers add a burst of color to the fall garden and provide food for pollinators

migrating through or overwintering in your garden. The dried flowers add interest to the winter garden.

Include some ornamental grasses. Their fine foliage is a great addition to the garden and most come into their full glory in fall. Leave them stand for winter and enjoy the motion and texture they provide.

Don't let gardening in the shade stop you from creating season long beauty. Consider shade lovers that add multiple seasons of beauty to those shady spots in the landscape like barrenwort (*Epimedium*), variegated Solomon's seal, and coral bells.

Let your healthy perennials stand in the garden all winter long. Their dried leaves, stems and seed heads provide winter interest and help attract birds to the garden. They also provide winter homes for many beneficial insects. You'll enjoy the motion and color the birds and standing perennials add to drab winter days.

Start taking pictures of your landscape throughout the year. Then look for opportunities to add year-round perennial beauty to your gardens and landscapes.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the



Photo Melina Myers

Perennial plants like Siberian Iris (*Iris sibirica*) tolerates full sun to part shade and provides year-round interest.

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

Balanced hitting, strong pitching fuels Danielson Legion past Jewett City

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

DAYVILLE — A balanced hitting attack and solid starting pitching. That was the recipe the Danielson American Legion Post 21 baseball team used to defeat Jewett City American Legion Post 15, 6-3, on Thursday, June 23, at Owen Bell Park's Ben Desaulnier Field.

Caleb Simoneau, Jacob Hernandez, Ben Jax and Justin Baker all singled twice to highlight Danielson's 10-hit attack, and Hernandez, Jax and Baker all drove in a run, too.

"We mixed some things up today with the lineup and it worked well," Danielson coach Dan Krot said. "I think the bats are starting to come alive again."

On the bump for Danielson, pitcher Aaron Dionne was locked into the strike zone, allowing three runs on six hits and four walks in 5-1/3 innings of work. The right-hander struck out four while throwing a total of 79 pitches.

"Aaron is a post-grad player so he hasn't pitched in a year, but he's always here early, working tremendously hard to get where he's at right now," Krot said. "I can only imagine, moving forward, that he's going to get even better. He's one of our top three pitchers and Aaron knows how good he's capable of being. We're just here to help him get there."

Dionne seemed pleased with his performance, post-game.

"I had a lot of confidence going to the mound today. I knew I just had to throw strikes, I knew my defense would be there," said Dionne, who recorded six ground-ball outs and five fly-ball outs, in addition to his four strikeouts and a line-out to short. "I felt better and better as the game went on."

Dionne stuck mainly with his fastball against Jewett City's batters.

"I have a lot of confidence in my curveball, but I didn't throw it a lot today," Dionne said. "It was, pretty much, all fastballs today."

Danielson (3-3) jumped out to a 2-0

lead in the bottom of the second inning. Simoneau got things started by singling to center field and then quickly stealing second. He advanced to third on a single to left by Hernandez, and then scored on a passed ball to give Post 21 a 1-0 lead. Hernandez pushed the lead to 2-0 when he scored (after stealing second and moving to third on the passed ball) on an RBI single to right field by Jax.

After Jewett City cut Danielson's lead in half in the top of the second inning, Danielson scored three more times in the bottom of the frame.

Matt Hernandez, Danielson's No. 9 hitter, led off with a hustle double to right field and then scored on a Jewett City error to extend the lead to 3-1. Simoneau, who reached on the previously mentioned error, went to second on another Jewett City error and then scored to give Danielson a 4-1 lead on a groundout to third by Jacob Hernandez.

Jax scored Danielson's fifth run of the game when he reached on a two-out infield single, stole second, and came home on an RBI single to left field by Baker.

Danielson increased its lead to 6-1 in the bottom of the fourth inning. With one out Jax walked, stole second again, and scored on a two-out RBI single to left field by Chris Jax, his older brother.

When Jewett City sandwiched a pair of runs around an out in the top of the fourth inning, Krot brought on Ben Jax in relief of Dionne. Jax, facing a two-on, one-out situation, struck out Jewett City's next two batters to end the rally. In the seventh, after allowing a leadoff walk, Ben Jax sat down Jewett City 1-2-3, recording another strikeout in the process.

"Ben is definitely a guy that can throw it. He comes from lineage; his father played in the minor leagues so he's got it in his blood," Krot said. "He didn't pitch too much during the high school season, but he's a guy we're going to depend on, whether it be starting a game or coming in to close one out."

spring 2022 semester at Nichols College. The President's List recognizes those students who achieve high grades during a single semester. In order to be included on the President's List, a student must have a minimum grade point average of 3.85 for at least 12 undergraduate credit-hours with no grades below B minus.

Ben Jax's complete line in the box-score for the game was: 2-for-2, two walks, an RBI, and two stolen bases at the plate; 1-1/3 innings pitched, zero runs, zero hits, one walk and three strikeouts on the hill.

"Ben is our all-around guy," Krot said. "He'll do anything we need him to do, and he always does it well."

Ben Jax said he thinks Danielson's Legion team is beginning to find its groove.

"We're .500 (3-3), and we lost our first

two games, so it's clear to see that we're coming back from being in that divot," Ben Jax said. "We're starting to play more as a team and starting to put it together. I think we're getting hot at the right time."

"This is the way we want to play," Ben Jax added. "We got runners on base today, we had the bases loaded a few times — that was really good for us. We got the bats going; we had solid defense and great pitching. Those are the things you need to win in Legion baseball."

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or email to: townclerk@thompsonct.org. The deadline is July 15, 2022, 2 p.m.

The following employment opportunities may also be found at www.thompsonct.org
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Public Works Transfer Station/Highway Maintainer (FT) Assistant to the Recreation Director (28 hours)
Library Evening Custodian Part-time (PT) Inland-Wetlands Commission Recording Secretary (PT)

Seth Kelly achieves President's List honors from Nichols College

DUDLEY, Mass. — Seth Kelly from Woodstock, achieved President's List honors for the

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Good Local Newspaper”

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Summer Activities

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or contact erinlucas@woodstockct.gov or (860) 928-6595 x333

Sally Rogers

Free Interactive Family Concert
July 13 - 6:30pm
Roseland Cottage

SUMMER
VOLLEYBALL

Session 2: Starting July 20
Preseason: Starting Aug. 15
Grades 4-12, Pomfret School

Summer Golf

July 19 & 26, Aug. 2 & 9
Woodstock Golf Course
at Roseland Park
Ages 8-14

Summer Tennis

4 Sessions, Starting July 11
Pomfret Recreation Park
Ages 4-18, \$35/player

SUMMER
BASKETBALL

July 18-22
Ellis Tech HS
Grades 6-8
\$50/player

Free Concerts at
Roseland Cottage

Dynamite Rhythm
July 29 - 7pm

Beck N' Call
August 19 - 7pm

Sampling samplers

I often find samplers in old New England estates that we handle. You might better know them as needlepoints and, according to the Milwaukee Public Museum, they were typically made to develop “young girl’s stitchery skills for both practical and ornamental purposes.”

Samplers have a lengthy history. The collections at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London includesamplersfromEgyptian burial vaults dating back to the 14th or 15th century. The first book of sampler patterns dates to 1520s Germany. Samplers were also used as reference works in Tudor England. John Palsgrave’s 1530 Anglo-French dictionary described them as an “exampler for a woman to work by.”

The Smithsonian website reports that the first American example “was made by Loara Standish of the Plymouth Colony about 1645.” They note that samplers with letters and



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

numbers were created by young women to develop the skills needed to run the family household. Academies and schools arose in the late 1700s and early 1800s where young women learned to create “decorative motifs such as verses, flowers, houses, religious, pastoral, and/or mourning scenes.”

Antique samplers typically feature the letter “I” instead of “J” and the letter “V” instead of “U” because “I” and “J” weren’t part of the Latin alphabet. “S” was also often replaced with the printers’ “S” which looks more like an “F.”

While some embroiders still make samplers today, antique samplers are highly sought after by collectors. Recent auction results for 10 samplers showed prices ranging from \$75 for a simple one from 1825 to \$2,200 for an impressive 1837 sampler. The 1837 piece was crafted by a nine-year-old girl from Onondaga County, New York. The letters were block

script and cursive and it also depicted a house and trees along with a memorial to her father. Rare, highly detailed pieces can bring substantial prices.

Betsy Wardwell’s 1797 sampler featured the words ““May spotles innocence[sic]&truth my every action guide and guard my unexperienced youth from arrogance & pride” written in needlepoint. She also created a house, birds on trees and two courting couples with a border of flowers and birds. Wardwell was a student at the Mary Balch School in Providence, Rhode Island. Samplers by students of the Mary Balch School are prized by collectors for their complex composition and intricate stitching. Wardwell’s 1797 piece sold for \$329,600 in 2007.

