



KILLINGLY VILLAGER

Friday, February 24, 2023

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Three dead in apparent murder-suicide

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

BROOKLYN — State Police are investigating the circumstances surrounding three deaths in Brooklyn that may have been the result of a possible murder-suicide.

According to press releases from the Eastern District Major Crime Squad, police reported to a home on Middle Street in Brooklyn on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at around 8:30 p.m. following reports of a suspicious incident. Officers located three deceased individuals inside the home, including a minor. Police con-

firmed it was an isolated incident and proceeded to release details about the case in subsequent days.

On Wednesday, Feb. 15, police released the first two names of the victims, 33-year-old Lury Pizarro of Worcester and the child, three-year-old Emmanuel Perez. Both individuals were ruled dead by homicide by the State Medical Examiner. The third individual, Jose Perez, 32-years-old of Worcester, was not named until Friday, Feb. 17.

The Chief Medical Examiner's Office ruled both Pizarro and the

child passing due to gunshot wounds and Perez as the result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. While officials are considering the situation a murder-suicide, the investigation remains ongoing to piece together exactly what happened on that day. As of this writing no new information has been released.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Ethan Tanksley at ethan.tanksley@ct.gov. A GoFundMe has been organized to help cover funeral expenses for Lury Pizarro and Emmanuel Pizarro.

Desrosier named Killingly Volunteer of the Year



Courtesy

Killingly town officials presented Scott Desrosier (second from the right) with the Killingly Volunteer of the Year Award.

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — The Killingly Town Council presented the annual Volunteer of the Year award on Tuesday, Feb. 14 to Scott Desrosier, a longtime fixture of the Killingly Youth Basketball program.

Desrosier has helped organize many seasons of youth basketball in town as a per-diem staff member of the Killingly Parks and Recreation Department but during the 2021-2022 season he shifted from staff to full volunteer status assisting in organizing, refereeing, and guiding coaches throughout the season. He committed more than 80 hours of his own time to the program helping continue to spread the love of basketball to future athletes in Killingly.

Desrosiers was presented with a special plaque during the Town Council's monthly meeting after which he thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for all they do for the community.

"For what I've been able to do in my life working with young kids, I get probably more out of it than they do but with the Killingly Parks and Recreation Department

they've been absolutely fantastic with letting me fulfill my dreams and letting me do things the way I believe they should be done," said Desrosier. "It's just a wonderful organization and it goes back to my dad working with the Parks and Recreation Department and that family that has always been."

Parks and Recreation Director Bucky Lohbusch praised Desrosier for his commitment to the town and said Killingly is lucky to have such a dedicated volunteer in the community.

"We are very blessed to have an individual like Scott who has been in this community his entire life and has really dedicated himself to the youths of Killingly," said Lohbusch. "I was in the department in the '90s, and Scott was a huge mentor to me even in the professional field and teaching me, whether it was in coaching or just in my profession. It's probably because of him I'm back here now and it's just awesome to see an individual who has done so much for the community."

Assistant Director of the Parks and Recreation Department Anthony Eisley also praised Desrosier's dedication to the community, especially considering that he transitioned from a paid

contributor to volunteer status seamlessly.

"Without Scott's knowledge and expertise, the level of programming that we have would not be possible. There's a lot of behind-the-scenes time and energy that Scott has put into our program, sometimes in a paid position and sometimes in a completely non-paid position and it wasn't any more evident than the 2021-2022 timeframe. Scott had stepped away from our program and came back in a volunteer role, during a pandemic of all things, volunteering his time to jump in and help us with coaching and putting the teams together. I just want to say thank you so much for what you do for this community," said Eisley.

Killingly Town Council Chairman Jason Anderson concluded the ceremony offering praise on behalf of the Council for Desrosiers commitment to youth sports.

"It's rare that we find people who are willing to give to the community and volunteer so much of themselves. It takes away

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Courtesy

LOCAL SCOUT ATTAINS EAGLE RANKING

Boy Scout Cody Bennett (third from right) of Troop 25 of Putnam received his Eagle Scout Award, the highest award in the Boy Scouts of America, on Sunday, Feb. 19 at a Court of Honor held at Valley Springs Sportsman's Club in Thompson. More than 75 family, friends and fellow scouts were in attendance. At 15 years old, Cody is the troop's youngest Eagle Scout. His Eagle Scout project was the clean-up and revitalization of a fitness trail that wind behind the Putnam Middle and Elementary Schools. In addition to the Eagle Scout Award, Cody received letters of commendation and recognition from the Town of Putnam, the State of Connecticut, VFW Post #1523 Putnam and The American Legion Department of Connecticut and Post #13 Putnam. Pictured to Cody's right are his parents Les and Monique Bennett. Corina Torrey, Troop 25 Scoutmaster (Left of flag) served as MC for the ceremony. Manuel "Manny" Rodrigues, American Legion Boy Scout Chairman and Ronald P. Coderre (far left) Past District #4 and Post #13 Commander presented citations from the local Post, Department of Connecticut and the National Commander.

QVCC preparing students for advanced manufacturing careers

BY JASON BLEAU
VILLAGER CORRESPONDENT

DANIELSON — For more than a decade, Quinebaug Valley Community Colleges Advanced Manufacturing Technology programs have prepared students for careers in the ever-growing field of industry both in the Quiet Corner and across the country. What started in a shared space with Ellis Technical High School has since evolved into one of QVCC's most highlighted programs with its own Advanced Manufacturing Technology Center right

on campus. Now the program is in the midst of hosting a series of hands-on workshops to educate high schoolers about the opportunities that lie ahead with the college.

Advanced Manufacturing has become a blanket term used to describe a variety of professions usually associated with the creation of goods through the use of machines and the development and maintenance of those devices. QVCC's Advanced Manufacturing program offers certificates in both machine technology and mecha-

tronics, a term that represents skills used in the automation and robotics field. QVCC's workshops have worked to explore the broad applications of these skills. Both Norwich Technical High School and Killingly High School participated in the workshops showing their skills in working with automatic systems, robotics, and engineering.

Stephen LaPointe, Director of Advanced Manufacturing at QVCC, explained that their programs help prepare students to enter the work-

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A special Senior Night indeed

AILA GUTIERREZ, KILLINGLY'S LONE SENIOR, LEADS WAY IN WIN OVER CENTAURS

BY KEN POWERS

SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

KILLINGLY — Aila Gutierrez certainly knows how to make a Senior Night memorable.

Gutierrez, the lone senior on the Killingly High girls' basketball team, scored a season-high 11 points, eight in the fourth quarter, to lead Killingly to a 37-33 victory over neighboring rival Woodstock Academy on Monday, Feb. 13. The victory was Killingly's second over Woodstock this season. Killingly also defeated the Centaurs, 41-25, on Thursday, Jan. 5.

"Aila's performance tonight was absolutely amazing, but not surprising to me at all," Killingly coach Scott Desrosier said. "She became more offensive tonight. Aila's never worried about that in her

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Courtesy

Killingly High girls' basketball senior Aila Gutierrez surrounded by members of her family: her dad Arturo, her brother Tomas, and her mom, Julie. Her sister, Lily, is not in the picture as she is away at college. The picture was taken moments before Gutierrez, the lone senior on this year's team, was honored during Senior Night festivities.

Natchaug River Young Marines honored as “Division 1 Unit of the Year”

DANIELSON — The Young Marines, a national youth organization, has named the Natchaug River Young Marines of Danielson, Connecticut as the “Division 1 Unit of the Year,” the top honor for all divisions in a nine-state area. This honor was awarded for the unit’s community service, program achievement and dedication to the mission.

The Young Marines is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) youth education and service program for boys and girls, age eight through the completion of high school. The organization promotes the mental, moral, and physical development of its members. The program focuses on teaching the values of leadership, teamwork, and self-discipline, so its members can live and promote a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

The unit, led by Unit Commander Russell Grant, has 42 youth members and 15 adult volunteers who meet in Danielson. Division 1 encompasses nine states: Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Maine, and Vermont.

“I am proud of our dedicated staff members for their commitment and for the effort made by all our youth members,” Unit Commander Grant said. “The staff is focused on helping our Young Marines become good citizens and future leaders.”

Natchaug River Young Marines is very active in the area and participated in over 50 events this past year in the community and in support of local veterans. With over 3,800 community service hours, the unit was involved in many events including color guards for multiple town sporting events, cleaning up trash from a water walking trail and helping Veterans of Foreign Wars lay hundreds of flags at cemeteries in the area. The organization donated 16 turkeys to the Plainfield VFW for veterans’ Thanksgiving dinners.

Asked what makes Young Marines so rewarding, Unit Commander Grant said, “It brings me joy to see the Young Marines grow into capable and respect-



ful young adults. Being able to give them the skills to speak in public, teach classes, lead their peers and learn life skills, allows them to build confidence and trust in themselves. It is a great feeling when I see a Young Marine that was once reserved, now taking charge and helping to teach others how to better themselves in the same way. It also makes me extremely proud when I hear compliments from the public about how

professional they are and their abilities to perform the tasks at hand.”

For more information about the Natchaug River Young Marines, visit the Web site at <https://youngmarines.org/unit/natchaugriver/page>.

Young Marines history
Since the Young Marines’ humble

beginnings in 1959 with one unit and a handful of boys, the organization has grown to over 235 units with 6,100 youth and 2,100 adult volunteers in 40 states, the District of Columbia, Japan, and affiliates in a host of other countries.

For more information, visit the website at <https://www.YoungMarines.org>.

“The Girl on the Train” opens at Bradley Playhouse

PUTNAM — In a change of pace, The Theatre of Northeastern Connecticut at the Bradley Playhouse presents the trilling murder mystery “The Girl on the Train.” It will keep you on the edge of your seat, as a young woman who watches life pass by on a train, finds her fantasy come alive in a way she never expected. The show opens Feb. 24 and runs for two weekends.

This show continues the 2023 season theme “Stage and Screen”; a celebration of plays that were also made into motion pictures. Come and check out your favorites.

Performances are Feb. 24, 25 and March 3 & 4 at 7:30 p.m. and Feb. 26 and March 5 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$23.00 for adults and

\$20.00 for seniors, students, veterans and first responders. Please note, this show runs for two weekends, not three. Due to content and language, “The Girl on the Train” is recommended for mature audiences.

The script for “The Girl on the Train” is adapted by Rachel Wagstaff and Duncan Abel. It is based on the best-selling novel by Paula Hawkins and the DreamWorks film.

Rachel Watson longs for a different life. Her only escape is the perfect couple she watches through the train window every day, happy and in love. Or so it appears. When Rachel learns that the woman she’s been secretly watching has suddenly disappeared, she finds herself as a witness and even a suspect

in a thrilling mystery in which she will face bigger revelations than she could ever have anticipated.

The TNECT production is directed by Joshua Raymond. Robyn Spain appears as Rachel Watson. Elizabeth Decasse is Megan Hipwell, the woman who disappears, and Greg Glanville is her husband, Scott Hipwell. Rachel’s ex-husband, Tom Watson, is played by Michael Pray and his new wife, Anna Watson, is portrayed by Samantha Romero. The cast is completed by Sonya Richards as D.I. Gaskill and Joseph Sawyer as Kamal Abdic.

The Bradley Playhouse is located at 30 Front Street (Route 44) in Putnam. All seats are reserved. Reservations



Courtesy

Robyn Spain (Rachel Watson) and Sonya Richards (D.I. Gaskill).

may be made with a major credit card online at www.thebradleyplayhouse.org or by calling

860-928-7887. Tickets may be purchased at the theater box office, either before the performance,

or at the door if available. Purchasing your tickets ahead of time is always a good idea.

VILLAGER ALMANAC At CT Audubon

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Feb. 13: Common Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird, Mallard, Red-tailed Hawk, Turkey Vulture, Pileated Woodpecker, Flicker, Hairy Woodpecker, Junco, House Finch, American Tree Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow. Visit ctaudubon.org/Pomfret-home.

North Grosvenordale resident to have role in the Dean College Theatre production

FRANKLIN, Mass. — Liv Cunha of North Grosvenordale has earned the role of Jenny in the Dean College production of “Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play,” beginning Thursday, Feb. 23 through Sunday, Feb. 26.

Permeated with the idea that we turn to art in times of immense difficulty, this 2013 black comedy by Anne Washburn tells the story of a group of survivors shortly after a global catastrophe. As a way of making sense in a world that no longer makes sense, they recreate their vanished world through storytelling (some of it featuring Bart Simpson) and turn pop culture of one era into the mythology of another.

“Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play” is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.

The Dean College production of “Mr. Burns” will take place in the Main Stage in the Dr. Paula M. Rooney Student Center at Dean College, 109 West Central Street, Franklin at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, with 2 p.m. matinees on Saturday and Sunday.

Dean College welcomes children and families to all of our performances, provided patrons have complied with all safety guidelines. However, infants and children under two years of age are not allowed in the theatre, and children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult. All patrons must have their own ticketed seats; lap sitting is not permitted.

To learn more about the show and to purchase tickets, visit www.dean.edu/boxoffice.

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

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Local funeral director recertified



William Michael Juzwic

PUTNAM — William Michael Juzwic, CFSP, a funeral director with Gilman & Valade Funeral Homes & Crematory in Putnam, Connecticut, has recently qualified for recertification of the designation of Certified Funeral Service Practitioner (CFSP), by the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice.

A number of professions grant special recognition to members upon completion of specified academic and professional programs and “CFSP” is funeral service’s national individual recognition.

A select few have distinguished themselves among their peers within the funeral service profession as they

continue their education to exceed the highest standards of care. This achievement is especially notable because Bill has voluntarily elected to participate in quality educational and service opportunities that far surpass what the funeral service licensing board in Connecticut requires. Bill has committed to a program of lifelong learning to serve you and families in your community with the level of excellence expected of a CFSP.

The Board of Trustees of the Academy of Professional Funeral Service Practice commends you for choosing to put your trust in the hands of a Certified Funeral Service Practitioner.

Since its 1976 founding, the Academy has had as its goals: 1) to recognize those practitioners who have voluntarily entered into a program of personal and professional growth, 2) to raise and improve the standards of funeral service and 3) to encourage practitioners to make continuing education a life-long process in their own self-interest, the interest of the families they serve, and the community in which they serve.

To initially receive this award, the practitioner must complete a 180 hour program of continuing education activities and events. In addition, the practitioner is required to accumulate 20 hours per year to recertify. Credits are awarded by the Academy for work leading to personal and/or professional growth in four areas:

- Academic Activities
- Professional Activities
- Career Review (for retroactive credit)
- Community and Civic Activities

Volunteer naturalist training program offered



POMFRET — The Connecticut Audubon Society (CAS) Center at Pomfret, located at 218 Day Road, will begin its 2023 Volunteer Naturalist Training Program on Tuesday morning, March 28. The program consists of ten, four-hour (8 a.m. to noon) sessions on Tuesdays from March 28 through May 30. The cost to attend the training is \$200 for CAS members; \$258 for nonmembers. The nonmember price includes a CAS individual membership. Upon completion of the program, trainees are expected to contribute a minimum of 40 volunteer hours to the Connecticut Audubon Society.

Sarah Heminway, who is the Center director and designed the program, states, “The purpose of our Volunteer Naturalist Training Program is to establish a volunteer corps to support our facilities and to develop environmental stewards for northeastern Connecticut.”

Instruction is both classroom and outdoors, taking full advantage of the 700-acre Bafflin Sanctuary in Pomfret and the 168-acre Trail Wood Memorial Sanctuary in Hampton.

Instructors in the Volunteer Naturalist Training Program are subject specialists. The broad range of topics covered includes the history of conservation and environmentalism, mammals of northeastern Connecticut, survival skills, lichens and bryophytes, wildflowers, insects, and tree identification. Course materials are provided.

According to one recent graduate, “After completing this training you will enjoy hikes and nature more, having acquired a keener understanding of the world surrounding you.”

She adds, “The teachers make learning exciting and provide resources for more in-depth study.”

Another graduate describes the program as a chance to step away from the daily grind and connect with nature.

She says, “Especially after the isolation of the pandemic, I craved connection – with both nature and people with interests similar to my own. My mental health has improved and my passion for the outdoors has been renewed.”

One participant sums it up this way, “Participating in the Volunteer Naturalist Training Program is an opportunity too good to miss!”

For more information and an application go to the Center at Pomfret’s web page and look under Programs & Events.

Pomfret Recreation upcoming events

Before School Wiffle Ball & Kick Ball: 2/27/23-4/6/23 for PCS boys and girls in grades 4-8. The program will be held in the gym. The fee is \$40.00 per child. Please visit the town website for the registration form.

Babysitter/Parent Helper Safety Course 101: For Boys and girls ages 11 and up. March 8th and March 15th from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the PCS Café. The purpose of the training is to provide youth ages 11 & up with information and skills necessary to provide safe and responsible care for children in the absence of parent/guardians. Certificate of completion is for CPR, rescue breathing, Heimlich maneuver, (adult, children, and infants), basic first aid Heartsaver. It is mandatory to attend both classes to receive certification. The fee for this program is \$75.00 per child.

Spring Social: 4/21/23 For boys and girls in grades 3, 4 & 5. In the PCS Café from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm. Join us for a fun evening of games and music! Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase for \$1.00 or less. Parents must sign in and sign out when they drop off and pick up their children in the hallway outside of the cafeteria. \$5.00 if paid in advance (by 4/7/23) or \$7.00 at the door.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt is on Saturday, April 1st, at 11 am at the POMFRET RECREATION PARK, 576 Hampton Road (ROUTE 97), The rain date is Sat. April 8th.

