

THOMPSON VILLAGER

Friday, August 12, 2022

Serving Thompson since 2005

Complimentary to homes by request

Woodstock Hilltoppers part of historic Vintage Base Ball Association



Photo Courtesy

The Woodstock Hilltoppers are part of the Connecticut Vintage Base Ball Association.

BY KEN POWERS
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WOODSTOCK — Old-time baseball (think 1860s) returned to the town common on Saturday, July 30, when the Hilltoppers, Woodstock’s entry in the Connecticut Vintage Base Ball Association, hosted New London’s Thames Base Ball Club.

The brand of baseball is very different than today’s version of the game, but one thing is exactly the same as it was during the Civil War — the men and women, yes women — playing in the July 30 game were there for their love of and joy for the game.

“The biggest takeaway, for the members of this team, is that we like to have fun,” said Sean “Nails” Connor, who started the team back in 2014. “We’re a little loose with some of the rules.”

The significant rule differences include: if a batted ball bounces once and is then caught by a fielder, it is an out; if a batter is

hit by a pitch, he/she is not sent to first base, the at-bat continues; and, pitchers throw the ball underhanded. Woodstock and Thames did not keep track of balls, strikes, or foul balls; if you swung and missed, that was the only time a strike was called.

“These are the rules we play because these were the rules in the early 1860s,” said Conner, who pointed out that the pitching area (there was no mound) was about 45 feet from home base (no plate, either). “When the soldiers who were fighting in the Civil War returned home, the degree of difficulty of the game increased because they were younger, stronger and better because they had been playing in the (army) camps.”

Gradually the rules started changing. “The biggest change was a batted ball had to be caught in the air,” Connor said.

Thames won the July 30 game between the

Please Read **BASEBALL**, page **A3**

Teaching the art of self defense

BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

THOMPSON — Quest Martial Arts of Thompson has become a staple of the local community, offering students both young and old the chance to learn and perfect martial arts and self-defense. However, it’s the latter service has proven to be one of the school’s most consistent contributions to the public at large beyond the walls of the school itself.

Owner, co-founder, and Head Instructor Master Kristin Duethorn strives to spread the values of self-defense to all kinds of at-risk groups in the community. Often, these include women and young girls, but they also include the younger demographic such as middle schoolers. On Aug. 3, Duethorn held a special seminar at the Hale YMCA in Putnam organized by Northeast Opportunities for Wellness (NOW), to provide local middle school students a chance to learn the basics of self-defense.

Duethorn said it was an opportunity to educate and interact with a demographic that, especially in today’s age of social media and COVID protocols interrupting their abilities to socialize, are at high risk of bullying and self-esteem issues.

“I think we all know why in particular women need self-defense or girls going off to college but going back towards middle school we really need to build confidence in kids because if they’re not confident or if they’re looking weak, those are the kids that get chosen to be bullied or targeted by a kidnapper or something like that,” Duethorn said. “It’s an early start so that later they’ll have more experiences to build on that confidence. I also firmly believe that confident kids get to have more fulfilling lives and get to do more activities that will help continue to

enhance their confidence.”

While many may picture self-defense as a violent response to an attack, Duethorn said that is actually the absolute last resort. As with most martial arts teachings, violence is not promoted as the answer but is more a tool to increase one’s confidence and better test one’s limitations when faced with difficulties or challenges. While these lessons are universal, Duethorn said they are especially applicable to the younger members of the community who may not be as familiar with the challenges of facing adversity.

“We are noticing a lot of kids in the karate programs struggling with interacting again with other kids and being back in school after COVID. One of the first things we talk about is ‘what is self-defense,’ and I think a lot of them think it’s a lot of fighting. Self-defense is really about making you healthy, happy, and safe. It includes the daily basics of life,” Duethorn said. “I ultimately believe that when you learn to be confident, make choices for yourself and to stand up for yourself you’re going to have more success in life. While I know it also helps them with the self-defense, I hope it also teaches them about what good risks to take and how to deal with stuff when it doesn’t work out right. How do you pull yourself up? The life skills are even more important than the physical self-defense.”

While Duethorn often hosts community seminars about self-defense for a variety of different ages groups, her school also provides access to lessons and training to prepare participants how to perfect the concepts she teachings in those introductory programs. More information on Quest Martial Arts’ self-defense programs can be found by visiting www.quest-martialarts.us.

Summer musical theater program presents “The Wizard of Oz” on Aug. 12 & 13

WILLIMANTIC — The Summer Musical Theater Program, an innovative collaboration between EASTCONN’s Arts at the Capitol Theater (ACT) magnet high school and Windham Public Schools, will present three performances of “The Wizard of Oz” in Willimantic on Friday, Aug. 12 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Aug. 13 at 2 and 7 p.m.

The performances, which will take place at Arts at the Capitol Theater (896 Main St., Willimantic), are free and open to the public.

Since mid-July, participating students in grades 5-12 from towns across the region have worked together to produce a Broadway-style show, developing their acting, singing and dancing skills under the supervision of experienced directors. They’ve also created props, costumes and sets using upcycled and recycled materials. At the same time, they’ve authentically developed their math and literacy skills as well as the soft skills of communication, collaboration, and problem-solving.

Additionally, students have created four community service initiatives including writing cards to young patients at Saint Jude’s Children’s Hospital, holding a food drive for the Covenant Soup Kitchen and raising money from local business donations for the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness and the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW).

“This program has really demonstrated what creativity and collaboration can accomplish,” says Sarah Mallory,

Principal of EASTCONN’s ACT magnet high school. “There was a need for an arts-based summer program in the region and we were able to think outside the box to bring students from all over the area together to create a meaningful production. The students and staff have worked hard and I am excited to see the final product later this week.”

“Our students have really made this program their own,” says Dara Bowling, Windham High School English teacher and Program Director of the

Summer Musical Theater Program. “They’re pushing themselves to put together all the aspects of a full-length show: acting, singing, dancing, building sets, creating costumes, designing lighting and sound. In the process, they’re developing literacy and numeracy skills, soft skills of collaboration, communication, and problem-solving, and they’re forming solid friendships—all while developing this shared vision of ‘The Wizard of Oz.’ This is a group of some pretty

Please Read **OZ**, page **A4**

Woodstock celebrates Locally Grown Day



BY JASON BLEAU
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

WOODSTOCK — The Town of Woodstock and the Senexet Grange celebrated the second annual Locally Grown Day on Saturday, Aug. 6 with a slew of activities throughout the town bringing locals and visitors out to enjoy what makes Woodstock unique.

Subtitled “Homemade & Homegrown,” the day-long event featured everything from vendors at Chase Building Supply, tours of several different local farms, a guided walking tour of the Palmer Arboretum, lunch from Butts Roast Beef at Chase Building Supply, Touch a Tractor at Buck’s Soft Serve, live music at Taylor Brook Winery, a chocolate milk chugging contest at Farm to Table and more all putting a spotlight on different agricultural entities and businesses in Woodstock.

Amy Monahan Master/President of the Senexet Grange which organized the event and hosted a Grange Fair and breakfast as part of the day, said the concept was to explore everything that made Woodstock special.

“We wanted to get people out to enjoy the day,” said Monahan. “We did this last year for the first time, and it was very successful. The farms loved it and many of them are back for a second year with new activities. We’re just trying to grow every year, that’s the goal. We want to continue to make it bigger and better every year to bring people from outside of town and here in town to enjoy it and see what makes Woodstock great.”

Monahan noted how the Grange has grown from an “inactive” organization

Please Read **LOCAL**, page **A2**

Electricity comes to Killingly



KILLINGLY

AT 300

.....

MARGARET
WEAVER

Have you been running your fans and air conditioners in this heat? Imagine what it would have been like to live 100 years ago and not have electricity. Sweltering!

In 1922, residents of East Killingly must have been very happy to learn that lines would soon reach their neighborhood. “East Killingly is going to have electric lights. This has been decided upon by the People’s Light and Power Company after a careful check up of the new territory to be served and ascertaining the approximate amount of yearly business to be expected from the territory. It was stated Monday that the work of constructing a pole line will begin in the near future. The lighting company already has a line to Elmville (near the Dayville post office) and will set poles from that place up over what is know as Dog hill through to Killingly Center. Just how the line will run from the Center to East Killingly has not been decided as yet, but East Killingly is going to have its lights and when drear November and December days, with their early evenings are at hand, residents of East Killingly will be no longer be dependent upon kerosene or gas lamps, which will have gone, probably forever. Electric power also will be made available for the manufacturing concerns doing business at East Killingly.” (Norwich Bulletin, Tuesday, August 8, 1922, p. 6; newspapers.com). Did you know that the first electric fan was invented in 1886 by Schuyler Wheeler and was powered by DC? “After the 1890’s fans with AC motors were produced.” (edisontech-center.org).