The Huffington Post reported that a New Jersey school-girl’s sampler broke an auction record in 2012. The sampler displayed an intricate needlepoint home with trees along with a front yard with different bird species, a cow, and person on horseback. The top of the piece was arched with ornate scrollwork and the girl’s name who made it, Mart Antrim, as well

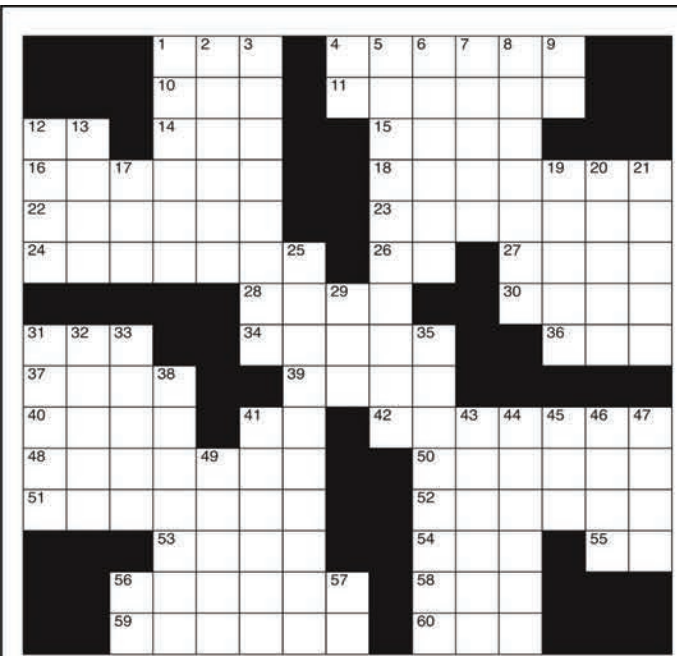


the date, 1807. The highest bidder sewed it up for \$1,070,500.

Our major online auction this fall will include a collection of samplers. Our sixth session of model trains, die-cast cars, models and other toys from a West Boylston estate will end on July 13th. We will be running an estate sale in Walpole, Mass. on July 16. I’ll be appraising items at the Leicester Senior Center on November 5th and we are planning other

events for the fall. Please visit our website <https://central-massauctions.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 (508-612-6111) info@centralmassauctions.com

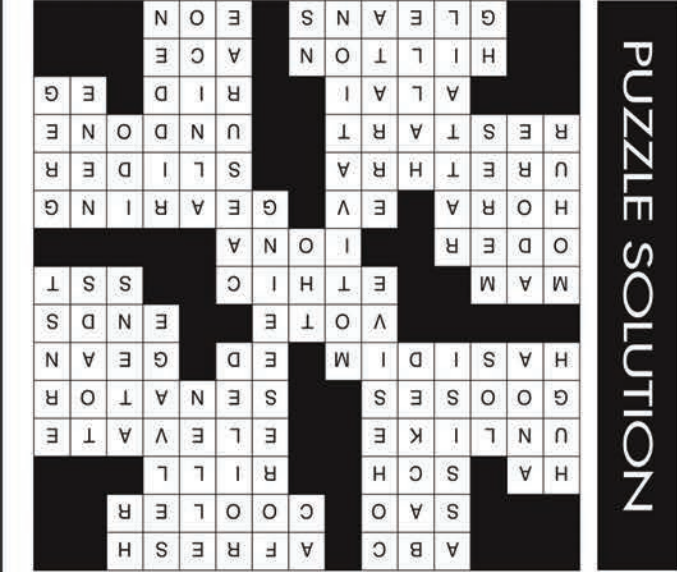


CLUES ACROSS

1. Basics
4. In a new way
10. __ Paulo, city
11. Jailhouse
12. Expresses surprise
14. Trigraph
15. A small stream
16. Dissimilar
18. Promote
22. Gives a boost
23. Lawmaker
24. Orthodox Jews
26. Actor Harris
27. Wild cherry
28. Participate in democracy
30. Opposite of begins
31. A Brit’s mother
34. Set of moral principles
36. Very fast airplane
37. Czech river
39. Private school in New York
40. Israeli dance
41. Electron volt
42. Adjusting
48. Duct by the bladder
50. Small burger
51. Begin again
52. Unstuck
53. Jai __, sport
54. Get free of
55. For instance
56. Hotel chain
58. A team’s best pitcher
59. Extracts from various sources
60. Indefinite period of time

CLUES DOWN

1. St. Francis of __
2. Supported
3. United in working
4. It cools your home
5. Predicting
6. Irritated
7. Popular talk show host
8. Fabric edge
9. A resource for employees
12. Broadway’s Jackman
13. Small water buffalo
17. City of Angels: __ Angeles
19. Asteroids
20. Tailless amphibians
21. German expressionist painter
25. What drives you
29. N. Vietnamese ethnic group
31. Gold coin used in British India
32. Have deep affection for
33. Ponds
35. Breaks between words
38. Hairstyle
41. Print errors
43. Family of iron alloys
44. Sidelined in bed
45. Many couples say it
46. Brazilian hoopster
47. Allman Brothers late frontman
49. German city
56. One hundred grams (abbr.)
57. One billionth of a second (abbr.)



READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

Will Armstead joins Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors as Director of Administration



Will Armstead

POMFRET CENTER — Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors (WHZ) has welcomed Will Armstead to the firm as Director of Administration. In that role, Armstead will over-

see administration of the firm’s offices, systems and functions as well as provide administrative support to the firm’s partners and advisors.

Armstead brings more than 20 years of administrative and executive assistant experience to the role, having worked previously in a similar capacity within the pharmaceutical industry. Prior to joining WHZ, Armstead served as Office Manager for Cyteir Therapeutics, Inc., where he was responsible for providing administrative support to the leadership team, overseeing all office functions, and ensuring safe and efficient facility operations.

“Will’s wealth of administrative knowledge and experience, and his personable and conscientious character makes him a great fit for our team here at WHZ,” said WHZ Principal/Managing Partner and Chief Goal Strategist James Zahansky, AWMA®. “We’re so glad to have

him on board as we continue to grow while providing our clients with the best wealth management experience possible.”

Armstead is a U.S. Army veteran and graduated from Mount Wachusett Community College with an associate degree in Business Administration. In his spare time, he enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking and nature walks, gaming and being the proud dad to his new puppy, Pepper.

WHZ is a Pomfret, CT based independent investment, financial planning and wealth management firm serving individuals, businesses, and not-for-profit institutions in 35 states. WHZ provides comprehensive financial planning and wealth management services to individuals at every stage of life, and also partners with business owners and executives on strategies for business growth and succession planning. To learn more, visit www.whzwealth.com.

Husson University announces Spring 2022 President’s List

BANGOR, Maine — The following students have been named to the Spring 2022 President’s List at Husson University. Students who make the President’s List must be enrolled as an undergraduate student, carry a full-time load of 12 credit hours, complete all attempted courses in the time allotted for the semester, and achieve a 3.80 to 4.0 semester

grade-point average. Credits from pass/fail classes do not qualify toward meeting the minimum credit hour requirement.

Jolie R. Wilber of North Grosvenordale is enrolled in Husson’s Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice with a concentration in National/Corporate Security and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Administration (MSCJA) pro-

gram.

Kevin C. Froehlich of Woodstock is enrolled in Husson’s Bachelor of Science in Communications Technology with a concentration in Video Production program.

Rori M. Johnson of Thompson is enrolled in Husson’s Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration and Public Health/Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program.

For more than 120 years, Husson University has shown its adaptability and strength in delivering educational programs that prepare future leaders to handle the challenges of tomorrow through innovative undergraduate and graduate degrees. With a commitment to delivering affordable classroom, online and experiential learning opportunities, Husson University has come to represent a superior value in higher education. The hallmarks of a Husson education include advanced knowledge delivered through quality educational programs in business; health and education; pharmacy studies; science and humanities; as well as communication. According to a recent analysis of tuition and fees by U.S. News & World Report, Husson University is one of the most affordable private colleges in New England. For more information about educational opportunities that can lead to personal and professional success, visit Husson.edu.

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Local students awarded Patrick Wood Prize

POMFRET — Two students entering Pomfret School next year were awarded the Patrick Wood Prize for their academic achievement.

William Leary from Rectory School and Mila Gantias from Woodstock Academy will receive merit scholarships each year of their attendance at Pomfret School.

Patrick's parents, Robert Wood and Lisette Rimer, began the award from the many contributions which poured in after Patrick's death in 2006, and said "We wanted to reward more hard-working students who have an inner drive to achieve. It is our pleasure to recognize Will and Mila for their effort."

Patrick achieved perfect SAT scores and was the 2001 valedictorian at Pomfret School. He attended Stanford University on a scholarship and graduated with honors in 2005.

"More importantly," Rimer said, "he was humble, humorous, and kind. Both winners demonstrate those same qualities, and both have all-around achievements in addition to their academic strengths. Mila's club soccer team, Spirit of Liverpool, will be playing in the national tournament this summer. Will has a responsible, generous manner very similar to Patrick in the classroom. His work is completed on time, and he listens to others before he adds his opinion. He lets others go before him."

Mila's award was presented at Patrick's memorial beech tree at Pomfret School. It was donated in



Patrick's parents, Robert Wood and Lisette Rimer, along with Wood Prize winner Mila Gantias and her father Matthew at Patrick's beech tree, Pomfret School, donated by Charles Stoddard in 2018. The memorial plaque reads "Our Scholar travels yet the loved hill-side." ("Thyrsis" by Matthew Arnold).