Make Your Own Pad Thai Class: 3/11/23 at the Pomfret Community Center. Learn to make your own Pad Thai. It is a delicious dish consisting of rice noodles stir-fried usually with any of various additional ingredients (such as bean sprouts, peanuts, chicken, shrimp and eggs). The fee for this program is \$20.00 per person. Please register early as space is limited.

Make Your Own Spring Roll Class: 4/22/23 at the Pomfret Community Center. Learn to make your own spring rolls which are fresh vegetables, rice noodles and optional cooked protein wrapped in rice paper. Gluten free too! The fee for this class is \$20.00 per person. Please register early as these cooking classes fill up early!

Winter Cribbage League: 11/15/22 – 4/18/23 at the Pomfret Community Center, 207 Mashamoquet Road. This program will be held on Tuesdays from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Two people per team. The fee for this program is \$20.00 per person for the season.

Men’s Over 30 Basketball: Monday evenings from 6:30pm – 9:00 pm in the PCS Gym starting 10/3/22 through 3/27/23. Pick up style basketball. Men of all levels of fitness are welcome to attend. No play dates are as follows: 10/10, 11/7, 12/26, 1/2, 1/16, and 2/20. The fee for this program is \$30.00.

Coming Soon! Annual Hooked on Fishing Derby, Adult Co-Ed Volleyball and the Annual Cornhole Tournament!

You do not need to live in Pomfret to participate in most Town Rec. programs. Questions: 860-974-142 or email: Barbara.gagnon@pomfretct.gov Registration forms are available on our website: www.pomfretct.gov/recreation or you can stop by the Pomfret Town Hall to pick one up.

Worcester State University announces Dean’s List

WORCESTER, Mass. — Worcester State University congratulates the following students who were named to the Dean’s List for the fall semester of 2022.

North Grosvenordale
Jaylyn D. Armstrong, Natalie G. Benton, Kira M. Clinkscale, Lauren M. Ramos

Pomfret Center
Mikayla D. Wilcox

Putnam
Jillian R. Gray, Jane Vongvirath

Thompson
Dedrick A. Baublitz, Marie P. Costa, Michaela M. Vandt

Woodstock
Rebecca L. Jarvis

WOODSTOCK MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

WOODSTOCK — Woodstock Middle School has released its honor roll for the second quarter of the 2022-2023 school year.

Grade 6
High Honors: Rachel Conant, Noah Damaso, Tucker Faber, Hayden Ferguson, Kalena Fortner, Alexa Heersink, Piper Jagodzinski, Marian Jennings, Avery Manbeck
Honors: Kestrel Brousseau, Alexander Cournoyer, Declan Ferguson, Autumn Gatchell, Lillian Gregorzek, Liam Hewson, Jenson Knight, Autumn Maturi, Archie McDonald, Quinlyn McKinley-Desjardins, Bao Novotny, Jude Sargent, Benjamin Shamp, Emma Stacey, Aylin Stevens
Recognition: Logan Bessette, Jayden Casillas, Trissa Collins, Grayson De Oliveira, Ryleigh Hitchcock, Sierra LaFleche, Brook Marshall, Jonathan Montanez, Connor Mydlarz, Georgia Myers, Cooper O’Brien, Madyson Peach, Kenzie Porter, Mikai Shepherd, Brooklyn Sherman-Wessell, Tristan Sparks, Harbor Wotton

Grade 7
High Honors: Carolina Ahearn, Georgia Cross, Colby Deary, Roan Donovan, Nathaniel Drake, Jax Golden, Sophia Groves, Colton Haase, Emma Johnson, Abigail Keser, Kaitlyn

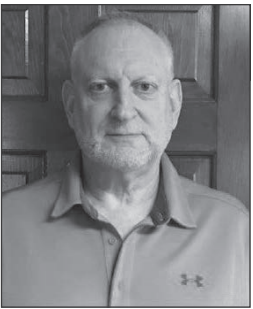
Grade 8
High Honors: Amelia Ditzel, Lorelai Fish, Arianna Fox, Robert Graham, Samuel Greene, Julia Guimont, Keegan Porter, Damien Redman, Chloe Vogt, Cayden Worth
Honors: Mia Auger, Brayden Bottone, Kaylyn Converse, Patrick Fox, Maylie Ganas, Brady Hebert, Winston Kvanli, Kelsey McNeil, Landon Murdock, Tyler Odorski, Jessica Palmerino, Bella Stillitano, Leah Thibodeau
Recognition: Catalina Baarda, Sydney Betty, Isabella Billings, Willow Deary, Brayden Graves, Halstyn Guenther, Maxwell Kopp, Brendon Lundt, Molly Mead, David Rahall, Blake Robida

McQuiston, Stella Puchalski
Honors: Ava Carlone, Zoe Cloutier, Alexander DeCarli, Caroline Ethier, Scarlett Hogarty, Kaylee Letourneau, Haven Magnan, Tristen Maloney, Abigail Manning, James McHugh, Kaleb Nagel, Erin Russell, James Silva, Lily Smock, Kaitlyn Teal, Muhammad Zameer
Recognition: Drake Abdullovski, Isabella Amlaw, Rhys Asikainen, Ryder Benoit, Evan Boucher, Charlotte Donovan, Ava Eaton, Daniel Jameson, Davis Jette, Jack Keller, Kaitlyn LaBonte, Cuhrliz Welch Lopera, Owen Murdock, Colbie O’Connor, Luana Portilla, Cole Swabby, Caroline Walen

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NDDH mourns passing of former Director of Health Patricia Beckenhaupt



Patricia Beckenhaupt

BROOKLYN — It is with great sadness that the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH) shares the news of the passing of former NDDH Director of Health Patricia Beckenhaupt, RN, MPH, MS. Beckenhaupt died on Thursday, Jan. 26 after a brief illness.

Beckenhaupt served NDDH with distinction as Director of Health from 2000 to 2009. She was instrumental in expanding the role of NDDH emergency preparedness services following the events of Sept. 11, 2001. She was an early advocate of tele-health services, leading an initiative in 2007 long before it would become a necessity during the COVID-19 pandemic. That same year, as district services grew, she spearheaded agency relocation efforts to NDDH's current location at 69 South Main Street in Brooklyn.

She provided strong leadership through a number of high-profile public health emergencies and events, including the InterRoyal Mill Fire in April 2005; a 2006 full scale Strategic National Stockpile exercise at Plainfield High School, conducted jointly by the State of Connecticut and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and the 2009 H1N1 pandemic.

Beckenhaupt successfully procured grants that provided indoor asthma assessments, oral health screenings, CPR-AED trainings, and breast health screenings, and increased community awareness to food-borne illness, green cleaning, obesity prevention, cardiovascular health, Lyme disease, and a host of other public health priorities. Working with her team, she created the NDDH logo and brand that we continue to promote today.

"Pat was a highly respected community leader and loyal public health servant who made countless contributions throughout her lifetime," commented Elaine Lippke, a current NDDH Board member who served as Board Chair during Pat's tenure. "She will be greatly missed by her former colleagues, community partners, and the many people she served throughout the NDDH region. We extend our sincerest condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues."

Retired pharma executive debuts thrilling novel

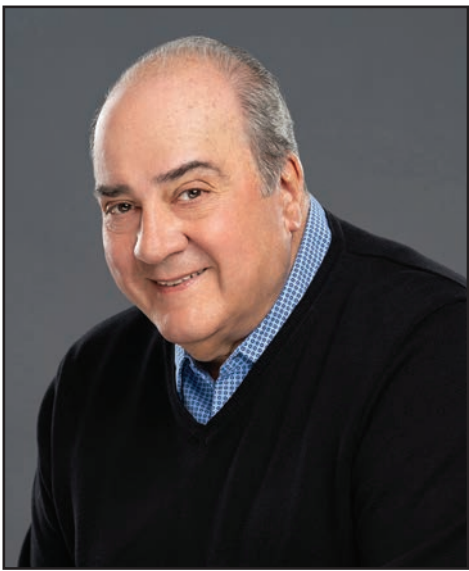
WOODSTOCK — R. F. Mineo, a retired corporate executive, recently published his first book—Fatal Conspiracies—a thrilling mystery novel set in big Pharma. -- Mineo's book, "Fatal Conspiracies," is a twist-filled murder mystery. Paperback and Kindle editions are available on Amazon.com.

A former executive for a pharmaceutical company, Mineo uses his first-hand experience in the fascinating world of medication manufacturing to create a story of conflict and murder set at fictional Purity Pharmaceuticals. At Purity, top executives force management to reduce staff, increase productivity, and maintain the all-important quality of the meds. Simultaneously, the lab staff struggles with fewer resources, increased production goals, and the need to meet stringent FDA standards.

No one can escape the toil. The challenge pushes some to engage in deceptive and wicked corporate games—involving unethical staffing decisions and conspiracies. Others on the front lines in the labs feel powerless and make the difficult decision to cut quality in an industry where precision is paramount. And finally, others, driven by envy, greed, and revenge, choose to become part of dangerous alliances.

Initial readers have found R. F. Mineo's "Fatal Conspiracies" a page-turner. Follow his characters as some take unimaginable risks and others try to find justice for those wronged. One slip or one wrong move, and medicine turns to poison. And for some, that will mean falling victim to the ultimate danger—

Based on unsolicited comments from followers posted on R. F. Mineo's Facebook page.



R.F. Mineo

fatal conspiracies.

R.F. Mineo has had thrilling mysteries on his mind for years. Consistent encouragement from friends and family—and the freedom that retirement allowed—catalyzed him to act. To put pen to paper! And so, a new mystery novelist was empowered. Rich's business career has spanned over three decades, including a prominent role at a large corporation in the Medical Diagnostic and Pharmaceutical business units. Rich was born and raised in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Penn State University. Rich's work has taken him up and down the Eastern Seaboard, and he has lived in an array of towns, such as Oyster Bay, N.Y., and Newark, Del. Today, he and Wanda, his wife of 57 years, reside in Woodstock.

Students named to University of Hartford honors lists

WEST HARTFORD — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce the students who have been named to the Dean's List for Fall 2022.

Jennifer Kelley of Brooklyn
Maralex Ramirez of Danielson
Ashton Gauvin of Putnam
Gracen Van Der Swaagh of Putnam
Brooke Fetting of Thompson
Kathleen Joiner of North Grosvenordale

Jordyn Brousseau of Woodstock
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Roger Williams University announces Dean's List

BRISTOL, R.I. — Select students have been named to the Fall 2022 Dean's List at Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a GPA of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

Sydney Rosen of Brooklyn
Cole Russell of Brooklyn
Stathi Savvidis of Brooklyn
Melanie Straub of Danielson
About RWU

At Roger Williams University, students are prepared to be thinkers and doers ready to solve challenging problems with innovative solutions. RWU offers 50 majors and robust offerings of graduate and professional programs across eight schools of study including Rhode Island's only law school, with campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the heart of Providence, R.I. With small classrooms and a focus on undergraduate and graduate research and community engagement, a Roger Williams

education blends the strength of liberal arts and professional studies, providing all students with the depth and breadth of interdisciplinary thinking and breadth of interdisciplinary thinking and breadth of interdisciplinary thinking to succeed in our interconnected, global world. RWU is committed to strengthening society through engaged scholarship so that students graduate with the ability to think critically and apply the practical skills that today's employers demand.

Jonah Whitney of Thompson makes Dean's List at RIT

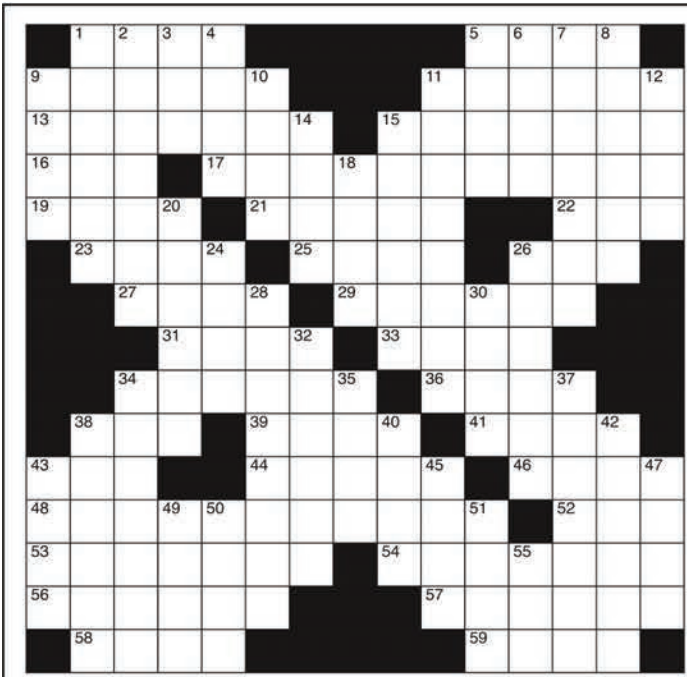
ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Jonah Whitney of Thompson was named to the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the fall semester of the 2022-2023 academic year. Whitney is in the computing security program.

Full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete", "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

Rochester Institute of Technology is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers. Founded in 1829, RIT enrolls about 19,700 students in more than 200 career-oriented and professional programs, making it among the largest private universities in the U.S.

The university is internationally recognized and ranked for academic leadership in business, computing, engineering, imaging science, liberal arts, sustainability, and fine and applied arts. RIT also offers unparalleled support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The cooperative education program is one of the oldest and largest in the nation. Global partnerships include campuses in China, Croatia, Dubai and Kosovo.

For news, photos and videos, go to www.rit.edu/news.

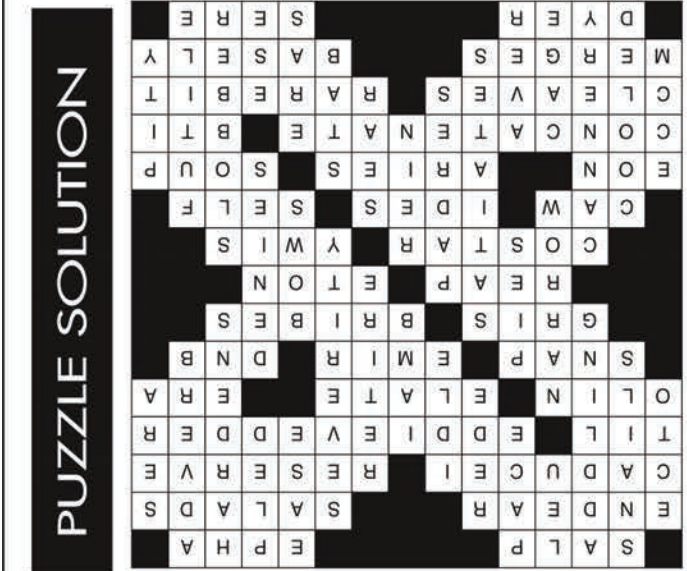


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Sea grape
- 5. European public health group (abbr.)
- 9. A way to delight
- 11. Appetizers
- 13. Ancient heralds' wands
- 15. Make a booking
- 16. ' death do us part
- 17. Pearl Jam frontman
- 19. Spider genus
- 21. Fill with high spirits
- 22. A major division of geological time
- 23. Catch
- 25. An independent ruler or chieftain
- 26. Electronic music style (abbr.)
- 27. Influential Spanish cubist painter
- 29. Illegally persuades
- 31. A way to derive
- 33. British School
- 34. Appear alongside
- 36. Surely (archaic)
- 38. Harsh cry of a crow
- 39. A day in the middle
- 41. Kansas hoops coach Bill
- 43. The longest division of geological time
- 44. The first sign of the zodiac
- 46. Appetizer
- 48. Link together in a chain
- 52. A bacterium
- 53. In a way, forces apart
- 54. Cheese dish
- 56. Combines
- 57. In an inferior way
- 58. Colors clothes
- 59. Dried-up

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Gastropods
- 2. Confusing
- 3. Romanian monetary unit
- 4. The rate at which something proceeds
- 5. A prosperous state of well-being
- 6. Asked for forgiveness
- 7. Makes less soft
- 8. Part of speech
- 9. Outside
- 10. Advice or counsel
- 11. Badness
- 12. Protein-rich liquids
- 14. Not moving
- 15. Call it a career
- 18. Poetry term
- 20. Not wide
- 24. Pastries
- 26. Turns away
- 28. Satisfies
- 30. Gift adornments
- 32. San Diego ballplayers
- 34. Manufacturing plant
- 35. Check or guide
- 37. Dogs do it
- 38. Chilled
- 40. Scorch
- 42. Unproductive of success
- 43. Electronic counter-countermeasures
- 45. Attack with a knife
- 47. Feel bad for
- 49. Enclosure
- 50. Assert
- 51. Geological times
- 55. Midway between east and southeast



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BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DiNICOLA
508-764-6102
jdinicola@stonebridgepress.com
EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
860-928-1818 x 323
brendan@villagernewspapers.com
PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
860-928-1818, EXT. 305
julie@villagernewspapers.com

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Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors’ quality-focused growth continues

SECOND OFFICE OPENS IN TOLLAND

TOLLAND — Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors (WHZ) officially opened its second location yesterday with a ribbon cutting at its new offices located in Twin Pond Center, 392-A Merrow Rd. in Tolland. The opening is the latest in a series of recent milestones for the wealth management firm, continuing its impressive quality-focused growth in recent years into 2023.