I found other very interesting August happenings on newspapers.com. It’s too

bad that they only have the Norwich Bulletin to 1922 and no other local papers that I’ve found. “Through the thoughtfulness of Mrs. Price Post, society woman and authoress of New York and Tuxedo, who is spending the summer at the Ben Grosvenor Inn, Pomfret, the Putnam public library has been presented, by the author herself, a copy of her latest boon (book?) on Etiquette, but recently from the press in New York. Mrs. Post is the author of a number of other books including Purple and Fine Linen, The Title Market, The Flight of a Moth and Letters of a Worldly Godmother. She has been a frequent contributor to periodicals. Mrs. Post is the mother of Edward Post, who had a notable career in the aviation service during the war, and Bruce Post, a New York architect. Both sons attended Pomfret School.” (Norwich Bulletin, Saturday, Aug. 12, 1922, p. 6; newspapers.com). I had to smile for it made me think of a recent Villager column that Nancy Weiss wrote on manners.

Did you figure out who Mrs. Price Post was? Emily Post! “Emily Post, née Emily Price, (born Oct. 27, 1872 or Oct. 3, 1873, Baltimore, Md., U.S.—died Sept. 25, 1960, New York, N.Y.), American authority on social behaviour who crafted her advice by applying good sense and thoughtfulness to basic human interactions. Emily Price was educated in private schools in New York City. A popular debutante, she married Edwin M. Post in 1892 (divorced 1906). At the turn of the century financial circumstances compelled her to begin to write, and she produced newspaper articles on architecture and interior decoration, stories and serials for such magazines as Harper’s, Scribner’s, and the Century, and light novels.” (https://www.britannica.com/biography/Emily-Post).

The Ben Grosvenor Inn, built around the mid 18th century, was demolished in 1960. “Remaining buildings, among which are Olive and Orchard Cottages,...have been preserved by Pomfret School and are currently used as dormitories and faculty residences”. (See Pomfret: Through the Years 300 years of History of Pomfret, Connecticut

as seen through its people, places, and events. Edited by Walter P. Hinchman; p. 99.) A number of postcards of the Ben Grosvenor Inn can be found on a Google search).

Earlier in the month of August, 1922 the Norwich Bulletin reported, “Thursday the flag on the central office building of the Southern New England Telephone Company here (in Danielson) was placed at half-mast in respect to the memory o the inventor of the telephone, Alexander Graham Bell, whose death was announced in Thursday morning’s papers.” (Norwich Bulletin, Friday, August 4, p. 6; newspapers.com). Did you know that Bell also invented the metal detector? “Bell initially came up with this device to locate a bullet inside of assassinated President James A. Garfield.”

Alexander Graham Bell was born on March 3, 1847 in Edinburgh, Scotland. His father “was a professor of speech elocution at the University of Edinburgh and his mother, despite being deaf, was an accomplished pianist. Young Alexander was an intellectually curious child who studied piano and began inventing things at an early age...” After being homeschooled he attended Royal High School and the University of Edinburgh. The family moved to Canada in 1870 and the following year Bell settled in the United States.

“In 1872, he opened the School of Vocal Physiology and Mechanics of Speech in Boston, where deaf people were taught to speak. At age 26, the budding inventor became Professor of Vocal Physiology and Elocution at the Boston University School of Oratory, even though he didn’t have a university degree. While teaching, Bell met Mabel Hubbard, a deaf student. The couple married on July 11, 1877. They went on to have four children, including two sons who died as infants.

“In 1871, Bell started working on the harmonic telegraph — a device that allowed multiple messages to be transmitted over a wire at the same time. While trying to perfect this technology, which was backed by a group of investors, Bell became preoccupied with

finding a way to transmit human voice over wires.

By 1875, Bell, with the help of his partner Thomas Watson, had come up with a simple receiver that could turn electricity into sound. Other scientists, including Antonio Meucci and Elisha Gray, were working on similar technologies, and there’s some debate over who should be credited with the invention of the telephone. It’s said that Bell raced to the patent office to be the first to secure the rights to the discovery.

“On March 7, 1876, Bell was granted his telephone patent. A few days later, he made the first-ever telephone call to Watson, allegedly uttering the now-famous phrase, ‘Mr. Watson, come here. I want you.’

“By 1877, the Bell Telephone Company, which today is known as AT&T, was created. In 1915, Bell made the first transcontinental phone call to Watson from New York to San Francisco. The inventor faced a nearly 20-year legal battle with other scientists, including Gray and Meucci, who claimed they created telephone prototypes prior to Bell’s patent. In 1887, the U.S. government moved to withdraw the patent issued to Bell, but after a series of rulings, the Bell company won in a Supreme Court decision. While the Bell Company fought over 550 court challenges, in the end, none were successful.” Alexander Graham Bell died August 2, 1922 in Nova Scotia. His invention revolutionized the world of communications. (www.history.com).

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

Richard Giraud named Employee of the Month at Westview



Richard Giraud

DAYVILLE — Richard Giraud achieved the Employee of the Month Award this June at Westview Health Care Center.

Giraud performs his duties in the Support Services Department of the Dayville

skilled nursing facility—and to him, this means doing anything that is required to maintain the operations and appearances at Westview. Gardening, painting, and moving equipment are just a few of the many responsibilities

that he takes on each day. No matter what the job is, he does everything and anything he can as a means to assist his coworkers. He further compliments his abilities by joyously interacting with Westview residents and staff along his daily routine; always saying good morning/good afternoon, asking how that person’s day is going—and whenever needed, asking if there is anything he can do to help.

Giraud was Born in Puerto Rico; growing up with his grandparents as major figures in his life. He credits his great respect for elders to this multi-generational upbringing. He graduated from Rio Piedras High School in San Juan, Puerto Rico and concentrated his education in Accounting Management. He enjoys travelling back to Puerto Rico whenever possible, and has several more destinations that he looks forward to visiting. Whenever he returns from his journeys, he is sure to keep his smartphone handy to show people the gorgeous scenes that he sees. He is a big fan of sports spectatorship. He likes to pass time enjoying athletes’ individual pursuits in the sports

of boxing and mixed martial arts and favoring the team conquests of regional icons like the Boston Celtics and the New England Patriots.

Whenever any colleague, patient, or visitor at Westview comes into contact with Richard, his optimistic fortitude is evident as he goes about his business. His humble, hard-working personality appears through his actions and in his words.

“It’s an honor to be chosen as Employee of the Month. I feel good every day with the people I work with—we all feel like a family at Westview. The staff here is so kind and friendly,” he said, going on to express further appreciation: “It truly is a pleasure being employed here. Thank you so much for this award!”

Westview Health Care Center Administrator David T. Panteleakos sees Giraud frequently, enjoying not only his total effort towards maintaining the aesthetics and functions at Westview, but also his delightful disposition during their interactions.

“Richard’s work is very thorough when he is called upon, and so is his desire to make

people smile as he makes his rounds,” Panteleakos said.

Mr. Panteleakos spoke to the importance of the facility’s cross-department reliability: “In his role in our Support Services Department, there are so many ways that I witness him improving the lives of our Westview family. This, in turn, improves the lives of our most important population here at Westview: our residents and patients.

Westview Health Care Center is a 103-bed inpatient skilled nursing facility, which includes a distinct and self-contained 28-bed sub-acute short term rehabilitation unit and outpatient physical, occupational and speech therapies including: Sports Medicine, Adolescent/Pediatric, Adult, and Aquatic Outpatient Centers, all dedicated to providing outstanding quality health care services. The Dayville facility is consistently ranked among the top nursing facilities in the nation, according to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as well as U.S. News and World Report, consecutively for the past 14 years.

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Compare our CD Rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

3-month	2.30 % APY*	Minimum deposit \$1,000
9-month	2.80 % APY*	Minimum deposit \$1,000
2-year	3.30 % APY*	Minimum deposit \$1,000

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.

Dennis Antonopoulos
Financial Advisor
5 Albert St
Auburn, MA 01501-1303
508-832-5385

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 08/04/2022. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-18676-A © 2022 EDWARD D. JONES & CO., L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

LOCAL

continued from page A1

in Woodstock pre-pandemic to a more popular and involved entity in the last three years. While Locally Grown Day might currently be a celebration of what Woodstock has to offer, she envisions the event growing into something even grander that includes communities throughout the region.

“We want to build our local

community, and not just Woodstock because the Grange is open to all different towns, but we have to start somewhere,” Mohanan said. “As this gets bigger, we might try to include out-of-town events. That is our goal for the Grange, to become more of a community center, promote that community growth and make this a one-stop place where people can learn what’s going on locally and enjoy what their communities have to offer.”

Monahan called Locally Grown Day a huge success that helped bring out the best of what Woodstock has to offer. As part of that larger plan to promote events throughout local communities, Monahan has even started a Facebook page, Quiet Corner Events. The page not only promotes Grange events, but all kinds of community programs throughout Eastern Connecticut and Southern Worcester County in Massachusetts.

Like to be noticed?

So do our advertisers!

Please tell them you saw their ad

www.860Local

Hot weather garden woes



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

Poor flowering and misshapen or a lack of fruit on tomatoes, peppers and squash may be due to the weather, not your gardening skills. Temperature extremes can interfere with flowering and fruit set on these and other vegetables in your garden.