2018 by Charles Stoddard, a Pomfret resident, who spoke of Patrick's überpersönlich, a German word meaning beyond the personal experience of a gifted and talented life.



Robert Wood, Susan Hatfield Leary, Lisette Rimer, William Leary, and Nicholas Leary at Rectory School graduation where William was awarded the Patrick Wood Prize for academic.

"Charles took us into the realm of greater meaning," Rimer said, "the 'super-personal' as Google translate calls it, and we are now proud to pass on Pat's legacy of überpersönlich to Will and Mila."

The Patrick Wood Prize is a merit-based scholarship which helps students attend Pomfret School.

"Our fund-raising goal is to re-establish the full-tuition scholarship to Pomfret School that Patrick won in 1997," Rimer said. "We want to see more local young people get the same learning experience that helped Pat succeed at Stanford."

Donations can be made at: www.patrickwoodprize.org.

Killingly High School's Class of 1970 awards scholarship

KILLINGLY — The initial Killingly High School Class of 1970 Scholarship has been awarded to Class of 2022 graduate Shelby Bellows of Brooklyn.

The \$2,000 award was established by the Class of 1970 following the cancellation of its 50th Reunion due to Covid concerns. In keeping with the spirit of the class, the college award focuses on graduating KHS students who have exhibited strong community commitment and involvement through meaningful and consistent participation in activities that support and improve upon social well-being.

Ms. Bellows will major in Medical and Life Sciences and study Agriculture and Pre-veterinary Medicine. She

hopes to become a large-animal veterinarian with a focus on bovines.

Ms. Bellows is academically in the Top 10 of the Class of 2022 and is a member of the National Honor Society. She is Class Secretary and is Future Farmers of America vice-president, having earned several FFA awards. She has also held leadership roles with KHS musical productions and is in the symphonic and marching bands. She is a member of the Killingly Link Crew and is responsible for making the transition to high school comfortable for 8th graders.

Active in her community, she has volunteered at the Mortlake Fire Company, the Hay Burr Inn Equine



Shelby Bellows

Rescue and Sanctuary, and is a volunteer Salvation Army Bell Kettler.

The continuing fund is managed by the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut (CFECT), a non-profit

organization headquartered in New London. Tax deductible donations toward future awards can be forwarded to www.cfect.org.

Tourtellotte Memorial High School honor roll

N O R T H GROSVENORDALE — Tourtellotte Memorial High School has released its honor roll for the fourth quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.

Grade 9
High Honors: Ashley Birch, June Ferraro, Paige Kelley, Megan Nachtigall, Pavanny Phav, Nicholas Ruggieri, Jackson Santos, Luke Senosk, Sofia Thurber
Honors: Grace Akana, Preston Bellerive, Aiden Bourget, Gianna Brinson, Jesse Cimochowski, Keira Cotter, Jinalyse Denham, Nicholas Helwig, Christopher Holton, Hannah Mead, Angel Sherpa, Serena Smith
Recognition: Lucas Gillon

Grade 10
High Honors: Kaylee Beck, Aaron Bickelhaupt,

Avery Butler, Jordyn Butler, Audrey DeFilippo, James Julian, Eric Levesque, Gabriella Lubomirski, Melanie Noonan, Jacob Perry, Patricia Peterson, Peyton Richard
Honors: Elizabeth Davis, Tara Heffernan, Madyson Koziak, Morgan LaPlante, Joel Majorowski, Isabelel Nieves, Louis Ochoa
Recognition: Landon Corriveau, Brad Herlihy, Alianys Lopez-Guadalupe, Connor Pederson, Noel Racicot, Alexis Starr

Grade 11
High Honors: Taylor Annis, Evan Antonson, Kayla Botelho, Javier deJesus, Deidrea Hanshaw, Hanna LeClaire, Alexander Nachtigall
Honors: Daniel Boutin, Christopher Daly,

Darryel Duquesnay, Reese Gaudreau, Chloe Manzo, Melina Martello Munoz, Colin McAllister, Taylor Morales, Jonathan Poplawski, Allison Thebeau, Aidan Zimmer
Recognition: Madelynn Copley, Dylan Johnson

Grade 12
High Honors: Alysha Bugbee, Kyle Cournoyer, Alivia Dalpe, Leah Demers, James DiNoia, Brooke Fettig, Kaylin Griggs, Kaylin Kochinskas, Ariel Kopas, Mackenzie Minarik, Zaria Pokropowicz, Michaela Vandi
Honors: Zeynep Acun, Brayden Akana, Trinity Davis, Hayden Demers, Deanna LaParle, Kiera O'Brien, Ysabella Rocca, Cheyann Tiffany
Recognition: Kyle Busha, Yasmine Dumont, Sarah Duquette, Kylee Smith

EASTCONN announces new Executive Director

HAMPTON — The EASTCONN Board of Directors announces that Eric Protulis has been selected as the agency's next Executive Director. Mr. Protulis is currently the Director of Pupil Services at Area Cooperative Educational Services (ACES) in Hamden. He previously served as a Program Director, Assistant Director of Special Services and Director of Special Services at EASTCONN from 2014-2019.

Mr. Protulis emerged from a pool of 23 applicants. His experience, outstanding interviews, and commitment to the important work of the Regional Educational Service Centers (RESCs) were key factors in his selection. He has been credited with numerous program improvements at ACES. His tireless commitment to Special Education and

positive outcomes for students in the State of Connecticut has earned him recognition as a knowledgeable leader for statewide SPED initiatives.

Mr. Protulis began his work in education as a school psychologist in Plainville. He continued his service in Region 8 as a psychologist and then as the Director of Special Education and Services. Mr. Protulis has also been an adjunct professor at the University of Hartford.

Mr. Protulis holds a Bachelor of Arts and a Master's of Science from the University of Hartford. He lives in Eastern Connecticut with his wife, Katie, and their children Nate and Ellie.

Mr. Protulis will begin his service to EASTCONN on July 18.

Thompson Middle School honor roll

THOMPSON — Thompson Middle School has released its honor roll for the fourth quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.

Grade 5
High Honors: Shyla Beckett, Logan Bigness, Payton Bolte, Deegan Bryniarski, Hazel Clavette, Logan Delicata, Emma Fournier, Sophia Kus, Laurelyn Laporte, Shawn Simni
Honors: Renji Bailey, Laylanie Benitez, Braedon Carlson, Timothy Charbonneau, Abriana Cogoli, Lucy Davies, Jeylia Denham, Amilia Fraser, Brendalis Labonte, Paris Lowe, Andrew Marquette, Jacob McHugh, Colin Mead, Jacob Saad, Cameron Snow, Emmalyn Soullier, Jayden Watkins, Mason Wolf
Recognition: Isabellah Giacomuzzi, Alexis Light, Bentley Plaza, Gracie Rybacki, Parker Smith

Grade 6
High Honors: Danika Believeau, Ashley Boudreau, Evelyn Dos Santos, Camdyn Foster, Jeremy Helwig, Sophia Lepino, Chloe McDonald, Rafaelle Mondarte, Brookelyn Pearson, Madison Perry, Aiden Rafferty, Parker Ring, Gabriella Santos, Noelle Smith
Honors: Graciella Baublitz, Xavier Bilodeau, Kammy Boothby, Emma Dodd, Parker Leveille, Madison Marchitelli, Anthony Miglorino, Jon Palmer, Brooklyn Pearson, Ayden Perry, Landon Perry, Ryan Szarkowicz, Stanley Ten Eyck, Aleck Thurber, Brody Vincent
Recognition: Lily Bogoslofski, Adam

Boss, Adyson Boyden, Jacob Brosnihan, Alyssa Chartier, Alina Collette, Ake Cruz, Victoria Starr, Joey Sweeney, Neveah Youssef

Grade 7
High Honors: Julyanna Barrows, Aubri Bonin, Maddison Carlson, Ella Davies, Andrew DiCicco, Estella Freitas, Samuel Hachigian, Brighton Keegan, Calleigh Levesque, Billie Lewis, Kennedy McCooley, Madison McHugh, Riley Nolin, Mabel Perreault, Samantha Podgorni, Jordyn Poplawski, Ella Sousa, Sophia St. Germain
Honors: Dylan Axtell, Christopher Boss, Gabriel Bourget, Jordan Burns, Nicko Casto, Matthew Rybacki, Tristchion Speight, Christian Tremblay
Recognition: Alexis Andrews, Amelia Brousseau, Kaeden Mayo, Sarah Melnick, Alexia Munsch, Jeylexiel Rosario, Amaya Sagastivelza-Muniz

Grade 8
High Honors: Kaydence Foster, Lacie Keegan, Julia Lewis, Briana Martin, Ember Merrill, Sahara Moore, Lily Peckham, Elizabeth Poplawski, Gaige Smith
Honors: Isabella Bonin, Dylan Bryniarski, Hailey Collins, Connor Dawe, Katherine Gates, Viviana Hill, Ava McClure, Tianna Ortiz, Tyler Shead, Sophia Tomany, Kevin Vescera
Recognition: Bailey Benton, Logan Boss, Nicholas Cunningham, Amelia Duquette, Colby Lewis, Caitlyn L'Heureux, Alexis Phav, Laci Sinni, Ellah Therrien.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Juneteenth is more than just one day

Last year, President Joe Biden signed legislation making Juneteenth a federal holiday. The House approved the legislation in an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 415-14. All 14 who voted against the legislation were Republicans, despite even former president Donald Trump’s support of the holiday.