The ribbon-cutting – which was jointly hosted by WHZ in collaboration with the Tolland County Chamber of Commerce and the Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce – was attended by nearly 50 business, community, and legislative leaders from across eastern Connecticut, including Senator Dr. Jeffrey Gordon (R-35), Rep. Tammy Nuccio (R-53), Rep. Tim Ackert (R-8) and Rep. Patrick Boyd (D-50).

The new Tolland office provides an expansive and welcoming space in addition to WHZ’s existing office in Pomfret Center, from which it has been serving high-net-worth individual, business, and non-profit clients in Connecticut and 24 other states since 2006.

In his remarks during the ceremony, Senator Jeffrey Gordon (R-35) praised the firm for its expansion and commitment to clients and the community while presenting them with a congratulatory citation in recognition of the firm’s physical expansion into the Tolland region.

The ribbon-cutting is the latest in a string of recent announcements regarding the firm’s quality measures and growth.

Earlier this month WHZ announced the promotion of three of its team members to new VP and leadership roles, and in January the firm announced that for the ninth consecutive year, all of its financial advisors eligible for the Five Star Wealth Manager Award¹ (Laurence Hale, James Zahansky and Leisl Cording) were selected to receive it for 2022 – a distinction granted to just 10 percent of Connecticut wealth managers who were considered for the award.

Principals and managing partners Laurence Hale, AAMS®, CRPS®, and James Zahansky, AWMA® say they credit that growth to keeping a laser focus on their mission of providing an exceptional wealth management experience at every touchpoint for their clients, along with a strong focus on data-informed strategy, innovation in technology and operations, and an uncompromising commitment to their vision of helping others to “Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well.™”

It’s that “Plan Well. Invest Well. Live Well” strategic process, paired with meaningful and trusting relationships, that Hale and Zahansky say has fueled their growth and that sets their firm apart from other financial planning and wealth management companies.

“The fact that we’re an independent wealth management firm has really allowed us to create our own very specific and tailored approach to how we work with our clients,” Hale said. “We’ve built a service model based on a fiduciary, partnership approach that really takes a comprehensive and long-term view of our clients’ needs. Then we solve for those needs through a structured and strategic planning process and partner with our clients over the long haul to see that strategy through so they can meet their goals not just for today but for a lifetime.”

Hale says that often, that partnership even continues with next-generation family members. Zahansky credits those meaningful and trusting relationships and the firm’s overall success to their client-centered philosophy and approach.

“Effective wealth management isn’t just about the numbers,” Zahansky said. “Strong investment and financial planning knowledge is key, of course, and I think our quality-focused growth approach shows that our team does an excellent job with that. But at the end of the day, it’s not simply money that clients are looking to gain, it’s the goals and dreams they have for themselves and their loved ones that require money to achieve.”

Zahansky says that wealth management is not a one-size-fits-all, transac-



Tolland and Windham County legislators, Chambers of Commerce, business professionals, and community members gathered to celebrate the official opening of Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors’ second Connecticut office in Tolland on Feb. 15. The firm has served clients in 25 states from its other office in Pomfret since 2006. Pictured, left to right: Northeastern Connecticut Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Betti Kuszaj, State Representative Tim Ackert (R-8), State Senator Dr. Jeff Gordon, WHZ Vice President and Associate Financial Advisor Michael Baum, State Representative Tammy Nuccio (R-53), WHZ Director of Administration Will Armstead, WHZ Principal/Managing Partner James Zahansky, WHZ Principal/Managing Partner Laurence Hale, WHZ Investment Analyst Shandy Chen (back row), State Representative Pat Boyd (D-50), WHZ Associate, Client Service Brandon Koehler (back row), WHZ Associate Vice President, Client Experience & Relationships Kate Pitts, WHZ Senior Vice President and Financial Advisor Leisl Cording, Tolland County Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Melissa Smith, WHZ Associate Vice President and Wealth Manager Holly Wanegar.

tional process – or at least it shouldn’t be. “You really can’t create an effective financial roadmap for achieving those big life goals without truly understanding what that client’s dreams are, what their priorities are, and then strategizing the best way to invest and build wealth for those particular goals and their particular timeline,” he said.

“It’s really a very personal process. And I think a part of our success at WHZ has been the fact that our entire practice is built on first taking that personal, partnership approach with each client to build the financial strategy that’s right for them, and then consistently adding value to help them stay on-strategy to achieving their goals.”

WHZ was founded in Pomfret, Connecticut in 2006 as a fiduciary, independent investment firm. Today the firm offers wealth management and customized financial planning services to individuals, families, business owners and executives, and not-for-profit institutions in 25 states and is a partner of Commonwealth Financial Network®, one of the largest privately-owned independent Registered Investment Advisor/broker-dealers in the United States. (*As of 9/22, based on self-reported AUM data from 47 participating firms in the 2022 Financial-Planning.com IBD Elite survey.) To learn more, visit www.whzwealth.com.

2022 Five Star Wealth Manager Award, created by Five Star Professional. The 2022 award was presented in November 2022 based on data gathered between February 2022 and September 2022. A total of 2950 Connecticut-area wealth managers were considered for the award; 290 (10% of candidates) were selected to receive it. Wealth managers do not pay a fee to be considered or selected for the award. (Fee paid for use of marketing materials.) Not indicative of advisor’s future performance. Your experience may vary. For more information, visit fivestarpromotional.com.

About Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors

Weiss, Hale, & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors (WHZ) is an independent investment firm and partner of Commonwealth Financial Network®, the largest privately-owned independent Registered Investment Advisor / broker-dealer. Founded in 2006, WHZ offers more than 65 years of combined experience in the financial industry and offers wealth management services using a unique and strategic process that encourages clients to Plan Well, Invest Well, and Live Well™. The firm offers portfolio management and financial guidance to individuals, families, business owners and executives, and not-for-profit institutions in 25 states. They practice at 697 Pomfret Street, Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860.928.2341. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. For more information regarding wealth management and customized financial planning

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Woodstock Academy Boys' Ice Hockey galloping through regular season

CENTAURS FEATURE PLENTY OF SCORING AND SOLID GOALTENDING

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — With the Nutmeg Conference and Connecticut Division 2 tournaments on the horizon, the Woodstock Academy boys' ice hockey team is looking to transition from what has been a very memorable season to what will be referred to for years to come as a championship season.

With four games left in the regular season, the Centaurs are 15-1. They opened the season with seven straight wins and are currently on an eight-game winning streak. Woodstock Academy has outscored its opponents, 103-19. The team is currently ranked No. 1 in the unofficial Division 2 rankings posted online by the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic

Association (CIAC). Last year Woodstock Academy finished 15-7, advancing to the final of the Nutmeg Conference Tournament and the second round of the Connecticut Division 2 Tournament. The Centaurs are led offensively by their first line of sophomore Maxx Corradi and juniors Noah Sampson and Don Sousa, who have combined to

score 60 goals and record 58 assists. Corradi (28 goals, 14 assists) and Sampson (16 goals, 26 assists) are tied for the team lead in points (42), while Sousa has 16 goals and set up 18 others for 34 points. Woodstock Academy coach Mark Smolak acknowledged that watching his top line sometimes makes him feel like he's been trans-

ported inside a video game. "Even in practice it seems that ways sometimes," said Smolak, who moved from assistant coach to head coach before the start of the season. "The way they're able to always know where each other are at has been absolutely phenomenal. Whether it's five-on-five play or on the penalty kill, they all know where their line-mates are going to be. It doesn't even seem like they communicate verbally; it's just a natural understanding of where they're going to attack."

The seemingly overnight development of Corradi, who finished his freshman year with 15 goals and 13 assists, has been the biggest surprise of the season.

"Maxx has taken a huge jump offensively this year. He is getting his shot off at ridiculous speeds. The puck is barely on his stick and then it's off; so many of his goals this year have been perfectly placed. Maxx has developed into just a pure sniper," Smolak said. "His ability to put pucks in off the rush or in traffic has been absolutely incredible. He brings a lot of speed and physicality onto the ice with him."

Sampson is the brains of the operation.

"Noah has speed, a good stride, and a very long reach — because he's 6-foot-4 — but his best attribute is he's a very cerebral player. Noah's able to anticipate plays and his passing is absolutely incredible," Smolak said. "He scored a goal (recently) that I saw live and then watched several times and I still don't know how he made the play he made."

"A point shot came in at him and he moved his stick — backhanded — behind his legs, lifted one leg, hit the puck with the blade of the stick and sent it directly to Maxx, who was on the far post, for the goal," Smolak added. "Noah's ability to see open ice and get the puck where it needs to go is something that is extremely rare."

Sousa, Smolak said, does a little bit of everything.

"Don is consistent. He finds holes on the ice and makes sure that he gets to those spots and opens himself up for passes from either Noah or Maxx," Smolak said. "What Don really brings to the team is his ability on the penalty kill. He leads the team in short-handed points (seven). Somehow, we have more short-handed goals (11) this year than we do power-play goals (seven). Don is not only productive on the penalty kill for that line, but he's productive in five-on-five situations, too."

The Centaurs' second line consists of senior captain Jacob Jurnovoy (2-9-11), classmate Max Larkin (5-8-13) and sophomore Jayden Fuller (7-8-15). Jurnovoy centers the line with Larkin on the left wing and Fuller on the right wing.

Woodstock Academy has the back end of the ice buttoned up tight, too, with senior Kaiden Keddy and sophomore Dante Sousa (Don's brother) both enjoying terrific seasons between the pipes.

Keddy is 8-1 with four shutouts, a 1.13 goals against average (GAA), and a .941 save percentage. Dante Sousa is 7-0 with a 1.29 GAA and a .955 save percentage. They are the top two goaltenders in the state in GAA, and Keddy leads Division 2 in shutouts.

"I'm trying to split them as best as I can. They each bring something different to the table," Smolak said. "We look at how they're performing in practice, how they're performing in the game situations and try to organize our goaltending off of that. It's worked out extremely well for us. With our goalies were just trying game-by-game, practice-by-practice, to see who gives us the best chance to win that night."

The Centaurs' top pair of defensemen is sophomore Sam Desmond and freshman Ian Sherman. They are followed onto the ice by the tandem of junior Alex Gessner and freshman Brady Lecuyer, and the duo of junior Sam Lescault and freshman Jack Larkin.




Woodstock Academy goaltender Dante Sousa is 7-0 this season with a 1.29 goals against average and a .955 save percentage.



Woodstock Academy forward Noah Sampson, who scored three goals in a 16-second span earlier this season, has scored 16 goals and assisted on 26 others this season.



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Spring cleaning pointers



Spring is a season of renewal. When the flowers are blooming and the trees are budding and the weather is pleasantly warm, people often feel inspired to make changes around their homes. Work may begin with culling belongings and organizing essentials.

There is debate regarding where the practice of “spring cleaning” originated. Some researchers link it to certain religious groups. It has long been an ancient Jewish custom to thoroughly clean a house in preparation for the springtime feast of Passover. The house is scoured to remove any yeast bread, or chametz, from the home. Similarly, members of the Greek Orthodox church celebrate “Clean Week,” which is a week of cleaning before Lent. In Iranian culture, families spend days cleaning prior to the Persian New Year, which begins on the spring equinox.

Spring cleaning also has some secular roots. For instance, in the 1800s, Londoners routinely cleared their homes of grime and soot that accumulated over the winter.

Spring cleaning is still a ritual for many today. As people embark on

their plans to tidy up, these tips can help them along.

Tackle one big task a day

Who hasn’t started one project only to be distracted into moving along to another room? This often occurs when people discover something out of place in one space and then move that item where it belongs, only to find a new cleaning task at hand in that space. Inefficiency can make you give up on spring cleaning prematurely. Agree to address one room/task a day. Keep a basket or box handy to store errant items until you move on to the next room.

Stock up on supplies

Prepare all of the cleaning supplies in advance. Put together a tool kit of sorts with the equipment you need, including mops, brooms, rags, cleansers, and the like. Organization can keep you on course.

Harness your strengths and weaknesses

Some people clean because they are stressed or angry, others do so to avoid other tasks. Keep personality in mind when

establishing a cleaning schedule. For example, clean at night if you’re a night owl, or wait until you are feeling antsy before embarking on a “calm down cleaning.”

Tackle seasonal chores first

Some tasks need to get done to prepare for the spring and summer season. These may include cleaning the grill and sorting through outdoor furniture and decor. Spring cleaning may involve readying the pool for another year of use, or cleaning out rain gutters to prepare for spring storms. Tackle time-dependent tasks first and then move on to others that are less time-sensitive.

Spread out the work

Some people like to devote full weekends to spring cleaning, but that can be overwhelming for others. Breaking down cleaning tasks into 15- to 30-minute intervals each day can make the job more tolerable.

Spring cleaning season has arrived, and certain tips can make the job more efficient and manageable.

DESROSIER

continued from page A1

a lot from your own time and it’s a dedicated service. We appreciate everything you’ve done,” said Anderson.

Those seeking more information

QVCC

continued from page A1

force immediately as well as build on their knowledge even after they have established their footing in manufacturing.

“For us it’s about our graduates starting new, lucrative careers with skills they can take anywhere in the country. Even though we’re doing all our training for our local community businesses that support us it’s just the beginning steps of what they can do further on in the college with different types of training. Somebody might take the advanced manufacturing courses to learn to be a machinist and go on to the mechatronics program to learn more about the automation side of things, so they become even more skilled,” said LaPointe. “It’s about career awareness. You don’t know

what you don’t know. So, when we bring students in to one of our workshops their eyes are open to what we’re all about and all these different kinds of opportunities.”

LaPointe explained that the school works directly with local manufacturing businesses such as The Morris Group, Amazon, Gentex Optics, Pepsi Co., and SPIROL Inc. to fill gaps in their staff while also providing continued education for those employees. Outside of local business however, certificates in either of the main programs can open doors for students to find fulfilling careers with larger entities nationwide.

“Between our advanced manufacturing and mechatronics program, our goal is to try to put around 75 students per year through those certificates. We advertise 95 percent employed and that usually goes to our

local businesses, but the other piece of that is the support from those businesses who are sending their incumbent workers for specific training along those mechatronics disciplines,” LaPointe said.

While some may see advanced manufacturing as a more male-dominated profession, one major workshop on the horizon will seek to eliminate that stereotype. The program’s Women in Manufacturing event on March 31 will highlight the career opportunities for women in advanced manufacturing industries as a spotlight event for the program. However, for those who can’t make any of the workshops and would like to explore what the Advanced Manufacturing Center and programs are all about, tours are available by contacting Sandy Gould or Jodi Clark at 860-932-4128.

SPECIAL

continued from page A1

life, but tonight, when we needed her to, she took the ball and went to the basket. She got big buckets for us and then hit two big free throws down the stretch.”

Killingly (12-8) trailed, 9-8, after the first quarter, but methodically took control of the game in the second quarter. After holding the Centaurs to just three points in the period, Killingly led, 18-12 at halftime. Killingly opened the third quarter with a 7-3 run in the first three minutes to take its only double-digit lead of the game, 25-15, with 4:57 remaining in the period.

Woodstock (12-8) played its way back into the game, scoring the final eight points of the third quarter to cut Killingly’s lead to three, 25-22. Sophomore Sophia Sarkis provided the lift the Centaurs needed, scoring seven of her game-high 14 points in her team’s 8-0 run.

“That’s her thing,” Woodstock coach Will Fleton said of the spark Sarkis provided. “We run some things specifically for her to try and get her going. If she can get going early, it makes life easy on all of us. She’s been shooting the ball pretty well lately, so we decided to go to her in the second half to get us going.”

Gutierrez pushed the Killingly lead to 27-22 just 18 seconds into the fourth quarter, driving through three Woodstock defenders for a layup. Woodstock tied the game, 27-27, with 6:16 to play, on a right-side 3-pointer by Sarkis and a driving layup by freshman Isabel D’Alleva Bochain (seven points).

“When (Woodstock) tied the game I thought, ‘OK, we need someone to step up,’” Gutierrez said. “I knew that a lot of us could take our man off the dribble because we all have a power drive. At that moment I said to myself, ‘I’ll guess it will be me.’ So, I took the ball to the hoop.”

Gutierrez put Killingly back in front, 29-27, with 5:40 remaining on a fast-break layup that was made possible because of some nifty passing by junior teammates Laura Farquhar and Molly Crabtree. The Centaurs tied the game, 29-29, with 5:05 to play on a layup by freshman Allison Camara.

Junior Sydney Crabtree, Molly’s twin sister, put Killingly ahead for good, 31-29, with 3:48 remaining on a power

drive past her defender for a layup.

Gutierrez then turned in the play of the game, driving the left baseline for a layup. Gutierrez was well-defended on the play, but managed to split two defenders in mid-air while switching the ball from her right hand to her left and — somehow — making the basket, giving Killingly a 33-29 lead with 3:18 to play.

“That is a patented Aila Gutierrez move,” Derosier said when asked about the play of the game. “She drives to the basket and then, all of a sudden, switches hands and flips the ball up to the basket and spins it at the same time — and it goes in.”

Gutierrez didn’t even know she had switched hands on the play.

“I just knew I had to somehow score on that possession,” she said.

Gutierrez extended Killingly’s lead to 35-29 with 56 seconds to play with a pair of pressure-packed free throws. After Woodstock’s Eva Monahan hit a pair of free throws to make it, 35-31, Molly Crabtree hit a pair of free throws to push the Killingly lead to 37-31 with 42 seconds remaining. Sarkis closed out the game with a drive at the buzzer to account for the 37-33 final.