We watch for and can't wait to taste that first red ripe tomato. It is certainly frustrating when we see flowers drop or the plant fails to form fruit. Tomatoes thrive in warm sunny conditions; but temperature extremes can prevent fruiting, cause misshapen fruit, or reduce the size of the harvest.

When daytime temperatures rise above 90 degrees Fahrenheit and night temperatures remain above 70 degrees Fahrenheit blossom drop and poor fruit development may occur. Combine this with low humidity and the pollen is not viable. In hot and humid conditions, the pollen is too sticky

and doesn't move from the male to the female part of the flower. Without pollination the flowers won't be fertilized, and fruit will not develop.

Cool weather can result in poor fruiting. Night temperatures below the optimum of 59 to 68 degrees Fahrenheit will reduce the amount and viability of pollen that the plant produces. Less viable pollen means fewer fruit will form. Cooler temperatures below 55 degrees Fahrenheit can result in misshapen fruit and catfacing. Fortunately, the malformed fruit is still tasty and safe to eat.

Temperature extremes also impact pepper productivity. When temperatures climb to 95°F or higher the pollen is sterile and flowers may drop. Small fruit may also fall from the plant during such hot spells. Pepper plants also experience poor fruit set when night temperatures drop below 60 degrees or rise above 75 degrees.

Tomatoes and peppers aren't the only vegetables impacted by temperature extremes. Eggplants, a close relative to tomatoes and peppers, do not set fruit until night temperatures are above 55 degrees. Beans stop flowering or the flowers die when temperatures rise above 85 degrees.

Flowering in squash and cucumber plants is also influenced by temperature and other environmental factors. These plants produce separate male and female flowers. The male flowers usually appear first and it is not until both the male and female flowers are present that pollination, fertilization and fruit production can occur.

Research found cool temperatures, bright sunlight, and shorter days encourage female flower production while male flowers are more prolific during warmer temperatures, less sunlight and close spacing. Flowering on squash and cucumbers is also impacted by nitrogen fertilization. Too much can prevent female flower formation while insufficient amounts can reduce the number of male flowers.

The simplest solution is to wait for optimum temperatures and the proper humidity levels to return. Once this happens, the plants will begin producing fruit.

If poor productivity related to the weather is a yearly problem, consider planting more heat tolerant varieties, adjust planting times and look for more suitable growing locations.

When the harvest is delayed, extend the season with the help



Photo Melinda Myers

Misshapen fruit and some other issues can be the result of temperatures dropping below 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

of row covers. These fabrics allow sunlight, air, and water through while trapping heat around the plants. Just loosely cover plants and anchor the edges with stones, boards, or landscape staples when frost is in the forecast. You can leave the fabric in place for the remainder of the year. Just lift it to harvest and secure the fabric when done.

If this summer's weather leaves you disappointed with the harvest, remember there is always next year.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD instant video series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

Loos & Co. donates to Access Community Action Agency

POMFRET — Loos & Co., Inc. proudly presented a \$500 check to Access Community Action Agency.

Access provides resources to individuals across Windham and Tolland counties who struggle to secure consistent meals, safe housing, and reliable employment.

With demand for these services increasing, Access relies on contributions from community partners like Loos & Company to help stock their mobile food van and on-site pantries in Willimantic and Danielson.

The organization operates "shopper's pantries" that allow families to choose their own goods based on need and preference.

The selection includes both non-perishable and perishable items such as meat and produce, in addition to sanitary products, soap, and diapers.

"Monetary donations are great because they allow us to fill gaps in our needs," said Kathleen Krider, Senior Director – Community Engagement and Resource Management.

This money is often used to procure



items such as detergent, cleaning supplies, and other goods not covered by programs like WIC or SNAP.

Krider added, "when companies donate, it means we get to form partnerships, which creates exposure in

the community. The more people know about our services, the more people we can help."

Each month, Loos gifts \$500 to a different local organization. Access is now the fifth pantry across eastern Connecticut to receive one of their donations.

"We don't just want to send a check in the mail. We always like to come out and meet the people who run these facilities," commented Anne Nichols, Marketing Coordinator for Loos & Company.

She emphasized, "this gives us the opportunity to ask questions, see the operation in action, and learn how we can make a lasting impact."

Donations are always needed at 1315 Main St., Willimantic, and 231 Broad St., Danielson. More information is available about Access Community Action Agency at accessagency.org.

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

BASEBALL

continued from page A1

teams, 19-18, to keep Woodstock winless for the season (0-2). The Hilltoppers hosted Boston Union on Saturday, Aug. 6, and will travel to play Thames, which plays its home games at New London's historic Fort Trumbull State Park on Saturday, Aug. 27, before wrapping up the season Saturday, Sept. 24, at home, against Boston Union.

"We are winless this season, but winning games is pretty far down on my list of priorities," Connor said, pointing out that the Hilltoppers frequently have music, played by both players and fans, being performed during the game.

"Items closer to the top of my list of priorities, and not in any order, are educating people about the origins of the game we love; trying to be — mostly — historically accurate," Connor said. "Most of us show our socks, but that really wouldn't have been commonplace until the late 1860s and we play by rules from 1860-63. I'm also trying to help create a community and, above else, help others have fun."

Baseball is regarded as a game of numbers but Connor made it clear he is not particularly interested in that part of the game. Connor was asked if he or someone else affiliated with the team keeps records of the games.

"Nah," Connor said before breaking

out into a wide smile. "We're not real official; again we're really just out here to have fun. If you want to play by the old rules, you are welcome."

Connor began the team after the vintage base ball league in Hartford he played in disbanded.

"When I heard the league had fallen apart I said, 'well, I don't know what I'm going to do now,'" Connor said. My wife (Sue Connor, the West Woodstock librarian) suggested I start a team. So I did."

Connor's son, Seamus, 22, and daughter Claribel, 19, are both Hilltoppers, too.

Nicknames were a big part of baseball in the early 1860s, and it is a tradition that continues on the Woodstock Team. Seamus Connor's nickname is "Spider," while Claribel Connor's nickname is "Scribbles."

The rest of the team roster is: Tom "Tomcat" Morris; Scott "Spaghetti" Ciprari; Steve "Soles" Bernard; James "Sweet Baby" Flynn; Oliver "Chit Chat" MacFadden; Jennifer "Cleanup" Owen; Adrienne "Meatball" Owen; Jared "Diamond" Palumbo; Mike "Anvil" Johnson; Jesse "Pillbox" Owen; Mike "Mozart" Palumbo; Sam "Flame" Hanson; and Dave "Goose" Macuga.

As for women being on the team Sean Connor said simply, "that is certainly un-1860s like. There were women's teams back then, but men and women

did not play together."

Morris began playing with the Hilltoppers about seven years ago, when a friend of a friend mentioned the league to him, knowing he enjoyed playing the game.

"I was interested primarily because it was something old and new — old in the sense I played baseball in my youth, and new because it was a different style of play to learn," said the 40-year-old Morris. "One thing I really like about the league is that there is no arguing; it's healthy competition amongst many fine men and women. Everyone is just there to have a good time."

Morris also likes the family aspect of the league.

"There are a few teams that have families involved, ours included," Morris said. "I hope to one day have my (three-year-old) son play on the team because I believe it is something that is a great bonding experience; a way for families to stay active together. It's a far cry from a modern-day baseball or softball team. The game we play is marginally competitive, extremely supportive, and entertaining and full of laughable plays each week. You have to be able to laugh at yourself at times and this fun and non-judgmental environment to do that."

Travis White named to Dean's List at Tufts University

MEDFORD, Mass. — Tufts University student Travis White, of Pomfret Center, class of 2024, was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2022 semester.

White is one of more than 4,000 students named to Dean's List at Tufts University. Students must earn a grade point average of 3.4 or greater for the semester.

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.

**If it's important to you,
It's important to us.**

StonebridgePress.com

THE SIDING STORE INC.
Siding • Roofing • Windows • Decks • Sunrooms

**SUMMER SPECIALS
NOW IN EFFECT**

\$\$\$\$

Financing available to qualified customers!

thesidingstoreinc.com

860.423.7771 860.963.9035
860.886.1718 860.564.7088

References Galore • Fully Licensed • Senior Discounts • Lead Safe

Morin JEWELERS
Fine Jewelry & Gifts

The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD

**Specializing
in Custom Designs**

All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Hull
forest products

Conserving Forests / Crafting Wood / Since 1965

**Log Length Hardwood
Firewood Available**

7-cord load \$900

Delivery location must have tri-axle truck access

Hardwood lumber end trimmings

Load your own pick up truck for **\$50**
or \$195/cord delivered within 10 miles
with a 2-cord minimum

www.hullforest.com/forestry/firewood

Family Owned & Operated since 1965
www.hullforest.com • (860) 974-0127 x130

Antique and collectibles auction news

There's been plenty of antique, collectibles, and auction news hot off the press this summer, starting with some shipwrecked treasures heading to auction this fall. USA Today reports that items from an 1857 shipwreck heading to the block include "a pair of work pants and wedding rings to letters and a first edition of 'The Count of Monte Cristo.'" The Steamship Central America was traveling from San Francisco to New York carrying many passengers who became rich during the California Gold Rush, meaning the ship was also transporting tons of gold. A hurricane off the Carolina Coast sank the ship, killing 475 people and sending its precious cargo 7,000 feet below sea level. USA today report that the ship sinking marked "the greatest economic disaster in U.S. maritime history and contributed to a global panic." Items were recovered from the wreck in the 1990s and again in 2014. Many of the estimates are in the hundreds of thousands and millions of dollars.