This day commemorates the actual end of slavery in our country, a day that should be celebrated by all. An entire race of people was now free, two years after Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, what’s not to celebrate? If that bothers anyone, we have to wonder why. Adding a Federal Holiday does not negate, nor take away from any other holiday. It just doesn’t.

In 1776, just under 100 years earlier, Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

However, not all Americans were ‘free’ until June 19, 1865, when Maj. Gen. Gordon Granger in Galveston, Texas, issued General Order No. 3, which stated that in accordance with the Emancipation Proclamation, “all slaves are free.” Several months later, the 13th Amendment was ratified, abolishing slavery in the final four border states that had not been subjected to President Abraham Lincoln’s order.

During that time, Union presence was weak in Texas, therefore enforcement wasn’t strong, allowing people to still own other people. Anytime evil is undone, as it was on that day in 1865, it should be celebrated.

Lawrence Alexander, an African American from New Hampshire, shared his thoughts on Juneteenth: “Feeling ambivalent about celebrating Juneteenth? Feeling like a national holiday is a tad too much? Well, that’s how many of us feel about July 4th. July 4th is an 89 year head start on freedom for every American except African Americans. July 4th is like throwing me a birthday party at another kid’s house on their birthday and making me serve cake. Juneteenth is an opportunity to acknowledge that our mutual freedom is inexorably linked to everyone’s liberation. Juneteenth is the only holiday where ‘All lives Matter.’”

In current times, the goal is for all law abiding Americans to enjoy the same opportunities and rights as one another. Such a simple concept yet so many continue to feel threatened by our differences. How great would it be if everyone was just kind to each other, despite our differences, why is that so hard? The fact is, it’s not hard to try to understand each other. Maybe we may never understand each other but that’s ok. We can guarantee that anyone you meet, has something in common with you, even if it’s something as simple as preferring Pepsi over Coke. Start there.

Make it a point this week to seek someone out who lives and feels completely different than you and just be kind to them. It is possible to have different views on different topics yet still possible to treat each other with respect and dignity. We all deserve that, no matter who you vote for, what you look like, what you do for work or who you love.

Addressing Americans, the President said, “The promise of equality is not going to be fulfilled until we become real, it becomes real in our schools and on our Main Streets and in our neighborhoods,”

LETTERS POLICY

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

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

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dr. Kesselman will be missed

To the Editor:
I was delighted to read in a recent Woodstock Villager that numerous Day Kimball physicians have been recognized as among Connecticut’s top doctors. I was also saddened to recognize that Dr. Erica Kesselman, one of this number, is no longer affiliated with DKH. Her OB/GYN practice will be

greatly missed.
As a long-time patient of Dr. Kesselman, I consider her one of the most caring and competent doctors I have known. I wish her well in her new practice in Rhode Island.

JEAN MCCLELLAN
WOODSTOCK

An open letter to Mitch McConnell

To the Editor:
Now that conservatives have succeeded in overturning the settled law of Roe v Wade, your leadership and support are essential for the thousands of additional children expected to be born of single, impoverished women of color.

The freedoms and opportunities we enjoy must be shared equally with all citizens, especially our children. Let’s give them all a decent chance to grow up as law-abiding citizens with a sound education and the opportunity to enjoy successful lives. We need to ensure that they have equal opportunity undivided by racial lines or by racial inequity.

To help accomplish this goal...

Will you support universal healthcare?
Will you support universal daycare?

Will you support universal Head Start?
Will you support universal Pre-kindergarten (Pre-K) nationally?
Your support and leadership are needed to put these programs in place. The results will help make all of America a “shining city on the hill,” as President Reagan was fond of saying.

Please...lead this effort. Democrats will join you. It could be a legacy! Thank you!

Very truly yours,

GREG KLINE
WOODSTOCK

Where is the sense in forced births that will become abused or neglected children?

To the Editor:
A woman should not have to carry a child and be punished as a criminal if she ends a pregnancy. It is another example of the old double standards.

What consequences does a man face for impregnating a woman? None. The man should bear an equal burden, the cost of carrying a child to term, delivering a baby and raising a child. It does take two to tango as they say. Pro-life advocates should also be willing to fund pregnancies and care for the children that are born due to laws that prevent abortion. So many children are abused,

neglected, and mistreated because they are unwanted, unloved and live in horrible circumstances.

Children are a blessing and a gift that need nurturing, love and care. There is no sense in birth that results in babies disposed of in dumpsters, left abandoned in houses or apartments or on the street, dying from starvation, physical or mental abuse and neglect. Men should have to take a pill like women do to prevent pregnancies.

ANN ROSEBROOKS
THOMPSON

Pomfret Republicans endorse Leora Levy

To the Editor:
The Pomfret Republican Town Committee has announced their endorsement for Leora Levy for the Connecticut Republican Party candidate for the US Senate.

The endorsement is based on several months of research and internal discussions with a focus on which candidates can be the most competitive in the general election and bring the highest level of professionalism, integrity and steadfast commitment to principle-based governance representing all Connecticut’s residents.

“While there are a number of strong Republican candidates for the US Senate race, Leora Levy offers the most compelling personal story, having experienced firsthand the dangers and human degradation of communism as a child in Cuba. This contrast is particularly relevant in this race, as the incumbent Democratic Senator is openly embracing the Communist Party,” said Ellsworth Chase, Chairman of the Pomfret RTC. “Leora’s professional experience and

the capabilities to compete and win the election over the incumbent democratic Senator are unmatched and her understanding of our state’s Hispanic and other minority groups desire for opportunity, not pandering make her the best choice for Connecticut’s next US Senator.”

The Pomfret Republican Town Committee believes that the 2022 elections are a critical crossroad, where all voters can play a role in restoring civil political discourse, returning to principle-based government leadership, and respecting the rights of all citizens. Voters are encouraged to get involved, learn more and vote.

For more information, please contact Ellsworth Chase at 860-922-4400 or echase@chaselinks.com.

ELLSWORTH CHASE
CHAIRMAN
POMFRET REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE

The tyranny of the minority

To the Editor:
After hearing the testimony from witnesses at the public hearings held by the January 6th Committee so far, is it possible that anyone who has been paying attention still believes that Trump Derangement Syndrome exists, or ever existed? Well, yes, probably at least one of your frequent correspondents does and wants the country “to move on” and forget that a former president of the United States orchestrated an insurrection designed to subvert the Constitution in order to cling to power.

For those voters who may be just a little uneasy that an authoritarian president came so close to subverting the will of the voters in the 2020 election, consider that he could succeed the next time if just a few traitorous believers of the Big Lie are elected to office in a handful of states. A number of such deluded Republicans and even a few of the January 6 rioters are candidates for offices such as Secretary of State and Governor in swing states. So vote for GOP candidates at your peril and that of our declining democracy.

We’re repeatedly told that the Founders feared the tyranny of the majority and, therefore, designed the Constitution to guard against it. Unfortunately, they didn’t worry enough about the tyranny of the minority, one that the country has fallen victim to over the past few decades. This minority has succeeded in packing the Supreme Court with right-wing reactionaries who issue rulings

that great majorities of Americans oppose. Due to the Electoral College they have also succeeded in installing presidents who fail to win the popular vote (G.W. Bush and Trump). The United States Senate is an undemocratic body that blocks bills that are overwhelming popular with voters.

In response to the Supreme Court relegating women to second class status with its refusal to recognize their long standing right to control their reproductive health without government interference, President Biden essentially placed the blame on voters for not electing enough pro-choice senators and congressmen. This despite the fact that large majorities of voters have voted for Democratic senators for decades but are cancelled out by smaller number of voters in small, red states.

This tyranny of the minority has eroded the public’s confidence in the Court and the popularity of Congress. If allowed to continue, it may well destroy the American Experiment. But, not to worry friends. Inflation, the price of motor fuel, Critical Race Theory and the individual right to own military style guns is more important than handing the government over to authoritarians who want to control women’s bodies and do nothing as children are mass murdered in schools.

BILLY G. TAYLOR
KILLINGLY

Undeserved Gifts



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

They found her curled up in a hall closet, hidden behind a pile of dirty clothes. When the policeman opened the door, she winced and buried her head between her knees, shivering.

“You are safe now,” he cooed. “We are the police. No one is going to hurt you anymore.”

But, instead of relaxing, her six-year-old, emaciated frame shook even more noticeably. Every officer present quickly understood the child’s terror. Her house had obviously been in disarray for years. There were signs of violence and neglect everywhere. Her body bore the marks of abuse. Her parents had both been arrested on drug charges. And now, she was all alone.

“How would you like to go with us for a good hot lunch,” suggested the officer, eager to help the poor child. “What is your favorite food?”

She relaxed a bit and mumbled, “Pizza, but why would you buy my lunch? You don’t know me. I haven’t earned it. My dad even said I was no good.”