“It was a Senior Night that I could have never imagined. It was crazy the way it all happened, especially that fourth quarter,” said the 5-foot-2 Gutierrez, who, when necessary, plays power forward. “I walked in and the gym was decorated for Senior Night and then we come out and get the win. There’s no better feeling than that.”

The Crabtree twins, who both scored six points in the victory, were all smiles when Gutierrez’s performance was mentioned.

“Aila is just the greatest leader; she felt like it was her time. She really put the team on her back tonight and led us to a victory. I’m so proud of her,” Molly Crabtree said. “Aila’s a great teammate, so uplifting, so hard working.”

Sydney Crabtree said Gutierrez’s fourth-quarter heroics had a positive effect on her teammates.

“When Aila was taking over and getting buckets for us it was really settling down the other girls, too. We put all our confidence in her. We were relaxed; we trusted her in that moment and she led us to the win,” Sydney Crabtree said. “A great as it was to get the win for Aila on Senior Night, beating Woodstock twice in one year is just the best feeling ever.”

Spring activities for families to enjoy together



Spring is one of the most popular seasons of the year. After several months of chilly temperatures in many regions, spring provides a welcome reprieve from the cold.

Moderate temperatures makes it much more comfortable and inviting to venture outdoors, particularly for families with children who might not adapt to the cold as well as adults. The following are some family-friendly activities that make the most of spring renewal.

Visit botanic gardens

If there’s a botanical garden nearby, a visit in spring is a great time to soak in the beauty of nature. That’s because an abundance of flowers bloom during the spring, meaning a garden will be in peak form. Visitors can meander through rows of rose bushes or tour the labyrinth of trimmed hedges. Beautiful, flowering cherry trees, with their delicate pink or white petals, also are sights to behold in spring.

Prepare a home garden

Visiting a garden is one thing, creating one at home is another. In addition to planning a vegetable garden to enjoy tasty pickings throughout summer, you can devote some property to flowers that will attract wildlife. Check with a garden center about which flowers and plants attract butterflies and other beneficial insects. Many garden centers sell butterfly and hummingbird mixes to attract wildlife.

Go animal watching

Flowers are not the only thing on display come the spring. Many animals, including birds, are born this time of year. Baby animals are not only adorable, they can be entertaining to watch grow. Families can spend time viewing the animals that visit their yards or surrounding parks, being careful to keep their distance. Adults may be quite protective of their young, so it’s better to watch from the lens of a camera or with binoculars. Always resist the urge to help a baby animal who seems like it was

abandoned. The parent may be a short distance away gathering food or trying to avoid drawing attention to the young to deter predators.

Get out on the water

A bright, warm day is an ideal time to enjoy the open water. Spring is a season when many marinas reopen and avid boaters put their vessels back into the water. You also can venture into streams or lakes aboard kayaks or canoes, getting exercise and seeing the scenery in the process. Bring a fishing pole along and cast it into the water for a few hours of recreation.

Make wind chimes

Enhance the garden or decor around the home by making wind chimes or other percussion items that can create beautiful music when spring breezes blow. Commercially available kits are sold, but wind chimes also can be made from items like bamboo or even strung shells.

These are just a few family-friendly activities to enjoy this spring.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

Approaching wellness through service

At a time when our country seems more divided than ever; and tempers are quick to flare over such hotbed issues as border wars, gun control, human rights violations and climate change, it's become increasingly common to hear our peers speak of strange times and an undefined feeling of malaise. Interpersonal violence has been on the rise, and an overall sense of disconnectedness has led many to feel isolated and fearful. The international playing field seems full of land mines, and each day brings unpredictable media headlines. As the national stage normalizes disrespect of others and that behavior seeps into everyday interactions, it becomes more necessary than ever for all of us to practice goodwill toward others. The opioid epidemic touches a growing number of families. Many people hide behind their social media personas; quick to fire volatile opinions they would otherwise be unable to say in face-to-face interactions. We hear that climate change isn't real, while also being told that a mass extinction is underway and life as we know it will end in 30 years. Every day, we send our children to school, secretly questioning if they will be safe. Some days, the problems of the world feel insurmountable. While there is no simple one-solution approach to the issues swirling around us, sometimes the best way to make sense of the world is simply by helping others. Rosalynn Carter summed it up best when she said, "Do what you can to show you care about other people, and you will make our world a better place."

Volunteering provides countless benefits to both the giver and the recipient. Uplifting others, even something as simple as making another person smile, can change the path of an entire day if not a life. We are well aware of the gift of service and how it benefits others who may be less fortunate. But we do not often consider the impact volunteering can have on our well-being. As we each consider our path to wellness, we would be wise to include community engagement alongside cardio and strength training. Research has shown that volunteering not only increases self-confidence and combats depression, it also helps us stay physically healthy and lowers mortality rates. Through community service, we form tangible bonds with others, and our social and relationship skills improve. And just maybe, each charitable act we perform will help offset that malaise that hangs in the air. As the civil rights leader Dorothy Height once said, "Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop."

Letter submission policy

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

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

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Upcoming vote to keep, repeal or waive Prop 46

To the Editor:

Are you aware that in the very near future, there may be another vote on whether to keep, repeal (or "temporarily" waive) Proposition 46 (which basically says the town can't spend more than it collects in taxes), and to fund more capital expenditures at the Woodstock Academy?

Everyone in town who pays property taxes, which were just raised last year by at least 5.8 percent, and in some cases far more, will be affected by this vote!

We all know that contractual obligations need to be met or renegotiated. We all care about the quality education, because it directly affects the town's precious children and our property values. And nobody wants to drive through big potholes.

But do you know:

- Were the hundreds and thousands of dollars left over in the previous three years spent wisely?
- Is \$2,375,579 of ARPA money being spent in the most economical manner on the high-

est priority, highest impact issues that affect the most residents?

- Do we have the right number and mix of town and school employees for our current population?
- Is the education budget, which usually comprises about 80% of the total, primarily focused on improving the quality of education?
- Is the town spending and doing enough on economic development and open space conservation to help control future increases in property taxes?
- Can we trust our elected officials to make wise choices that have been clearly communicated to voters in a timely enough manner to enable them to make an informed vote?

The answers matter. And the vote of every senior citizen, every parent, every small business owner, and every taxpayer matters.

E Z SMITH
WOODSTOCK

Woodstock should be free to craft a budget that meets today's needs

To the Editor:

It's time for Woodstock residents to pay attention! As a former educator who has lived and worked in the Woodstock community since the passing of Proposition 46, 43 years ago, I am extremely concerned about the educational staffing, services, and programming that will not be in place and will continue to decline in the Woodstock Elementary and Middle Schools for my five grandchildren. And what about the children and grandchildren that you know?

What's happened with our concern for the next generation, especially with regard to investing in the most important developmental years of their education? We know a robust and enriching K – 8 school system provides an early, initial opportunity to develop and maximize a young person's potential. We know it is a powerful catalyst for later life successes in secondary school, in postsecondary education, and in civilian and military job training. And we know that education, in an increasingly competitive world, is the means to the end of upward mobility.

It's time for Woodstock residents to fully pay attention and begin to understand the severely restrictive and erosive impact of this outdated Ordinance on the K – 8 education budget in the past ten years:

- 14 classroom teachers
- 13 regular education paraprofessionals
- WES & WMS librarians
- WES & WMS gifted programs
- WES computer program
- Curriculum Coordinators for Math, Technology, and Language Arts
- School sports (now pay to play at \$270 per sport)

For next year, the impact of Prop 46 on budgetary issues in Woodstock will continue its disastrous impact on the quality and extent of K – 8 educational services, as well as other very significant Town services.

Did you know that Prop 46 caps Woodstock's yearly budget spending by a formula, the only one of its kind in Connecticut? Originating as a reactive tax limitation ordinance in 1979,

Prop 46 was voted in (by a four vote margin) with the primary purpose of keeping property taxes low by capping town budget growth from year to year. Since that time, proponents of Prop 46 have always made it their chief priority to protect the pocketbook and keep taxes low. And it is understandable that no one wants higher taxes. However, upholding Prop 46 for the past 43 years for this singular purpose has left us excluding all other considerations with regard to town budget needs. It leaves our town leadership and citizens to haggle over budget cuts due to limited and capped revenue instead of working together toward a reasoned and defensible budget, voted on by the citizens, that keeps pace with changing needs and costs. Prop 46, the formula, was designed to correlate and cap town budget growth with growth in the town grand list. It has failed us. It was not designed to take into account changing educational & town service needs, nor was it designed to effectively keep pace with INFLATION. Where has Prop 46 brought the Town of Woodstock today in comparative educational spending in Connecticut? Currently, we are:

- 97 percent from the top in per pupil spending
- Given the comparative data indicators below from the State, Woodstock can afford to do better even while keeping our taxes below average. Currently, we are:
- 51 percent from the top in median household income
- 87 percent from the top in equalized mil rate

Reasoned and defensible budget needs should come before the citizens of Woodstock through a democratic voting process as it does with every other municipality in Connecticut. We should no longer allow ourselves to be constrained by formula, and the vote of the 598 citizens who enacted Proposition 46 in 1979. It is time to repeal 46 and let today's citizens determine Woodstock's budget to meet today's needs.

PETER GREEN
WOODSTOCK

History matters

To the Editor:

A Girl Scout Gold Award is the most prestigious award that a Girl Scout can earn. It is a project that must benefit the local community in some way, be continuous, and a scout must spend at least 80 hours working on the project.

For my project, I researched then developed a curriculum on the abolitionist history of my town, Brooklyn, Conn., to then teach to the eighth graders at Brooklyn Middle School, where I attended before Marianapolis.

When I started to think about this project and what I wanted to do for it, I knew that I wanted to do something surrounding education. I started thinking about what I could do for my own community, and I realized that I had never learned about the local history of Brooklyn. I began to research and speak with people who are knowledgeable on the local history, and eventually I decided to focus on abolition. I wanted to show that even though we are a small town and it sometimes feels like we are in the middle of nowhere, the history is still important. Both Brooklyn and Connecticut as a whole, have a vast history especially relating to abolition.

I learned that there were actually four Underground Railroad houses in Brooklyn. I learned more about Prudence Crandall, someone whose name I had heard before, but I didn't actually know much about. I learned how many people were involved in working towards the abolition of slavery. I learned about important houses in the town, figures

who devoted their entire lives towards their work, and women who stepped above societal norms to also fight for what they believed in. I learned that even though I live in a small town, there is actually a lot of interesting and important history. I had a great time working in the school. I have sat through many history classes, but this was the first time that I actually got to lead one and I loved it. I love being in school and learning new things. Being able to share that love with other students was amazing for me. The students got a lot out of it, and, through their written assignments, demonstrated that they learned a lot.

I emphasized the importance of knowing where you come from and learning about local history no matter how big or how small your town is. Through my time at Marianapolis and all of the opportunities I have been able to take part in, I have learned how it is always important to not just know about the place you live in, but to always remember it. No matter where you may be, it is always important to look back at where you came from. Even if it's a small town like Brooklyn, the place you grew up shaped you and the history shaped the town. It may not seem like it affects you, but it does.

History matters. History impacts us every single day. It is always important to always remember, recognize, and know about where you come from.

MOLLY LANDIS
BROOKLYN

Special town meeting planned in Woodstock

To the Editor:

I want to let the citizens of Woodstock know that there will be a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. at the Woodstock Middle School, 147B Route 169.

This meeting will cover information relating to Prop 46, Open Space Amendment, Sale of Town owned land, and Capital and Non-

Recurring Fund for the Woodstock Academy Capital Project Assessment. Attendance is strongly encouraged. For more information, visit www.woodstockct.gov.

JAY SWAN
FIRST SELECTMAN
WOODSTOCK

Free stuff



BEYOND THE PEWS

JOHN HANSON

It seemed like a great idea. Major retail giants were needing to do something with all the returned merchandise. Many of the products were in good shape, but not resalable. I was working for a non-profit that was trying to help needy families. Some innovative people had successfully formulated a plan to salvage the retail returns and distribute them – Free - to families that were connected with a national pre-school program.

I had been asked to help sort thousands of dollars' worth of clothes, small appliances, books, sports equipment and toys, and to cull out items that were damaged or dysfunctional. It felt good to be part of something that had the potential to help thousands of families who did not have the funds to buy such items for themselves. It looked like a win-win situation.

As the giveaway period approached there were teams who worked to advertise the free resources, and to set up distribution points. Many volunteer hours were invested in providing an opportunity for people who were difficult situations to get new merchandise simply by showing up. The day distribution centers opened, organizers were excited at the opportunity to infuse needy communities with much needed resources.

However, much to the surprise everyone, things did not go so well. Although many thankful people undoubtedly came and gleaned much needed clothes and supplies, there was a vocal group of attendees that were less thankful. They complained about quantities and quality. They demanded more and better. The fought with others over items they wanted. What was intended to be a blessing became a fiasco that left a bitter taste in the mouths of those who had given so much time to the endeavor.

It was eye-opening to see that kind of response. It revealed that some people are not always thankful for opportunities. I guess it should not have been a surprise, in that mankind has habitually complained about the opportunities God has provided... such as the opportunity to love one's neighbor or do good to those who spitefully use us. But it also illustrated how important it is for good people to continue being good even when the opportunities they afford others are not appreciated. Doing good because it is right must be the motivator, rather than doing good because people are thankful. That is how good overcomes.

Here's the advice St Paul gave to the first century, persecuted believers in Rome.

Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath. Laugh with your happy friends when they're happy; share tears when they're down. Get along with each other; don't be stuck-up. Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody. Don't hit back; discover beauty in everyone. If you've got it in you, get along with everybody. Don't insist on getting even; that's not for you to do. "I'll do the judging," says God. "I'll take care of it." Our Scriptures tell us that if you see your enemy hungry, go buy that person lunch, or if he's thirsty, get him a drink. Your generosity will surprise him with goodness. Don't let evil get the best of you; get the best of evil by doing good. (Romans 12:14-21 MSG)

Bishop John W Hanson oversees Acts II Ministries in Thompson. For more information or archived messages, please visit www.ActsII.org.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It’s time to rid ourselves of Prop 46

To the Editor:
After attending the last Tri-Board meeting, it was apparent that the Board of Education, The Board of Finance, and the Selectmen are all on the same page. It is time to get rid of Prop 46 in Woodstock.
The unanimous consensus among boards is Prop 46 is damaging the schools, the general government budget, and our towns infrastructure.
For many years, I have felt that Prop 46 was an insult to the voters of our

town. If we think the proposed budget is too much, we need to vote it down. That is how the rest of the towns in Connecticut operate. Why not us? We do not need an artificial cap on spending. It is past time to rid ourselves of Prop 46, and allow the town to present realistic budgets that actually meet the needs of our citizens and the town as a whole.
D. MITCHELL EAFFY
WOODSTOCK

We need to reconsider Prop 46

To the Editor:
In 1979, citizens of Woodstock voted for an ordinance that effectively restricts property tax increases. Unfortunately, especially during times of high inflation, this strains town services, degrades education, and can put public safety at risk.
I am hoping that the citizens of Woodstock will at least consider rewrit-

ing the ordinance to factor in inflation, or make allowance for citizen-approved exceptions to the ordinance when merited.
Sincerely,
KURT KAUFMAN AND EMILY FERGUSON
WOODSTOCK

I have found libraries to be welcoming

To the Editor:
In case you haven’t visited a library lately, libraries have changed immensely since, as a small town little girl in southwestern Connecticut, I received my treasured library card. I’ve visited numerous libraries in many states. Big and little libraries, private and public ones. Each library has its own character, and tells a lot about the community it is in.
Shushing librarians, just like fines, paper lending cards, and the physical book card catalogs, have retired. Libraries do welcome everyone, often despite their behaviors. The Killingly Public Library has improved tremendously under the current leadership and a dedicated, knowledgeable staff.

Just a quick library visit or look at the library’s Web site, www.killinglypl.org, confirms the unique role the library fills for all patrons. Oh, the library still lends books, too.
Libraries do try to have certain areas for specific age groups and tasks. These areas can be flexible, but mostly not. Children and Teen areas give those age groups safe spaces to read and learn.
As a loyal Killingly Public Library patron, I would say that if there is a question you have about the library or almost anything else, just take a moment to speak to the library staff. They will help you the best they can. Kindly, with a smile.
KATHY FEDOR
DAYVILLE

Take back your voice

To the Editor:
Any duration, let alone 43 years, is a long time to have one’s voice silenced.
In 1979, Proposition 46 passed by five votes, and has since silenced the appropriate debate and active community dialogue regarding decision making on Woodstock’s budget spending priorities.
In any other aspect of our lives, we fully expect, insist, and relish the opportunity to discuss what’s important to each of us and subsequently have an equal say in the outcome. Woodstock taxpayers, you have been censored

on this topic for too long. It’s time to reclaim your voice.
On Thursday, March 8 from noon-8 p.m., there will be a referendum at which you can express your wishes when it comes to the future of Prop 46. I’ll be voting to repeal Prop 46 and thereby enable our community to actively engage in appropriate discussions regarding the funding our town’s needs. Take back your power. Your vote is your voice!
STEVE SMOCK
WOODSTOCK

Educate yourself on Prop 46

To the Editor:

I’m writing to invite Woodstock residents to three informational sessions being held this weekend that are meant to educate voters on questions being asked on the March 9 town-wide referendum.