Here on land, online bidding is open for a bitter 1971 letter sent from John Lennon to Paul McCartney. TMZ reports that the letter came in response to an interview McCartney did with Melody



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

Maker, a British music magazine. According to Ultimate Classic Rock and Culture, Paul wanted only the four Beatles present when they signed a paper agreeing to a split. Lennon's letter to McCartney read, "Maybe there's an answer there somewhere ... but for the millionth time in these past few years, I repeat, what about the TAX?" Along with the tax issue, Lennon also took offense with the fact that McCartney wanted just the four Beatles to meet. He wrote "I thought you'd have understood BY NOW that I'm JOHNNANDYOKO." The auction estimate for the letter is \$30,000.

A Honus Wagner T206 baseball tobacco card once again set an auction record recently. The Wagner card is considered the Holy Grail or Mona Lisa of baseball cards. Wagner didn't want his likeness depicted on tobacco cards because he thought they would encourage tobacco use by young fans. Major League Baseball's website reports that "there are thought to be only 50-60 copies of the card in existence, making it one of the rarest sports cards in the world." In August of last year, a Wagner T206 card sold for \$6.6 million. This Wagner card sold for \$7.25 million last month.

The jacket that Buzz Aldrin wore to



the moon also recently set a record, fetching the highest price for a jacket ever sold for at action. The jacket featured Aldrin's name and an Apollo 11 patch. Forbes reports that it was the only garment worn to the moon that was ever available at auction. The previous record for an American space flown artifact was a lunar dust bag which brought \$1.8 million in 2017. The previous record for a jacket was for the one worn by Michael Jackson in the Thriller video which also sold for \$1.8 million in 2011. Aldrin's jacket exceeded the \$1 to \$2 million estimate, selling for \$2.8 million last month. A rare space item selling like truly only happens once in a blue moon.

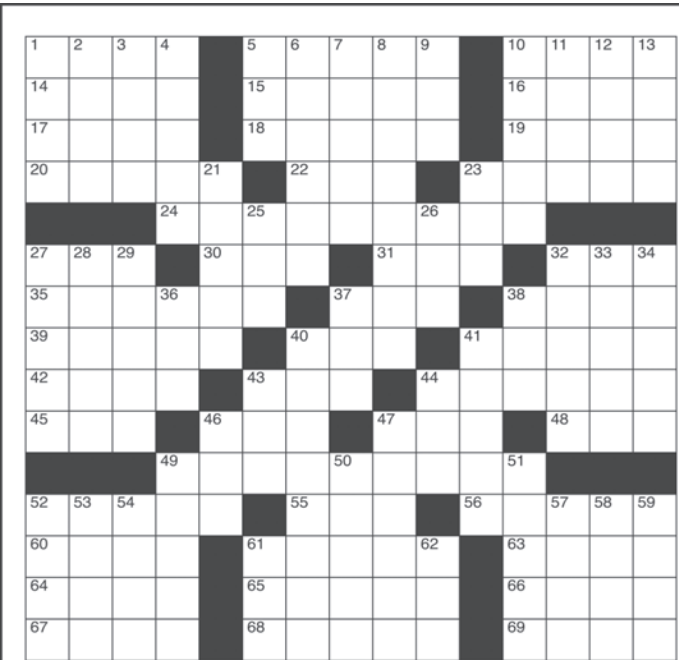
We are still accepting consignments

for our upcoming fall multi-estates auction. Other events this fall include my "Evaluating your Antiques" class at Bay Path high school in Charlton on September 13th, an appraisal event at the Townsend Historical Society on October 15th, an appraisal event at the Worcester Senior Center from 9:30 am to 11:30 am on October 18th and an appraisal event for the Leicester Historical Society on November 5th. Please visit our website <https://central-massauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

Contact us at www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111) info@central-massauctions.com for antiques and collectibles auction services.

“Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper”

www.ConnecticutQuietCorner.com



CLUES ACROSS

1. Female parent

5. NY city

10. Israeli diplomat Abba

14. Surrounded by

15. Car part

16. Simple aquatic plant

17. Tough skin of fruit

18. Finnish lake

19. Composition

20. Very willing

22. One and only

23. Cluster cups

24. Famed Hollywood director

27. Score perfectly

30. Important lawyers

31. Undivided

32. Part of the foot

35. Spun by spiders

37. Married woman

38. Reagan's Secretary of State

39. Instruments

40. The A-Team drove one
41. Short-tailed marten

42. Oil organization

43. Predecessor to the EU

44. "Hotel California" rockers

45. Color at the end of the spectrum

46. Actress Ryan

47. Digital audiotape

48. Expression of creative skill

49. Scientific instrument

52. Dog-_: marked for later

55. Israeli city ___ Aviv

56. Fencing sword

60. Turkish title

61. Wise individuals

63. Cold wind

64. Popular type of shoe

65. The territory occupied by a nation

66. Tattle

67. Chop up

68. Actress Zellweger

69. Romanian city

CLUES DOWN

1. Female of a horse

2. Bowfin

3. Chinese dynasty

4. Small venomous snake

5. Global news agency

6. Common fractions

7. American state

8. Tired

9. Boxing's GOAT

10. Made less severe

11. A group of countries in special alliance

12. God of fire (Hindu)

13. Northeast Indian ethnic group

21. Anchor ropes

23. They ___

25. Apprehend

26. Autonomic nervous system

27. A theatrical performer

28. 2-door car

29. Partner to flowered

32. Pair of small hand drums

33. Former Houston footballer
34. Discharge

36. Former women's branch of the military

37. Partner to cheese

38. Witch

40. Live in a dull way

41. Satisfies

43. Snakelike fish

44. Consume

46. Type of student

47. Erase

49. Instruct

50. Girl's given name

51. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

52. Every one of two or more things

53. Indian city

54. Greek letters

57. Weapon

58. Geological times

59. Cycle in physics

61. Soviet Socialist Republic

62. Witness

I	S	V	I		E	E	N	E	H		H	S	V	H
B	V	T	B		E	L	V	L	S		O	O	H	O
V	H	O	B		S	E	G	V	S		V	H	G	V
H	E	B	V	S		T	E	L		D	E	H	V	E
			H	E	L	E	W	E	T	E	L			
L	H	V		L	V	D		G	E	W		D	E	H
S	E	T	G	V	E		O	E		O	E	D	O	
E	T	B	V	S		N	V	A		S	V	B	N	L
G	I	V	H		S	H	W		B	E	M	B	O	O
E	O	L		E	N	O	S	V	D		E	O	V	
			D	H	V	M	O	H	N	O	H			
V	I	O	E	V		E	H	L		H	E	G	V	E
G	N	O	S		I	H	V	N	I		D	N	I	H
V	G	T	V		T	V	D	E	D		D	I	W	V
N	V	B	E		V	O	I	L	N		V	W	V	W

PUZZLE SOLUTION

Organized planning



POSITIVELY SPEAKING
TOBY MOORE

So far, we've discussed Desire, Faith, Specialized Knowledge, and Imagination as fundamental in your quest to accomplish your dream. Now we will move on to the fifth step, ORGANIZED PLANNING.

When you read that, you probably thought you must begin to think through a master plan to accomplish your objective. That's true, but there is one essential component to ORGANIZED PLANNING often overlooked.

None of us have the education, experience, foresight, ability, creativity, capability, or knowledge to devise and carry out an organized plan ourselves.

Once you've done your best to invent an organized plan, it won't be good enough. You must ally yourself with experts in every field you can identify to develop a flawless plan. You won't be able to do it alone.

Do you have the legal knowledge to implement your plan, or will you need a legal advisor? Do you have the know-how to create a financial plan, or will you need a Chief Financial Officer? Do you have the expertise to market yourself, your product, or your service? If not, then you'll need a marketing expert. Do you have the technical knowledge to build what you need on the internet,

or will you need to find someone who can create the website or platform you desire?

Sports stars, actors, and musicians have publicists, agents, managers, lawyers, coaches, trainers, and a team. Nobody makes it happen on their own.

You may feel a bit overwhelmed. You may wonder how you can find the people necessary to accomplish your dream. The good news is that if you have the desire, faith, specialized knowledge, and imagination, a team will naturally start to coalesce around you.

A star athlete will have the team form around them because they are winning. An actor will have a team grow up around them because they are booking jobs. If you're a CEO, your team will organically begin to develop if you're aggressively moving the vision forward.

That doesn't mean you won't have to look for the right team members. You'll probably need to create ads and search for the right job prospects.