Thus began a long process of trust-building conversations to help this abandoned child believe that there are good people in the world. Strangers who will do nice things and give you gifts, even if you have done nothing to earn their kindness. She could not believe someone would take her to dinner, just to be nice. She had never dared to believe she would ever be free to make her own decisions. The thought never crossed her mind that she actually had any value.

This little girl could represent so many people who have experienced a life of pain, neglect, and abuse. Years of imprisonment in a loveless situation have, understandably, caused many to become hard and skeptical. Life has taught them that they are not worthy. People have treated them so poorly that they feel worthless. Then, when someone comes along and offers them grace (undeserved favor), they react with suspicion and fear. They have an even harder time believing that there is a good God who offers a heavenly home to those who will let Him be their God. It sounds too good to be true.

But the Good News of the Gospel is not just the news that all sins can be forgiven; it is news that Jesus wants to join His spirit to yours and give you all the internal love and power you need to live an abundant life. God not only forgives; He gives free gifts to all His children. Just by believing and obeying God, someone can move from being alone and rejected to being an integral part of the greatest endeavor of all time. They can move from being derided to being affirmed. They can leave their closet and enjoy blessings unlike they have ever known.

The enemy accuses, berates and controls. God affirms, blesses, and sets people free to be the best they can be. God gives obedient believers meaningful roles in His kingdom. He does wonderful works, through them - and all of this is on His dime. It is not because we are good; it is because He is righteous and good and loving. He uses the imperfect, the wounded, the intimidated...All they have to do is learn to accept and give His great grace. What a difference when someone is inspired by grace.

Bishop John W. Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson, where many different kinds of people have discovered the grace that comes through obedience. For more information, please visit www.ActsII.org.

www.860Local.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Day Kimball Hospital up for sale

To the Editor:
Day Kimball Hospital has been an outstanding provider of medical services since its inception in 1894 and certainly continues to meet the medical needs of this community. The employees and staff are considered absolutely top notch. Unfortunately, the same problem that has plagued all small community hospitals throughout the United States, is money. Most often, these small community hospitals are unable to remain solvent and remain open, and that is how Day Kimball Hospital find itself. Some of these hospitals have closed, others have joined with larger facilities, some have sold themselves to outside groups and others have filed to reorganize under the bankruptcy provisions.

Over the past year, and more recently the past few months, our community hospital (Day Kimball) has been offered for sale, no fanfare, no advertising blitz, just an agreement in April to sell. You may read elsewhere that it is a merger, but it is, in fact, a sale. The agreed buyer, that few in this community have ever heard of, is Covenant Health, an out of state religious organization.

It may seem hard to imagine that our community hospital, the largest employer in the area, is being sold while very few in the Community had input in the decision or even know the reasons behind it. This is a big deal, the sale consists of Day Kimball Hospital, the Day Kimball Medical Group, Day Kimball Home Makers, Day Kimball

Home Care, the Hospice and Palliative Care of Northeastern Connecticut, and the healthcare centers in Danielson, Dayville, Plainfield and Putnam.

I have made it a point to ask as many people in the community what they knew of the proposed sale. A majority had never heard of a sale or a merger or of any agreement to find a new owner. Some had heard of monetary problems, and knew that the Hospital was looking for a solution. Only a handful had knowledge that an agreement has been signed, having learned it from letters written to the newspapers. Why has there not been a reasonable effort to inform and include the Community in finding a solution?

Does the community (not the Board of Directors) want their hospital to be sold off to an organization that by its own statements will impose restrictions on the healthcare that is offered? These restrictions will be particularly noticeable in the reduction of healthcare for women, but there are also restrictions that will impact men. Perhaps a reorganization would be more beneficial to this community, among other options the Hospital should consider. Yes, some of the underused services could disappear and a belt tightening would be required, but it might allow both the character of the hospital and the excellent health services to be continued.

RAMON CANNING
POMFRET

Democrats are the only party interested in governing

To the Editor:
I hope everyone tuned in to at least part of the Jan. 6 Congressional hearings. I also hope people turned away from the entertainment channel Fox “News,” since many countries have banned the station because of its incendiary lying propaganda. It has caused the pandemic to continue by selling crazy remedies and encouraging Americans not to wear protective masks or get a safe vaccine. Thanks to the misinformation, the pandemic continues to rage with new variants.

The hearings mainly show members of the Trump campaign and administration admitting that they warned Trump repeatedly that he lost the election. Instead of accepting the truth, the narcissistic psychopath organized a terrorist mob of white Supremacists and other militant groups to attack the Capitol and try to assassinate the Vice President and the Speaker of the House. They caused deaths and 140 police officers to suffer horrible injuries.

This shows that our elected representatives should at least have character and intelligence. Trump thought he could steal another election. Last time, he had the help of Russian billions and troll farms. He did Putin’s bidding throughout his horrible four years.

Now we have a President with great character and intelligence and the mainstream media is blaming him for global inflation and oil prices. Understand that he and our Governor have lowered the gas taxes, and President Biden has released millions of barrels of oil from the National Strategic Oil Reserve. The oil companies and the corporations that control the press want Biden to fail. They don’t care about extreme climate change and the billions it costs to contend with it. The media doesn’t blame inflation on corporate greed, as they should. The three top oil companies have made 200, 300, and 400% more in profits this quarter.

The Democratic House of Representatives voted to stop price gouging, to make formula available to

babies, to stop mass murders with weapons of war. All of the 192 Republicans voted against these measures. If gas prices are concerning you, the best thing you can do to increase fuel efficiency is to slow down. Every five miles over 60 mph increase fuel usage by 25 percent. Opening your windows also wastes fuel.

The problem with our system is that corporations can buy members of the legislature. Two of our Democratic Senators from Arizona and West Virginia have been bought by Big Pharma and the Coal companies. They ensured we couldn’t get sensible gun legislation, voting rights, filibuster reform, and prescription drug prices controlled.

The solution is to vote out the party of liars and Trump stooges. We need Democrats at every level of government. We need smart political leaders with good character, not liars, cheaters, and grifters. In the town of Putnam, they ran on lowering taxes. My taxes increased by about 25 percent. The wasted our millions of money that the Democrats had saved in the treasury to keep taxes lower. Then they promised the mainly empty and oversized \$20 million town hall that only serves about 8,000 people wouldn’t raises our taxes. Our taxes are going up again. The Mayor thinks the janitorial service is more important to fund than our children’s education. Republicans don’t seem to care about the safety of children either from mass murderers who have guns of war or from the pandemic.

We only have one real party who is interested in good governance. It is the Democratic Party. We care about equality, the environment, fiscal responsibility, voting rights, human rights, and healthcare. They care about lining their pockets and haphazardly spending other people’s money. Register to vote even if you think it doesn’t affect your life. It obviously affects all of us.

CHRISTINE MAINE
PUTNAM

Women deserve better than this

To the Editor:
Perhaps I should not be writing this on the day that the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that each of our 50 states can now decide how much control pregnant women can have over their own bodies. Like many others, I have feelings about this ruling. However, I will attempt to use thinking and not just feelings to communicate some thoughts for readers.

First thought: Who wrote, debated and ratified the U.S. Constitution? Not a single childbearing person. This document forms the basis for every law, but no women were included in this process. How would this document have been different if both men and women had proposed, debated and voted on it?

Second thought: the impact of this ruling will land directly on non-wealthy women who, depending on where they live, may no longer have the freedom to decide what happens to their bodies, their work lives, their health issues, their marriages, their college educations, and any other children they may already have birthed. Women’s lives will be irrevocably changed without this right to choose whether or not to continue a pregnancy.

Third thought: not often mentioned is the fact that this ruling will also affect men’s lives, including young teens who could father an unwanted,

unplanned child for whom they will bear financial responsibility for almost two decades. With DNA evidence, that responsibility is almost inevitable.

And what about those men whose pregnant wives have health complications like diabetes, heart or vascular issues or are under treatment for cancer? If a choice between the death of a wife or the death of a newborn needs to be made, what husband wants to be presented with that dilemma?

I would ask those men who respect and care deeply for the women in their lives to give thought to what support can be concretely committed to wives, daughters, sisters, aunts, and other loved ones. Pledging to use condoms, or having a vasectomy (reversible in most cases), talking to the male teens in your life about the consequences of irresponsible sexual behavior, asking women what might be a help are all possibilities for men to think about.

In my mind, the only legal requirement for men in our country’s history that has come close to this lack of choice about what happens to your body is the military draft. For World Wars I and II and—in my lifetime—during the years of the Vietnam War if you were male, you were required to end or defer any life plans (except college if fortunate enough to be a student), report to boot camp and possibly be deployed to a war halfway across the globe if your draft

number was chosen. I still remember the scream of the mother whose son was in the first group of those called for Vietnam. We no longer have the draft. Do we want to turn back that clock, too? I don’t.

Finally, we have strong laws in Connecticut that protect the right of a woman to choose to give birth or to end a pregnancy. For now, we do. I have several loved ones, young women and teenage boys who live in states without those protections. I shudder to think of how a decision of where to live that was made by their parents has now made them all vulnerable to the political winds that could sweep away their dreams for the futures they work toward.

There is, of course, a whole political element to this that I do not wish to address right now. I think I’m too angry to record many coherent thoughts about politicians today.