They are:

Saturday, Feb. 25 at 10 a.m. Senexet Grange, Route 169
Sunday, Feb. 26 at 2 p.m. Muddy Brook Fire Department, Woodstock Road
Monday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. Bungay Fire Brigade station, Route 171

The sessions are being hosted by the Concerned Citizens of Woodstock, a bipartisan group of residents who for months have been considering and evaluating various ways to save our town and schools from losing any more programs and services and propose solutions. None of our members are elected officials. The organizations who own the locations of the three information sessions are not affiliated with our group but have been kind enough to allow us to use these community spaces.

Concerned Citizens of Woodstock was formed last fall, when it became clear the town - including general government and education - is teetering on

the verge of making such deep cuts to its budgets that significant programs and services would be lost. It became apparent that we, as a town, need to consider better ways to increase and improve access to revenue and increase our spending to pay for these services. The most recent example we face is the uncertainty about how we will continue to fund our ambulance service with full-time paid EMTs. (It will be funded but at what cost to other town services?)

After two open forums hosted by town officials and now two questions related to the future of Proposition 46 on the March 9 ballot, we think it’s imperative that additional informational sessions be held.

These sessions will provide a space for residents who have questions about how our town government works, more about the local ordinance that caps spending and restricts access to revenue, and the challenges the town is facing in the next fiscal year. So we, a mix of former elected officials, engaged residents, and concerned citizens, have taken it upon ourselves to host these events.

We hope to see you there.
MEGAN BARD MORSE
WOODSTOCK

To the Editor:

It’s not really a matter of “this is why we can’t have nice things.” Because of Proposition 46, Woodstock can’t even have some routine good things, and soon won’t be able to have some absolutely crucial things.
Back in 1979, buffeted by runaway inflation, the gas crisis, and a mill rate of 46, the town passed an ordinance called “Proposition 46” that was intended as a stopgap measure to bring down town taxes. It was intended as a short-term, near-emergency measure, never imagined by townspeople to last more than a few years, until the crisis passed.
But, it has hung around until now, the bane of many who serve (as volunteers) on the town’s boards of selectmen, finance, and education. Woodstock remains the only town in Connecticut with such an ordinance.
Now, in 2023, the mill rate (the tax rate on town property, set by the town) is 21, and every year, the town goes through a strange Kabuki dance in which Woodstock Academy (which fortunately only charges tuition in line with other high schools in the state), the highway department, the transfer station, and the Town Hall all get first dibs on whatever pot of money Proposition 46 has stipulated can be in the budget, and the rest of town services get what is left over.
This has led to a number of obvious problems:
First, when there is need for cuts or belt-tightening, it invariably comes first from anything even approaching the non-essential, such as lifeguards for the town beach, reasonable library hours, or school sports. Then, the budgets for the elementary and middle schools get cut, usually resulting in teacher and para-professional “downsizing” and program discontinuation. Most importantly, since Proposition 46 has prevented town revenue generation from keeping pace with inflation, the Town is ill-equipped to continue to provide even a basic level of service, as has happened recently with the crisis facing the town’s ambulance service having to move to a paid model. (The Fire Department may be in for a similar rude awakening soon as over half of volunteers are over 65.)
A few important facts:
Woodstock’s mill rate is 21. (Windham is 35, Vernon is 33, Union is 28, Thompson is 25, Pomfret is 26, Killingly is 25, Plainfield is 28, Chaplin is 34, Brooklyn is 27, and Ashford is 32.) Woodstock ranks 87th out of 169 Connecticut towns in taxpayer wealth (an increase from previous), meaning that state educational grants are being cut, thus increasing the amount that is the town’s responsibility.
And yet, Woodstock is in the bottom 5 out of 219 school districts in Connecticut for per pupil expenditure. (For comparison: Woodstock spends

\$13,013 per pupil for a middle school, Killingly \$16,611, Pomfret Community \$18,233, Putnam \$15,129, Brooklyn \$15,751, Thompson \$17,634.) Woodstock ranks 120 out of 198 school districts in combined reading and math proficiency. Student:teacher ratio in Woodstock is 14:1, statewide the average is 13:1.
Now, on top of these chronic, festering issues, there comes the urgent matter of the Town’s ambulance service. In 1979, both the ambulance service and fire departments were self-funded. Over the years, the town has had to increase its’ funding of both but they remained largely volunteer. Now, in 2024, the town is going to have to pay to staff its’ ambulance service adding \$262,594 to the currently budgeted \$215,260.
Of course, the town has a number of costs which are fairly predictable but not fixed, i.e. the highway department with workers requiring standard union salaries and benefits along with significantly escalating vehicle maintenance costs, fuel, and the usual road materials. Another example is technology cost (town web site, computers, etc.), which didn’t exist in 1979, which now exceeds \$100,000/year.
Most people intimately familiar with the details of Woodstock’s current situation feel that unless the town either does away with Prop 46 or puts it on hold, it is looking at significant layoffs of teachers, highway employees, the closing of all libraries, the cutting back of transfer station and Town Hall hours, among numerous other cuts. Simply seeing where we stack up financially with other towns in Connecticut is key to understanding that our elected boards have done a heroic job in keeping things running but we’ve pretty much come to the end of the road.
What is particularly irksome about Prop 46 is that it has politically neutered citizens of the town: instead of being able to advocate and lobby for the things that they feel are important to do and for the appropriate budget with which to do them (or to argue against doing other things that they don’t want or think are unimportant), townspeople have been turned into spectators with no real say in how their money is spent. The presence of Prop 46 ensures that the truly important (and hard) decisions are made to fit a government mandate that townspeople passed some 44 years ago in the midst of a crisis. By the time the budget gets to the townspeople to vote on, it has already been sliced and diced nearly to death by the various boards in their effort to meet... the government mandate.
It’s time to give the residents of Woodstock the power to control what happens in their town, and a real say in what it’s going to look like in the future. It’s time to deep six 46.

JOHN A. DAY, JR.
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

Nix 46: Take back control of your town budget

To the Editor:

I’m not normally one to get involved in politics or write letters to the Editor. But I feel compelled to speak out in favor of repealing Prop 46, which limits Woodstock’s control over its budget and has created an increasingly grim financial situation.

My husband and I have lived in Woodstock for about five years, long enough to start a family. Our two kids will be entering the school system in the coming years, and we’re concerned.

Because of Prop 46’s limit on spending, Woodstock’s elementary and middle schools have no librarians. The schools have also lost 14 classroom teachers over the past decade. Sports are now all pay to play, reportedly at a cost of \$270 per sport, per child. If each of our sons play fall, winter, and spring sports, we’d be looking at more than \$1,600 in annual fees. It’s not hard to imagine how such costs would limit opportunities for Woodstock’s kids.

Because of Prop 46, Woodstock is ranked nearly last in the state in per-pu-

pil spending (164th out of 169 towns), according to the schools superintendent. That’s alarming.

Beyond education, Prop 46 could force Woodstock to make deeper cuts at the Town Hall, in public works, and in basic functions such as transfer station hours. It’s all enough to finally get me involved.

Woodstock has the lowest mill rate in northeast Connecticut. Repealing Prop 46 will not change that. Any town budget would still need to be approved by residents. The repeal simply allows us to have a more robust conversation about where we want our tax dollars to go.

I’ll be at the special town meeting on Feb. 28 (7 p.m. at Woodstock Middle School). And unless someone can convince me otherwise, I’ll be voting YES on all three questions at the referendum on March 9 (noon-8 pm. at Town Hall).

JENNA CHO
WOODSTOCK VALLEY

Capital gains and your taxes: A brief (but important) guide

Many people are surprised to learn that capital gains taxes don’t just apply to classic investments like stocks, but also to any other property that acquires value over time. If you profited from the sale of real estate, a car, boat, jewelry, or other such valuable items in 2022, you could be subject to capital gains taxes when you file your 2022 income taxes. Here’s what you need to know in order to reduce your tax burden to the extent possible and to be prepared

for the amount of capital gains tax you’ll ultimately have to pay. How Capital Gains Taxes Are Calculated
Capital gains taxes are calculated by subtracting the cost of the investment from the final selling price of said investment. This final amount is reported as capital gains. The amount of time you’ve held the investment is the first factor that will determine how it is taxed. Short-term investments (those held for less than



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a year) are taxed as ordinary income. Long-term investments (those held for more than a year) are taxed at a slightly lower rate. The long-term capital gains tax rate depends on your income and your fil-

ing status (single, head of household, married filing separately, or married filing jointly), but it’s usually either zero, 15, or 20 percent. There are some types of investments that are taxed at higher rates, however. You should talk with your accountant or check the IRS website to understand which rate will apply to your situation. What Isn’t Affected by Capital Gains?
Certain types of property and accounts are

not affected by capital gains taxes. If you sell your primary residence, for example, the capital gains may be excluded, up to certain thresholds. Business property, including products and anything you create as an individual, such as a book you wrote or an invention you patent, are not subject to capital gains taxes. Specific retirement and education accounts, are also not subject to capital gains taxes. Ways to Reduce Capital Gains Taxes

Investments may not always pay off. Sometimes a market change results in your property reducing in value. This reduction is also calculated on your taxes and is calculated into your capital gains taxes. This can lower your taxable income range. For example, if you receive \$90,000 from selling one investment, you would be taxed in the 15 percent range. But if you also lost \$15,000 on

“In the Studio” features artists from the Quiet Corner—home to many artists and makers, some of whom have national or international recognition for their work in fine art, hand-craft, performing art, art education, and graphic art. In this semi-weekly series, we’ll talk with our artist neighbors and learn about their careers, current projects, and connections to our towns. We’ll also learn some “artspeak” terms in our conversations, demystifying some of those “artist words.”

This week we’re meeting with framer Amy Raszka. A native of Woodstock, Amy is the owner-operator of “Arts & Framing” in downtown Putnam. You’ve heard me mention this local business before as a gallery for many local artists, as well as a true custom framing shop. Arts & Framing is located at 136 Main St., and remains one of the oldest remaining downtown Putnam businesses. Arts & Framing has always been a woman-owned business, (Amy is the fourth owner), occupying its third location on Main Street over the last 25-plus years.

Hi, Amy, you’ve owned Arts & Framing for about four years now. In addition to many paintings, prints, and photos, what kind of things have you framed?

Good question. I’ve framed needlepoint pieces, antique hand fans, sheets of currency, military certificates and ribbons, ceramic tiles and antique plates, diplomas/certificates, vintage maps, small wooden elephant sculptures (!), mirrors, magazine pages, letters from presidents,

In the Studio

CYNTHIA SAARI

newspapers, and last, but not least, an antique American Flag from the Peary Expedition to the North Pole with accompanying photographs.

When someone brings in a piece for framing, what are the steps or decisions to be made in planning a finished piece?

The first step is choosing matting (or colored border), next comes the frame, and then glass. I have 3 glass choices: “conservation clear,” non-glare, and museum glass. All have UV protection. Another option is high quality plexiglass which I order by request or if an item is oversized. In my shop “oversized” means 32 by 40 inches, whereas most framers consider oversized to be 24 by 36 inches.

I always strive to elevate the piece with the right mats, frame, and glass. But I also take into account what the customer wants and can afford. I understand and try to offer as many options as possible.

Arts & Framing has two walls of frame choices; most are made of wood with some metal. Styles include contemporary, antique, rustic, gilded, painted, stained, and carved pieces. Traditional to transitional, classic, ornate—it can take a bit of time to select the right frame.

I also offer “floating frames” which surround a canvas without touching it. Mat color choices are even more numerous than frame possibilities!

Can you give us a few examples of some pieces or types of pieces you find particularly satisfying to complete?

It is rewarding when a client brings in an older piece and wants to give it new life or bring it up to date. Things like older posters may have looked current a few decades ago but the owner now finds them dated-looking. It is a fun collaboration to help the client feel excited again about a piece they’ve owned for a while.

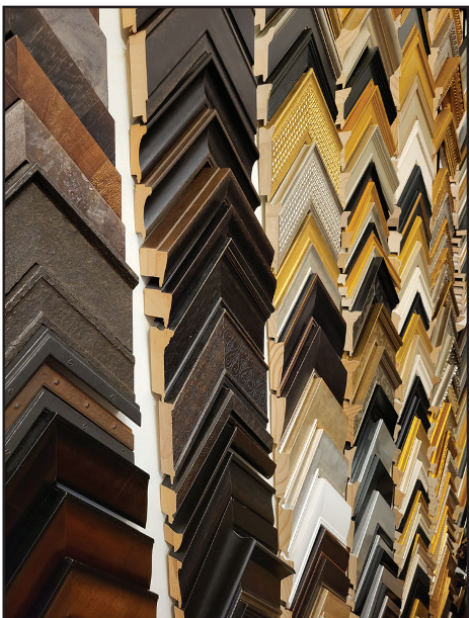
You’ve brought some new technology into the business—tell us about that.

I brought in a computerized mat cutter a little over a year ago. It cuts standard openings, double and triple mats, and multi-opening as well as odd and different fancy-shaped openings such as hearts, ovals, unusual corners. It’s been amazing to learn how to use the tool and makes things really efficient compared with hand-cutting each mat.

Are there typical types of damage you see coming in now and then, and what kind of repairs can be made in the shop?

I do a lot of glass replacement. If a frame or a canvas needs extensive restoration (large areas of missing or broken bas relief on a frame, for example), I refer people to a person in Rhode Island whom I recommend. If any work on paper needs repair (serious tears, mold), I recommend a paper conservator in Massachusetts.

How is business? What kind of impact did the



pandemic have on Arts & Framing?

Business has been wonderfully busy since opening back up after the pandemic. People were (and still are) at home more and I think there was a surge to beautify their walls at home and enjoy images which were never framed, damaged, or looking tired.

You offer some mini-workshops, your own hand-made jewelry, and artful gift items as well as framing services at Arts & Framing, correct?

Yes. I’m a believer in maintaining a retail space on Main Street in Putnam. I also believe that art isn’t just two-dimensional work. I want the store to house all types of art...and having workshops is really nice because it’s gratifying to see other people make things.

Thank you so much for this interview. Last question—what are your hours and ways to contact you?

The shop is open Thursday-Sunday from



(floating frame above left, triple mat right)



11 a.m.-5 p.m. and by appointment on Monday-Wednesday. Telephone 860-963-0105. You’re welcome; see you soon!

Word of the day

Spacers A spacer is used to separate artwork on paper or photographs from glass or acrylic when a mat isn’t being used. Spacers are also used on artwork that is dimensional or doesn’t lie flat Spacers can be made of wood, plastic, or mat board. (Metroframe.com)

Bas-relief A type of carving or sculpting resulting in a relief (raised) design that is protrudes only slightly from the flat surface of the medium. Bas-relief

About the writer: Cynthia Saari (Woodstock) is a nationally recognized flame-work glass artist. She has exhibited her work & taught for over 20 years; her glass beads have been included in numerous publications & invitations. Significant projects include costume work for the Santa Fe Opera, and flamework demonstrator at the Peabody Essex Museum. Cynthia offers talks & workshops in the Quiet Corner; she is an adjunct professor of art at a local college.

Beautify your home with a bit of greenery

Whether you want to create a tropical oasis indoors or dress up your décor, plants are the answer. A few plants set on the floor, hanging from the ceiling, or displayed on a table can beautify any room, boost your mood, and reduce stress.

Select plants suited to the growing conditions and your gardening style. This reduces ongoing maintenance and increases your growing success. If you tend to overwater, look for plants that thrive in moist soil conditions. Grow more drought-tolerant plants if you are a gardener that tends to underwater. Check plant tags for tips on light and water needs.

Use large floor plants to create a focal point, provide height and balance in the room and brighten bare walls. Fiddle leaf and weeping figs, rubber plants, dragon trees (*Dracaena marginata*), and palms are a few popular plants available as indoor trees. Set them on a plant caddy to protect your floors. This also makes it easier to move them for cleaning and maintenance.

Large plants and indoor trees are often pictured far from a window or placed in a dark corner of the room. Make sure the plants receive sufficient light or supplement natural light with attractive energy-efficient plant lights like the Alden Grow Lamp with a full spectrum LED bulb to help keep them healthy and looking their best.



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

Hang trailing plants like pothos, philodendrons, ivy, and others from the ceiling, in front of windows, or set them on shelves. The cascading foliage provides a bit of screening and softens hard surfaces for a cozier look and feel. Elevating plants also helps keep them away from curious pets and children.

Dress up any room, small or large, with wall-mounted planters like the Kira Grow Light Hanging Planter with a built-in light or the Triple Wall Planter or Wall Shelf with Planter. Plant-filled wall planters serve as living art, providing added color, texture, and form to any blank space.

Use plant stands like the Crisscross Cascading Plant Stand to expand your indoor garden to various levels throughout the house. Furniture grade and multifunctional stands like the Mobile LED Grow Light Cart (gardeners.com) allow you to maximize the function and growing space in your home.

Brighten any room with colorful and flowering plants. Crotons, prayer plants, dracaenas, and philodendrons are just a few indoor plants with colorful leaves. Grow peace lilies, anthuriums, bromeliads, and moth orchids for a bit of floral beauty.

Boost the renewal powers of a good night’s sleep by including a few plants in your bedroom. The added greenery can create a sense of calm. The oxygen

and boost in humidity the plants provide are also beneficial.

Elevate your bathroom to spa level with some greenery. The humidity in the bathroom is great for ferns, air plants, prayer plants, and a variety of other tropical plants. You’ll enjoy this splash of greenery when stepping out of the shower or tub.

Add a few plants to your home office. Looking at and tending plants can help increase focus and creativity.