Success will result from a team of people helping you push forward and break through barriers to overcome obstacles. An organized plan always works better when implemented by a team of experts strategizing and creating a group-organized plan for success.

Once you have your team, you'll need to communicate with them regularly. Keep them updated, informed, and in the loop. Share the good news so they stay motivated.

If they have advice, listen to

them. If they have ideas, hear them out. Make them feel unique and special because they are. You need them. Promote peace, harmony, and unity amongst your alliance at all times.

Compensation is key. Often, we will need to ask those around us to help for free initially, but that only lasts for so long. With desire, faith, specialized knowledge, and imagination, you will cause others to see and believe your vision for a time, but it won't be enough to keep them around forever if they aren't compensated fairly.

If you cannot pay them, you'll need to ensure they have a future stake in the company. That could be a percentage of money earned or an equity share. You'll need to balance giving too much and giving too little. Remember that having 10% of something is better than having 100% of nothing.

There will be failures; there will be people who drop out of your alliance. If you're convinced of your success and don't let it affect you, the next person who comes to replace them will often advance the vision much further than the last person ever could.

Developing an organized plan is crucial to accomplishing your dreams. To create the best plan, you'll need a team of experts. Promote harmony and unity with them at all times. Give credit where credit is due, and realize your success will be a team effort.

Join me next week to read about the next step you'll need to take to accomplish your dream!

02
continued from page A1

incredible young people who are really coming into their own."

Tickets are free of charge and will be available at the door on a first-come, first-served basis. Ticket reservations will not be available to the general public. Donations of money or non-per-

ishable food items will be gratefully accepted at the door to help with students' community service projects.

EASTCONN is a public, non-profit Regional Educational Service Center that has been serving the education needs of northeastern Connecticut schools and communities since 1980. Learn more at www.eastconn.org

Windham Public Schools serves the Willimantic and Windham Communities with four elementary schools, one middle school, one high school, one alternative high school, a nationally recognized K-8 STEM magnet school, and a nationally recognized Companeros (Dual Language) Pre-K-Grade 8 program. Learn more at www.windhamps.org.

Villager Newspapers

TO PLACE A BUSINESS AD:
MIKAELA VICTOR
RETAIL ADVERTISING
860-928-1818 EXT. 313
mikaela@villagernewspapers.com
SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:
KERRI PETERSON
860-928-1818, EXT. 303
kerri@stonebridgepress.news
TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:
E-MAIL
obits@stonebridgepress.news
CALL: 860-928-4215
OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550
TO SUBMIT A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR: OR PRESS RELEASE
E-MAIL:
brendan@villagernewspapers.com
OR send to Villager, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

VILLAGER NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS

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

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

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

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

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

The Putnam Villager (025-154), The Thompson Villager (024-998) The Killingly Villager (025-004) and The Woodstock Villager (024-999) are published weekly by Villager Newspapers, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Woodstock, CT and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: send address changes to the Villager Newspapers, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

VILLAGER ALMANAC

At CT AUDUBON

Bird sightings at the Connecticut Audubon Society Center at Pomfret and Wyndham Land Trust properties for the week of Aug. 1: Veery, Blue-winged Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Baltimore Oriole, Scarlet Tanager, American Kestrel, Bobolink, Wood Duck, Cooper's Hawk, Eastern Kingbird, Barn Swallow, Purple Martin, Bluebird, American Redstart, Black and White Warbler, Red-eyed Vireo, White-eyed Vireo, Song Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, Catbird. Visit ctaclub.org/pomfret-home.

Brooklyn hosts 4H Fair

BROOKLYN – The Brooklyn Fairgrounds may be the location for the popular Brooklyn Fair at the end of August, but on the first weekend of August 2022 the grounds held a smaller agricultural event, the local 4H Fair. Members and supports of the Windham-

Tolland 4H Club participated in a three-day celebration of everything 4H with animal displays, demonstrations, art exhibits and more throughout the week-end.

Photos Jason Bleau



The CT Whiplash Teamsters Working Steers brought their animals to the 4H Fair to show off their teamwork and meet and greet with guests at the event.



Bailey Hirshboeck of Country Critters Farm in Sterling offered a look at some of her products during the 4H Fair.



Local art and goods from members of the Windham- Tolland 4H Camp.



Photos Jason Bleau

Numerous 4H campers got to show off their skills with a camera with submitted photographs all competing for Best in Show.



Young 4H-ers spend some downtime with a few young goats.



A few cows take a break from the summer heat in one of the Brooklyn Fairground barns.



A floppy-eared bunny relaxes with some of the fake chickens used for chicken showing demonstrations.



Local 4H-ers participate in sheep showing, one of many displays and demonstrations that were part of the 4H Fair in Brooklyn.



CARPENTRY SERVICES CT, LLC

Remodeling
Kitchens, Baths
and More!

CALL Gene Pepper at 860-230-6105
carpentryservicest.com

CT #0606460 • #MA-HIC#196807 • RI #763
Veteran owned and operated since '89

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS IN BUSINESS
Overhead Door Of Windham County

OVERHEAD DOOR

Two 9'x7' Garage doors &
Two Electric Openers
Now \$3,100
Exp. 08/31/2022

✓ Two Remotes & Wall Button
✓ Take Down Of Current Door
✓ Wireless Outdoor Keypad
✓ Photo Safety Eyes

CALL 860-889-3848 / VISIT OHDCT.com
93 Hartford Rd, Brooklyn, CT 06234

Crooked Creek Farm
~est. 1992~
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

Stock up
now!

Quarter, Half sides
of beef available!
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
www.CrookedCreekFarmMA.com
Email: crookedcreekfarmma@gmail.com
Find Us on Social Media

THE LAW OFFICE OF
GABRIELLE LABONTE
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW

WILLS AND
TRUSTS
MEDICAID
PLANNING
PROBATE

5 VINA LANE • P.O. Box 709
BROOKLYN, CONNECTICUT 06234
PHONE: 860-774-3700 • FAX: 860-774-6300

Showplace Cabinetry is made in America by employee-owners who take great pride in every cabinet they craft for you. Your creative choices are nearly unlimited, and it's all backed by the assurance of a lifetime warranty. Call us to learn more about what we can do for your dream.

SHOWPLACE CABINETRY

EMPLOYEE OWNED MADE IN AMERICA LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY


EASTFORD Building Supply

We are authorized retailer of Benjamin Moore Paints & Stains. Our Staff Makes it easy to find the right color, paint and supplies to ensure a successful project!

Benjamin MOORE PAINTS

189 Eastford Rd., Eastford, CT 06242
ph: 860-974-1924 • fax: 860-974-0099
eastfordbuildingsupply.com

Monday-Friday 7am-5pm
Saturday: 8am-12pm
Sunday: Closed



P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TELEPHONE: (860) 928-1818
FAX: (860) 928-5946
WWW.VILLAGERNEWSPAPERS.COM

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT/PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

School days, school days...

It's that time of year again, when back to school photos will soon infiltrate your social media feeds. We love this time of year, when a more structured schedule takes hold, however come June, we are ready for the daily routine to be a bit more relaxed.

We always consider mid August into September to be a new year. Yes, the actual new year begins on Jan. 1; however, the start of a new school year always brings a clean slate, and who doesn't love that?

This time of year brings with it memories for all of us, even if we are not headed back into the classroom. We recall school shopping at the height of the late '80s and early '90s, when Trapper Keepers were all the new rave. During that time, anyone who walked into a drug store would be greeted with a wall of the colorful organizers, with notebooks and pencil cases to match. Having a brand new Trapper Keeper with pencils neatly tucked away the night before school started was step one. Next, the perfect outfit would have to be picked out, after all, the first day outfit set the standard for the rest of the year. During these first few days of school, the excitement was always at an all time high. It's the famous week three, when things start to settle, and the groove of the school routine has become the norm, once again.

As with most things, we enjoy tracking history. The drastic changes that have occurred over the years are quite interesting, so we thought we would share our findings.

During the 1800's, a typical rural area would have one room school-houses, with one teacher for grades first through eighth. The younger students would sit in the front of the classroom, with the 'big kids' seated in the back. Memorizing lessons was the priority back then, where students had to recite what they had learned. Paper bags and lunch boxes were not used for lunch, instead children would pack a lunch and carry it to school in a tin bucket.

During the early 1900's, only half of the children between the ages of five and 19 attended school. This was during the Industrial Revolution where children were needed at home to help work the farms or were put to work in factories. One study reports that in the present, 264 million children are still not educated.

We've heard it all before, but it's true, most students would walk or ride their bikes to school in all kinds of weather up to five miles away. Today most students take the bus or are dropped at school by their parents. In some areas, there have been initiatives taken to promote the 'old school' way of transporting kids via bike or walking.

In days gone by, if a student misbehaved, they were placed in a corner and had to wear a dunce cap. Discipline has changed quite a bit; however, we remember a slew of students standing along the brick wall during recess in the 1980's at our elementary school for "talking too much"... but we won't mention any names.