But, for me, the way ordinary people—my people—will have their lives limited, distorted, or even ended prematurely is what will keep me awake at night. The men who wrote the U.S. Constitution are no longer here with us to be persuaded to listen to women, so now we need to hold hands, stick together and invite our beloved men to join with us to once again work toward women’s equality. No military draft—and no forced births.

My main point against legislating or adjudicating reproductive limits on women has always been: any country that can force a woman to give birth can also force her to have abortions if/when the political winds change course. We all deserve better.

Respectfully,

CLAUDIA ALLEN
THOMPSON

Five ways a digital detox can save you money – and how to do one

While smartphones can provide endless entertainment, they can also be bad news for your budget. Here’s why doing a “digital detox” could be good for you mentally and financially, and how to get started on doing one yourself.

1. You’re Exposed to Fewer Ads

If there’s a screen in front of you, you can’t avoid being exposed to advertisements. Marketing efforts are being geared toward grabbing the attention of those shopping or gaming online or scrolling through social media. By spending less time doing these things, you’re automatically reducing your ad exposure, and less exposure means less temptation to make impulse purchases.

2. It Builds Your Impulse Control

When you’re exposed to the same brand or product over and over, it can wear down your impulse control. In fact, studies on smartphone usage have shown that your impulse control is lessened with excessive use of your phone.3 With everything right at your fingertips, it can be harder to say “no.” Therefore, more time away from your phone can help build up your impulse control and remove the temptation altogether.



FINANCIAL
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CORDING

3. You Won’t Experience FOMO (Fear of Missing Out)

By logging onto social media, you’re exposing yourself to others’ lives and you may start to envy their new purchases, latest travels or big fashion finds. This can lead to FOMO (“fear of missing out”), a very real phenomenon that causes you to want to do the same things or buy the same things. That FOMO could soon translate to a need to spend money to achieve a similar result. If you didn’t

log on in the first place, you wouldn’t experience those feelings, which will save you money by removing the temptation.

4. It Can Help Realign Your Priorities

Do you find yourself mindlessly perusing shopping websites, and the next thing you know you have unnecessary items in your cart? If so, you’re not alone. While this can be harmless once in a while, it’s also an unnecessary temptation that could easily develop into a financial problem. Spending time away from screens can free you up for more time spent with your family and friends, learning a new hobby or reading a book – and that can provide a much-needed opportunity to realign your priorities.

5. It Gives You Back Your Free Time

Think of all that you could do with more hours back in your day? You could get more exercise or start a side hustle, focus on home improvement projects and more.

How to Start Your Digital Detox

A digital detox can be quite a lifestyle change, but there are ways to get started and continue with the new habits you are forming. For one, try making a list of all the things you like to do that don’t involve a device. Listing out what you’re interested in can serve as motivation to stay off your phone and lead you to new experiences instead.

Also remember that a digital detox should include every screen in your life – your phone, your tablet, smartwatch, gaming device, etc. It might come as a shock just how connected you really are. For most, trying to quit technology “cold turkey” will be a challenge and at times, impractical. So, start by setting specific times when you are able to avoid screens, such as first thing in the morning or right before bed, and make sure you stay screen-free during those times. You may also find it helpful to use an app to limit your screen time.

Finally, make an effort to get back to basics. Put away your Apple watch for a while and use a regular wristwatch. Switch to an analog alarm clock in the morning, so you don’t have your phone alarm right next to your bed.

While there’s certainly much more involved in improving your finances, a digital detox can be an effective place to start. If you’re really ready to take your finances to the next level so you can achieve those “big picture” life goals, get in touch with us at Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors. We can help you build a strategy to maximize your finances so you can fearlessly pursue your goals, utilizing our strategic Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well process. Learn more at our website, www.whzwealth.com, and contact us at (860) 928-2341 or info@whzwealth.com to get started.

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ALL WE KNOW IS LOCAL

860Local.com

OBITUARIES

Elaine C Dessert, 84

Elaine C Dessert, 84, of Sebastian, FL, formerly of Brooklyn, Connecticut, passed away peacefully Tuesday, June 21, 2022.



Born May 4, 1938, in Danielson, Connecticut, Elaine was the daughter of the late Claire Poitras Veilleux and Raymond Veilleux. Elaine was the eldest of 5 children and lived most of her life in the Danielson/Brooklyn, CT area. She moved to Sebastian FL in January 2021. She started work as a teller at Danielson Federal Savings Bank a week after graduating from Killingly High School. She remained employed there for over 30 years, held many positions during that time and retired as a Vice President. She was active in her community with Rotary and other organizations. She loved to

cook for family and friends, enjoyed reading, going to the theater and doing needlework. Survivors include her son Steven and his wife Jodie of Aiken, SC, her daughters, Karen Duran of Carlsbad, NM and Michele Jollie and her husband John of Sebastian, FL. Survivors also include her sisters, Beatrice Gumula and her husband Edward of Brooklyn, CT, Arlene Hooper and her husband Clay of Dayville, CT, Linda Goodney of Durham, NC and her brother Raymond Veilleux and his wife Sharon of Ewa Beach, HI. Elaine also leaves 6 grand children, 9 great grandchildren and many cousins, nieces and nephews. A private service for family will be held at Holy Cross Cemetery in Danielson CT. The family would like to thank VNA Hospice of Indian River County, Inc for the wonderful care they provided. Memorial donations in Elaine's name would be appreciated.

Louis P. St. Jean, 65

Louis P. St. Jean, 65, of North Grosvenordale, passed away peacefully at his home on Wednesday June 22, 2022. He was born in Pawtucket, RI on October 21, 1956, son of the late Theodore A. and Florence (Boyer) St. Jean. Louis worked for many years as a glazer in the glass manufacturing industry. He was the husband of Maureen A. (Meagher) St. Jean. Louis enjoyed life,



especially riding his Harley, and playing golf and pool. Besides his wife, he is survived by his son Derek St. Jean (Ashley Simonson) and estranged children Christine, Bridget, and Louis Jr. Royce and their children. He also leaves behind his siblings Theodore St. Jean (Gail), Timothy St. Jean (Robin, Andrew St. Jean, Lisa Dauphinais, Deborah Beaudreau, Robert St. Jean (Rhonda), and Lori Shaw (Steve). Also, brothers-in-law Scott Meagher (Melinda) and Terrance Meagher. A celebration of life will be announced at a later date. tillinghastfh.com

Linda G. Gendron, 74

Linda G. Gendron, 74, of North Grosvenordale, died June 20, 2022 at her home. Beloved wife of Barry Gendron, they were married September 12, 1998. She was born in Sanford, ME, on February 12, 1948, daughter of the late Richard and Beverly (Babcock) Burbank.



Linda worked for the Post Office for 26 years. She was a wonderful mother of three, stepmother of one, grandmother of seven, and great grandmother of three. From a young age, Linda was a caretaker despite her own ailments. She provided for her family fiercely and was resilient through her own losses, diseases, and surgeries. She found joy in the little things every single day. She loved gardening, reading, and animals. Linda enjoyed traveling, crossword puzzles, cooking, and searching for sea glass at the beach. She was a very gener-

ous person and undoubtedly spread an immense amount of love into the world wherever she went. Besides her husband Barry, she leaves her children Gregory Smith of Putnam, Kelley Smith of Thompson, Erin Bunker and her husband Louis Bunker III of Woodstock, stepson Jesse Gendron of Ashford, brother Richard Burbank II and his wife Rachel of North Berwick, ME. She also leaves grandchildren Lorin, Ariana, Kaylee, Emmalyn, Brooke, Zachary, Nova and three great grandchildren. Linda was predeceased by her sister Brenda Lamarre. Calling hours will be Saturday July 9, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 (Noon) at Smith and Walker Funeral Home, 148 Grove Street, Putnam. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network at pancan.org/donate or through the mail at 1500 Rosecrans Ave., Suite 200, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. Share a memory at Smithandwalkerfh.com

Ralph Andrew “Andy” Putnam, 72

Ralph Andrew “Andy” Putnam, 72, of South Dennis, MA, formerly of Thompson, CT, passed away on Sunday, June 19th, 2022 at Cape Cod Hospital. Despite the many health challenges Andy faced throughout his life, he approached every obstacle with fortitude and perseverance that was admired by all who knew him.



Andy was born on January 16, 1950 in Putnam, CT, son to the late Ford L. Putnam Jr., and Marjorie Kilborn Putnam. He is survived by his wife, Janice (Bernier) Putnam; children, Zachary Andrew Putnam and his wife Alyssa Copp-Putnam, and Lauren Deanna Putnam and her fiancé David Finn; and siblings, Lynda LaRoche and her husband Donat LaRoche, and Debbie Poulin and her husband Scott Sherman. Andy also leaves his brother-in-law, Robert Bernier; several nieces and nephews and their families; his dear friend, Dr. Stephen Peverly and family; and many other lifelong friends from Connecticut to California. Andy was predeceased by siblings Ford L. Putnam III, Marjorie Chapdelaine, Cheryl Harvard, Marilyn Talaga, and Robert Putnam. Andy graduated from Tourtellotte Memorial High School in 1968. He attended WITI, worked for C&S

Wholesale Grocers, and he was a member of Teamsters Local 170 in Worcester. Jan and Andy married on December 4, 1971, and recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Andy's world revolved around his family. From coaching Thompson rec basketball and videoing everything-dance recitals, practices, games- to volunteering his time to American Legion baseball. His life's joys were sharing in his children's accomplishments and spending time with his family and friends. Andy loved watching Boston sports teams, horse racing, and reruns of This Old House, as well as playing cards, and taking road trips in the red van. He loved his pup, Skippy, who was his shadow. His dream was to travel to Alaska, which Jan and Andy visited by cruise in 2010. Andy's final wish to all of us would be to spend time with our loved ones, and to “ride the wave”. In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to the charity of your choice, or to UMass Memorial in memory of Andy Putnam to support patient care at: UMass Memorial Health Office of Philanthropy 365 Plantation Street, One Biotech Worcester, MA 01605 or donate.umassmemorial.org Memorial services will be private. To share a memory or leave a condolence, please visit www.doanebealamesden-nis.com.