Containers are an important part of your indoor garden. They should contain drainage holes to reduce the risk of soggy soil and root rot. Self-watering pots help take the guesswork out of watering, reduce maintenance, and for many will increase gardening success. No need to have matching pots but consider using those made from similar materials and design elements. This helps provide unity throughout your indoor garden and home’s décor.

Start your plant makeovers one room at a time. Just like any home decorating project, dividing it into smaller tasks is easier on the budget and makes the process less overwhelming.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening* and *Midwest Gardener’s Handbook, 2nd Edition*. She hosts *The Great Courses “How to Grow Anything”* instant video and DVD series and *Melinda’s Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was



Courtesy — Gardener’s Supply Co.

Multi-layered plant stands, like this criss-cross design, allow you to showcase many plants in a small space.

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

Latest antiques, collectibles, and auction news



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

WAYNE TUISKULA

There’s been plenty of antique and collectibles news since my last update, starting with some local news. The Brimfield Antique Show is held on fields that run for about a mile along Route 20. Those fields are owned by 16 individuals and one of the largest fields, the New England Motel, just changed hands. MassLive reports that Adam J. Skowyra of Brimfield, his brother Joshua M. and father Leslie M. Skowyra purchased the property from John K. Doldoorian and Robert Doldoorian. The Doldoorians will stay on for a year to help the new owners learn the business. The New England Motel can accommodate 400 dealers and the large food court at the show is also part of the New England Motel property.

In news from the other side of the

country, a rare Harley Davidson broke an auction record in Las Vegas last month. The 1908 Strap Tank Harley-Davidson gained its name because the “nickel-plated steel bands suspended the fuel and oil tanks from the bike’s frame,” according to Fox Business News. The piece that set the record was restored from its original parts, including the wheels and tank. The motorcycle was discovered in a Wisconsin barn in 1941, but the man who found it kept it for 66 years. Of the 450 manufactured, only 12 are known to still be in existence. It revved up to a sale price of \$935,000.

Across the Atlantic, rare James Bond posters will be auctioned in London next month. The United Kingdom’s Chard and Ilminster news reports that a full set of posters from all six of Sean Connery’s James Bond movies are heading to the block. A 1963 poster from the second James Bond movie, “From Russia with Love,” has a pre-auction estimate of £8,000 (\$9,635) to £16,000 (\$19,270). A poster for Connery’s first performance in “Dr. No” is expected to sell for even more. It has a low estimate

of £10,000 (\$12,044) and a high estimate of £20,000 (\$24,088).

Back in the U.S.A., the iconic chocolate box used during filming for “Forrest Gump” made international news when it sold at auction recently. One of the movie’s most famous lines takes place when Forrest Gump (Tom Hanks) sits next to a stranger and offers her a chocolate. He says “my mama always said, ‘Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you’re gonna get.’” The American Film Industry ranks the line as the 40th greatest movie quote. Ripley’s Believe it or Not was the winning bidder and the box sold for \$25,000. But chocolate lovers may be disappointed to learn that the box was full of sand, not chocolates. The weight of the sand made it easier to keep the box on the actor’s lap during filming. You really never know what you’re going to get.

We currently have three auctions in the work. We’ll be running another online session of model trains, diecast cars and other toys from a West Boylston estate within a month. The Beacon Street Boston home we catalogued last year recently sold and our



online auction of the personal property will also begin in March. Lastly, we have been gathering a wide range of items including jewelry, sterling silver, art, antique toys, baseball cards and comic books for our spring multi-estate auction. We expect that will take place in late spring. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

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

Rediscovering Florida

Every February, my husband longs to go to Florida. His parents spent years there and it has an allure for him that I don't share. When the thermometer bottomed out a few weeks ago, we jumped on a plane. In a matter of a few hours, we were barreling down the interstate in a rental car with the windows open headed to Long Boat Key. It was a sweet taste of freedom that made us happy.

Florida is a complicated place. It is the golden place for sunshine and orange groves, for golden agers and golden sands. It is the closest, warmest, and most easily accessible wintertime destination. Everyone has friends or family there and perhaps wild memories of Spring Break. Nonetheless, the relationship is complicated because something about Florida always seems a bit off.

All the jokes about Florida being God's Waiting Room seem true on the surface. I looked it up, and in the Sunshine State, the average age is 42.7, with 21.3 per cent

over 65. Florida is second only to Maine, which leads the country in the per centage of people over 65 (21.8). Our little state ranks number 14.

I spotted older people everywhere, but a number were riding bikes, despite terrifying traffic, walking purposely along the beach or dining happily. They were not especially infirm, and they were not eating dinner at 5:30, although I noticed one restaurant had slightly lower prices if one dined earlier. That's a fine way to spread out the number of evening reservations and get the night blind drivers off the road.

We visited the West Coast and enjoyed the Ringling Museum of Art, the Selby Botanical Gardens, the Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium and the Quick Nature Preserve. We strolled on Lido Key, Siesta Key and through lovely Anna Maria Island. There was jazz at night, which we missed, and opera,



NANCY WEISS

plays and a musical in Sarasota, which we failed to book. Perhaps a well-planned week in Boston would turn up a similar roster of activities, but not in February.

In my memory, restaurant food in Florida was unimaginative, greasy or bland. Not anymore. My husband, who is an enthusiastic and sophisticated eater, praised every meal we ate. I like anything with a Spanish or South American accent and found plenty. While places posted notices that they were short staffed, the service was friendly, competent and quite often provided by young people from Eastern European countries, who didn't resent being asked where they were from or being complimented on speaking English. The cuisine was refreshing.

Everything was going swimmingly, until I developed a dry cough. My husband was coughing too. Our friend, who had found the condo we rented, had

a similar complaint. Ugh. A few people wore masks on the beach. What? At an unstaffed lifeguard chair, I read a chalk board about the tides, temperatures and a note about red tide.

Red tide is caused by the rapid growth of a microscopic algae called *Karenia brevis*, according to NOAA, the government group in charge of reporting on it. It happens many places in the summer, but I didn't think about it in February. It causes respiratory issues and eye irritation. I got both; neither was serious. I should have checked the NOAA Web site.

There were snowdrops in my garden today. The sun rises earlier and sets later. We may have a blizzard in March, but the winter of 2023 is essentially over: A February visit to Florida took the edge off. Now that our coughs are gone, I think we may visit again, someday.

Diving into the Windham County Transcript

Inclement Weather: If the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center is closed due to inclement weather, an announcement will be made on WINY. If you are not sure, call the Center at 860-779-7250 after 10:15 a.m. on a Wednesday or Saturday. If you get the answering machine, the Center is probably closed.

I'm sure many of you who love local history have heard of Godfrey Malbone, the 18th century wealthy Episcopalian, who lived in what is now Brooklyn, Connecticut who was responsible for the construction of Trinity Episcopal Church on Church Street, Brooklyn. The son of the wealthy Godfrey Malbone, Sr. of Newport, R.I., our Godfrey was the largest slaveholder in Northeastern Connecticut around the time of the Revolution. Doing research in connection with a Witness Stones project in Woodstock, Donna Dufresne came across a Pomfret Land Record from Godfrey, Sr. to sons John and Godfrey, Jr. In addition to land, it enumerated livestock and much to her delight his slaves--by name. She has graciously permitted me to share that information in this column: "Prince, Henry, Pero, Dick, Tom, Peter, Peter Virginia-Domino, Caddy, Adam, Christopher (all Negro men); Dinah, Venus, Rose, Meriam, Jenny, and Rose Parks (all Negro women); Three (their?) children: Primus, Christopher, Silas Sharper, and Little Pero. (Pomfret Land Records, Vol. 5, p. 41-46). We wonder what happened to these individuals? Over 12 pages of Malbones appear in Marcella Pasay's "Full Circle A Directory of Native and African Americans in Windham County, CT and Vicinity, 1650-1900" so many must have remained in the area. Perhaps you have come across some. Please feel free to contact me if you have insights.

Periodically, I like to look back through old Windham County Transcript extracts, which Marilyn Labbe has done over the years. They provide glimpses of the weather, the

businesses, and the "important" issues of the day. An article in the Feb. 3, 1927 Transcript summarized the building activity in the Borough during the previous year: "During the calendar year of 1926, 44 building permits were issued by the warden and Court of Burgesses of the Borough of Danielson. Nearly half of these were for garages (cars were gaining in popularity and affordability), which numbered 20, while dwellings followed with 11. The most important construction work undertaken in the Borough was the \$150,000 addition at Killingly High School (now the Community Center on Broad Street). A one-story brick mill building was erected by the Paco Manufacturing Company (Powdrell & Alexander), the Dayville Grain and Coal Company added to its storage building in Railroad Square and Ovila Heroux constructed a laundry building on Prospect Avenue."

How many of you recall when Railroad Square, now a parking lot, was a bustling business area around the railroad depot and tracks? Please feel free to email me with your memories of the stores that were in that area and what it was like.

The newspaper extracts also provide a window into events and everyday happenings and ways of life that are now just a memory--take for example harvesting ice and utilizing it. An entry from the Valley section of Killingly (think Valley Road) read, "Chase & Sons finished filling their ice houses here Wednesday with a most excellent quality of ice and have now moved to work at Alexander's Lake, where more ice will be harvested." In Dayville "Charles Franklin has filled two ice houses with 15 inch ice." (WCT Feb. 13, 1930). Obviously the winter of 1930 was nowhere near as warm



KILLINGLY AT 300 MARGARET WEAVER

as this one. However, a quick thaw must have ensued in early March for the issue of the 6th stated, "The ice is gone from the reservoirs" (in East Killingly). My late mother said that her brother would harvest ice on the creek below where we lived in Pennsylvania. She used to like to follow a relative, who drove an ice wagon, and get some of the chips off the blocks of ice to suck on. I can't image using a tiny icebox to keep meats and milk from spoiling, but that's what most people did 100 years ago. Of course, frequent trips to the butcher were also the norm.

"Due to a peculiar combination of weather conditions, the gas main between Putnam and Danielson froze Friday at a point where it passes under a bridge near Quinebaug Pines. The result was that Danielson housewives were in many cases without fuel for cooking during the morning, but the situation was remedied and the pressure returned before the noon hour." (WCT Feb. 27, 1930). Do any of you know where Quinebaug Pines was? Killingly? Putnam? I had never heard of it and neither had Bernie Mitchell or Lynn LaBerge when I asked them. If you know, please email me or call the Killingly Historical Center.

"The lot known as the P. & A. baseball field has been purchased by St. James' parish, it was announced, part of the property to be eventually used as a site for a new parochial school. Plans for the school, to take the place of the present inadequate frame structure on Franklin Street, have been under consideration for several years and a considerable fund has been raised toward construction. The P. & A. field extends northerly from the rear of St. James' parish property on Franklin Street to Cottage Street, being bounded on the east by the New Haven railroad tracks and on the west by White Row. It was

purchased by Powdrell & Alexander, Inc. about ten years ago, together with the Sherman or Danielson Cotton Company mill on Main street (corner of Maple). A brick storehouse connected with the mill is located at the north-east corner of the tract, which also has railway siding facilities. Included in the transfer to the church was a four-tenement house standing at the southerly end of the White Row. The property will include ample room for playgrounds for the parochial school, as well as for any building program which may be undertaken by the parish"(WCT Feb. 9, 1933).

Fish Fridays: Support one of Killingly's Historic Properties, Killingly Grange #112, the former Killingly Center School. The Danielson Lions Club and the Killingly Grange will hold fish fries Friday Feb. 24, March 10, and March 24 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Fried or Baked Fish with choice of Baked Potato or French Fries. \$15. Beverage & Dessert also for sale. Dine-in or Take Out. Limited number of meals. Call 860-230-7367 or visit www.facebook.com/KillinglyGrange/. At the door pay by cash, credit card or check. They are also collecting non-perishable food for local food pantries.

Margaret M. Weaver Killingly Municipal Historian, February 2023. Thanks to Donna Dufresne for Malbone's slaves and to Marilyn Labbe for Windham County Transcript extracts. For additional information email me at margaretmweaver@gmail.com or visit the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Center Wed. or Sat. 10-4 or www.killinglyhistorical.org or call 860-779-7250. Like us at Facebook at www.facebook.com/killinglyhistoricalsociety. Mail for the Killingly Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc. or the Killingly Historical and Genealogical Center should be sent to PO Box 265, Danielson, CT 06329.

Jesse Owens — a true American hero

Jesse Owens was born in 1913 in Alabama, to a family of sharecroppers, amid the Jim Crow era of segregation and discrimination.

At the age of seven, he went to work in the fields, expected to pick a hundred pounds of cotton a day; he battled health conditions, including bronchitis and pneumonia.

His family moved to Ohio when he was nine for a better life.

In his youth, he quickly discovered that he had a natural talent for running. He was known for his exceptional speed, strength, and agility, and he soon became one of the best runners in his school and community.

He attended Ohio State, and quickly became one of the country's most dominant track and field athletes, setting multiple world records and winning numerous national

championships.

He was captain of the Buckeye Track & Field team, yet he wasn't allowed to eat with his teammates or live on campus because of his skin color.

He could easily have let his circumstances turn him into an angry and hateful young man, but he had no time for that; he was focused on his dreams.

In 1935, he competed at the Big 10 Championship and displayed such impressive athleticism it's known as one of the most incredible performances in college sports history.

Realizing he could achieve Olympic gold, he set his sights on the 1936 games.

The 1936 Berlin Summer Olympics were held in the shadow of Nazi power, and the Hitler regime saw the games as

an opportunity to showcase the supposed superiority of the Aryan race.

The oppressive nature of Nazi ideology sparked many Americans' calls for a boycott of the games. Owens likely realized that competing in Nazi Germany was not all that different from competing in the United States, where Jim Crow laws shared many values with the hateful ideology of Adolf Hitler.

Owens' stunning performance caught the Nazi propaganda machine off guard. They weren't prepared for the success of an African American athlete like Owens, who dominated his events.

Hitler was visibly upset; he walked out on medal ceremonies that had black athletes and refused to shake their hands. He was reportedly angry that Owens was allowed to compete.

Owens' success remains one of the most astonishing moments in Olympic history, shattering Hitler's ideology in front of the world.

After winning four gold medals, Owens became an overnight sensation. He was celebrated for his athletic prowess and was offered numerous lucrative job opportunities.

Immediately after the Olympics, Owens was required to go on a European tour organized by the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) to showcase his talents, expected to pay his way even though he struggled financially.

Faced with a difficult choice, Owens' coach advised him to return home and take advantage of the new opportunities that awaited him. This decision had unintended consequences.

The AAU banned him from competing in any

sanctioned event for the rest of his life. It must have been heartbreaking.

As if that wasn't enough, he and the other black Olympians were not invited to the White House to meet the President along with the white Olympians. To add insult to injury, it turned out that none of the lucrative job offers were genuine.

He later said, " ...It became increasingly apparent that everyone was going to slap me on the back and shake my hand ... But no one was going to offer me a job."

Instead, he tried to make money as an athlete but couldn't compete against humans. In one demeaning exhibition, Owens raced a horse and won, a far cry from the recognition he deserved after his Olympic victories.

Through the hurdles

and obstacles he faced, Owens persevered. Crossing the finish line and turning a corner toward a brighter future.

Owens found meaning in helping underprivileged children and eventually became a sought-after speaker, invited to events nationwide.

Despite the injustices he had faced, he never displayed anger or bitterness in his speeches. Instead, he radiated kindness and positivity, inspiring others to chase their dreams fearlessly.

The world tried to strip Jesse Owen of everything, but he remained triumphant, for they couldn't take away his heart and soul.

Jesse was a real American hero.

FINANCIAL

continued from page A9

another investment, this would drop your total income from investments to \$75,000, which could place you beneath the 15 percent tax range. These reductions and gains can only be combined if they are the same type of investment, long-term or short-term, and are sold in the same year.¹

Another way to reduce

capital gains taxes in the current year is to use the income to invest in a similar property type.² This is called a like-kind exchange. Just make sure to consult the IRS website or your tax professional before moving forward on any like-kind exchange, as the requirements and investment types have changed over the years.

A Final Word

Make sure you prepare to protect your invest-

ments from higher tax rates. And when selling an investment, or even a piece of property, make sure to consult a financial advisor or IRS representative to help determine how much you could be taxed.

Better yet, work those types of decisions into a forward-thinking financial strategy, rather than waiting until tax time. Our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well strategic process at Weiss, Hale

& Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors can help you to maximize your income and savings while minimizing need-less tax burden. You can request a complimentary consultation on our website, whzwealth.com, by phone at (860) 928-2341, or by email at info@whzwealth.com.