Home Economics classes have been replaced with a more modern swing than when they first emerged in the 1950's and lasted through the 1970's. Back then, students, mostly female, were taught how to cook and sew. In the late 1980's, those classes saw more male students as it became a requirement for all. We remember sewing 'Nerd' (you know the candy) stuffed animals and Oreo cookies in our class. When it was time to cook, we have fond memories of baking a holiday cake and forgetting to add baking powder, or was it flour? Either way, that cake took on a life of its own, and we fondly remember taking red icing and writing 'Scrooged' over it.

Industrial Arts classes are few and far between, however are still offered in some places with a more technological twist. Back in the day, students would take large pieces of wood, run it through a planer, sand it, stain it and create all sorts of things from entertainment centers to cut out wooden apples using a jigsaw. We remember leaving notes for our friends in the afternoon class. We would slip them in the lockers and hope we remembered whose locker belonged to who. No texting back then.

Cursive writing was always fun. It was a great feeling when you made

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Quiet Corner

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Day Kimball staff are our hometown heroes

To the Editor:
On Thursday evening, Aug. 4, I was brought into the emergency room by my wife at 11 p.m. suffering from chest pain and a shortness of breath. From the moment I walked into the doors of the E.R., I was treated with the best care possible.

From the E.R. to the I.C.U., I felt very comfortable knowing I was in the best of care. This was my first visit as a patient to Day Kimball Hospital, and I was just surprised

at the comfort, care, and compassion shown by everyone that evening. From the Security Officers to the E.R. Nurses, Lab, Radiologist, and Hospitalist, you all rocked. The I.C.U. staff as well as the entire Cardiologist Department you folks nailed it.

Thank you for being our hometown heroes.

KARL KUHN, SR.
PUTNAM

Performing arts in Putnam

To the Editor:
Readers of The New York Times on Sunday, Aug. 7, will have noticed David Margolick's nostalgic article about the long run of Community Concerts that were presented in Putnam from the 1960s into the 1980s. That three professional performances were presented locally each year was a tribute to his indomitable mother, Gert Margolick, who personally led a team of volunteers whose telephone calls sold tickets for these performances. Back then, Putnam was an industrial city when local ownership translated into community giving. Although times and tastes have changed, professional musicians can still be heard in our communities.

The Three C's and Performing Arts of Northeast Connecticut (P/Arts), championed by the equally indomitable Betty Hale, continue to bring in professional performances for adults and for children during the school day, although tours were suspended

during Covid. These volunteer groups are now restarting their programs with the Loos Center at Woodstock Academy and its state-of-the art auditorium, as the venue for touring presentations. The Loos Center has also assumed the mantle of the Community Concerts with offerings that include Rockapella (Oct. 1) and Ocean State Pops, (Holiday Pops, Dec. 3), in collaboration with P/Arts. Check the Loos Center website for tickets for those and additional presentations. Also on the arts scene, the Bradley Playhouse has established itself as a fixture in the local performing arts community staging its own productions—"Cinderella" currently-featuring local talent in its own historic theater. We can be proud that there's still so much to see and do right here in our own community.

CAROLINE SLOAT
THOMPSON

Help me forge a brighter future

To the Editor:
I am Lisa Thomas, candidate for State Senate district 35, which includes Ashford, Chaplin, Coventry, Eastford, Ellington, Hampton, Stafford, Thompson, Tolland, Union, Vernon, Willington and Woodstock.

I am Coventry's chief elected official, a teacher and a lawyer. With 37 years of teaching experience, I'm a staunch fighter for education. Our schools are in crisis, and educators must have a voice at the table. My legal background strengthens my advocacy not just for education, but for meeting community needs.

During this time of overwhelming strain on Connecticut families, our district needs strong leadership in Hartford. We need resources, funding, and relief for eastern Connecticut. I am already working tirelessly for our region, and recently secured \$500,000 of state Bond Commission funds for the Town of Coventry. Those dollars will equal the playing field for our youth softball players and expand recreation opportunities for all ages and abilities in the community.

We are experiencing increased attacks on

access to essential healthcare. In addition to the overturning of Roe v. Wade, three of northeastern Connecticut's hospitals have eliminated labor and delivery services and ICUs. I authored the Coventry Town Council's resolution demanding that our hospitals be held accountable to the people they serve.

I have been getting the job done for many years as a Coventry Councilwoman, and am the elected Chairwoman. I've authored legislative testimony and Council resolutions to influence state legislation. I've appeared before state committee hearings and worked to develop fair, fiscally responsible budgets. I've stood beside you at rallies and conventions. And I've never hesitated to speak out when others are silent. I have worked for years to earn your trust and now, I hope I will earn your vote.

Im asking residents of the 35th to vote for me, for a better future for us all.

LISA THOMAS
COVENTRY

Racism according to Republicans

To the Editor:
Just when you think it is safe to get out of the pool, more inflammatories come out of Texas.

Whether something is a recession or not a recession may be up for debate in an academic sense. Some things are not. Some are very scary and are detrimental to the United States. On Friday, Aug. 5 at the CPAC convention in Texas, a very right wing racist spoke to a room full of Republicans. The Exalted ruler of Hungary, a man that the Cult leader finds irresistible and a person he holds in high esteem spoke in front of a receptive, loving crowd. This man is a dictator, authoritarian racist who does not want or allows mixed races to marry, anti-Jewish, white separatist. The Republicans loved him. The man got a standing ovation and felt the love of fellow minded people in attendance. The same way that the new Republican party behind the Cult leader likes it. Does this Hungarian despot sound like someone similar from the 1930's. He and American Republicans feel that is the better future for this country. The man from Thompson worries about the definition of the word «recession». Income and economic inequality is the bigger problem, if not for the man who thought only 12-15 people

have Covid and would go away. Even though many Republicans have testified that the election was legit he goes on and on grifting off the lie. He was told in some ways by so many people that he lost and he still goes on. He is too immature to handle the truth.

People in Texas on a Friday afternoon stood as one to praise a man so close to Adolf Hitler it is scary. On Saturday nite they will stand for the grifter, Applaud him and idolize the Cult leader, a man who should be indicted soon.

They say History repeats itself but it does not have to if we all stand up for American principles

When will it all stop? Can anyone make it stop? The politicians in this country leave a lot to be desired(cannot wait for the Nancy Pelosi) article next week's paper but bupkis on Republican crazy running around the country.

Lastly, who is going to take the fall for Trump, somebody is going to be asked/sacrificed for the grifter, cult leader and selfish one? Lord help us.

DAVID CASSETTARI
KILLINGLY

Time to acquire a taste for iced tea

I thought I'd never be hotter than when I hiked in the Grand Canyon a few years ago. My friends and I climbed down the North Rim in early September. I didn't want to mess up, so I followed all the rules. I sipped water through a plastic tube attached my backpack. I wore light clothes and a floppy, beige hat. When the organizer of the group collapsed, the rest of us leaned against the rocks while her husband helped her. The thermometer on my backpack read 105 degrees. The stones were as warm as a clothes iron turned to the cotton setting.

As we live in multiple days



NANCY WEISS

of over-the-top temperatures and serious drought, I think about the rules for hot, dry times. Every morning I refill our bird bath. Where are animals getting water.

The intermittent stream on our property dried up ages ago. The ponds are low. The cows across the road, spend their days under the trees tail flicking. Birds are quiet and nothing moves mid-day except butterflies and hummingbirds.

At 18th century Golden Hill Farm, our home for decades, the well was 18 feet deep. It was fancier than most hand dug wells because it had a metal ladder that descended into the cool, dark water. In a drought like this one, we would pull off the top, drop a pebble and wait for the splash. I imagine there is no splash. Our drilled well is very deep, but I am genetically programed to be cautious with water. I can't look into my well, but like everyone else, I worry there may be less down there than we hope and no way to measure it.

The spate of warm nights makes me think of how uncomfortable summer can be. When I was a child, I made a sleeping nest on the floor of my stuffy upstairs bedroom and listen to the sound of the lone fan rattling in the window. My parents were convinced that old houses were built to take advantage of "cross ventilation," which never seemed especially robust to me. Perhaps the breezes picked up after I fell asleep. Perhaps if one believes it's getting cooler, it does.

The dog days of August are named for the Sirius, the dog star, not panting dogs under the porch, but at night I can't see the stars as clearly as I could in the Grand Canyon. The images from the James Webb telescope of deep space make Sirius insignificant in its proximity. Astronomy generally interests me only when I can see the stars with my own eyes, but the Webb photos reveal what tiny little bits of matter we really are. At 11 p.m., when it is still in the 80s, it's refreshing to step outside into the darkness and think there are galaxies even hotter.

August has brought drought and heat, but also welcome visits from butterflies- if my ID's are correct the Yellow Swallowtail, a few Monarchs and Cabbage butterflies visit the scraggly perennials in my gardens. They are visions even more glorious than those from outer space and more comforting.

The hiking partner, who'd flaunted the rules by wearing a navy blue hat, recovered. Anyone with AC is required to pause for a moment and feel grateful. Pour a cool drink and look up. We need to get used to living as if we'd moved to Atlanta. Time to acquire a taste for iced tea.