Ernest Leo LeBeau, 91

Ernest Leo LeBeau, of Danielson, CT, passed away June 18th, 2022 at age 91. He was born in Moosup, CT, the youngest of six children of the late Ernest J. and Marie (Dudevoir) LeBeau. He attended All Hollows Catholic School, Plainfield High School and Central Connecticut Teachers College in New Britain. He married Arlene Woodward in 1955 at Our Lady of LaSalette Church in Brooklyn, CT. He was a Communicant of St. James Church.



Ernie suffered a serious farm accident as a child, resulting in years of hospitalizations and surgeries, but did not let that impede his success. Ernie was employed as a Senior Draftsman at the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics for 43 years. He worked on the Contract Guidance Drawings for the Trident Submarines and provided design upgrades for a variety of sub systems. He also volunteered for the ARC- Quinebaug Valley, serving

in several officer positions including Executive Director. He was president of the Canterbury Seniors group for five years. He was interested in organic gardening, loved to do crossword puzzles, and enjoyed to travel on cruises and to Hawaii and Italy. He loved to tell a good joke. Ernie leaves his beloved wife Arlene, his daughter Cynthia Ann of South Killingly, and his son Mark and Judy LeBeau of Bourne, MA. He was predeceased by his son Brian and Brian's partner Joyce Hewitt of Brooklyn, CT. He also leaves three grandchildren, one great grandchild, and numerous nieces and nephews. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to ST Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1000, Memphis, TN 38101-9908. A Calling Hour will be Thursday, July 7, 2022 from 10:00 to 11:00 AM at Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home, 33 Reynolds Street, Danielson, CT. A Funeral Service will follow at 11:00 AM at the Funeral Home, burial will follow at Holy Cross Cemetery, Danielson, CT. Share a memory at Gagnonandcostellofh.com

Wayne R. Antobenedetto, 65

Thompson - Wayne Antobenedetto, 65, of 30 Meadow Dr, died June 16, 2022, in University of Massachusetts Memorial Hospital. He was the loving husband of Lynn (Blaney) Antobenedetto. Born in Framingham, Massachusetts, he was the son of the



late Salvatore and Irene (Babbitt) Antobenedetto. Wayne is survived by two sons, Joshua Antobenedetto and Jason Antobenedetto; and 2 grandchildren, Ellsie and Jason. Wayne is also survived by his sister Nadine Antobenedetto. A Celebration of Life in Wayne's honor will be announced by the family at a later date. For memorial guestbook visit [www. GilmanAndValade.com](http://www.GilmanAndValade.com)

You have what it takes

I was raised with the idea that the most successful people in the world failed more than they succeeded. My dad taught me that no matter how often a person fails if they apply themselves, have a strong work ethic, and have a positive attitude, they will eventually succeed. I've met many people who had the opposite belief. They thought that you either have it or you don't, and there isn't much room for improvement. I had the great opportunity to meet and be coached by the fastest swimmer in the world for a time. His name is Tom Jaeger, and he earned seven gold medals. Before I met him, I assumed he got to where he was because of his hard work ethic and will to win. That was

true, but I also learned that he never lost a race in his life. When it came to swimming, he won way more than he lost. Most actors in Hollywood have to audition for years before they book their first job; it takes hundreds of auditions before becoming a star. That's true for the vast majority of actors, but there is a tiny percentage who begin working right away. There are always exceptions to the rule. For the 99.99 percent of us, how can we make it to the top? I was listening to Malcolm Gladwell's lecture on why some people succeed, and some don't. He talked



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
TOBY MOORE

about students in western cultures versus students in eastern cultures and their approaches to math. It turns out that eastern students score far higher at math than their western counterparts. Why? Listening to his lecture made me see a huge contradiction in my life. I did think that I could succeed at anything as long as I had the right attitude, but I also had a conflicting belief that I was terrible at math and there wasn't much I could do to improve. It's just how my mind worked. I was good at English, history, and the arts but terrible at math. According to Gladwell, western students think success in math lies in their innate ability; either you have it, or you don't. Whereas in the east, the attitude to solving a math problem is very different. Their philosophy is that all math problems are solvable by almost anyone. They believe that anyone can be good at math, given enough time and dedication. When I was in math class, I didn't try hard. Why? Because I believed I was bad at math. Why would I try? I didn't think I had the mind for it. Listening to Gladwell made me realize that my approach to math was wrong.

I could have done much better if I had the patience and determination! It appears that attitude is everything when it comes to math. Can this attitude towards math be applied to other areas of life? Of course, it can. Before Elvis Presley became the King of Rock, his music teacher told him he had no aptitude for singing. He failed many times on his way to the top; finally, he got a chance to perform at The Grand Ole Opry. The audience didn't receive him well; the manager threw him out of the venue. What if his attitude was, "I just can't sing and perform?" Steven Spielberg was rejected from the University of Southern California's film school. One of the first films he made, 1941, was considered a flop. What if his attitude was, "I just don't have the ability to make a good film?" Oprah Winfrey was a news anchor early in her career; one day, she was demoted to a minor role on the daily news show. What if she said to herself, "I just don't have the mind for media?" For the 99.99 percent of us, we will often fail on our way to accomplishing our dreams. It's inevitable. Don't let it get you down. Instead, have the attitude that you have what it takes, you can be who you want to be, and if you choose, you can even be good at math!




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*Local students
named to Honors List
at Pomfret School*

Angelo Rovero of North Grosvenordale
Calvin Wolanin of Pomfret
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come from around the country and the
world to find purpose and meaning
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by the same architect that influenced the house. The garden is supposed to mirror that gothic revival style with a lot of verticality in the plant choices," said Manso. "So many historical gardens fall by the wayside if money isn't infused yearly to keep them going. It goes back to a gentler time when people would stroll about and talk. I love the fact that President Ulysses S. Grant came here on the 4th of July and when you know these shrubs have been here all this time and Grant's footsteps are here on this path, that really excites me. These gardens were walked by people of great fame and fortune and that's history." Manso called Connecticut's Historic Gardens Day and "wonderful event" that put the garden front and center helping remind people that Roseland Cottage holds so much history beyond just the home itself.

"All the gardens are wonderful. We have a very formal garden here, but it's exciting for people to come and look at the colors, look at how the flowers are arranged and the designs that were embraced. It's an exciting day for us," said Manso.

Roseland Cottage holds tours seasonally Thursday through Sunday from June through mid-October. Visitors can learn more about the property by visiting www.roselandcottage.org.

Jessica Stolarek of
 Pomfret
 Brooke Zahansky of
 Pomfret
 Mary-Aliya Turay of
 Rogers
 Gabrielle Lemery of
 Putnam
 Johnna Romanek of
 North Grosvenordale
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POMFRET — Students named to this list earned a grade point average of at least 3.670 and received no grade lower than a B+ for the Spring 2022 term.

Carson	Ames	of
Pomfret		
Cooper	Ames	of
Pomfret		
Garrett	Geyer	of
Pomfret		
Jack Heroux	of Pomfret	
Bridget	Horst	of

Pomfret
Daphne Li of Pomfret
Matthew McClure of
Woodstock
Ian Wolanin of Pomfret
Kisqu Levy of Brooklyn
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READING NEWSPAPERS IS A QUEST LIKE NO OTHER

ENGLISH: Zoo

SPANISH: Zoo

ITALIAN: Zoo

FRENCH: Zoo

GERMAN: Zoo

THE PHILADELPHIA ZOO AND ANDREW
DOWNS' ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN IN
HALIFAX WERE THE UNITED STATES
AND CANADA'S FIRST
OFFICIAL ZOOS.

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: PENGUIN

☐ ☾ ♀ ✱ ♂ ≍ ≈ ★ ✚
 Determine the code to reveal the answer

Solve the code to discover words related to roller coasters.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: **12 = D**)

A. 12 6 1 16

Clue: Fall vertically

B. 9 16 14 14 12

Clue: Velocity

C. 17 10 6 25 19 19 9

Clue: Exciting experiences

D. 6 25 12 14

Clue: Amusement structure

Answers: A. drop B. speed C. thrills D. ride

SUDOKU

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

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!

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

ANSWER:

Area residents named to spring 2022 Deans' List at Bryant University

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Bryant University is pleased to recognize the students who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to academic excellence and achievement. Matthew Roethlein, class of 2024, from Pomfret Center, and Lucie Castagne from Putnam have been named to the Deans' List for the spring 2022 semester.