Presented by Vice President, Associate Financial Advisor, Michael Baum, CFP®

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not provide tax or legal advice, and nothing in the accompanying pages should be construed as specific tax or legal advice. 697 Pomfret St., Pomfret Center, CT 06259, 860.928.2341. <http://www.whzwealth.com>

<https://www.irs.gov/taxtopics/tc409>

<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-news/fs-08-18.pdf>

OBITUARIES

Daniel J. Thompson, Jr., PhD

Daniel J. Thompson, Jr., PhD passed away on February 5, 2023 at his home. He was born on September 16, 1947, in Westfield, MA and was the son of the late D. Joseph and Mary T. (Simmons) Thompson of Holyoke, MA. He was the loving husband of Christina M. Dymek-Thompson, PhD whom he married on June 26, 1971 at Loyola Chapel, College of the Holy Cross. He was also the loving father of Daniel J. Thompson, III of Arlington, VA. Daniel was raised in Holyoke and graduated from Holyoke High School in 1965. He received his A.B. from the College of the Holy Cross (1969), followed by his M.Ed. from Springfield College (1971), and his PhD from the University of Connecticut in 1983. He began his educational career as a teacher, school counselor, assistant principal, and principal in the Holyoke Public Schools. An appointment as Assistant Superintendent in the Killingly (CT) Schools necessitated a move to NE CT. He culminated his

educational career as Superintendent of Schools in East Haddam, CT. Upon retirement, he taught at Eastern Connecticut State University in the Education Department. Dan was an avid golfer and a former member of the Willimantic Country Club. Besides his wife and son, survivors also include his sister-in-law and brother-in-law Cindy Dymek and Barry Peoples of Milford (MA), as well as his niece and nephew in Arizona, and a nephew in Maine. Many surviving cousins reside in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Georgia, and Florida. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his brother John William (2022), and his in-laws M. C. (1990) and Helen D. (Pazdro) (2019) Dymek. Private services were held in Brooklyn, CT with burial in Holyoke, MA. Donations in Dan's memory may be made to the American Heart Association <https://www.heart.org/en/get-involved/ways-to-give>. tilling-hastfh.com

Lorraine A. Kilborn, 96



N. Grosvenordale - Lorraine A. (Mason) Kilborn, 96, of Riverside Dr., died Saturday morning, February 11, 2023, peacefully at home. Beloved wife of the late George W. Kilborn, Jr. Born in Webster, MA, she was the daughter of the late Atwood and Rose (Breault) Mason.

Mrs. Kilborn worked for the Bates Shoe Company and retired as a bookkeeper for Dr. Dupont in Webster.

Lorraine enjoyed oil painting, tending to her beautiful flower gardens, listening to Country music, building jig saw puzzles, playing Yahtzee, Scrabble, and solitaire on her computer, and was a member of the Thompson Senior Citizens.

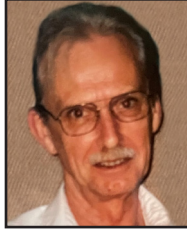
She is survived by her children, Ronald Kilborn and his wife Lil of Norfolk, VA, Susan LaBonte and her husband James of Woodstock, Linda Seele and her husband Robert of

Moosup, Laurie Swenson of Putnam, and Lisa Durand and her husband David of N. Grosvenordale; her brother, Robert Mason of ME, and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. She was predeceased by her son, Kevin Kilborn and her siblings, James Mason, Harold Mason, Mary Rose Lyons, Marjorie Bernier, Doris Kroll, Jeannette Lozinski, and Shirley Deary

The family would like to thank Lorraine's caregivers, Si-Faye and Marge Parkinson for the exceptional care and compassion that they gave to their mother during her illness.

Funeral services are private and have been entrusted to the Valade Funeral Home & Crematory, 23 Main St., N. Grosvenordale, CT. Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 280285, E. Hartford, CT 06128 or the Alzheimer's Association, CT Chapter, 2075 Silas Deane Hwy, Suite 100, Rocky Hill, CT 06067. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Paul R. Mailloux, 74



Paul R. Mailloux, 74, of Brooklyn, CT, passed away after a brief illness on February 7, 2023 at his home in Brooklyn, CT. He was born September 21, 1948 in Norwich, CT, son of the late William Mailloux, Sr. and Rita Mae (Goyette) Mailloux. Paul was the beloved husband of Gwen (Gauthier) Mailloux for 19 years. Paul enjoyed trips to Foxwoods Casino and going fishing. He loved cooking, baking and woodworking. In his younger years he was a carpenter.

He leaves his wife Gwen Mailloux; his daughters Chrystal Barnaby and

Heather Mailloux; his step daughter Sarah Ormerod; his siblings William Mailloux, Jr., John Mailloux, Bernadette Schatz, Pauline Aubin and Shirley Sexten. Also several grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Paul was predeceased by his siblings Barbara Batten, Joseph Mailloux, Norman Mailloux, Richard Mailloux, Bernard Mailloux and Robert Mailloux. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Hospice of Northeast CT DKH Development, PO Box 6001 Putnam, CT 06260.

Calling Hours will be Monday, February 27, 2023 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Gagnon and Costello Funeral Home, 33 Reynolds Street, Danielson, CT. Share a memory at Gagnonandcostellofh.com

Stanley J. Jakubaitis, 93



Stanley J. Jakubaitis, 93, of Newington, former longtime resident of Wethersfield, passed away peacefully on February 13, 2023. He was the beloved husband of Vivian (Wackell) Jakubaitis

for 64 years. Born and raised on a farm in Woodstock, CT, son of the late Frank and Stella Jakubaitis, he attended Woodstock Academy prior to enlisting in the U.S. Army where he honorably served during the Korean War. Following his discharge, he graduated from Worcester Junior College with his Associate Degree in Mechanical Engineering, and went on to earn his Bachelor Degree at UConn in Mechanical Engineering. Stanley continued his education further by receiving a Master's Degree from RPI in both Mechanical Engineering and Computer Science. He was a longtime employee of both Pratt and Whitney Aircraft in East Hartford and Otis Elevator in Bristol. He was a member of the American Society of Mechanical

Engineers and Pi Tau Sigma- National Honorary Mechanical Engineers. Stanley was also a former member, past president, treasurer and educational vice president of the P & WA Toastmasters International Club, as well as a member, past president, past secretary and past vice president of the Men's Garden Club of Wethersfield. In addition to gardening, he enjoyed fishing and reading. Along with his wife, he leaves his son Steven Jakubaitis, DMD and his wife Kim of Punta Gorda, FL. He also leaves his sister-in-law, Constance Jakubaitis of WV. He was predeceased by his brother, Frank Jakubaitis. Funeral services will be private with Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington. Memorial donations may be made in his memory to the Church of the Incarnation, 544 Prospect St., Wethersfield, CT 06109. To share a memory or condolence with his family, please visit us at www.duksa.net.

Justin H. Cortis, 33



N o r t h Grosvenordale - Justin H. Cortis, 33, died peacefully at home on February 13, 2023. Justin grew up in Thompson Connecticut, graduating from Tourtellotte Memorial High School where he excelled in sports and academics. Justin loved to run, be it on the track or the football field. He also enjoyed being a founding member of "The Jungle". Upon graduation, Justin studied engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. While attending

WPI, Justin was active in the fraternity, Lambda Chi Alpha where he was the social chair. In his spare time, Justin enjoyed spending time outside with his dog, Caesar, reading, cooking, and working out.

Justin leaves behind his beloved father, Herb Cortis of Thompson, CT, and sister, Lydia Cortis of Oklahoma City, OK. And Caesar.

Family and Friends were invited to visit with Justin's family on February 22, 2023, from 4:00 PM - 8:00PM at the Valade Funeral Home, 23 Main Street, North Grosvenordale, CT 06255. For memorial guestbook please visit GilmanAndValade.com

Kurt W. Siegmund, 61



Kurt W. Siegmund, age 61, of Pomfret Center, passed away suddenly, February 9th, at Harrington Hospital in Southbridge, MA. He was the beloved husband of Diane (Eddy) Siegmund.

The son of Walter and Lois (Schramm) Siegmund, Kurt was born on July 14, 1961 in Southbridge, MA. He grew up in Woodstock and spent summers in Woods Hole on Cape Cod where he had many happy memories. He was a 1979 graduate of Woodstock Academy, and received his bachelor of science from University of Oregon in 1984.

For the next several years, Kurt lived and worked in Southern California until moving to Pomfret in 1996. Soon after, his life came full circle, where he re-met his childhood neighbor, Diane Eddy. The two were married October 3, 1998. Kurt was employed at Schott North America in Southbridge, MA for 24 years. He was a research and development technician where he developed

lasting friendships with his colleagues.

Kurt was an antique car and vintage motorcycle enthusiast, who also enjoyed skiing and biking. His greatest joy was being with his family. He and Diane enjoyed traveling, hiking and seeking out new food related adventures. He was a loving father to his daughter, Clara, where for many years, he relished in following her high school and collegiate tennis matches, traveling great distances to see her compete.

In addition to his wife and daughter, he is survived by his sister, Lisa Siegmund of Hampton, CT, his brother, Paul Siegmund of Falmouth, MA, Brother and Sister in laws, Ross and Susan Eddy of Woodstock, Durrin and Bob Motley, of Woodstock and several nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory may be made to the CT Audubon Society, P.O. Box 11, Pomfret, CT 06259.

A celebration of life will take place at Grill 37 in Pomfret, CT on Saturday, April 8th at 1:00. Share a memory at Smithandwalkerfh.com

Peter Fessenden Ellsworth 87



Peter Fessenden Ellsworth 87 of West Woodstock passed away on February 13, 2023 survived by his loving wife of 58 years Marjorie, two sons John Ellsworth, Peter J Ellsworth (Julia) his brother Michael Ellsworth (Mary Ellen), and his sister Mary Ellsworth Dietrich (Hans), 5 grandchildren: Annabelle, Alexander, William, Alexis, Jason, and several nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his sister Anne Marshaus (Myron) and his cousin Jack Williamson.

The son of the late Adelaide and Stanley Ellsworth born in Brooklyn Heights, NY attended Brooklyn Friends School, received a BA in Dramatic Arts and History from University of Delaware, an MA in History from Queens College and MA in teaching from NYU.

He served in the US army at Fort McPherson, Georgia. Teaching history was his passion at Scarsdale where students enjoyed his reenactments of European history, some even in French and special education at Woodstock Academy. He worked in insurance, taught the standards of the American Society for Quality, and assured ISO quality for manufacturing companies. While principle at his consulting company, Achievement Technologies, he developed small business process improvements.

Peter's larger than life personality resonated as a leader in the Experiment in International Living taking stu-

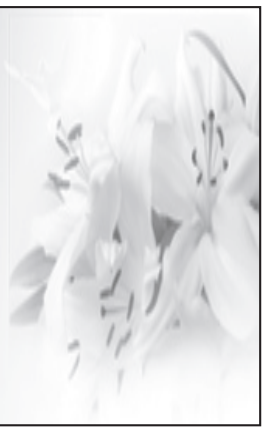
dents to Holland and France to learn about culture through immersion and met his wife Marjorie through their host Routier family.

Peter's 1820 home was his pride and joy and he enjoyed reading his favorite author David McCullough, authored two oral histories of West Woodstock, and worked to get the John Williams Law office moved to the West Woodstock Library where his Aunt Mary Ross was the original librarian. As a Barlow Cemetery Board member he composed bios for Woodstock citizens. Peter started the Woodstock Memorial Road race in 1980 using his radio voice announcing runners crossing the finish line.

Peter's favorite composers were Wagner, Puccini, Leoncavallo and Brahms. He and Marjorie attended several Wagnerian Ring Cycles in San Francisco, Seattle and Toronto and NY. Wonderful gourmet dinners created by Peter included his homemade French baguettes made from recipes by Julia Child and Mark Bittman. Lively conversations always ensued. Travel to St. Croix allowed him to enjoy his Caribbean life. Peter's Memorial Service - Friday April 14th at 2pm at Christ Church in Pomfret, CT. Donations are welcome to Barlow Cemetery of West Woodstock, Christ Church in Pomfret, and Church of the Good Shepherd in West Woodstock, West Woodstock Library or Ukraine Relief Workers fund (erd.org)







Send all obituary notices to
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Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail
to obits@stonebridgepress.news



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Funeral Directors
Timothy Farner, Steven Farner, Andrew Farner

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OBITUARIES

John (Jack) Hunt Williamson

Woodstock - John (Jack) Hunt Williamson passed away February 9, 2023, at home after a brief decline in health.

He was born in Woodstock, CT March 27, 1932. He spent his childhood in two worlds, schools in Brooklyn, NY and summers on his father's farm in West Woodstock. He attended Cornell University in ROTC program and earned a Bachelors' Degree in Dairy Sciences then joined the Army. His basic training was as a helicopter mechanic was in San Marcus, Texas. He continued his military career at Fort Brag NC. He was dispatched to Korea as crew chief to retrieve helicopters. While stationed at Fort Benning GA, he married Catherine (Katie) Dewey Cole of Eastview Farm, Woodstock, on September 18,1955 and together they had 4 children.

While serving, they purchased Maple Lane farm. He was honorably discharged as a Sergeant. He was hired at the DHIA (Dairy Herd Inspection Association) and worked for an Allis-Chalmers dealership. Jack worked many decades for Joseph Campert, helping Joe develop Lake Bungay, Witches Woods Lake, an airstrip and the Ohoho ski area.

He was hard worker, kind, respectful and patient person. He was always a reliable, available friend. He was a husband, father, brother, a dairy farmer, mechanic, construction worker, heavy equipment operator, welder, wood lot manager, avid reader and a fan of Wheaties.

He was widowed in 1974 and mar-

ried Cecile (Jeanne) Lamontagne Syriac in 1978. Together they raised a second set of four children. He retired from dairy farming in the late 70's but continued to farm the land and opened Maple Lane Farm Welding and Repair, with his son Dan. He also worked many years for Rene Bennet. He continued to cut and gather his own wood, clear land, tend his fields and his wood stove. Above all Jack was a farmer, the good old Swamp Yankee-kind, like his father Paul Williamson before him.

Jack is survived by his children, Lucy Mac Williams, Jane Williamson and Steven (Kathy) Williamson; by Cecile's children, Scott (Christine), Lori, Arthur and Sarah Syriac. His brothers, Paul A. Williamson, Gil Williamson (Jean,); his cousins, Peter and Michael Ellsworth, many grand and great-grandchildren, and many lifelong friends. He was predeceased by his wife, Katie, his son, Daniel Hunt Williamson, and Grandson, Michael Daigle. There will be a celebration of life in late March. Details will be posted in the Shoppers Guide. Funeral arrangements are entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT. For memorial guestbook please visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.



Cecile “Jean” Williamson, 85

=Woodstock – Cecile “Jean” (Lamontagne) Williamson, 85, of Hagar Rd., died peacefully 12 hours after her husband, John “Jack” Williamson on Thursday afternoon, February 9, 2023, at home. Born in Woodstock, she was the daughter of the late Armand and Rita Lamontagne.

Mrs. Williamson was a homemaker. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting, coloring, and doing puzzles. Cecile was an avid gardener surrounding her home with

beautiful flowers in all seasons.

Jean is survived by her children, Scott R. Syriac and his wife Christine of Bethlehem, Arthur N. Syriac of Woodstock, Lori Dvork of SC, and Sarah J. Pudvah of Thompson; Her brothers, Armand “Skippy” Lamontagne, Jr. and Robert “Bobby” Lamontagne both of Woodstock, four grandchildren, and one great grandchild. She was predeceased by a son, Thomas Syriac and her siblings, Richard, Michael, Aline, and Irene.

Funeral services are private and have been entrusted to the Gilman Funeral Home & Crematory, 104 Church St., Putnam, CT 06260. For memorial guestbook visit www.GilmanAndValade.com.

Daniel George Tracy, 69



Dudley - Daniel G. Tracy, 69, of Dudley, MA., passed away quietly on February 14th after a tragic accident. He was the loving husband of Robin Tracy. Born in Allentown, Pennsylvania, he was the son of the late George and Ruth (Smith) Tracy.

Although born in Allentown, Pennsylvania, Dan was raised in St. Petersburg, Florida. Upon graduation from Boca Ciega High School, he continued his education at Florida State University where he achieved a master's degree in Business Administration.

Dan relocated to Massachusetts after his schooling and started to pursue a lifelong career in risk management consulting. After a long career in this field Dan retired, which let him engage in his true passion: knowledge. Dan enjoyed audiobooks and podcasts that spanned topics such as science fact, science fiction, and business law. You could always find him with an earbud in his ear listening to one of his favorite science fiction books on his iPod. Dan's exploration of knowledge had him on the internet, in books, watching

lectures, and reading magazines. Dan also enjoyed sports including football, basketball, baseball, and golf: all of which he had incredible knowledge of statistics for: Dan also had a deep appreciation for music, which he researched just as avidly as any of his other interests. Dan often printed things from the internet, to continue his research away from the computer including a periodic table that followed him around the house during his final days.

Dan is survived by his son Joshua Tracy; sisters Ellen Simpson (Glenn) of Marietta, GA, and Carolann Tracy of Kenneth City, FL; sisters-in-law Kathi Peterson and Bev Shaw; brother-in-law Jim Shaw; as well as many nieces, nephews, and his entire extended family. Dan is predeceased by his sister Kathy Tracy.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Gilman and Valade Funeral Homes and Crematory. A memorial service will be held on February 25, 2023, at 11 AM, at the Living Faith UMC, 53 Grove Street, Putnam, CT. Burial will take place at Putnam Heights Cemetery at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Living Faith UMC Shaw Scholarship.

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

LEGALS

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

The Thompson Planning and Zoning Commission will hold Public Hearing on Monday, February 27, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Merrill Seney Community Room, 815 Riverside Drive, North Grosvenordale, CT, 06255 and via Zoom on the following applications:

PZC 23-01 Applicant Green Valley Self-Storage LLC, Zachary LaBonte, property owner of 72 Main Street, KKB Acquisition LLC, 1919 Flowers Circle, Thomasville, GA., Map 169, Block 88, Lot 65A, 65 and 64. 4.2 acres (3 lots)to develop Storage Rental Facilities (climate controlled) and Office Building. Article 4F, Section 2-27.