P.S. - Go to this site for a wonderful tribute to Community Concerts and Gertrude Margolick by her son, David (<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/08/05/nyregion/community-concerts-don-shirley.html>).

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

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

If it's important to you,



It's important to us.

Connecticut's Quiet Corner.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

My ideas on the new Day Kimball ad: trying to lull you to sleep

To the Editor:

If you haven't seen the new advertisement by Day Kimball hospital, you should take a look at it. There is a picture of a smiling gentleman facing a young woman, her husband is to her right (just out of the photo). I imagine what might be going on. The smiling gentleman might be explaining to the young woman the benefits of the women's health services at Day Kimball Hospital as it would if the Hospital is sold to Covenant Health.

The young woman explains that she now has two children, and wants to have her tubes tied. The smiling gentleman, now with a bigger smile, tells her Covenant Health prohibits any physicians to do that, so you are out of luck here.

The young woman is shocked.

"That can't be," she replies. "My sister had that done last year."

"Oh, yes," the smiling gentleman answers. "That was before we sold the hospital to Covenant Health."

Her husband then interrupts and asks, "What about a vasectomy?"

"Of course not," replies the smiling gentleman (with an even bigger smile). "That is also prohibited; you should be ashamed of yourself for asking."

Why, the couple asks, are so many medical procedures that were done last year prohibited now; especially for a woman of child bearing age.

"In fact," she continues, "I want to know how many procedures were done last year that can't be done now."

"Well, it's true, we did more than 500 procedures last year, but all of those procedures are now prohibited by Covenant," the smiling gentleman explains.

Shocked, the young woman says, "I guess I'll have to find a new doctor."

Still smiling, he explains that all of our doctors will be under the same restrictions; none of our doctors will help you with the health benefits you, your husband and many others will want in the future.

Finally, she asks about the welfare of her grandmother, who was currently in the hospital and in a great deal of pain. Will she still be treated just as she discussed with her doctor some months ago?

"Well, I don't know her, but she

may be on Tylenol right now for the pain, or we can always discuss with her perhaps accepting the pain as the redemptive power of suffering."

"That's horrible," she responds. "Who thought of this crazy scheme of selling Day Kimball to this restrictive organization, calling itself a health provider? We are going to wind up having far less health care."

"That may be so," the smiling gentleman explains. "These restrictions are because Covenant Health prohibits so many medical procedures, and of course, they may prohibit more in the future. These restrictions will also apply to the Medical Group, the Home Health Care, Home makers, Hospice and all other parts of Day Kimball. Perhaps you should have spoken up earlier, but when the hospital was sold to Covenant Health, we will all have to deal with the consequences for years to come."

"What does the community think about this?" the young woman asks.

Still smiling, he replies, "We don't seem to care; we are trying to keep it quiet until the hospital is sold. We, all of us in authority, have been working on this agreement to sell for many months; in fact, we sent the entire agreement to the State Health Strategy back in April."

The young woman responds, "But we didn't hear anything about it."

"Of course not," the smiling gentleman explains. "We haven't had any public meetings, because we don't want the public to know until it's all over. This community would hate to have their hospital sold; if they find out, they might tar and feather the entire administration. Why should we get the public all riled up? I'd ask you to keep it quiet; please don't repeat anything I've told you. We don't want everyone in this community to find out. What they don't know won't hurt them."

Now, with an even a bigger smile, "That's life," he replies.

The couple replies, "This is what we are all going to live with if everyone in this community remains silent and lets it happen."

I hope my imagined conversation never has to come true.

ELIZABETH CANNING
POMFRET

The crux of the matter

To the Editor:

It seems a certain doctor has taken issue with bringing God into the abortion discussion, and has even gone so far as to suggest that exercising my right to voice my opinion (at the exclusion of other beliefs) is akin to "playing God." Since God is our Judge, I think He alone is best qualified to pass that judgment on me. Meanwhile, for the sake of argument lets remove God from this discussion, and look simply at the science.

Human life begins at conception, when the sperm and egg join and a new genetic person is formed. This is not a "belief," as a certain doctor purports. It is a scientific fact that is fully supported by The American College of Pediatricians. Visit the following web link for the specifics behind the science: <https://acped.org/position-statements/when-human-life-begins>. The fetus is not, nor never will be a bird or a fish or a monkey. To assume the fetus is not a human being until it is birthed is based upon Jewish Law, NOT upon science. To be specific, it derives from teachings that are found in the Talmud. Please check out the following link for clarification of this fact:

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/the-beginning-of-life-in-judaism/>. If Jews, or any other persons, want to take their cues from the Talmud, that is certainly their business and their right. I do not expect them to impose their ideology on me, nor would I impose my own upon them. Neither would I ever accuse Jews of being «exclusionary» for believing in and adhering to their own laws. I admire Jews despite our ideological differences and have known a few to be wonderful friends.

According to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, an induced abortion is "an intervention to end a pregnancy so that it does not result in a live birth." To prevent a live birth is pretty straightforward. It entails the intentional killing of a living being. Early preivable deliveries (emergency early deliveries), by contrast, are not performed for the intentional purpose of causing the death of a preborn infant. Babies are delivered rather than dismembered in utero. This is compassionate intervention that inflicts the minimum amount of pain. Above all, it recognizes the humanity of the preborn infant.

Do all OBGYN's think elective abortion is okay? Not according to Dr Christina Francis, an OBGYN who has practiced for 14 years. She told Laurel Duggen, a journalist for the Daily Caller News Foundation, the following, and I quote:

SUSAN EMERSON-HILL
THOMPSON

What to do if interest rate hikes are impacting your major purchases and life events

Inflation is ballooning to its highest rate in 40 years. You're likely feeling the effects when buying gas or groceries, and you'll almost certainly have noticed it if you're in the market for a new car or home.

As a result, the Federal Reserve has indicated it plans to keep raising short-term interest rates to help manage that inflation. (On June 15, the Federal Reserve raised the benchmark interest rate by three quarters of a percent, the largest increase in almost 30 years.) By raising interest rates, the Fed hopes to slow spending, bringing down consumer prices.

Historically, that's been effective in bringing down inflation and normalizing the economy over the long-term. But in the short-term we're all feeling the pinch, perhaps most of all millennials and even older Gen-Z'ers.

Their buying power is being hit with a double-whammy at a time in life that's typically full of big purchases and major life events. As a result, many in their 20's and 30's are having to delay major purchases like a car or first home, as well as milestone life events like getting married or having a child.

If you're in that situation



yourself, here are some tips and insights to help you tame your stress, regain control of your finances, and get a plan in place that will set you on the path to attaining those big purchases and plans that are central to your vision for living well in the future.

FIRST, MANAGE THE SHORT-TERM FINANCIAL CRISIS

Adjust Your Budget for the Higher Cost of Living

The first plan of attack should be to revisit your budget and see where you can cut costs. Non-essentials like dining out, vacations and other types of discretionary spending should be the first to go.

After that, see how you might be able to trim your costs of living. Can you trim your weekly grocery bill, do without cable, or work from home to save on gas costs, for example? If your situation is more dire, consider even moving in with family or downsizing to save on rent or mortgage costs.

Instead of or in addition to cutting costs, another option is to try and increase your income to make up the shortfall. Consider asking for a raise at work, looking for a higher-paying opportunity, or taking on a second job.

If your budget still doesn't

cover your necessary costs, only then should you consider temporarily cutting back on the amount of your earnings allocated to your savings account and retirement fund. But don't ever dip into your emergency savings to cover everyday costs – it's even more important to have on-hand when the markets, economy and your personal finances are volatile.

Pay Down High-Interest Debt (And Avoid Racking Up More)

If you have a balance on a credit card or an adjustable rate mortgage, you might be noticing changes in your payments. That's because higher interest rates mean that debt is now more expensive to have as well. So if you have high variable interest rate debt, it may make sense to temporarily divert some of the funds you'd normally allocate to savings or retirement to paying down that debt.

THEN, GET BACK ON TRACK WITH (OR BUILD) YOUR LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN

Manage Your Stress

Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors Principal/Managing Partner Laurence Hale has written previously about ways to manage investment and financial stress during market volatility (you can read it on our blog at whzwealth.com/advisor-blog).

Much of the stress relieving strategy relies on taking a pause to reduce your panic, assessing your situation, and making strategic adjustments to your financial plan to keep your budget and goals on track (thereby putting your mind at ease).

That's why having a financial plan in place, and a financial advisor to guide you through volatile times, is crucial to not only your finances but to easing your anxiety during times of financial stress. If you don't have a financial plan yet, work with a trusted financial advisor to build one.

Manage Your Portfolio and Financial Plan to Manage Your Future

Although inflation and higher interest rates are already affecting your budget and possibly your financial and life decisions in the present, only time will tell if they'll prompt changes to your investment portfolio going forward. Remember, your overall strategy should already take into account that there will be transition periods in the economy and markets.