To earn a place on the Deans' List students must have a GPA of 3.4 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work. Congratulations to Matthew on this outstanding achievement! For nearly 160 years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that anticipates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of

character in a changing world. The University delivers a uniquely integrated academic and student life experience with nationally recognized academic programs at the intersection of business, STEM and the liberal arts. Located on a 428-acre contemporary campus in Smithfield, R.I., Bryant enrolls approximately 3,800 undergraduate and graduate students from 38 states and 49 coun-

tries. Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Money, Bloomberg Businessweek, Wall Street Journal, College Factual, and Barron's. Visit <https://www.bryant.edu/>.

Godwin Asore of Putnam named to Lewis University's Dean's List

ROMEDEVILLE, Ill. — Godwin Asore of Putnam was among the more than 1,400 students honored on the Lewis University Dean's List for the 2022 Spring Semester. Asore is studying Finance in the College of Business at Lewis University. To be eligible for this honor, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours during the semester with a grade point average of at least 3.5 and with no "D" or "F" grades. Lewis University is an innovative and forward-thinking Catholic university offering market-relevant undergraduate and graduate programs to 6,200 students. Sponsored by the De La Salle Christian Brothers, Lewis University is nationally recognized for preparing intellectually engaged, ethically grounded, globally connected and socially responsible graduates. Visit www.lewisu.edu for further information.

Putnam resident Lucie Castagne named to Bryant University President's List

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Bryant University is pleased to recognize the students who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to academic excellence and achievement. Lucie Castagne, Class of 2024, of Putnam, has been named to the spring 2022 President's List. The President's List is an academic distinction reserved for Bryant's highest achievers who earn a GPA of 4.0 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work.

Congratulations to Lucie on this outstanding achievement! About Bryant University For nearly 160 years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that anticipates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing world. The University delivers a uniquely integrated academic and student life experience with nationally recognized academic programs at the intersection of

business, STEM fields and the liberal arts. Located on a 428-acre contemporary campus in Smithfield, R.I., Bryant enrolls approximately 3,800 undergraduate and graduate students from 38 states and 49 countries. Bryant is recognized as a top 1% national leader in student education outcomes and ROI and regularly receives high rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Money, Bloomberg Businessweek, Wall Street Journal, College Factual and Barron's. Visit www.bryant.edu

STONE

continued from page A1

preparation for settlement was accomplished by slave labor - The fact is we do not know what slavery looked like in rural Connecticut in the 1700s. We simply don't have enough documentation to conclude that slaves were treated as part of the family or if they were abused or not. The mythology about slavery in New England is a revisionist history based perhaps on remorse and a wish that it had been different than it was," Dufresne said. "These stories of heartbreak, births, deaths, marriages, resiliency, agency, all the things that we have in common regardless of the color of our skin, are

our story. It's our American story - It's something we need to remember as we're remembering people of color whose stories have not been told." Rodney Alexander, the Vice President of the Windham-Willimantic Chapter of the NAACP, also attended the ceremony and said he was captivated by the story Dufresne shared with him. He too reminded those present that the important message isn't limited to remember these slaves, but also remembering the history that led to their circumstances and how that has directly impacted where the United States stands today. "A lot of people get uncomfortable when you talk about race or slavery or the history of our lively United States of America, but what a lot of people fail to

realize is until the real truth comes out about our history nobody is going to really understand why things are the way they are today. You're talking 400-plus years of stuff that you just don't forget," Alexander said. "If we keep trying to sweep the stuff under the carpet it's just going to pile up. Eventually it's going to explode." The mission now is to identify these slaves so their names will live on rather than be forgotten in silence. Many of these individuals were not labeled or named in census reports, making their identities difficult to narrow down. For now, the new witness stone stands as a way to honor their memories finally acknowledging at their final place of rest.

TRI-TOWN

continued from page A1

Tri-town manager Jason Akana said he wasn't worried he was going to get a pitcher whose body was in the Nutmeg State while his mind was still in the Sunshine State. "Alex is a gamer; I knew he was going to throw strikes. I was confident in that," Akana said. "He just goes out and plays. I had all the faith in the world in him." Racicot and Grauer led a 12-hit attack that allowed Tri-Town to score in every inning. Tri-Town led, 5-0 after the first inning, 6-0 after the second, 8-0 after the third and 10-0 after the fourth. Tri-Town opened the bottom of the first inning with a pair of singles by Racicot and Grauer. Racicot scored Tri-Town's first run on a sacrifice fly by Brayden Akana, and then Grauer came home on a sacrifice fly by John Carita (two RBI) to push the lead to 2-0. Tri-Town kept the inning alive with five straight two-out hits — a single to left by Luke Carita, an infield single by Vin Tocci (which drove in Lucas Carita

with Tri-Town's third run), a single to left by John Ferraro, a double to left by Rob Ellsworth (that scored Tocci and Ferraro with run Nos. 4 and 5), and a single to center by Riley Sargent. Grauer led off the bottom of the second inning with a single to left field. He scored to make it 6-0 two batters later on an RBI groundout to second base by John Carita. Tri-Town added two runs on two hits in the third inning to extend its lead to 8-0. Racicot had the big hit in the frame, and RBI single to left field that scored Nick Devlin, who had singled to right field. Evan Mailloux, who reached on a fielder's choice to third base, scored the other run in the inning on a Moosup error. Tri-Town closed out the scoring in the bottom of the fourth inning, scoring its runs on two walks and two hits. Racicot and Mailloux both singled to drive in the runs. Akana said the recipe for success for Tri-Town is a simple one. "Right from the beginning of the game we need to be consistently throwing strikes. We have to give ourselves a chance to have them put the ball in play



John Ferraro of Tri-Town slides into home plate while Moosup unsuccessfully attempts to get him out.

and let our defense make plays so we can get off the field," Akana said. "As long as our defense is up to challenge and makes plays like we did today,

we're going to be in good shape. As long we do that defensively and keep swinging the bats, we're going to be right where we need to be."



Luke Carita of Tri-Town throws the ball to first base after fielding a grounder.



Tri-Town's Brayden Akana gets his stance ready and swings away at a fastball.

LEGALS

TOWN OF THOMPSON

At the June 14, 2022 meeting of the Thompson Inland Wetlands Commission the following actions were taken: Application #IWA22010, Mark Simon, 0 Sand Dam Rd. (Assessor's Map 133, Block 24, Lot 63) - Construction of a new single family home, driveway, septic, well, detached garage and solar panels in the 100-foot upland review area and fill wetlands / watercourse for driveway access; Application #IWA22011, D.H. Copeland Builder, Inc., 119 New Rd. (Assessor's Map 154, Block 3, Lot 21) - Construct a 10-foot extension of 15" culvert under existing driveway to widen existing driveway by 6 feet. George T. O'Neil, Chair July 1, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE James E. Rose (22-00248) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 16, 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: Dawn Hellwig, c/o ALYSON R ALE-MAN BORNER SMITH ALEMAN HERZOG & CERRONE, LLC, 155 PROVIDENCE STREET, PO BOX 166 PUTNAM, CT 06260, (860)928-2429 July 1, 2022

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE John B Wilcox, Sr (21-00274) The Hon. Leah Pollard Schad, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated June 21, 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: Jayme Stamper, Weiss and Stamper LLC, 133 School Street, Danielson, CT 06239, United States July 1, 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, IAN TYLER SULLIVAN (attorney for Suzan G. Brown), ST. ONGE & BROUILLARD, 50 ROUTE 171, WOODSTOCK, CT 06281, (860)928-0481. July 1, 2022

Brooklyn hosts antique truck show



Jason Bleau

A classic Shelby Ford shines in the afternoon daylight on a beautiful 80-plus degree day in Brooklyn.

BROOKLYN — The Brooklyn Fairgrounds played host to the 33rd Annual Nutmeg Chapter of the American Truck Historical Society’s Antique Truck Show on Sunday, June 26. The event included an impressive number of trucks and antique cars as well as incorporating a flea market and antique toy show into the hot, summer

New England day. Hundreds of trucks from all eras and of all different makes and sizes filled the grounds creating a historical collection that could rival any other car show in the region taking visitors back in time to the glory days of America’s automotive industry and style.



A lineup of classic vehicles displayed during the American Truck Historical Society Antique Truck Show at the Brooklyn Fairgrounds.



A classic 1960s Econoline Super Van shows off the style of the era.



This collection of classic toys was just one display at the toy show inside one of the barns on the fairgrounds.



A lineup of classic trucks celebrates a bygone era of the American automobile.



One of the most adorable additions to the event was this tiny Shriners’ Parade Tractor Trailer, a popular photo opportunity for families.



A 1929 Twin Coach Inner City Bus is matched by a 1951 Ford F6.



This 1923 AC Mack truck wasn’t just a showpiece, but also served as a history lesson about the truck’s design and use in industry hauling.



It wasn’t just small and commuter trucks that shined at the show. These larger vehicles were just a couple of numerous tractor trailer-type vehicles on display.



The Woodstock Volunteer Fire Department showed off their classic 1925 fire apparatus, a common sight at parades and fairs throughout the region.



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