PZC 23-03 Applicant Baystate Investment Fund LLC. Property owner of 26 Main Street, St. Joseph's Catholic Society, 18 Main Street, Thompson, CT Map 169. Block 94, Lot 3, Zone DMRD,2.4+/- acres development of structure to 40 residential units, inclusive of 1 handicap, 4 affordable housing, 60 parking spaces, 6 electric charging stations Article 4F, Section 2-21

File may be reviewed at the Town of Thompson Planning and Zoning Office. Respectfully submitted, Joseph Parodi-Brown, Chairman
February 17, 2023
February 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Dominick F. Roto, AKA Dr. Dominick F. Roto, DMD (23-00050)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 14, 2023, 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.

Eylssa A. Foley, Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Madelyn Folimeno, c/o SCOTT B FRANKLIN & ASSOCIATES, 68 SOUTH MAIN STREET, WEST HARTFORD, CT 06107
February 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Gilberte Beaulieu (23-00017)

The Hon. Gabrielle Labonte, Judge of the Court of Probate, District of Northeast Probate Court, by decree dated February 14, 2023, ordered that all claims must be presented to the fiduciary at the address below. Failure to promptly present any such claim may result in the loss of rights to recover on such claim.

Brenda Duquette, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
Jeanne Methot c/o EDWIN C HIGGINGS, BACHAND. LONG & HIGGINS HIGGINS- 168 MAIN ST., P.O. BOX 528, PUTNAM, CT 06260
February 24, 2023

TOWN OF THOMPSON

On February 15, 2023 the following wetlands agent approval was issued: Application # WAA23003, George Marrier, 0 Brickyard Rd (Assessor's Map 38, Block 87, Lot 6) - Construction of a driveway & detached garage in the 100 -foot upland review area associated with new residential home .
Marla Butts, Wetlands Agent
February 24, 2023

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF Harold A Dumas, JR (22-00183)

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

Brenda Duquette, Chief Clerk

The fiduciary is:
ANNA VLADIM ZUBKOVA, ANNA ZUBKOVA, ATTORNEY AT LAW, P .O. BOX 275, PLAINFIELD, CT 06374
February 24, 2023

**THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
THOMPSON, CONNECTICUT
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

Sealed Bids for the construction of the “Thompson Public Schools, Track Replacement Project” will be received by the Thompson Public Schools, First Selectmen's Office at 815 Riverside Drive, PO Box 899, North Grosvenor-

dale CT 06255-0899, until 10:00 a.m. local time on March 7, 2023. The bids will be reviewed by Thompson Public Schools at a later date and the results will be transmitted to all bidders and be made be made publicly available. Sealed Bids must have outer envelope marked as “Thompson Public Schools, Track Replacement Project.” The work consists of the demolition of an existing track facility and construction of a new six (6) lane track around an existing natural turf field. Construction is to include all appurtenances as identified on the provided plans. Bidding Documents may be obtained electronically from the Tighe & Bond website at: http://www.tighebond.com/Projects_Out_to_Bid.php Prospective bidders must complete a one-time registration process on the web site in order to receive log-in credentials. Bidders must log in to the web site to download bidding documents for the project. Bidders will be added to the “planholders” or prospective bidders list upon downloading the bidding documents for the project. Bidding documents may also be examined at the office of Tighe & Bond, Inc., 53 Southampton Rd, Westfield, MA between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, legal holidays excluded. Bidders shall be Department of Administrative Services (DAS) pre-qualified under the category of “Site Work”. Bidders are advised that both the DAS Prequalification Certificate and Update (Bid) Statement must accompany the Bid proposal for projects estimated to exceed \$500,000 under C.G.S. 4b-91 as amended. Failure to supply these forms with the Bid will result in rejection of the Bid. The time period for holding Bids, where Federal approval is not required is 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded. Prevailing Wage Rates as determined by the Connecticut State Labor Commissioner as required under [Section 22a-482-4(p)(3) of the CWF regulations][Section 31-53(g) of the Connecticut General Statutes] as amended, apply to this project. It is the responsibility of the Contractor, before Bid opening, to request, if necessary, any additional information on Minimum Wage Rates for those trades people who may be

employed for the proposed Work under this Contract. A optional pre-Bid conference will be held at the site on February 24, 2023 at 10:00AM. THOMPSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS Consulting Engineer: Tighe & Bond, Inc. 53 Southampton Road Westfield, MA 01085 413-562-1600 END OF SECTION February 24, 2023

TOWN OF WOODSTOCK

The Planning & Zoning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Thursday, March 2, 2023, at 7:45 p.m. to be held at the Woodstock Town office, 415 Route 169, Lower level, Meeting Room 1, to amend the Woodstock Zoning Regulations to EXTEND the current Temporary and Limited Moratorium on Cannabis Establishments in the Town of Woodstock; Zoning Regulations, Article III.A.2.e.A.4. Dr. Jeffrey Gordon, PZC Chairman
February 17, 2023
February 24, 2023

**TOWN OF KILLINGLY METERED
USE LEGAL NOTICE**

Payments will be received in the Revenue Office, 172 Main Street Killingly CT 06239, as follows; office hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-4:30PM Tuesday 8-5:30PM Friday 8-11:30AM. By Mail, online, or in our drop box.

The second installment metered use is due March 1, 2023, if payment is not received on or before March 31, 2023 the installment becomes delinquent and subject to interest at the rate of one and one-half per cent of such tax for each month or fraction thereof which elapses from the time when such tax becomes due and payable until the same is paid. A minimum of \$2.00 interest will be charged for each delinquent bill and installment.

Please visit our website for full details and online payments www.killingly.org. Dated at Killingly this 14th^h day of February 2023
Patricia Monahan CCMC
REVENUE COLLECTOR FOR THE TOWN OF KILLINGLY
February 24, 2023
March 3, 2023
March 24, 2023



What’s the Difference?

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

A



B



Answers: 1. Two plants on table 2. Bird in sky 3. Extra light on wall 4. Missing planter

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1956: PAKISTAN BECOMES THE FIRST ISLAMIC REPUBLIC IN THE WORLD.
- 1983: PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN MAKES HIS INITIAL PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP TECHNOLOGY TO INTERCEPT ENEMY MISSILES.
- 2021: A CONTAINER SHIP RUNS AGROUND AND BLOCKS THE SUEZ CANAL FOR SIX DAYS.



PROTECT

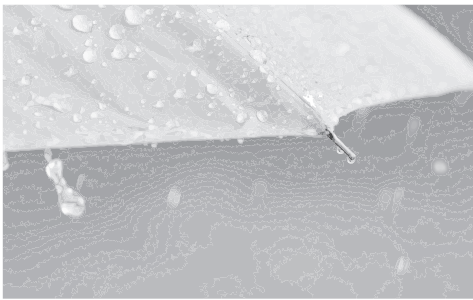
to keep safe from harm or injury

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH: Rain
- SPANISH: Lluvia
- ITALIAN: Pioggia
- FRENCH: Pluie
- GERMAN: Regen



UMBRELLA COMES FROM THE LATIN WORD “UMBROS,” WHICH MEANS SHADE OR SHADOW.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: UMBRELLA

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to umbrellas. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 16 = I)

A. 25 15 3 12 18 8 12

Clue: Keep from being damaged

B. 15 6 16 23 13

Clue: Falling water

C. 16 23 19 18 23 12 16 3 23

Clue: Newly introduced product

D. 17 7 16 18 9 4

Clue: Protective structure

Answers: A. protect B. rainy C. invention D. shield

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

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!

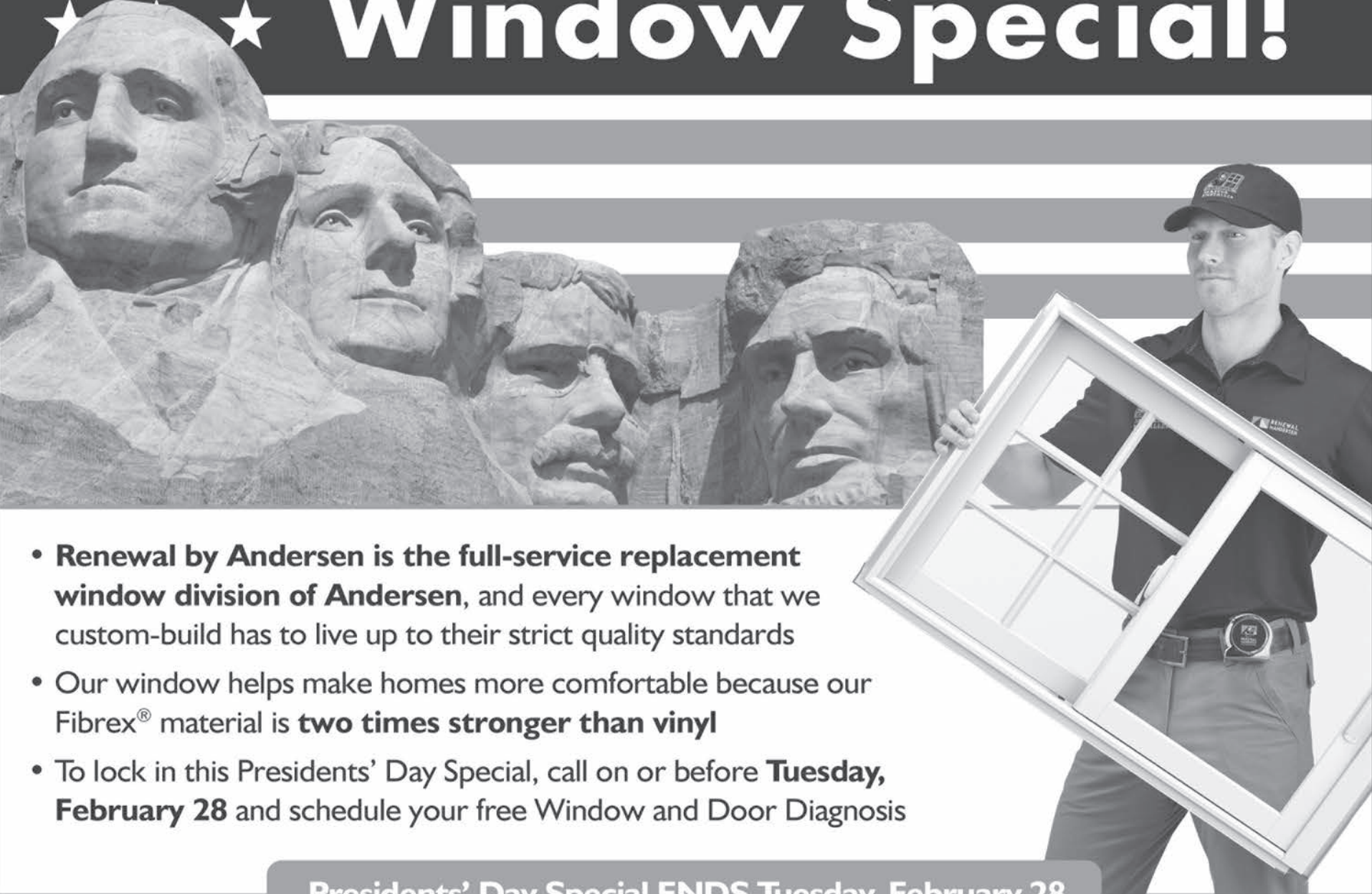
6	3	9	5	2	1	8	7	4
5	8	2	9	4	7	6	1	3
9	2	5	8	3	6	4	1	7
6	4	9	2	8	7	1	5	3
7	6	9	1	5	4	3	2	8
5	8	1	6	9	3	7	4	2
2	6	4	3	1	8	5	7	9
8	5	7	9	6	4	3	2	1
1	9	3	5	7	2	8	6	4

ANSWER:



★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★

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★ ★ additional

PLUS

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High School Notebook

Killingly wrestling captures Class S Championship; Richardson, Ware, Cathell win individual titles

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

Seniors Jack Richardson and Kaden Ware, and junior Ian Cathell all won individual state titles, paving the way for the Killingly High wrestling team to capture its sixth state wrestling title in coach Rich Bowen's illustrious 38-year career. Killingly hosted and won the Connecticut Class S Championship on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 17 and 18, by scoring 213-1/2 points, 11 more than runner-up New Fairfield. Windham finished third (188), Haddam-Killingworth fourth (165), and Portland fifth (137). Putnam High (49 points) finished 17th in the competition.

Richardson, who entered the tournament as the reigning Class S and New England champion at 152, won that division again, pinning Cromwell's Matt Gish 30 seconds into their match.

Ware won his third Class S title in as many tries, scoring a major decision in the 132-pound weight class final, 13-2, over Sheehan's Jay Chase. Last year Ware captured the championship at 126.

Cathell's Class S title, at 113, is his first state crown. He defeated Hoshena Gemme of Old Lyme, 10-5, in the final.

Other Killingly wrestlers to finish in the top six of the Connecticut Class S Championships were: sophomore Brady Zadora, second at 126; sophomore Mason Connetti, fourth at 106; sophomore Anthony Oates, fourth at 285; junior Amani Samuel, fifth at 138; junior Devin Exarhoulias,



he Killingly High School wrestling team, your 2023 Connecticut Class S champions.

fifth at 220; and junior Giovanni Sanchez-Ruelas, sixth at 145.

Putnam's Lucas Benoit finished fourth at 195.

Boys' Basketball Killingly High (15-5) finished off the regular season by winning its last six games, a streak which included road victories over Tolland (66-33, on Saturday, Feb. 19), Montville (80-62, on Friday, Feb. 17), and Stonington (81-72, on Tuesday, Feb. 14).

Sophomore Johnny Kazantzis (a game-high 26 points) led Killingly in the victory over Tolland, in a game that was played at Fitch High in Groton as part of the 2023 CARE (Coaches Advancement for Racial Equality, raising money and opportunities for minority student-athlete support) Eastern Connecticut Conference (ECC) vs. Central Connecticut Conference (CCC) Challenge. Seniors Yianni Baribeau (13 points, 16 rebounds) and Tom Dreibholz (12 points,

12 rebounds) were also instrumental in the win, as was freshman Kolby Mills (seven points, seven assists).

In the victory over Montville, Baribeau paced the Killingly attack, pouring in a career-high 38 points to go along with 20 rebounds and six blocks. Kazantzis added 23 points in the win, while Dreibholz scored 13 points and grabbed nine rebounds.

Baribeau was also Killingly's leading scorer and rebounder (29 points, 21 rebounds) in the win over Stonington, with Kazantzis adding 25 points and Dreibholz chipping in a double-double (17 points, 12 rebounds).

Elsewhere: Woodstock Academy (6-13) won a pair of home games last week, defeating 15-3 Griswold (58-51, on Thursday, Feb. 16) and 6-13 Waterford (55-45, on Tuesday, Feb. 14).

In the win over Griswold, senior Brandon Nagle led the Centaurs with 15 points

and added eight rebounds, while sophomore Brady Ericson had a double-double (11 points, 10 rebounds) and blocked five shots, and classmate Garrett Bushey added 12 points.

In the win over Waterford, Nagle scored a game-high 16 points for the Centaurs and Ericson aided the winning effort with 12 points.

Girls' Basketball Eighth-seeded Woodstock Academy won its ECC Tournament play-in game, defeating visiting Waterford, the No. 9 seed, 52-36, on Wednesday, Feb. 15. The following night, however, the Centaurs' ECC Tournament run was halted by top-seeded New London, 74-30, in a quarterfinal round game.

In the win over Waterford, sophomore Eva Monahan scored a game-high 18 points and freshman Isabel D'Alleva-Bochain added 16. In the loss at New London, D'Alleva-Bochain scored 10 points for the Centaurs



Kaden Ware, left, and Jack Richardson are multiple state wrestling champions.

(13-9), while senior Leila MacKinnon added eight.

Elsewhere:

Sixth-seeded Killingly lost its ECC Tournament quarterfinal round game at third seeded Ledyard, the No. 3 seed, 53-35. Sophomore Ariaahna Headen recorded a double-double (14 points, 14 rebounds) for 12-9 Killingly, while senior Aila Gutierrez and sophomore Molly Crabtree each added nine points.

Ellis Tech sophomore Sadie Murray scored a go-ahead layup in the final moments of the game and the 13-7 Golden Eagles hung on for a 44-43 win over visiting Prince Tech on Tuesday, Feb. 14.

Murray finished with 13 points, eight rebounds, five assists and two steals, while junior Kylie Damble recorded a double-double (16 points, 12 rebounds) and served up three assists. Freshman Rose Lopez also had a fine all-around game, scoring seven points, pulling down 15 rebounds, making three steals and blocking two shots.

Woodstock Academy indoor track coach Josh Welch saw his name removed from the indoor track record wall at Alumni Field House, courtesy of Christian Menounos.

Menounos, a sophomore, finished the 1,000-meter run at the Connecticut Open Indoor Track Championship, held Saturday, Feb. 18, at New Haven's Floyd Little Athletic Center in 2 minutes, 36.67 seconds, breaking Welch's former school record of 2:37.22.

Senior Bella Sorrentino also established a school record, in the 55-meter hurdles, which she finished in 8.87 seconds, a time which qualified her for next month's National Indoor Track Championships at the Armory in New York City.

Senior Jared Eaton not only qualified for Nationals, but also the New England Regional, by placing sixth in the shot put with a heave of 49-feet, seven inches. The throw surpassed Eaton's previous personal best by two feet.

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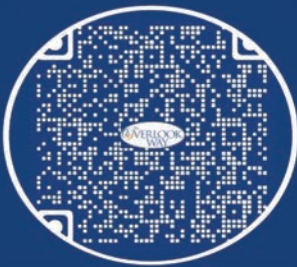
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