In the meantime, check in on your portfolio frequently and work with your financial advisor to adjust your overall plan to one that can keep you on solid ground now while still paving the way toward the big goals you have for the future, whether it's a new car, your

first home, your dream business venture, or adding a new member to your family.

If you have any questions about inflation or interest rates and how they're affecting your progress toward reaching your financial goals, please reach out. We're always here to help put things into perspective, and our Plan Well, Invest Well, Live Well strategic process can help put you on the path to where you want to be. Visit our Web site at www.whzwealth.com, e-mail info@whzwealth.com, or call (860) 928-2341 to set up an introductory meeting in person, by phone or online.

Authored by Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, Leisl L. Cording CFP®. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. These materials are general in nature and do not address your specific situation. For your specific investment needs, please discuss your individual circumstances with your financial advisor. Weiss, Hale & Zahansky Strategic Wealth Advisors does 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>

EDITORIAL

continued from page A6

that lower case 'j' just right. Who knew that years later, hand writing would happen less and less and our cursive skills would be a thing of the past. Handwriting is, however, making a comeback in some schools.

We think it goes without saying, that the best memories involve a good old fashioned pencil sharpener. Trying to get the pencil as small as possible in one go, meant that you were talented. If that pencil still had a full eraser, you were batting a thousand. It was an even better day, if you could get your hands on an electronic sharpener.



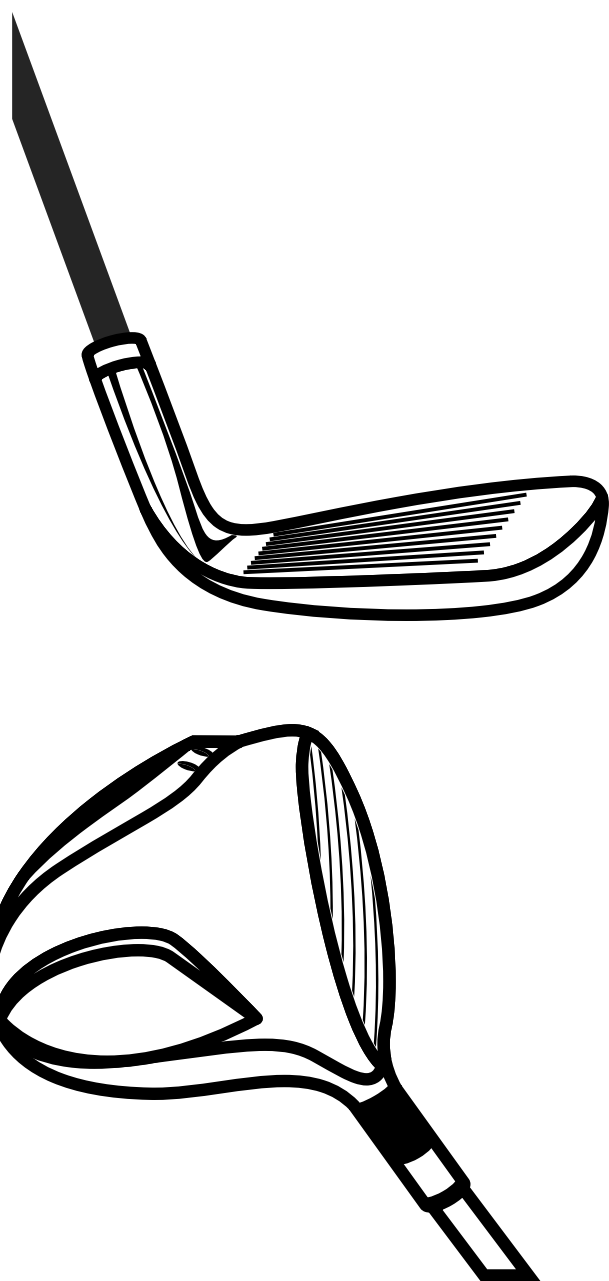
Is Your Advertising A Little Stale?

Contact Mikaela at 508-909-4126
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news
for some fresh ideas!



Creative Coloring

Celebrate the game of golf.
Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1898:** THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY FROM THE REPUBLIC OF HAWAII TO THE UNITED STATES TAKES PLACE WITH AN ELABORATE ANNEXATION CEREMONY.
- **1977:** THE FIRST FREE FLIGHT OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE ENTERPRISE TAKES PLACE.
- **1992:** CANADA, MEXICO AND THE UNITED STATES ANNOUNCE THE COMPLETION OF NAFTA NEGOTIATIONS.



TEE

cleared space on a golf course for hitting the ball at each hole

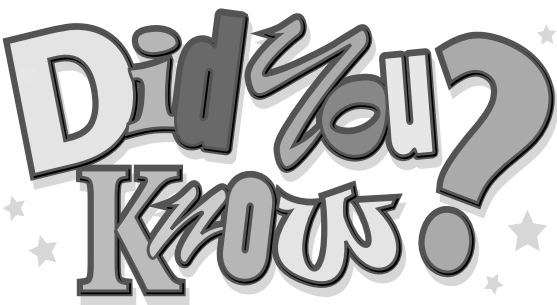


THIS SPORT THAT INVOLVES HITTING A SMALL, WHITE BALL IS VERY POPULAR AROUND THE WORLD. SOME SAY IT STARTED IN SCOTLAND.

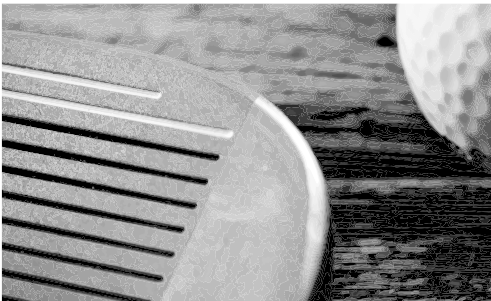
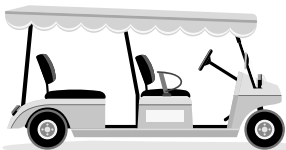
ANSWER: GOLF



- ENGLISH:** Golf
- SPANISH:** Golf
- ITALIAN:** Golf
- FRENCH:** Golf
- GERMAN:** Golfspiel



THE AVERAGE GOLFER HAS A 12,500-TO-1 CHANCE OF MAKING A HOLE-IN-ONE.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: GOLF CLUB



Solve the code to discover words related to golf.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 5 = C)

- A. 4 18 18**
Clue: Cleared area on golf course
- B. 5 23 20 22 10**
Clue: Used in golf play
- C. 5 1 20 2 10 18**
Clue: Where to play golf
- D. 26 25 21 17 16 5 25 3**
Clue: Average number of strokes over par

Answers: A. tee B. clubs C. course D. handicap

SUDOKU

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

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

ANSWER:



AUGUST

is National Replacement Window Month at Renewal by Andersen*

Why did we declare August **National Replacement Window Month**? Because even though the summer is hot, that doesn't mean you have to live with the heat inside your home, too. Replacing just a few windows or a door now can help make your home cooler during the summer—and warmer in the winter.

Call before August 31st!

Get

\$347 OFF

every window¹

plus

Get

\$939 OFF

every patio door¹

with

\$0 Down

0 Payments

0% Interest for 1 year²

Save an **EXTRA 5%** on your entire order¹

Why Renewal by Andersen?

- Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, a 119-year-old family-owned company with a **reputation for excellence in window and door craftsmanship**.
- Our exclusive composite **Fibrex® windows** are not only beautiful, they're remarkably strong, offer superior energy efficiency and require minimal maintenance.³
- Our factory-trained **Certified Master Installers** have years of experience installing only windows and doors, and they'll treat you and your home with the utmost respect.

Renewal by Andersen of Connecticut has an amazing reputation. With 1,758 Google reviews, we have earned a rating of 4.9 ★s.



Customer Review ★★★★★

“

I've had a lot of work done in my home over the years but have never met such caring people as those who work for Renewal by Andersen. Everyone acted professionally throughout the process and never missed anything on the installation. The supervisor kept me informed and was as nice to me as he was to his crew. I highly recommend Renewal by Andersen windows. The windows are the best that I've ever seen.

”

– Michael S., Madison, CT



RENEWAL
by **ANDERSEN**
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

CERTIFIED
MASTER
INSTALLER

Call to schedule your **FREE Window and Door Diagnosis**

959-456-0067

¹Subject to availability, on a total purchase of 3 or more. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for an appointment must be made and documented on or before 8/31/22 with the purchase then occurring on or before 9/10/22.
²No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available from third-party lenders to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Products are marketed, sold and installed (but not manufactured) by Renewal by Andersen retailers, which are independently owned and operated under CT HIC.0634555, MA 173245, RI 36079. Southern New England Windows, LLC, d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Southern New England. Southern New England Windows LLC is the authorized representative of Renewal by Andersen and the registered Home Improvement Contractor. Renewal by Andersen does not hold this HIC number. All residents of islands including but not limited to Martha's Vineyard will be subject to an island surcharge. See complete information and entity identification at www.rbaguidelines.com. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. ³See limited warranty for details at <https://www.renewalbyandersen.com/homeowner-help/warranty>. *National Replacement Window Month is not a Congressionally-approved designation.